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RIDGELAND PRIMARY SCHOOL FEATURES

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WOMEN IN US COURT AFTER SIX MONTH LONG INVESTIGATION



How vendors were bagged

TOURISTS look at goods in the Straw Market on Bay Street yesterday.

By **ALISON LOWE**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 alowe@tribunemedia.net

STRAW market vendors charged in a New York court after allegedly being caught with knock-off luxury goods were swooped on by law enforcement officials following a six-months long investigation that saw them subject to secret surveillance in the city, court documents have revealed.

Federal agents working for the US Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs and Enforcement allegedly watched the nine straw vendors as they shopped for counterfeit items around the city on two separate occasions in May and just prior to their arrest at JFK airport over the weekend.

In a criminal complaint filed in US District Court, a Special Agent of the US Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs and Enforcement describes how four of the nine straw vendors – Roshanda Rolle, Gayle Rolle, Marva Ferguson and Marvette Ferguson – came to New York City in May, met with wholesale retailers in the city in various locations and handed over wads of cash in return for “bulky black garbage bags” full of items which they took back to their

SEE page eight

Straw vendors charged in US could face three years in prison

By **ALISON LOWE**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 alowe@tribunemedia.net

NINE straw vendors charged in the US could each face more than three years in prison, *The Tribune* has learned.

Roshanda Rolle, Gayle Rolle, Marva Ferguson, Marvette Ferguson, Patricia Hanna, Shamone Thompson, Margaret Pierre, Judy Duncombe and Tracy Davis have all admitted to knowing that the goods they purchased were counterfeit and/or illegal, and that buying the bags and other fake luxury items was the reason they came to New York City in September, according to court documents.

Each of the women – bar one who was able to meet her bond requirements on Monday – is now being held at the Metropolitan Correctional Centre, a remand centre in downtown Manhattan.

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STUDENT STABBED IN BACK AFTER SCHOOL ARGUMENT

A GOVERNMENT High School student was stabbed in the back following an argument with students from his school.

The incident occurred shortly before 4 pm on Robinson Road, in the area of Kentucky Fried Chicken, however police could not confirm any further details.

Yesterday's stabbing is the first report of student violence for this week following last week which saw three separate incidents, the most serious of which was the shooting of 13-year-old eighth grader Rashad Rolle. Rashad, who is still recovering in hospital this week, was shot in the head by what police believe to be a “stray bullet” while at a bus stop at John Road off Baillou Hill Road.

The young student's shooting, and the stabbing of two

SEE page nine

'IRREGULARITIES' AT TEACHERS UNION POLLING STATIONS

By **AVA TURNQUEST**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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CONCERNS over the number of irregularities at Bahamas Union of Teachers (BUT) polling stations across the country were raised last night, according to sources close to the election process.

The irregularities were said to be one of the reasons why officials toiled late into the night over the count that would determine new leadership of the BUT.

With an overwhelming desire to restore professionalism, teamwork and integrity to their 4,000 member strong union, teachers across the country voted for new leadership of the Bahamas Union of Teachers last night.

Attributes that many members claimed was lost in the controversy surrounding the union at all levels – the outbreak of sexual misconduct

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School suspensions quadruple in three years

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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THE rate of suspensions in schools has almost quadrupled in the past three years – up to a rate of five per day, in some cases, according to youth workers, who say the school system has more problems than administrators are willing to admit.

The Hope Centre Ministries operates a suspension programme in Oakes Field. In its first year of operation it received 67 suspended students; last year the number jumped to 257.

With the new school year just two weeks underway, the centre has already seen 10 suspended students. In the past, they have seen 15 students in one day, according to Pastor Carlos Reid.

“The kids we get here on suspension, they know if they fight they are going to get a suspension, but why do they still fight? We have taught them that it is a sign of weakness when you say you have a problem that you can't solve yourself. In most cases we push people further in their dilemma,” said Pastor Reid.

“There is no regard for authority. In most cases the schools are ill equipped to deal with a lot of the situations occurring in our schools right now. All of this could be attributed to why the grade point average is so low. What is discipline to these young people? In most cases you are doing the young people a favour by giving them a suspension,” said Pastor Reid.

Troy Clarke, president of the National Leadership, Esteem, Ability, Discipline (LEAD) Institute, estimates at least five to 10 students are sent home from some schools on a daily basis, sometimes for “minor infractions”, like uniform offences.

The LEAD Cadet Corps is currently in D.W. Davis Jr., Doris Johnson High, and Government High Schools. Seventy-five male students, who were identified by school counsellors, participate in their Life

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LOCAL NEWS

FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK



Felipe Major/Tribune staff

YOU'RE WELCOME: Police Sergeant 2091 Rolle and Corporal 2552 Pratt take time to greet Dudley Cooper, a tailor who has been living in Burial Ground Corner since 1934. Officers from the Fire Services Department yesterday installed a smoke detector at Mr Cooper's home.

Smoke detectors fitted in homes of elderly and young families

Exercise starts with Dudley Cooper, 88

By REUBEN SHEARER
Tribune Staff Reporter
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OFFICERS from the Fire Services Department distributed and helped install smoke detectors in homes throughout several communities in New Providence yesterday, beginning with the home of 88-year-old Dudley Cooper on Burial Ground Corner in Bain Town.

The exercise, led by director of Fire Services Supt Jeffery Deleveaux, also covered the areas of Englerston, Nassau Village and the Kemp Road community. In total, 80 devices were distributed to disenfranchised families and elderly persons.

The initiative is something the Fire Services Department conducts each year as part of Fire Safety Awareness Week, said press officer Sergeant Chrislyn Skippings.

The operation targets those who are unable to afford the smoke detectors and those who may be at risk, especially the elderly and young families, police said.

Bahamas Welding and Fire donated 80 First Alert BRK smoke alarms to the Fire Services Department. John Ferguson, manager of that company's fire services section, said: "It is extremely important for every household to utilise its protection."

To determine which persons would receive the smoke detectors, police used the results of a recent survey conducted in local communities.

The Fire Services Department will be conducting a similar exercise in Long Island next week, said Mr Ferguson.

Smoke alarms are rare fixtures in the homes of most Bahamians, said Chief Fire Officer Inspector Norman Bain. "We recommend that you purchase a simple smoke detector with a volt battery. All smoke detector brands are effective once installed properly," he said.

Inspector Bain said when installing a smoke detector, ensure that it is fastened on the ceiling, at least 18 inches from the wall.

"We generally want to encourage the population to be safety conscious in eliminating hazards that may contribute to fires starting," he said. "We want persons to be extra cautious in avoiding starting fires."

"During the summer period we have a lot of rubbish fires that are started by persons clearing trash, and we want to warn persons against this."



Felipe Major/Tribune staff

SAFE AS HOUSES: Mr. Dudley Cooper looks on as Tyson Issacs from Bahamas Welding and Fire installs a new smoke detector as part of the Fire Safety Awareness Week.

Inspector Bain said when installing a smoke detector, ensure that it is fastened on the ceiling, at least 18 inches from the wall. "We generally want to encourage the population to be safety conscious in eliminating hazards that may contribute to fires starting," he said. "We want persons to be extra cautious in avoiding starting fires."

"During the summer period we have a lot of rubbish fires that are started by persons clearing trash, and we want to warn persons against this."

Airport tests response plan in full-scale aircraft emergency drill

THE Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) yesterday evening conducted a full-scale simulated aircraft crash at the Lynden Pindling International Airport.

NAD officials partnered with the relevant stakeholders, including the Royal Bahamas Police Force, Royal Bahamas Defence Force,

Civil Aviation Department, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Airport Authority, MED Evac, Bahamasair, Bahamas Red Cross Society and Doctors Hospital for the drill.

The exercise included volunteers serving as "passengers" at the crash scene.

Fire trucks, ambulances, police cars and other vehicles were a part of the actual drill.

NAD's director of operations Deborah Coleby said the drill is a part of the airport's preparedness strategy.

"This is a focused activity that allows us to test the airport's emergency response plan in real time. We are partnering with all of the relevant agencies at LPIA to determine the effectiveness of our emergency response procedures, similarly, they will have the opportunity to test their plans as well."

"Our goal is to put our resources to the test, learn and improve upon any shortcomings that we might have, ensuring that in the event of a real emergency we are fully prepared to respond," she said.

NAD conducted a similar full-scale emergency exercise in September 2008. This year's event, dubbed "Operation Sunset", was scheduled during the evening to test response times after dark.



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LOCAL NEWS

Court hears of 'blatant disregard for human life'

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

Murder trial over death in 2003 gets underway

A MURDER trial opened in the Supreme Court yesterday to ascertain whether Kevin Hart fatally shot Kendall Braynen in January 2003.

Prosecutor Basil Cumberbatch told Justice Jon Isaacs' court how Mr Braynan, 38, was shot while standing in Rupert Dean Lane at around 6.30pm on January 11.

He alleged that Hart approached Mr Braynen from behind and shot him in the neck, killing him.

"The events are a blatant disregard for public safety and human life," Mr Cumberbatch said.

Police Constable Julian Butler told the court he was first on the scene as he had been alerted by the Police Control Room while on patrol with the mobile division at around 6.40pm on the day of the shooting.

He found Mr Braynen lying face down in the road on the east side of Rupert Dean Lane, off Poinciana Drive.

He said a crowd had gathered around the lifeless body dressed in a red T-shirt and black short pants.

"There was a small wound on the right side of his neck," PC Butler said.

An ambulance soon arrived at the scene and was followed by two inspectors, and then two detectives from the Central Detective Unit (CDU), PC Butler said.

Crime scene investigator Detective Corporal Marvin Cargill was the first witness to take the stand yesterday as he took photographs of the apparent

murder scene which were distributed to the jury, attorneys and Justice Jon Isaacs as evidence.

DC Cargill said he also took blood samples from the road and went to the Princess Margaret Hospital laboratory on January 13 to speak to the forensic pathologist.

He also viewed the autopsy and collected post-mortem samples to take to the police forensic lab for analysis on January 15. Hart is represented by defence lawyer Murrio Ducille in the murder trial.

Although proceedings had been scheduled to open on Monday, the matter was adjourned to yesterday at the prosecutor's request.

Search reports no sightings of missing diver

THERE WAS no news up to press time on Drexel Clarke, a diver reported missing Saturday night after a boat he was on capsized south of New Providence.

Search craft from the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and the Bahamas Air and Sea Rescue Association reported no sightings.

According to family members, Mr Clarke and two other men were said to have "run into problems" with the 32-foot boat around 2pm south of New Providence on Saturday.

With New Providence in sight, the three men reportedly started swimming to shore when Mr Clarke, said to be a certified diver, turned around for reasons unknown.

Before the boat capsized, he was said to be wearing a life vest and diver's fins.

The two men were able to swim to shore unharmed, according to reports from the Elizabeth Estates Police Station on Saturday night.

The first RBDF patrol craft was immediately dispatched to the area. Since then two additional craft were deployed to assist with the search.

An RBDF aircraft deployed on Sunday led to the discovery of the capsized boat seven to nine miles south of New Providence.

In addition to the RBDF search patrol, an aircraft from the Bahamas Air and Sea Rescue Association flew 200 square miles with no sightings on Sunday.

Dominica airport welcomes night operations for first time

ROSEAU, Dominica

UPGRADES at an airport on the tiny Caribbean island of Dominica mean planes can take off and land by night for the first time, according to Associated Press.

Aviation Minister Rayburn Blackmore says he expects a boost to tourism.

For now, only small aircraft will be allowed to land at the Melville Hall airport until 10 p.m.

The head of the Dominica Air and Sea Port Authority says he expects the airport will receive clearance for larger aircraft within the next six months.

Benoit Bardouille says the European Union, Venezuela and the local government paid for more than \$100 million in airport upgrades.

Officials say a Windward Islands Airways plane landed there late Monday.

RICK FOX HITS THE DANCEFLOOR



STEPPING TO IT: Bahamian Rick Fox, right, and his partner Cheryl Burke perform on the celebrity dance competition show, 'Dancing with the Stars' on Monday in Los Angeles. Actor and former Lakers star Fox - the current favourite to win - is competing against other celebrities on ABC's hit show, including actress Jennifer Grey, singer Brandy and Disney Channel star Kyle Massey.

Adam Larkey/AP Photo/ABC

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Post office cash returned after arrest, conviction

THE arrest of a man seen acting suspiciously near the Administrative Office in Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera led to a swift conviction and the return of cash stolen from the community's post office.

Local police say when they came upon the man at around 4am on Sunday, he fled - causing the officers to chase him.

After catching up with the suspect, they confiscated cash and electrical equipment.

The next morning, at around 9am, the police received a report that the Governors Harbour Post Office had been broken into and that cash was stolen.

Just after noon that day, 30-year-old Donald Sands of Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera appeared before the local magistrate and pleaded guilty of shop-breaking, stealing and receiving. He was sentenced to three years in prison on each count. The terms are to run concurrently.

• JUST after midnight on Tuesday, police rushed to Lily of the Valley Corner off Market Street after witnesses reported a shooting.

The responding officers were told a gunman entered a home on the street and fired shots at another man, hitting him in the left arm.

The victim was rushed by ambulance to hospital, where he is reported to be in stable condition.

Police are investigating this matter.

• AT AROUND 3am on Tuesday, officers of the Northeastern Division got a tip that led them to a home on Mackey Street.

The officers came upon two men asleep inside a blue Buick Century.

After searching the men, the officers confiscated a handgun and ammunition.

The men, ages 21 and 22, both of Mackey Street, were taken into custody for questioning.

An hour and a half later, officers from the same division executed a search warrant on a home in Winders Terrace off Kemp Road, where they discovered a quantity of marijuana.

Two men, ages 38 and 29, were taken in for questioning in connection with the find.

Police investigations into both incidents continue.

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Goodwill politics and surprises are badly needed

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The Bahamas and her people are at the proverbial cross roads. Indeed, I submit that we are between a rock and a hard place while our political "masters" are gyrating; dancing the watusi and dispensing out heavy and potentially toxic doses of "voodoo economics."

What is badly needed in our beloved country today, in my humble view, is some goodwill politics and surprises. For instance the so-called Baha Mar deal has been languishing for several years. At one time it appeared to be on life support. Now that the consummation appears to be just across "the bar", our politicians and their erstwhile allies are, seemingly, playing the thing with the big ears and short tail.

The collective nation is experiencing economic hell; societal melt down, of course, the stark abandonment of morality and civility. The major political parties, PLP and FNM, must and should come together on a

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

national consensus on the way forward, despite their perceived political and leadership style, for the good of the nation.

Mr. Ingraham and Mr. Christie "owe" it to ordinary Bahamians to present us with "surprises" when the House of Assembly convenes after the long summer recess relative to the approval of all aspects of the Baha Mar deal.

There is no "Chinese" baby as whatever the "baby" may look like, at birth, it is a Siamese twin, joined at the hips. The true paternity may never be known but it is clear that the mother is Bahamian. It may be domestically a challenge but our leaders must step up to the plate and do the right thing.

While voting on the approval for the Baha Mar components, parliamentarians must and should also

start a national dialogue on: crime and punishment; illegal immigration; the overcrowding of our educational system; the broken judicial and legal systems and the evolution of a lost and hopeless generation of young Bahamians. There is precious little time to waste if we are not to become a "failed" state and a ticking time bomb.

Will they, however, continue the meaningless and deadly political tribalism, ad nauseum? The leaders of the FNM and the PLP have yet to etch their legacies in the annals of The Bahamas. When compared with the late great and irreplaceable Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling, one is obliged to ask the question: "What manner of pygmies dominate our political arena?" The resounding and echoing answer may well surprise us all. To God then, in all things, be the glory.

ORTLAND H. BODIE, JR.,
Nassau,
September 14, 2010.

Many Americans have still not digested lessons of 9/11

EDITOR, The Tribune.

It has been nine years since the Twin Towers fell in New York, yet many Americans have still not digested the lessons of that stony-hearted atrocity.

That much has been made very clear by the ignorant campaign against the "ground zero mosque", which is neither a mosque nor at ground zero.

And then there was the stunningly stupid threat by a Florida pastor to mark the ninth anniversary of 9/11 by burning 200 copies of the "satanic" Qu'ran on the front lawn of his church.

The conventional wisdom is that Al-Qaeda hatched the 9/11 plot with the immediate aim of making Americans feel threatened in their own backyard and as a high profile, symbolic challenge to American power, particularly the way the power is

perceived by them to be exercised in the Middle East.

But its longer term goal was almost certainly to increase global conflict between Muslims and non-Muslims and radicalise the Islamic world by drawing the United States into a descending spiral of human rights abuses and costly and unwinnable wars.

In this it has succeeded brilliantly, with US assistance at every step.

In threatening to desecrate the central text of Islam, for example, Pentecostal preacher Terry Jones must have been reading straight from an al-Qaeda script, as provocation of this magnitude would only increase the power of Islam.

The growing religious polarisation of the US, mirroring similar intolerance in parts of the Islamic world, has been starkly highlighted by reports that two-thirds of Americans oppose the construction of an Islamic cultural centre, dedicated to promoting religious harmony, more than two city blocks away from the for-

mer site of the Twin Towers, and that more than 30 million American citizens think their president is Muslim.

In past years, the commemoration of 9/11 in the US was a somber affair, mercifully free of religious chauvinism.

The fear must be that such fervour will sweep away the voices of reason, tolerance and reconciliation personified by President Obama, and that the frenzied American right will ensure that he serves a single term.

That would be a tragedy, as the only hope of a terror-free future lies in such measures as the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan and a lasting solution to the Middle Eastern crisis.

It is only by recognising the necessity of coexistence, by removing cultural and religious provocation and by building mutual respect, that future 9/11s can be averted.

JERRY ROKER
Nassau,
September 16, 2010.s

Can't justify Straw Market's counterfeit trade

MANY Tribune readers were shocked at the attitude of straw vendors Tuesday on learning that nine of their own were arrested in New York and charged with allegedly purchasing counterfeit designer goods for resale in the Bay Street market.

The cry of the locals seemed a plea to the Bahamas government to question the authority of US law enforcement to snatch their life's bread from their tables.

Although many vendors are aware that they are trading in counterfeit goods, they seem to think they have a right to do so. There is no apparent awareness — despite many warnings — that such a trade is against the law and that there are serious penalties for law breakers.

