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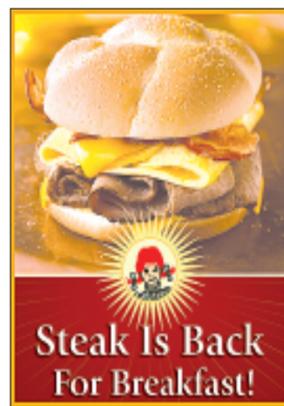
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Volume: 107 No.194

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011

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TOMORROW

Murder victim 'ran for his life'

Alleged 'gay lifestyle' may have been the motive for killing

A YOUNG man may have run for his life before he was brutally gunned down execution-style, it was claimed yesterday.

Aspiring photographer Shavado Simmons, 20, and a friend were chased to an apartment block by an armed robber, say police reports.

The gunman kicked open the front door, forced the terrified pair to lie face down on the floor, and then shot Shavado twice. His friend was unharmed.

Although the motive for Shavado's murder remains a mystery, some believe he may have been killed because of his alleged gay lifestyle.

Yesterday, detectives are attempting to piece together the final moments of the popular young man.

Preliminary reports indicated that Shavado, who was also known as Elmo, may have been robbed by a man who followed him home.

However, police have confirmed they are exploring other avenues.

Since his killing, several concerned people have called

The Tribune, fearing Shavado's death may have been a hate crime, related to his alleged alternative lifestyle.

Erin Greene, of the Rainbow Alliance gays rights group, said: "Whether it was a hate crime or premeditated murder, we just hope the police investigate and do the same good work to either confirm or rule out the possibility of a hate crime."

According to police reports, Shavado and another man were walking home from a convenience store off Charles W Saunders highway, when a man attempted to rob them.

The pair managed to escape the gunman and ran to a nearby apartment complex. However, the man followed them and allegedly kicked in the door to the apartment.

Once inside, the man reportedly ordered Shavado and his friend to lie face down on the floor and robbed them both. Shavado was shot twice,

SEE page nine

HUNDREDS REGISTER FOR JOB READINESS PROGRAMME



READINESS: Registering for the national job and skills training initiative.

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

HUNDREDS turned out for the first day of registration for the Government's Job Readiness programme, according to a Labour Ministry official.

Chief finance officer Joseph Mullings said day one of the application process went smoothly with more than 300 people turning out at CR Walker High School alone to register for the national job and

skills training initiative.

Mr Mullings said they began the registration process 30 minutes early at 9am because of the large line of anxious people ready to get started in the programme.

"People are tired of being unemployed and are ready to start working today, if they could," said Mr Mullings.

The job initiative was first announced by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham during this year's budget debate in Parliament,

SEE page two

MINISTER: NO APPLICATIONS YET FOR MACKAY YARD SUBDIVISION LOTS

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Deputy Chief Reporter
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

DESPITE all the furor surrounding the government's plans to turn the Mackey Yard slum into a government subdivision and give eligible squatters preference, no one has yet applied for a lot, Minister of Housing Kenneth Russell said yesterday.

"Not to my knowledge," said Mr Russell, when asked if anyone had applied to purchase land in Mackey Yard.

Government has plans to clean up shanty town communities and will construct a new 250 lot subdivision at the site

SEE page nine

NEW PROVIDENCE HIT BY MORE BEC POWER OUTAGES

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Deputy Chief Reporter
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

RESIDENTS across several areas of New Providence had their daily routines disrupted due to BEC power failures yesterday.

Some complained their electricity was shut off as they prepared to leave for work yesterday morning, while others said they were without power for hours yesterday afternoon.

A tripped generator was to blame, said BEC spokeswoman Arnette Wilson-Ingraham. This forced the company to load shed because it could not meet customer demand.

SEE page nine

TWO ACCUSED OF BURGLARY, ARMED ROBBERY, RAPE

By LAMECH JOHNSON

TWO men were arraigned in Magistrates Court yesterday afternoon to answer to charges of burglary, armed robbery and rape.

Audley Ward, 26, of Price Street, Nassau Village and Dominick Thompson, 24, of Cascarilla Street, Pinewood Gardens, appeared before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez in Court 1, Bank Lane.

Ward and Thompson, whose attorneys were not present at the arraignment, are accused of burglary,

SEE page nine

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LOCAL NEWS

HUNDREDS REGISTER FOR JOB READINESS PROGRAMME

FROM page one

where he said the programme's goal was to prepare Bahamians to take full advantage of the economic upturn.

The three components of the programme include skills and job training and general job placement which, according to the application form, are "intended to prepare Bahamians for entrance into the labour market and to enhance existing skills by bringing together the business community and prospective employees."

Mr Mullings said he expects to have this type of successful turnout throughout the week.

Applications will be processed in two to three weeks, said Mr Mullings.

A 23-year-old recent college graduate said she had been having trouble finding promising job opportunities and hopes the programme will increase her chances of future employment.

She said: "Whether qualified or not, it's difficult to find a job. I need one to survive."

She added that she found the process to be quite smooth.

Bahamians wishing to participate can collect and fill out applications forms until Thursday, between 9.30 am and 3pm, from the following locations in New Providence:

- LW Young Junior High School
- C R Walker Senior High
- E P Roberts Primary School
- Anatol Rodgers High School
- C V Bethel Senior High
- H O Nash Junior High
- In Grand Bahama:
- Eight Mile Rock High School
- West End Primary School
- Jack Hayward High School
- High Rock Primary

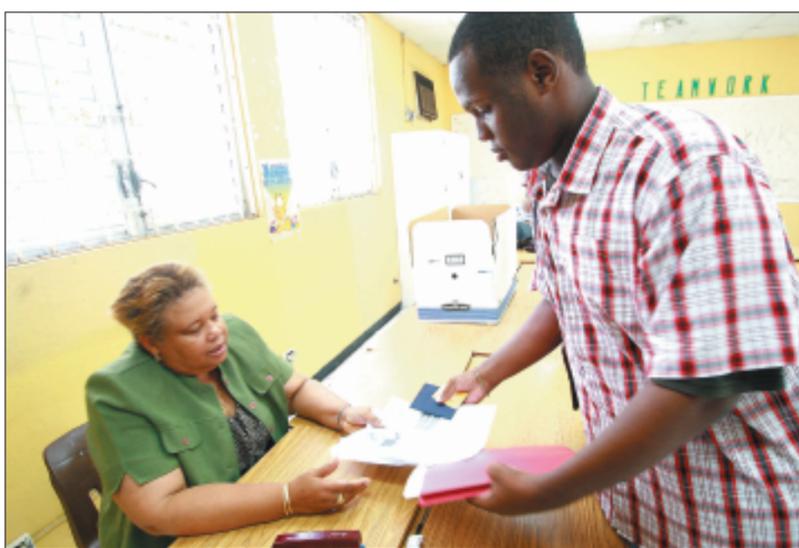
Forms can also be downloaded from the website www.bahamas.gov.bs.

Application forms are to be returned to the centres from which they were collected, accompanied by a National Insurance card, the first four pages of a passport or birth certificate, and copies of academic certificates.

Employers wishing to take part in this programme by hiring persons can register at job@bahamas.gov.bs.

HUNDREDS turned up at C R Walker Senior High School yesterday to register for the government's Job Readiness programme.

Felipé Major/Tribune staff



THREE CHARGED WITH DRUG POSSESSION

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Three persons were charged with drug possession in the Eight Mile Rock Magistrate's Court on Friday.

Kevin Mitchell, 18, Alfred George Jr, 21, and Kelly Mitchell, 28, all residents of Martin Town, Eight Mile Rock, appeared before Magistrate Gwen Claude.

The men were charged with possession of dangerous drugs with intent to supply in connection with a matter on July 14 at Martin Town.

Kevin Mitchell pleaded guilty to the offence and was sentenced to two years

in prison. George and Kelly Mitchell were conditionally discharged on the completion of 50 hours of community service.

CENTRAL DIVISION CONDUCTS 'OPERATION SPRING TIDE'

OFFICERS of the Central Division arrested seven people and cited 67 drivers for various traffic infractions on Friday. In an operation called "Spring Tide" officers of the Central Division arrested two people on outstanding Warrants of Arrest and five Haitians for immigration purposes. Two of the five Haitians arrested were also arrested in reference to a stolen vehicle.

LOCAL NEWS

SOURCES: SO-CALLED SQUATTERS ARE PAYING RENT TO MAKE SOME BAHAMIANS RICH

Haitian immigrants 'not living free'

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
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HAITIAN immigrants do not "live free" in the Bahamas, according to *Tribune* sources, who say many "so-called squatters" are rent-paying residents making "certain Bahamians rich."

It is a common practice in immigrant housing communities for many residents to pay rent, and those residents with legal status may have tenant rights, claimed a source. In many cases, Bahamians are collecting the cash, and facilitating the development and expansion of unplanned developments, said sources.

"Those people are actually tenants. They have a landlord they pay weekly or monthly or bimonthly basis.

"Those individuals are not being spoken about. They are so well networked to a point where you cannot expose them," said one source.

"If you go every week, they are collecting up to \$2,000 in one yard. They are using that money to put their children through private school; to pay for their vacations, and to pay officials to keep hush-hush about what is going on. It is all a well-run business. So actually there are no squatters in the Haitian community. Someone who is a Bahamian regulates them," he said. Residents of Bois Pen, the Haitian village off Joe Farrington Road, said there are at least two Bahamians who manage land in the village and collect rent.

