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**THE PEOPLE'S PAPER
BIGGEST AND BEST**

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PET OF THE WEEK

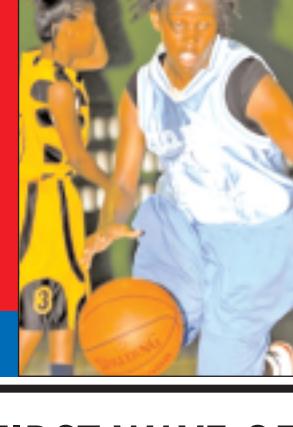
MEET BUSTER, THE GENTLE GIANT

SEE PAGE TWO

FIBA AMERICAS CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAM BAHAMAS STILL WINLESS

SEE SPORTS SECTION



Immigration turmoil following Haiti quake

FIRST WAVE OF VOLUNTARY SEPARATION BTC STAFF SET TO LEAVE

MORE than 160 employees at BTC who applied for voluntary separation packages will be let go at the end of this month, The Tribune was told.

They will make up the first wave of BTC employees to leave through the voluntary severance offers since the company was bought by Cable & Wireless Communications.

A well-placed source inside the Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union, which represents line staff at BTC, said the group learned this week by letter that their applications for the severance offers had been accepted.

"Persons have been receiving letters over the last week or so and by the end of this month those persons will disengage themselves from BTC," said the source, who did not want to be named.

The group is made up of a cross-section of BTC employees, including those

SEE page six**MAN ARRAIGNED ON MURDER CHARGE** TIM CLARKE/TRIBUNE STAFF

CHARGED: Twenty-five-year-old murder accused Prince Kenneth Fernander leaving court yesterday.

By LAMECH JOHNSON

A 25-YEAR-OLD man was arraigned in Magistrate's Court yesterday on a murder charge.

Prince Kenneth Fernander, of Gambier Village, appeared before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez in Court 1, Bank Lane. He has been charged with stabbing Oswald Hall to death on Tuesday, July 12.

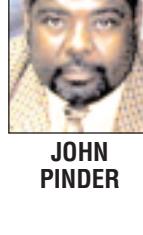
Police reports indicated that Mr Hall was stabbed around 10.30pm at Fifth Street and Poinciana Avenue, The Grove. Fernander, whose

attorney was not present during the arraignment, was not required to enter a plea to the charge. Bail was also denied.

Prosecutors expected to proceed with a voluntary bill of indictment, which will be presented on December 20 by the Attorney General's office.

The case will then be fast-tracked to the Supreme Court.

Fernander was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison, Fox Hill, until September 20 for a bail hearing.



JOHN PINDER

He chalked the loss up to promotion freezes within the public service – which were just lifted by Government during the debate on the 2011/2012 budget – and promises by the new union to address the vexing shift system under their watch.

Some 1,000 Customs and Immigration officers voted yesterday.

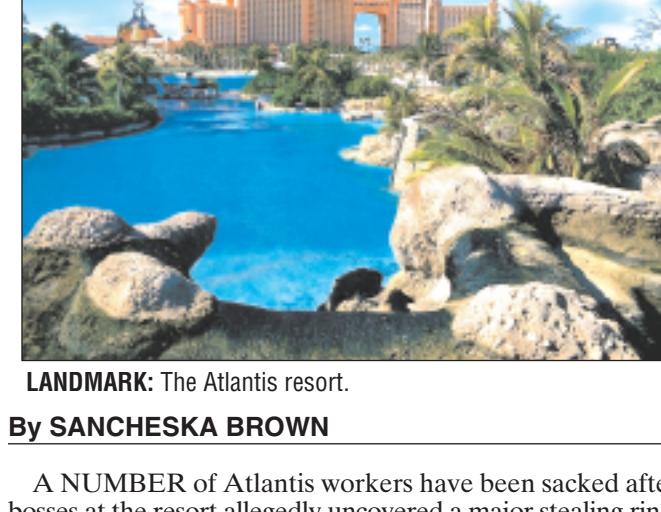
The new union secured more than 700 votes according to an unofficial count, said Mr Pinder.

"They win that hands down with well over 51 per cent of the vote," said Mr Pinder, who added that he was not upset at the loss.

Although he expressed confidence in a win earlier

SEE page six

WORKERS SACKED IN ATLANTIS ROOM SCAM



LANDMARK: The Atlantis resort.

By SANCHESKA BROWN

A NUMBER of Atlantis workers have been sacked after bosses at the resort allegedly uncovered a major stealing ring.

It is believed 16 members of staff were fired after being accused by hotel chiefs of stealing by reason of employment.

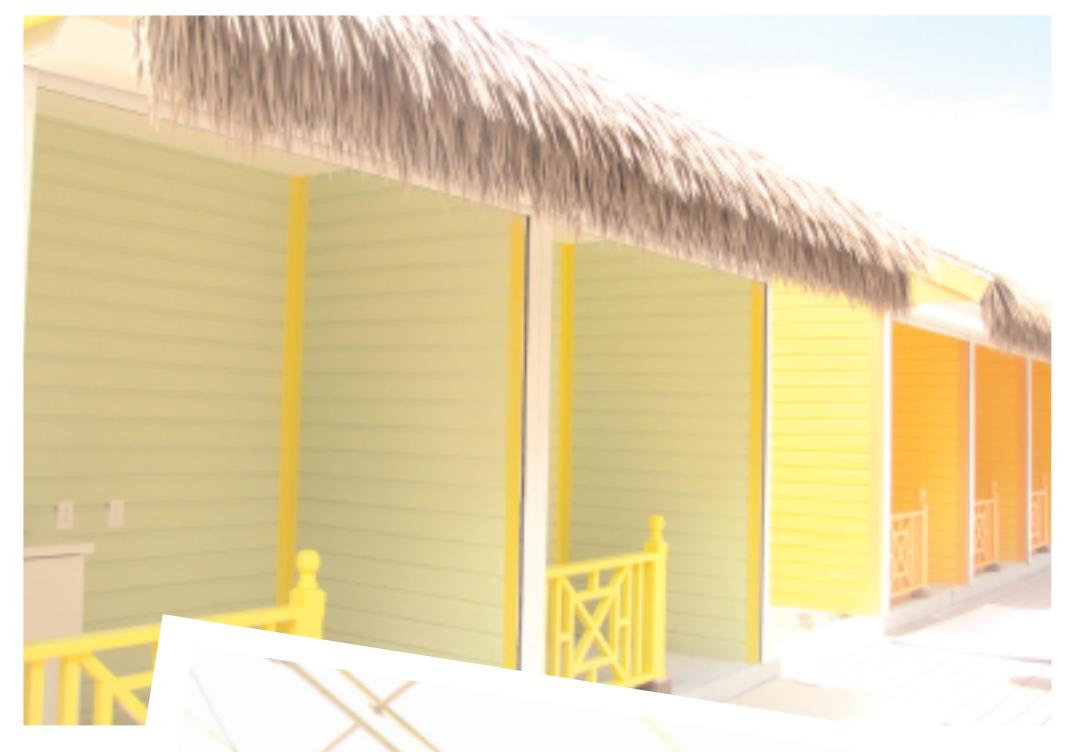
It is claimed that hotel guests would be offered a room upgrade but instead of charging the difference on a credit card, those running the scam would take cash and pocket it instead of turning it over to the hotel.

