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EXCLUSIVE

SMALL PLANE 'CRASHES JUST AFTER TAKEOFF'

A SMALL plane crashed shortly after take-off in Andros, according to late reports reaching The Tribune.
Up to press time, officials could not confirm the status of the Cessna 402's sole passenger after the plane went down sometime after 4pm.
Inspector Delvin Major, accident investigator with the Civil Aviation Authority, confirmed that the aircraft developed problems along its
SEE page six

Vehicles stolen from US, driven in Nassau

By PAUL G TURNQUEST
Chief Reporter
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of New York and Miami. These vehicles, which are labelled as having been "damaged or wrecked" cars to account for their drastic decrease in value are smuggled to the Bahamas in containers by a local dock at the Miami river and off-loaded at night at Arawak Cay.
A Customs Officer, whose name was revealed by police is reportedly being paid to provide fake documentation alleging that Customs fees are being paid so that the vehicles would have some "proof" of having been cleared at the docks.
SEE page six

ROADWORKS 'CAUSE 200 JOBS TO BE LOST'



ANGRY SCENE: A woman argues with workmen on Prince Charles Drive yesterday about blocking the road off.
Felipe Major/Tribune staff

By SANCHESKA BROWN

DISRUPTIVE roadworks have caused 200 jobs to be lost and hundreds more put in jeopardy in the Prince Charles Drive area, according to business owners who say they are on the verge of permanent closure.
Owners and employees from various stores in the area staged a protest at the Fox Hill Road intersection yesterday, demanding the government reopen at least one lane of Prince Charles Drive.
Fred Rahming, owner of Business Mart, said representatives from the Ministry of Works originally told them one lane would always remain open and the work would last between eight to 10 weeks.
However, Mr Rahming said its now been five months ... and the roadworks are nowhere near completed.
Mr Rahming said: "We were misled by the Ministry of Works, and now we are all paying the penalty."
SEE page six



SPECIAL HONOUR: Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of National Security Carl Smith; Tribune publisher Eileen Dupuch Carron and Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade.
Photo/Lorenzo McKenzie
TRIBUNE PUBLISHER AMONG THOSE HONOURED AS POLICE FORCE OPENS SUMMER YOUTH CAMP
By LAMECH JOHNSON

THE publisher of the country's leading newspaper received a special honour among several persons honoured yesterday morning at the Royal Bahamas Police Force's 18th annual summer youth camp opening ceremony.
SEE page two

CUSTOMS MANAGEMENT BILL MOVED IN THE HOUSE

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Deputy Chief Reporter
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STATE Minister of Finance Zhirvargo Laing moved the new Customs Management Bill in the House of Assembly yesterday which is meant to bring major reforms to the revenue collections agency.
The Bill will create an appeals board, the Customs Appeal Commission comprised of independent members, to resolve discrepancies between the Department of Customs
SEE page six

SHARK PROTECTION LEGISLATION SET TO BE REVEALED TODAY

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
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LEGISLATION to protect sharks in the Bahamas is due to be revealed at a press conference today after being finalised by the Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources.
Campaigners from the Pew Environment Group, Bahamas
SEE page six

TOPS LUMBER & PLUMBING
WILTON STREET

Employee Profile
Wilmore Taylor Knows Plumbing. Wilmore has been the mainstay of Tops Plumbing Department for the past 28 years. In fact, he was the first employee in that department back in 1983 and is still giving the same professional, helpful advice and service today as he did back then. If you need parts to repair or upgrade faucets, sinks, toilets, tubs and more, Wilmore is your man.

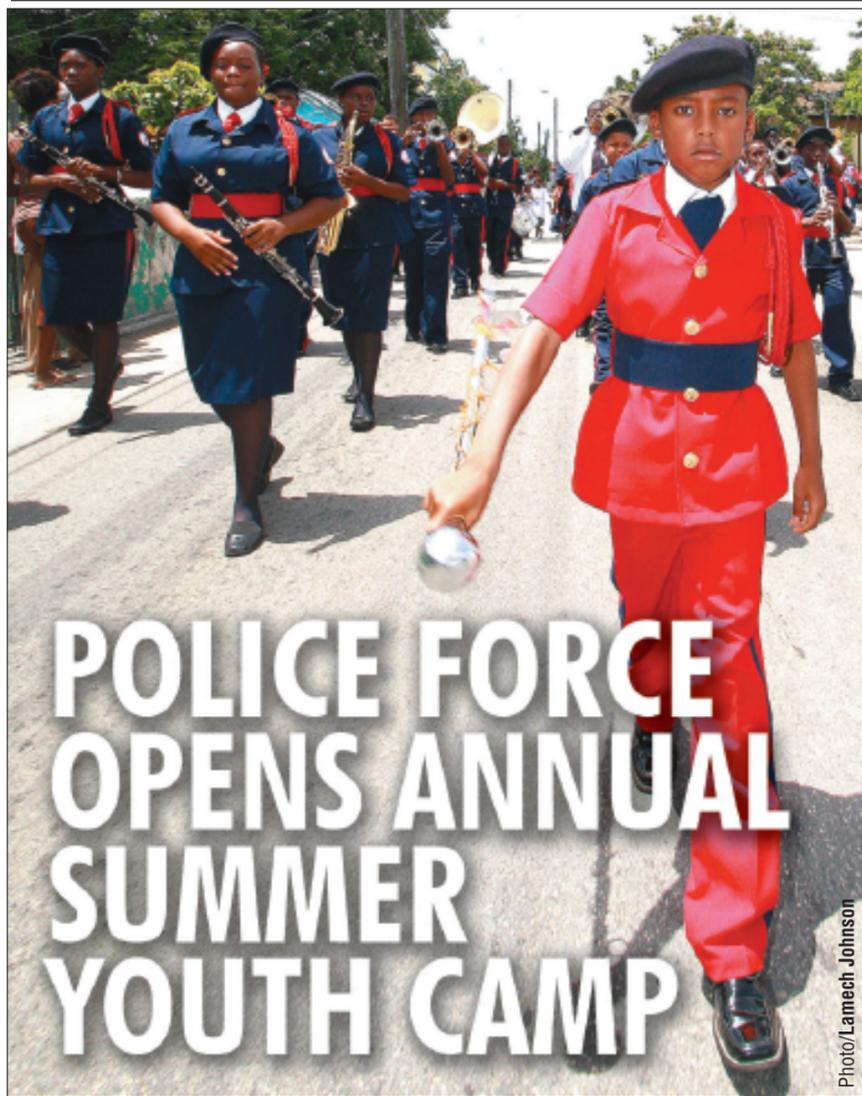
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LOCAL NEWS



POLICE FORCE OPENS ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

Photo/Lamech Johnson

FROM page one

The ceremony at the Grant's Town Seventh-day Adventist Church saw Eileen Dupuch Carron, The Tribune's publisher for more than three decades, receive the Distinguished Community Service Award, presented by Asst Supt. Stephen Dean on behalf of the Commissioner and the Force, for The Tribune's consistent support of the Royal Bahamas Police Force over the years.

Supt Dean, while praising Mrs Carron for years of dedicating space in the paper to

help promote such police initiatives said much of the camp's success could be attributed to her insistence on promotion.

He said: "She told me 'You want it to be a success, put it in The Tribune.'"

And, according to Supt Dean in a press conference before the ceremony, it has been a success.

"It has been working and continues to expand each year," he said.

After receiving the award and having her photograph taken with Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade and Permanent Secretary for

the Ministry of National Security Carl Smith, Mrs Carron said the honour came as a surprise because she did not know why Supt Dean was so insistent that she attend that particular ceremony.

"I didn't know what was happening," she said. "When I saw the note in The Tribune's assignment book, I saw the 'Must cover!' notation next to it, but I thought nothing of it because anything to do with Supt. Dean is always a 'must cover' assignment - including his insistence that yesterday's ceremony was for me a 'must attend.' The staff didn't know what was hap-



Photo/Lorenzo McKenzie

YOUNGSTERS go on the march as the Police Annual Summer Youth Camp gets underway.



Photo/Lamech Johnson



PICTURED above and below are youngsters and members of the Police Force at yesterday's opening ceremony.

Photo/Lorenzo McKenzie

pening, but accepted it as an assignment not to be missed."

Others honoured for community service awards by the force for donating their time and talents to various camp divisions throughout the years were Floyd McClain (South-eastern), Lorena Barr (South-western), Helen Adderley (Northeastern), Kendia Barr (Band Camp), Wilton Gibson (Eastern), Sheila Capron (Western), Hortense Taylor (Central), Vasco Bastian (Grove), Susan Hall (South-



camp successful.

Commissioner Greenslade in his remarks thanked those honoured for continuing to assist the police force through their efforts to making the

To others that have assisted, he said: "This was a challenge because there's so many distinguished persons in the audience who have stood with

us for so many years and whom I would wish to recognise."

He apologised for being unable to reward them all at this time.

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SINKING FREIGHTER SPILLS OIL INTO NASSAU HARBOUR



THE SINKING FREIGHTER pictured on Sunday afternoon

Photo/Brent Burrows

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
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A SINKING freighter spilled gallons of oil into Nassau Harbour this weekend as it went unnoticed by authorities until yesterday afternoon.

Teenager Brent Burrows II, 17, photographed the freighter tied to the Pioneer Shipping dock at the end of Elizabeth Avenue off Bay Street in downtown Nassau on Sunday afternoon and alerted *The Tribune*.

"This is a perfect example of the lack of care given to many seagoing vessels by their owners and captains, and to the lack of responsibility from those who should deal with such an event," he said.

Port Controller Patrick McNeil and Earlston McPhee, chairman of the National Coastal Awareness Committee (NCAC), a public-private partnership working to clean up Nassau Harbour, had not been told the vessel was sinking until called by *The Tribune* yesterday.

Mr McPhee went directly to the site and said the motorised landing craft had no name or registration, and he sent his team out to find the owner.

He estimates oil and diesel would have been stored on board the two engine craft, but could not guess how much may have dispersed into the harbour.

Mr Burrows, a junior sailor with the Bahamas Sailing Association, said he thought the boat had sunk on Saturday evening.

"This area should have been boomed off immediately, and special teams should have been

in place to do anything possible to stop this sinking boat from harming the environment," he said.

"You can clearly see the fuel in the water in my picture, and the smell of the fumes was incredible.

"I'm no environmentalist, but I know for sure that this is an environmental fiasco that could have easily been avoided and I think it is ridiculous that no one had responded.

"We need to work hard to keep our Bahamas 'clean, green, and pristine'."

Mr McPhee blamed negligence for the spill and said he will pressure the boat owner to float and move the vessel.

Although he was able to smell the oil from Prince George Wharf around 300 yards away, he had not been made aware of the sinking ship and thanked the teenager for inadvertently bringing it to his attention.

"I don't have a clue how much oil he had on board," he said.

"But any oil on board, once a boat sinks, is too much in the water.

"If we had caught it early we would have been able to see if we could put a break up to contain it.

"The more time the oil is in the water the more it spreads out, thinner and thinner, over a vaster area, making it that much more difficult to clean up."

Commander McNeil has voiced his support for the NCAC's harbour clean-up initiative and warned the owners of boats anchored or abandoned in the restricted area of the harbour around Potter's Cay to remove them by July 1 or have them removed and be charged for the cost.

WATER SHORTAGE CLAIMS DENIED



PHENTON NEYMOUR

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
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ADMINISTRATORS denied claims of a water shortage on Grand Cay, Abaco yesterday.

Minister of State for the Environment Phenton Neymour advised that water pressure on the cay had been reduced yesterday due to a malfunctioning pump.

Residents and business owners confirmed that there was potable water available on the island; however, it was also noted that pressure and supply were inconsistent.

A restaurant owner said: "It's on, but it's only on right now. We don't get full pressure throughout the island."

In a press statement yesterday, PLP chairman Bradley Roberts said it was a Grand Cay resident who sounded the alarm. The resident reportedly told Mr Roberts that the island had been without water for three days.

Mr Roberts said: "The PLP is aware that Grand Cay has a large holding tank which suggests that the Reverse Osmosis Plant on Grand Cay was inoperable for more than a week."

"It therefore begs the question as to why it has taken Ministers Earl Deveaux and Phenton Neymour more than a week to ensure that the required repairs were executed to guarantee the availability of mandatory commodity of potable water for the residents of the isolated cay."

In an earlier statement on his website, Mr Roberts said that Big Grand Cay had been without potable water since March 31.

Last night, Mr Neymour urged the opposition not to create "unnecessary alarm" and claimed the PLP's actions have had a negative affect on visitor traffic on the cay in the past.

He explained that one of the pumps at the reverse osmosis plant malfunctioned earlier this morning, and is scheduled for repair today.

Mr Neymour said: "As a result the island was being supplied by gravity, meaning pressure was reduced and it was supplied via storage tank."

"There was and still is water in the storage tank as we speak, but they did have a reduced pressure when the pump malfunctioned at 3am."

According to Mr Neymour, the false reports of water shortage spread internationally and he called on Mr Robert's to "act responsibly" for the sake of the tourism industry.

The Northern Abaco District office administers policing, social services and central government for the island.

Administrator Theophilus Cox said: "I have no knowledge of (water shortage)."

"They would inform my office, and no one has said anything to me."

DNA's youth arm hold elections



- Eight executive members of Young Democrats chartered
- Branville McCartney says youth is key to future of his party

LESS than two months after the launch of the Democratic National Alliance, its youth arm the Young Democrats held elections at the party's headquarters and chartered eight executive members.

DNA leader Branville McCartney was present for the elections and said the youth arm will be instrumental in the party's decision making and will move its platform forward.

"It is no doubt that we recognise that the youth is our present and our future," Mr McCartney said. "We wanted to ensure that the youth arm grows with the party."

The executive team includes:

- G Jamarl Chea, president
- Mario Almanzar, first vice-president
- Letiesha Dean, second vice-president



DNA LEADER Branville McCartney.

- Kyle Thompson, third vice-president
 - Corey Small, treasurer
 - Pariska Rolle, secretary
 - Khashan Poitier, sergeant-at-arms
 - Mervin Davis, chaplain
- The DNA also plans to establish a youth arm in Grand Bahama and Richard Johnson is to oversee this project.

Jennifer Isaacs-Dotson, the first woman president of the National Congress of Trade Unions, conducted the elections and Judy Blair, Union of Tertiary Educators of the Bahamas chaplain and DNA volunteer, swore in the young leaders.

Newly elected Young Democrats president Mr Chea thanked the young audience for

their attendance and encouraged them to put themselves forward for appointed positions and standing committees.

"The party sees the need for young people to be incorporated in the decision making of the party."

"They don't see us as just a vote, but a voice," he said.

Mr Chea outlined several upcoming events targeting young Bahamians, including a disc jockey competition on July 16, entry to which will be free for anyone registered to vote two weeks prior to the old registrar closing on July 14.

He said: "The main focus is getting young people to register, because statistics show that young people will determine these elections and we encourage young people to go out and register."

Scepticism over viability of two extra GB airports

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
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DOMESTIC airline operators are sceptical of the viability of two additional airports on Grand Bahama.

DNA candidates for Grand Bahama proposed the development of two new facilities during an interview with *The Tribune* at the party's Grand Bahama launch.

However, their plan was shot down by industry professionals who questioned the sustainability of multiple airports on the 96-mile long island.

Rex Rolle of Western Air, said: "When you look at where the Grand Bahama airport is located right now, it's really in the centre of the island. So to commute there from any part of GB is approximately 30 minutes."

"I don't think it would be a viable option, given the amount of security and personnel and cost to operate an airport."

During an interview with *The Tribune*, candidates representing eastern and western Grand Bahama, Philip Thomas Sr and Roger Rolle, both suggested the development of airport facilities in their constituency.

The eastern airport could be used to service the film industry and would bring much needed competition, according to Mr Thomas Sr, a 46-year-old boat captain who is seeking the High Rock seat.

But Paul Harding of Safari Seaplanes said: "Three - for what? Freeport is pretty cen-

tral to everything that's in Grand Bahama, I wouldn't think there would be enough in East End to warrant it."

Mr Harding, a pilot, added: "If (the stalled Ginn development) takes off, it's gonna be pretty huge so I can understand them wanting to facilitate that, but more than that, no, I don't think Grand Bahama can absorb another one."

Economic development and training were said to be top priorities for all three Grand Bahama candidates ratified on Saturday, but Osman Johnson, of the law firm Ayse Rengin Dengizer Johnson and Co, promised that attending to the basic needs of Pineridge constituents will be his first task if elected.

Suffering

Acknowledging that government handouts do not create "real solutions", Mr Johnson, 27, added: "Our people are suffering right now in Pineridge and my first and primary concern will be to take direct action."

"I've grown up on this island and I've watched as this beautiful place of ours has deteriorated, year on year steadily - it makes me feel terribly disappointed."

Mr Rolle, president and CEO of Rags To Riches Consulting Company, told *The Tribune* that discussions with Ginn developers would be his first priority if elected.

He said the party has already started discussions

news BRIEF

ATTORNEY DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

ATTORNEY Wilbert H Moss Jr has died after a long illness.

Yesterday, his law firm, Bethel, Moss and Co, announced his death on behalf of his wife and family. The firm noted that Mr Moss practiced at the Bahamas Bar for more than 25 years and was "an accomplished defence attorney as well as a practitioner of civil law."

Memorial services will be announced in the near future, the notice said.

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The police summer camp opens for children

MANY THINK of policemen as those men and women in uniform who hunt down criminals — and sometimes those who don't consider themselves criminals — rough them up, secure them in handcuffs and lock-step them off to court.

But there is more to our police officers than that. They believe in the youth of this country and in making time to help them become good citizens, thus avoiding the prison lockup. Over the years many of these summer camp children have become police and defence force officers. On our staff today is a fine young reporter who has gone through the police force's summer camp and knows the value of its discipline.

Yesterday the Royal Bahamas Police Force opened its eighteenth annual summer youth programme in a ceremony at the Grants Town Seventh-day Adventist Church on Wellington Street.

It is estimated that each year 3,000 children go through the camps. We leave our readers to do the math to arrive at an estimate of the number of children the police have mentored over the last 18 years. These summer camps are so popular that this year, at the request of parents, the four week camp has been extended to six weeks. It is understood that there is talk within the force that next year the camps might operate for the entire summer.

As soon as the police announced the opening of the camp this year, children flocked to the various police divisions — seven divisions in all, but broken up into 10 because of the extra large size of some of them. Each division brought 300 children to the camp — 3,000 altogether. The theme of the camp is "preserving our heritage through our youth."

Up until last year the summer camps came under the Community Relations Section of the Force. Last year it was upgraded to the National Crime Prevention Office with Asst. Commissioner Stephen Dean at its head.

We met Supt Dean — from Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama who joined the Force 30 years ago — sometime in 1996. One day our telephone rang on what was a very busy news day. We really did not have time to take the call, but the voice at the other end was so insistent, so full of enthusiasm, and talking about a subject that has always been dear to our heart — the youth of this country — that we entertained his call. He had recently been stationed in Cat Island (1996-1999), wanted to pull the community together, saw that the youth had nothing to inspire them and so wanted to start a marching band. Would we help with the publicity.

From that day on we have collaborated on many programmes — he had the idea, we organised the publicity.

Over the years we have met and worked with many enthusiastic, dedicated police officers, the latest among them Stephen

Dean. Of course, we have the highest regard for Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade, a sensible, compassionate leader, able with his stern, but gentle power of persuasion to divert a young person from the path of destruction.

When given a challenging assignment, we always wait for Supt Dean's next words: "I have got to make it happen!" And by, jove, through sheer force of will, he makes the impossible happen — including getting us to yesterday's ceremony where he had a surprise awaiting us.

He is particularly interested in the music section of the summer programme. The band, under conductor, Corp Theodore Campbell, with only one year's training put on an impressive show at yesterday's opening.

Accompanying them for the first time was the Scotia Bank Symphony under the direction of JoAnne Connaughton, whose music conservatory takes children from the age of two. Playing in her section yesterday were a grandmother and her grandson, and a mother, her two daughters and a son. "It's very much a family affair," said Ms Connaughton. Among them was a talented young boy whose French horn was almost bigger than he was. Her group plans to cooperate with the police in their programme this summer.

Supt Dean wants the children to spend at least one day at the various children's homes and home for the elderly — to clean, paint and feed the elderly. This will not only teach them about service, he says, but will teach them to respect old people and their infirmities.