Where the land is privately owned, *Tribune* sources claim, there could be legitimate landlord-tenant relationship between the residents and the land owner. In that case, the residents would have tenant



BRENT SYMONETTE



KENNETH RUSSELL

Minister of Immigration Brent Symonette said that strictly speaking, "renting to persons who do not have status is not an illegal act."

As for the circumvention of subdivision laws, a source said that matter would be a "procedural infraction," but also not necessarily "illegal."

A criminal matter would probably only arise, according to the source, if the purported landlord collected rent from the tenants by way of false representation.

Government officials have confirmed knowledge of the practice of Bahamians collecting rent in shanty towns, but there has been no official investigation.

Shanty

Kenneth Russell, Minister of Housing, said it was fair to say some Bahamians are facilitating the development of shanty towns, while immigrants receive the brunt of the complaints. Asked if the government had a responsibility to investigate the involvement of Bahamians, and set the record straight, Mr Russell said, "That may be true, but for me, that is not part of my involvement" as Minister of Housing.

Mr Symonette said: "Bahamians are facilitating non-nationals being in our country. They are potentially just as guilty." He would not say "for a fact" that Bahamians are collecting rent from residents in shanty towns, only that he has heard about the claims.

Earlier this year, *The Tribune* revealed a foiled scheme in the Government Yard community off Carmichael Road where Bishop Ross Davis of the Golden Gates World Outreach Ministries had facilitated the collection of money from Haitian res-

idents on behalf of a Bahamian who claimed ownership. The Haitian residents, paid deposits on their lease directly at the church, sought refunds after certain irregularities arose. Government officials at the time said the land was the property of the Ministry of Housing.

The Tribune also revealed that in the case of Mackey Yard, some residents claimed they lived free of charge with the permission of Kenny Mackey, the person they believed to be the land owner. Some sources claim there was "a woman who collected rent." It is unclear on whose behalf she worked.

"They tell the Haitians you can't make mention that you are paying rent. But they have to ask for permission to do anything. You are not hearing about those individuals who run the yard because it is totally underground. Everything is hush-hush. Those individuals are not coming forward. They can't. Over the years they have made a killing. All of this discussion is smoke that is covering up the real, real concern," a source said.

In some cases, another source said, the land is inherited property.

This is the case with Mackey Yard. *Tribune* sources claim the Mackey family leased the land from the government at least one generation ago, and the current Mr Mackey inherited the responsibility.

"Most of the times people do it just for familiarity.

"I know a situation where this person collects rent. The people know him from his daddy.

"It was his father's land, and he passed away. The son, who does it now, it's not like he went to court to get the property put in his name," said a source.

news in BRIEF

FRASER TRIAL IS DELAYED AGAIN



RANDY FRASER

By SANCHESKA BROWN

ANOTHER delay in the unlawful sex trial of Randy Fraser has now pushed closing arguments to next month.

Closing submissions were expected to be delivered yesterday, but because one of Fraser's lawyers failed to appear in court, the matter was adjourned to August 12.

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

It is alleged that Fraser, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Temple on St James Road, had a sexual relationship with the girl between July 2005 and February 2006.

Fraser denies the allegations and remains on \$10,000 bail.

He is represented by attorney Jiarang Mangra.

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

POLICE CONTINUE TO PROBE FATAL ACCIDENT

By DENISE MAYCOCK
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FREEPORT - Grand Bahama Police are still investigating a traffic accident on East Sunrise Highway which took the life of an elderly man on Saturday.

According to Asst Supt Loretta Mackey, the victim was a 68-year-old resident of South Bahama.

Initial investigations suggest that speed was a factor in the accident.

Police received a report around 8pm on Saturday of a traffic accident on East Sunrise Highway involving 2001 GMC Sonoma Truck.

The truck was travelling west on the highway before it veered into the median and then collided with a tree.

The victim, whose identity has not been released, was taken to Rand Memorial Hospital where he later died.

Police are awaiting the results of an autopsy report to determine the cause of death.

GUNMAN DISARMED BY TWO CIVILIANS

A GUNMAN attempting to rob a convenience store in Pinewood Gardens on Sunday afternoon was disarmed by two civilians.

The incident occurred around 3pm when a man armed with a handgun entered Margo's Convenience Store, located on Wiseman Avenue, Pinewood Gardens.

It is reported that once inside the establishment a struggle followed between the culprit, an employee and another man, which resulted in the gunman being disarmed. The police were called to the scene and officers were able to take the culprit into custody shortly afterwards.

Police are now questioning a 36-year-old man of Ferguson subdivision off Carmichael Road in connection with the incident.

While thanking the two men at the convenience store for their assistance in this matter, police advised members of the public not to engage themselves physically with any armed person as this can result in injury or even death.

COURT NEWS

MAN AND WOMAN CHARGED WITH MURDER OF VICTIM STRUCK BY VEHICLE

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
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FREEPORT - A man and woman were charged with murder in the Freeport Magistrate's Court on Monday in connection with the death of a man who was struck and killed last week.

Glinton Louis, 32, of Garden Villas, and Coletor Johnson, 22, of Drake Avenue, appeared in Court Three before Deputy Chief Magistrate Helen Jones.

The pair was represented by Simeon Brown.

It is alleged that on Tuesday, July 12, Louis and Johnson while being concerned together intentionally caused the death of 23-year-old Markenson Justin.

They were not required to enter a plea to the murder charge.

Justin was walking on Explorer's Way near East Atlantic Drive when he was struck by a vehicle that allegedly left the scene.

He was taken to Rand Memorial Hospital where he later died.

After completing their investigations, police classified Justin's death as the sixth homicide for the year on Grand Bahama.

Louis and Johnson have been remanded to Her Majesty's Prison until October 25, 2011 when a preliminary inquiry will be conducted to determine whether there is sufficient evidence for trial in the Supreme Court.

MAN FACES ARMED ROBBERY CHARGE

By LAMECH JOHNSON

A MAN appeared in Magistrates Court yesterday to face an armed robbery charge.

Roberto Williams Bonaby, 29, of Sir Lynden Pindling Estates appeared before Magistrate Guillimina Archer in Court 10, Nassau Street to be charged with the armed robbery of Prescott Cooper.

The incident occurred on Friday, June 24.

It is alleged that Bonaby, while armed with a handgun, robbed Cooper of a gold chain valued at \$1,800, a Rolex Submarine wrist watch valued at \$8,400 and \$330 cash.

Magistrate Archer adjourned the matter to October 12, when a preliminary inquiry will be held to determine whether there is sufficient evidence for the case to proceed in the Supreme Court.

Bonaby was not required to enter a plea and was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison.



ACCUSED: Coletor Johnson, 22, and Glinton Louis, 32, are seen being escorted to court by police for their murder arraignment in the Freeport Magistrate's Court on Monday.

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Shuttle's science brought payoffs to Earth

WASHINGTON — Science from the space shuttle helped open Earth's eyes to the cosmos and sister planets. It created perhaps the most detailed topographical map of Earth. It even still is helping doctors understand, and sometimes fix, what is happening in people's aging and ailing bodies.

If you need help getting out of a crashed car, or if you are a soldier manoeuvring around an active land mine field, space shuttle-derived technology may have saved your life. And thanks to the space shuttle, we have healthier baby formula and cooling socks to wear in hot weather.

Most Americans wrongly credit the Apollo moon programme with creating Earthly "spinoffs" of new technology that it never did: sticky Velcro, nonsticky Teflon and orange-powdered Tang — all things used by NASA but not invented there.

Yet the 40-year space shuttle programme often does not get recognized for its science and technology, NASA says. And shuttle-based science will come to an end when Atlantis, carrying mouse stem cell and vaccine experiments, comes home on Thursday.

Of course spending nearly \$200 billion on any advanced technology will pay off in various unplanned ways.

Scientists who have worked with and for the space agency say that the shuttle research has paid off.

"There's been a good deal of science learned on the shuttle," said astronautics and health technology professor Laurence Young of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has sent experiments on seven shuttle flights, mostly on how weightlessness affects the body. Science was not the reason the shuttle was built, said Rice University physicist Neal Lane, who was the head of the National Science Foundation and President Bill Clinton's science adviser. However, the shuttle and the International Space Station, which could not have been constructed without the shuttle, are unprecedented places for important science. He has great hopes for an antimatter physics experiment that shuttle Endeavour delivered to the station in May.

People overlook the increased understanding in human biology that the shuttle and station have provided, Lane said. "We've learned some things about the human body that we had no other way to learn except to operate for some period of time — some extended period of time — in space."

Astronauts lose bone strength, have balance problems and weakened immune systems that in many ways are similar to aging. Studying how to combat bone loss on shuttle astronauts with exercise and other activity may help the Earth-bound, they figure.

Still, the most obvious science the shuttle helped generate is with astronomy. Exhibit 1 is the Hubble Space Telescope, which changed Earth's view of the cosmos and even its understanding of the age of the universe.

It was launched with the shuttle, fixed with the shuttle and upgraded four other times by spacewalking shuttle astronauts. Without all that, Earth's view of the rest of the universe would have been fuzzy at best.