A source said: "What they did was go to a guest and ask them if they wanted a better room. If the guest did, they would charge them a fraction of what an upgrade would normally cost, but tell them they would have to pay cash."

SEE page six**NASSAU AND BAHAMA ISLANDS' LEADING NEWSPAPER**

LOCAL NEWS

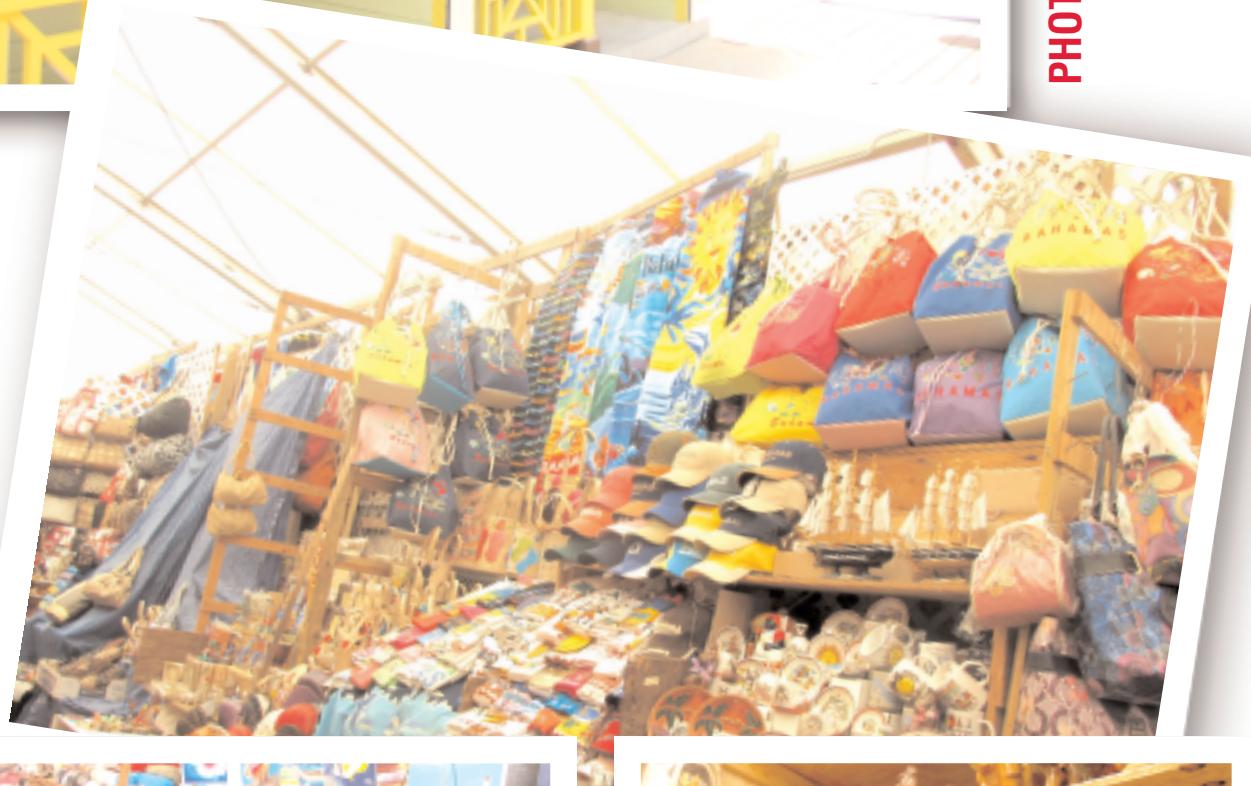
NEW STRAW MARKET TAKING SHAPE



PHOTOS: Shawn Hanna



NEARING COMPLETION:
These photos show the straw market off Bay Street becoming a reality. The photos right and below show some of the merchandise on display at the old straw market.



PET OF THE WEEK



GENTLE: Buster

BUSTER, THE GENTLE GIANT

By LAMECH JOHNSON

ARE YOU looking for a dog that won't bark at any and everything he sees – humans and fellow canines included? Do you want a pet that will listen to your commands the moment you give them and still love you afterwards?

Is so Buster, *The Tribune's* Pet of the Week, is just the dog you're looking for.

Unfortunately, he is already taken and there is no doubt why.

Don't be fooled by his intimidating size – this fury tan and white mixed dog (half potcake, half Great Pyrenean) is a gentle giant.

"He's usually very calm and laid back and he's very gentle," said owner Estelle Levile. "Buster always enjoys affection from others and he doesn't bark or bite anyone he comes in contact with."

Buster visited the Bahamas Humane Society for a check-up yesterday morning and immediately made contact with another dog less than a third his size.

"That's just his personality. I've had him since he was a puppy for three years and he's always been like that. He's a lover and not a fighter," she said.

Buster may be taken, but Humane Society staff have many other lovable dogs and cats sorely in need of a new home.

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LOCAL NEWS

Local pastor lashes out at Bahamas' support for UN gay rights resolution



DR. MUNROE

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
cixon@tribunemedia.net

A LOCAL pastor has declared the Bahamas' support for a United Nations gay rights resolution inconsistent with the country's constitution.

During his independence sermon, senior pastor of Bahamas Faith Ministries International (BFMI) Dr Myles Munroe spoke out about the government's decision to support a UN Human Rights Council resolution, which passed in June, affirming equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) persons.

Pastor Munroe said the resolution is at odds with the Bahamas' constitution, which holds that the country's foundation be built on Christian

morals. "Our constitution clearly states that the Bahamas is founded on Christian values and beliefs and this (resolution) is not a decision the government of the Bahamas should support," said Pastor Munroe.

He further stated that this UN resolution must be deemed "inconsistent with our constitutional national commitment to an abiding respect for Christian values, the rule of law, the supremacy of God and a nation founded on spiritual values."

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

Twenty-three countries on

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

As an observer on the council the Bahamas was not eligible to vote, but Minister of Foreign Affairs Brent Symonette said the country supports the principle behind the resolution.

Careful

Pastor Munroe said while he does not believe any human should be subjected to violence based on their beliefs or sexual orientation, he does think the United Nations should be careful when it comes to the domestic affairs of a nation.

Quoting directly from the constitution – which states that the people of the Bahamas

recognise "that the preservation of their freedom will be guaranteed by a national commitment to self-discipline, industry, loyalty, unity and an abiding respect for Christian values and the rule of law" – Pastor Munroe said any law, international or otherwise, which is inconsistent with this should not be considered valid.