The president of the Straw Business Persons Society, a reverend no less, went so far as to tell our reporter that unless someone can provide a means for Bahamian vendors to get the counterfeit designer bags without risking getting caught by US authorities "things are going to get rough" for vendors and their families.

Let us suppose that someone did find a means to get these illegal goods onto their shelves, don't they know that they could be arrested by local police for doing so? It is only because our police have not been as aggressive as they should have been about enforcing the law that the incident in New York took place this week.

The US government has accused Bahamian police officers of being "complicit" in the straw market's counterfeit trade. The Bahamas' enforcement laws, it said, are "lax" when it comes to protecting intellectual property rights. Tired of dealing with a country of "lax" laws, US authorities decided to enforce the law themselves — especially when it is broken on their own territory.

"I would feel sorry for the Bahamas if we have to stop selling these bags," the Society's president told our reporter. "It will affect the vendors and it will affect The Bahamas. These bags are generating a lot of funds. The whole economy will feel it. The tourists come and they have to go to the ATM to purchase these bags. I guarantee you they wouldn't go to the ATM to buy a straw bag."

"If you look at the straw bags, you would be surprised to know how long they were hanging there. The knock off move quickly.

So if you are looking to put food on the table that's what you do."

Does this argument justify breaking the law? If so then why arrest the little thief in the night who breaks into your home because he too has to put food on his table?

True it is stealing of a different kind of property, but it is still stealing.

It is probably the same argument used by the pirates when Woodes Rodgers — on pain of the noose — tried to restore legitimate commerce to these islands.

Our reporter walked through the "world famous straw market" on Tuesday to find that "virtually every stall sells at least some fake designer goods, and many of them are heavily-draped in knock-off designer handbags of all shapes, colours and sizes."

The vendors made no attempt to hide them.

Although many vendors have acknowledged that their goods are counterfeit — from such designer brands as Gucci, Prada, Dolce, Gabana and others — their attitude is that theirs is the right to sell. The pushing of these "hot" items was so obvious that if the police were in fact intent on applying the law, the market could have been cleaned out in a matter of days. But, of course, the political fall-out also has to be reckoned with. Straw vendors have always expected rules to be bent in their favour, so the squeals would have been loud and furious had there been a hard local crack down.

The "world famous straw market" disappeared from our shores many years ago — ever since the days when it was removed from its Rawson Square location — a colourful scene of Bahamian basket women, plaiting their bags, hats, toys and mats, while their children learned the trade by their sides. It was a scene that inspired poets and artists. But no more.

Today we have a cheap flea market, which as Mr Charles Klonaris, chairman of the Nassau Tourism and Development Board, pointed out last year is of no benefit to the Bahamas.

We hope that taxpayers' money, now being spent to create a new straw market, will be one that displays local arts and crafts of which Bahamians can be proud — and visitors will want to purchase as souvenirs. "But what they are producing now," said Mr Klonaris, "is just not acceptable."

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Lawyers can't agree when to hold Bishop Fraser trial

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

A DATE has yet to be set for the unlawful sex trial of Bishop Randy Fraser as lawyers could not agree on three successive days when to hold the trial in Magistrate's Court.

Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethel called defence attorney Wayne Munroe and Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions Franklyn Williams to return to her court yesterday morning after two unsuccessful attempts in Mr Munroe's absence on Monday.

However, yesterday's meeting failed once again as Mr Munroe explained he had two trials scheduled before the Supreme Court in November and would not be free until December 10.

And although Mr Williams was not present, a lawyer from the Attorney General's Office who appeared on his behalf indicated the prosecutor would not be available then.

Magistrate Bethel said: "I have made three attempts, wasted my time yesterday morning, yesterday afternoon and today.

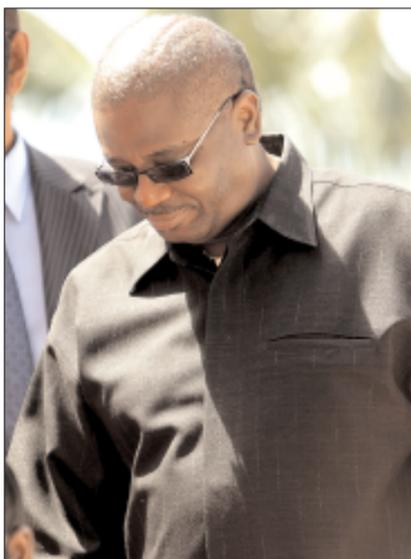
"Now we are going to get me three days this year before the middle of December.

"This is an old criminal trial, and I would like it dealt with as soon as possible."

The magistrate called an end to the session and asked the prosecution and defence attorneys to agree a date for trial and return to her court in Bank Lane to inform her of this morning.

It is the second trial of the accused bishop who has pleaded not guilty to having unlawful sex with a 16-year-old girl between July 2005 and February 2006.

He was acquitted of the charge in 2007, but the Court of Appeal ordered a retrial.



ACCUSED: Bishop Randy Fraser

The alleged victim in the case, who is now 20, testified that she and Fraser had sex around 12 times a month at his home and office at Pilgrim Baptist Temple in St James Road, Carmichael.

Attorney Wayne Munroe made a "no case submission" on August 16, arguing the charge was duplicitous as he said each sexual encounter was a distinct offence and therefore each instance should be brought on a separate count.

However, Magistrate Bethel ruled the charge was not duplicitous on September 2.

Fraser, who is on \$10,000 bail, will enter a sworn testimony in the trial and call 25 witnesses or more to the stand.

Court orders US holidaymaker to hand over \$28,000 winnings

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

AN American holidaymaker lost nearly \$30,000 and was ordered to pay a \$2,500 court fine for failing to declare his casino winnings to US Immigration authorities at Lynden Pindling International Airport on Sunday.

Michael McWilliams, 35, of Buckhead in Atlanta, Georgia, maintains he was caught unaware when he failed to declare \$28,878 in cash to United States Immigration and Border Control Officials at the airport.

McWilliams first pleaded not guilty to the two charges against him: failing to declare more than \$10,000 cash in his possession and making a false declaration to an officer of the United States of America when he appeared in a Nassau Magistrate's Court on Monday.

But he later returned to the Parliament Street court and changed his plea to guilty with representation from attorney Monique Gomez, who had represented Colton Harris-Moore, alias the "Barefoot Bandit" when he was apprehended in July.

McWilliams was back in court again yesterday for sentencing.

Magistrate Ancella Williams imposed a \$2,500

fine and ordered him to hand over his winnings.

McWilliams said he had won the cash at the Atlantis casino during his holiday, and lamented outside court that he would now lose all of his takings as well as having to pay the fine and legal fees.

and I just checked 'no, no, no'.

"It wasn't like I meant to hide it - the money was right on top of my bag."

Form

The American tourist, who said he has visited the Bahamas before, maintains he was not trying to hide the cash from authorities, but simply was not paying attention when he filled out his US Customs pre-clearance form at Nassau airport.

"I really didn't know," the American said. "I went through the list as I was talking on the cell phone

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Debate on the Baha Mar development

By LARRY SMITH

DEBATE on the government's resolution to approve the Baha Mar development was scheduled to begin today in Parliament – five years after the initial deal was concluded in 2005. But the debate was postponed until the project's principals can come to terms with the Bank of Nova Scotia on outstanding debt.

It's been a long road – although not quite as long as the 13-year BTC sell-off – and conditions in 2005 were vastly different from what they are today. Back then, the credit boom underway in the US had a marked spillover effect on the Bahamas, with major developments planned around the country.

But most of these projects collapsed in the wake of the Great Recession that swept the world in 2008. The Baha Mar project was kept ticking over, even when the original joint



venture partners withdrew. It was the brainchild of a Lyford Cay resident named Sarkis Izmirlian, whose grandfather left Armenia in the final years of the Ottoman Empire.

Sarkis' father, Dikran, made his fortune by cornering the world peanut trade. And the family became property developers in Britain, where one of their companies owns the 13-acre site on which London's City Hall is located. While Dikran lives in Switzerland, Sarkis manages the family's assets from the Bahamas.

He is said to be an astute developer who conceived the grandiose Baha Mar project partly to make a name for him-

self. But the project has been able to survive only because the Chinese are investing their huge currency reserves in support of their strategic interests. According to China's Commerce Ministry, some 800,000 Chinese are now working on energy, infrastructure and housing projects around the world.

Without clear evidence, we should discount the allegations that have been made about the use of Chinese convicts as workers on these projects. But we do think it makes sense for our government to seek a broad political consensus for the project in view of the large foreign labour component.

The 1,000-acre Baha Mar project is owned by the Izmirlian family, with the Chinese Export-Import Bank providing \$2.5 billion in financing over 20 years and the China State Construction & Engineering Co as principal contractor.

Challenges

It was unclear at this writing whether the Bank of Nova Scotia, which financed the Izmirlian's earlier acquisition of Cable Beach hotels, would become an equity investor. But it is fair to ask how Baha Mar expects to repay a \$2.5 billion loan from China when it has already encountered challenges servicing the current \$200 million loan to Scotiabank.

Still, it is the view of most observers that Cable Beach needs to be redeveloped for the country's tourism industry to remain competitive, and whether the land used for collateral is conveyed on a long-term lease or as freehold is beside the point.

The optimum use for that land is resort development and nobody else in the current environment can finance such a project.

And even though a large portion of the \$2.5 billion will

return to China in the form of interest, wages and materials purchases, this is still a major foreign investment for the Bahamas that will help to stimulate the economy in the short term and drive tourism growth in the longer term.

Conflict of Interest

According to the Institute of Auditors, conflict of interest is when someone in a position of trust has a competing professional or personal interest that makes it difficult to fulfil his or her duties impartially, or that creates an appearance of impropriety.

But exactly what does that mean in the Bahamas? Well, the short answer is...very little.

The Bahamas is a small place, which makes it difficult for any of us to avoid apparent conflicts. And they happen all the time, at every level, in both the public and private sectors. There are very few explicit rules, and even where rules exist, there are no real sanctions.

In the political realm, the old United Bahamian Party oligarchs have been described as "the poster boys for conflict of interest and corruption." Back before the days when cabinet ministers earned official salaries, UBP politicians routinely represented companies doing business with the government and awarded themselves contracts as a matter of right.

Things were so bad that prior to the 1967 general election the UBP itself had issued a code of ethics requiring ministers to withdraw from any case in which they had a private interest.

But that didn't stop politicians like Sir Stafford Sands from acting as paid agents for Freeport gambling interests, as documented by the 1967 Commission of Inquiry.

Sands (who was finance and tourism minister at the time) received over \$1.8 million in consultancy fees from the Grand Bahama Port Authority between 1962 and 1966. The Port also gave hundreds of thousands of dollars in political contributions to the UBP.

When the Progressive Liberal Party came to power in 1967 it promised to change all that.

The Pindling administration issued a new code of ethics that prohibited ministers from accepting substantial gifts from persons doing business with the government.

Fast forward 15 years and the Bahamas was in the throes of a criminal takeover by South American drug cartels.

The Colombian flag was raised over Norman's Cay in George Smith's Exuma constituency by the notorious gangster Carlos Lehder, who drove ordinary visitors away at gunpoint and orchestrated hourly cocaine flights to the US.

The 1984 Commission of Inquiry found that Smith had accepted gifts and hospitality from Lehder, who is now serving a long sentence in an American jail. In fact, one parliamentarian said at the time that "Pindling and his crew make the Bay Street Boys look like schoolchildren."

The 1993 inquiries into Bahamasair and the Hotel Cor-

poration were initiated by the first Free National Movement government. They documented decades of gross mismanagement, conflict of interest, and official corruption under the PLP. In response, the FNM promised a government in the sunshine that would be fully accountable to the people.

In the years since there have been many accusations of conflict of interest featuring politicians of both major parties, but none of them have matched the scale and sheer brazenness of those earlier controversies.

For example, during the second FNM administration Brent Symonette resigned as chairman of the Airport Authority after it became known that a company in which he had a minor interest had been contracted to do paving work at the airport. Charges were made against Tommy Turnquest for allowing an air conditioning contractor to pay for his leadership victory party. And Dion Foulkes was accused of awarding contracts for school repairs without a public tender.

When the PLP was re-elected in 2002, Perry Christie made a lot of noise about integrity in public life, and issued another code of ethics for ministers that basically re-stated existing guidelines. But his promised law codifying rules on conflict of interest never came before parliament.

Controversies

And so the controversies continued. Leslie Miller and other PLP officials were accused of renting buildings to the government they served, a common practice.

Minister of Local Government V. Alfred Gray was accused of remaining active in his law firm, which was representing one party in a local government dispute. Neville Wisdom faced charges of impropriety in awarding contracts for Junkanoo bleachers.

PLP Minister Bradley Roberts and then chairman of the Water & Sewerage Corporation Don Demeritte were accused of leading a conspiracy that would have bilked Bahamians of millions of dollars. According to testimony in an industrial tribunal, the chairman instructed the corporation's general manager to call off the bidding process for a reverse osmosis plant at Arawak Cay, and start negotiations with a firm whose principal was Jerome Fitzgerald, a PLP senator. This matter is still before the court.

The most sensational case of conflict of interest during the PLP's last term involved Shane Gibson's relationship with expired American sex symbol Anna Nicole Smith.

Gibson resigned from the cabinet in February 2007 after The Tribune published embarrassing photos of him on a bed with Smith at her Eastern Road home, although both were fully clothed.

Gibson insisted he did not have a sexual relationship with Smith and denied doing her any favours.

At the time, the "attack" on Shane was characterised by a fellow PLP minister as "the successful manipulation of misin-

formation by people whose stock in trade is nastiness and sleaze."

Well, now we have something that trumps all of that potted history.

A minister who takes advantage of a private helicopter flight in order to attend two official meetings on two different islands over two consecutive days – the evening premiere of a conservation film on Abaco, and a meeting with visiting American experts in the Exuma Cays the next morning.

"I would not have been able to do either with regular flights, or even make the previously agreed times by boat," Environment Minister Earl Deveaux told me. "It is difficult, if not impossible, to discharge this job, with the required oversight, if we are not able to use the facilities of the principals."

For George Smith's information, the Aga Khan is not a criminal – unlike Carlos Lehder. He is as desirable an investor as Sarkis Izmirlian. His Swiss-registered Development Network runs a variety of multi-billion-dollar humanitarian programmes in 25 countries around the world. And the Aga Khan Health Services is one of the most comprehensive, private, not-for-profit healthcare systems in the developing world.

Before we jump to conclusions, perhaps we should ask what are the actual regulations that apply to official conflict of interest in the Bahamas these days.

The answer to that question is contained in the manual of cabinet procedure, which states that a minister "must not, except as may be permitted under the rules applicable to his office, accept any gift, hospitality or concessional travel offered in connection with the discharge of his duties."

On my reading, accepting a trip for a personal benefit rather than for a public duty would likely be considered a breach of this rule.

Yet incumbents of both major parties have accepted personal hospitality from big investors or foreign governments fairly routinely over the years, and usually without any controversy.

The real elephant in the room in this context is the financing of political parties by big investors and corporate interests.

There are no rules at all in this regard, and everything is done behind closed doors.

I have it on good authority that each of the 82 main party candidates in the 2007 general election received an average of \$30,000 in campaign funds. Added to that are general party expenses for advertising, printing, logistics, travel, and give-aways.

Clearly, Bahamian elections cost millions of dollars. Where do you think that money comes from?

So should we be concerned about a free helicopter ride to a business meeting? You be the judge.

What do you think? Send comments to larry@tribunemedia.net Or visit www.bahamapundit.com

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SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING



**To: All members of The Bahama Islands Resorts & Casinos Co-operative Credit Union (BIRCCCU) Limited
The Eugene Cooper Building
9 Village Road.**

Notice is hereby given that a special General Meeting of the Bahama Islands Resorts & Casinos Co-operative Credit Union Limited will be held at the Credit Union's premises, #9 Village Road, Nassau, Bahamas on

Thursday, September 23rd 2010, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

For the following purpose:

- ✳ To receive letter dated August 27, 2010, from Members
- ✳ To discuss and take action on such matters outlined in letter of August 27, 2010

This meeting is in accordance with BIRCCCU's By-law 29 and in accordance with Regulations 23 & 24.

Linda Symonette
Secretary

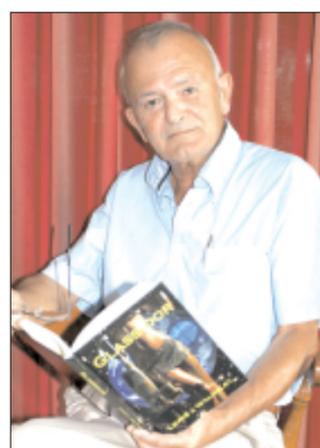
9th September 2010

Science fiction author to donate proceeds of 100 books to PACE Centre

SCIENCE fiction author Lewis Walmsley, who is set to publicly launch his novel 'Glassidor' on October 2 at the Ruby Swiss Restaurant in Freeport, said he will be donating the proceeds of the first 100 book sales to the island's PACE Centre.

The PACE (Providing Access to Continued Education) Centre offers a voluntary programme for student mothers and is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Education. The main focus of the facility is maternal and child welfare, counselling and school placement. Additional services provided at PACE include daycare facilities, financial assistance with food, clothing, uniforms, and footwear, and assistance with baby items, food, pampers and clothing for student mothers.

Explaining why he chose the PACE Centre as the beneficiary of his donation, Mr Walmsley said: "Since being here the islanders have been so kind to my fiancée Katherine and I so we wanted to give something back. Any monies invested in education are never wasted, and what better a cause than unmarried moms wanting to continue their education. I hope to help create future readers. Who knows, in ten years time one of those little babies may just pick up a copy of 'Glassidor', blow the dust off it, and read it."



BOOK LAUNCH: Lewis Walmsley, author of Glassidor, a science fiction book set in the Bahamas.

Mr Walmsley recently met with the acting principle of the PACE Centre Shirlee Butler to discuss the upcoming donation and the author gave her a copy of 'Glassidor' to go in the facility's library.

"We at the PACE Centre are deeply grateful for Mr Walmsley's interest in and intended donation to our school. We are currently building our computer lab and any assistance in achieving this goal is greatly appreciated," said Mrs Butler.