Former NASA science chief Alan Stern said the shuttle launched three other major space exploration probes: Galileo, which gave close-up views of Jupiter and its moons; Magellan, which mapped hot, chaotic Venus; and Ulysses, which examined the sun's larger influence on the edges of the solar system.

But what is taken for granted even more is how the shuttle improved our view of our home planet with one flight in 2000. The spacecraft carried a set of special radar instruments that mapped most of the world, including previously inaccessible areas such as jungles and mountaintops, with the most precise topographical measurements ever. This is important for military planning and aviation.

Another overlooked item from the space shuttle is the bioreactor. It was designed originally to grow cells and tissue in space for experiments in zero gravity, but it is used on Earth for all sorts of biomedical research. Bioreactors can grow blood and human tissue in a constantly rotating growth medium that simulates the free fall of zero gravity. Then, scientists can direct tissue growth in predetermined shapes using plastic lattices, much like the way ivy climbs walls. It still is a developing technology, so who knows where it will lead, said Dan Lockney, NASA's spinoff technology manager.

Each year, NASA puts out a list of shuttle science spinoffs, which are either purposeful or accidental. NASA scientists were trying to design better space food and they looked to algae. They found an algae nutrient that had been seen only in human breast milk and developed it. It is now in 95 per cent of infant formula, Lockney said.

"Millions of babies have been fed (by) NASA; that beats Tang," Lockney said. Another common item is a material designed for shuttle spacesuits that controls temperature, thereby cooling astronauts. Phase change materials from Outlast Technologies Inc. are now in socks, outdoor clothing and even some business suits, he said. Famed heart surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey helped develop a tiny new artificial heart pump, a bridge for patients needing transplants, based on fluid flow through the space shuttle main engines, the most complicated engines ever built. A few hundred people have had the device implanted.

NASA helped develop a tool for firefighters that rescues people from crashed cars and is lighter and cheaper than the famed Jaws of Life; it also needs no outside power source or hoses. Also, shuttle rocket fuel has been used to develop a device that safely sets off buried land mines.

(This article is by Seth Borenstein, AP Science Writer).

The opposition parties should not use recession for political mileage

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Every Bahamian citizen should be very concerned about what is currently transpiring in the United States of America regarding its massive debt. America owes her creditors a whopping 14.46 trillion dollars. As it stands right now, the US will be surpassed by the People's Republic of China as the number one world's superpower by the year 2016, or thereabouts. Since the days of the United Bahamian Party and Sir Stafford Sands, The Bahamas has relied heavily on our neighbours to the north for the majority of our tourists.

It would not be too far-fetched to say that America has been this country's bread and butter for the past 50 years. Therefore, if the US falls, The Bahamas could very well go down with it.

The economies of the US and The Bahamas are intricately tied together.

Successive Bahamian governments have failed miserably to diversify the economy.

We have continually relied on Sir Stafford's economic models of tourism and banking in order to survive. Now, the economy of the United States is rapidly deteriorating; and no one, including President Barack Obama or Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, knows how to fix it.

The United States of America has had many prosperous years during the 20th century. American governments ran many surpluses during the early 1900s, and even during the 18th and 19th centuries. There was a time in the nation's history when it was virtually debt free. However, times have changed; and it has changed for the worse. The US government has been blatantly irresponsible with the handling of its economy during the last 50 years or so.

In fact, the Government Accountability Office, which serves as the government's auditor, has warned that the US is on a fiscally unsustainable path, according to one US Internet daily.

The 2011 budget that was prepared by the Obama administration will increase the debt to 23 trillion dollars by the year 2019.

This means that the US government plans to spend nearly one trillion dollars in deficit spending a year for the next eight years.

When George W Bush came to office in January of 2001, the

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

US national debt stood at 5.7 trillion. When he left office in 2009, the national debt was nearly 11 trillion. President Obama met the national debt at 10.7 trillion.

As of today, it presently stands at over 14 trillion. In just over two years in office, Obama has added nearly 4 trillion to the debt. The national debt of the US was just 260 billion in 1950. It was 909 billion in 1980. Nineteen-eighty was just over 30 years ago, yet the debt has increased by over 13 trillion since then.

This can explain why Standard and Poor's downgraded the credit outlook of the US to negative in April of this year. The public purse of the US is haemorrhaging at a very rapid pace. Government run programmes like Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare are bleeding the US treasury dry. According to financial experts, these three programmes will exceed government tax revenues in 75 years. In fact, Medicare Part A already exceeds programme tax revenues and Social Security payouts exceeded payroll taxes in 2010.

In regards to the massive national debt, the central banks of foreign countries like China, the United Kingdom and Japan owns 4.45 trillion of the US debt. If you think that these statistics are grim; wait until you read the following: The unemployment rate in the US is 9.2 per cent. According to the experts, nearly 26 million Americans are either unemployed or underemployed.

Approximately 14.1 million Americans are jobless. Over six million Americans have been jobless for over six months.

Over 908 thousand private sector jobs were added so far in 2011. Only 18,000 private sector jobs were added by American bosses in June.

At this slow pace, it will take another four to five years before the US gets back to its pre-recession job levels.

Additionally, 4.5 million American households are either three payments late in their mortgage payments or are in foreclosure proceedings, according to a CNBC report. According to the same CNBC report, the US housing crisis is now worse than the Great Depression of the 1930s.

But what does this all mean for The Bahamas?

It means that our tourism sector will continue to struggle. Even if the DNA, NDP, BDM, PDP, PLP or the Workers' Party was in power, instead of the FNM, this nation's economy would've still been in this deep recession.

Bahamians must come to grips with this reality. This recession has caused the FNM government to borrow a lot of

money from foreign banks in order to pay its bills and to invest in infrastructural developments in a valiant effort to stimulate the sagging economy. The government had very little choice.

I understand that government revenues have seen a drastic dip in recent years, owing to this depression.

The FNM has taken a lot of flack over its handling of the economy.

However, we must remember that this global recession was way beyond the control of the FNM government.

I am beginning to suspect that the Progressive Liberal Party, the Democratic National Alliance and the National Development Party will all use this recession to beat up the Free National Movement during the political campaign season. They will use this recession to score one or two political brownie points.

The question, however, that all Bahamians should be asking is this: If the PLP or any of the other opposition parties win the general election, how will they fix the economy? I don't think that any Bahamian government will be able to do much in this financial climate. Nevertheless, if the PLP wins the election, they will begin to explain to the voting public what the FNM had been telling us all along: That the global recession is the cause of our financial dilemma. Therefore, the leadership of the PLP and DNA must be very careful not to make promises that they cannot keep if elected to power in 2012. No political party in this country can fix this economy. Not one.

It doesn't matter which political party is in power; the fact remains that The Bahamas would still be in a recession.

KEVIN EVANS

Freeport,
Grand Bahama,
July 11, 2011.

(This is true. But what we must each ask ourselves in this crisis: Of all the political parties, which of its leaders has the steadiest head and the strongest hand to keep the ship of state from sinking?)

(Heading the FNM is Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham — a decisive leader, who so far has kept the ship steady. Then there is the PLP with Perry Christie — an indecisive leader with five years of proven indecision as prime minister. And finally there is the newcomer — Branville McCartney. Mr McCartney is a young man filled with ambition, desirous of change, anxious to get to the top quickly, but with no experience and no proven tract record.

(The times in which we live are now too serious to take chances. At this critical hour the country needs an experienced and seasoned leader, who has the ability to make the hard, but necessary decisions. Of the three before us there is only one obvious choice — and that choice will be made by Bahamians at the polls. — Ed).

LETTERS WERE VERY RELEVANT

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Thank you for publishing two very relevant letters in The Tribune today.

Praises to Mr Mabon and Ms Ingraham for touching the subjects of what we now have to live with. BEC's behaviour and the ensuing charges we receive each month are grotesque!

It is little wonder that private property owners all over New Providence (and now some out-islands) are rampant about the General Public encroaching on their beaches, have you seen the filth that is left behind on every weekend they visit?

Let us note that the percentage of filthy people is far out weighed by proud and productive Bahamians who have the dignity and pride in their country. My, how so few can ruin it for so many.

We need to tighten littering laws along with illegal dumping and employ more clean-up crews from the various organisations that do such a fabulous job in their never ending battle to keep us semi-tidy.

We too in the south west of the island have very sporadic garbage collection and have to employ private trucks to take waste to the dump just to maintain our neighbourhoods in a slightly manner.

CAPT P HARDING
Nassau,
July 9, 2011.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that JEFFREY WILLIAM CHARITE of ROBINSON ROAD, 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 19th day of JULY, 2011 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

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- PLUCHE LTD. is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 18th July, 2011 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Blue Seas Administration Ltd., The Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, Bahamas

Dated this 19th day of July, A. D. 2011

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DNA leader hits out at the Immigration Department

COURT NEWS

DOMINICAN POACHERS IN COURT

By LAMECH JOHNSON

THE Democratic National Alliance has again hit out at the Department of Immigration – this time complaining that citizen classes left in place by DNA leader Branville McCartney are being “circumvented” in the regularisation of thousands of immigrants.

Mr McCartney, who served as minister of state for immigration under the FNM before breaking with the governing party, issued a statement yesterday saying the classes would have ensured applicants could speak English, recite the national anthem and pledge of allegiance, and had an appreciation of Bahamian culture, our national heroes and “various other vital aspects of our country.”