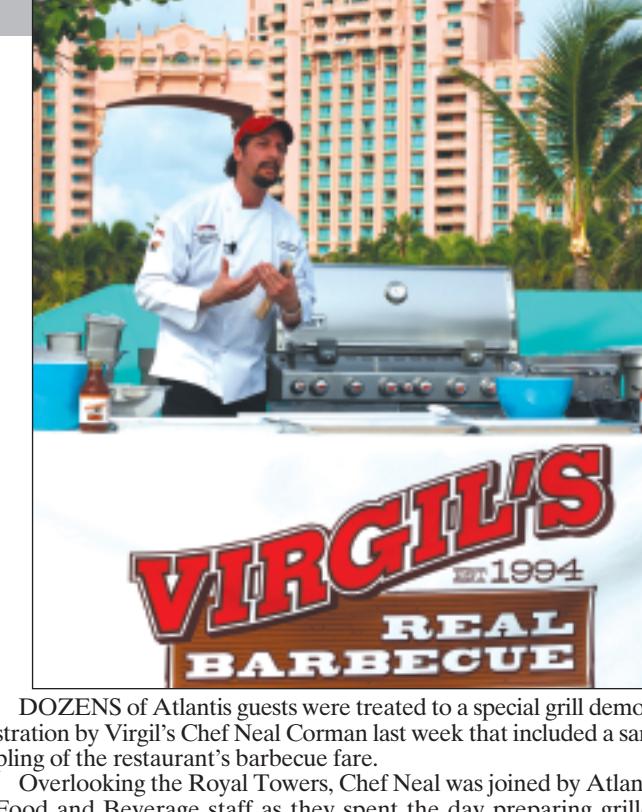
He said that the government is obligated to obey and follow the constitutional law and when it is violated, it is a "step in the

direction of committing national treason." The UN resolution did not change the law of the Bahamas or any other country in any way.

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TIMES SQUARE BBQ RESTAURANT TO OPEN AT ATLANTIS



DOZENS of Atlantis guests were treated to a special grill demonstration by Virgil's Chef Neal Corman last week that included a sampling of the restaurant's barbecue fare.

Overlooking the Royal Towers, Chef Neal was joined by Atlantis Food and Beverage staff as they spent the day preparing grilled shrimp skewers and pulled chicken sandwiches for hungry onlookers. The event served as teaser to the November opening of the Times Square favourite soon to move into the former Water's Edge location.

Virgil's Real BBQ is a part of the Alicart Restaurant Group that opened Carmine's Family Style Italian restaurant in Marina Village in 2005. Virgil's, the original New York City barbecue restaurant, has evolved over the years and has become known for much more than just barbecued ribs, chicken, brisket, lamb, and pork. Its menu now features a wide array of culinary styles, from Mexican, Creole and Cajun cuisine, to "soul and comfort" food.

"Last weekend's grilling demonstration was a great success. It really gave our guests a taste of what can be expected later this year when we open Virgil's Real BBQ. Our team has a lot of experience working with the Alicart group out of New York City, who brought the successful Carmine's brand to Marina Village, so this is a logical continuation of a very successful partnership," said Ian Reid, senior vice-president of Food and Beverage at Atlantis.

"Our staff and guests alike were thrilled to be able to sample a variety of barbecue items as we prepare for this new concept to take the place of a long-standing favourite, Water's Edge. We look forward to opening a completely rebuilt, exciting and vibrant restaurant in November; one that is going to prove to be appealing, not only to Atlantis guests, but to the local community as well."

"The Virgil's crew has been elated from the start to come to Atlantis, Paradise Island. From the demonstration to the fun we had at Kid's Kitchen at Atlantis Kids Adventure, the team at the resort have been helpful and a pleasure to work with. All events that Virgil's was a part of went well and hopefully excited guests for the coming of Virgil's Real BBQ in November," said Chef Corman.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION LIKELY TO MEET BEFORE PARLIAMENT BACK

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
cixon@tribunemedia.net

THE Boundary Commission is likely to meet before Parliament is back in session, a Cabinet Minister told The Tribune.

Minister of Youth Sports and Culture Charles Maynard said while the Boundary Commission has yet to be appointed, he expects that it will happen soon and that the commission is likely to meet during parliament's summer break.

Mr Maynard said that just prior to the close of the last session of the House of Assembly, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham indicated that the Boundary Commission would be selected shortly and that he would like them to start the process of setting the boundary lines.

The Boundary Commission will be mandated to evaluate constituency boundaries and determine if any borders need to be changed based on the number of voters in each area.

It will also consider whether the creation of any new constituencies has become necessary as a result of population movement since the last election. According to the Bahamas government website, the Commission meets every five years and makes recommendations to the Governor General as to how many seats should be in the House of Assembly.

In heavily populated areas, commission members consider the number of persons in each constituency and try to create a population balance.

In sparsely populated areas, the geographical make-up and expanse of the area is also taken into consideration. The boundary commission will consist of a Justice of the Supreme Court recommended by the chief justice, two members of parliament recommended by the prime minister and one MP recommended by the leader of the opposition.

The commission will be chaired by House Speaker Alvin Smith.

"The Virgil's crew has been elated from the start to come to Atlantis, Paradise Island."

Chef Neal Corman

Galleria Cinemas

The Mall-at-Marathon BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 10:00 AM DAILY								
EFFECTIVE JULY 15TH, 2011								
HARRY POTTER 2D	NEW	1:05	4:05	N/A	7:05	N/A	10:05	
HARRY POTTER 3D	NEW	2:00	N/A	5:00	N/A	8:45	N/A	
ZOOKEEPER	B	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:40	
HORRIBLE BOSSSES	C	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50	
TRANSFORMERS 2D	B	1:00	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	9:00	
TRANSFORMERS 3D	B	N/A	3:40	N/A	8:40			
MONTE CARLO	T	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:20	10:35	
CARIB 2	A	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:30	
BAD TEACHER	C	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:50	
GREEN LANTERN 2D	B	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:50	
MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS	A	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40	

GALLERIA 6 - JFK DRIVE								
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WINNIE THE POOH	NEW	1:15	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:40	
ZOOKEEPER	B	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:35	
TRANSFORMERS 3D	B	1:10	4:10	N/A	7:10	N/A	10:10	
MONTE CARLO	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:40	
BAD TEACHER	C	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:55	
CARIB 2	A	1:15	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:30	

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- He/she must have strong managerial, analytical and interpersonal skills.
- A least five years experience in restaurant management preferably in a fast food service environment.
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- Knowledge of computers and windows software, particularly Word and Excel.
- The ability to work with minimal supervision and direction.
- Profoundly detail oriented and a strong value system emphasizing quality food control, service and cleanliness.
- The ability to direct and motivate junior staff with an understanding of their sensibilities and differences.
- Possess culinary skills or the ability to learn.
- Applicant must be able and willing to work a minimum fifty hour weeks, weekends and holidays included in work week.
- Possess reliable transportation.