Set against the backdrop of some of the Bahamas' most scenic sites, including the Lucayan National Park and Ben's Cave, 'Glassidor' is described as a fast-paced science fiction adventure.

It is the story of a mother's love, duty, and devotion in her protection of Earth's children, the author said.

The book tells the story of Dee, a space nomad who arrives on Earth in the year 1620 to recover a lost artifact sent there by her ancestors 74 million years earlier.

Mr Walmsley was born, raised and educated in England.

He immigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1974 where he spent 34 years in the automotive machining industry. In 2008, he moved to Freeport where he lives with his fiancée Katherine.

'Glassidor' is his first fiction book and he has almost completed work on a second one.

LOCAL NEWS

Doctors Hospital's Dr Meyer Rassin Foundation gives over \$100,000 in scholarships, financial assistance

MINDFUL of the fact a college education can cost tens of thousands of dollars, Doctors Hospital said it recently made cheque presentations to their Dr Meyer Rassin Foundation recipients of over \$100,000 in tuition assistance and scholarships.

Beneficiaries were students enrolled in degree and certified programmes in various areas of healthcare locally and abroad.

The Doctors Hospital Dr Meyer Rassin Foundation said it has provided scholarships and financial assistance to 70 students pursuing a career in health for this school year.

Created in honour of the late Dr Meyer Rassin, the foundation was created as a philanthropic mechanism through which individuals, trusts, foundations, estates, businesses and other organisations may invest in healthcare in the Bahamas. The Foundation's aim is to

encourage and assist qualified students engaged in study in the healthcare field as well as healthcare workers such as medical technicians, pharmacists, lab technicians, imaging technicians, nurses and others to realise their dreams.

Students being considered for tuition assistance or scholarships must achieve a grade point average of 3.0 or higher, must be accepted to an accredited certificate programme or a degree programme, students must be Bahamian citizens and must be able to show proof of financial need.

Application forms may be obtained from the hospital's website at www.doctorshosp.com or from its marketing department.

The Doctors Hospital Dr Meyer Rassin Foundation invites the public to share its commitment by helping those in need for years to come.



Busy schedule announced for GB Medical and Dental Association

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – The Grand Bahama Medical and Dental Association has announced plans for a number of events here on the island, including an educational conference and awards banquet.

Dr Freeman Lockhart, GBMDA president, said the events kick off on September 30 with the opening of the 10th annual Educational and Scientific Conference at Canal House at Pelican Bay Resort.

This year's theme for the conference is "Transforming the Approaches to Healthcare: Global Initiative." A number of local, national and international speakers will make presentations highlighting advances and trends in healthcare.

Mr Lockhart said they hope to foster

stronger networks in both the domestic and international healthcare arenas.

As a prelude to the conference, a worship service will be held at the Pro-Cathedral Christ the King on Sunday at 10am.

Minister of Health Dr Hubert Minnis will officially open the conference on Thursday, September 30.

Mr Lockhart said conference sessions will start at noon on September 30 and end on Friday, October 1.

A boat cruise will be held on Friday evening. The conference will culminate with a gala awards banquet on Saturday, October 2. Cocktails start at 6pm and formal seating at 7pm.

Two outstanding local physicians, obstetricians and gynaecologists Dr Paul Ward and Dr Havard Cooper will be honoured.

Mr Lockhart is encouraging the public to attend both events as funds raised will

be donated to charity.

"As is customary, part proceeds from the awards banquet will be donated on behalf of the honorees to charitable groups or organisations in their medical specialty. This year's beneficiaries are the obstetric ward of the Rand Memorial Hospital and the Grand Bahama Crisis Centre," he said.

Following the banquet, an awards party will begin at 9.30pm in the Captain's Gallery at Canal House.

Dr Lockhart said tickets for the banquet are limited given the limited capacity at Canal House.

Tickets can be purchased from committee members.

He explained that the objective of the Grand Bahama Medical and Dental Association is to educate the community and colleagues in the medical field.



MINISTER OF HEALTH Dr Hubert Minnis will officially open the conference.



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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one **Vendors charged**

Dr Patricia Rodgers, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, confirmed that a number of family members of the women had been seeking a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Brent Symonette in connection with the situation, but as of yesterday afternoon this meeting had not taken place as far as the official was aware.

In a District Court in southern New York on Monday, US Assistant United States attorney Christopher Frey, the prosecutor for the US government in the case, suggested that the value of the alleged counterfeit goods – had they been real – would have been between \$400,000 and \$1 million.

This “loss range” factors into the severity of the sentence that the women would receive if convicted of the crimes, this newspaper understands.

He spoke as the women were charged with “Conspiracy to defraud the United States” contrary to section 2320 of Title 18 of the United States Criminal Code, or more specifically, trafficking in counterfeit goods and services. “Trafficking” relates to the transport or possession of an item or items for the purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain.

The charges came following a six-month-long investigation into the import and export of counterfeit luxury goods conducted by the United States Department of Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), during which “certain individuals from The Bahamas who were involved in the trafficking of such counterfeit goods between New York City and Nassau, Bahamas, were identified”, it is alleged.

The expectation now is that the women will be formally indicted within the next 20 to 30 days.

US Federal sentencing guidelines suggest that a prison sentence of 30 to 37 months may be appropriate for individuals found guilty of the offences with which the women are charged.

A legal source in the United States said this sentencing range is only “advisory” for the Judge and therefore the sentence could be more or less heavy. The women have been



BRENT SYMONETTE: family members of the women had been seeking a meeting with the Deputy PM.

charged together in a “conspiracy” but if they were to be dealt with individually, the sentences received may not be so heavy, said the source, suggesting this may yet happen.

The women were not required to enter a plea when they appeared in court on Monday.

According to Patricia Rodgers, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and legal sources in the US, the women and their families in Nassau were yesterday having trouble putting together the necessary bail ahead of any pending trial.

Each woman was being asked to come up with a bail package which included a bond of \$100,000 – usually met by two “financially responsible” people – and cash ranging from between \$5,000 and \$20,000 to secure bail. Such “responsible persons” who would be held accountable as co-signers if the woman in question skipped bail have to be interviewed in person before being accepted in that role, and it is not yet clear if they must have US residency. The amount of the bail packages and these other “logistical” issues are holding up any swift granting of bail for many of the women, *The Tribune* understands.

According to documents, only one woman – Roshanda Rolle – had up to press time come up with the necessary bond requirements yesterday. She was then required by the court to surrender her travel documents and placed under “strict pre-trial supervision.” Ms Rolle will be placed under house arrest and electronically monitored. An agreed residence – at the home of a “Ms Barence” – was recorded. A preliminary hearing for her matter has been set for October 20.

It was initially reported there were nine women arrested, but that from this group, two were not charged. However, Dr Rodgers yesterday suggested that in fact 11 women may have been arrested, with the two who were not charged bringing this to a total of nine charged.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nassau said it is “monitoring the situation.”

FROM page one

hotel. Agents secretly watched as more “bulky, black duffel bags” were delivered to the women’s hotel the following day by “two unidentified males” and again later that same day when four of the women entered another wholesale retail establishment before leaving with six more bags full of at that point unidentified items.

The women were followed by a surveillance team to the JFK airport, and agents inspected the contents of their luggage after it had been checked in.

It was determined at that time that to “protect the integrity of this ongoing investigation, neither the luggage nor the contents of that luggage would be seized by law enforcement” as the investigators continued to build their case.

However, found within the luggage were hundreds of counterfeit luxury items, alleges the criminal complaint.

Roshanda Rolle’s luggage contained 66 knock-off products, including “Louis Vuitton” and Coach wallets, Gayle Rolle’s luggage contained 21 counterfeit items, Marva Ferguson’s bag contained 67 such products and Marvette Ferguson’s, 75, said the court document.

A private investigator “employed by a number of luxury brand companies” including Louis Vuitton, Coach, Rolex, Dolce and Gabbana, Gucci and Burberry joined the federal agents and allegedly determined the counterfeit nature of “each and every one” of the items.

The four women who were said to have participated in the May trip, along with

How vendors were bagged

Patricia Hanna, Shamone Thompson, Margaret Pierre, Judy Duncombe and Tracy Davis, were next seen arriving in New York City’s JFK airport last week, on Thursday, September 16th.

“Shortly after arriving (the group) travelled to a certain street in New York, New York, on which a number of wholesale retailers are located.

“After arriving at this destination in Manhattan, Roshanda Rolle, Gayle Rolle, Marva Ferguson, Marvette Ferguson, Patricia Hanna, Shamone Thompson, Margaret Pierre, Judy Duncombe and Tracy Davis entered a number of these wholesale retailers and were subsequently observed exiting the retailers with large black garbage bags, which the defendants took back to the hotel,” said the criminal complaint.

The group were next surveilled as they checked 31 pieces of luggage into their scheduled Jet Blue flight back to Nassau on September 18th.

The checked luggage was then, unbeknownst to the women, again segregated and inspected by Customs and Border Patrol Agents.

“Up to September 20, 2010, the contents of the luggage are still being catalogued and inventoried. However, during a preliminary review of the contents of the luggage, law enforcement discovered a large quantity of handbags (both with designed labels affixed upon them and generic non-labelled bags) and designer brand labels (including, but not limited to those purporting to be Dolce and Gabbana Tiffany & Co. jewellery and

Rolex watches),” the complaint states. Again, a private investigator allegedly determined the goods to be counterfeit.

It was at this point after the covert luggage inspection that the nine women were placed under arrest. In interviews with the authorities all were subsequently said to have admitted that the purpose of their visit to New York was to buy the goods to re-sell at their straw market stalls, knowing them to be counterfeit.

“At the time these defendants were questioned by law enforcement, almost all provided the interviewing agents with receipts from their purchases of counterfeit goods in New York City,” the complaint details.

Several of the women, like Judy Duncombe, allegedly admitted to buying counterfeit goods in the city for their stall on more occasions. “Judy Duncombe stated that she has been coming to New York City for this purpose approximately three to four times per year for the past three to four years, the last time being in April 2010,” said the complaint.

It is not clear if the women had legal representation at the time of their interviews by law enforcement officials.

Roshanda Rolle, Marva Ferguson, Marvette Ferguson, Gayle Rolle, Patricia Hanna, Shamone Thompson, Margaret Pierre, Judy Duncombe and Tracy Davis were all charged in a US court with conspiring to defraud the US government on Monday, specifically trafficking in counterfeit goods and services. All of the women has now obtained or been appointed legal counsel and bar one, who has posted bail, are being held in a Manhattan remand centre.

The next hearing of their case is expected to take place in October.

School suspensions

FROM page one

Management Male Empowerment Programme (LMMEP).

Mr Clarke said the demand for programmes such as LMMEP is “triple” the current capacity.

The Ministry of Education’s Safe Schools Protocol Manual for Public Schools lists a uniform offence as a level one infraction, for which the recommended disciplinary action ranges from parental contact, detention, verbal warnings to in-school suspension.

“An out of school suspension should only be done for a serious infraction. Students take advantage of the suspension to get involved in other anti-social behaviour when they are out; hanging around malls and all the places they go to. There are times when there should be legitimate suspensions. When that occurs it is not just a matter of you get off the compound. There are agencies that must be informed where they could be sent to in a supervised fashion,” said Olly Mae Knowles, assistant deputy director of education.

Suspension statistics are not readily available at the Ministry of Education. *The Tribune* was directed by Mrs Knowles to contact each of the fourteen district superintendents individually for statistics.

The Safe Schools Protocol Manual for Public Schools directs administrators to record all suspensions and forward the

records to the “District Superintendents on a quarterly basis for onward transmission to the office of the Director of Education.”

Patricia Collins, deputy director of education, said she is “confident” the protocols are followed in practice.

The solution is not “finding a place to send children,” according to Mrs Knowles. She said schools have to be more “proactive and discretionary” in managing suspensions. The Ministry of Education manual gives them the protocols to do so, she said.

She said there is a school principal who noticed students were purposefully coming to school without belts in order to attract a suspension. The principal purchased belts and made students rent them when they were without.

“Based on the way teachers teach more children can be reached. It will take some extra time, but if you get the youngster planning and he becomes a critical thinker, it will help,” said Mrs Knowles.

“Teachers teach not subjects: teachers don’t teach math, science, physical education; teachers teach children; they teach PE to children. If you see yourself as teaching children you take on delivering the subject in a different way. It helps the child to see this is a teacher that really cares and they try to appease you by doing well as (best) as they can.

“That is my personal philosophy,” she said.

‘Irregularities’ at teachers union polling stations

FROM page one

allegations against some teachers, the former president’s handling of union funds and the staunch division among executive members that led to the “vote of no confidence” for the entire former executive team.

However, well after 9 o’clock last night, officials were still at work tallying the scores that would confirm whether incumbent Belinda Wilson or her challenger Frances Friend would lead the union on its “road to recovery.”

One teacher, and first time voter, added: “What I liked best about the campaign was the fact that the candidates came in to the schools and we were able to ask them questions and really find out what they were all about. I don’t really follow the ongoings of the union as much as I probably should because I feel its always second hand information, so to be able to talk with the candidates first hand was good.”

At June’s annual meeting, more than 200 delegates supported a vote of no confidence for the entire executive team. Despite the frustration displayed then by union members over their inability to work together as a team, 13 of the 15 ousted executive members sought re-election yesterday, each confident they were the key to the union’s cohesion moving forward and insistent that they would be able to work with whomever the union elected.

Major issues campaigned

concerned the pending negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement and the possibility of a group insurance plan for members. Additional key issues involved membership benefits, governance, professional development, and communication.

One teacher said: “I was listening out for campaigns which spoke to the needs of teachers in the family islands. I taught in the family islands for a number of years and I feel as though the teachers there are severely neglected. So anyone with a strategic plan as to how to improve conditions for family island teachers – I would give them a chance.”

There were five polls in the capital, with family island teachers allowed to vote at administrator’s offices and post offices in the various settlements.

At the polls in New Providence, teachers echoed similar sentiments when asked what factors most influenced their vote. Those interviewed explained the new executive team must not only be transparent, trustworthy and professional, but they must also give the appearance that these attributes are adhered to.

One teacher said: “There are only two candidates for president so it’s not that hard a decision – one or the other. I’m looking for someone who is trustworthy, someone that I can trust.”

Another teacher added: “Character plays a big part. This is a professional organization – professionalism plays a major part.

Vacancy
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LOCAL NEWS

Bahamas reviews CARICOM food policy

By GLADSTONE THURSTON

A workshop to review CARICOM's regional policy for food and nutrition security opened on Monday at the Public Health Authority headquarters.

This policy seeks to coordinate regional interventions based on national priorities through 2025.

It is not meant to reduce national resolve to address issues related to food and nutrition security, Agriculture and Marine Resources Minister Larry Cartwright said.

"There is room to improve national coordination and awareness on food and nutrition security and to formalise the existing policy framework," he told workshop participants.

According to the World Food Summit Plan of Action of 1996, "Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."

It sets out four dimensions of food security – availability, access, utilisation/nutritional adequacy, and stability – which are the basis of the regional policy.

Although most countries have access to adequate supplies of food, Minister Cartwright noted, the regional challenge has been to address the problem of increasing demand for food while the regional agricultural sector is faced with low production and productivity rates.

"The consequence has been an increased reliance on imported food regionally," he said. "In the Bahamas, food imports have increased from \$310 million in 2004 to \$430 million in 2008, an increase of nearly 40 per cent."

The ministry, he said, is in the process of implementing a medium-term strategic plan to address some of the constraints faced in an efforts to increase agricultural production.

Many of the strategies identified in the national strategy – improving research capacity, investing in human resource development, modernising agricultural health and food safety standards, and supporting

farming organisations – are also identified in the regional policy, said Mr Cartwright.

Ensuring access to food, he said, is an important component of the policy.

The Living Conditions Survey of the Bahamas for 2001, he said, estimated the national poverty level at just under 10 per cent.

The highest levels of poverty of one in five persons were observed in south-eastern islands, he said.

"We know that the impact of the economic and financial crisis and the resultant loss of jobs and significant increases in food prices has probably increased the vulnerability of many communities and households by reducing their access to food.

"We have all been aware, through appeals from civic and non-governmental organisations of the need to expand food and other assistance programmes.

"The government has also increased funding for safety net programmes that provide food and clothing to vulnerable groups," Minister Cartwright said.

There is also a proposal in the regional policy framework to identify and map vulnerable groups.

Dietary changes, he said, have shifted consumption patterns toward a higher energy density diet with a greater intake of fat and added sugars.

Combined with a sedentary lifestyle, the result has been an increase in chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCs), he said.

The regional policy looks at specific initiatives to reduce CNCs and iron deficiency.

Some of the interventions proposed in the regional plan are already being implemented at the national level.

The stability of the food supplies is impacted by economic, financial and natural events, including climate change, he noted.

Addressing food and nutrition issues will require a multi-disciplinary and coordinated approach between the public and private sectors and non-governmental organisations, said Mr Cartwright.

He acknowledged the financial support of the Food and Agriculture Organisation to the workshop and the assistance of the Public Hospital Authority.



AGRICULTURE AND MARINE RESOURCES Minister Larry Cartwright is pictured with some of the participants at Monday's review of CARICOM's food and nutrition policy. Pictured from left (seated): Ann Rolle (Ministry of Health), Dr Keith Campbell (Bahamas Agriculture and Producers Association), Mr Cartwright, Brickell Pinder (Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources), Carmaleta Burns (Department of Health); (standing) Phillip Miller (Under Secretary), Michael Stubbs (Department of Meteorology), Ashley Lepine (Hands for Hunger), Cresswell Sturup (Permanent Secretary), Alanna Rodgers (Hands for Hunger), Hamilton Newbold (Ministry of Education), and Simeon Pinder (Director of Agriculture).