Claim that citizen classes are being ‘circumvented’

interview, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Immigration Brent Symonette said the classes stopped while Mr McCartney was still minister of state.

In any case, Mr Symonette said, the classes were only “a one-morning issue” and not a comprehensive programme that lasted weeks.

Nevertheless, the DNA says it is “gravely concerned” about the government’s move to regularise 1,300 foreigners this close to a nation election, as it could be seen as “nothing more than a political ploy aimed at securing votes, as they

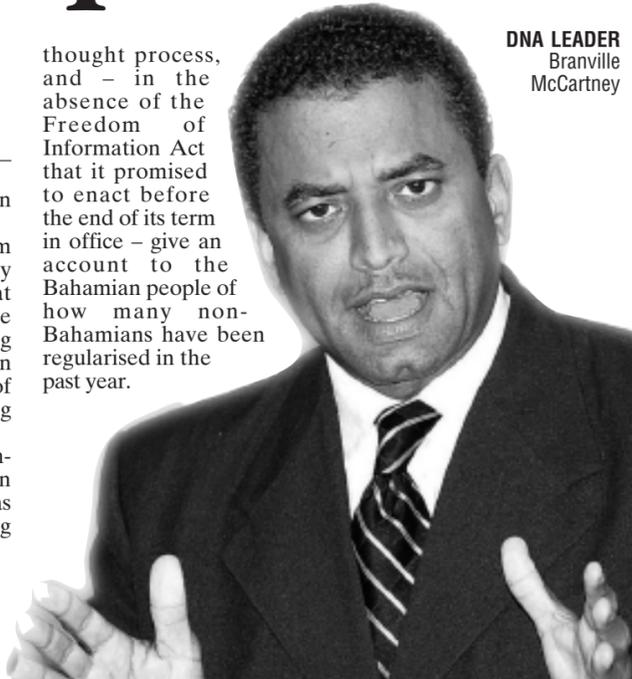
desperately seek to remain in power.”

The party said the claim that the government’s only motivation is the fact that the immigrants’ files have been languishing in filing cabinets for years, is an “insult to the intelligence of the average thinking Bahamian.”

“Answers like these continue to give the impression that the government feels as if it can get any old thing past the Bahamian people, as it has been doing for many years.”

The DNA challenged the government to put Bahamians first in their

thought process, and – in the absence of the Freedom of Information Act that it promised to enact before the end of its term in office – give an account to the Bahamian people of how many non-Bahamians have been regularised in the past year.



DNA LEADER Branville McCartney

SIXTY-ONE Dominican poachers appeared before Magistrate Carolita Bethel in Court 8, Bank Lane yesterday.

All pleaded guilty to charges of illegal fishing in Bahamian waters, possession of prohibited spear guns, possession of prohibited air compressors, possession of groupers weighing under three pounds and possession of crawfish during the closed season.

In the first of two cases, 11 Dominican poachers aboard the “Lil Lamb” on Wednesday, July 13, admitted to having in their possession 12 spear guns, 16 air compressors, 3,075 pounds of crawfish, 3,822 pounds of grouper, 798 pounds of margaret fish, 1,882 pounds of parrot fish and 280 pounds of mixed fish.

Nine of the eleven crewmen were sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 or spend six months in prison while the captain was sentenced to pay a \$50,000 fine or spend one year in prison.

The Dominican crewmen found aboard the second vessel, “Don Emmy”, were given the same sentence as their counterparts, although the captain’s fine in this case was \$25,000.

The vessels, catch and everything else found onboard were ordered seized.

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WEATHER EXPECTED TO CLEAR TODAY

BRET LASHES THE BAHAMAS WITH HEAVY RAIN

HEAVY rains fell in the northern Bahamas yesterday as Tropical Storm Bret moved slowly northeast and thunderstorms associated with the system affected New Providence, Abaco, Grand Bahama and Andros.

Severe weather warnings were issued for New Providence and central Andros between 4pm and 6pm yesterday as a ribbon of cloud passed over the islands and two to four inches of rain fell on the capital during evening rush hour. By afternoon, all tropical storm warnings were discontinued.

Chief meteorologist Basil Dean said the rainfall was also heavy in central Andros as well as in Abaco and Grand Bahama.

As the storm slowly drifted northeast towards open waters at around three miles per hour yesterday, meteorologists expected the weather to

clear today, although cloud cover is likely to linger until Wednesday.

Flights at the Lynden Pindling International Airport were grounded for 20-minutes yesterday due to weather conditions.

According to a meteorologist at the Accuweather Centre, “As of 5pm (yesterday), sustained winds were 65 mph, which was still tropical storm strength; gusts were 75mph. It was really slow, moving 6-7mph to the northeast. That general motion was expected to continue for about 12-18 hours or so.”

The storm was expected to strengthen late last night, becoming a minimal hurricane by morning. However, based on its position in the Atlantic, it was not expected to affect any land.

For the latest update on the weather system, log on to www.Tribune242.com.

HUNDREDS OF TRAFFIC TICKETS ISSUED

POLICE here in New Providence continue to issue traffic tickets to motorists who fail to adhere to traffic rules.

During the past week, police throughout the capital cited 455 drivers for various traffic infractions and put 220 matters before the Traffic Court.

Some of the offences for which persons were cited included: unlicensed and uninspected vehicles; driving on a closed street; failing to keep left; failure to have windows of transparent view, and parking in a no parking zone.

Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade said he would like to thank “the hardworking officers of the various policing divisions throughout New Providence, including the officers of the Traffic Division, for their diligence and commitment during the past week.”

The police also commend members of the public who continue to adhere to the traffic rules and regulations. “Additionally, we wish to encourage members of the public to be alert to your surroundings and to obey all laws as police will continue with their efforts to make this Bahamas a safer place for all,” the police said.

POLICE TIP:

What every citizen should know:

If you want to make your community better don’t just sit back and wait for it to get better by itself.

Get involved. Volunteer your time and energy, get to know your neighbours and invest in your community.

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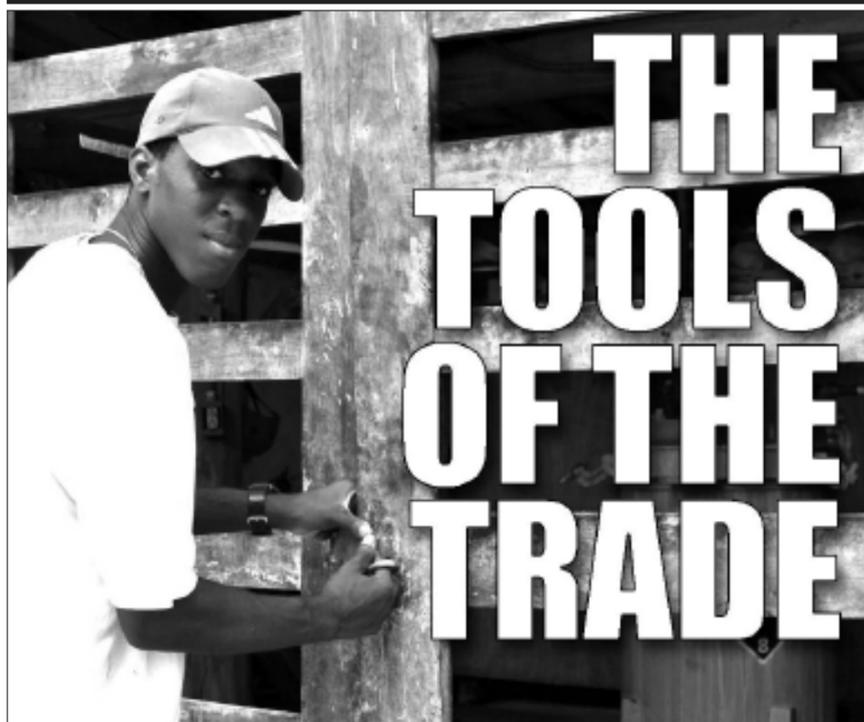
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LOCAL NEWS



TROY WILLIAMS of Rock Sound.

ON THE tip of Eleuthera, the Cape Eleuthera Island School is continuing to expand its Bahamian Apprentice programme.

This summer, six Bahamians are joining teachers, researchers, mechanics and farmers to learn the tools of the trades.

The hope is that they will take their skills and learning back to their home settlements and communities.

Participants in this year's programme are: Nicoya Taylor of Deep Creek, Ser-rano Gibson of Wemyss Bight, Ted Hall of Rock Sound, Troy Williams, Stanchez Ferguson of Waterford, and Perry Ford of Wemyss Bight.

The apprenticeships will run through the August 19.

This year the programme has expanded to include biodiesel manufacturing, auto and boat mechanic work, permaculture (farming), educational programmes, culinary arts, and facilities maintenance.

There are also research opportunities available for college students and recent college graduates offered through Cape Eleuthera Institute.

Cristal Munroe of Nassau, a graduate of the University of New Brunswick, and Tika Penn, also of Nassau and currently studying small island sustainability at the College of the Bahamas, are the first of what is hoped will be a long line of scholars to go through the programme.

The continuous expansion of the programme is being made possible through donations and sponsorships from local people and businesses.