Salary is competitive with similar food establishments, and the possibility of 50% major medical group insurance included.

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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tribune Limited*NULLIUS ADDICTUS JURARE IN VERBA MAGISTRI
Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master*

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Contributing Editor 1972-1991EILEEN DUPUCH CARRON, C.M.G., M.S., B.A., LL.B.
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UN shipping agency's new rules on emissions

LONDON — The U.N. agency regulating international shipping decided Friday that the global merchant marine, which ferries most of the world's trade, must meet energy efficiency standards and cut carbon pollution.

The decision by a powerful committee of the International Maritime Organization attacks a growing source of greenhouse gases and is the first measure on climate change to apply equally to countries regardless of whether they are from the industrial or developing world.

About 50,000 cargo ships carry 90 per cent of world trade, and most ships are powered by heavily polluting oil known as bunker fuels. The IMO says shipping was responsible for 2.7 per cent of global carbon emissions in 2007, but that would double or even triple by mid-century if no action is taken.

Concluding a weeklong meeting, the IMO's Environment Protection Committee resolved that all ships built in the future must reduce pollution from today's average, according to an efficiency index for ships of varying sizes and types.

The new regulations say it will be up to the ship builders to decide how they would meet the new standards.

"As long as the required energy-efficiency level is attained, ship designers and builders would be free to use the most cost-efficient solutions for the ship to comply with the regulations," the resolution said.

But in a concession to developing countries, it deferred the measure for at least four years after it takes effect, probably next year or 2013.

In a further step to win support, it included a provision to promote the transfer of clean ship building technology to developing countries.

The committee also approved a new mechanism to monitor fleet performance to ensure compliance.

The IMO has 169 members, but fewer than half were eligible to vote on the pollution measures, which were adopted by 48-5 with several abstentions.

"This is a very positive and important first step for a truly global, binding measure to reduce CO2 emissions," Connie Hedegaard, the European commissioner on climate action, said from Brussels.

The European Commission said the new standards would apply to about 70 per cent of all emissions from new ships.

Some environmentalists were lukewarm about the accord. The vote was "bittersweet," said Jacqueline Savitz, of the nonprofit Oceana. "There will be no change to existing ships, which are currently pumping a billion tonnes of CO2 each year," she said, and it will take another dozen years before the agreement delivers benefits with new ships.

Mark Lutes, who observed the proceedings for the Worldwide Fund for Nature, or WWF, said industrial countries and most developing countries favoured the measures, but a hoped-for consensus proved elusive with objections from major countries like Brazil, China and India.

Small island states that lend their flags to merchant ships also were reluctant, since one way toward greater efficiency is to build larger ships that could prove too big for their port facilities.

"This is the first globally applied rule that the international community has come up with that regulates greenhouse gas emissions," said Lutes. But some countries were concerned that the universal application of the shipping rules undermined a cardinal principle of climate change negotiations that assigns greater responsibility to the wealthy countries whose industries created the global warming problem in the first place.

Under the new rules, ships contracted in the first five years after 2015 would have to improve fuel efficiency by 10 per cent, and the standard would be tightened every subsequent five years. By 2030, a 30 per cent reduction rate would be set for most types of ships, based on the average of those built between 1999 to 2009.

The committee also debated measures to charge ships for carbon emissions for shipping, but delegations differed on how the tax would be used and whether it would apply to all countries. The problem is compounded by the fact that many ships fly flags of convenience and true ownership often is difficult to trace.

Jo Espinoza-Ferry, the IMO's policy planning chief, says any financial measure would probably add less than 1 per cent to transportation costs. He said on the sidelines of a climate conference in Germany in April that several market-based options were being considered, including a direct tax, an emissions trading scheme or a combination of incentives.

(By Arthur Max and Thomas Wagner of the Associated Press).

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that ISLAND DELVA, of GODET AVE. off, CARMICHAEL Rd., NASSAU, BAHAMAS, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 9th day of July, 2011 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

INSIGHT

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

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Déjà vu; it's election time

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Déjà vu is the experience of feeling sure that one has already witnessed or experienced a current situation, even though the exact circumstances of the previous encounter are uncertain and were perhaps imagined.

My fellow Bahamians, whether you are PLP, FNM, DNA, PDP, NDP, whatever, you are a voter in this, the greatest little country on the earth.

This letter may serve as a source of information to many, seeing that many of us are "toilet voters."

A toilet voter is a unique individual that surfaces every five years. Let us explain as children many of us were not blessed with modern indoor facilities; we used what we knew as outhouses. Even though we frown at the thought of using outhouses, we were a proud people and kept these facilities as you would your indoor units. But, unfortunately, there were those who were downright nasty, they would dispose of their waste without consideration to others.

My fellow Bahamians, a toilet voter is one who is kept away from the "in crowd", for a great deal of the time. But now, he is the best thing since sliced bread.

He is permitted just crumbs that fall from the rich man's table, until the "Crazy Season" comes to fruition. Then, he is invited to sit at that very same table. All along, he is Mr Insignificant, now he has a name and needs that everyone miraculously remembers. Unfortunately, he is so mesmerized with this new found, but temporary popularity, he lives in the midst of a well thought out illusion; hence déjà vu.

My fellow Bahamians, the truth hurts, but it is the truth nonetheless. As of today, your vote counts.....really. But you must ensure that you are not compromised in the process.

Remember, there are those who are genuinely honourable in their words and actions, these are the ones who are likened to those that have kept their outhouses well, despite the fact that they are outside. But then there are those who intentionally miss the outhouses and carelessly and callously subject all of us to their nastiness. Listen, we are a proud people; we still regard matters of decency and order.

Please, do not let the few dictate to you and give the wrong impression as to our true worth.

Register now. See this as an awesome enablement that is bestowed to you. Therefore, think carefully and prayerfully before you exercise that precious right.

Déjà vu in Fox Hill: A few years ago, Mrs J Dorsette was unsuccessful in her bid to be elected. The next time, she won and retired after her term. It is so sad that she appeared to be abandoned by her party and was seemingly incapable of doing anything of significance for her people and conceded the victory to Mr Mitchell. Mr Mitchell was successful against Dr Higgs the last election and so, the saga continues; Dr Higgs, a formidable candidate, suffered because she seemed to be abandoned by her party. Is it the plans of the powers that be, to tell us that another one of our own is incapable? We most certainly hope not because Bamm we would be forced to take a DNA and like Maury find out who is our real papa.

It's time to get it right, Fox Hillians have intelligent life amongst them, don't be fooled.