Several landscaping companies have agreed to help the children landscape the entrance to the Police Headquarters on East Street. There will be speech competitions; soccer sponsored by the Bahamas Football Association; basketball with Caribbean Bottling as sponsors, and the Lyford Cay Foundation, which sponsors the music, supplying the books and small instruments. The Foundation also assists with the supply of food. Cable Bahamas has pledged a financial donation to each of the 10 camp divisions.

Supt Dean is now concentrating on organising the camps at Cat Island, San Salvador, Exuma, Bimini, Eleuthera and Harbour Island and reviving the camp at Grand Bahama. He is now busy working with the mailboats to get camp supplies to the islands.

This is an abbreviated sketch of some of the programmes planned for 3,000 Bahamian children this summer. If you, our readers, want to help to keep our children off the streets, out of mischief and set on the path to become worthwhile citizens, please make a donation to the Royal Bahamas Police Force Summer Programme, P.O. Box N 3020, East Street. Your donation is much needed, will be much appreciated and will go to a very worthwhile cause.

PM has got to unite FNM before the next election

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I cannot say how relieved I am that Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette will not be retiring from front-line politics. I had read a report in a PLP Internet daily stating that the Deputy Prime Minister and Member of Parliament for St Anne's was angry with Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham over some alleged uncharitable comments that he had made to an American official in 2003 about him.

This infamous report was based on a Wikileaks cable that was published by The Nassau Guardian. Ingraham is alleged to have said that he wanted Symonette to enter the leadership race for the Free National Movement. He further stated that Symonette would lose because of his lack of appeal to Bahamians.

So far the prime minister has yet to deny that he had made these unkind comments about his Parliamentary colleague. The FNM can ill afford to lose Mr Symonette. He is a very valuable asset to the party. The FNM has already lost too many of its supporters to Bamboo Town MP Branville McCartney's Democratic National Alliance party. The DNA is an offshoot of the FNM. The formation of this new party could very well hurt the FNM in New Providence. We must bear in mind that the FNM only won one seat in New Providence in 2002. That was in St Anne's with Mr Symonette. He was the only FNM candidate to win a seat in New Providence. The FNM was virtually wiped out of New Providence by the PLP. In addition, the FNM did not win by an overwhelming margin in 2007. That election could have gone either way.

Supporters of the FNM need to be realistic. Right now it appears as if the political pendulum is swinging in the direction of the PLP. I am an avid reader of a PLP Internet daily; and I can tell you that many PLP supporters have a very deep dislike for PM Ingraham. These people are furious that Ingraham came out of semi-retirement to run for the leadership post at the FNM's 2005 convention. They are accusing PM Ingraham of undermining the former leader of the FNM, Tommy Turnquest. Turnquest led the FNM from 2002 to 2005. He was a senator. Turnquest lost his Mount Moriah seat to Keod Smith in 2002. If Turnquest was unable to convince his own constituents to support him in 2002, how would he convince the constituents of the other 40 constituencies to support him?

The PLP knows that the Hon Tommy Turnquest would have never defeated the Hon Perry Christie and his PLP party. This can explain why the party is so angry with PM Ingraham for returning to the leadership post. Mr Turnquest is obviously a very nice man. He is also a family man. However, I don't think that he could ever lead the FNM to victory at the polls. There are too many persons in this country who are opposed to Mr Turnquest becoming prime minister, because of his privileged upbringing. They resent the fact that he was raised with a platinum spoon in his mouth. In addition, Mr Turnquest does not possess the charisma and political appeal of either PLP Leader Perry Christie or PM Ingraham. When Mr Turnquest was the leader of the FNM, the party was deeply divided. Yet he managed to keep it together.

Many disgruntled FNM supporters are now joining the DNA. I don't think that many PLP supporters will leave their party for Branville McCartney. In fact, the Leader of the Opposition, Perry G Christie, has vowed to contest the Bamboo Town seat in the upcoming election. I think that the PLP could very well win that seat. The FNM is deeply divided in that constituency. Both the FNM and the DNA could end up splitting the votes that Mr McCartney received in 2007, I think. Progressive Liberal Par-

LETTERS
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ty supporters will stay put. The supporters of the PLP are determined to win the election.

Mr McCartney appears to be a very confident man. He really believes that his party can win at the polls in 2012. However, Mr McCartney must be very careful not to place the cart before the horse. I think that Mr McCartney and his supporters are guilty of counting the chickens before the eggs have hatched. The DNA must realise that the two main political parties are both deeply entrenched in this country. Furthermore, I don't believe that Mr McCartney will even hold on to his seat in the next general election. I could be wrong though. But, then again history is on my side.

Mr Tennyson Wells ran as an independent in 2007 and lost to Branville McCartney. Mr Wells is a very seasoned politician.

Yet he was soundly defeated by a political newcomer. The reason why Mr Wells lost his seat was that the Bamboo Town constituency is a FNM stronghold. Therefore, it will be an uphill battle for the Bamboo Town incumbent to hold on to that seat.

In addition to the departure of Mr McCartney, the FNM has also lost several party stalwarts like Pierre Dupuch, Algernon Allen, Floyd Watkins and Tennyson Wells. The FNM of today bears little resemblance to the FNM of the early to mid-nineties. While it cannot be denied that PM Ingraham has been very good to the FNM and to this country, it cannot be denied, however, that he has gutted out the party. Moreover, many within and without the party have complained about PM Ingraham's style of leadership. They have accused him of

being a dictator. I don't believe, however, that he is a dictator. Prime Minister Ingraham is simply a very stern leader. Nevertheless, the FNM cannot afford to repeat the errors it made in 2002. They must rally behind their leader, notwithstanding his domineering personality.

However, I must say, though, that even without the support of Algernon Allen, Tennyson Wells and the other disgruntled FNM supporters, the party was still able to defeat the PLP in 2007. This just goes to show how popular PM Ingraham is.

As it stands right now, this country is split right down the middle.

The Bahamas is deeply polarized. It is true, though, that the so-called swing voters will once again determine who will govern the country in the upcoming election. Both the PLP and the FNM still have their loyal supporters though. However, it appears as if the support base of the PLP is a bit stronger than the support base of the FNM. Therefore, the last thing that PM Ingraham and the FNM needs is another major party figure like Brent Symonette resigning from the party. That could very well be the FNM's Waterloo. Prime Minister Ingraham needs to reach out to disgruntled FNM's. He needs to galvanize his party's supporters. And if he has offended any one, the PM should extend an olive branch to them.

There is nothing wrong in admitting that you have made mistakes. But as it stands right now, I cannot see how the FNM will win the upcoming election with a fractured party. The party is just too divided. Prime Minister Ingraham has got to unite his party.

If PM Ingraham fails to get his party united again, the FNM will lose the election.

KEVIN EVANS
Nassau,
June 27, 2011.

DNA LEADER SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL OVER GOD CLAIMS

EDITOR, The Tribune.

In the "theology of life" it must be understood that God is in control of all outcomes, based on what He allows, what He hinders or what He causes.

Many Bahamian politicians and political parties have always been convinced that God is on their side, especially if you check their church attendance leading up to an election.

I would caution the young leader of the DNA to be very careful as he attempts to tap into the spiritual realm in moving forward. If you make a claim that "God is guiding," the assumption will be that someone is following. Reactions in the spiritual realm are normal, but it is the responses that that are important; and those of us within a particular historical framework have always been at the front of the line when it comes to God and politics and because of this cultural idiosyncrasy we have often seen ourselves as being "special," but this is changing.

More than a half-century ago the language we are hearing would have been suitable, a political entity coming on the scene for the good of a people who have been oppressed and let down, but in July 2011 there is a slight difference; the oppressors and the oppressed have a lot more in common.

When the PLP came on the scene more than a half-century ago, the reality of who God was and what He meant to the Bahamian people was clearly defined and it was a powerful force. The then leader of the PLP took on the persona of a modern day Moses. The slogan "All the Way", was chosen from the book of Deuteronomy, "Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years", 8:2. It was later re-phrased to "All the way the Lord shall lead us." The history of the modern Bahamas reminds us that even a political party with such a strong religious component had serious challenges in allowing the Lord to lead them through the years. And the challenges came early, as the church leaders who had supported the party to its victory in 1967, were unable to dissuade the party or its leadership from going back on the promises they had made (in church) on the gambling issue.

Even one of our greatest Bahamian sons, who was a member of the party and a Baptist minister, paid the ultimate price for standing on the issue of principle. Perhaps it is just one of those coincidences but exactly 40 years from its grand entry in 1967, the party finds itself in a political wilderness.

I would advise Mr McCartney to be very careful of his utterances as his political career develops, especially when he attempts to presume that God is on the side of him and his party. God is on the side of those who are prepared to do His will. Politicians have a penchant for beginning with God and then using Him and His people when it is convenient. He should take a page from one of his mentors, who is wise enough not to presume upon God's goodness; he has even had to bear the brunt of some Bahamians not seeing him as Christian, when compared to some of the other political leaders who like to go to church on a regular basis. No matter what people say about his ex-leader, they will never be able to accuse him of "playing games with God."

EDWARD HUTCHESON
Nassau,
July 1, 2011.

WANTED

An Executive Assistant

The successful candidate must possess the minimum following criteria:

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- Able to work effectively, efficiently, independently in a professional environment
- Well spoken and articulate in representing the CEO and directors of the organization
- High level of confidentiality
- Be able to multi task paying attention to detail
- Basic accounting background
- Able to put reports together in a timely manner from meetings or briefings with management.
- Excellent verbal and written skills
- Be a team player
- A Bachelors of Arts Degree in Business or Business related field

Qualified applicants should apply in writing no later than July 13, 2011.

Att: Executive Assistant
c/o The Tribune
DA94528
P.O. Box N3207
Nassau, Bahamas

LOCAL NEWS

Country 'under attack from a new breed' of criminals

By LAMECH JOHNSON

WITH the country's homicide count now at 65 for the year, the commissioner of police believes the country is under attack by a new breed of criminals who have no regard for human life.

In a meeting with the press following the opening ceremony of the police summer youth camp, Commissioner Ellison Greenslade said criminals are now committing armed robbery and killing the victims – even if they cooperate.

"There are persons who will take your money, they won't just rob you, they will kill you in the process and they just don't care," he said.

Commissioner Greenslade said when he recently held talks with reformed former criminals, they too expressed concerns about the "new breed" – who he said "have never attended church, will not attend church and just do not care."

"They have committed crimes yesterday, they will commit crimes today, we arrest



COMMISSIONER OF POLICE Ellison Greenslade speaks yesterday.

them, they're taken to court, granted bail, they're back in the system after they commit an offence."

Asked to respond to criticisms of the police force's performance on crime, Mr

Greenslade said: "Criminals commit murder. People that are bad people in our society commit murder. That's not about the police force. That's not about ZNS or any other news media. That's not about

educators.

"That's about human beings that live here, human beings with brains in their heads, human beings that make choices and the choices they make are to commit crime and to a certain extent murder.

"This is about waking up as a people and recognising that we are facing major problems that we are going to have to come to terms with.

"We will continue to ask the public to support us by turning these murderers in. They live in our communities. They're from our homes and they know who they are and they need to turn them in."

The commissioner said the police have been arresting "prolific offenders" on a consistent basis.

"Thousands of persons have been arrested over the course of the year, hundreds of weapons taken off the streets, thousands of rounds of ammunition, the stats are there to show. But that alone will not solve the problem," he said.

TWO CHARGED WITH TEEN'S STABBING DEATH



CHARGED: Alfredoe Destamar (left) and Stevanis Brown.

Felipé Major/Tribune staff

TWO men charged in the stabbing death of a 16-year-old boy were arraigned in the Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Police have charged Alfredoe Destamar, 19, of Peach Street and Stevanis Brown, 19, of Green Castle, Eleuthera, with the June 27 murder of Evense Arryse.

The 16-year-old was at a party on Allen Drive off Carmichael Road when a fight broke out at around 1am.

Police said that during the fight, Arryse was stabbed in the neck.

Destamar and Brown were arraigned in Court One, Bank Lane yesterday before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez.

Both men were not required to enter a plea to the charge.

Twenty witnesses are listed on the court dockets.

Prosecutors are expected to present a Voluntary Bill of Indictment in the case on September 14.

Attorney Ian Cargill, who represents both men, told the magistrate they were severely beaten while in police custody.

He also claimed that although police said they were granted permission to detain the suspects for an extended period of time, they never presented any proof of this.

Both men have been remanded to Her Majesty's Prison.

COURT NEWS

23-YEAR-OLD CHARGED WITH MURDER

A 23-YEAR-OLD Turtle Drive man was arraigned in Magistrate's Court on a murder charge yesterday.

Domineko Teron Babbs has been charged with the June 26 murder of Ashton Scott Rolle.

Police said Rolle, 20, was behind Gibson's Liquor store on Carmichael Road about 11.20pm when the incident occurred.

When officers arrived on the scene they found Rolle's body with a number of gunshot wounds.

Babbs, who was represented by attorney Richard Boodle, was not required to enter a plea.

Fourteen witnesses are listed on court dockets.

Prosecutors will proceed with a Voluntary Bill of Indictment in the case.

Babbs was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison as the question of bail did not arise.

The indictment is expected to be presented on September 14.



CHARGED: Domineko Teron Babbs outside of court
Felipé Major/Tribune staff

CRIME NEWS

FIVE ARRESTED AFTER DISCOVERY OF FIREARM AND AMMUNITION

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Five persons were arrested after a firearm and ammunition were discovered at a residence in the Freeport area on Saturday.

According to police reports, at about 6.20pm officers of the Drug Enforcement Unit executed a search warrant at a house on Pioneer's Way, near Coral Road.

A black .45 Austria Glock pistol with a magazine, containing 12 live .9mm rounds of ammunition, was recovered by officers.

The five occupants of the home were arrested and taken into custody for questioning.

ASP Loretta Mackey said police are continuing their investigation into the matter.

Police have also arrested 23 persons, including 17 adult males, one male juvenile, and five adult females, over the weekend for various offences such as house-breaking, shop-breaking, stealing, causing harm, disorderly behaviour, possession of unlicensed firearm, ammunition and possession of dangerous drugs.

HIGH-POWERED WEAPON IN ABANDONED HOME

MOBILE Division Officers found a high-powered weapon hidden inside a ceiling of an abandoned home at West Street and Cambridge Lane.

Police reports said that officers discovered the gun at 5 pm. No suspects were arrested in connection with the find.

Officers from the Mobile Division also arrested a man who was allegedly found driving a car believed to have been stolen.

Police were on routine patrol of Step Street in Fox Hill at 8 am Sunday when they noticed a 35-year-old man, a resident of the area, with the red Honda Accord.

The suspect was arrested and taken into police custody.

Active investigations continue into both incidents.

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FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

Deacon James Alfred Farrington, 64



a resident of Winton Estates & formerly of Dumfries, Cat Island, who passed away on 25th June, 2011, will be held at **The Remnant Tabernacle of Praise, Carmichael & Golden Isle Roads, on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.** Officiating will be Pastor, Dr. Kendal C. Stubbs, assisted by Min. Edmund Stubbs, & Min. Wendell Pratt. Interment follows in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

Left to cherish his memories are **wife**, Willamae K. Farrington; **children**, Bonar A & C.J. Kyles, Kamalo A & Rekesha Farrington, Jardo A & Crystal Farrington and Shakera Farrington; **grandchildren**, Kayla A., Kyla-Kharizma A., Kyra-Sakurah A., Kara-Kiara A., Kelli A. Farrington, Jealyn Farrington, Danielle Duncombe; **brothers**, Isaac Hepburn (Miami, FL), Joseph Ferguson (Freeport, Grand Bahama), David, Christopher & Stephen Farrington; **sisters**, Paula Romer (The Bight, Cat Island), Pandora Taylor, Altemese & Hazel Farrington; **bothers-in-law**, Sam Romer, Wilfred Sullivan; **sisters-in-law**, Hazel Hepburn, Sybil Ferguson, Patrice Farrington & Sheila Carroll; **numerous nieces, nephews, grand nieces & nephews & a host of other relatives & friends including**, Doreen Whitehead & family, Oral Dean & family, Ruthleen Symonette, Joanna McKenzie and family, Errol & Yvonne McPhee and Family, Pastor Kendal Stubbs and family, Henry F. Storr and families, Grenik & Eulamae Rolle, Sheniqua Dames and family, Daniel Duncombe, Sam Knowles, Loretta Knowles and Ethel Rolle, the entire Remnant Tabernacle of Praise Church family, Rev. Terrence Morrison and Zion Baptist Church family, Errol Bethel, Parliamentary family, Government Printing, Cabinet Office, Doctors and Nurses of the Dialysis Unit (PMH), Gaynell Bullard and family, Ministry of Finance, The Department of Immigration, The Lyford of Cay Club family, Fealy Demeritte Funeral Home, Woodlawn Gardens.

Friends may pay their last respects at **Demeritte's Funeral Home, Market Street**, from 10-6:00pm on Tuesday & on Wednesday at the church from 9:00 a.m. until service time.

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LOCAL NEWS

SHARK PROTECTION LEGISLATION SET TO BE REVEALED TODAY

FROM page one

National Trust (BNT) and other environmental non-government organisations have petitioned for a total ban on the commercial fishing of sharks and sale of shark meat and products in the Bahamas and for export.

Changes to the Fisheries Resources (Jurisdiction and Conversation) Act were drawn up by the Attorney General's office and approved by the Cabinet.

Papers were then returned to the AG and drawn up for the Minister to sign yesterday, however he remained tight-lipped when questioned about what the legislation might entail.

Campaigners hope the legislative changes will prevent the capture and killing of shark for commercial gain, thereby making Bahamian waters a sanctuary for sharks.

The 243,244 sq miles of Bahamian waters is home to one of the world's healthiest shark populations, owing to the ban on long-line fishing more than 20 years ago, and lack of demand for shark meat in the region.

However sharks came under threat when the operator of a seafood export company in North Andros told *The Tribune* he intended to explore the possibility of exporting shark fins in September last year, and accelerated the launch of the shark conservation campaign.

Matt Rand, Pew's director of Global Shark Conservation, estimates 73 million sharks are killed every year primarily to support the global shark fin industry, valued for the Asian delicacy shark fin soup.

"Right now, 38 per cent of

shark species that are in the world's oceans are threatened, or are near threatened with extinction; and those are just the ones that we know. We also know that that statistic is actually short," Mr Rand said.

The first International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list of oceanic sharks names 64 species as endangered. Sharks are vulnerable because they take decades to mature and produce few young.

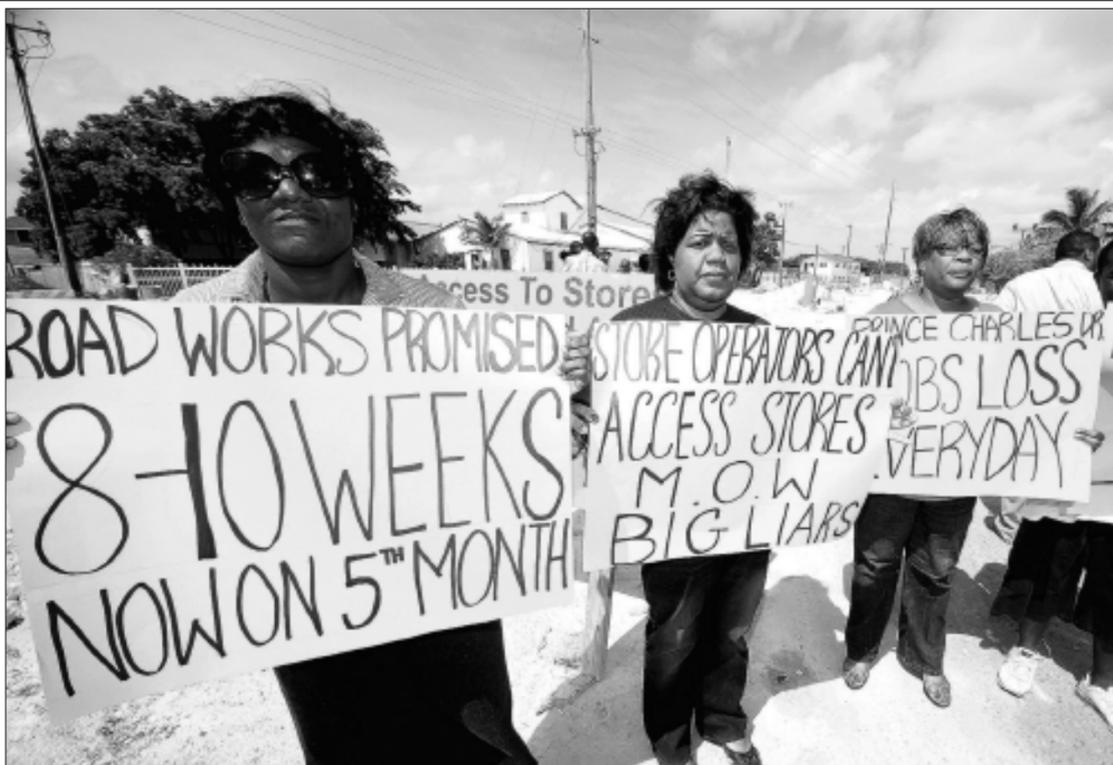
According to research on the value of Palau's shark population released in March, 100 sharks would be worth around \$10,800 for their meat and fins.