"What will allow this programme to continue reaching more young people is community support," said

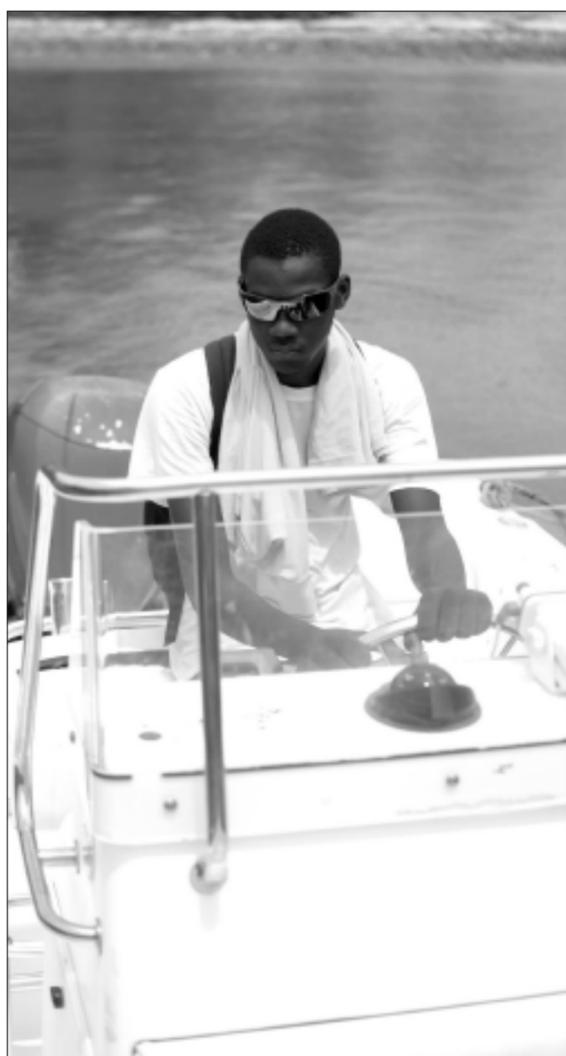


TIKA PENN of Nassau

Kalin Griffin, human resources director.

The aim of the programme is to teach students skills they can use in the real world; skills that supplement what they are learning in school.

"They are learning to solve real world issues in the areas of renewable energy, sustainable development, environmental conservation, and food security. The transferrable skills and knowledge that they gain through this apprenticeship are incredible. I hope that more young persons will apply for these apprenticeships," said Mr Griffin.



TED HALL of Rock Sound

EXUMA LAND AND SEA PARK DEVELOPMENT

SALT POND UNDERGOES MARINA TRANSFORMATION



A NATURAL salt pond is being transformed into an inland marina and land is being cleared on Bell Island in the Exuma Land and Sea Park as hotly contested development plans forge ahead.

Thick vegetation has been removed from land around the inland pond to make way for the marina as developers prepare to excavate more than four acres of rock for a yacht basin 14ft deep and big enough for 164ft vessels.

A channel 80ft wide will lead into the marina and has been marked out with poles and yellow plastic silt curtains in an effort to prevent dredged sand from clouding the waters and covering nearby reefs.

The 176-square-mile Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park is the oldest marine park of its kind in the world, established in 1958 and designated a no-take zone in 1986.

However around one third of all land in the park is privately owned, and the owners, considered welcome residents because of their significant contribution in government taxes, have a right to submit planning applications for the development of their property.

Previous developments in the park have included land clearing, home and infrastructure construction, and dredging of the seabed.

The most egregious development on private land in the park occurred in the early 2000s, when owner Victor Kozeny engaged in what the Bahamas National Trust termed, "an orgy of pointless land clearing, marina and road construction".

Plans to dredge two channels, one into the yacht basin and other to a redeveloped barge landing, as well as building inland, were submitted and approved by Islands of Discovery Ltd after Prince Karim Aga Khan IV bought the 349-acre island.

The plans stirred controversy over the right to develop in the park, and a political

storm when Minister of the Environment Earl Deveaux admitted he had travelled to the island for a site visit in a luxury helicopter owned by the Aga Khan while plans were being considered by his ministry.

It was also claimed by *Tribune* sources the Aga Khan donated \$1 million to the Bahamas National Trust after he purchased the island.

The BNT was consulted over plans and the development was scaled back to eliminate the second channel into the barge landing.

Work began in June and has pressed on under the watch of environmental compliance officer Rochelle Newbold, appointed to ensure all work follows guidelines set out in the Environmental Management Plan.

Environmental activist and spokesman for Save the Exuma Park (STEP) Committee Terry Bain, of Farmer's Cay, Exuma, took these photographs to document development of the island.

He said: "These pictures tell the real story of what the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park is all about!"

"Who among us will 'Step' up to protest this in the public domain? What does it mean to say " I am proud to be a Bahamian?"

"What does patriotism mean for any of us? Bahamians cannot fish in this park, cannot hunt the birds, cannot take the palmetto top to plat the native straw - cannot get the crab or the whelk; but the landowners can do all this to the land and sea.

"What are we, Bahamians? What are we - when we allow this to happen to our national parks, in the name of foreign investment, jobs for a couple of years by developing the national park? Is this what we are about Bahamians?"

"Our national parks and designated protected areas ought not be developed."



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The best things in life

By INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

COMIC'S VIEW



INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

A FUNNY THING happened on the way to calming my young son down after an afternoon playing basketball. He said he was hungry, and being the (guilty) fast food parent I am when I'm pressed for time, I immediately bribed him with a trip to the nearest Drive-thru. (It's amazing how much co-operation you can get out of a toddler when you bring chicken nuggets to the negotiating table!)

As expected, he was pleasantly quiet on the drive back home as he salivated in the backseat with wide eyes and no doubt savage dreams of ripping open his kid's meal as soon as we set foot in the house.

Ever since his mother—my wife—got on her post-baby, super-healthy food tip, everyone in our home has been going through some sort of French fries withdrawal. I will admit even the dogs have been giving me dirty looks as I shovel tons of leftover carrots and peas into their bowls. So this divergence—on this day—was a real treat for my boy.

What I didn't expect was the loud scream that emanated from my child mere seconds after he tore into his food container, "WOW! Daddy, look... a radio!"

A radio? I knew the silent war to lure our children into a lifetime allegiance to the world of fast food was a relentless and expensive one but surely there couldn't be an actual radio in that box, could there?

Sure enough, there was a little red mp3 player-like object in my son's hands which (thanks to Your Baby

Can Read!) he was quickly able to determine was a radio. It even came with a pair of little red ear plugs.

Before I could digest the irony that he may now be just as invested in the world of radio as I am, it dawned on me that the batteries I was putting into this little player probably cost more than the thing itself.

It was, after all, free right? That got me thinking of how happy my son was with his find, this seemingly dinky little treasure of his with three buttons and a light. Would he still feel the same way in a few years when he realised it couldn't store fifty gazillion songs, and didn't have the letters SONY or a picture of a half-eaten apple on it?

As much as we sometimes indulge our children to no end we also teach them (or allow them to learn) that everything has a price and a value. Somehow, along the way, they learn that expensive equals good and therefore cheap must equal bad.

I don't know exactly when... but it happened to me, too.

I only remember begging my mother for a pair of Clarks for the new school year because the "sweet water" tennis shoes I'd kicked rocks with all summer long definitely would not be seen as cool. Then I needed the freshest clothes (expensive) and best toys (expensive), not to mention the pocket change I begged for

because all my friends were getting an allowance.

An allowance!

When I think back now I know I never did live up to my end of the bargain. Many days the dogs were ready to burst as they waited to be walked and the garbage was left steaming as I neglected to take it out but I was always ready to throw a well-rehearsed tantrum for that allowance.

Because I wanted things... cool things... and cool things cost money.

When we are young (and sometimes not-so-young) we don't realise the sacrifices our parents and family make in order to afford even small luxuries in life, and this generation—Eddie Minnis would say the "gimme me" generation—is not inclined to learn that lesson just yet.

How much have we spent on designer clothes when the only real difference between a shirt and the one next to it is the price tag and the emblem on the pocket? Don't get me wrong, I know sometimes you do get what you pay for but if we are honest with ourselves we will admit it all comes from the same place. (Hello, China!)

It's gotten so bad that we hardly ever refer to the product but rather the brand: It's, "My MacBook Air," or "My iPhone," or "My 2011 Aston

Martin v12 Vantage." (Ok, maybe that last one snuck in from my many daydreams.)

The point is, Why can't we just see things for what they are? At the end of the day you have a decent computer, a decent phone and a (very) decent car. But that's all they are and all they will ever be; if you hit anything hard enough it will break.

Since my son got his "radio," all his other toys have been abandoned like a Republican debt ceiling plan. Those trendier (expensive) playthings mean absolutely zero to him right now.

There's an old expression that says if you want to make something expensive, make it free. These days, I had begun to think if you want to make something undesirable make it free.

But a funny thing happened

on the way to calming my young son down after an afternoon playing basketball—fast food lecture aside—I learned the value of spending time with my boy and that when you are still innocent enough and genuine enough, you realise the best things in life can still be free.

That, plus, my "Lil Beige Mamba" (my son) has a wicked jumper (just like his dad), a wicked crossover and excellent ball handling skills. He's a beast among four year olds on those Fisher Price mini basketball rims, but until he makes the NBA I'll keep dreaming.