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

FAMILY ISLAND LISTINGS

DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

- 1. FREEPORT CITY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 5, Block 'J'
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Condominium Apartment No. 420 2 beds / 2 baths
PROPERTY SIZE: 1,177 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Jansel Court Condominium, East Mall Drive and East Atlantic Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$80,000
- 2. GREENING GLADE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. Block 6 Unit 1
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Lucayan Towers Condominium Apartment No.408, 1 bed / 1 bath
PROPERTY SIZE: 672 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located on Albacore Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$43,000
- 3. HARBOUR WEST SUBDIVISION - EIGHT MILE ROCK - GRAND BAHAMA**
LOT NO. 9Block 3
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single Family Residence, 3 beds / 2 baths
PROPERTY SIZE: 8,062 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located on Yvonne Drive and East Pine Street.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$169,000
- 4. SEA HORSE VILLAGE - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 26 Block 6
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-storey Duplex, 3 beds / 2 baths Units
PROPERTY SIZE: 0.28 acres
LOCATION: The subject property is located on the northern side of Turtle Cove.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$223,657

VACANT LOTS

- 1. ARDEN FOREST SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 12 Block 3 Unit 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.33 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northeastern section of Caliban Drive and Ariel Place.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$35,000
- 2. BAHAMA BEACH SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 373
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.12 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the western end of Windward Lane and Wilscombe Boulevard.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$18,000
- 3. BAHAMA REEF YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 35 Block 2, Section 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Golf Course Frontage Lot, 0.39acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located 350 yards off Coral Road
APPRAISED VALUE: \$110,000
- 4. BAHAMIA WEST REPLAT SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 28 Block 19Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.25 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northern side of Columbus Way.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$26,000
- 5. CHESAPEAKE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 29Block 21
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.38 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northwestern section of Snipe Court and Capstan Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$28,000
- 6. CHEROKEE SOUND - ABACO**
LOT NO. 4N
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 27,231 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located at Yellow Wood Creek
APPRAISED VALUE: \$74,000
- 7. EMERALD BAY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 15 Block 48 Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.41 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern boundary of Mundon Court and Mundon Avenue.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$33,000
- 8. FORTUNE POINT SUBDIVISION, FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 14 Block 2 Unit 3
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.35 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located west of the intersection of Pearl Drive and Pearl Close.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$45,000
- 9. GUANAHANI SUBDIVISION - SAN SALVADOR**
LOT NO. 29
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 8,536 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern side of Queen's Highway
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,600
- 10. GRASMERE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 11 Block 45 Unit 3
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.35 acres
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on the corner of Grasmere Drive and Pondsides Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$9,200
- 11. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 15 Block 26 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lots, 0.34 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Manton Place and Manton Avenue
APPRAISED VALUE: \$36,000
- 12. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 16 Block 26 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lots, 0.33 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Manton Place and Manton Avenue.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$35,000
- 13. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 26 Block 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lot, 0.32 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Ludford Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$34,000
- 14. LUCAYAN ESTATES SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 1 Block 43 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lot, 1.0 acre
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the southern side of Newby Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$9,000
- 15. LUCAYAN KNOLL - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 8 Block 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 15,380 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Sergeant Major Drive near Sea Horse Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 16. MAYFIELD PARK SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 112
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 18,325 Sq. Ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Farnham Crescent
APPRAISED VALUE: \$54,000
- 17. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 2 Crown Allotment #57
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi - Family Lot, 5,310 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main Murphy Town Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$12,000
- 18. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 67 Crown Allotment #1
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 6,935 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main street of Murphy Town.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$11,000
- 19. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 67 Crown Allotment #2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 12,100 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main street of Murphy Town
APPRAISED VALUE: \$19,360
- 20. SHANNON SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 8 BLOCK 5 UNIT 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot .34 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern side of Shannon Drive
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 21. ROYAL BAHAMIAN ESTATES SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 305 Section "A"
PROPERTY SIZE: Single family lot, 0.44 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Dominica Avenue
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 22. ROYAL PALM BAY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 47 Block 6 Unit 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 17,005 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Cippinghill Drive, south of Bartlow Lane.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$40,000
- 23. SHANNON SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 5 Block 3 Unit 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 0.40 acres
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on the southern side of Moonraker Lane.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$50,000
- 24. WOOD CAY - LITTLE ABACO**
LOT NO. Parcel of Land
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 39,999 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the western section of the main street of Wood Cay.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,000
- 25. YEOMAN WOOD SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 4 Block 58 Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.36 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the southwestern side of Spinney Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,000

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MINISTER'S ADDRESS: Agriculture and Marine Resources Minister Larry Cartwright delivers the opening address at Monday's review of the CARICOM food and nutrition policy.

STUDENT STABBED IN BACK AFTER ARGUMENT

FROM page one

students at C I Gibson Junior High School which followed just three days later, spiked concerns by parents, teachers and members of the community on whether police should be reintroduced as a permanent presence on school campuses.

The GHS student was taken to hospital by ambulance, his condition was still unknown up to press time.

FIRST CLASS

Ridgeland Primary

First Class features its first government school today.

Ridgeland Primary's grade one preparatory class - also known as the "readiness group" - is focused on learning to read in their first semester of school.

The "readiness group" uses a remedial version of the first grade curriculum as these students are just learning to read and write and handle other functions at this level, the school said.

Brenda Hart is the teacher of this class. She has been teaching for over 40 years and may even have taught some of the parents of these students.

Since the opening of the 2010/11 school

year, the students have adjusted really well, said the school's principal Deborah Stuart.

"They are the most behaved group in the school, and the children have come to love (Mrs Hart). She does not teach from her desk, but moves around a lot. She goes to each child and gives them individual attention," she said.

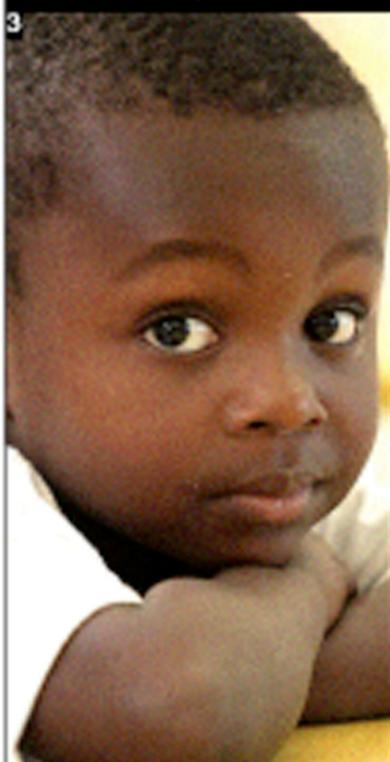
• First Class is a new regular feature dedicated to the teachers and staff who help our youngsters set to their new surroundings.

To get your new starters featured, contact Ruben Shearer at The Tribune on 322-1088 or email rubens@tribune242.net.



GETTING READY: The grade one preparatory class of Ridgeland Primary School pose with their teacher Brenda Hart

PHOTOS/PELIFE MAJOR/TRIBUNE STAFF



• The students of Ridgeland Primary's grade one preparatory class participate in class activities. Pictured are:

1. Fason Cadet
2. Brenda Daksha
3. Beni Ocken
4. Potecha Filis-Mina
5. Brianna Fembéus
6. Alexcia Johnson
7. Ruben François



Out of 'murky depths' with 12.3% growth in arrivals

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Tourism "can be the driving force to pull the Bahamas out of recession's murky depths", the Ministry of Tourism has argued, after 2010 second quarter and half-year arrivals increased by 12.3 per cent and 10.7 per cent respectively year-over-year, with creative marketing and strong partnerships needed to maintain the momentum.

The Ministry, in its market update for the period, said 2010 first half air arrivals were ahead of 2009 comparatives by 3 per cent, with sea arrivals up by 13.8 per cent.

SEE page 2B

Baha Mar's 'high stakes' caused \$25m legal bill

* Harrah's says 'enormous scope' of Cable Beach developer's \$289m damages claim resulted in its \$12m legal bill, which Baha Mar must now pay
* Gaming giant says it only employed more attorneys than Baha Mar during three of 20 months litigation lasted
* Scotiabank and Baha Mar still fighting to come to loan resolution

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Baha Mar's decision to expand legal action against Harrah's Entertainment into "high stakes litigation with enormous scope" via a \$289 million damages claim resulted in the collective \$25 million legal costs incurred, its former partner in the \$2.6 billion Cable Beach redevelopment alleging it employed fewer attorneys in 17 out of the 20 months they were before the courts.

Responding to Baha Mar's attempt to throw out an independent referee's report rec-

SEE page 4B

Duty end's price rises

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

The Government's decision to graduate companies from the Industries Encouragement Act and pay 10 per cent import duties has prompted one firm to increase prices by 3 per cent, with another in a fight to keep market share up against cheaper imported goods.

A sign inside Blanco Bleach, observed by a Tribune staffer, said that in response to the Government's 2010-2011 Budget move, the company had increased the price of its bleach and other products by 3 per cent. No one at Blanco could be contacted for comment.

Bapak owner, Glen Rogers,
SEE page 2B

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION'S 'STRAW' BASE



Photo: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

TOURISM DRAW: The Straw Market. Nine straw vendors have been arrested in New York.

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

IT "goes without saying" that the Bahamas has been lax in protecting copyrighted works, private sector officials told Tribune Business yesterday, the charges levied against the nine Bahamian straw vendors arrested in New York the latest episode to suggest this nation is "not serious in enforcing its intellectual property rights (IPR) obligations".

Both Khaalis Rolle, the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce's president, and the organisation's executive director, Winston Rolle, said this nation needed to become increasingly aware of copy-

SEE page 4B

\$1.8m 'template' for construction's FDI involvement

* Joint BTVI/BCA proposal aiming to train 1,000 tradesmen and 500 contractors to participate in Baha Mar over 18-month period
* Contractor president says foreign developer agreements 'lacked' clauses mandating financing of training programmes

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The joint venture training programme designed to maximise Bahamian construction industry participation in the \$2.6 billion Baha Mar project is intended to be a "template" for all future major foreign direct investment (FDI) projects, with \$1.8 million currently being sought over 18 months to help train 1,000 tradesmen and 500 contractors.

Stephen Wrinkle, the Bahamian Contractors Association's (BCA) president, told Tribune Business yesterday that the organisation was still awaiting a response from Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and the Government to the training proposal that it submitted jointly with the Bahamas Technical and

SEE page 4B

* Arrests and charges levied against straw vendors latest episode to suggest Bahamas 'not serious in enforcing its intellectual property rights obligations'
* WTO and trade agreements set to change that, private sector warns
* Chamber executive fears Bahamas will wait 'until last minute' to move on copyright, and urges local businesses and artists to protect themselves

* Education key, he says, to understand why IPR necessary to protect existing revenues and profits

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Esso \$4.37
Texaco \$4.42
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The information contained is from a third party and The Tribune can not be held responsible for errors and/or omission from the daily report.

Year-end target for \$25 million wind-up close

■ Some 80 Caledonia clients awaiting return of \$9.134m

■ Liquidator still seeking court order to approve increase in client assets retained from 2% to 4.5%

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The liquidator for a former Bahamas-based broker/dealer that collapsed due to a \$25 million trading hole is aiming to "finalise all outstanding matters before the end of 2010", with some \$9.134 million still to be returned to some 80 fiduciary clients.

Anthony Kikivarakis, the Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas) accountant and partner, said he had continued to act as the court-supervised liquidator for Caledonia Corporate Management despite being instructed by the Supreme Court's deputy registrar, Ernie Wallace, to stop working until a new judge was appointed to oversee the case and approve payment of fees owing to him.

Tribune Business understands that a hearing has been scheduled before Justice Stephen Isaacs for next week, during which Mr Kikivarakis will seek an order allowing him to retain a further 2.5 per cent of client assets - roughly \$1.675 million - to meet the liquidation's costs.

Alleging that, with Caledonia insolvent, there was just a balance of \$40,000-\$50,000 remaining in the clients' security account to finance his work, the initial 2 per cent of client assets paid in virtually exhausted, Mr Kikivarakis said he had already "foreshadowed my application to the court for an increase of the 2 per cent to 4.5 per cent".

The 2.5 per cent difference will come from a further 8 per

SEE page 3B

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BUSINESS

Out of 'murky depths' with 12.3% growth in arrivals

FROM page 1B

Drawing encouragement from the 3.2 per cent growth in 2010 second quarter stopover arrivals from the US, most of that growth coming in June, the Ministry of Tourism said the air visitor increase took place at a greater pace in the three months to end-June, as opposed to the first quarter. This was despite US economic growth slowing in the 2010 second quarter.

As for Canada, stopover arrivals to the Bahamas from that market increased by 22 per cent during the 2010 second quarter, most of that growth again coming later in the period during May and June.

"The percentage of stopover arrivals from Canada grew more in the second quarter 2010 than in the first quarter, despite the fact that the Canadian economy had slowed somewhat in the second quarter," the Ministry of Tourism said.

The only market where 2010 second quarter air arrivals was down was Europe, which dropped by 5 per cent year-over-year.

"The increase in air arrivals to the destination in the first and second quarters of 2010 was due to a number of important factors such as the strengthening of the US economy, the strengthening of the Canadian economy, Spring-Break season, and the joint promotional efforts of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism, the Promotion Boards and the private sector," the Ministry of Tourism said.

"In 2010, the islands of the Bahamas, in conjunction with the private sector, launched a new campaign called 'Free Companion Air Fare'. This campaign allowed visitors to the Bahamas to save big on flying into the destination and proved to be very successful in generating interest in the islands. The Free Companion Air Fare, which ran for most of the months in the first half of 2010, greatly encouraged visitors to come to the destination."

Breaking down the data by destination, the Ministry of Tourism said stopover arrivals to Nassau/Paradise Island were up by 8 per cent in the 2010 first quarter, and 3 per cent for the three months to end-June 2010.

Meanwhile, Grand Bahama enjoyed something of a turnaround, reversing a 19.6 per cent fall in 2010 first quarter stopover arrivals with a 10 per cent increase in the second quarter. "The dramatic upward shift in stopover arrivals to Grand Bahama came as a result of strategic repositioning of incoming resources namely the re-routing of the Bahamas Celebration from Nassau/Paradise Island to that island," the Ministry of Tourism said.

"The introduction of the Bahamas Celebration to the Grand Bahama itinerary on March 16, 2010, greatly influenced the increase in the stopover arrivals to the island in the second quarter 2010. Both the Discovery and the Bahamas Celebration brought in a sizeable amount of stopover visitors to the island."

And the Ministry of Tourism added: "It is obvious that tourism can be the driving force to pull the Bahamas out of the current deep recession. The ingredients to success include creative marketing strategies, strong partnerships between the public sector (Ministry of Tourism) and the private sector (Promotion Boards, hoteliers, Development Boards), and recovering economies."

"The Bahamas has been through many recessions along with the rest of the world, and on each occasion, tourism has been the driving force to pull the islands out of their murky depths."

MSC truck plan 'misunderstood'

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – The new trucking policy implemented on Monday by Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) may have been "misunderstood" by some truckers who feared the company was attempting to impose a monopoly.

Last week, several independent truckers and members of the opposition expressed concern over a notice sent by MSC to merchants, shipping agents and brokers in Freeport. PLP MPs Fred Mitchell and Alfred Sears claimed that the notice issued by MSC sought to control the movement of containers at the port, and increase delivery charges from \$120 to \$295.

They believed it was an attempt by the company to monopolise container movements in and out of the Freeport Container Port by giving exclusive rights to one trucking service. The new policy was expected to take effect on Monday.

Kevin Bethel, of Bethel's Trucking Company, said the notice he received from MSC only stated that there would be an increase in the Freeport destination charge, and it was going to include trucking.

"It did not say it was going to have exclusive rights, it did not say you could not pull a trailer. I don't know if they got a different letter than I got," he said.

Mr Bethel said a lot of the truckers went off rumours and speculations instead of going directly to MSC.

"I did the sensible thing, which I thought they should have done, too, but they decided to make noise without going to the

horse's month," he said. "When I got the e-mail I went in and talked with the general manager (at MSC), and he explained it to me. What he explained had nothing to do with these guys making noise about."

"As far as I know they did not go and sit down and talk with MSC. They went on what rumours were out there: that (MSC) was giving one trucking company all the business and that is not the case, because I have not been stopped and they are using me."

George Williams, of Freeport Transfer Company, thinks that independent truckers "misunderstood" the policy.

"MSC has been experiencing a lot of damage to their containers and they are trying to limit the amount of people that can truck their containers," he told The Tribune. "There are a number of independent drivers...and they are doing a lot of damage to the containers. The port is open to everybody and MSC is trying to regulate and limit the amount of people that can truck their containers."

Mr Williams said MSC is not allowing just one company to move their containers.

"As far as I know, there are about five or six companies and certain individual truckers that can truck for their customers," he said. The Tribune attempted to contact MSC's office in Freeport, but its phone number was constantly busy. When we tried again after 5pm, an automated voice recording came on.

Forrester Carroll, owner of Expert Customs Brokers, said MSC cannot dictate who will deliver the containers from the docks to clients' premises.

"MSC cannot legally make this decision

without the written or verbal agreement of each and every one of their clients affected individually," said Mr Carroll.

According to Mr Carroll, the terms of MSC's carriage contract for the cargo is "dock to dock, which means that that the limited contract entered into with their clients only allows MSC to bring clients' cargo from the docks at the port of origins to the dock here in Freeport or Nassau."

"The movement from the docks here in the Bahamas is another contract which their clients chose to give to one or other of the truckers, not MSC," Mr Carroll said.

"MSC can stipulate terms and conditions on truckers when handling their containers from the docks to the clients' premises. This is a decision that only the client can make. The legal aspect was not dealt with in the statement."

MPs Fred Mitchell and Alfred Sears said the huge increase in delivery costs will have to be passed on to the consumers, further driving up the cost of doing business in Freeport and in Grand Bahama.

"Even if this huge increase could be justified, what it means is that the customer will no longer be able to choose who will move their goods out of the Container Port. MSC will have the exclusive right to choose who will move those goods and set the price."

"We are advised that MSC already discriminates against various truckers on the basis of personal considerations. MSC proposes to give only one trucking service the exclusive right to move those containers at a price which they will set. This is wrong and should not be allowed to stand," they said.

FROM page 1B

said yesterday that factors of production costs are mounting, and the now absent Industries Encouragement Act incentives have left it fighting to compete. The company manufactures packaging and bottling supplies as well as water.

"It has a negative effect on business," said Mr Rogers. "It's very difficult with the imports. It (Industries Encouragement Act) made it a little easier because we didn't have to pay duty on our raw materials, so it gave us more spread to lower prices and still make a profit."

Now, he said, the changes have impacted industry negatively, as profits tank with increased costs.