However, reef sharks in the Bahamas are estimated to be worth around \$250,000 each as visitors spend an estimated \$78 million per year to see sharks or take part in shark-related activities. Shark tourism is thought to have contributed more than \$800 million to the Bahamian economy over the last 20 years.

Pew has successfully campaigned for shark protection legislation around the world, with Honduras declared a shark sanctuary on June 24, and Asian Pacific island Guam banning the sale, possession and distribution of shark fins in March.

"The global momentum for shark conservation is building and all eyes are on the Bahamas for the next major step in shark conservation," Mr Rand said.

BNT director Eric Carey said: "We remain optimistic. We did all of our homework, we had a lot of documented support, and support from the Cabinet, so there is no reason to expect anything other than what we have been asking for."



BUSINESS OWNERS protest yesterday on Prince Charles Drive.

Felipe Major/Tribune staff

Roadworks 'cause 200 jobs to be lost'

FROM page one

"We want some answers as to when the road is going to be completed and why haven't they put more manpower on this road.

"We need the government to stop dragging their feet on this job. We already had two businesses close and more will close soon if something isn't done."

"Some of us can't pay our light bill, some of us can't buy inventory. It is costing us much more money to stay open. We just want the government to keep their word to us, they promised to keep one lane open and we need that so people can have access to our stores."

Mr Rahming also claimed that despite the Ministry promising that roadworkers will be working from 7am to 7pm every day, most days no one is working, and

when they are there, he says, some are either, sleeping, gambling, drunk or slacking off.

Nioshie Bourne, who represented East Coast Pub, Tai's One Stop and P C Engineers said things have got so bad, they can only afford to have family work in their shops because they were forced to send her entire staff home.

"We understand pipes have to be laid but they have been in front of East Coast Pub meaning no one can access the business.

"The government needs to compensate us.

"We are sick and tired of suffering and its like the government doesn't care. They won't even speak to us. The Ministry told us they would have the proper signs in place, that hasn't happened. We can't trust them and if you can't trust the gov-

ernment, who can you trust?"

The business owners say they will protest every day until they are heard. They have retained the services of lawyers and say if they have to take the matter to court, they will.

Roadwork on Fox Hill Road and Prince Charles Drive are a part of the Government's \$120 million contract for the New Providence Road Improvement Project.

The work includes installation of a 24-inch water main from Fox Hill Road and Prince Charles Drive in the east to the junction at Baillou Hill and Robinson Road that is expected to improve water quality. Drainage utilities are also being installed.

The Ministry has scheduled a press conference for tomorrow, at which time they are expected to address this issue.

SMALL PLANE 'CRASHES JUST AFTER TAKEOFF'

FROM page one

route from Mangrove Cay to Congo Town yesterday.

Mr Major said: "The plane was reported to have developed problems shortly after takeoff. It tried to return and crashed into bushes short of the runway."

It could not be confirmed whether or not the plane was a private charter. The department is expected to send a team to Andros today to gather more information about the crash.

FROM page one

These cars are then in turn registered in the names of persons or companies that do not exist and illegally licensed at the Road Traffic Department.

Nine times out of ten, a source close to the investigation revealed, these vehicles have no form of actual insurance as they run the risk of being exposed when the vehicle's identification number or (VIN) number is checked through CARFAX.

However, for the more "luxury end cars" that are being sold for anywhere from \$45,000 to \$90,000 the VIN numbers on these vehicles have been altered or replaced with a wrecked model's VIN number. This manoeuvre, police explained, is done so that when a search is made on the car it would appear on

LUXURY CAR SCAM EXPOSED

CARFAX as if the vehicle had simply been in an "accident" where the title had to be "rebuilt", thus avoiding any suspicion of theft.

Reported victims of this scam have ranged from well-known businessmen, current political candidates, Lyford Cay residents, attorneys, doctors, numbers house operators, retail food store owners and the like.

These cars in most instances are presented by an individual whom the police believe to be an officer connected with the Customs Department.

This person, they said, presents himself to would-be purchasers as being a car salesman who obtains all of his vehicles through auctions, thus offering them at such

"great prices." A \$89,000 Mercedes for example, could be sold by this individual for as low as \$45,000.

As a part of their investigation, the police will reportedly begin to cross-check the VIN numbers and registration details of all the luxury cars on the island with the records currently being held at the Customs Department. Any vehicle, which cannot be proven to have been landed and cleared by Customs, they said, could be a part of this overall scheme.

Persons who believe they may have been victims of this latest scam are asked to contact the Security and Intelligence Branch of the Royal Bahamas Police Force or their nearest police station for assistance.

CUSTOMS MANAGEMENT BILL MOVED IN THE HOUSE

FROM page one

and aggrieved persons. Currently, a person who disagrees with a decision by the department has no other recourse aside from taking the matter to court.

The Bill also has a code of conduct detailing the standards and rules of behaviour with which all Customs officers must comply. A disciplinary board also will be created to mete out punishment to employees suspected of violating the code of conduct.

For the first time, the Bill will give customs officers the authority to verify suspicions that imported goods are impostor brands that infringe on a manufacturer's intellectual property rights.

"The introduction of provisions will give the Customs Department the power to take action on its own initiative to detect goods of infringing intellectual property rights," said Mr Laing yesterday.

"Those of us who are familiar with intellectual property laws, they'll note that this is a meaningful new intervention in the enforcement mechanism of the Bahamas in respect to intellectual property rights.

"Customs, in having that legitimate suspicion within the context of this law, will be able to take as much action as is necessary to ensure that is not the case, or if it is that case, what is to be done," the Marco City MP added.

Two main changes introduced in the new legislation redefine the authority of the comp-

troller and the powers of customs officers.

"One would see in the law greater specificity as to what the powers and authority of those persons are to act in respect of Customs laws in the Bahamas. There'll be very little room for discretion in that regard," said Mr Laing during his contribution.

Customs will also undertake post-release verification and audits of released goods, such as those deemed duty-free, to inspect whether or not the goods were used for their conditional purposes.

This will enhance honesty and transparency around the release of goods, said Mr Laing.

The Bill also calls for an internal inspection unit to conduct periodic inspections to verify that tasks are being dutifully carried out.

The amended law reflects international standards concerning the simplification of Customs procedures, the obligations of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and those required of the World Trade Organization.

The new Bill aims to provide increased transparency of legislation, policies and procedures, with clear published rules and procedures consistently applied to a common standard and an appeals system; minimal interference with legitimate trade and passenger traffic; the protection and securing of legitimate trade, the environment and national heritage; partnership with other stakeholders to eliminate duplication and minimise bureaucracy and greater professionalism in the way staff deal with trade and passenger traffic.

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LOCAL NEWS

WORK TAKES PLACE ON DILAPIDATED DOWNTOWN 'EYE-SORE'

TAXI DRIVERS GET INTO GEAR FOR CLEAN-UP OF PROPERTY

By LAMECH JOHNSON

MEMBERS of the Prince George Dock Taxi Driver's Association came together to clean up a dilapidated property that had become a conspicuous eye-sore in the heart of downtown Nassau.

Torrence Henfield, co-ordinator of the clean up, said the property on the corner of East Bay and Ernest Streets was riddled with a garbage "in the front and the back" and had started to attract comments from tourists.

He said: "When we sometimes take shortcuts through here when doing tours with tourists, they see the garbage and they complain about it, the sight and the smell. So we the taxi drivers saw fit to come out here today and clean it up ourselves."

Mr Henfield said the association plans to clean up any area on their tour routes that is littered with garbage, and called on the Ministry of Environment to help with this effort.

Association member Ivan Campbell said the idea came days ago and it did not take them long to act.

"On Saturday, Mr Henfield said to us as drivers that we have to deal with this problem and we decided to come out here today and do just that. It didn't take long to get things sorted out."

The clean-up, undertaken by about 20 taxi drivers, started at 6.30am yesterday.

According to the association, the owner of the property lives in Miami, Florida, but a local politician is supposed to be responsible for maintaining it.



SANDALS WELCOMES FIRST VACATIONERS FROM NEW DIRECT FLIGHT

SANDALS Royal Bahamian welcomed the first vacationers from the newly established Copa Airlines' direct flight from Panama this past week - a couple from Brazil who will leave the Bahamas on Thursday with a glowing review of not only the resort, but of the Bahamas as well.

Robson and Michelle Lima, a newly married couple from the Brazilian City of São Paulo chose to spend a week in New Providence for their honeymoon.

Through Sandals Royal Bahamian's resident Portuguese speaker, Food and Beverage Manager Manuel Santos, Mr. Lima explained that the decision was made after a random search on the internet.

"For our honeymoon we wanted to spend time at a beautiful beach so we googled the words 'paradise' and 'beach'. The first pictures to come up were ones from the Bahamas. So then it was just a matter of what resort to go to and we chose Sandals," Mr Lima said.

The availability of a direct flight from a South American country assisted further in making the decision an easy one. The couple said that the flight was very good, comfortable and safe.

Mr Lima raved about the warm Bahamian weather saying they stepped off their Copa Airlines flight dressed in winter coats and boots. Because it is below the Equator, winters in São Paulo from June 22 to September 21.

The Limas even made a day trip to the Exumas on the Power Boat Adventures.

"The weather is beautiful, the country is beautiful, the people are beautiful we would recommend it to anyone back home," Mr Lima said.

Good word of mouth in São Paulo could go a long way. Not only is it the largest city in Brazil, São Paulo is the largest city in the southern hemisphere, and the world's seventh largest city by population.

As a matter of fact, recommendations from persons travelling from any of the markets in South America are significant. Not only is it a fairly untapped region as far as the Bahamas tourism industry is concerned, it is the home of a number of emerging economies.

In the past five years, South America has experienced great economic development, with Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina, Uruguay and Peru growing their economies by over 8 per cent per annum.

Brazil, the nation from where the Limas hail, is the seventh largest economy in the world and the second largest in the Americas.

It leads South America in total amount of exports at \$137.8 billion.

Sandals General Manager Patrick Drake once again highlighted the great opportunity the opening of these markets



ROBSON AND MICHELLE LIMA the first ever vacationers from the newly established Copa Airlines direct flight from Panama

Photo/Marvin Humes

provides for the Bahamas.

"While continuing to provide excellent service to our North American guests we must not forget the special

needs of visitors to the Bahamas from South America and Europe who are travelling great distances to be here," Mr Drake said.



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RBC Royal Bank (Bahamas) Ltd. invites tenders for the purchase of the following:

"All THAT" piece parcel or lot of land being Lot No. 112 situated in Westridge Estates Subdivision situated in the Western district of the Island of New Providence one of the islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

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All offers should be forwarded in writing in sealed envelope, addressed to the Manager, Royal Bank Commercial Financial Services, P.O. Box N-7549, Nassau, Bahamas and marked "Tender 7939". All offers must be received by the close of business 4:00 p.m., 8th July, 2011.

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LOCAL NEWS



ANNUAL
BEATRETREAT

SCENES FROM SATURDAY'S MARCH IN NASSAU

FELIPE MAJOR/TRIBUNE STAFF



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Nassau, Bahamas**

Dreading the load shedding!

By INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

COMIC'S VIEW



INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

FOR as far back as I can remember, every summer, without exception, has brought with it an internal clock which, as soon as the first power outage occurs, begins the countdown as to when the next "load-shed" will occur.

Truthfully, I know I am not alone as there are many Bahamians who share this same internal clock and (possibly) irrational fear.

We ask ourselves, "Will it happen just as I sit down for a meal, or will it strike when I am fully lathered up enjoying my nightly shower? What if it happens right when I get back from the food store, get in my house, unload all those groceries, made sure my meats were situated comfortably in the freezer and put my favourite six-pack on ice?"

Yes, every time the "current" goes off it's good-bye sanity, hello lunacy!

I imagine that next to "water-boarding" (which is now illegal) there is no crueler form of torture than sitting in your home in the middle of a boiling Bahamian summer with no air conditioning, ceiling fans or any other form of electronically powered cooling apparatus. And no time frame for relief.

In my house, events are planned and decisions made based upon when I and my wife feel that internal clock will strike zero:

Me: Honey, would you like to go to dinner and see a movie tonight?

Wife: Sure! Oh, wait. What if they load-shed tonight? The baby-sitter won't be able to handle it!

She might lose the kids in the dark. Or what if a candle lights the drapes and catches the house on fire? Or what if one of the kids slips on a toy in the dark and breaks their neck? Or what if they all sweat to death while we're out watching 'Transformers 3' for goodness sakes?!!

Me: Right, never mind. (Better for us to sweat to death together as a family, I always say.)

Seriously, the government of the day should know that load-shedding is taking a two pronged toll on the population; this practice of rolling black-outs breaks one down both mentally and physically, leading to everything from arguments, severe spankings (if you think your kids annoy you with the lights on...) and nervous breakdowns to the more life-threatening ailments like dehydration and heat strokes.

And let's face it, we are spoiled.

Sure our ancestors once survived without electricity, fans, air-conditioners and ice, but ask Bahamians to go a full 24 hours without electricity in the hot summer and you are inviting trouble. We need our smart-phones and our dumb phones, our computers and our tablets, our iPods and our iPads, mp3 players, Playstations, X-boxes, flat screens and Wiis. And do you know what all of these things need?

Power.

For our generation it is as much about being physically cool as it is about being mentally cool; forget about cold water and hot food, when load-shedding occurs it threatens our ability to enjoy our various creature comforts almost as much our physical well being.

And is it really fair to compare us to our ancestors? They killed animals with their bare hands and ate them raw (I think).

But I digress.

There must be something of our ancestors left in us still, though, because when the

lights go out we 'modern' humans return to a primitive state. We seek out water, even if that drinking water (which quickly gets hot) is now comparable to "swimming pool" water, more suited for boiling pasta than quenching one's thirst.

As your throat crackles and your tongue dries your mind craves exactly what you can't have; the biggest ice-cold "slushie" in the world

That ice-cold slushie awaits you at your favourite service station (where the power never goes off thanks to their generators).

In your heat induced delirium you hear the slushie calling your name. Now you are up in a full "zombified" state with one thing on your mind—the slushie crossing your lips, extinguishing your thirst, and giving you brain freeze all in one sip.

Oh what a feeling!

The thought is so vivid in your mind you can taste it. You quicken your pace to get to your car in order to get to the service station which, though just mere blocks away from your residence, now seems hundreds of miles away. As you scuttle about in the dark—gaining a new respect for Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder—trying not to take out the coffee table with your shin, you stop only to feel the sweat roll down your body into cracks and crevices you never knew existed. Blood is flowing now, and you can hear each bead of sweat as it cascades off your brow in perfect timing with the thump of your heart (producing a beat that Dr Dre would envy).

In the car finally, you race to the service station like a NASCAR driver chasing the



THE HEAT IS ON: Groceries in the fridge await their fate.

checked flag at Daytona. All in one cool move, you pull up, hop out of your car, enter the establishment, grab the biggest cup available and head for the slushie machine which summons you like a beacon in the night.

It's like an oasis in the desert welcoming you from across the store. The "Holy Grail" is within reach.

You have no regard what

people say about your flip flops, cut off jean shorts and greasy t-shirt as the frozen liquid oozes out then explodes into your large cup. The straw is inserted with light speed as you move toward the counter to pay for your prize. Just as you are about to take a big gulp of paradise... you guessed it... that load-shedding clock hits zero again and you find yourself standing in

what must be the only gas station in Nassau without a working generator.

As much as I would like to go on explaining how it feels to be in any business waiting to pay for something without a working cash register (abacus anyone?) I cannot. I must leave you in the dark. It's 7.15pm as I am writing this and my internal clock is on 4, 3, 2...

Tribune Trivia

Yesterday's Question

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham is attending the Caricom Heads of Government Meeting in which Caribbean country

Yesterday's Answer

St Kitts

Yesterday's Winners

Rodesia Wright	3pts
Rachel Burrows	2pts
Donna Smith-Wallace	1pt

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HUNDREDS CELEBRATE IN DOWNTOWN CARACAS

CHAVEZ BACK HOME IN VENEZUELA AFTER CANCER SURGERY

CARACAS, Venezuela
Associated Press

PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ made a stunning middle-of-the-night return home to Venezuela after three weeks of cancer treatment in Cuba, appearing determined to dispel doubts about his political future.

He projected a strong, vibrant image when he stepped off the plane smiling early Monday. He hugged his vice president, broke into song and later raised a fist in triumph.

"It's the beginning of my return!" he declared on the runway.

But he also suggested he still isn't ready for a full comeback, saying he doesn't expect to attend celebrations Tuesday marking the 200th anniversary of Venezuela's declaration of independence from Spain.

For a president who excels at showmanship, his triumphant return was classic Chavez and sent a powerful message that he remains very much in control. During nearly a month in Cuba, uncertainty has swirled in Venezuela, both about how sick he is and about what could happen if cancer were to force him from power.

The long-term political impact of fighting cancer for a leader who thrives on the spotlight remains unclear. But Chavez will likely play up his return to the fullest to rally supporters and strengthen his movement as he looks ahead to 2012 elections in which his allies say they are convinced he will still be their candidate.

Surgery

Unanswered questions about Chavez's health abound. He has said he underwent surgery to remove a cancerous tumor, and his foreign minister said it was extracted from the same part of the "pelvic region" where Chavez had an abscess removed in an initial operation in Cuba. But Chavez hasn't said what type of cancer is involved or whether he is receiving chemotherapy, radiation or some other treatment.

Medical experts have said that based on Chavez's account, it's most likely he has colorectal cancer, but Chavez has not confirmed that.

Many Chavez supporters were thrilled just to have him back. Hundreds celebrated in Plaza Bolivar in downtown Caracas, holding pictures of him and chanting "Viva Chavez!" and "He's back!"

Elsa Gonzalez, a 61-year-old building maintenance worker, said she had stopped cooking breakfast when she saw Chavez on TV at the Caracas airport.

"I shouted with excitement," she said, teary-eyed as she joined the revelers in the plaza. "God is going to lay his hands on his body and is going to heal him complete-

ly."

Chavez returned to a city dressed up with freshly painted murals bearing his face and those of independence heroes. Yellow, blue and red Venezuelan flags were everywhere downtown, fluttering from lamp posts and over doorways under sunny skies.

The mood among Chavez's supporters was festive. Some acknowledged he faces an uncertain future but said they felt hopeful and relieved, especially after seeing him looking much healthier than he did on television several days ago.

"If that illness is attacked in time, people get through it," said Xioraima Garcia, a 56-year-old lawyer who came to the plaza to celebrate with the crowd.

Asked how she thinks the situation will affect Chavez politically, she said: "What he's going through has strengthened him more."

Adam Isacson, an analyst at the Washington Office on Latin America, agreed that Chavez will get a boost, at least for now.

"Hugo Chavez's illness will generate a lot of sympathy for him," Isacson said, adding that it's similar to the jump in the polls that Argentine President Cristina Fernandez enjoyed after her husband's death.

"It is already moving Venezuela's political debate away from themes that don't work to the president's advantage, like crime, power shortages, the economy, and concentration of power in the presidency," Isacson said. "On the other hand, it also moves the debate in directions that Chavez would not want to see it go. For the first time in years, Venezuelans are thinking about what a post-Chavez era might look like. This raises concerns about the lack of an heir apparent."