Wait a minute, I can't dream on an empty stomach.

I love my wife, but that "health food" will kill you. (Real men don't eat quiche!) I wonder what kind of kids meal "Mini-me" wants?



MOUNT MORIAH MP Tommy Turnquest assists children at the Summer Camp.

CHILDREN from the Mt Moriah Constituency are enjoying themselves at the annual summer camp organised by their MP Tommy Turnquest.

The camp is being held at Mr Turnquest's constituency office on Thompson Boulevard from July 12 to July 22, for students between the ages of five and 14 years old.

The MP has been hosting the summer camp, which aims to teach the value of education and productive activities, for 19 years.

Mr Turnquest said: "We know that there are many children every summer with little to do, and this is an opportunity to assist them and their parents. Our camp allows the participants to spend several hours in a constructive manner every day."

The children take part in computer classes; reading, singing, and dance sessions; and various arts and crafts.

They will be treated to two field trips this year: a bus tour around Nassau and a trip to the movies.

Mr Turnquest thanked the organisers of the camp, who he said always ensure that the children are taught, entertained and given a proper lunch every day.



STANDING (L-R): Eleanor Brathwaite, Barbara Clarke, Sharon Lewis, Claudette Bannister, Minister Tommy Turnquest, Karen Grant, Carlene Hanna, Patricia Whitfield. **Seated:** Eloise Cooper and Sherry Albury. (missing: Vashenique Lewis)

Tribune Trivia
Yesterday's Question
 What is the name of the latest Bahamian registered vessel, launched by Sir Orville Turnquest on Thursday?
Yesterday's Answer
CS Calvina
Yesterday's Winners

Shawn Moree	3pts
Psyche Brennen	2pts
Tracy Jones	1pt

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LOCAL NEWS

THE GOVERNMENT is preparing to construct a new 250 lot subdivision at the site.

Felipe Major/
Tribune staff



MINISTER: NO APPLICATIONS YET FOR MACKEY YARD SUBDIVISION LOTS

FROM page one

of the former Mackey Yard slum – just one of several areas that will be turned around. Lots will be sold at \$3.40 a square foot with a starting price of \$17,000 for 5,000 sq ft.

The prices are consistent with subsidised rates for land and low cost homes sold by government to eligible persons, officials have said.

The announcement elicited an outcry from some quarters, those who believe the land will be sold to illegal immigrants – something

Government has repeatedly denied.

"We're not giving land to Haitians, we're not selling land to Haitians. It's the Bahamians who live in Mackey Yard (who) will have first preference because they are there already," Mr Russell said yesterday. He stressed that this policy is consistent with the law.

He explained that the Land Adjudication Act gives a squatter who has been living on a piece of land for a certain number of years the opportunity to apply for adjudication of the land on which they are living.

If the squatters cannot afford the lots, they will be offered to someone else.

The housing minister said he is surprised at the negative attention the move has attracted and explained that Mackey Yard is just one area on a long list of shanty communities that are being regularised.

"This hasn't just started. (This is happening) in Sugarman Estates in Fox Hill, in Pride Estates, Dignity Gardens and now in Fire Trail Road we have moved to Mackey Yard," said Mr Russell.

For years, Bahamians have

complained that shanty communities are eyesores, a health hazard and drive down the market value of neighbouring homes.

Mr Russell said government's actions aim to rectify these issues.

"We will develop the land into a proper subdivision and the people who live across (from) there complaining about the smell, they would now have the opportunity to have their home value go up.

"I would hope that we could clear up our land and make it a decent subdivision so the people who living there and nearby can have a certain standard," he said.

Murder victim 'ran for his life'

FROM page one

but the other man was left unharmed.

This unusual circumstance has led police to believe robbery may not have been the primary motive.

Shavado's friends and family describe him as a "quiet young man who never bothered anyone."

One woman who knew Shavado said: "This is so sad. He was such a nice, friendly boy. He did not deserve this.

"If they wanted to rob him, they should have just taken the chain and left him alone. I don't understand this. I've known him for over 14 years and he has never had a bad word to say about anyone.

"This should be a wake up call for everyone. If it can happen to someone as nice as Elmo, it can happen to anyone."

Police are appealing for any information that may help their investigation.

Two accused of burglary, armed robbery, rape

FROM page one

armed robbery, being in possession of a stolen vehicle and rape.

It is alleged that both men broke into the home of the victim while in possession of a handgun and robbed her of jewellery, a digital camera and her car.

She was allegedly raped by both men.

The property stolen from the victim includes: a gold Gucci chain, a gold lion finger ring, a gold Movado wrist watch, a silver medallion, a Viviter digital camera and a white 2008 Honda Accord, is said to be valued at \$19,890.

The accused men pleaded not guilty to being in possession of a stolen vehicle.

However, the matter on the rape was adjourned to July 26 in Court 10 Nassau Street for a fixture date where the accused will be informed of when a Voluntary Bill of Indictment would be served on them.

The accused were not allowed to enter a plea to charges of armed robbery and burglary and were remanded to prison until the July 26 hearing has been completed.

New Providence hit by more BEC power outages

FROM page one

She warned that if another generator tripped, future power outages are possible.

Angry readers phoned *The Tribune* yesterday to tell of the disruption in the electricity supply.

"I had to bathe in bottled water this morning. This is the second time this happened to me. Just as I was going to bathe the water went off because my pumps runs on electricity," said Michelle Bethel, of Winton Estates.

"Blackouts are alive and well," complained one East Street South resident.

Krystal Gibson, a Monastery Park resident, said she hopes BEC will compensate customers with lower bills in the aftermath of frequent power outages.

"Our power was off last

night (Sunday) and went off again this morning (Monday) for like an hour and it didn't come on until around 10 am. I was trying to get ready for work. BEC need to shave off the cost of electricity from my bill because of this mess," said Ms Gibson.

On Sunday, residents of eastern New Providence said they went without power for at least an hour.

Ms Wilson-Ingraham said the problem was identified and fixed. She added that BEC plans to secure additional back-up generators by the end of July to prevent further blackouts.

She said: "We did have two generators that tripped today but they're back on line. And there was a generator trip last night (Sunday). We did have a period of generation short-fall this morning.

"At this point we have

enough power but if one generator goes off-line then we will have a shortfall but that depends on which one goes off-line.

"We should have additional back-up by the end of this month, before the end of July. We have purchased 20 megawatts in portable generators that we're going to keep for some time especially time during these summer months."

A resident of Culbert's Hill said her power was off for five hours, came on for an hour, then went off again and was still off up to press time.

"It's another night of hell, we can't do nothing, can't see nothing, can't cook nothing. How many years do we have to put up with this? We're being held hostage by the same stinkin' people in BEC."

REAL ESTATE: TOO MUCH HOUSE

By **MIKE LIGHTBOURN**

IT may surprise you, but investing too much in fancy home improvements may not pay off.

If you want to splurge on mosaic marble tiles in your kitchen, or a Jacuzzi tub in your bathroom, by all means go ahead. But do it for your pleasure - not to necessarily increase the value of your home by the amount of the investment.

Those marble tiles that are gorgeous today will be dated tomorrow. And as for the Jacuzzi, they're already yesterday's news.

In other words, just because you pump \$100,000 into your home doesn't necessarily mean your home is worth that much more.

If you're thinking about selling in the next year, it's the basic improvements that will probably generate the greatest return.

What good is a designer kitchen if the house is infested with termites or the roof is damaged? Buyers expect basic things, such as windows, roofs and plumbing, to be in good repair.

Having said that, once your house is in good shape, there are projects that can



increase the value, depending on the location.

For instance, adding a deck to a home in our environment can translate into a full return on your investment within the first year.

High end kitchen and bathroom upgrades, or a much needed extra bathroom, will add to your home's appeal. Just don't count on getting back your full investment.

The longer you live in your home after remodeling, the less likely you are to recover the cost. As I implied earlier, styles come and styles go.

Do not overbuild. A two storey, five bedroom home has no place in a cottage community.

Your return will depend on several factors, including market conditions and the value of the homes in your neighbourhood.

A house that's priced higher than other homes in the area may be viewed as overpriced even if it does have more value. Avoid having "too much house" for the area.

(Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty)



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ROMANIANS FIND 64 STOLEN MISSILE WARHEADS

BUCHAREST, Romania
Associated Press

ROMANIAN authorities said Monday they had found dozens of small, old rocket warheads stolen from a train carrying military equipment from Romania to Bulgaria stashed near a railway station in a village north of Bucharest.

Authorities promised that the 64 warheads posed no danger to the public but offered varying explanations why.

The Romanian national police said there was no risk because they were not attached to rockets. Spokesman Florin Hulea declined to provide further details.

Two daily newspapers cited officials close to the investigation as saying the warheads did not contain explosives. The papers, *Evenimentul Zilei* and *Adevarul*, did not identify their sources.

Bulgaria's Economy Ministry said the warheads belonged to 122mm (4.8-inch) diameter Grad rockets, which are typically fired from vehicle-mounted multiple-rocket launchers.

It said in a statement the shipment was part of a transfer of "nonfunctional components and parts" for reprocessing at the VMZ factory — one of Bulgaria's largest military factories — in Sopot, central Bulgaria, where the components and parts were to be replaced and the warheads prepared for sale.