Mr Rogers told Tribune Business when the increases were announced that Bapak's operating costs could increase by \$200,000 per year under the new 10 per cent duty rate, and that the company's pricing structure could take a hit as the

Duty end's price rises

new tariff is implemented.

He added that the cost of electricity in the Bahamas was also a major hindrance to industry, as those businesses pay the same rates as residential customers and three times that of competing manufacturers in the US. Mr Rogers lamented that the costs of manufacturing are so low, and the scale so big, in the US, that it is almost impossible to compete with imports without special industrial concessions or industry incentives.

"We're competing with mainly imports from the US," he said. "How many million people in Florida? When you tool up to make a certain product for a market, the more you put out, the less each piece costs. It's expensive for us to buy equipment like they have in Florida, and all of

this hasn't been taken into consideration. They (Florida manufacturers) have machines producing one million bottles of water per day. Here we can produce only 2,000 per hour.

"The Government needed to get money from somewhere and this (imports) is the area to get it from."

Mr Rogers said water from the US can overrun the Bahamian market because the size of their production lowers the cost per bottle. Bapak produces only 48,000 bottles per day - a 95 per cent production disparity.

Marketing officer for Aquapure, Ryan Knowles, told Tribune Business that the tariff changes have had a nominal effect on business this summer. However, he said the summer busy season might not show the true loss that could be felt in the next few months when business slows.

Mr Rogers said the Government has to focus on manufacturing in order to help the sector survive. "Until they get serious about manufacturing, nothing is going to happen," he said.



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NOTICE OF PROPOSED MERGER

pursuant to
SECTION 75(2)(a)
of the
COMMUNICATIONS ACT, 2009

1. The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) hereby gives notice that on September 17, 2010 a Full Notification for the proposed merger between Cable Bahamas Limited (CBL) and Systems Resource Group Limited (SRG) has been submitted to URCA for approval.
2. Under the proposed merger, SRG will be merged with and into CBL and SRG will become a wholly owned subsidiary of the merged company.
3. Under the Communications Act, 2009, URCA shall give any interested persons a reasonable opportunity to make representations and consider the representations before forming any opinion or issuing any adjudication on whether the proposed merger would result in a change of control that would have or be likely to have the effect of substantially lessening competition in a market in The Bahamas.
4. Under the Communications Act, 2009, URCA is required to issue an adjudication within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the Notification, unless there is a need to open an in-depth investigation. It is necessary for URCA to receive representations from interested persons well within the thirty (30) day timeline in order to ensure that such representations can be considered, analyzed and incorporated into URCA's deliberations.
5. Therefore, **URCA will consider all representations on the proposed merger received by 5:00p.m. on Friday, October 1, 2010.**
6. Should URCA determine to open an in-depth investigation, it will issue its adjudication within ninety (90) calendar days of receiving the Notification.
7. URCA invites interested persons to submit written representations, regarding the proposed merger, for consideration, to the Chief Executive Officer either:
 - a. by hand, to the office of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) situated at the UBS Annex Building, East Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas; or
 - b. by mail, to URCA at P.O. Box N – 4860 Nassau, Bahamas; or
 - c. by fax, to (242) 393-0153; or
 - d. by email, to info@urcabahamas.bs.

BUSINESS

Year-end target for \$25 million wind-up close

FROM page one

cent of Caledonia client assets that were placed in trust to act as a reserve pending the outcome of an investigation by Mr Kikivarakis into an unexplained \$500,000 shortfall.

His application for an extra 2.5 per cent is unlikely to please many Caledonia clients who are desperate to recover their remaining assets more than two years after the company was placed into court-supervised liquidation.

Alleging that he had been responsible for 500 Caledonia clients, including 220 fiduciary clients, Mr Kikivarakis said: "My role has been two-fold since the liquidation began, that of a liquidator of an insolvent company and that of trustee of fiduciary assets, the properties of various trust beneficiaries."

"The company has approximately \$40,000 in cash, which I have allocated to pay the expenses of a former employee of the company and the payment of a computer lease maintenance fees, instead of the costs of my agents and I, although we have a first claim on these."

Account

Due to the clients' security account being "virtually exhausted", Mr Kikivarakis said he and his staff, plus attorney Alfred Sears of Sears & Co, had "not been paid for the work done over the past 15 months".

Yet he added: "I am aware of the concerns of the trust beneficiaries to have the balance of the assets returned to them, and to this end I plan to approach the court before the end of 2010 to have all outstanding matters finalised."

Mr Kikivarakis listed a variety of reasons for why he had been unable to return some 80 Caledonia clients' assets, totalling \$9.134 million, to them.

Another 80 clients have received 90 per cent of their assets, worth \$60.362 million, the remaining 10 per cent accounting for funds withheld to cover the liquidator's costs. Some 89 per cent of client assets had been returned, the liquidator alleged.

Caledonia collapsed into liquidation after suffering an almost-\$25 million trading loss, which resulted when Jitney, its Canadian correspondent broker, sold off assets to cover an overdrawn margin loan balance that was not collateralised by the client who had created the 'hole' in question.

That overdrawn balance was in an account operated nominally by a Ron Wyles, whose trading activities were directed by George Georgiou, a Canadian who has since been of securities fraud in.

Much of the fraudulent activity was allegedly directed from the Caledonia account.

Jitney ended up selling off assets belonging to Caledonia clients other than Wyles/Georgiou because they were all pooled in one omnibus account with it, with no segregation. The duo had allegedly been engaged in short-selling, a high-risk trading strategy supposedly collateralised by so-called 'penny stocks', and incurred substantial losses that eventually sunk Caledonia.

Twitter hack opens popups, causes havoc

BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer NEW YORK

A new way to cause mischief quickly spread through short-messaging service Twitter on Tuesday morning before the site could fix the problem, as mysterious "tweets" of blocked-out text propagated themselves and caused popup windows to open.

Shortly before 10 a.m. (1400 GMT), Twitter said on its "safety" feed on the site that the attack had been shut down. It also said it does not believe that any user information was compromised, rather, the "vast majority" of the breaches were pranks or promotions.

The hack had been extra nefarious because the tweets activated without being clicked on — it was enough for Web surfers to move their mouse cursors over them. But it only affected visitors to Twitter.com. Various third-party programs used to send and read tweets, such as Tweetdeck, were unaffected.

The popups could, though didn't necessarily, contain malicious code that could take over poorly protected computers. The White House's official Twitter feed — followed by 1.8 million users — was among those affected, though the offending message

was quickly taken down.

Fittingly for Twitter, which limits messages to just 140 characters, the virus may have been among the shortest on record. According to security software maker F-Secure Corp., the shortest virus so far was just 22 characters long.

Twitter said in a blog post it was notified of the security breach at 5:54 a.m. The problem was caused by something called "cross-site scripting." This allowed users to run JavaScript programs on others' computers, turning tweets different colors or causing the pop-up boxes to appear. Some users, Twitter added, took things a step further and included code that got people's accounts to re-tweet the messages without their knowledge.

"It was like a massive snowball fight that got out of control," said Ray Dickenson, chief technology officer at computer security firm Authentium.

But while the effects of Tuesday's mischief were very visible — such as the pop-ups — and playful, Dickenson said that he was worried because JavaScript can quietly do more malicious things, like sending people to sites that can infect computers.

Security breaches had been common in Twitter's early days, but the company has since worked to beef up its

vigilance and the problems have become less common. Tuesday's hack coincided with Twitter's ongoing roll-out of a redesign of its website, which tries to streamline users' Twitter feeds and make it easier to see photos and videos directly on the site,

without having to click on a link to YouTube or Flickr.

Twitter said it discovered and fixed this problem last month, and that a recent site update unrelated to the redesign was responsible for its return.



NOTICE

FREE SEMINAR!!!

All members of the Public Workers' Co-operative Credit Union Limited, and the general public, are invited to attend a **FREE LEGAL SEMINAR**, sponsored by the Education Committee of the Public Workers' Co-operative Credit Union Limited to be held on **Friday, September 24th, 2010**, at the Bahamas Co-operative League Limited, Russell Road, Oakes Field (next to Wendy's), beginning at 6:00p.m.

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2) Constance Delaney - on Commercial Law

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BUSINESS

Baha Mar's 'high stakes' caused \$25m legal bill

FROM page 1B

ommending that it pay Harrah's, and its Caesars Bahamas Investment Corporation vehicle, \$12.174 million to cover the latter's legal costs, the gaming giant alleged before the New York State Supreme Court that its fees were reasonable in comparison to those paid by its former partner.

"This case was initiated as a relatively simple contract action involving a four-page declaratory judgment complaint by Caesars Bahamas," Harrah's alleged in its motion. "In response, Baha Mar served a 211-page paragraph answer containing six counterclaims and third-party claims.

"Among Baha Mar's claims were causes of action for fraud and tort, and a request for specific performance of a \$2.6 billion casino and resort project in the Bahamas. Baha Mar's expert eventually alleged economic damages of at least \$289 million."

Drawing on the referee's finding that it was required to spend "enormous amounts of time responsibly" in relation to Baha Mar's documents and witness testimony requests, Harrah's alleged: "The enormous scope and high stakes of this litigation are independently demonstrated by the \$12.6 million in legal fees and litigation costs incurred by Baha Mar.

"These fees and costs, which the special

referee noted were undisputed, are higher than the \$12.2 million in fees and costs being claimed by Caesars Bahamas.

"In response to Baha Mar's unsupported assertion that Caesars Bahamas' legal staffing levels were unnecessary, Caesars Bahamas introduced into evidence a chart comparing staffing levels of Baha Mar's counsel and Caesars Bahamas. In all but three of the 20 months covered by the fee application, Baha Mar's counsel employed the same or higher numbers of staff than Caesars Bahamas' counsel."

The chart, which was attached to the Harrah's motion, showed that at the litigation peak in summer 2008, Baha Mar's attorneys, Davis, Polk & Wardell, employed a maximum of 66 attorneys on the case in June 2008. Harrah's legal representatives, Latham & Watkins, hit their peak in July 2008, with 59 attorneys.

Harrah's said the special referee had also rejected Baha Mar's objections to specific entries in its legal billing. Among the work the Cable Beach developer had identified as unnecessary was a motion to de-designate documents that Caesars Bahamas had allegedly compromised.

In response, Harrah's said that after two court hearings it withdrew its opposition to this Baha Mar motion, something that reduced legal fees for both sides.

"Moreover, Caesars Bahamas' change in position came not as a result of gamesmanship, but after this court granted Caesars Bahamas a preliminary injunction prohibiting Baha Mar from filing a separate fraud action against Caesars Bahamas' corporate parents in the Bahamas," Harrah's alleged. Baha Mar had sought the de-designation of testimony expressly to use in this separate fraud action. Thus, when Baha Mar was foreclosed from filing suit, Caesars Bahamas' concerns about the use of deposition testimony was made moot, and it withdrew its opposition."

Caesars Bahamas also withdrew an amended complaint against Baha Mar on the grounds that "it would further escalate the dispute and potentially delay the ultimate resolution of the issues, leading to greater costs".

For its part, Baha Mar is alleging that there is insufficient evidence to support Caesars Bahamas' claim that it is owed \$12 million in legal fees.

The Cable Beach developer, which is still working furiously to consummate its partnership with two Chinese state-owned entities so that the \$2.6 billion project can proceed, alleged that the special referee had placed "undue weight" on its legal costs to help determine those of Caesars Bahamas.

Copyright protection's 'straw' base

FROM page 1B

right's importance, especially since intellectual property rights protection was a key component to many of the trade agreements the Government was signing on to - such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

"It's very simple," Khaalis Rolle told Tribune Business. "We are about to sign on to these agreements, and the complaint has been levelled before that we're not serious in enforcing intellectual property rights obligations."

He described the alleged incident involving the nine Bahamian straw vendors as "symptomatic" and "just the beginning" of the adjustments this country would have to make in respecting and enforcing intellectual property rights, adding: "That's the way the world is moving."

When asked by Tribune Business whether the Bahamas had a poor track record on intellectual property rights enforcement, Winston Rolle replied: "Absolutely."

Evidence to support this assertion comes from the street corners inhabited by sellers of 'knock-off' DVDs and CDs; the Bahamas' previous regular appearance on the US Trade Representative's Special 301 reports and other copyright-related reports; and, yes, the Straw Market, where for many vendors the sale of counterfeit designer labels, handbags, wallets and jewellery to tourists has become their principal source of revenues and profit.

Given the regular trips many vendors allegedly make to Miami and New York to stock up on these counterfeit items, it is surprising that none have been caught like this before. The nine arrests, and subsequent charges, are likely to have something of a chilling effect on Bahamian straw vendors travelling to the US to source 'knock-off' and counterfeit items.

It has long been thought that the Bahamian authorities are reluctant to tackle sellers of counterfeit goods, fearing accusations that they are preventing people from making a living, especially during a recession.



KHAALIS ROLLE

FROM page 1B

\$1.8 million 'template' for construction's FDI involvement

Vocational Institute (BTVI) some three to four weeks ago.

He added, though, that it attempted to address something "lacking" in previous agreements made between

the Government and major foreign investors, namely the absence of any financial contribution by the developer to training Bahamian contrac-

tors and tradesmen to participate in the project's construction.

"When we're talking about concessions and negotiations, this should be a natural course of events, which up till now has not been the case," Mr Wrinkle told Tribune Business.

"We're pleased to have had an opportunity to present a proposal that could hopefully be a part of Baha Mar and any subsequent agreement with foreign direct investment operators. One of the things we've found lacking was that there was no specified or mandatory funding requirement in any of the foreign direct investment agreements or Heads of Agreement."

Wonderful

"Baha Mar represents a wonderful opportunity for the BCA and stakeholders to propose a project that could be used repetitively. We anticipate that it could be used as a template for future foreign direct investment projects."

Mr Wrinkle again urged the Government to move forward with the passage of the Contractors Bill, as it would provide the foundation for licensing and certifying all Bahamian contractors, and ensure they operated to globally-recognised standards.

He described the Contractors Bill as "a tremendous asset" for the BCA's '2010 initiative', the project to ensure as many Bahamian workers and contractors participated in the potential Baha Mar construction as possible.

"We've laid out a training programme for review, and we have requested funding for it within the scope of the approvals process - the Government approvals process -

for Baha Mar," Mr Wrinkle told Tribune Business.

"We prepared a position paper on it, submitted it to government and all the relevant stakeholders, and put together a joint proposal from ourselves and BTVI to initiate several training programmes to prepare the maximum number of Bahamians to participate in the project."

The BCA president added that while the training initiative's scope was initially confined to Nassau, if it was extended to the Family Islands the costs were set to increase.

"We know we can't do the training without some funding," Mr Wrinkle added. "The proposal we laid out was at a bare minimum \$1.8 million over 18 months. That was primarily based on everything happening in Nassau. If we extended it to include the Family Islands, that number would grow. It's just a question of how much funding would be available."

"The way the proposal is currently structured, we were targeting 1,000 tradesmen and 500 contractors."

On the contractor front, Mr Wrinkle said the training effort was chiefly geared towards the "small building contractor" with a labour crew of three to five individuals. The goal was to get these contractors "Trade or Division certified", he explained, getting them specialised in a particular construction field.

This, Mr Wrinkle said, would make them more attractive to foreign developers and contractors/project managers, as tenders issued for major FDI projects were broken down by trade.

While waiting to see whether Baha Mar went ahead, Mr Wrinkle said the BCA and BTVI were still moving forward with plans for their education initiative, so that they would be in a "go position" and able to "initiate programmes immediately".

"We're trying to fine tune everything and get ducks in a row, so that when they pull the trigger, we're ready to go," Mr Wrinkle told Tribune Business.

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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Ahmadinejad blames capitalism for poverty

EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press Writer UNITED NATIONS

Iran's president on Tuesday predicted the defeat of capitalism and blamed global big business for the suffering of millions, but Germany's chancellor said market economies were key to lifting the world's least developed countries out of poverty, according to Associated Press.

The clash of visions at the U.N. anti-poverty summit drew a line under the stark differences on easing the misery of the one billion people living on less than \$1.25 a day.

More than 140 presidents, prime ministers and kings are attending the three-day summit which started Monday to assess and spur on achievement of U.N. targets set by world leaders in 2000. The plan called for an intensive global campaign to ease poverty, disease and inequalities between rich and poor by 2015.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, however, never mentioned the Millennium Development Goals in his speech to the 192-member General Assembly.

Instead, he took aim at capitalism and called for the overhaul of "undemocratic and unjust" global decision-making bodies, which are dominated by the United States and other Western powers. While Ahmadinejad didn't single out any country, he said world leaders, thinkers and global reformers should "spare no effort" to make practical plans for a new world order — reform of international economic and political institutions.

"It is my firm belief that in the new millennium, we need to revert to the divine mind-set...based on the justice-seeking nature of mankind, and on the monotheistic world view..." the Iranian leader said in a brief speech intertwining philosophy and religion with the current state of the world. "Now that the discriminatory order of capitalism and the hegemonic approaches are facing defeat."

Ahmadinejad proposed that the United Nations name the coming 10 years "the decade for the joint global governance."

Soon afterward, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the world's fourth-largest economic power, took an opposite tack, likely speaking for the rest of the capitalist world.

Stressing that "the primary responsibility for development lies with the governments of the developing countries," she



(AP Photo/Aaron Jackson) **SPEAKING OUT:** Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks at a summit on the Millennium Development Goals at United Nations headquarters on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2010.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

..... said the key to economic prosperity was good governance and a flourishing capitalist economy.

"The countries themselves must promote the development of a market economy...for without self-sustaining economic growth developing countries will find the road out of poverty and hunger too steep to travel," Merkel said.

The German leader said international assistance can't substitute for domestic resources, warned that "development aid cannot continue indefinitely" and declared that "support for good governance is as important as aid itself."

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has said the world is "on track" to cut extreme poverty by half, the No. 1 goal, though some critics say it's mainly because of the big strides in China and India. Many recent reports show that the world's poorest countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, have made little progress in eradicating poverty.

And in Africa, Asia and Latin America there also has been a lack of progress in meeting other key goals: reducing mother and child deaths, increasing the number of people with access to basic sanita-

tion, and promoting women's equality. Ban is expected to launch a new initiative Wednesday to spur action on improving the lot of women and children.