Chavez appeared eager to counter such doubts.

"Here I am, at home and very happy!" Chavez said in a message on Twitter. "Good morning, my beloved Venezuela!"

Vice President Elias Jaua said Chavez was back in the presidential palace and planned to address supporters from the balcony later Monday. "He doesn't need to go to the hospital at this time," Jaua said.

Jaua denied that Chavez's socialist-inspired Bolivarian Revolution movement is threatened.

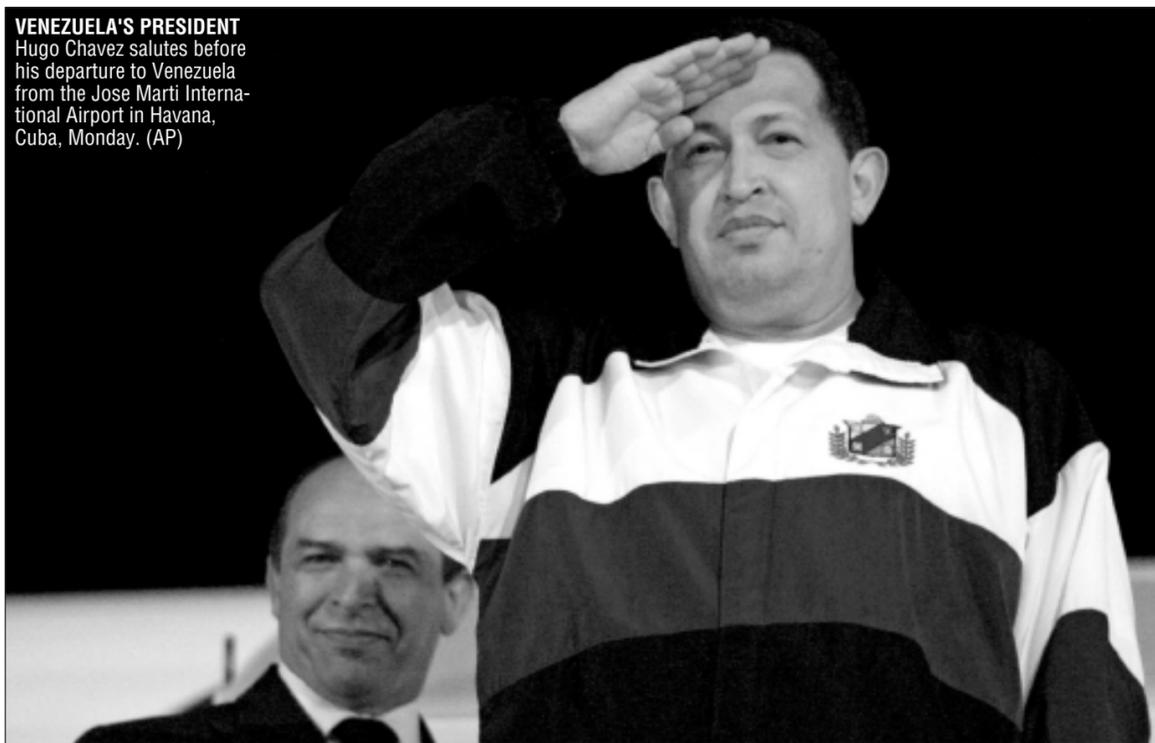
Chavez's opponents have criticized a lack of details about his illness. Leading opposition lawmaker Alfonso Marquina said Chavez's return puts an end to the "irregular situation" of having a president governing from Cuba, but he said much has yet to be explained.

"We don't know exactly what the president's illness is, what treatment he needs and what consequences this treatment will bring," Marquina



PEOPLE CHANTING SLOGANS celebrate the return of Venezuela President Hugo Chavez in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday. Chavez returned to Venezuela from Cuba on Monday morning, stepping off a plane hours before dawn and saying he is feeling better as he recovers from surgery that removed a cancerous tumor. (AP)

VENEZUELA'S PRESIDENT
Hugo Chavez salutes before his departure to Venezuela from the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, Cuba, Monday. (AP)



told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"What we demand is greater responsibility, no only on the president's part but by all of those high in the government to inform the Venezuelan people properly about the president's real situation," Marquina said.

Chavez, 56, arrived in Cuba on June 8 for what ostensibly was a previously scheduled visit. Chavez has said he underwent an initial surgery June 11 to have a pelvic abscess removed.

Video

After an 18-day silence, a video was shown Thursday in which Chavez announced he had undergone a second surgery to remove a cancerous abscessed tumor.

Chavez looked thinner but stood straight and appeared energetic as he strode across

the Havana airport tarmac before boarding a plane.

In video on Venezuelan state television, he embraced Cuban President Raul Castro.

Then, from the door of the airplane he saluted, raised a fist, waved, and blew a kiss.

"I'm fine."

"I'm happy," Chavez said as he landed in Venezuela about 2 a.m. local time (2:30 a.m. EDT; 0630 GMT). Inside the Caracas airport, he raised a fist as he held up a newspaper showing the Venezuelan soccer team's better-than-expected performance Sunday against Brazil.

In a later telephone interview with state television, Chavez said he was eating a hearty breakfast. "I'm devouring everything," he said.

And yet, Chavez went on to say he didn't plan to attend celebrations Tuesday for Venezuela's bicentennial,

which include a military parade.

"I don't think I can accompany you in the official acts tomorrow, but I am here and will be with all of you from my command post in the heart of Caracas, although I never left," Chavez said.

He also said he planned to consult with doctors before meeting with his government.

"I just finished checking the medical schedule, before anything," he said, adding his medical care would come "before anything."

At his early morning arrival, Chavez's military chiefs stood behind him as he spoke on the runway in the darkness. He wore a blue-and-white warmup suit as he hugged his elder brother, Adan, and others.

The video, aired more than five hours after his arrival, didn't show Chavez either ascending the airplane's stairs in Cuba or descending them

in Venezuela.

Former Cuban President Fidel Castro ended a more than monthlong silence to say he was confident the Venezuelan leader will win his battle against cancer.

"The results are impressive, and I do not hesitate to affirm that the patient has undertaken a decisive battle that will lead him, and with him Venezuela, to a great victory," Castro wrote in the essay, posted late Sunday on state-run website Cubadebate.

Castro also backed up Chavez's account that he did not initially come to Cuba for treatment, saying the Venezuelan leader "did not have any intention of receiving medical services in our country."

Fidel Castro wasn't visible on the tarmac in the video of Chavez boarding his flight in Havana. But Chavez joked that "Fidel practically got on the plane."

NOT GUILTY PLEAS ON HIS BEHALF TO 11 CHARGES OF MASTERMINDING THE WORST ATROCITIES OF BOSNIAN WAR

RATKO MLADIC DISRUPTS WAR CRIMES COURT, GETS EJECTED

THE HAGUE, Netherlands
Associated Press

HE PUT on a cap, defying the rules of the courtroom. He gestured to the packed public gallery despite a judge ordering him not to. He threatened a boycott because his chosen lawyers weren't there.

A belligerent Ratko Mladic repeatedly disobeyed and shouted at judges Monday during an arraignment at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal. Finally, the former Serb general was thrown out of the hearing and the court entered into guilty pleas on his behalf to 11 charges of masterminding the worst atrocities of the Bosnian war.

The 69-year-old's courtroom theatrics came at the start of a solemn week for survivors of the massacre he is accused of orchestrating — the

killing of 8,000 Muslim men and boys in 1995 in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica.

Officials are preparing to rebury 600 people whose remains were dug out of mass graves in the past year and identified using DNA tests. The bodies unearthed in the hills surrounding Srebrenica will be laid to rest July 11 at a cemetery for victims of the mass killings.

Mladic's actions in court drew anger from survivors of the 1992-95 Bosnian war and raised the prospect of another turbulent trial at the U.N. court that may offer victims more heartache than justice.

In Srebrenica, the site of Europe's worst massacre since World War II, survivor Fadila Efendic said Mladic's behavior was like salt in her wounds.

"We are made to suffer, to mourn

our children, we are forced to watch him make a circus in the court," she said. "This should be a short trial. He should be treated the way he treated our children, how he treated thousands of innocent people ... killed at his orders."

Mladic had threatened to boycott Monday's hearing, only his second public appearance since Serbia extradited him to The Hague in May, because the court had not appointed Belgrade attorney Milos Saljic and a Russian lawyer to represent him.

Shortly before guards escorted Mladic from court, he shouted at Presiding Judge Alphons Orie. "You want to impose my defense. What kind of a court are you?"

He continued yelling in Serbian. "You are not allowing me to defend myself. ... You are not allowing me to

breathe."

The judge told him that the court's registry is studying Mladic's request to be represented by the lawyers.

When Orie began reading out the charges, Mladic said, "No, no, no! Don't read it to me, not another word," and pulled off his earphones, slumping back in his seat with a frown.

After Orie warned him to be quiet or be removed, Mladic shot back: "Remove me."

Such defiant outbursts are not new at the tribunal. Former Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and other high-ranking suspects tried to use their trials to discredit the court and promote nationalist ideologies. Milosevic died of a heart attack in 2006 before a verdict could be reached in his case.

Legal expert Mark Ellis, executive director of the International Bar Asso-

ciation, said Orie will try to give victims a sense of justice by reining in Mladic's antics, while at the same time ensuring his rights are protected.

"Orie will not permit Mladic to take over these court proceedings, and hopefully in preventing Mladic from doing so, the court will be able to provide witnesses a sense of justice, but it's difficult," Ellis said.

Saljic said the courtroom fireworks demonstrated that Mladic is not mentally fit to stand trial.

"Let them now see for themselves his behavior and let them decide accordingly," Saljic told The Associated Press in Belgrade.

Saljic has said Mladic is not physically fit for the rigors of a long trial after suffering two strokes during nearly 16 years on the run as one of Europe's most-wanted fugitives.

235TH ANNIVERSARY OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

US CELEBRATES JULY 4TH WITH FIREWORKS AND PARADES

NEW YORK
Associated Press

AMERICANS marked the 235th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with parades, fireworks, barbecues — plus presidential campaigning, a White House birthday and an eating contest.

Thousands were showing up near the Washington Monument to eagerly await the annual fireworks show on the National Mall, while others were throwing on Hawaiian shirts and shorts to ski the still-snowy slopes at resorts from California to Colorado.

In Boston, the annual Boston Pops concert was a must. In Akron, Ohio, the Rib, White & Blue Food Festival was enticing. And then, there were Nevada's casinos, which promised a pyrotechnics extravaganza that could be a gambler's best bet.

On New York's Coney Island, the annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth hot dog-eating contest brought out the biggest names in competitive eating for a clash that was short in timespan but high in calories.

Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, of San Jose, California, wolfed down 62 hot dogs and buns during the 10-minute contest, winning his fifth straight title. Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas chowed her way to victory in the first-ever women-only contest, eating 40 hot dogs, one shy of her 2009 total.

At the mountaintop home to Thomas Jefferson in Charlottesville, Virginia, officials continued a nearly five-decade-old tradition of swearing in new U.S. citizens. Seventy-seven people took their oaths during a naturalization ceremony at Monticello.

The holiday marking U.S. independence from England is celebrated as the country's birthday, but it also was Malia Obama's 13th birthday. The president's eldest daughter had to share her parents with hundreds of others as Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama invited troops and their families to attend a special barbecue and USO concert on the South Lawn.

Some of the Republicans hoping to replace Obama in the White House spent part of the day campaigning in states where presidential politics are as much a part of the holiday as fireworks and barbecues.

U.S. Rep. Michelle Bachmann marched in a parade in Clear Lake, Iowa. In New Hampshire, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman — a former ambassador to China — both marched in the Amherst parade.

In New York, where fireworks are banned on city streets, residents were waiting for a massive display over the Hudson River set to music.

Resident Karina Suriano, 23, wore patriotic colors and bright red feather earrings as she sold beach supplies in Brooklyn.

The holiday "means money to me," she said with a grin.



YMONIE HUMPHRIES, eight, of Westhaven, Conn., shows off a photograph she took on a cell phone as her mother Hilda looks on while waiting for the start of the Boston Pops 4th of July concert rehearsal at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade in Boston. (AP)



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Minister: 2011 air arrivals to still rise 3-4%

* Despite 4.4% decline for year-to-date, numbers 'coming back up every single month' since tough January

* Cruise business 'spectacular' as low-cost vacation

* Grand Bahama at 'losing proposition' in competing with Nassau

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The Minister of Tourism and Aviation yesterday expressed confidence that the Bahamas would see total air arrivals for the 2011 full year increase by 3-4 per cent, despite the 4.4 per cent fall experienced during the first four months, adding that the numbers had been "coming back up every single month since January".

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace said 2011 had got off to a rough start due to the bitterly cold US winter, which impacted air travel to the Bahamas, but arrivals figures for the key, high-spending stopover segment had been improving every month since.

While air arrivals were down 11.4 per cent year-to-date, he said.

SEE page 4B

LANDSCAPERS AWAITING PM ON BAHAMAR DEAL

* Outline 'all our concerns' on decision to give major contract to Florida firm

* Say PM pledged 'to deal' with matter, but developer says no contract awarded

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Bahamian landscapers are waiting to see how Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham deals with Baha Mar's decision to award a major contract for its \$2.6 billion Cable Beach redevelopment to a Florida-headquartered company, having outlined "all our concerns" to him at a meeting last week.

Roy Colebrooke, spokesman for the Bahamas Landscape Association (BLA), yesterday told Tribune Business that the Prime Minister had given its members an "assurance" that he would look into the developer's decision to award the contract.

SEE page 4B

63% stolen boat recovery boost

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

Despite an increased 63 per cent recovery rate for stolen boats leaving the marine tourism industry confident that a once-booming problem is now on the back foot, "lenient" penalties for thieves must be addressed to attract more "high value yachters".

Amendments have now been drafted following lobbying by the Marina Operators of the Bahamas (MOB) to make it possible for boat thieves to receive sentences

* Marina operators move to address 'lenient' penalties, as maximum 'is 30 days jail or a small fine'

* Combating issue is key to attracting 'high value yachters'

that more closely reflect the severity of their crime, in terms of the value of property stolen and the damage such incidents do to this nation's reputation as a destination for cruising vessels and sportsfishermen.

John Bethell, who demitted office as MOB president last week, said he wanted to see the amendments implemented "yesterday".

Jeffrey Beckles, a consultant working on the MOB's

nine month European Union-funded project aimed at developing a masterplan for the sector's further development, said the issue of boat theft is one the Bahamas "must get our hands around", especially if it is to achieve its goal of attracting "more yachters with higher value vessels" to this nation.

"When you look at the value of the vessels versus the fines, we need more.

When you weigh the reputational damage against the punitive action, it's a huge disparity. Tourism is impacted, the insurance sector is impacted, every sector is impacted," said Mr Beckles.

At an MOB workshop and AGM held last week, both it and Ministry of Tourism director-general, David Johnson, suggested that growing boater arrivals should be a key economic strategy, given the value

these loyal and often wealthy clients offer in comparison to other types of visitors, particularly to the Family Islands.

In 2009, visitors coming to the Bahamas on board private boats to cruise and fish spent \$46.3 million, second only to those who stayed in hotels, who have the added expense of room rates factored into their daily expenditure.

However, giving an example of how thefts of boats belonging to such visitors can be dealt with, Clarence

SEE page 6B

'RUFFLES' CALMED OVER STAMP DUTY

* Realtors relieved, but say 'just unbelievable' issue arose in first place

* Could have led to 'substantial differences' between actual and anticipated tax

* Minister pledges Treasury review of recent rejected conveyances

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The Government's clarification on Stamp Duty payable on real estate transactions should "calm any ruffles in the market", Tribune Business was told yesterday, one realtor saying it was "unbelievable" that the problem had even emerged.

As revealed by Tribune Business yesterday, Zhivargo Laing, minister of state for finance, used the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and

SEE page 4B



GOVT TOLD: BE CREATIVE OVER AVIATION FUNDING

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The Government was yesterday urged to find creative ways to finance Civil Aviation and generate funds for regulating the industry, including leasing Family Island airports to the private sector and gaining a percentage of the fees taken by the US for managing

SEE page 5B

Airline chief urges it to lease Family Island airports to private sector managers, and seek % of fees taken by US for managing Bahamian airspace

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TEXAGO

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BUSINESS

THE 40TH AWARDS PRESENTATION BY THE BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND EMPLOYERS FEDERATION

CAPTAINS of industry AWARDS

PHOTOS: *Tim Aylen*



FINALISTS in the Business Person of the Year category pose for a group photograph. From Left are Jason Kinsale, Liz Covington, Chairman and CEO of the BCCEC Winston Rolle and Stephen Greenslade. The awards ceremony took place at the British Colonial Hilton.



SIR DURWARD KNOWLES speaks after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award.



MARK ROBERTS receives the Business of the Year Award for over 50 employees on behalf of Builder's Mall by Chester Cooper, first vp, BCCEC, during the ceremony at the British Colonial Hilton.



ETHAN QUANT, right, receives the award for Developing Entrepreneur of the Year by Michelle Paterson, director BCCEC. Valentino Munroe, chairman of the Organization of Young Professionals is pictured at right.



PICTURED from Left are Chairman and CEO of the BCCEC Winston Rolle, Sir Durward Knowles, The Minister of Finance the Hon. Zhivargo Laing and Pauline Petty, director of BCCEC.



DIANE PHILLIPS with Sir Durward Knowles.



DIANE PHILLIPS is presented with the Chairman's Award for Long Meritorious Service by past Chamber Chairman Khalis Rolle.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8B

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Bill aiming to modernise \$748m revenue collector

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

The Government expects to move ahead with an information technology (IT) consultancy aimed at upgrading the computer systems at the Department of Customs - a "critical" step towards more "efficient and effective" operations.

Zhivargo Laing, minister of state for finance, noted this intended development during his contribution on the Customs Management Bill 2011, a massive piece of legislation that will reform the Department's administration from a legal perspective.

The Bill, said Mr Laing, reflects international standards concerning the simplification and harmonisation of Customs procedures, as well as bringing the Bahamas' legal framework in this area in line with the country's obligations under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

It will also provide for the creation of a Customs Appeal Tribunal, made up of people independent of the Department, to whom those who disagree with an assessment made by Customs can appeal the decision. The Bill will also allow for the introduction of a Code of Conduct for officers, aimed at "enhancing the ethics" and "improving the quality of work" of the Department's employees.

An Internal Inspection Unit will be set up to conduct "periodic reviews" of whether various tasks to be conducted by the Department are being "effectively carried out", said Mr Laing.

The Customs Management Bill was developed in the wake of a consultancy between the Government and AEON Customs Consultancy, and represents the work of "international experts and local experts within the Ministry of Finance and the Customs Department". It is based on Customs legislation from

* Customs overhaul to boost 'efficiency and effectiveness' at agency that collects 40% of government revenues

* Ex-Chamber chief says consultative committee set up to assess legislation never met



Photo: Tim Ayles
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE: Zhivargo Laing.

New Zealand, Australia, CARICOM and the European Union

Overall, the Customs Management Bill seeks to achieve the strategic objectives of: Increased transparency of legislation, policies and procedures, with clearly published rules and procedures consistently applied to a common standard and an appeals system; minimal interference with legitimate trade and passenger traffic; the protection and securing of legitimate trade, the environment and national heritage; partnership with other stakeholders to eliminate duplication and minimise bureaucracy; and greater professionalism in the way staff deal with trade and passenger traffic.

The hefty piece of legislation consists of 358 sections regrouped into 26 parts, inclusive of five schedules. Mr Laing said the Government is seeking to "extensively reform and

modernise" the revenue collection agency, noting that it brings in "at least \$748 million, or 40 per cent, of our revenue".

Reform

Mr Laing said the end goal of the reform process, which will require not only new legislation but also upgrades to IT and attitude changes within the Department, is to: Better facilitate commerce and business, provide for more effective collection of government revenue, integrate the Bahamas more effectively into the international trading community, provide enhanced service to the public and create a "more professional and fulfilling" work environment for Customs personnel.

Among the major changes it introduces are the re-definition of the authority and powers of the Comptroller; clearly detailed definitions

of Customs officers' powers; post release (or post entry) verification and audit of goods; revision of provisions related to the arrival and departure of goods, persons and craft; and provisions related to the entry and accounting of goods.