"The fuses (warheads) were transported separately from the projectiles," the ministry added.

Transport police in the central city of Brasov told the Mediafax news agency that the warheads were in four boxes in one of the cars on a train carrying equipment from a Romanian company that produces artillery shells and ground-to-ground and air-to-ground missiles.

Marius Militaru, a spokesman for the interior ministry, told Antena 3 television station that the warheads were found intact in four boxes near the railway station of Chitila just north of Bucharest. He declined to provide further details citing an ongoing investigation.

Romanian officials also tried to portray the Saturday theft as accidental.

Eugen Badalan, a member of the parliamentary defense committee, said the thieves "had no idea what they stole," and prosecutors said they were investigating whether the components were stolen by scrap metal thieves.

However, only one of the eight cars on the 27-car train was broken into.

Mediafax reported that railway workers noticed the seals on a carriage door were broken, and the door was not properly closed, when the train reached Giurgiu, a Danube port that borders Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian Defense Ministry confirmed in a press release that the recipient of the fuses was a Bulgarian company, not its armed forces.

It said the Interior Ministry's Dangerous Weapons Control Service had issued a permit for the transport of the delivery.

The train was loaded on Friday and stopped under guard overnight in the central Romanian town of Brasov, about 166 kilometers (103 miles) north of Bucharest, according to transport police. After leaving Saturday, it stopped for one hour in the mountain resort of Predeal.

Romanian national state company Romarm said the Bulgarian company was responsible for train security.



A POLICE CAR outside the apartment block where former News of the World reporter Sean Hoare (left) was found dead, in Watford, Hertfordshire, England, Monday. The death of the whistleblower reporter who alleged widespread hacking at the News of the World was not considered to be suspicious, according to Britain's Press Association news agency. Hoare was quoted by The New York Times as saying that phone-hacking was widely used and even encouraged at the News of the World tabloid under then-editor Andy Coulson. (AP)

BRITISH PM CALLS EMERGENCY SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

HACKING SCANDAL: TOP POLICE OFFICERS RESIGN, WHISTLEBLOWER FOUND DEAD

LONDON
Associated Press

BRITAIN'S tabloid phone-hacking scandal enveloped the London police force Monday with the rapid-fire resignations of two top officers and claims of possible illegal eavesdropping, bribery and collusion. U.K. officials immediately vowed to investigate.

Prime Minister David Cameron, feeling the political heat from his own close ties to individuals within Rupert Murdoch's media empire, cut short his trip to Africa and called an emergency session of Parliament for Wednesday so he could address lawmakers on the scandal.

U.K. lawmakers on Tuesday will grill Murdoch, his son James and Rebekah Brooks, the ousted chief executive of Murdoch's U.K. newspaper arm, in a widely anticipated televised public hearing on the scandal. Lawmakers hope to learn more about the scale of phone hacking by U.K. journalists and who — if anyone — in Murdoch's empire was aware of what allegedly took place at the now-defunct News of the World tabloid.

One of the first voices to blow the whistle on the phone hacking — former News of the World journalist Sean Hoare — was found dead Monday in Watford, about 25 miles (40 kilometers) northwest of London. Police said the death was being treated as unexplained but was not considered suspicious, according to Britain's Press Association.

Celebrities

Hoare was quoted by The New York Times saying that phone hacking — listening to the voice mail of celebrities, politicians, other journalists or even murder victims — was widely used and even encouraged at the News of the World under then-editor Andy Coulson.

Coulson — who most recently served as Prime Minister David Cameron's communications chief — was arrested as part of the widening investigation into phone hacking and police corruption.

The crisis has also triggered upheaval in the upper ranks of Britain's police. Monday's resignation of Assistant Commissioner John Yates — Scotland Yard's top anti-terrorist officer — followed that Sunday of police chief Paul Stephenson — both for links to an arrested former executive from Murdoch's shuttered News of the World tabloid.

The scandal over Murdoch journalists hacking into cell phones for scoops and paying police for information has



BRITISH PRIME MINISTER David Cameron. (AP)

knocked billions off the value of Murdoch's News Corp. The media baron was already forced to shut down the 168-year-old News of the World tabloid, accept the resignations of top deputies in Britain and in the U.S. and abandon his dream of taking full control of a lucrative satellite broadcaster, British Sky Broadcasting.

Britain's police watchdog on Monday said it had received allegations of potential wrongdoing in connection with phone hacking against four senior officers — Stephenson, Yates and two former senior officers. One of the claims is that Yates inappropriately helped get a job for the daughter of former News of the World editor, Neil Wallis, one of 10 people arrested in the scandal.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission said it was looking into the claims.

Yates insisted he had done nothing wrong. "I have acted with complete integrity," he said. "My conscience is clear."

But the government quickly announced an inquiry into police-media relations and corruption.

"Who polices the police?" asked Home Secretary Theresa May as she announced an inquiry into "instances of undue influence,

information to fuel sensational scoops for her gossipy tabloids.

Cameron's critics grew louder in London as the prime minister visited South Africa on a two-day visit to the continent. The trip was already cut in half by the crisis and Cameron trimmed another seven hours from his itinerary as his government faced growing questions about its cosy relationship with the Murdoch empire.

Parliament was to break for the summer but Cameron demanded that lawmakers reconvene Wednesday "so I can make a further statement."

Cameron insisted his Conservative-led government had "taken very decisive action" by setting up a judge-led inquiry into the wrongdoing at the now-defunct Murdoch tabloid News of the World and into the overall relations between British politicians, the media and police.

"We have helped to ensure a large and properly resourced police investigation that can get to the bottom of what happened, and wrongdoing, and we have pretty much demonstrated complete transparency in terms of media contact," Cameron said.

But opposition leader Ed Miliband said Cameron needed to answer "a whole series of questions" about his relationships with Brooks, James Murdoch and Coulson, the former News of the World editor whom Cameron later hired as his communications chief.

Coulson resigned from that post in January was arrested earlier this month in the scandal.

"At the moment, he seems unable to provide the leadership the country needs," Miliband said of Cameron.

At Tuesday's televised hearing, politicians will seek more details from the two Murdochs and Brooks about the scale of criminality at the News of the World. The Murdochs will try to avoid incriminating themselves or doing more harm to their business without misleading Parliament, which is a crime.

The showdown comes as James Murdoch — chairman of BSKyB and chief executive of his father's European and Asian operations — appears increasingly isolated following the departure of Brooks.

James Murdoch did not directly oversee the News of the World, but he approved payments to some of the paper's most prominent hacking victims, including 700,000 pounds (\$1.1 million) to Professional Footballers' Association chief Gordon Taylor. That could make him a possible candidate for arrest or resignation.

James Murdoch said last

week that he "did not have a complete picture" when he approved the payouts.

Murdoch is eager to stop the crisis from spreading to the United States, where many of his most lucrative assets — including the Fox TV network, 20th Century Fox film studio, The Wall Street Journal and the New York Post — are based.

News Corp. on Monday appointed lawyer Anthony Grabner to run its Management and Standards Committee, which will deal with the phone hacking scandal. It said the committee will cooperate with all investigations on hacking and alleged police payments, and carry out its own inquiries.

In New York, News Corp.'s widely traded Class A shares fell 69 cents, or 4.4 percent, to \$14.96 in early afternoon trading on Monday. The shares are down 15.5 percent since the end of June.

Judd Legum, a media expert at the Washington-based Center for American Progress, said there was "potential liability" in the U.S. for News Corp., which could face substantial fines if found to have violated the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. He said the Justice Department had been aggressively pursuing such cases.

Business

"Even if it happens abroad, under U.S. law you can't bribe foreign officials for business," said Legum, noting that investigators would have to determine whether top executives were "directly involved" in bribery if individual prosecutions were to proceed.

Stephenson, the London police chief, resigned Sunday over his ties to Wallis, who has been arrested in the scandal and was employed as a part time PR consultant to the force for a year until September.

He said he had nothing to do with the earlier phone hacking inquiry or with Wallis, but was resigning to allow his agency to focus on the London 2012 Olympics instead of leadership changes.

Yates, also accused of links to Wallis, resigned after being told he would be suspended pending an ethics investigation. Yates will be replaced by Assistant Commissioner Cressida Dick on an interim basis.

At an 2003 appearance before U.K. lawmakers, Brooks admitted that News International had paid police for information.

But she has always said she did not know any phone hacking was going on when she was editor of the News of the World between 2000 and 2003 — a claim many find hard to believe.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



CLAIMS THAT THE SYSTEM WAS BEING USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES

NATO HITS RADAR AT TRIPOLI'S AIRPORT

BRUSSELS
Associated Press

NATO warplanes destroyed the radar antenna at Tripoli International Airport on Monday, the alliance said, claiming the system was being used for military purposes by Moammar Gadhafi's regime. Libyans said NATO hit civilian radar used by air traffic control to guide U.N. and relief agency flights into the airport.

In fighting on the ground Monday, rebels battled their way inside the oil port of Brega in eastern Libya in an attempt to push out government troops who have held the town for at least two months.

A NATO statement said the air traffic control radar at the civilian airport made NATO jets vulnerable to attacks by Libyan air defences.