In his speech, Ahmadinejad did not mention Iran's nuclear program or the four rounds of U.N. Security Council sanctions over Tehran's refusal to prove it is not trying to build a nuclear weapon. Iran claims it is only working on nuclear power to generate electricity.

The subject may be raised again Thursday when the General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting begins.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov raised the sanctions issue in his speech, saying U.N. sanctions were not intended to harm ordinary civilians. He voiced "serious concern" at additional sanctions imposed by individual countries. The criticism appeared aimed at the United States, the

European Union, Australia, Canada, Japan and South Korea, all of whom have imposed their own much tougher sanctions on Tehran.

"We are convinced that such practice contradicts the efforts to achieve the MDGs and must be brought to an end," Lavrov said, using the initials of the Millennium Development Goals.

To counter these threats, Lavrov said Russia was ready to help with information and communication technology "to bridge the gap between the developed and developing countries and — as a result — to promote global development."

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia, one of the world's poorest nations that has made progress because of the goals, said Africa "still has far to go" but if efforts are intensified "we will, ultimately, achieve them."

"My message is this: As we renew our resolve in 2010, we must recognize the need for inclusive economic growth. We need rapid, stable, and sustained growth that creates jobs, especially for youth and in sectors that benefit the poor, and expands opportunities for women," she said.

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said until a few years ago his country was on track to achieve a number of the MDGs, but the fight against terrorism and the recent unprecedented flooding "have changed almost everything."

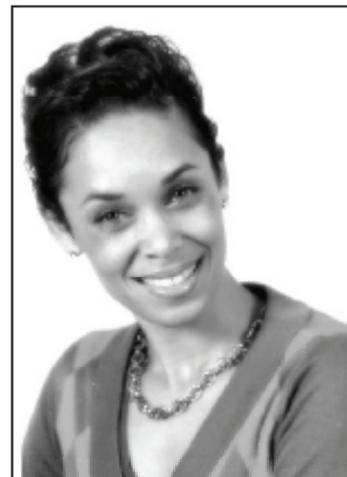


PROTEST: Ayton Eller, right, of Brooklyn, holds an Israeli flag in front of the United Nations to protest Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's visit.

Dr. Kendal V.O. Major and staff would like to

Welcome DR. ALIA P. CAMPBELL DDS

(General Practitioner)
to the practice of Center for Specialized Dentistry
#87 Collins Ave.
Tel: 325-5165



Wishing her success, as she contributes to a healthy Bahamas and serve the people of our Nation.

"Touching people changing lives"

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

CIPARI LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- (a) **CIPARI 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 21st September, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- (c) The Liquidator of the said company is Dizame Consulting SA, Pasea Estate, Road Town, Tortola, BVI

Dated this 23rd day of September, A. D. 2010

Dizame Consulting SA
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

SEB INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- (a) **SEB INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS 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 10th September, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- (c) The Liquidator of the said company is Manex Limited, The Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, Bahamas

Dated this 21st day of September, A. D. 2010

Manex Limited
Liquidator

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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

GLOBALECONOMICDEVELOPMENTS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at economic developments and activity in major stock markets around the world Tuesday:

DUBLIN — Ireland sold euro1.5 billion (\$2 billion) in government bonds in a closely watched test of whether international investors would keep buying Irish treasuries despite the country's deficit, the biggest in debt-burdened Europe.

Analysts called the auction a success, noting it attracted bids 5.1 times the amount of bonds on offer.

Together with solid bond auctions in Spain and Greece, the sale offered markets reassurance for the moment that Ireland and other indebted countries were getting some relief from short-term market pressures.

But analysts cautioned that Ireland had to pay higher-than-expected interest rates compared to previous bond auctions, reflecting investors' fear of an eventual Irish default.

And the higher rates could be an additional financial burden in coming years.

Shares in Europe dipped. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed down 0.5 percent, Germany's DAX fell 0.3 percent and the CAC-40 in France ended 0.1 percent lower.

TOKYO — Asian trading was mixed. Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average surrendered early gains to close down 0.3 percent as the country returned from a Monday holiday.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.1 percent, the Shanghai Composite Index inched up 0.1 percent and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 dropped 0.3 percent.

MILAN — Unicredit CEO Alessandro Profumo was battling for his job after losing support from a key shareholder, in what some say is turning into a political battle for control of Italy's largest bank.

Profumo was seen leaving the bank's Milan headquarters ahead of an emergency board meeting in the evening, and analysts say he may announce his resignation.

"The bank is officially denying reports of a resignation," spokeswoman Paola Di Raimondo said before the meeting was set to begin.

A Unicredit Group foundation, which counts members of the right-wing Northern League party on the board, have expressed reservations about Libya's growing role as a shareholder, bringing what has been for weeks a media-fueled confrontation to a boardroom showdown.

LONDON — Britain's public sector borrowing soared to 15.9 billion pounds (\$24.7 billion) in August, a record for the month and well above analysts' estimates.

ATHENS, Greece — About 2,500 protesting truck drivers, carrying Greek flags and shouting "shame" and "thieves," marched to parliament on the ninth day of demonstrations against planned labor market reforms.

The new rules will eventually affect a number of other professional groups, including pharmacists and civil engineers.

Greece has promised to reform its labor market as part of austerity measures agreed in return for euro110 billion (\$144 billion) in rescue loans from European countries and the International Monetary Fund.

VATICAN CITY — Italian authorities seized euro23 million (\$30.18 million) from a Vatican bank account and said they have begun investigating top officials of the Vatican bank in connection with a money laundering probe.

The Vatican said it was "perplexed and surprised" by the investigation.

Italian financial police seized the money as a precaution and prosecutors placed the Vatican bank's director general and its chairman under investigation for alleged mistakes linked to violations of Italy's anti-laundering laws, news reports said.

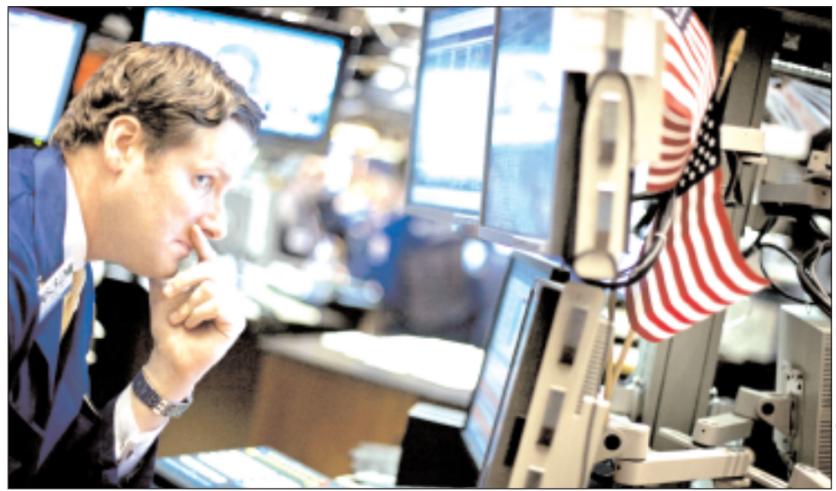
KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysia has set an ambitious target of luring \$444 billion of investments over the next decade to become a developed nation by 2020, but some analysts warned the plans are unrealistic and may be hampered by a long-standing affirmative action policy that favors the ethnic Malay majority.

AMSTERDAM — The Netherlands' queen and the outgoing prime minister presented an austere annual budget that cuts spending on health care, immigrants, and government workers — a foretaste of more far-reaching cuts likely to come under the conservative Cabinet now being formed.

SINGAPORE — Global airlines have rebounded faster than expected from the recession after losing nearly \$26 billion over 2008 and 2009, the industry association said, raising its profit forecast for this year.

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysia is studying the possibility of letting its currency trade freely overseas, officials said while playing down the prospect of immediate changes.

Stocks climb as the Fed leaves door open for stimulus



David Goldman/AP Photo

KEEPING FOCUS: In this photograph taken Sept. 20, 2010, trader Gregg Maloney looks at his screens while working on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, in New York.

STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer
NEW YORK

Stocks and bonds rose Tuesday after the Federal Reserve said it was ready to provide more help to the economy if necessary.

The Fed didn't announce new purchases of government debt or other specific measures to help the economy now, but it did leave the door open to such steps in the future, as investors were hoping.

The central bank said that inflation remains below levels that indicate a healthy economy, and that it was ready to act to provide "additional accommodation" to support the recovery, if needed. That could mean more purchases of Treasury bonds or other debt, which would keep interest rates low.

Stocks had been trading lower ahead of the Fed's announcement but turned



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

higher in afternoon trading shortly after the central bank's statement was released.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 44.50 points, or 0.4 percent, to 10,798.12 in late afternoon trading. It was trading slightly lower for most of the day before the Fed's announcement came out.

Broader indexes had more

modest advances. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 1.27, or 0.1 percent, to 1,143.98, while the Nasdaq composite rose 1.97, or 0.1 percent, to 2,357.80.

The gains extended a three-week rally that has defied expectations that stocks would slump in September, which is historically a weak month for stocks. The Dow is up 7.9 percent so far this month, and broader indexes are up even more. The S&P is up 9.1 percent, the Nasdaq 11.6 percent. Treasuries rose after the Fed's announcement, sending interest rates lower.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell sharply to 2.60 percent from 2.70 percent the day before. Its price jumped 90.6 cents to \$100.18.

The yield is a common benchmark for setting interest rates on corporate debt and mortgages.

■ SEE STORY ON PAGE 7



The Bahamas Maritime Authority

Certification of Bahamian nationals or Bahamian permanent residents as an Officer, Rating or Able Seaman/Seafarer for service onboard any ship undertaking an international voyage

This notice is issued to provide Bahamian nationals and other related persons with information relating to the certification required to serve onboard a ship undertaking an international voyage as:

- An Officer, or
- Rating, or
- Able Seaman/Able Seafarer, or
- Cook, or
- Any other capacity with designated safety, security, cargo operations or environmental protection duties.

All parties shall note that an international voyage is any voyage to a port or port facility outside The Bahamas.

All persons should note that in accordance with *The Bahamas Merchant Shipping, The Bahamas Merchant (Training, Certification, Manning & Watch-keeping) Regulations, Merchant Shipping (Certificate of Competency as A.B.) Regulations and The Bahamas Merchant (Certificate as Cook) Regulations*, all persons shall be duly certificated to undertake the required role prior to sailing onboard the ship.

All Officers, Ratings and Able Seaman/Able Seafarer are required to be certificated in accordance with the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers as amended (STCW). All persons assigned designated safety, security and environmental protection duties shall satisfy the relevant requirements of STCW. All persons shall:

- be a minimum of 16 years of age, and
- hold a valid medical fitness certificate valid for a period of not more than two (2) years, and
- provide documentary evidence of any STCW training, and
- provide documentary evidence of seagoing service. This should only relate to service whilst actually onboard a vessel and discharge records or details from a seaman record book may be utilised as evidence.

Applicants, who comply with the STCW requirements, may apply to the Bahamas Maritime Authority for the relevant STCW certification. All applications will be assessed taking into consideration the STCW requirement and attendance at a BMA office will be required for an assessment for initial certification at any capacity.

Full details of the application process and the BMA requirements are outlined in BMA Information Bulletins nos. 103, 104, 118, 119 which are all contained on the BMA website: www.bahamasmaritime.com or queries can be directed to stcw@bahamasmaritime.com

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2010/CLE/qai/No. 849

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law and Equity Division

IN THE MATTER OF All That lot of land containing about 4,531 square feet situate on the South side of Roosevelt Avenue and approximately 350 feet East of Mackey Street, New Providence, in The Bahamas.

AND IN THE MATTER OF the Petition of Thelma Pamela Carey.

NOTICE

The Quiering Titles Act, 1959 (Ch. 393)

THE PETITION of Thelma Pamela Carey of Seabreeze Estates, New Providence, in respect of ALL THAT lot containing 4,531 square feet situate South of Roosevelt Avenue and about 350 feet East of Mackey Street, New Providence, The Bahamas, bounded NORTH by Roosevelt Avenue and running thereon 50.51 feet on the EAST by Lot 214 in Pylrom's Subdivision and running thereon 64.20 feet and by portion of Lot 215 in Pylrom's Subdivision and running thereon 27.28 feet on the SOUTH by property of Henry F. Storr and running thereon 46.55 feet and on the WEST by property of Robert Thompson and running thereon 98.35.

THELMA PAMELA CAREY claims to be the owner of the fee simple estate in possession of the said land free from encumbrances.

AND the petitioner has made application to the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas under Section 3 of the Quiering Titles Act, 1959 to have her title to the said land investigated and the nature and the extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted by the Court in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

NOTICE is hereby given that any person or persons having an adverse claim shall on or before the 13th day of November, A.D. 2010 file in the Supreme Court and serve on the petitioner or the undersigned a statement of his claim in the prescribed form verified by an affidavit to be filed therewith. Failure of any such person to file any such claim on or before the 13th day of November, A.D. 2010 shall operate as a bar to such claim.

A COPY of the filed plan may be inspected at:

1. The Registry of the Supreme Court, East Street, Nassau, Bahamas;
2. Miriam J. Curling & Co., 1st Floor, the Peck Building, George Street, Nassau, N.P., Bahamas.

DATED the 13th day of September, A.D. 2010.

MIRIAM J. CURLING & CO.
First Floor, the Peck Building,
George Street,
Nassau, N.P., Bahamas
Attorneys for the Petitioner.

Oil drops as traders worry about demand

NEW YORK

Oil prices fell on Tuesday as traders worried whether demand for energy products will strengthen as the U.S. economy continues to struggle, according to Associated Press.

Benchmark oil lost \$1.34 to settle at \$73.52 a barrel on the last trading day for the October contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Many traders moved to the November contract, where the price fell \$1.22 to settle at \$74.97 a barrel. Analysts said oil traders were more concerned with selling futures contracts before they expired than Tuesday's Federal Reserve meeting. While Fed policymakers said they were prepared to provide additional support for the economy, they did not announce any specific stimulus programs.

"I think the market was really just under pressure all day because today is the October crude contract expiration," said Tom Bentz, analyst at BNP Paribas Commodity Futures in New York. "I don't really see the connection to the Fed's statement."

Although the Federal Reserve's actions are important, the record oversupply of oil and gas is "really starting to weigh on people's minds," said Michael Lynch, president of energy consulting firm Strategic Energy & Economic Research in Winchester, Massachusetts.

The Energy Department will release its latest inventory data on Wednesday. They are expected to show crude oil stocks down 1.5 million barrels and gasoline stocks unchanged for the week ending Sept. 17, according to analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos.

In other Nymex trading in October energy contracts, heating oil fell 1.95 cents to settle at \$2.1199 a gallon, gasoline lost 3 cents to settle at \$1.9196 a gallon and natural gas gained 9.7 cents to settle at \$3.919 per 1,000 cubic feet. In London, Brent crude fell 94 cents to settle at \$78.42 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Fed signals it will take further steps if needed

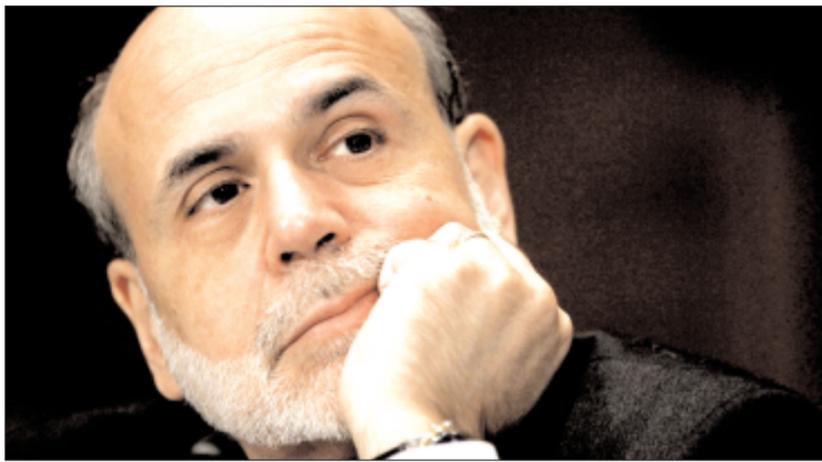
JEANNINE AVERSA, AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON

The Federal Reserve signaled Tuesday that it is worried about the weakness of the recovery and is ready to take further steps to boost the U.S. economy if needed, according to Associated Press.

Fed officials said they are also concerned that sluggish economic growth could prevent prices from rising at a healthy rate.

But at the end of its meeting, the Fed announced no new steps to try to rejuvenate the economy and drive down unemployment. Instead, it hinted that it's prepared to see if the economy can heal on its own.

Stock prices, which had been relatively flat before the Fed's statement, fluctuated before returning to about the same level in late-afternoon trading.



TESTIMONY: In a Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010 photo, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington before the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission.

The meeting is the last for the Fed's chief policymaking group before the Nov. 2 midterm elections. It comes as

voters are focused on the economy and the jobs crisis. Polls show they are likely to punish Democrats in Washington for the sluggish economy.

In its statement, the Fed used the same language it did in August to sketch a downbeat view of the economy. It concluded that economic activity has slowed in recent months. And it warned that the pace of growth is likely to be "modest in the near term" — almost identical to the assessment it made a month ago.

But the Fed delivered a stronger signal that it would take new steps to lift the economy. The Fed said it is "prepared to provide additional accommodation." In its previous policy statements, the Fed didn't go that far. Instead, it had said it would "employ its policy tools as necessary."

The Fed made clear that given the economy's weakness, it's more concerned about prices falling than rising. It didn't use the word deflation. But some economists have raised fears about the country sliding into a deflationary spiral. That's a widespread drop in wages, prices of goods and services and the value of stocks and homes.

"They are more worried about the economy and deflation than I thought they would be," said Sung Won Sohn, an economist at the Martin Smith School of Business at California State University.

For the sixth straight meeting, Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, was the sole dissenter.

At Tuesday's meeting, the Fed once again left a key short-term rate near zero, where it has been since December 2008.

It also repeated a pledge to hold rates at those ultra-low levels for an "extended period."

If the economy keeps losing momentum, the Fed will be likelier to provide relief at its next meeting on Nov. 2-3 or at its last regularly scheduled session of the year on Dec. 14.