Also set for updating are provisions related to bonded warehouses and warehousing procedures.

New rules for the determination of the value of goods, on the basis of principles set out in the WTO, will be applied once the Bill is passed into law.

Mr Laing said the Bill is just one part of a process of reforming Customs. Other developments will involve establishing a customer service section, rules of origin and intellectual property rights sections, as well as further embracing electronic commerce and simplification of documentation requirements. There will be the creation of a "trusted trader" program that offers simplified procedures and better dissemination of information.

The Minister placed the new legislation and other changes in the context of a broader effort by the Government to reform the pub-

lic sector, enhancing efficiency, transparency, effectiveness and soundness of financial management.

Contacted for comment yesterday on the Customs

Management Act, newly-elected president of the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation, Winston Rolle, said he had not seen the legislation and did not wish to comment at this time.

Former President, Khaalis Rolle, confirmed that he had been appointed to a "consultative committee that never met" in relation to the legislation, and was also not aware of its provisions.

HC HALSBURY CHAMBERS
Counsel and Attorneys-at-Law
Notaries Public

Will be closed on Friday, 8th July, 2011

in observance of the Firm's

Annual Fun Day

The office will re-open on

Tuesday, 12th July, 2011

We regret any inconvenience caused.

APD Limited TENDER NOTICE

The Arawak Port Development Limited (APD) invites sealed Tenders from eligible tenderers for the **Arawak Cay Port Upland Civil Infrastructure Project**. The project includes the construction of new roads, parking lots, container storage area, water and sewer, electrical and telecommunications systems.

Tender Documents may be purchased from the address below, beginning Tuesday 5 July 2011 between 10:00AM and 4:00PM, Monday to Friday and ending Tuesday 19 July 2011 at 4PM. Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of B\$200.00 [Two Hundred Dollars] one set of Tender Documents in electronic format shall be issued by APD Limited. Payments may be made in cash, certified cheque, bank draft or money orders, payable to "APD Limited".

APD Limited
House of Mosko,
Bay & Victoria
Nassau, Bahamas
Telephone: (242)-323-7066
Fax: (242)-323-7072

Completed Tender Documents must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, clearly marked, "CONFIDENTIAL - TENDER APPLICATION FOR ARAWAK CAY PORT UPLAND CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT" and shall be submitted to APD Limited at the address above before 4 PM on Tuesday, 26 July, 2011. Late submissions will not be accepted.

APD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

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20% off

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BUSINESS

Minister: 2011 air arrivals to still rise 3-4 per cent

LANDSCAPERS AWAITING PM ON BAHAMA MAR DEAL

FROM page 1B

landscaping contract for Corridor 7, the re-routed West Bay Street, to Austin Outdoor.

"We're supposed to get word from him today [Monday] or tomorrow [Tuesday]," Mr Colebrooke said. "He [the Prime Minister], got all of our concerns and everything like that, and he gave the assurance that he will be dealing with this matter because he's also concerned by the same kind of stuff, foreign companies coming into bid on this type of contract."

The BLA and its members are arguing that landscaping and irrigation work on the Baha Mar development were to be bid specifically to Bahamian contractors. However, the new West Bay Street bid winner, Austin Outdoor, is a specialist resort landscaping company with four separate offices in Florida.

Austin Outdoor's website lists it as having an office in Grand Bahama, but no phone, address or other contact details for that location are provided.

It is not listed in this year's telephone directory, and Mr Colebrooke previously said the BLA's attempts to track down a Bahamas office for the firm had also proven fruitless, raising questions as to whether it had an affiliate in this nation with Bahamian ownership.

Mr Colebrooke yesterday said the section of the agreement between Baha Mar and the Government, which dealt with landscaping and irrigation contracts going to Bahamian firms, was brought out in the meeting with the Prime Minister.

Verifiable

"The question now is: Is Austin Outdoor a verifiable Bahamian contractor in landscaping?" Mr Colebrooke said, having previously told Tribune Business the company had no contact with the BLA or any of its members.

The BLA spokesman added that the Association had also met with Opposition PLP leader Perry Christie on the issue. "We also met with Mr Christie, wanting to find out their views on the whole ordeal and what they think of it," Mr Colebrooke said. "We had discussions on it, and were all of the view that we will wait to hear from the PM."

Robert Sands, Baha Mar' senior vice-president of government and external affairs, told Tribune Business yesterday that the new West Bay Street landscaping contract had yet to be awarded, and the bid was under review.

"The Government had mentioned to us they had a meeting on the matter," Mr Sands said of the BLA's discussions with the Prime Minister. "The position is that we have not made a decision on the award of the contract."

"We will continue to review and make a decision on the contract."

"The bid is under review. No final contract has been awarded."

"The matter remains under review from Baha Mar's point of view. No contract has been awarded."

BLA members had submitted a joint bid for the re-routed West Bay Street landscaping contract, and felt the decision to award it to Austin Outdoor was a "slap in the face" to their efforts to have all employees trained and properly certified. "We think it's ludicrous. That's nonsense and it's a slap in the face," Mr Colebrooke said last week of the contract award.

"We [the BLA] got almost 200 people certified as horticulturists in almost every aspect of landscaping. We spent a lot of money getting people certified with the FENGLA certification, and it's still ongoing. This foreign company has nothing on us."

"We prepared and got people certified over a two-year period, and spent a lot of money to get slapped in the face by a company that appears not to even exist in the Bahamas."

"It's complete nonsense, and that's how everyone in the BLA feels."

FROM page 1B

cent for January, according to Ministry of Tourism data, the year-over-year rate of decline fell to 3.9 per cent and 6.5 per cent for February and March respectively.

And, while total air arrivals for the year-to-date were down 7 per cent at end-March, the 2.8 per cent increase in April dropped this to a 4.4 per cent fall - 449,757 visitors compared to 470,468 in 2010 - for the first four months.

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said air arrivals trends since April had continued to show year-over-year improvement, and told Tribune Business: "The biggest fall-off was in the month of January, and January was affected dramatically by the weather."

"What we have been doing is recovering from the steep fall-off in January, and are now climbing back uphill. From what we see in the future numbers, we are headed in the right direction"

"It's really climbing out of a prob-

lematic January, and we've been coming back up every single month after that."

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace added that with the return of group business, the segment in which Bahamian hotels have experienced the biggest fall-off in the past two years, "particularly in the fall and winter", he was sticking to forecasts that the Bahamas would see an overall 3-4 per cent increase in air arrivals for 2011.

"We're so reliant on the corporate incentive business, and to see that return is critically important to us," he said.

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace pledged that the Bahamas, through the Ministry of Tourism, was set to become "more visible" in the global marketplace through marketing/promotions initiatives than it had been in the previous year, having gained a better understanding of what drove visitors to this nation.

"You will see us become much more of a promotion in the marketplace, now we've got an understanding of what stimulates the mar-

ketplace to come to the Bahamas," the minister told Tribune Business.

"You will see us much more visible in the marketplace than in the last 12 months, as we have a much better feel for what turns the customer on, and what turns them off."

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said the cruise industry continued to be "spectacular" for the Bahamas, with year-to-date sea arrivals up 16.9 per cent at 1.617 million compared to 1.383 million the previous year. For April, sea arrivals were up 19.2 per cent at 410,214, compared to 344,215.

"The cruise ship is the low cost, high quality vacation provider for the Bahamas," the minister said, adding that 70 per cent of cruises passing through this nation only stopped off in this country.

"That explains why the numbers on the cruise sector are off the charts. The cruise business continues to be spectacular, because that's our low cost way of getting a Bahamas vacation."

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace, though, acknowledged that Grand Bahama

had suffered a major fall-off in tourist arrivals. Year-to-date to April, air arrivals to that island were down 20.6 per cent at 37,087, compared to 46,710 the year before.

Admitting that there had been a "spectacular fall-off in air arrivals" in Grand Bahama, the minister said: "Grand Bahama has unfortunately found itself in a situation where it was competing with Nassau at a much higher price, and that's a losing proposition."

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said new products and price points were being put in place to improve Grand Bahama's attractiveness, including new airlift from low-cost Vision Airlines, and the island was likely to "see more growth" than in past years.

Consumer confidence, or the lack of it, remained a key factor influencing the number of high-level visitors to the Bahamas, and Mr Vanderpool-Wallace it was "a struggle" to capture the peak market given the competition from low-cost destinations elsewhere in the Caribbean.

FROM page 1B

'RUFFLES' CALMED OVER STAMP DUTY

Employers Confederation's (BCCEC) Captains of Industry Award to tackle the disquiet being expressed by realtors and attorneys over the Treasury's increasing tendency to rely on real property tax valuations to determine

Stamp Duty payable on property purchases.

Acknowledging that the Treasury had not been accepting Stamp Duty payments

offered on certain real estate transactions, in the belief that the purchase price on the conveyancing did not reflect the property's true value, Mr Laing said: "While the Treasurer has the authority to refuse to Stamp a document if she is not satisfied that a true value is shown in the deed, the exercise of this power is limited to circumstances which would justify the same....."

"Following upon meetings with the Treasury Staff, it was concluded that some adjustment needed to be made in their approach. Indeed, it has been established that unless the Treasurer has reasonable cause to believe that something is amiss, documents ought to be stamped at the value indicated on the conveyance document."

The situation had disturbed the continuity and predictability of the Bahamian real estate market, replacing these key conditions for stability with uncertainty - something that damages all markets, especially when the 'rules of the game' are

"When the Government can listen to the private industry when there are concerns, and then rethink things for the good of everyone - buyers, sellers, the industry, the economy - I think it's a good thing,"

Patty Birch

unknown or change suddenly.

The relief was obvious yesterday. Larry Roberts, Bahamas Realty's chief executive, told Tribune Business it was "just unbelievable" that the issue arose in the first place, and the Government's clarification would bring greater certainty to buyers and sellers.

"That is what it should be," Mr Roberts said of the Government's position. "I was greatly relieved. It was just unbelievable that they would do otherwise."

Explaining that the issue only arose in the last month to month-and-a-half, the Bahamas Realty chief executive added: "We had a buyer who was buying a unit over at Ocean Club Estates, one of the apartment ones. They were paying \$1.5 million, and the Government wanted to charge him [Stamp Duty] on the basis of \$2 million."

While the impact on the Bahamian real estate market from the subsequent uncertainty had been difficult to evaluate, Mr Roberts added: "I can tell you that it has been of great concern, especially to those who have already committed."

"In some cases, you're talking about a substantial difference, and if you have funds of a certain amount for purchasing, it's a hell of a thing to be told you've got to pay another \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000. We're all greatly relieved, and it's just unbelievable it became an issue."

"We're going to need a hell of a lot more to get the market going, but at least we do not have this hanging over our heads as a negative. We're very pleased, and don't understand why this became an issue."

Acknowledging that the Treasury had every right to withhold Stamping a conveyancing if the transaction price appeared totally out of whack with prevailing market forces, Mr Roberts said: "If someone is trying to get away with something, deal with it, but don't assume that everyone is trying to get away with it."

Mr Laing attempted on Friday night to clarify when this would happen, saying: "For example, if someone purports to sell a property to a stranger for say \$50,000, having just

advertised the same property for \$400,000 in the papers, there being nothing to justify such a valuation of the property in the transaction, the Treasurer on the face of it would not be satisfied and would have a basis upon which to query the valuation."

He added, though, that in light of recent concerns all documents that had been refused for Stamping were to be returned to the Treasury for further review.

"I expect, therefore, that except in a minority of cases, documents will be Stamped routinely unless it is believed that someone is seeking to defraud the public by falsely placing a value in a document, so as to avoid and/or evade the payment of the tax due," the minister said.

Patty Birch, the Bahamas Real Estate Association's (BREA) president, praised the Government for clarifying its Stamp Duty position, adding that this would return "calm" to the Bahamian real estate market.

"When the Government can listen to the private industry when there are concerns, and then rethink things for the good of everyone - buyers, sellers, the industry, the economy - I think it's a good thing," Ms Birch told Tribune Business.

She added that "where people have been sitting on the fence" in terms of real estate transactions, seeking clarification on the Stamp Duty from their realtors and attorneys, they could now receive accurate advice.

In turn, this could stimulate more transactions, and Ms Birch said: "This will calm the ruffles that have been building up in the water. This will calm any surge that may have been building up in the market. This is a small country, and it doesn't take much for a few rumours, small things, to dim the market."

She agreed with Mr Roberts that the Government needed to examine real estate transactions where "things seem irregular" to ensure it was receiving the full tax due, adding: "They have every right to do that."

Ms Birch said she planned to write to the Government praising their swift action, and thanking them for listening to industry's concerns.

NOTICE

MONTEROSA LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) MONTEROSA 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 30th 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 5th day of July, A. D. 2011

CST Administration (Bahamas) Limited
Liquidator



THE INSURANCE COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS

NOTICE TO INSURANCE COMPANIES LICENSED UNDER THE (DOMESTIC) INSURANCE ACT

The Insurance Commission of The Bahamas will be hosting an Industry Briefing for Insurance Companies operating under the (Domestic) Insurance Act to discuss re-registration and other regulatory developments.

All Insurance Companies are asked to send a representative.

Date: July 18th, 2011
Time: 9:30 - 12:30 p.m.
Venue: The Hilton, Nassau, Bahamas

Date: July 18th, 2011
Time: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Venue: The Hilton, Nassau, Bahamas

Date: July 19th, 2011
Time: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (max of 20 persons)
Venue: The Insurance Commission of The Bahamas

All attendees are requested to register for the session by sending a request to register@icb.gov.bs by July 8th, 2011.

Lennox McCartney
Superintendent of Insurance

Sandals introduces Companion Fly Free

Sandals Resorts International has moved to counter rising fuel and airline costs by introducing a limited-time 'Companion Flies Free' promotion, covering the base fare of a companion air ticket for visitors to the chain's two Bahamian resorts.

To qualify, guests must book an air-inclusive, six-night minimum stay at Sandals Resorts or Beaches Resorts between June 30, 2011, to July 31, 2011.

"There are multiple fees and rising costs associated with nearly every aspect of flying today," said Kevin Froemming, president of

Unique Vacations, the worldwide representatives for Sandals Resorts and Beaches Resorts.

Save

"Couples and families save hard-earned money for their yearly vacation, and we don't believe they should have to give that up because of fluctuating gas prices. Through Sandals Resorts' exclusive offer, there is no need to put vacation plans on hold."

The 'Sandals Companion Flies Free' program is available at 12 Sandals Resorts, including Sandals Royal



TAKING IT EASY: Sandals is making an exclusive offer for vacationers.

Bahamian and Sandals Emerald Bay, plus resorts in Jamaica, Antigua, St Lucia and all four Beaches Resorts locations in the Turks &

Caicos and Jamaica. The 'Companion Flies Free' program is designed to cover the base fare (excluding govern-

ment taxes and fees, including the September 11 Security Fee of up to \$145) of the companion air ticket. It applies to bookings for travel from Sep-

tember 1, 2011, through December 28, 2011, at Sandals Resorts, and September 1, 2011, through December 21, 2011, at Beaches Resorts (blackout dates may apply)

FROM page 1B

Bahamian airspace.

Captain Randy Butler, president and chief executive of Sky Bahamas, told Tribune Business there were "so many ways for them [the Government] to save money and generate revenue" by thinking 'outside the box'.

"If we do not want to go ahead and take control of our air space, getting \$40 million in revenue a year, hiring people and paying for Civil Aviation, maybe they can work out an agreement with the US where we get a percentage of the fees collected for use of our air space," Captain Butler told Tribune Business. "It belongs to us, and we're not getting any money for it."

The former Christie-led PLP administration had pledged to establish a Bahamas Flight Information Region (FIR), taking back control of Bahamian air-

space and all overflight rights for aircraft passing through it, from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), during its 2002-2007 tenure. Nothing ever happened, though.

If the Bahamas decided not to pursue this route, which in 2004 was projected to generate \$30 million in annual revenues for the country, Captain Butler urged it to seek an agreement with the US where it received a percentage of the fees collected by the FAA.

"You may find the Americans are open to that. I believe they are really open to that," Captain Butler, who is the Democratic National Alliance's candidate for North Andros, said.

And, given the costs and administrative requirements

associated with maintaining Family Island airports and the Bahamas' numerous ports of entry, Captain Butler suggested leasing responsibility for their management/operations to the private sector, much like it had done with Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) via Vancouver Airport Services (YVRAS).

Lease

"Lease them to the private sector, and you will not have to pay for their upkeep," Captain Butler said. "It's been done here in Nassau. Hasn't it been done here in Nassau? When I was at Civil Aviation, this was something I suggested."

Taking Bimini as an

example, he suggested the airport's management could be leased to the Bimini Bay Resort for a 50-year period. The private manager would generate income from user facility, landing, aircraft parking and other fees, plus retail and other concessions, while the Government would gain a rental income and reduced costs.

Such an arrangement, the Sky Bahamas chief said, would be consistent with the

International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) guidance on build/own/operate (BOO) or build/own/transfer (BOT) agreements for airports.

Further costs could be cut by reducing the number of designated as international ports of entry. "Eleuthera does not need to have three international airports and Abaco two," Captain Butler said. "Have one, and the

others can be domestic feed-

ers." And he also urged that the Government require the Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) and the Grand Bahama Airport Company (GBAC) to pay for the use of navigation equipment and control towers, pointing out that at the moment both were making money from this and the administration receiving nothing.

Government told: Be creative over aviation funding



VACANCY

AML Foods Limited is currently seeking applications for the position of Vice President Purchasing.

The Vice President Purchasing will manage and provide corporate oversight for purchases across multiple categories as well as drive purchasing synergies to achieve cost savings.

Interested candidates must have experience with grocery and general merchandise purchasing both locally and internationally, along with a Bachelor's degree in business administration or management.

Outstanding salary, benefits and incentives offered.

Interested candidates should forward their resumes to hr@amlfoods.com no later than Friday, July 15th, 2011

No telephone calls please. Only short listed candidates will be contacted



GN 1257

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF LABOUR & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
THE PRICE CONTROL ACT, 1971
CHAPTER 339
THE PRICE CONTROL (GASOLINE & DIESEL OIL)
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2002

The public is advised that prices as shown in the Schedule for DIESEL OIL and LEAD FREE GASOLINE sold by Chevron (TEXACO) Bahamas Ltd. will become effective on Tuesday, July 5 and Thursday, July 7, 2011 respectively.

SCHEDULE

PLACE	ARTICLE	MAXIMUM WHOLESALE SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON		MAXIMUM RETAIL SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON
		MAXIMUM SUPPLIERS' PRICE \$	MAXIMUM DISTRIBUTORS' PRICE \$	
PART A NEW PROVIDENCE				
INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT				
Chevron (TEXACO) Bahamas Ltd.	LEAD FREE DIESEL OIL	4.78	4.78	5.22
		4.68	4.68	4.87
PART C GRAND BAHAMA (NOT FREEPORT)				
INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT				
Chevron (TEXACO) Bahamas Ltd.	LEAD FREE DIESEL OIL	4.68	4.84	5.26
		4.56	4.72	4.91
PART D ABACO, ANDROS ELEUTHERA				
NOT INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT				
Chevron (TEXACO) Bahamas Ltd.	LEAD FREE DIESEL OIL	4.78	4.99	5.38
		4.69	4.85	5.04
PART E ALL OTHER FAMILY ISLANDS				
NOT INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT				
Chevron (TEXACO) Bahamas Ltd.	LEAD FREE DIESEL OIL	4.79	5.01	5.41
		4.70	4.85	5.05

PERMANENT SECRETARY

BUSINESS

63% stolen boat recovery boost

FROM page 1B

Finlayson, assistant superintendent of police in charge of the Marine Support Services Unit, provided the example of how men found guilty of stealing a \$350,000 boat last month in Bimini were fined just \$1,000 each for their crime. The boat, a 30-foot Grady boat with twin 250 horsepower engines, was stolen from the Bimini Big Game Resort and recovered the same day by police 20 miles off Grand Bahama. Just under 50 vessels have been reported stolen to the Marine Support Services Branch of the Royal Bahamas Police Force in the first six months of 2011, and 63 per cent - 30 - of them have been recovered.