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

Many explanations were offered and we are preparing to embark upon an election season that appears to be primed as exciting and interesting. Will this be another déjà vu experience? Many promises will be made and many toilet voters will be approached, with the hope that they forget the past, for just a moment and pay attention to this new found popularity; hence déjà vu.

It is high time that we are not taken for granted. Listen, please, paving roads and maintaining infrastructure is no reason to attempt to persuade us that you are supernatural. Fox Hillians appreciate these things, but we elected you to do this for us. You know what? We have talked about a proper sporting complex, other than the traditional Freedom Park venue.

Unfortunately, Freedom Park is synonymous with so much that is negative and is believed to be a breeding ground for crime and other negative activities, we need a wholesome, positive and community owned and operated venue that can contribute to the positive mentoring programmes in Fox Hill. Heaven knows, we do not need another housing project without any attached recreational facility. This time, we need a Government that truly cares in action more so than in words. So this time, please do not let déjà vu prevail.

Déjà vu in Haitianville, Loftus Roker, Shane Gibson, Branville McCartney, what do they have in common? They had the support of Bahamians and the fear of foreigners, yet they were all removed and replaced by personalities who

did not manifest the gumption to be effective in what this country truly needed. Ironically, Mr McCartney is about to vie for the top post in this country. Sir, all the best to you as you represent definite and positive change. Please stay focused as third parties seem to belly up to those political giants and fall short on delivering what we need to see; politicians who have the testicular matter to do what needs to be done. Isn't it just amazing that our neighbours to the south command such attention at this time? We have had some notables who have served as Immigration Ministers. Is it not just amazing that we are viewed as toilet voters when we are expected to believe that the mention of their names appears to swing the outcome of the elections in their party's favour? No, my fellow Bahamians, we must arise and show that we can think; we are more than puppets that are waiting to be directed and placed as spectacles before the world.

In closing we send a shout out to all political and social leaders if the Bahamas is to be counted along with the first class nations, we can no longer treat our people as second class citizens; even if some of our spiritual leaders appear to take sides.

Please take the words to our national anthem seriously. It is five years since our last opportunity to express our constitutional privilege; we need to make this time count.

Thank you once again for allowing us space in your most valuable column to voice what is not only a provocative topic in Fox Hill but in the entire Bahamas.

Happy Independence Bahamas!

KHARLOS ROMERO
Nassau,
July 2011.

REV TV IS A BIG EMBARRASSMENT

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Cable Bahamas' Rev TV in my opinion is a big embarrassment, especially to families with small kids and teens living at home.

Prior to Rev TV I just had basic cable, no set top box and no subscription to movie channels. My home went digital this week and consequently opened up a whole can of worms with having the capability to preview rated-X channels. Perhaps this is an advertisement tactic to entice adults to purchase. I felt powerless to guard my kids from this kind of sexual content on June 14th about 6:30 pm as my kids played carelessly in the living room while I innocently flipped through the 800 channels.

While I can now appreciate the need to use the parental control feature on televisions in the home where kids reside; with the old service basic cable meant no access to any adult content whether preview or paper view ultimately there was no real risk. Cable Bahamas has definitely failed to adequately educate the public on the safety issues the "cons".

This is a big deal to many mothers and fathers who are careful to protect their kids from this kind of exposure. There are so many means by which this information could be disseminated, through frequent television media as they currently do to promote their new product and new look, by direct mail or a flyer could be included with the new boxes being distributed to advise and direct consumers on how they can censor these channels. They needed to raise the awareness in a big way to ensure that these kinds of programmes remain off limits to kids and teens alike. No one should suffer like me and accidentally stumble over these kinds of channels where the names of these movies being listed in the guide are as graphic as the movie itself and to some folks may be described as dirty, trashy programmes.

It was definitely a jaw dropping moment for me and has made me reluctant to watch TV in the presence of my kids. Had I been made aware this would not have happened.

CONCERNED PARENT
Nassau,
July 14, 2011.

Wendy's Is Seeking To Hire**A Handyman**

Qualified applicants must:

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- Be able to assist with the upkeep of all outlets
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Re: Handyman Position
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Nassau, Bahamas

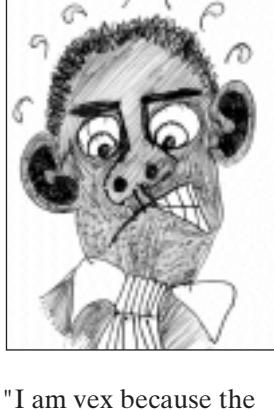
Absolutely no phone calls please.



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LOCAL NEWS

BAHAMAS HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (BHRDA)

WHY YOU VEX?

"I am vex because the human trafficker who caused one of his passengers to be drowned is looking at the death penalty by our Florida neighbour some 60 miles from our coast while it appears our system cannot decide on many murders and we have to refer the decision making to some more learned persons some 4,000 miles away."

— Independent

"I vex 'cause one politician is claiming to be guided by God, whichin noth'ing wrong 'bout that, but the problem arises in not mentioning who is guiding the others."

— Christian Native

"I somewhere between vex and mad when I hears that the illegal squatters whose illegal shanty town burnt down will now be rewarded with land and homes. Really, they should be in jail for polluting the land, illegal squatting, aiding and abetting other illegals, repay the Treasury for the cost of clean up, and services provided. After that then, they should join the long line of Bahamians who have been waiting for cheap land and government house. Or, preferably they can pay rent to live in government provided high rise housing apartments to be built to save land space."

— No Line Jumping!

"I vex that people wanting to change their names can place notices without a photo ID in the papers, asking for the public who may have issues to report to the Passport Office.

Dat's so comical now, as if half of us Bahamians know people by their full proper names, cause we is say 'Who you is?' half the time.

"What next, yinna might gone give passports without pictures hey?"

— Slam Bam

"Everything cool, I just vex a little when I hears them people now talking out about crime because they is getting robbed.

Reminds me of a famous saying which goes something like this, 'When they came for some others, I did nothing because I was not affected; when all others were affected I did nothing and now I affected there is no one left to do anything for me.'

— Join the Crowd

"I am happy that a new Immigration official, Jack Thompson, has realised that the illegal economic migrants intentionally have as many children as possible so as to get to stay and make it difficult to be uprooted. If parents are repatriated, the children are always left behind. I applaud his efforts to deport the entire family to keep them together, as do the first world nations."

"Children belong to parents albeit illegal. Wrong doing must not be rewarded because it is perpetually repeated. Please give Mr Thompson the National Award for duty to our sovereign nation, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas."

— Bahamian

Send complaints to whyvouex@tribunemedia.net

More and more job losses linked to medical matters

AN increasing number of persons in the Bahamas are being terminated from their jobs because of medical reasons, according to a human resources executive.

Speaking at the recent monthly meeting of the Bahamas Human Resources Development Association (BHRDA), BEC's assistant general manager of human resources Antoinette Turnquest, who is also an attorney by profession, addressed the issue of managing terminations for persons who are medically unable to continue employment.