Debt

Chairman Ben Bernanke last month indicated a preference to launch a new program to buy large amounts of government debt. Such a move would be intended to lower already low rates on mortgages, corporate loans and other debt. The goal is to entice people and businesses to spend more, and thereby strengthen the economy and lower unemployment.

In economic circles, it's known as "quantitative easing." That's when the Fed takes unconventional steps, as it did during the financial crisis, to inject money into the economy. The Fed does this to lower long-term interest rates and help banks lend more. As a result, the Fed's balance sheet has ballooned to \$2.3 trillion, nearly triple its level before the crisis.

Even if the Fed were to do that, economists don't think it would be enough to increase economic growth much. Already low long-term rates haven't managed to get Americans to spend much more. Both companies and individuals have been cautious as they rebuild their finances and pare debt.

Still, even with no guarantee that reducing long-term rates would stimulate the economy,



BREAKING NEWS: Two television networks, seen in the Goldman Sachs cubicle on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, broadcast the news that the Federal Reserve had left rates unchanged in their final meeting before the mid-term elections, Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2010, in New York.

the Fed can't risk its credibility by standing idly if things worsen. Businesses and investors could lose faith in the Fed and the economy and be less inclined to spend. That would further weaken the economy.

At its last meeting in August, the Fed took a small step to aid the recovery: It decided to use proceeds from its huge mortgage portfolio and buy government debt. The small amount involved helped nudge down mortgage rates. But it would take a bigger buying binge to push rates down further.

Sohn predicted the Fed would start expanding its balance sheet before the end of the year.

"Even though they are not taking any action now, they have left the door open for additional action through buying Treasury bonds and mortgage-backed securities," he said.

Economic growth slowed in the second quarter, advancing at a pace of just 1.6 percent,

compared with 3.7 percent growth in the first three months of the year. Growth in the July-September period is expected to be similarly weak. That raises the likelihood that the unemployment rate, already high at 9.6 percent, could climb even higher in the months ahead.

That would be an alarming development for the Obama administration, which is already at risk of losing control of the House or Senate or both. Republicans and Democrats agree there's little the president and the Democratic Party can do to change voters' attitudes with so little time left before Nov. 2.

Obama acknowledged the economic hardships many Americans are enduring, saying Monday:

"If you're out of work right now, the only thing that you're going to be hearing is, when do I get a job? If you're about to lose your home, all you're thinking about is, when can I get my home?"

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER STATEMENTS

FEDERAL RESERVE

A comparison of the Federal Reserve's statements from its last meeting on Aug. 10 and the meeting Tuesday.

TREASURY SECURITIES

August: The Fed said it would purchase Treasury bonds with the proceeds from its maturing holdings of mortgage-backed securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The Fed said the action would keep steady the level of support it was providing to the economy.

September: The Fed says it will continue its policy of reinvesting the proceeds from its securities holdings and says it is prepared "to provide additional accommodation if needed" to support the recovery and keep prices stable.

RECOVERY SPEED

August: "The pace of recovery in output and employment has slowed in recent months."

September: "The pace of recovery in output and employment has slowed in recent months."

INFLATION

August: "Measures of underlying inflation have trended lower in recent quarters and ... inflation is likely to be subdued for some time."

September: "Inflation is likely to remain subdued for some time before rising to levels the committee considers consistent with its mandate."

INTEREST RATES

August: Leaves federal funds rate target unchanged at a record low of zero to 0.25 percent, where it has been since December 2008, and repeats pledge to keep rates "exceptionally low" for "an extended period."

September: Leaves federal funds rate target unchanged and once again repeats pledge to keep rates "exceptionally low" for "an extended period."

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

August: "Household spending is increasing gradually, but remains constrained by high unemployment, modest income growth, lower housing wealth and tight credit."

September: "Household spending is increasing gradually, but remains constrained by high unemployment, modest income growth, lower housing wealth and tight credit."

HOUSING

August: "Housing starts remain at a depressed level."

September: "Housing starts are at a depressed level."

DISSENT:

August: Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank President Thomas Hoenig dissents for a fifth consecutive meeting, arguing that the pledge to keep rates low for an extended period is no longer warranted because it could lead to a build-up of future imbalances. He also registers his dissent at the decision to prevent the size of the Fed's holdings of longer-term securities from shrinking.

September: Hoenig dissents for a sixth consecutive meeting, objecting both to the pledge to keep interest rates low and the reinvestment of the proceeds from the Fed's holdings of mortgage-backed securities.

LEGAL NOTICE

International Business Companies Act (No. 45 of 2000)

LEACOCK MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 137 (8) of the International Business Companies Act, No.45 of 2000, the Dissolution of LEACOCK MANAGEMENT LIMITED has been completed, a Certificate of Dissolution has been issued and the Company has therefore been struck off the Register. The date of completion of the dissolution was the 29th day of December, 2008.

ALMA MORGAN
LIQUIDATOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **EDENLYNN SHANIKA LEWIS # 7 Montego Road, Royal Bahamia**, intend to change my child's name from **ANASTASIA FLOREASE LEWIS** to **ANASTASIA FLOREASE MUNNINGS**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Chief Passport Officer, P.O.Box N-742, Nassau, Bahamas no later than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

| BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|----------------|------------------|------------|---------------|------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| TUESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2010 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,500.52 CHG 0.01 %CHG 0.00 YTD -64.86 YTD % -4.14 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00 YTD 00.00% 2009 -12.31% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WWW.BISXBHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330 FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Security | Symbol | Previous Close | Today's Close | Change | Daily Vol. | EPS \$ | Div \$ | P/E | Yield |
| 1.26 | 1.00 | AML Foods Limited | | 1.01 | 1.01 | 0.00 | 0.250 | 0.040 | 4.0 | 3.96% | |
| 10.75 | 9.67 | Bahamas Property Fund | | 10.63 | 10.63 | 0.00 | 0.013 | 0.200 | 817.7 | 1.89% | |
| 6.18 | 4.50 | Bank of Bahamas | | 4.90 | 4.90 | 0.00 | 0.598 | 0.260 | 6.2 | 5.31% | |
| 0.58 | 0.18 | Benchmark | | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.00 | -0.877 | 0.000 | N/M | 0.00% | |
| 3.49 | 3.15 | Bahamas Waste | | 3.15 | 3.15 | 0.00 | 0.168 | 0.090 | 18.8 | 2.86% | |
| 2.15 | 2.14 | Fidelity Bank | | 2.17 | 2.17 | 0.00 | 0.016 | 0.040 | 135.6 | 1.84% | |
| 12.50 | 9.62 | Cable Bahamas | | 10.77 | 10.77 | 0.00 | 1.212 | 0.310 | 8.9 | 2.88% | |
| 2.84 | 2.50 | Collina Holdings | | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.781 | 0.040 | 3.2 | 1.60% | |
| 7.00 | 5.40 | Commonwealth Bank (S1) | | 6.28 | 6.28 | 0.00 | 0.422 | 0.230 | 14.9 | 3.66% | |
| 3.65 | 1.53 | Consolidated Water BDRs | | 1.82 | 1.83 | 0.01 | 0.111 | 0.052 | 16.5 | 2.84% | |
| 2.55 | 1.60 | Doctor's Hospital | | 1.90 | 1.90 | 0.00 | 0.199 | 0.110 | 9.5 | 5.79% | |
| 6.99 | 5.94 | Famguard | | 6.07 | 6.07 | 0.00 | -0.003 | 0.240 | N/M | 3.95% | |
| 10.20 | 8.50 | Finco | | 8.50 | 8.50 | 0.00 | 0.287 | 0.520 | 29.6 | 6.12% | |
| 11.40 | 8.77 | First Caribbean Bank | | 9.74 | 9.74 | 0.00 | 0.645 | 0.350 | 15.1 | 3.55% | |
| 5.51 | 3.75 | Focol (S) | | 5.46 | 5.46 | 0.00 | 0.366 | 0.170 | 14.9 | 3.11% | |
| 1.00 | 1.00 | Focol Class B Preference | | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.000 | 0.000 | N/M | 0.00% | |
| 5.59 | 5.00 | ICD Utilities | | 5.59 | 5.59 | 0.00 | 0.012 | 0.240 | 465.8 | 4.29% | |
| 10.50 | 9.92 | J. S. Johnson | | 9.92 | 9.92 | 0.00 | 0.883 | 0.640 | 11.2 | 6.45% | |
| 10.00 | 10.00 | Premier Real Estate | | 10.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 0.355 | 0.800 | 28.2 | 8.00% | |
| BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Security | Symbol | Last Sale | Change | Daily Vol. | Interest | Maturity | | | |
| 99.46 | 99.46 | Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029) | BAH29 | 99.46 | 0.00 | | 6.95% | 20 November 2029 | | | |
| 100.00 | 100.00 | Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) + | FBB17 | 100.00 | 0.00 | | 7% | 19 October 2017 | | | |
| 100.00 | 100.00 | Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) + | FBB22 | 100.00 | 0.00 | | Prime + 1.75% | 19 October 2022 | | | |
| 100.00 | 100.00 | Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) + | FBB13 | 100.00 | 0.00 | | 7% | 30 May 2013 | | | |
| 100.00 | 100.00 | Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) + | FBB15 | 100.00 | 0.00 | | Prime + 1.75% | 29 May 2015 | | | |
| RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Symbol | Bid % | Ask % | Last Bid | Daily Vol. | EPS \$ | Div \$ | P/E | Yield | |
| 10.06 | 5.01 | Bahamas Supermarkets | 5.01 | 6.01 | 14.00 | | -2.945 | 0.000 | N/M | 0.00% | |
| 0.55 | 0.40 | RND Holdings | 0.35 | 0.40 | 0.55 | | 0.001 | 0.000 | 256.6 | 0.00% | |
| CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41.00 | 29.00 | ABDAB | 30.13 | 31.59 | 29.00 | | 4.540 | 0.000 | 9.03 | 0.00% | |
| 0.55 | 0.40 | RND Holdings | 0.45 | 0.55 | 0.55 | | 0.002 | 0.000 | 261.90 | 0.00% | |
| BISX Listed Mutual Funds | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Fund Name | NAV | YTD% | Last 12 Months % | NAV 3MTH | NAV 6MTH | NAV Date | | | |
| 1.4904 | 1.4005 | CFAL Bond Fund | 1.4904 | 3.59% | 6.42% | 1.475244 | 1.452500 | 31-Jul-10 | | | |
| 2.9265 | 2.8262 | CFAL MSI Preferred Fund | 2.9115 | 0.85% | 0.23% | 2.926483 | 2.906205 | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 1.5529 | 1.4920 | CFAL Money Market Fund | 1.5529 | 3.02% | 4.36% | 1.533976 | 1.518097 | 10-Sep-10 | | | |
| 3.2025 | 2.8522 | Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund | 2.8624 | -8.16% | -7.49% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 13.6388 | 13.0484 | Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund | 13.4286 | 0.46% | 2.40% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 109.3929 | 101.6693 | CFAL Global Bond Fund | 109.3929 | 5.20% | 7.60% | 107.570620 | 103.987340 | 30-Jun-10 | | | |
| 105.7795 | 93.1998 | CFAL Global Equity Fund | 100.1833 | -1.52% | 3.56% | 105.779543 | 101.725415 | 30-Jun-10 | | | |
| 1.1223 | 1.0000 | FG Financial Preferred Income Fund | 1.1272 | 3.43% | 5.28% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 1.0917 | 1.0000 | FG Financial Growth Fund | 1.0948 | 2.51% | 6.10% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 1.1198 | 1.0000 | FG Financial Diversified Fund | 1.1275 | 3.37% | 5.64% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 9.5955 | 9.1005 | Royal Fidelity Bah Intl Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1 | 9.5955 | 2.71% | 5.96% | | | 31-Jul-10 | | | |
| 11.2361 | 10.0000 | Royal Fidelity Bah Intl Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2 | 10.3734 | -3.69% | 3.38% | | | 31-Jul-10 | | | |
| 10.0000 | 9.1708 | Royal Fidelity Bah Intl Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3 | 9.1708 | -8.29% | -8.29% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 7.9664 | 4.8105 | Royal Fidelity Intl Fund - Equities Sub Fund | 7.5827 | -1.74% | 11.58% | | | 31-Aug-10 | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Share - 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 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | |

The Tribune Taste

Bahamas Culinary Team excels at regional competition



GOLD STANDARD: Team Bahamas ready to go for gold pictured from Left to right: Clement Williams - an executive sous chef at the Atlantis Resort and Casino. Richmond Fowler - the Lyford Cay Club, Wilfred Sands - Bartender, Lyford Cay Club, Devin Johnson - team manager, professional chef and lecturer, and executive chef Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort, Eldred Saunders - Pastry Chef, lecturer at the Culinary Arts Department of the College of the Bahamas. Emmanuel Gibson - executive sous chef 3 at the One and Only Ocean Club, Wendy Miller- Junior chef completing her final year as an apprentice chef with Kerzner Atlantis Resort and Casino. Gia Wilson - Junior Chef, Head Chef Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort.

By **ALESHA CADET**
Tribune Features Writer

THE Bahamas Culinary team walked away with a gold medal, being edged out in points by only Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, at the recent 3 day Taste of the Caribbean Culinary Classics at the Rio Mar Wyndham Grand Resort in Puerto Rico.

The event was hosted and judged by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association.

Proving that our chefs are the elite of the region's culinary teams, the Bahamas was recognised as one of the top finalists in the region.

"We are extremely proud of our

team, the way in which they competed, the high quality of their food and beverage, and how well they represented their country and their hotels" said Frank Comito, Executive Vice President of the Bahamas Hotel Association and DeAnne Gibson, Manager for Culinary Tourism for the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation. Both organisations sponsored the team in cooperation with the College of The Bahamas and the Bahamas Culinary Association.

Executive Sous Chef Emmanuelle Gibson from the One and Only Ocean Club captured an individual silver medal in the overall chef's competition, and finished third overall out of 33 chefs vying in that category. The other members from the team finishing in the top twelve and capturing bronze medals included: Richmond Fowler from the Lyford

Cay Club and Clement Williams from Kerzner International.

Eldred Saunders, Chef Instructor from the College of The Bahamas, received a bronze medal in the Pastry Chef category, coming fourth in the region. Wilfred Sands from the Lyford Cay Club received a bronze medal in the bartender category and Wendy Miller an apprentice chef with Kerzner International was awarded a bronze medal for her achievement.

This year's competition also included a category for Junior Chef.

Competing in international competition for the first time as an alternate and member of the team was Gia Wilson, from the Sheraton Cable Beach Resort, who played a pivotal role during team preparation throughout the event.

Team Manager Chef Devin John-

son from the Sheraton, who worked closely with the team over the past several months commented on the team's performance: "The judges were impressed with our teamwork, our sense of organisation, our professionalism, and the way in which we blended a variety of foods and spices to create dishes which were international but clearly identified with The Bahamas and the region".

Chef Devin Johnson told *Tribune Taste*: "I think the team learned from their mistakes, this is the first time the Bahamas came out on top gold. It was minor things in the individual competition which really cost our points to drop. And for a rookie team we did exceptionally well," he said.

Mr Johnson added that it was easy for the team to adapt when they got there because of the intense training

they did in the Bahamas. "The training process they did in the Bahamas helped them excel in the competition," he said.

He added: "Definitely next year in Miami, the Bahamas looks to take the whole show, which will be a first for the country."

The Taste of the Caribbean competition is sponsored by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association. The Bahamas team's participation was made possible thanks to the support of BHA, the Ministry of Tourism, the Bahamas Culinary Association and the College of The Bahamas and team member's hotels.

Their participation was also made possible thanks to the generous support of Bahamas Food Services and the tremendous support from the Lyford Cay Club which hosted a gala fundraising dinner.

Flash Back

Just a few images of what, we the Bahamas, looked like 40...50...60 years in the past.

Local Sporting Activities

BY ROLAND ROSE

David Albury
Airbourne on Lake Cunningham



Rugby Match at Malcolms Park



Go Kart Club racing around Ft Charlotte



Left to right; Simion Humes, Fred (Chicken) Taylor, Jason Maxey, Wenty Ford, Fred (Papa) Smith, Dick Lockhart, Eddy Ford, Rusevelt (Dog) Turner, Sidney (Spoon) Mckinney, Randy Rodgers. Some of the Bahamas Professional Baseball Players, Major and Minor Leagues in the USA.

ARTS



lyone ferguson



john beadie



arjuna watson



kishan murree

Love My Bahamas

FROM page 12

reception, an opening ceremony, and a tour of the art installations.

On hand at the event was Deputy Governor-General Fasil H. Watson, Minister of Culture Charles Maynard, international and local musicians from Love My Bahamas co-sponsor Coca-Cola, and other sponsors including the Ministry of Tourism, Downtown Nassau Partnership and the National Art Gallery of The Bahamas.

Walter Wells CEO of Caribbean Bottling Company said although the Downtown area has a long way to go, the Love My Bahamas Art experience is one step closer to the rejuvenation of Bay Street.

"I call Love My Bahamas a journey because that is how I see this, as one step on a long and eventually joyful journey that will transform downtown Nassau into a vibrant, exciting city where there is a strong mix of retail, dining, art, professional offices and financial institutions."

"I believe we can bring that bear back which is why we at Caribbean Bottling and Coca-Cola have joined forces with the Downtown Nassau Partnership, the Ministry of Tourism and the National Art Gallery to sponsor Love My Bahamas. We understand the urgency of the revitalization. That is also why we selected Love My Bahamas as worthy of the single largest sponsorship in the company's 70-plus year history," Mr. Watson said.

He hopes others can use this as inspiration to take part in the restoration and preservation of the area.

"We hope that our contribution inspires others to take the City of Nassau, our own historic treasure, and make it their own, to adopt a project or block, or a bit of landscaping or lighting to lend a hand and make an investment."

Fifteen artists, including two from Grand Bahamas and two from the United States, took to canvas creating murals that depict Bahamian themes and scenes. The artists included American Robert, John Beadie, Christal Bethel, Lillian Byles, John Cox, Claude De Don, Tyrone Ferguson, Maya Hayek, Iain McKinney, Toby Linn, Kishan Murree, Tolson Smith, Allan Walker, Arjuna Watson and Daniel White.