This is a significantly higher recovery rate than in 2010, an improvement that has been attributed by the police and the MOB to an enhanced focus on the issue by the police, and closer collaboration between these two entities. Mr Bethell told Tribune Business that after being "very negative" about the police several years ago, when boat thefts in Abaco and Grand Bahama, in particular, escalated to record levels, the Association is now "much happier" with the police response. Asst Supt Finlayson, who has been on the MOB's Board since January 2011, after members met with Commissioner of Police, Ellison Greenslade, about their concern over boat thefts and the impact on tourism and their businesses, said that in addition to

increased manpower and assets allocated to tackling boat thefts, the increased success in recovering stolen vessels is primarily attributable to greater information sharing. "As soon as we receive a report, we check to make sure all the information is correct, and then we sent it out to the marina operators, to the strikeforce (OPBAT), the Fefence Force, police commanders in New Providence and the Family Islands, our liaison officers in Florida and the Coast Guard," said Asst Supt Finlayson. Having identified Blue Water Cay off Fox Hill, Seabreeze Canal and Marshall Cut, off Marshall Road in southern New Providence, as hot spots for stolen boats to be taken and dismantled once seized, officers are also immediately dis-

patched to patrol these areas, he added. Most often, boats are stripped of engines and dumped, or used for drug or human smuggling to destinations such as Florida or Jamaica. Mr Bethell said of the boat thefts and recoveries: "Three to four years ago was when I was very negative on the police. [The rise in thefts] definitely had an effect on tourism. I would hear of second homeowners in Abaco putting their houses on the market and leaving. Police are being very efficient now and doing a far better job." The former president said the MOB only really became aware of the lenient sentences after forming in 2009, then starting to look into what more could be done to

lessen the incidence of boat thefts. "If you're caught stealing someone else's boat, the maximum penalty is 30 days jail or a small fine. So you steal a boat, spend 30 days in the cooler or pay the fine, and you're out to steal again," said Mr Bethell, of Bethell Estates and Abaco Yacht Services. Recommendations crafted to amend the law relating to boat theft to introduce stiffer penalties have been molded around legislation from New South Wales, Australia. Proposed changes have now been circulated among the MOB membership. Recommendations and feedback are to be gathered before the proposed changes are presented to the Government for implementation.

PAUL WISEMAN, AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON

(AP) — This is one anniversary few feel like celebrating. Two years after economists say the Great Recession ended, the recovery has been the weakest and most lopsided of any since the 1930s.

After previous recessions, people in all income groups tended to benefit. This time, ordinary Americans are struggling with job insecurity, too much debt and pay raises that haven't kept up with prices at the grocery store and gas station. The economy's meager gains are going mostly to the wealthiest.

Workers' wages and benefits make up 57.5 percent of the economy, an all-time low. Until the mid-2000s, that figure had been remarkably stable — about 64 percent through boom and bust alike.

Executive pay is included in this figure, but rank-and-file workers are far more dependent on regular wages and benefits. A big chunk of the economy's gains has gone to investors in the form of higher corporate profits.

"The spoils have really gone to capital, to the shareholders," says David Rosenberg, chief economist at Gluskin Sheff + Associates in Toronto.

Corporate profits are up by almost half since the recession ended in June 2009. In the first two years after the recessions of 1991 and 2001, profits rose 11 percent and 28 percent, respectively.

And an Associated Press analysis found that the typical CEO of a major company earned \$9 million last year, up a fourth from 2009.

Driven by higher profits, the

The economic recovery turns 2: FEEL BETTER YET?



FAMILIAR SIGHT: In this June 9, 2011 photo, a "bank-owned view price reduced," lot is chained and locked but advertised for sale, in Seattle. Two years after economists say the Great Recession ended, the recovery has been the weakest and most lopsided of any since the 1930s.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

Dow Jones industrial average has staged a breathtaking 90 percent rally since bottoming at 6,547 on March 9, 2009. Those stock market gains go disproportionately to the wealthiest 10 percent of Americans, who own more than 80 percent of outstanding stock, according to an analysis by Edward Wolff, an economist at Bard College.

But if the Great Recession is long gone from Wall Street and corporate boardrooms, it

lingers on Main Street:

— Unemployment has never been so high — 9.1 percent — this long after any recession since World War II. At the same point after the previous three recessions, unemployment averaged just 6.8 percent.

— The average worker's hourly wages, after accounting for inflation, were 1.6 percent lower in May than a year earlier. Rising gasoline and food prices have devoured any pay raises for most Americans.

— The jobs that are being created pay less than the ones that vanished in the recession. Higher-paying jobs in the pri-

vate sector, the ones that pay roughly \$19 to \$31 an hour, made up 40 percent of the jobs lost from January 2008 to February 2010 but only 27 percent of the jobs created since then.

Kathleen Terry is one of those who had to settle for less. Before the recession, she spent 16 years working as a mortgage processor in Southern California, earning as much as \$6,500 in a good month, a pace of about \$78,000 a year.

But her employer was buried in the housing crash. She found herself out of work for two and a half years. As her savings dwindled, the single mother had to move into a motel with her three daughters.

They got by on welfare and help from their church and friends. Terry started taking a 90-minute bus ride to job training courses. Eventually, she found work as a secretary in the Riverside County, Calif., employment office. She likes the job, but earns just \$27,000 a year. "It's a humbling experience," she says.

Hard times have made Americans more dependent than ever on social programs, which accounted for a record 18 percent of personal income in the last three months of 2010 before coming down a bit this year. Almost 45 million Americans are on food stamps, another record.

Ordinary Americans are suffering because of the way the economy ran into trouble and how companies responded when the Great Recession hit.

Soaring housing prices in the mid-2000s made millions of Americans feel wealthier than they were. They borrowed against the inflated equity in their homes or traded up to bigger, more expensive houses. Their debts as a percentage of their annual after-tax income rose to a record 135 percent in

2007. Then housing prices started tumbling, helping cause a financial crisis in the fall of 2008. A recession that had begun in December 2007 turned into the deepest downturn since the Great Depression.

Economists Kenneth Rogoff of Harvard University and Carmen Reinhart of the Peterson Institute for International Economics analyzed eight centuries of financial disasters around the world for their 2009 book "This Time Is Different." They found that severe financial crises create deep recessions and stunt the recoveries that follow.

This recovery "is absolutely following the script," Rogoff says.

Federal Reserve numbers crunched by Haver Analytics suggest that Americans have a long way to go before their finances will be strong enough to support robust spending: Despite cutting what they owe the past three years, the average household's debts equal 119 percent of annual after-tax income. At the same point after the 1981-82 recession, debts were at 66 percent; after the 1990-91 recession, 85 percent; and after the 2001 recession, 114 percent.

Because the labor market remains so weak, most workers can't demand bigger raises or look for better jobs.

"In an economic cycle that is turning up, a labor market that is healthy and vibrant, you'd see a large number of people quitting their jobs," says Gluskin Sheff economist Rosenberg. "They quit because the grass is greener somewhere else."

Instead, workers are toughing it out, thankful they have jobs at all. Just 1.7 million workers have quit their job each month this year, down from 2.8 million a month in 2007.

The toll of all this shows in consumer confidence, a measure of how good people feel about the economy. According to the Conference Board's index, it's at 58.5. Healthy is more like 90. By this point after the past three recessions, it was an average of 87.

How gloomy are Americans? A USA Today/Gallup poll eight weeks ago found that 55 percent think the recession continues, even if the experts say it's been over for two years. That includes the 29 percent who go even further — they say it feels more like a depression.

SUPREME COURT
MAY 3 9 2011
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE SUPREME COURT
Common Law and Equity Division

BETWEEN

NEWPORT HARBOUR LIMITED Plaintiff

AND

SUE MULLEN-DAVIS 1ST Defendant

AND

OSCAR DAVIS 2ND Defendant

**NOTICE OF REFERRAL
TO CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the provision of Order 31A Rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment) Rules 2004, this case is hereby referred to the Honourable Justice Stephen Isaacs for a Case Management Conference, such Conference to be conducted on Friday the 22nd day of July A.D., 2011 at 11:00 o'clock in the forenoon.

Dated this 30th day of May A.D., 2011.

REGISTRAR

To: The Law Partnership
c/o Newport Harbour Limited

Mr. Billy Wayne Davis
1455 Wimbledon Drive
Kennesaw, GA
30144

Mr. Kenneth Toppin
Nassau, Bahamas

**HARRY B. SANDS, LOBOSKY
AND COMPANY**

NOTICE

The Law Firm of

**Harry B. Sands, Lobosky
& Company**

will be closed on

Friday, July 8, 2011

for the Firm's
Annual Fun Day

HELP WANTED

**SUCCESSFUL AND ESTABLISHED RETAIL
COMPANY WITH MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
IS LOOKING FOR A
WAREHOUSE MANAGER**

The successful candidate must have experience managing a busy warehouse, as well as supervising, scheduling and motivating no less than ten staff members.

S/he will be responsible for maintaining the security of the warehouse, as well as receiving and distributing all merchandise coming into the company.

Must be honest and reliable above reproach, as well as computer literate, and should be willing to work flexible hours and overtime as necessary.

**Resumes should be sent to: The Tribune,
P.O.Box N-3207, quoting Ref.# DA-94504A
Or by email to: bahamasjob@hotmail.com
NO LATER THAN JULY 15th, 2011.**

BUSINESS

CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY AWARDS 2011: BRITISH COLONIAL HILTON



CHAIRMAN and CEO of the BCCEC Winston Rolle.



LIZ COVINGTON receives the award for Business Person of the Year from Chairman and CEO of the BCCEC Winston Rolle.



MARSHA STEWART and Karen Allata receive the award for Business of the Year (under 50 employees) for Coin of the Realm by Hubert Edwards, treasurer of the BCCEC.



MARK ROBERTS speaks after receiving the Business of the Year Award for over 50 employees on behalf of Builder's Mall.

Investment Advisor Wanted

Growing international securities investment firm seeks an investment advisor to assist clients with investment and portfolio management decisions.

Detailed knowledge of global markets and asset allocation a must.

Previous experience required.

Remuneration commensurate with experience

Send details to newbahatrader@gmail.com



ETHAN QUANT speaks after receiving the award for Developing Entrepreneur of the Year.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **RICKEY CHERY OF VIRGINIA STREET, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 28TH day of JUNE, 2011 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Nassau, The Bahamas.



SIR DURWARD KNOWLES with Mr. & Mrs. Algernon Allen.

PHOTOS: Tim Aylen

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **ANTHONY RAMTULLA OF TWYNAM HEIGHTS, P.O. BOX SS-6259, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 28TH day of JUNE, 2011 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Nassau, The Bahamas.

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **GEORGETTA PEACHES TURNQUEST** of the Carmichael Road, P.O. Box CR-55697 Nassau, Bahamas one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, intend to change my name to **GEORGETTA PEACHES GORDON**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Chief Passport Officer, P.O.Box N-742, Nassau, The Bahamas within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **LEVAN HAVEN** of Sandilands, Village Road, , intends to change my name to **LEVAN LAING**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Deputy Chief Passport Officer, P.O.Box F-43536, Grand Bahama, within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: FRIDAY, 1 JULY 2011											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,410.62 CHG 0.04 %CHG 0.00 YTD -88.89 YTD % -5.93											
FINDEX: YEAR END 2008 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-677-BISX (2479) FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	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%	
10.63	9.05	Bahamas Property Fund	10.63	10.63	0.00	-0.640	0.200	-16.6		1.88%	
7.50	4.40	Bank of Bahamas	6.94	6.94	0.00	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	0.030	0.090	90.0		3.33%	
11.93	1.77	Fidelity Bank	1.77	1.77	0.00	0.097	0.040	18.2		2.26%	
8.44	8.44	Cable Bahamas	8.48	8.48	0.00	1.058	0.310	9.0		3.66%	
2.85	2.35	Colina Holdings	2.55	2.55	0.00	0.438	0.040	5.8		1.57%	
8.00	8.33	Commonwealth Brewery	8.40	8.40	0.00	0.740	0.000	11.4		0.00%	
7.00	6.00	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	6.38	6.38	0.00	0.496	0.260	13.9		3.78%	
2.19	1.90	Consolidated Water BDRs	1.85	1.90	0.05	0.111	0.045	17.1		2.37%	
2.54	1.31	Doctor's Hospital	1.38	1.38	0.00	0.074	0.110	18.6		7.97%	
5.99	4.75	Famguard	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.083	0.240	65.1		4.44%	
8.50	8.40	Fincp	8.40	8.40	0.00	0.757	0.000	7.1		0.00%	
9.85	8.25	FirstCaribbean Bank	8.60	8.60	0.00	0.494	0.350	17.4		4.07%	
6.00	4.57	Fool (S)	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.435	0.160	12.6		2.91%	
1.00	1.00	Fool Class B Preference	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			
RoyalFidelity Investment Products - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	N/A	N/A	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.65	0.75	0.40		0.029	0.000	24.13	0.00%	
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.5573	1.4674	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5573	2.04%	6.13%	1.535365	1.512248	30-Apr-11			
3.0185	2.9020	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	3.0185	2.41%	4.01%	2.952663	2.907492	30-Apr-11			
1.5976	1.5289	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5976	1.50%	4.50%	1.580804	1.561030	29-Apr-11			
3.2025	2.6384	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.5997	-4.43%	-16.29%			31-May-11			
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.5016	1.08%	0.02%			31-Mar-11			
116.5808	103.9537	CFAL Global Bond Fund	116.5808	0.71%	8.38%	115.762221	114.368369	30-Apr-11			
114.1289	101.7254	CFAL Global Equity Fund	114.1289	2.39%	7.89%	111.469744	106.552835	31-Mar-11			
1.1608	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1655	1.66%	5.19%			30-Apr-11			
1.1214	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.1264	0.71%	6.11%			30-Apr-11			
1.0000	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1668	1.54%	5.99%			30-Apr-11			
9.9952	9.5078	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.9433	0.98%	4.58%			31-May-11			
11.2173	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	11.2810	2.07%	9.80%			31-May-11			
10.4288	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	10.4087	3.83%	11.49%			31-May-11			
8.4510	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	8.7896	4.66%	16.69%			30-Apr-11			
MARKET TERMS											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00											
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks											
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks											
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume											
Previous Close - Previous 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 8/9/2007											
S) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007											
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 mths											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
N/M - Not Meaningful											
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

WOMAN

The Tribune

B O D Y A N D M I N D

health



By JEFFARAH GIBSON
Tribune Features Writer

IT may be female intuition or just a biological desire for a potential mate, but whatever it is a recent study suggest that women can tell a man's sexuality by just looking at him.

Scientists say women really do have 'gaydar', which helps them spot whether a man is straight or gay just by looking at his face.

And the instinct is at its strongest when she is at her most fertile and in the mood for romance.

Their findings suggest that a woman's ability to determine whether a potential male partner is straight or gay is linked to the impulse to have children.

During the three experiments, some 40 heterosexual women were shown a set of photographs of 80 men's faces, all with the same expression.

Researchers found women were remarkably adept in being able to spot the gay and straight men.

But in a similar experiment using photographs of gay and straight women, they were less able to differentiate.

The study, by psychologists from the University of Toronto, then compared the results to the women's cycles and found those at their most fertile had the most accurate male 'gaydar'.

Lead researcher, Professor Nicholas Rule said: 'This effect is not apparent when a woman is judging another female's orientation.'

This suggests that fertility influences a heterosexual woman's attention to potential mates rather than merely increasing sensitivity to sexual orientation or nonverbal cues more generally."

In a follow-up experiment, half of a group of women were asked to read a story about a love affair before looking at the men's faces, the idea being they would be in a romantic mindset.

Those women were even more accurate at identifying gay men from their pictures. This suggests the intuition is at its strongest not just when the biological clock is ticking – but also when they are, quite literally, in the mood for love.

Professor Rule added: 'These findings suggest women's accuracy may vary across the fertility cycle because men's sexual orientation is rel-

evant to conception. It implies that inducing romantic or mating-related thoughts improved accuracy in identifying men's sexual orientations.'

Tribune Health spoke to a few women to find out if their 'gaydar' is always on point.

Sherry Burrows said: "If he does not display any sort of femininity then it would be very difficult to do tell whether he is gay or not. Most times you can tell whether a man is gay by just watching his actions and watching the way he interacts with others. There are gay men who are not feminine and it will take much more than looking at a photo to determine whether or not he is actually gay. Whenever I am faced with the opportunity I will try to play the guessing game and see if my gaydar is on point," she explained.

Another woman who wishes to remain anonymous said: "The 'secret' is in the eyes. The het-

The 'secret' is in the eyes. The heterosexual male reflex on meeting someone is a quick inventory check.

They check the face, then the chest area, then they check the hips and finally back to the face... It's

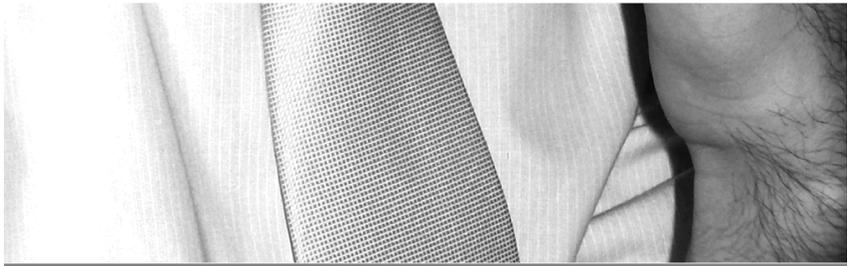
a process of categorising – establishing whether someone has any potential as a mate.

- Anonymous

erosexual male reflex on meeting someone is a quick inventory check. They check the face, then the chest area, then they check the hips and finally back to the face. This process takes milliseconds and what women pick up -- without knowing how or why they did it -- is whether that check took place. Men don't do it consciously: it's a reflex that they do every time they meet somebody, whether it is a mother or sister. It's a process of categorising -- establishing whether someone has any potential as a mate. Gay men stop as soon as they have determined that they are looking at a male, usually after looking at the face only. Women conclude -- again, instinctively and usually accurately, that the reason they have not been scanned is because the person concerned has not been programmed by nature to scan females in that way."

GAYDAR

Can women spot a gay man by just looking at them?



Summer is here: tips to kick your soda routine

(ARA) - We all do it - it's the middle of the day and you just need a flavourful pick-me-up to get you to that 5 o'clock hour. You drag yourself to the vending machine, scan the options to make sure you're making a sensible selection, pop in a few quarters and out rolls a diet soda to give you that boost of energy you need.

Soda may have the fizz and the caffeine you've been seeking, but are you really making the most tasteful selection?

Now that summer is here and the temperature is heating up, it's the perfect time to break up with your soda. Try these simple tips to help you ditch your soda and experience the new you.

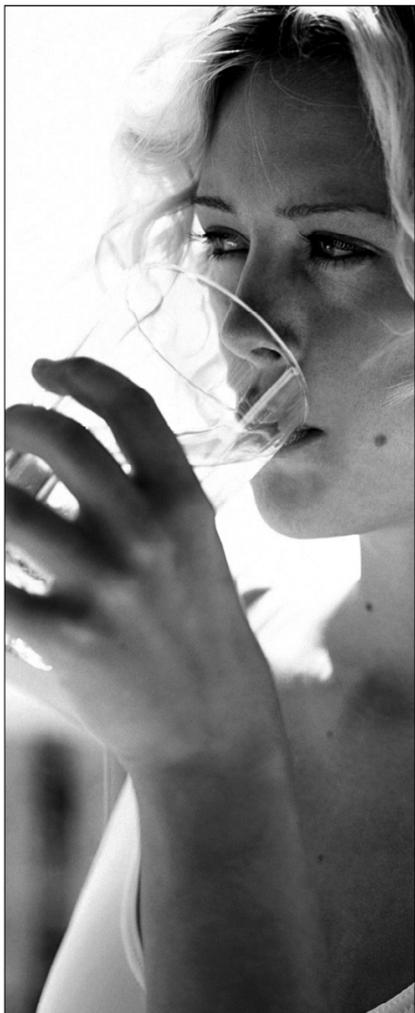
- Whether you're planning to be outdoors or jumping in the car for a road trip, bring along a reusable water bottle. Facilities often have water fountains where you can easily refill your bottle.

- Caffeine and soda may go hand in hand, but sipping water throughout the day is the easiest way to stay hydrated and keep your energy up in the heat.