She said "more and more employees are being terminated because of medical reasons" and that these workers are also becoming more knowledgeable about the Employment Act and common law.

Ms Turnquest noted that while an organisation can let someone go for medical reasons, many are reluctant to, and when it is the option decided upon, it must be done in a humane manner.

The process must meet the requirements laid out in the Employment Act and "the employee needs to know they can claim under the Employment Act or common law – whichever will provide them with greater benefits," she said.

Ms Turnquest implored BHRDA members to look beyond just the tenure requirements stipulated in the Employment Act but also consider other things like age, training, and experience amongst other factors.

She further elaborated that traditionally the Industrial Tribunal rules in relation to the Employment Act specifically, but from her experience, more and more consideration is being given to common law as well.

"The employee is realising that there are greater rights and



OPEN MIC NIGHT: The recent BHRDA meeting was held in a participatory manner and dubbed "open mic" night. BHRDA members were urged to look beyond just the tenure requirements stipulated in the Employment Act but also consider other things like age, training, and experience amongst other factors.

benefits under common law. For example, employees have claimed duty meals as a benefit in considering total compensation and benefits," she said.

As human resources and business professionals, "consider what a reasonable amount of compensation is and create a standard formula for compensation allocations upon termination so there is no question that compensation packages are not based on individuals but rather a documented procedure," she said. The recent BHRDA meeting was held in a participatory manner and dubbed "open mic" night. It allowed best practices and other business ideas to be shared on industrial relation matters, group medical plans, training and development, and recruitment. In addition to Ms Turnquest, the evening's presenters included Bonnie Nyguen, group human resources manager at Bahamas First Insurance; Adriella Horton-Wallace, direc-

tor of training and organisational development at Kerzner, and Tanya Woodside of Woodside Brokerage.

At its next meeting on Thursday, July 28, BHRDA will discuss the topic "Effectively Handling and Managing Terminations."

As part of this discussion, the Employment Act requirements for terminations and a case study will be presented.

The Bahamas Human Resources Association is a national, non-profit organisation and an affiliate of the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM).

Tropical Exterminators Pest Control 322-2157

US EMBASSY STATEMENT**TRAVELLERS REMINDED ABOUT US CURRENCY LAW**

By SANCHESKA BROWN

US EMBASSY officials are seeking to set the record straight regarding how much money a person or a group of persons can take into the United States legally.

Embassy spokeswoman Erica Thibault said despite what some people may think, it is not illegal to carry more than \$10,000 into the United States – as long as you declare it on a customs form.

She said: "While it is legal to transport any amount of currency or other monetary instruments into or out of the United States, a traveller entering or exiting the US with an amount exceeding \$10,000, or its foreign equivalent, must file a report of international transportation of currency or monetary instruments with customs prior to departure."

Mrs Thibault's comments came after three American tourists and six Bahamians were arrested and charged in separate incidents this month, for failing to declare they were travelling with more than \$10,000. In all the cases, none of the individuals had more than \$10,000 in their possession, but rather as a group their money exceeded the \$10,000 limit.

Group

Mrs Thibault explained yesterday that it is still illegal to carry the money, even if you disburse it among a group, if you do not declare it to a customs officer.

According to the Currency and Foreign Transaction Reporting Act, if a traveller asks someone else to carry the currency on his/her behalf and the full amount exceeds \$10,000, then that traveller is required to report the total amount to Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

She said that due to privacy laws, she is not able to discuss specific cases, but in general the reason people get caught is because they tell on themselves.

"We have trained CBP officers who know what questions to ask and what signs to look for. We do not have scanners that magically count money or secret cameras. The truth is most people when they know they are doing something wrong, usually tell on themselves, whether they know it or not, when they are being questioned."

Mrs Thibault said the process of declaring the money is actually quite simple: it involves a separate one page form that you complete and give to a CBP officer. It takes about five minutes, but can save an individual years of legal problems, she said.

Under the United States of America and the Bahamas Pre-Clearance Agreement Act, a traveller departing on a pre-cleared flight from the Lynden Pindling International Airport in New Providence or the Grand Bahama International Airport in Freeport, "must declare to US Customs and Border Protection anything contained in his/her baggage using the Customs declaration form," Mrs Thibault said.

Cruise ship rescues 6 after boat sinks

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida

Officials say a cruise ship rescued six people after their boat caught fire and sunk near the Bahamas.

Discovery Cruise Line reports that an aircraft reported a boat exploding and catching fire Monday night about 16 miles from Freeport, Grand Bahama. The Discovery Sun, which had been heading to Port Everglades, got to the scene within about 30 minutes. Discovery Sun crew members used a lifeboat to retrieve the two women and four men out of the water. Officials say the rescued boaters were Jamaican, Haitian and Cuban.

Discovery Sun officials notified the US Coast Guard, who sent a boat to pick up the six people.

Tribune Trivia Yesterday's Question

Who is the current acting Prime Minister of The Bahamas?

Yesterday's Answer

Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette, and National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest

Yesterday's Winners

Rodesia Wright
Donnalee Rolle
Tanika Williams

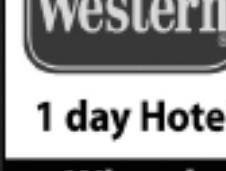
3pts
2pts
1pt

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Workers sacked in Atlantis room scam

FROM page one

"If the guest agreed, the employee would pocket the money and split it between the maids and the bell men for their silence. Everyone was happy, the guests got better rooms and everyone got paid, except for Atlantis.

"They had the whole thing worked out. This has been going on for a long time," it was claimed.

High-ranking

It is understood more terminations are expected next week as executives uncover further details about the ring.

Among those believed to be fired was a person in a high-ranking position, several front desk employees and a handful of maids.

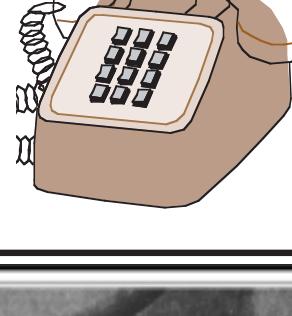
Linda Moxey, the officer in charge of the Paradise Island police station, said she has no knowledge of the terminations. However she admitted the company usually deals with their matters internally and rarely file police reports.

Ed Fields, Atlantis senior vice president of public affairs, said he had no comment.

Share your news

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

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



BREAKFREE FROM BONDAGES

Come Join us this Sunday as we come together and experience Deliverance, Healing and Victory in the presence of God.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND MINISTRY

SUNDAY SERVICES

* Early Worship Service	8:30 a.m.
* Sunday School for all ages	10:00 a.m.
* Adult Education	10:00 a.m.
* Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
* Evening Service	6:30 p.m.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

* FADS Youth Church(Grades 7-12)	8:30 a.m.
Morning Service.....	8:30 a.m.
First & Third Sunday	11:00 a.m.
* POWER CREW Church(Ages 10-11 yrs.)	
Second & Fourth Sunday	11:30 a.m.
* Coffee & Conversation	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY @ 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY @ 7:30 p.m.