THE WEATHER REPORT



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

3-Day Forecast

| TODAY | TONIGHT | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Partly sunny with a chance of rain. High: 80° Low: 72° | Partly cloudy with a chance of rain. High: 78° Low: 70° | Partly sunny with a chance of rain. High: 80° Low: 72° | Partly sunny with a chance of rain. High: 80° Low: 72° | Partly sunny with a chance of rain. High: 80° Low: 72° | Partly sunny with a chance of rain. High: 80° Low: 72° |

UV Index Today

10-11

Tide for Nassau

| Time | High | Low |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Today | 1:00 a.m. | 1:00 a.m. |
| Friday | 1:00 a.m. | 1:00 a.m. |
| Saturday | 1:00 a.m. | 1:00 a.m. |
| Sunday | 1:00 a.m. | 1:00 a.m. |

Almanac

AccuWeather.com

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP

MAINE FORECAST

| Area | Forecast | High | Low |
|----------------|--------------|------|-----|
| ANDROS | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| BAHAMAS | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| BIGHT ISLAND | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| CAKESWELL | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| CRICKET ISLAND | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| GRAND BAHAMA | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| LONG ISLAND | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| NASSAU | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| SAN SALVADOR | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |
| WATKINS ISLAND | Partly sunny | 80 | 72 |

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS



**Bahamas
Culinary
Team excels
overseas**
See page nine

**Broadway Baby
concert features
Dalia Feldman
and Friends**
See page 10



The Arts

The Tribune SECTION B •

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

Illian Blacis



LOVE MY BAHAMAS ART EXPERIENCE

Local businesses and entities join forces to unveil the exhibit to the public

By JEFFARAH GIBSON
Tribune Features Writer

ACCORDING to historical accounts, downtown Nassau was the heart of the city. The streets were kept alive by the soothing timbre of jazz music, and the vibrancy of calypso and rako & scrape.

Downtown Nassau is once again being compared to London or New York City. It was the center for gathering and enjoying what is now and visitors to the island. More importantly downtown Nassau is and has always been an important Bahamian history and attraction for visitors all around the world.

The Caribbean Botting Company and Coast Coka have joined forces with the Downtown Nassau Partnership, the Ministry of Tourism and the Nassau Art Gallery to bring the well-loved and cherished look to the downtown area with the opening of the Love My Bahamas Art Experience. This is a great display of art, history and culture. The exhibition is a celebration of the island's rich history and culture.

Now, the exhibition of art faces the Love My Bahamas is officially open and a necessary hold on September 7 at the British Colonial Hotel.

The morning included a cocktail



John Cox



Toby Kinn

Orionus Roberts

SEE page 11

sports

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

PAGES 10 & 11 • International sports news



Heat moves might leave deep impact on fantasy game...
See page 10

SPORTS IN BRIEF

TRACK THOMAS SECOND

DONALD Thomas and Hiromi Takahari both cleared 2.24 metres in the men's high jump Sunday at the Super Track and Field Meet in Kawasaki, Japan. But the Japanese was declared the winner on fewer knockdowns.

Thomas, the only Bahamian to compete in the meet, had to settle for second as he prepares for the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, India, next month. Third place went to Victor Ninov of Bulgaria with a jump of 2.21m.

TENNIS ROLLE ELIMINATED

IN preparation for the Commonwealth Games next month in New Delhi, India, Marvin Rolle competed at the Costa Mesa in California where he lost in the second round of the qualifying tournament to American Connor Farren 3-6, 6-4, 6-0.

VOLLEYBALL GSSSA SCHEDULE

THE Government Secondary Schools Sports Association (GSSSA) is scheduled to kick off its 2010 calendar year with volleyball on Monday.

The GSSSA is expected to feature eight teams - Government High, C I Gibson, Doris Johnson, C S Sweeting, C R Walker, R M Bailey, C V Bethel and Anatol Rodgers - in the senior boys and senior girls divisions.

The junior boys and girls will also comprise of eight teams - CH Reeves, D W Davis, L W Young, A F Adderley, S C McPherson, H O Nash, Anatol Rodgers and T A Thompson.

When the season opens on Monday, the seniors are expected to play every day at the D W Davis and C I Gibson Gymnasiums, starting at 4pm. The juniors are also expected to begin on Monday and play everyday with games at the R M Bailey and Thelma Gibson Primary outdoor courts.

TRACK HEALTH WALK-A-THON

THE Four J's Enterprise is slated to hold the 'Imagine to Reality' Health Walk-A-Thon 6am Saturday, September 25, starting from Fort Charlotte.

The walk will take runners along West Bay Street to Goodman's Bay and east along Bay Street back to the finish line at Fort Charlotte. The public is invited. For more information, persons can call 394-8626.

Albert has 'good year' with Double-A call up

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

BASEBALL

He wasn't as fortunate to get the call to Triple-A, but Albert Cartwright advanced a step below in Double-A with the Houston Astros' affiliated Corpus Christi Hooks in the Texas League.

Back home for a week's break, Cartwright said he was happy with getting as far as he did this year.

"I had my ups and downs, but it was a good year," Cartwright said. "Fortunately, I clicked at the right time so I could get the call up to Double-A. So it was a good year for me."

Cartwright, who turns 23 on October 31, was drafted by the Astros in the 36th round of the 2007 Major League Draft. He started out with Greenville of the Appalachian League where he played through 2008.

Last year, he got called up to the

Lexington Legends. After playing the beginning of the season with the Lancaster Jethawks, he was then promoted to Double-A with the Hooks.

In his 35 games with CC, Cartwright averaged .229 as he went 32-for-140 with 15 runs scored. He also drove in seven runs, walked 11 times, struck out 39 times and stole seven bases.

The 5-foot-10, 180-pound second baseman said based on his performance this year, he has to focus a lot more on getting on base.

"Hopefully if I can do that, it will get me into the big league (Majors)," he projected. "But you also always



A CARTWRIGHT

need to work on your defense, if you want to get better.

"But as long as I can put the bunts down, get on base, I should be able to look forward to a good year."

With his season completed since September 6 after the Hooks failed to advance to the playoffs in the Texas South Division where they finished in last place at 27-43, Cartwright said he's looking forward to the off season.

"I'm just glad that I didn't have any injuries," he said. "Eventually when I get back to Florida, I will be working out in the gym and taking some ground balls so that I can be ready for spring training."

Spring training won't come until either March or April, but Cartwright said he doesn't intend to play Winter Baseball. However, if the opportunity presents itself, Cartwright said he will gladly play.

Cartwright, a product of Freedom Farm, who came out of Polk Community College when he got scouted,

is one of two Bahamians in the Major League pipeline.

He is joined by Antoan Richardson, an outfielder who was called up to play in the Atlanta Braves' Triple-A Gwinnett Braves team in the Southern League.

When asked how he felt about Richardson's achievement, Cartwright noted: "He did what he had to do to open up some eyes so he could climb up the ladder."

"But he's pretty much the same type of player as me. He pretty much has to bunt, get on base and do all that kind of good stuff so he could set the table for others."

Cartwright, however, said the inevitable is coming. Either Richardson or him or both of them will one day crack the Major League ranks.

"You pretty much just have to go out there and play baseball," Cartwright said. "Once you do that, you allow the team and the manage-

SEE page 12

Organisers get in gear for first Frank Hanna festival

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

SPORTING the new samples of the "Funky Franks" fashion line, members of the organising committee are gearing up for the first Frank Hanna October (Harvest) Festival.

The festival, scheduled for the weekend of October 28-31 in Morgan's Bluff, North Andros, is being named in honour of businessman Frank Hanna, the proclaimed "Major of North Andros."

Dwain Wallace, assistant general manager of sales and marketing at the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas, said they are delighted to be partnering with a number of local businesses to put on the event, which will include a number of activities:

- Good Morning Bahamas show and Immediate Response (Family Island Fridays)
- Gospel entertainment by Minister Dwight Armbrister and Ecclesia Gospel
- Cultural entertainment by Elon Moxey, Geno D, Therez



IN LIVING COLOUR: THE first Frank Hanna Festival was launched yesterday with colourful clothes worn by some members of the organising committee. Shown above is Mr Hanna (center) flanked by committee members and sponsors at Bahamas Ferries.

Photo by Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

- Hepburn and others
- Wild hog tying and hunting
- Sunfish sailing
- Three-on-three basketball tournament with the winner

- receiving a \$1,000 cash prize
- Round Robin Hood Beach Volleyball Tournament
- Sunday morning Breakfast Bowl where everybody is

- encouraged to bring their own bowl and eat all they can.
- The sponsors for the festival are Bahamas Ferries, Western Air, BAIC, Scotiabank Bahamas, Burns House,

Ministry of Tourism's North Andros Office, North Andros Local Government/Administration and Robin Hood.

SEE page 12

US ambassador, Special Olympics to mark Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day

US Ambassador to The Bahamas Nicole A Avant, in co-ordination with Special Olympics Bahamas, are all set to host a celebration in honour of Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day (ESK) in recognition of her commitment to improving the lives of millions of people with intellectual disabilities.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham is expected to issue an official proclamation marking September 25 as 2010 Eunice Kennedy Shriver (EKS) Day across the nation.

In addition, Eunice Shriver's granddaughters Eunice and Francesca will represent the Kennedy-Shriver family at the event.

The goals of Avant's event are to raise awareness about Special Olympics Bahamas work and encourage all those who call the beautiful Bahamas their home to commit Eunice Kennedy Shriver in her honour.

Representatives from Best Buddies International - a global volunteer

organisation that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities - are also expected to attend the event.

The Bahamas EKS Day event is slated to be held at Ambassador Avant's Liberty Overlook residence 10am to 1pm September 25.

Guests will include more than 150 Special Olympic athletes, coaches,

Special Olympic Bahamas volunteers and supporters, Special Olympics family members, US Embassy volunteers and representatives from a number of ministries, including Education, Health and Youth, Sports & Culture.

The three-hour event is set to begin with a formal opening to include remarks by Avant, Minister of Youth, Sports & Culture Charles Maynard and Basil Christie, national chairman of Special Olympics.

Bahama Subs & Salads

Join us as we celebrate the launch and newly renovated Bahama Subs & Salads.

Thursday, September 23rd, 5pm - 7pm
at our seven locations:

Charlotte Street / George Street
Blue Hill Road / JFK Drive /
Harbour Bay Shopping Centre
Madeira Street / Town Centre Mall

LOCAL SPORTS

GBPA donates cheque to Munroe Tennis Academy

Tom 'The Bird' Grant volleyball tournament starts today

CHILDREN from the city of Freeport have been introduced to the sport of tennis via summer tennis camps, lessons and clinics courtesy of the Munroe Tennis Academy for the past three years.

Now, 15 students from the Academy are all set to travel to West Palm Beach, Florida, to participate in the 2nd Annual 'LaVaughn Munroe Tennis Tournament' during the weekend of October 8-12.

In recognition of the Academy's contributions, the Grand Bahama Port Authority made a recent cheque donation to assist with the group's travelling expenses.

"GBPA is pleased by our efforts as you use tennis as a primary motivator to create programmes which teach positive, rewarding lessons, build confidence and provide a framework of personal discipline for the children of the Grand Bahama community," said vice-president of GBPA Ginger Moxey, as she commended the Academy's representatives.

Extending well-wishes to the Munroe Tennis Academy and its players as they prepare for international competition, she further reflected on the similar goals of both their organisations.

"Your programme seeks to provide our children with greater exposure to new skills and experiences. This likewise underscores our mission, 'to better the lives' of residents of the Grand Bahama community," Ms Moxey added.

Accepting on behalf of the Academy was coach BJ Munroe.



CHEQUE PRESENTATION: GBPA vice-president Ginger Moxey (centre, left) presents a cheque on behalf of Grand Bahama Port Authority to BJ Munroe, Munroe Tennis Academy coach (centre, right). The donation is in support of travel expenses associated with 15 Grand Bahamian athletes scheduled to compete in the 2nd Annual 'LaVaughn Munroe Tennis Tournament' in West Palm Beach, Florida.

"We can't say thank you enough for the contribution the Port is making towards our programme. This donation will assist with the funding of transportation costs associated with the athletes. Munroe Tennis Academy offers more than just tennis – it teaches life skills, leadership development and serves

as a mentorship programme for our youth on Grand Bahama Island," Mr Munroe said.

Member

LaVaughn Munroe, a former Bahamas' Davis Cup team member, made it his personal duty to create oppor-

tunities to expose the children of Grand Bahama to the game of tennis.

LaVaughn Munroe died last year and since that time his family has been working together to fulfill his dream of exposing tennis to as many young Grand Bahamians as possible. In the Academy, children are grouped accord-

ing to their ability within their age group and many kids are honing their skills and love for the game each time they hit the court.

GBPA said it would like to encourage the citizens of Grand Bahama to do their part to keep much needed programmes like the Munroe Tennis Academy going.



PLANS were announced yesterday for the first Frank Hanna Festival in North Andros next month. Sponsors and committee members are shown above.

Photo by **Tim Clarke/Tribune staff**

Organisers get in gear for first Frank Hanna festival

FROM page 13

During a press conference yesterday at Bahamas Ferries, representatives from the various sponsors were on hand to endorse the festival.

Bahamas Ferries

Darnell Fraser, sales and marketing manager, said they are pleased to be a part of the sponsorship team.

"Bahamas Ferries will offer some very favourable packages that would include hotel and tour packages that would appeal to a wide cross-section of persons, so we are encouraging families to turn out in large numbers," Fraser said.

On the Saturday of the festival weekend, Fraser said Bahamas Ferries will be offering a One-Day Sail Away for those persons who just want to stop over and come right back home.

Western Air

Ricardo Wilson, customer service manager at Western Air, said they are pleased to be the official airline for the

festival. "As a good corporate citizen, we are pleased to support this event, which is designed to uplift the economy of the island," Wilson stressed. "We also want to show our support to Frank Hanna for all that he has done for North Andros."

All Androsians and Bahamians at large are invited to attend the event.

Scotiabank

Leah Davis, senior manager of products, marketing and public relations, said as the first commercial bank to be located in the North Andros Community more than 10 years ago, they are excited to continue to work hand-in-hand with the people on the island.

"This is a very exciting time for the community and we will be celebrating with the Androsians during these tough economic times," Davis stated.

Davis said while she has never visited Andros, she is

hoping to take advantage of the opportunity to finally get to the island known as "The Big Yard."

Robin Hood

Sandy Schaefer, president of Robin Hood, said while they will be sponsoring the festival, they will be offering a number of other specials for North Andros.

"We will be bringing with us 100 care packages of food, which will consist of meat, poultry, products, grocery for 100 needy families that maybe suffering during these difficult economic times," he said.

Persons in North Andros will also be invited to purchase some of the specials that Robin Hood will be putting on at that time and for the free shipping on the Bahamas Fast Ferries.

Interested persons are invited to call 676-800 for more details.

Additionally, Schaefer said they intend to provide some cash incentives for the Round

Robin Hood Beach Volleyball Tournament.

BAIC

Alphonso Smith, representing BAIC, said they are more than pleased to be a part of the festival that could not have come at a better time than at Harvest Time.

"Instead of importing fruits and vegetables to the Bahamas, they can buy just about anything at the Frank Hanna Festival," Smith said.

"People in Andros are very excited because Frank Hanna is a great Androsian. He is All-Bahamian and he has taken over my name as the Major of North Andros. He deserves it."

North Andros District

Brian Cleare, chief counselor for the North Andros district, said the Local Government had a town meeting and they are also looking at the possibility of naming one of their main streets after Hanna during the festival.

Cleare said they have been

working feverishly to get the sporting facilities, including the basketball court and the regatta site, in tip-top shape.

"I don't know if it's because we are naming this event after Frank Hanna, or they are excited because of the financial spin-off that they are expecting from this," he said. "Whatever the reason, North Andros is very ready and excited about this festival."

Ministry of Tourism

Benjamin Pratt, senior manager for the Andros Tourism Office, said the Ministry of Tourism views it as a promotion for the domestic venue in the Bahamas because of its close proximity to New Providence with more flights, less expensive and the nation's most natural resources and the hospitality of the people.

"We look forward to welcoming all of the people in New Providence and the other parts of the Bahamas," he said.

THE third annual Tom 'The Bird' Grant Pre-Invitational High School Volleyball Tournament is expected to get underway today at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium.

The tournament has nine boys' and eight girls' teams entered. They will play out of two pools each with the top performers in the recent tournaments taking the top seeded positions.

In the boys' division, the C C Sweeting Cobras, the winners of the Government Secondary Schools Sports Association, will be the top seed in pool one.

Pool two will have Mt Carmel, the champions of the Small Schools Sports Association, as the top seed. The defending boys' champions is Teleos Christian School.

C C Sweeting, Mt Carmel and Teleos will make up this year's boys field along with the C V Bethel Stingrays, St John's Giants, Kingsway Academy Saints, C I Gibson Rattlers, Doris Johnson Mystic Marlines and Jordan Prince Williams Falcons.

On the girls' side, C C Sweeting, who won the GSSSA title last year, will be the top seed in one pool. The top seed in the other pool is Teleos, champions of the Small Schools Association.

C C Sweeting is also the defending champions of the tournament. C C Sweeting and Teleos will play in the girls' segment of the tournament along with C V Bethel, C C Sweeting, St John's, Teleos, Kingsway Academy, Mt Carmel, C I Gibson and Doris Johnson.

Legendary Tom 'The Bird' Grant, a sporting icon particularly in volleyball and track and field, said they are very excited about the teams that have entered to participate this year.

"I'm exciting that the competition will be of a very high level," Grant pointed out. "All of the teams have indicated that they are excited about the tournament and they are eager to start playing."

In addition to presenting awards to the winning teams, Grant said they have added an incentive that they hope will encourage the players to take their game to a higher level.

"We want to give our awards to the setters," Grant said. "We want to encourage the players to learn to set the ball a little more. So we will be looking for the best setters in the tournament."

All games during the tournament will be played over two sets. The games will be decided at point 19. But if there is a tie, they will cap off at 21.

The teams with the best win-loss records as the tournament is contested each day will advance to the championship that is slated to be played on Saturday.

Albert has a 'good year' with Double-A call up

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ment to do the rest. We both know that all we have to do is play up to our full potential and once we do that, the success to the next level will eventually come."

If they do, they will join five other Bahamians who have already played in the Majors. They were Ed Armbrister and the late Wilfred Culmer, Tony Curry, Wenty Ford and Andre Rodgers.

INSIGHT

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