- If you get bored with plain water, add flavor. With more than 30 flavors of Crystal Light from Lemonade to Cherry Pomegranate and most with just five calories per serving, you can drink all the water you want without having to compromise. Take the Crystal Light Flavor Over Fizz Challenge on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/CrystalLight to help add flavor and win prizes.

- Grab a friend. An accountability partner can keep you on track and motivated. What's even better, now you can share the experience with a friend so you'll both feel better.

Now that you're prepared to kick the soda routine, fill up your water bottle, grab your friend and toast to drinking more water all summer long. This small change can help you have a vibrant, flavourful summer.



Content provided by Crystal Light

ban
24-hour odor and wetness protection for a cooler, fresher you.

Distributed by:
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WOMAN

Mobile dentistry

WHAT IS mobile dentistry? It is not two words you expect to see together. This type of dentistry is simply dentistry that is performed away from the traditional office setting and is performed in a nontraditional setting such as private homes, private yachts, commercial centers, schools, physicians' offices and emergency rooms. It can be realistically performed in any safe and convenient location. The availability of water and electricity although preferable, is not always mandatory, as generators and portable water containers can be utilised.

It has been the misconception for many years that a dental healthcare provider is confined to his highly technological sophisticated office. It was generally accepted by everyone, that a dental office is filled with instruments and equipment that are large, bulky and impossible to transport easily. Although this was true in the past, technology has made it possible to create instruments and equipment that are both functional and ready for easy transport. It is technology that has started the era of mobile dentistry



KEEPING YOUR MOUTH ALIVE
By ANDRE CLARKE

and has kept it going.

It is common practice for the Department of Public Health, of the Ministry of Health, of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to utilise mobile dentistry. The department provides dental care for persons on many of the family islands that are a part of the Bahamian archipelago. The public health department provides for the transport of equipment, instruments and materials via boat or plane from New Providence to other islands.

Whenever an island's scheduled island dental visit is completed, the equipment, instruments and remaining dental material are returned to New Providence. This ensures maintenance and repair to the instruments and equipment and allows materials to be replenished.

Within New Providence, dentists also visit old persons'

caring facilities (e.g. The Yellow Elder Senior Citizen Center and Persis Rodgers Home for the Aged) and manage the individuals there, exactly as if those individuals walked into the dentist's traditional office. The visits to these caring facilities allow bedbound, incapacitated and/or immobile patients the opportunity to receive dental care. All persons regardless of their physical, psychiatric, developmental or medical state have a right to basic oral care.

Dentistry is primarily a procedure based profession, but scheduled consultations with patients should never be overlooked. The knowledge base and communication skills of the oral healthcare practitioner should never be brushed aside. It is mandatory that a patient is consulted, examined and treatment planned before any procedure is attempted.

This can easily occur outside of the traditional dental setting. If a procedure needs to be performed, the dentist has the option of performing it in a traditional or a non-traditional setting. The comfort of the patient, the difficulty of the procedure and the

management of any possible complications are a few of many determining factors, used to ascertain the best setting for treatment. The safety and well being of patients is always at the forefront of the minds of all good healthcare professionals.

All healthcare professionals go through the baccalaureate of healthcare to care for and help patients. If the patients are unable to go to them, they will go to the patients. In dentistry it is now possible to do such a thing. The department of health in The Bahamas does not stand alone, when it comes to servicing the populace using mobile dentistry. It is joined

by Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America (USA). In the USA, the state of Texas and the state of Michigan are known for their provision of mobile dental services.

Always remember, your health is your most precious possession. Do not let it go to ruin. Oral health is no different. Strive to be the healthiest you can be and visit your oral healthcare professional for an assessment in a traditional or a nontraditional setting.

• This article is for informational purposes only. It is not intended and may not be treated as, a substitute for profes-

sional medical/dental advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of a physician or dental professional with any questions you may have regarding a medical/dental condition. Never disregard professional medical/dental advice or delay in seeking it because of a purely informational publication.

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Dr André R Clarke, DDS, MBBS
Special Care Dentistry



MELANOMA

THIS IS a skin cancer that arises from the pigment cells (melanocytes) in moles. It usually occurs as a result of over exposure to sunlight. This cancer is life threatening since it can metastasize (spread) via the lymphatics and the blood stream to internal organs.

Sun exposure is the most important cause and the incidence increases in those patients with a susceptible skin type and who live in close proximity to the equator. The red-haired blue eyed freckled patient with poor tanning and high burning capability has the greatest risk for getting melanoma.

The death rate from melanoma increases by 10 per cent with a 2 per cent decrease in latitude. This suggests that the mortality associated with melanoma is proportional to the amount of ultraviolet light reaching the earth's surface.

The type of exposure is also important. Whereas the solar keratoses, basal cell and squamous cell cancer occur in those who spend a lot of time outdoors and are chronically exposed, the superficial spreading and the nodular malignant melanoma are much more evident in indoor (white collar) than in outdoor (blue collar) workers. It is suggested that intense but infrequent sun exposure once or twice a year, on vacation may be more important than chronic cumulative sun exposure. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence also plays a major role.

Five or more blistering sunburns before 15 years of age have also been

thought to increase an individual's risk of getting melanomas.

Melanoma is rare in childhood. It is seen frequently in those aged 20-30 years, and is most common in those aged 30-50 years. The leg is the most common site in women and the back in men. The leg is the most common site because many women do not wear stockings or long pants during the summer. The back in men is a common site because in the summer months most males have their shirts off while on the boat, mowing the lawn or in the garden. It may be that the covered areas of the leg and back are more susceptible, being previously untanned to intermittent intense exposure. Some have proposed the theory that the melanocytes are less stable on covered areas and that mutagenesis (abnormal change) may occur more easily.

Melanomas metastasize (spread) via the lymphatics to lymph nodes and via the blood stream to the brain, lung, liver, bones and skin. Provided the diagnosis is made early enough the prognosis may be good.

If you have any moles that you are worried about please see your dermatologist to have a dermatoscopic analysis done on your moles. In this way your doctor can let you know which moles are normal or abnormal and suggest the appropriate treatment options.

HOW DOES MELANOMA SPREAD

Melanomas can arise on any part of the body. In women it occurs most often on the arms and legs, while in men it tends to appear on the trunk. In black or dark skinned patients melanomas appear on the palms of the hands, soles of the feet as well as under the fingernails or toenails.

Melanomas usually arise from an existing mole (nevus), however they can appear on areas of skin where there was previously no mole.

Some types of melanomas are flat or slightly raised when they first appear. They may grow sideways (horizontally) on the skin for a period of months to years.

This early stage is called melanoma in situ (in place). This means that the cancer has not spread beyond the cells on the surface of your skin. When it is diagnosed and treated at this early stage melanoma can often be cured.

Melanomas that are not treated may eventually develop a raised surface and then grow downward (vertically) into the second layer of skin (the dermis). Once inside the dermis cancer cells come in contact with lymph vessels and blood vessels. Lymph vessels are tiny tubes that collect lymph, a fluid that supplies your body with antibodies and white blood cells to fight infection. Cancer cells may then enter lymph or blood vessels, and once they are inside those vessels they can be carried to lymph nodes, other skin sites or organs far away from the original tumour. Once the cancerous cells are deposited in these new areas, they can multiply and form new tumours.

Melanoma that has spread to new sites is much more difficult to treat than cancer that is confined (localized) to the site where it first appeared. Melanoma that has spread to organs such as the liver, lungs or brain may be impossible to cure.

People who take an active role in their health, gain a better sense of control over their disease like cancer. It is important that if you notice any new moles or changes to your existing moles, that you see your dermatologist to have a dermatoscopic analysis done. Also if you had a skin cancer in the past, you should ensure that you keep your follow up appointments to have routine checks done. If your cancer recurs, finding it early offers the best chance of cure. It is also very important that on a daily basis your lifestyle habits involve protecting your skin from the sun's rays using sun protective clothing and sunscreen as well as avoiding the sun when it is at its hottest.

Upcoming articles will discuss the diagnosis of a melanoma and the different treatment options available depending on the stage of the melanoma.

• Dr Cleland Gooding is a Physician with a Speciality in Skin Diseases. He works for the Bahamas Government.

Fraternal twins with autism: Is risk in the womb?

CHICAGO Associated Press

MOST of the risk of autism has been blamed by experts on inherited genes. Now one of the largest studies of twins and autism shifts the focus to the womb, suggesting that the mother's age and health may play a larger role than thought.

The new research doesn't solve the mystery of what causes autism. Most scientists think faulty genes and outside factors are both at work. And since autism spectrum disorders include a wide range of conditions, from mild to severe, it's unlikely there's a single cause for all of them.

Conditions during pregnancy may trigger autism where there's a genetic vulnerability, said Dr. Gary Goldstein of the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, who was not involved in

the new research.

"We've identified lots of vulnerability genes, but not everybody who has them gets autism," Goldstein said.

The new twins study, published Monday by Archives of General Psychiatry, used rigorous methods to diagnose autism spectrum disorders, including direct observation of the children.

Using California health records, it's the largest study to do that and the first to consider a large sample of twins drawn from a general population, said lead author Dr. Joachim Hallmayer of Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif.

Children with autism can have trouble communicating and interacting socially. They may have poor eye contact and engage in repetitive behavior such as rocking or hand-flapping. One in 100 children have

autism disorders, according to U.S. government estimates.

The new study included 192 sets of twins where at least one of the twins was affected with autism.

Some of the twins were identical and some were non-identical, or fraternal, twins.

The researchers used DNA testing to determine which twins were identical and which were fraternal. That was important because identical twins come from one fertilized egg and have identical genetic makeups. Fraternal twins, from two fertilized eggs, share no more genetic material than any other siblings.

The new study found, as expected, high rates of shared autism disorders for identical twins: 77 percent of male twin pairs and 50 percent for female pairs had autism in both twins. Surprisingly, it also found fairly

high rates of fraternal twins both having autism spectrum disorders: 31 percent rate for male fraternal twins and 36 percent for female fraternal twins.

Other studies have found 10 to 20 percent of younger siblings of children with autism are likely to be diagnosed themselves with the disorder.

Fraternal twins share the same womb, even though they don't share identical genes. That could be important, said Dr. John Constantino of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, who wasn't involved in the new research.

"Finding so many fraternal twin pairs in whom both twins have autism spectrum disorders is a key finding that puts a spotlight on pregnancy as a time when environmental factors might exert their effects," Constantino said.

Those factors could include stress,

diet, infections, a mother's age and medications, experts said. The new study didn't try to determine what factors increase risk.

The study was funded by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health and Autism Speaks, an advocacy group.

In another study published Monday in the same journal, researchers found a higher risk of autism among children born to mothers who took antidepressants during the year before birth, particularly in the first three months of pregnancy.

It's too early to advise pregnant women against antidepressants, however. Untreated depression also can be harmful to mother and baby, said lead author Lisa Croen of the Autism Research Program at Kaiser Permanente, a large health maintenance organization in California.



Postcard perfect

By CARA BRENNEN-BETHEL
Tribune Features Editor

She is definitely not the image of the typical “Jeeves” English style butler commonly portrayed in the media, but for guests staying in the luxurious suites at the Sandals Royal Bahamian resort, 27 year old Vanessa Gideon certainly knows how to ensure that every detail of her clients’ stay is postcard perfect.

Vanessa is one of almost 25 butlers on staff whose primary focus is to ensure that every need, whim and desire of their guests is fulfilled from greeting them at check in, making reservations for dinner and social activities to ensuring that their beds are turned down “just so” each night until check out.

That she has mastered a profession that is commonly associated with being male is one thing, her background makes the journey even more interesting.

You see, before she put on a butler’s uniform to go to work, Vanes-

sa donned wetsuit, mask and oxygen tank and worked as a diving instructor.

“I used to be a dive master so it has been a very interesting transition in my appearance at work and an even bigger difference in my duties, It’s a 360 degree shift,” she told *Tribune Woman* in a recent interview.

Vanessa was working in the water sports department and dive shop at the resort, when she decided to participate in cross training to learn how every department at Sandals was run.

“Cross training was a very different experience for me. Learning how everything functioned was a real eye opener for me because I realised that so much more was going on inside the hotel and it was a real challenge for me.”

She was so intrigued with the cross training that she would go in on her days off and after her shift ended for several months, before she and management realised that she had a definite niche in the butler department and at the risk of sounding cliché - she dove right in.

“We work in pairs in two shifts between 7am and 10pm with several rooms assigned to us, Throughout

your shift any number of things can be going on. You may be preparing a suite for check-in, changing a dinner reservations, arranging drinks on the beach all at once. It is constantly juggling responsibilities to ensure that you meet the needs of your guests.”

Vanessa noted that while the general perception is that the profession is male dominated, more people are getting used to seeing women take on the role. And while she definitely recommends her choice of career, she says it does take a certain personality type.

“This job can be quite demanding and you will have a difficult guests and they may aggravate you, but you can never show it, that is part of the business but you still have to do your best to accommodate them. This is the type job for people who want to provide customer service. If you want to fulfill someone’s wishes and make them happy, then this is the job for you. And then you will have the days when a guest says ‘thank you, you made our vacation wonderful, those are the things that make you feel good. Not every day will be sunshine, but not every day will be rain.”



“ This job can be quite demanding and you will have a difficult guests and they may aggravate you, but you can never show it, that is part of the business but you still have to do your best to accommodate them.

How to lower your risk of skin cancer this summer

(ARA) - You've heard it many times before: "Don't forget to wear sunscreen!" But, is there an easier way to keep skin cancer prevention top of mind as summer starts to sizzle?

Dr Michael Kaminer, member of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS), says, "Get your skin checked annually around the time of your birthday or a favorite holiday. With summer upon us, opt for July 4 or Labor Day to make sure you get an annual skin cancer screening."

Many people might be surprised to learn that sun damage is cumulative, and sun exposure in your youth may lead to aging and skin cancer later on. To prevent sun damage, you should develop a routine of wearing and reapplying sunscreen.

"Overexposure to the sun, seen as sunburns, will set skin in a downward spiral," notes Dr. Kaminer. "In fact, many

of my patients can pinpoint the specific sunburn that damaged their skin. Protecting the skin from harmful UV rays is critical not just during the summer, but all year."

So, what are some steps you can take on a daily basis to lower your risk of skin cancer this summer and beyond? Dr Kaminer and the ASDS suggest the following:

Be sure to wear sunscreen: No matter what your skin type or how your body reacts to the sun, you should always wear sunscreen with a sun protective factor (SPF) of 30 or higher. Apply about one ounce (the size of a shot glass) of sunscreen to cover your entire body and reapply every two to three hours spent outdoors. Research shows that many people put on about half of the amount of sunscreen they need, so be sure to lather it on. Also, don't forget your lips - use lip balm with an SPF of 30 or higher.

Take more than a break: Avoid sun exposure during peak hours of intensity from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you must be outside, apply sunscreen 20 to 30 minutes before heading out and reapply throughout the day.

Wear sun protective clothing: Wearing a hat with a full, wide brim can help protect areas often exposed to the sun, such as the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose and scalp. Apply sunscreen under a T-shirt, or wear more protective clothing.

Protect your family: Teach children life-long skin protection habits at a young age, even if you think they aren't listening. Set a good example by putting on sunscreen together.

In addition, Dr Kaminer and the ASDS offer the following tips for long-term skin cancer detection and prevention:

• **MONITOR YOUR SKIN:** If any unusual spots appear on your skin, get them checked out immediately. If something looks funny or different, see a dermatologic surgeon.

• **SEE THE RIGHT DOCTOR:** When something doesn't look right, schedule an appointment with a dermatologic surgeon, who can use a number of noninvasive tools to determine if the spot is cancerous. You can then work together to find the right treatment; many newer treatments are painless and

do not cause scarring. To find a dermatologic surgeon, visit www.ASDS.net.

• **GET HELP FROM A FRIEND:** The best way to detect skin cancer, especially on hard-to-see places like the back, is to have your spouse, partner or a friend check your skin on a regular basis. Be sure to check your skin yourself too.

So, pack that sunscreen wherever you go and reapply. And be sure to schedule

an appointment with your dermatologic surgeon this summer.

Visit www.ASDS.net for more information on how to best detect and prevent skin cancer and to find a free skin cancer screening in your area.

About the ASDS
ASDS is the largest specialty organization exclusively representing dermatologic surgeons who have unique training and

experience to treat the health, function and beauty of skin. Dermatologic surgeons are experts in skin cancer prevention, detection and treatment. As the incidence of skin cancer rises, dermatologic surgeons are committed to taking steps to minimize the life-threatening effects of this disease. ASDS members are pioneers in the field, having created and enhanced many of the advancements in dermatologic surgery to repair and improve the skin.

DID YOU KNOW THE FDA RECENTLY UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) SUNSCREEN LABELS?

The regulations will go into effect next summer and will help consumers stay protected from the sun's harmful rays.

The new labels will address five key areas:

- 1. BROAD SPECTRUM DESIGNATION:** Sunscreens that pass the FDA's broad spectrum test procedure, which measures UVA protection relative to UVB protection, will be labeled with a "Broad Spectrum SPF" value on the front label, indicating the magnitude of overall protection.
- 2. USE CLAIMS:** Only Broad Spectrum sunscreens with an SPF value of 15 or higher will be able to claim to reduce the risk of skin cancer and early skin aging if used as directed with other sun protection

- 3. "WATERPROOF," "SWEATPROOF" OR "SUNBLOCK" CLAIMS:** According to the FDA, manufacturers cannot label sunscreens as "waterproof" or "sweatproof" because these claims overstate their effectiveness. Sunscreens also cannot claim to provide sun protection for more than two hours without reapplication.
- 4. WATER RESISTANCE CLAIMS:** Water resistance claims on the front label will indicate whether the sunscreen remains effective for 40 minutes or 80 minutes while swimming or sweating.
- 5. DRUG FACTS:** All sunscreens will include standard "Drug Facts" information on the back and/or side of the container.

Share your news

The Tribune wants to hear from people who are making news in their neighbourhoods. Perhaps you are raising funds for a good cause, campaigning for improvements in the area or have won an award. If so, call us on 322-1986 and share your story.

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WOMAN

THE TRIBUNE • SECTION B

TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2011

IWF changes rules on attire for US Muslim athlete

PENANG, Malaysia
Associated Press

WEIGHTLIFTING'S world governing body agreed Wednesday to modify its clothing rules to accommodate a Muslim woman competing for the United States.

Kulsoom Abdullah of Atlanta was barred from entering higher-level U.S. competitions. Her Muslim faith requires that she covers her arms, legs and head, which violates international rules governing weightlifting attire.

USA Weightlifting took her case to the International Weightlifting Federation, which agreed to change the rules after its technical committee reviewed the proposal.

"The modified rule changes permit athletes to wear a one-piece, full-body, tight-fitted 'unitard' under the compulsory weightlifting costume," IWF vice president Sam Coffa said.

"The 'unitard' will enable technical officials to effectively adjudicate areas of the body which are essential to the correct execution of the lift."

Abdullah called the ruling a great victory.

"I am hopeful for more participation in sports for women," she said in a statement. "I have a positive outlook on getting costume details finalized for Olympic lifting competitions. Additionally, I hope other sporting organizations will follow example to allow greater inclusion and participation in

their respective sport. One example is FIFA's disqualification of the Iranian women's team."

Iran was prevented by FIFA from playing a 2012 Olympics qualifier against Jordan earlier this month because its women's team came out wearing Islamic head scarves. The hijab scarf is banned for safety reasons by football's governing body.

In weightlifting, the old rules didn't allow suits that covered either the knees or elbows because judges had to be able to see that both have been locked out to complete a lift.

Abdullah said a tight-fitting shirt would allow judges to have a good view of her elbows. She also said she'd be willing to wear a leg covering that conforms to her religion but allows judges to determine whether she's completed a lift.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), which worked with Abdullah to get the rule changed, also applauded the IWF decision.

The new clothing modifications go into effect immediately. The U.S. championships are being held in Iowa next month.

"This rule modification has been considered in the spirit of fairness, equality and inclusion," IWF President Tamas Ajan said.

The IWF said the modification "promotes and enables a more inclusive sport environment and breaks down barriers to participation."



all the right CURVES

By JEFFARAH GIBSON
Tribune Features Writer

IT was difficult believing Amy Sands was ever as angry as a wasp, especially given her peaceful and bubbly expressions throughout our entire conversation.