* Selective Bible Teaching * The Sound - Youth Ministry Meeting

* Royal Rangers Boys Club (Ages 4-16 yrs.) (Grades 7-12)

* Girls Ministries (Ages 4-16 yrs.) * Change 360 - Young Adult Ministry

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LOCAL NEWS

IMMIGRATION TURMOIL AFTER HAITI EARTHQUAKE



RUBBLE: A scene of devastation after the Haiti earthquake.

FROM page one

Mr Symonette said the Bahamas recently had informal discussions with a senior Haitian official about accessing a database of some four million Haitian nationals that was compiled with the assistance of the Organisation of American States (OAS) for the recently-held elections.

The intent is to negotiate a cooperative arrangement for accessing the data bank in order to authenticate the identity of Haitian nationals presented in the Bahamas.

Also of serious concern for the department is forged documents.

Just two days ago, the minister said he came across a file where a letter looked much too neat for the year in

which it was supposed to have been written. Mr Symonette said the stamp was even wet. Some of the forgeries are very good. Some are very clumsy. We are aware that there are forgeries, but I don't want to portray that there are massive amounts of forged documents.

"Forgeries exist and we have to safeguard against them," said Mr Symonette.

The Department of Immigration reports matters of suspected fraud to the police for investigation and further prosecution.

Mr Symonette said the electronic system should make the practice more difficult. The new electronic system should also help prevent a new backlog from accumulating, said Mr Symonette, because no applications are

accepted by the electronic system unless all of the required documentation is there.

Revealing the department's statistics, Mr Symonette said 1,144 applicants were granted citizenship between May 2, 2007 and June 30, 2010. In that same time, 1,165 permanent residence applications were approved; 1,506 spousal permits and 10,012 permits to reside. Between May 2, 2002 and May 2, 2007, under the former administration, Mr Symonette said the government granted 2,083 citizenship requests; 1,582 permanent residence, 2,286 spousal permits and 22,839 requests for permits to reside. He said the department does not have collated statistics on the number of rejected applications.

NEW UNION WINS RIGHT TO REPRESENT CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICERS

FROM page one

in the week, he said talks with Customs and Immigration staff over the last two days revealed their discontent over internal issues.

The BCIAWU has said it intends to immediately begin negotiations on several issues, including: wages, the shift system, the ethics code, and insurance for all clerical workers.

Attempts to reach the BCIAWU for comment were unsuccessful up to press time last night.

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Preaching: 11am & 7:30pm	Pastor: H. Mills
Radio Bible Hour:	
Sunday 6pm - ZNS 2	
Wed. Prayer & Praise 7:30pm	



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SUNDAY JULY 17TH, 2011

7:00 A.M. Rev. Carla Culmer/Sis. Rosemary Williams
11:00 A.M. Rev. Carla Culmer/Summer School Participants
7:00 P.M. Bro. Jamicko Forde/Board of Children,
Youth & Young Adults

Theme: "Like Good Stewards of The Manifold Grace of God, Serve One Another With Whatever Gift Each of You Have Received."

VOLUNTARY SEPARATION BTC STAFF SET TO LEAVE

FROM page one

stationed in Family Island offices. Another large wave of employees will most likely leave the company in August and staff departures should continue in smaller numbers until the end of the year, the source added.

Overall, staff at BTC seem happy about the transition and many of them have visited union offices to plan for their financial futures, said the source.

"From where I sit persons appear to be fairly happy, (people) have been coming into the office trying to rectify pension."

The severance packages vary from employee to employee and are calculated based on the length of service and salary.

It is estimated that about 400 employees, or 30 per cent, of BTC's staff will be cut.

Earlier this week, BTC CEO Geoff Houston confirmed that the company was still sifting through nearly 500 severance package applications as it worked to finalise the company's restructuring programme.

It has been speculated that the company intends to let go older workers and recruit younger employees.

CENTRAL GOSPEL CHAPEL

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SUNDAY, JULY 17TH, 2011

11:30 a.m. Speaker

Lionel K. Sands

Associate Pastor, Christ Community Church

Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. • Breaking of Bread Service: 10:45 a.m.

• Community Outreach: 11:30 a.m. • Evening Service: 7:00 p.m.

• Midweek Service 7:30 p.m. (Wednesdays)

Grace and Peace Wesleyan Church

A Society of The Free Methodist Church of North America

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Worship Time: 11a.m.
Prayer Time: 10:15 a.m.

Church School during Worship Service

Place: Twynam Heights
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Minister: Rev. Henley Perry

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Sunday School: 9:45am

Prayer time: 6:30pm

Place: The Madeira Shopping Center

Pastor Knowles can be heard each morning on Joy 101.9 at 8:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Franklin Knowles

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LOCAL NEWS

Trust and Baha Mar in 'positive' talks about wetlands sanctuary



"Baha Mar has not given nor promised to give any funds to the BNT."

ROBERT SANDS

- Possible collaboration over 71.4 acre area
- Reports of \$1m donation to BNT are refuted

THE Bahamas National Trust and Baha Mar have had "very positive discussions" about a possible collaboration in the 71.4 acre wildlife and wetlands sanctuary planned for the development.

Issuing a statement about the talks, Baha Mar senior vice president for government and external affairs Robert Sands also refuted reports that the company has made a \$1 million donation to the BNT.

He said: "Baha Mar has not given nor promised to give any funds to the BNT."

Mr Sands added that Baha Mar has agreed to fund the infrastructure and enhancement of the wetland sanctuary area at the resort to the tune of \$1 million, "and once the wetland sanctuary is complete with boardwalks

and signs, an additional \$1 million will be placed in a trust to support the ongoing maintenance and management of the area. The referenced trust will be determined once the improvements are completed."

The statement said Baha Mar acknowledges the vast institutional and individual knowledge and experience of the BNT in the protection, development and management of protected areas.

Mr Sands said the proposed collaboration would therefore "be a great benefit to ensuring the viable wildlife habitat will be protected while also allowing the public to enjoy the wildlife experience."

A team of Baha Mar officials

has visited Harrold and Wilson Ponds National Park and Bonefish Pond National Park on New Providence, wetland areas where the BNT has recently installed boardwalks, viewing platforms and interpretive signage.

"We were very impressed with the infrastructure at these parks. What the BNT has done at these parks is very much what we have conceptually envisioned for the sanctuary area," said Brent Creary, architect at Baha Mar.

BNT president Neil McKinney, said: "Baha Mar has put together an excellent team.

"We are impressed with their environmentally friendly development protocols and we do encourage them to continue to focus on taking all steps possible to be a green development and to minimise their carbon

footprint." Tom Dunlap, Baha Mar executive vice president for development and construction, said: "We are excited to meet with BNT to discuss how we can collaborate to plan the development of the sanctuary area in an environmentally sustainable manner.

"We are pleased that the Baha Mar team for the sanctuary will be lead by our newly appointed director of environmental affairs, Gary Larson, who was executive director of the BNT for 20 years."

BNT executives Eric Carey and Lynn Gape said they look forward to developing a close working relationship with Baha Mar in planning the future of the 71.4 acre wildlife and wetland sanctuary.

■ NATIONAL LEAD INSTITUTE'S PROJECT RE-ENTRY CONFERENCE

RECIDIVISM RATE HOVERS AT 20 PER CENT IN THREE OF PAST FOUR YEARS

THE recidivism rate at Her Majesty's Prison, Fox Hill has hovered at around the 20 per cent or lower in three of the last four years, prison records show.

The exception was in 2007 when the rate stood at 21 per cent.

Recidivism – the rate at which ex-inmates have reoffended and been convicted – is often seen as an indicator of whether a prison facility is effectively rehabilitating inmates.

Local prison officials say 20 per cent is above the international average, but Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest said the government has been "working assiduously" on its Prison Reform Initiative to ensure that ex-inmates leave the prison as "productive members of our communities".

Addressing the three-day National LEAD Institute's Project Re-Entry Conference, Mr Turnquest said: "The prison is required by law to ensure that all suitable inmates are taught a trade and that they are exposed to educational opportunities, particularly those inmates who are in need of remedial education.

In the case of Her Majesty's Prison, we have observed significant decreases in the rate of recidivism over the past several years."

Mr Turnquest said officials at Her Majesty's Prisons will implement a number of new measures designed to increase the educational opportunities provided to inmates.

These include the expansion of the education curriculum to facilitate the introduction of distance-learning education; expansion of horticultural and agricultural programmes; expansion of educational opportunities for persons on remand and efforts to ensure that certificates awarded by the Prison's Correctional Training Institute are endorsed by the

Bahamas Technical and Vocational Training Institute (BTVI).

"The rehabilitation and educational thrusts at Her Majesty's Prison are ongoing and wide in scope," he said.

Mr Turnquest commended the National LEAD Institute for its "vision and determined efforts" to address crime and criminality in the Bahamas.

LEAD is a non-government/non-profit organisation established to provide programmes for at-risk young men and released inmates.

Responsibility

Mr Turnquest said while the government accepts its responsibility to take the lead in the fight against crime, it also recognises that "no amount of resources expended by the government will have the intended effect on reducing and marginalising crime to the maximum possible extent" without the "committed assistance of its citizens, the religious community, civic groups and non-governmental organisations.

The National LEAD Institute's programmes, by their very nature, complement those offered by government agencies and other social partner agencies. As such, they buttress our efforts towards building stronger, more caring and safer communities.

What is particularly important about the work of the National LEAD Institute is the focus that it gives to addressing the needs of at-risk males in our society prior to them finding themselves detained in our penal institutions.

"Our primary thrust must always be preventative," he said.

Mr Turnquest also applauded the institute's partnership with the Criminal Justice Department of the Northwest Piedmont Council of Carolina, which



ADDRESS: Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest speaking during the Project Lead Re-Entry Conference on July 13 at the Paul H Farquharson Conference Centre, Police Headquarters.

he said should "augur well to the mutual benefit of the Bahamas and North Carolina."

"The government recognises that there must be sev-

eral complementary approaches and multiple interventions with which to address crime and criminality. The involvement of civil society organisations

where much of the expertise resides is crucial. The government therefore welcomes the National LEAD Institute in augmenting and enhancing the programmes

already offered at the prison. It allows for collaboration and information sharing with Her Majesty's Prison while avoiding duplication of efforts," he said.

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2011									
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,409.96 CHG -0.05 %CHG 0.00 YTD -89.55 YTD % -5.97 FINDEX: YEAR END 2008 -12.31%									
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-677-BISX (2479) FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320									
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$
1.19	0.95	AMAL Foods Limited	BISX	1.18	1.18	0.00	0.155	0.080	7.6
10.63	9.05	Bahamas Property Fund	FBB19	10.63	10.63	0.00	-0.640	0.200	-16.6
0.53	4.40	Bank of Bahamas	FBB1	6.94	6.94	0.00	-0.200	0.000	30.2
0.17	0.17	Beta Bank	FBB2	0.18	0.18	0.00	-0.049	0.000	N/M
2.84	2.70	Bahamas Waste	FBB22	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.030	0.090	90.0
1.96	1.77	Fidelity Bank	FBB17	1.77	1.77	0.00	0.097	0.040	18.2
11.93	8.44	Cable Bahamas	FBB18	8.48	8.48	0.00	0.245	0.310	34.6
2.80	2.35	Colina Holdings	FBB20	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.438	0.040	5.7
8.50	8.33	Commonwealth Brewery	FBB10	8.40	8.40	0.00	0.740	0.000	114.4
7.00	6.00	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	FBB16	6.88	6.88	0.00	0.460	0.260	13.9
2.19	1.90	Consolidated Water BDRs	FBB17	1.87	1.82	-0.05	0.111	0.045	16.4
2.54	1.31	Doctor's Hospital	FBB18	1.38	1.38	0.00	0.074	0.110	18.6
5.99	4.75	Fanguard	FBB19	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.498	0.240	10.8
8.80	5.40	Fincor	FBB20	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.757	0.000	7.1
9.25	8.22	FG Caribbean Bank	FBB11	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.464	0.000	17.4
6.00	4.68	Focal (S)	FBB12	5.60	5.60	0.00	0.435	0.160	12.6
1.00	1.00	Focal Class B Preference	FBB13	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M
7.30	5.50	ICD Utilities	FBB14	7.30	7.30	0.00	-0.122	0.240	-59.8
10.80	9.80	J. S. Johnson	FBB15	9.82	9.82	0.00	0.880	0.640	11.2
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	FBB16	10.00	10.00	0.00	1.207	0.200	8.3
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)									
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity	
99.45	99.45	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029)	BISX	99.45	0.00	6.95%	7%	20 November 2029	
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00			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 Park & Industrial Complex (Over-The-Counter Securities),									
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E Yield
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	N/A	N/A	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M 0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6 0.00%
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)									
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	30.13	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03 0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.65	0.65	0.40		0.029	0.000	24.13 0.00%
BISX Listed Mutual Funds									
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD %	Last 12 Months %	NAV	3MTH	NAV	6MTH
1.5573	1.4674	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5573	2.04%	6.13%	1.535365	1.512246	30-Apr-11	
3.0185	2.9020	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	3.0185	2.41%	4.01%	2.952663	2.907492	30-Apr-11	
1.5976	1.5289	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5976	1.50%	4.50%	1.568004			