She was jubilant and expressed her contentment with the card life had dealt her. However this attitude did not come until long after a reality check and after absorbing advice from someone who said "make your circumstances work for you". The circumstance this person was talking about was a disorder called scoliosis Amy found out she developed, which hindered her from participating in high school athlete she enjoyed so much.

Scoliosis is a disorder that causes an abnormal curve of the spine, or backbone. The spine has normal curves when looking from the side, but it should appear straight when looking from the front. Kyphosis is a curve seen from the side in which the spine is bent forward. There is a normal kyphosis in the middle (thoracic) spine. Lordosis is a curve seen from the side in which the spine is bent backward. There is a normal lordosis in the upper (cervical) spine and the lower (lumbar) spine. People like Amy with scoliosis can develop additional curves to either side, and the bones of the spine twist on each other, forming a "C" or an "S" shape in the spine. Amy had the C shape.

Some symptoms of scoliosis include backache or low-back pain, fatigue, shoulders or hips appear uneven, and the spine may curve abnormally to the side (laterally).

"One time I was out with my grandmother and she told me my shirt was twisted. She tried to fix my shirt several times but she couldn't get it straight no matter how many times she tried. Then she said 'you know something your shirt isn't twist your body is twist and it was because of her observation we found out something was odd about the way I was shaped,' she said.

Amy was 13 years old when the doctor diagnosed her with scoliosis and because there were no doctors in the Bahamas skilled enough for a spinal correction operation she had to go to Miami Children's Hospital in Florida.

"They had to put in a rod and screws to straighten my spine. Up to this day they are still there but what is left is a scar from the operation," she told *Tribune Woman*.

The surgery left Amy in some ways handicapped.

"After the surgery I could not walk. I had to learn how to get up stand and walk all over again because of the disorder. I became very angry I felt like a log just sitting in the

water. My attitude began changing and I was mad at the entire world because of this."

"There was so much I wanted to do but I felt handicapped. I really felt disabled because here it is I was an athlete and the doctor is telling me that I cannot play sports so I'm thinking if I can't do all of these things what can I do."

Realizing that her potential career as a professional athlete would probably never come to manifestation, Amy was forced to develop new interests- in particular modeling. Before her interest in modeling reached its peak she was approached by people who complimented her perfect posture, however Amy never thought anything about it.

"I never had an interest in modeling because I was more of tom boy. Then people started me, telling well you know you have great posture and I am like are these people serious, I have a rod in my back," she said.

Being associated with a friend in pageants got her more open to the idea of pursuing it. "My friend was in pageants and I saw her getting pretty with makeup and the cute dresses and I thought this can be a little bit fun and that how I got into," Amy explained.

At the beginning of this love affair it was difficult for her to get her foot in the door so print modeling was the

path she took. And although she stands little over 5 feet tall she is determined to become a runway model.

"I love competing and I love challenging myself and becoming a runway model is my next challenge," she said.

Amy who is now 28, is presently the manager at John Bull on Paradise Island, where she has worked for quite a number of years. Her modeling career has improved so much and she refuses to give up on her dream which has been paying off so far.

"I said to myself I am not going to let this beat me. I don't want to be the person who has a disorder and is not doing anything about it, I want to be the person that has a disorder and is doing something about it."

Photographers are reaching out to her for more and more shoots, and she also has done promotion work for Burn's House. Her latest accomplishment was winning a fitness competition here in Nassau and she is presently preparing for the next step of this competition.

"My disorder is my greatest motivator."



IN THIS March 13, 2010, file photo provided by Kulsoom Abdullah via her website on Thursday, June 9, 2011, Kulsoom Abdullah competes in a weightlifting event in Flowery Branch, Ga. Abdullah has filed to compete in the national weightlifting championships a day after the sport's world governing body modified its rules to accommodate her Muslim beliefs. The International Weightlifting Federation announced Wednesday, June 29, that it would allow athletes to wear a full-body "unitard" under the customary weightlifting uniform. Abdullah hadn't competed in high-level U.S. competitions because her Muslim faith required her to cover her arms, legs and head. (AP)



CLEAR PATH: Though she has scoliosis, the disorder has not stop Amy Sands from pursuing a career as a model.

Here's To Your Health

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INSIDETRAK

VALENTINO ADVANCES IN PAN AM QUALIFIER



TURN TO 3E...

BOXING: KLITSCHKO BEATS HAYE BY UNANIMOUS DECISION

TURN TO 4E...

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS: CRUZ OUTPOINTS FABER

TURN TO 4E...

NOVAK DJOKOVIC IS THE NEW NO. 1



TURN TO 7E...

UNITED STATES LOOKING FOR WIN VS. SWEDEN

TURN TO 5E...

FARRAR GIVES US A WIN IN TOUR DE FRANCE

TURN TO 5E...

BASEBALL: PADRES DEFEAT GIANTS



TURN TO 8E...

Mikhail gets rave reviews at the High Potential basketball camp

By **RENALDO DORSETT**
Sports Reporter
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

WITH his high school basketball career coming to a close, one Bahamian standout hopes to increase his exposure for an anticipated college recruitment process.

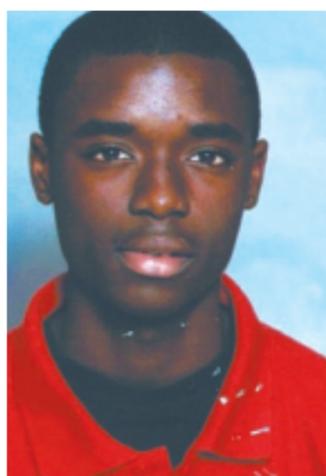
Mikhail Rolle recently attended the High Potential Basketball Camp at Stanford University in Stanford, California, and received rave reviews from camp instructors.

Rolle was coached by former Georgia State Bulldog standout Corey Butler and received a 4.5 grade on the 5-point scale.

Butler noted Rolle's standout skills on both sides of the ball, citing his "excellent vision and ability, great form on the jumpsuit, excellent finishing ability inside, good perimeter shooting, great stance and effort on defense."

The High Potential camp, featuring hundreds of players from throughout the US, is a high intensity, advanced camp geared toward student athletes who aim to improve their skill in a competitive environment.

Rolle, the 6'3" combo guard who helped the 2009 Kingsway Academy Saints to the BAISS junior boys title, transferred to Champagnat Catholic High School in Hialeah, Florida. "It was a good experience. There was a high level of competition from all around the world and experiences like that can only cause me to get better as a player and as a person. It's good for networking, you get to meet new coaches, new players, new friends and find ways to get more exposure. My game has



RISING STAR: Mikhail Rolle

been coming along pretty good...getting better in all aspects of my game and trying to sharpen my skills for the next level. Everyday you learn new stuff about playing in the system over there so the past few years have been going good."

This summer, Rolle is expected to compete on the AAU Basketball circuit as a member of Team Miami. The team will travel to various tournaments throughout the US, including the Carolinas, Virginia and Florida during the summer break.

"AAU helps me to sharpen my skills even more," he said. "You get to play against the best and it can help me with the skills I need to improve on like learning to lead a team, improving my skills as a floor general, and helping others along in games, especially in crunch-time moments."

Sprinter hopes to bounce back at CAC

By **BRENT STUBBS**
Senior Sports Reporter
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It wasn't the type of performance that he anticipated, but sprinter Jamial Rolle is hoping to turn his season around when he heads to the Central American and Caribbean Senior Championships next weekend.

Rolle was runner-up in the century in 10.49 seconds behind defending champion Adrian Griffith (10.41) at the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations' BTC National Open Track and Field Championships two weeks ago.

He also competed in the preliminaries of the 200 where he posted the fourth fastest qualifying time of 21.48, but he didn't contest the final on the final day of competition at the Grand Bahama Sports Complex.

"Nationals didn't go as I foreseen it in my mind," said Rolle as he spoke to a group of enthusiastic youngsters at the Summer Youth Camp at Macedonia Baptist Church yesterday.

"Before the final of the 100, I had some serious cramping going on. I actually didn't know how I ran the race. I was running and praying at the same time. Fortunately, I got second, so I will have a chance to run the event at the CAC Championships, but I probably won't be able to run my pet event (200)."

Just to be able to represent the country at the CAC Champi-



RACE READY: Sprinter Jamial Rolle is hoping to turn his season around when he heads to the Central American and Caribbean Senior Championships.

onships is something that Rolle relishes and he's predicting that he will just have to go to Mayaguez, Puerto Rico July 15-17 and make the best of his appearance in the 1200 and as a member of the men's 4 x 100 metre relay team.

"Everything has been looking good in practice prior to nationals and now, so I'm excited. I'm still on track," he said. "I'm disappointed in the 200 because the slowest I've ran all year is about 20.9 when I opened up (my season)."

"But when I got out of the

blocks (in the 200), I knew nothing was happening for me. My legs were just dead from the night before and I was cramping. That was why I pulled out of the (200) final. I felt it didn't make sense just going out there and giving it a lackluster performance, so I decided that I just wasn't going to run."

As he now focuses his attention on the CAC Championships, Rolle said he would definitely like to get the opportunity to go to Puerto Rico and at least run 10.1 or better.

"Realistically, that's the kind of shape I'm in," he said. "I ran 10.26

in mid-season in May and I'm in much better shape now, so that's why I was so disappointed in my performance at nationals. But 10.1 is a realistic goal for me."

And for the relay, the goal is to get a team to qualify for the IAAF World Championships in Daegu, South Korea, in August. The men's team will have to run at least 39.20 and, with the possibility of the team being made up of Griffith, Rolle and Grand Bahamian quarter-milers Demetrius Pinder and Michael Mathieu, Rolle said that should be a piece of cake.

"My expectations for the relay, I'm not talking about qualifying. That should be a given. We almost did it at Commonwealth with a team that is not as good as the team we anticipate putting together for CAC," Rolle said.

"The goal for this relay team is to definitely break the national record. With the speed we have with two guys already running 10.2, realistically, we should be able to run at least 38.5, which should put us in the final at the Worlds."

The men's national record is 38.98 that was set back in August, 2000, in Montauban, France, by the team of Renward Wells, Andrew Tynes, Iram Lewis and Dominic Demeritte, all of whom are officially retired.

Should they qualify for the Worlds, it would mark the first time that the Bahamas has fielded a team to compete in the most prestigious meet outside of the Olympic Games.

BBF commits to sending its national team to World Baseball Challenge

THE dedicated team of organisers involved with the World Baseball Challenge is excited to confirm that the Bahamas Baseball Federation has committed to sending its national team for the tournament, slated for July 8-19 in Prince George.

The Bahamas Baseball Federation (BBF) stepped up to the plate and participated in the first Prince George tournament two years ago, putting up its best showing in a game against the powerhouse USA Baseball entry.

Bahamas lost that game 8-1, but gritty right-handed pitcher Desmond Russell gave up just four hits and had his team within one run, trailing 2-1, in the seventh inning, putting a scare into the mighty Americans.

Russell gave up just two earned runs in one of the best pitching performances in the tournament.

"We are so pleased to welcome back the Bahamas - they were tremendous ambassadors for their association and their country, and so many people in Prince George became friends with those who represented the Bahamas Baseball Federation with class and determination," said Virginia Sprangers, the director of International Protocols for the World Baseball Challenge.

"They were so impressed with the level of this tournament, the organisation, and the hospitality they felt from the people of Prince George. From the time they left to return home, they stated they would do

everything they could to come back and put their best foot forward, and we're excited to know we'll be seeing them again."

The BBF fielded a young team in 2009 and late cancellations by players due to injuries and pro baseball status played a major part in the team's 0-7 record.

But the Bahamas, dressed in distinctive white, blue and yellow jerseys, was a clear fan favourite in Prince George as spectators recognised the heart and hustle displayed on the field by a country that is truly beginning to emerge on the international scene thanks to the leadership of quality people such as Craig Kemp and Theodore Sweeting.

"The administration was a bit dis-

appointed in the team's showing in 2009, but understood it was due to youth and inexperience," said Kemp, the president of the BBF. "The BBF is excited about returning to British Columbia, and is in full preparation mode."

The BBF has already selected some of the players for the roster, which will be announced at a later date, and that roster will include five former professional players and another seven who have experience at the Division 1 NCAA level.

More importantly, a coaching staff is already in place, led by Lionel Ferguson Sr, who was at the helm of the Bahamian team in 2006 when

SEE page 3E

SPORTS

National Bodybuilding Championships

THIS year's BTC National Bodybuilding Championships was held at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort over the weekend. Here are some photo highlights.



BRUCE SILVERA, the men's welterweight runner-up



RUNNER-UP: Light heavyweight runner-up Vincent Paul



OVERALL CHAMPION: Men's heavyweight and overall champion Robert 'Rob' Harris of Grand Bahama

Photos by Felipe Major/Tribune staff



RUNNER-UP: Grand Bahamian men's middleweight runner-up Andrew Sweeting



SPORTS

Valentino advances in last Pan Am qualifier

BBF commits

FROM page 1E

By **RENALDO DORSETT**
Sports Reporter
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A TREK towards qualification in the region's top boxing tournament has just one remaining opportunity for the Bahamas' top amateur boxers.

In the last of three Pan Am qualifiers, Valentino Knowles advanced in the preliminary rounds at the event in Panama City, Panama.

In one of the highest scoring matches of the preliminary round, Knowles outboxed Daniel Munoz of Chile to a 17:12 win in the 64kg category.

In the 75kg weight class, Godfrey Strachan was unable to advance when he fell to Enrique Collazo of Puerto Rico 12:6.

Colombia initially was scheduled to host the third qualification tournament but withdrew due to a lack of funds.

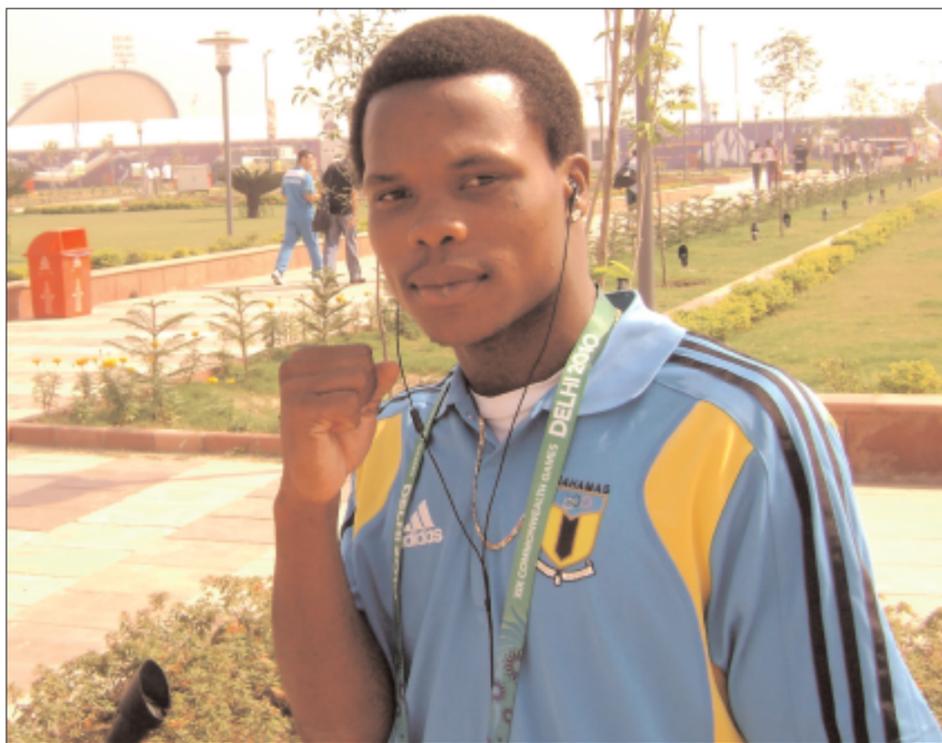
Panama was then confirmed to host the tournament although the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic had put in bids.

Over 20 countries are participating at the third Pan Am Qualifier, competing for six slots in the women's division and 37 in the men's.

Taureano 'Reno' Johnson was the last Bahamian to qualify for the Pan Am Games, the second biggest event outside of the Olympic Games. He did it in 2007 when he secured a gold medal in the third round.

The 2011 Pan Am Games will be contested October 14-30 in Guadalajara, Mexico, and will showcase women's boxing for the first time in the event's history.

The three Olympic women's weight classes - flyweight (112lbs), lightweight (132lbs) and middleweight (165lbs) - will all be featured.



LAST CHANCE: Valentino Knowles (shown) has advanced in the preliminary rounds of the last Pan Am qualifier in Panama City.

the Bahamas defeated Cuba 2-1 at the World University Games in Havana, Cuba. That result is one of the greatest upsets of all-time in international baseball, and spurred the re-growth of Bahamian baseball.

Also on the coaching staff in July will be assistant coaches Bertram Murray Jr and Jeff Francis (the manager for the 2009 BBF team at WBC), pitching coach Arthur Seymour and scout and statistician Patrick Knowles Sr.

"We have kept in close contact with Craig, Theodore and others in Bahamas, and we know how excited they are to return and to prove how much their programme is continuing to grow," said Jim Swanson, co-chair of the World Baseball Challenge.

"Quality leadership is essential, and the people of Bahamas are so fortunate to have outstanding people at the helm. They are fostering outstanding athletes who are even better citizens."

Further announcements on national teams that are committing for the 2011 World Baseball Challenge will be announced in the coming weeks.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

TRACK CAC AGE GROUP

TO compliment the team's second place finish overall, the Bahamas athletes at the XIV Central American and Caribbean Age Group Championships turned in some credible individual performances.

At the end of the two-day multiple event meet Saturday in Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, the Bahamas saw all but one of their eight athletes make it through the top 20 standings.

In the girls' 11-12 division, Blayne Catalyn was 11th with 2,526 points while Deajha Moss was 15th with 2,371. Tiana Bowen of the Barbados championship team won the divisional title with 2,919.

In the girls' 13-14 division, the Bahamas got its best showing as Iasha Taylor came in sixth with 3,738 and Andira Ferguson was eighth with 3,700. Barbados' Danielle Scantlebury was the divisional winner with 3,894.

In the boys' 11-12 division, Branson Rolle ended up seventh with 2,922 and Christopher Johnson was 24th with 2,512. Puerto Rico's Xavier Vazquez won the title with 3,109, denying Barbados' sweep of all of the titles as Christopher Taitt had to settle



BAHAMIAN professional football player Devard Darling

for second with 3,012.

And in the boys' 13-14 division, Kinard Rolle was eighth with 4,687 and Nitchev Casseus came through in 13th with 4,571. Barbados' Ramarco Thompson won the title with 5,264.

The team, managed by Marvin Darville and assisted by Nekeno 'Keno' Demeritte and Dawn Johnson, is scheduled to return home tonight. Ann Thompson served as the chaperone.

TENNIS JUICEBOWL NATIONALS FOLLOWING the com-

pletion of the International Tennis Federation's Junkanoo Bowl for junior players, the Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association is now hosting the Juice Bowl Nationals 2011.

The junior national tournament got started Monday at the National Tennis Center and will run through Saturday. Competition is being held in the 10s, 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s boys and girls singles and doubles competition.

All of the top junior players from throughout the country are expected to participate in the tournament which is being sponsored by Juice Bowl.

BSC'S JEFFERY BURNSIDE CYCLING CLASSIC

THE Baptist Sports Council has announced that the 2011 Jeffery Burnside Cycling Classic is slated to take place Saturday (July 9) at the National Cycling Track at the Baillou Hills Sporting Complex.

Burnside, a former director of the league, is being recognised for his long and dedicated service to the sport. He was a former national cycling champion.

Categories for the event, starting at 10am, are male and female masters, open, 19-and-under, 15-and-under, 10-and-under and five-and-under.

Interested persons can contact league president Brent Stubbs at 502-2363 or bstubbo@yahoo.com for more details.

DARLING FAMILY DAY

BAHAMIAN professional football player Devard Darling was in town recently to finalize plans for the "Darling Family Day" - a one-day fundraiser with activities for the entire family. The family fun day event is scheduled to take place at D W Davis Jr High on Saturday (July 16).

Activities include a flag-football tournament, a steak-out and party boat cruise. The day begins from 10am and runs until 4pm for the steak-out and flag-football tournament. The party boat leaves Potter's Cay Dock at 9pm.

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