"The antenna, which was previously used for civilian air traffic control, was being used by pro-Gadhafi forces to track NATO air assets in the airspace over Tripoli and to coordinate their own air defence early warning system," the statement said.

NATO, which has bombed dozens of military radar sites in the four-month war, said the no-fly zone over Libya made it unnecessary to use the radar for civilian purposes.

NATO has no ground forces in Libya and does not release any casualty figures from the ground raids. But Naji Daw, acting director of air navigation at Tripoli International Airport, said two people were injured in Monday's control tower attack.

The alliance has been criticised for allegedly overstepping the limited U.N. Security Council mandate that allowed it to launch the airstrikes against Gadhafi's forces. The council imposed a ban on all flights and approved the use of "all measures" to protect civilians.

In the fighting in Brega, rebels in the northeastern residential area fought Gadhafi forces who attacked them from the town's south. The clashes killed five rebels and wounded 10, according to hospital official Mohammed Idris.

Most of the rest of eastern Libya is under rebel control, and early on in the uprising against Gadhafi's rule Brega changed hands frequently.

Another group of rebels attacked the southern part of the town from the desert. Besides the southern neighborhoods, Gadhafi's troops were also still in control of the town's key oil export facilities.

An Associated Press reporter on the scene witnessed the heavy clashes, with both sides using Grad rockets. Heavy black clouds of smoke rose from the city.

Gadhafi's forces have planted hundreds of land mines along the roads around

"The antenna, which was previously used for civilian air traffic control, was being used by pro-Gadhafi forces to track NATO air assets in the airspace over Tripoli and to coordinate their own air defence early warning system."

Brega, including on the main road linking it with the rebel-held city of Ajdabiya farther east, according to rebels.

NATO has carried out nearly 6,000 airstrikes since it took over command from a U.S.-led coalition. It claims to have hit hundreds of tanks, armoured vehicles, guns, weapons depots, command and control centers and other targets, but it has failed to dislodge Gadhafi's regime.

Only six of NATO's 28 members are currently taking part in the attacks, spearheaded by France and Britain. Some allies have said the operation is unnecessarily diverting attention from NATO's main priority, the war in Afghanistan.

Daw said this was the first strike against the civilian airport in Tripoli. Two missiles hit the top of the control tower, where the radar's rotating dish was located.

Daw said the target was a Spanish-built surveillance radar that wasn't tracking planes but just receiving transponder signals from aircraft that emit them.

"We lost a useful tool" he said. The radar "is used all the time by Red Crescent, Red Cross and U.N. flights, all civilian purposes."

Because of technical limitations, civilian radar cannot track and target aircraft in the same way as military radars. But civilian radar can be used to monitor the airspace and provide general information on the speed and altitude of intruders.

A NATO official argued this made the antenna a threat and thus a legitimate military target.

"There is no requirement for pro-Gadhafi forces to coordinate the airspace ... and all air traffic flow has been effectively coordinated by NATO since the start of the implementation of the no-fly zone," said the official, on condition of anonymity due to standing rules.

"NATO has and continues to control Libyan airspace in order to ensure the safe entrance of all legitimate humanitarian and diplomatic flights entering Libya," he said.

The Convention on International Civil Aviation — also known as the Chicago Convention — forbids attacks on civilian planes or airports, meaning warring sides generally refrain from attacking radars and other navigational aids.

But a leading analyst said the rule was sometimes dis-

regarded, amid claims that these were being covertly used for military purposes — as during the Serb shelling of Sarajevo airport in the Bosnian war or Israel's airstrikes against Beirut airport in 2006.

"Technically it is against international law to go against civilian navigational facilities," said Bill Voss, president of the Flight Safety Foundation, which promotes aviation safety worldwide. "But the case can sometimes be made that they are not really civilian."

Meanwhile, European Union foreign ministers on Monday condemned the "grave violations of human rights" perpetrated by the Gadhafi's regime, saying the Libyan leader must relinquish power immediately.

IN THIS PHOTO taken on a government-organised tour, journalists and government employees stand near a radar antenna that was damaged by an airstrike early in the morning, at the international airport in Tripoli, Libya, Monday. NATO warplanes destroyed the radar antenna at Tripoli International Airport on Monday, the alliance said, claiming the system was being used for military purposes by Moammar Gadhafi's regime. A statement said the air traffic control radar at the civilian airport was tracking NATO jets and the providing information to Libyan air defences. (AP)

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'Protect ourselves' on single regional airspace proposals

* Bahamian airline chief warns on 'flag of convenience' concerns stemming from airline certification backdoor
* Questions whether government ready for concept, given competitive threat to Bahamasair

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas was yesterday urged to "make sure regulations are in place to protect ourselves" before signing up to a single regional airspace, a leading airline calling on the Government to guard against being used as a "flag of convenience".

Captain Randy Butler, president and chief

executive of Sky Bahamas, told Tribune Business that while he personally supported the development of a single CARICOM airspace, as envisaged by the 2007 San Juan Accord and other agreements, there were questions over whether the Bahamian government was ready for it due to the increased competition for Bahamasair that

SEE page 4B



CAPT. RANDY BUTLER

NO HAWKSBILL 'OVERRIDE' IN CUSTOMS BILL

* Minister says Bill drafters did consult with private sector, but does not recall consultative committee



Zhivargo Laing

By **NATARIO MCKENZIE**
Tribune Business Reporter

MINISTER of State for Finance, Zhivargo Laing, said yesterday that the Customs Management Bill 2011 was not designed to 'circumvent' the Hawksbill Creek Agreement, adding that it was solely intended to modernise the revenue collector's legislative framework. "We did not develop this Bill with the intent to erode any provision of the Hawksbill Creek Agreement; that was not the intent at all," Mr Laing told Tribune Business yesterday.

"No provision in this Bill was intended to erode any-

SEE page 3B

SECURITY & GENERAL GAINS NEW TOP MAN

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Colonial Group International, the Bermuda-based insurance group, has appointed Terence Rollins as general manager of its Bahamian-based general insurance underwriter, Security & General.

Informed sources had told

SEE page 2B

Maritime chairman: Act 'commercially essential'

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas Maritime Authority's (BMA) chairman yesterday defended the passage of the Maritime Marriage Bill 2010 as "commercially essential", given that cruise ships accounted for a greater share of its annual \$15-\$16 million turnover than their 18 per cent share of the ship registry's gross tonnage.

Ian Fair told Tribune Business the legislation was "vitaly important" to maintaining the Bahamian ship registry's high-quality reputation and avoid a desertion of cruise ships to rival registers, such as Malta and Bermuda, admitting there had been "huge pressure to pass this" from the major lines. However, he described as a "com-

* BMA chief describes as 'complete myth' fears over Maritime Marriage law

* Says cruise ships account for greater share of \$15-\$16m BMA turnover than 18% tonnage share

* Preventing cruise ship departures 'vitaly important' to registry's reputation

* But Bahamian businesses fear loss of cruise weddings

plete myth" fears the legislation would cost Bahamas-based businesses, reliant on the destination wedding, customers and market share. Mr Fair pointed out that the cruise lines would be conducting weddings in Bahamian waters with or without the new Act, but in

the case of without, it would not be on a Bahamas-registered ship. Branding passage of the Maritime Marriage (weddings at sea) Act as "crucial" to the BMA and its finances, Mr Fair told

SEE page 3B

Bad loan recovery to take 2-3 years

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

It will take "two-three years at a minimum" for the Bahamian commercial banking industry to work out its \$1.194 billion total bad loan portfolio and reduce this to close to pre-recession levels, Tribune Business has been told.

Anwer Sunderji, Fidelity Bank (Bahamas) chief executive, said "the situation will improve" once there is a broad-based recovery in the overall Bahamian economy, although the banking industry will be on the tail-end of any rebound since it will take time for struggling commercial and residential borrowers to bring their loans current.

"I think it's just a question of time and the situation will improve," Mr Sunderji told Tribune Business. "It's a macro-economic issue, not a micro-economic issue. Ultimately, I think time and an economic recovery will drive an improvement in the arrears situation."

However, asked by Tribune Business how long it would take for the Bahamian commercial banking industry to reduce its arrears/non-performing loan portfolio to pre-recession levels, Mr Sunderji told this newspaper: "I think it's two-three years at a minimum. This is a particularly severe recession, and it will take time."

He added, though, that "tracking" the loan arrears levels on a month-to-month basis was "not particularly relevant", given that 'peaks' and 'troughs' in the total bad credit amount would occur from time to time.

The Central Bank's report on monthly economic developments for May 2011 revealed that total private sector loan arrears increased by \$20 million or 1.7 per cent to \$1.194 billion, with the total arrears ratio rising by 30 basis points to 19 per cent - bringing the default ratio ever-closer to \$1 out of every \$5 in outstanding credit.

SEE page 4B



ANWER SUNDERJI

GAS TRACKER
Shell \$5.25
Esso \$5.16
FUEL
Texaco \$5.22

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.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS ARE TARGETING AUG 8 LAUNCH

* Interim Bahamas Chapter to focus on grant/contract writing support for Government and businesses

* Bahamas gained just four out of 376 CEDA grants

* Targeting COB link for young talent

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

An interim Bahamas Chapter of the regional management consultants' Institute is set for launch on August 8, one of its first initiatives focusing on grant-writing support for small businesses, given that Bahamian firms received just four of the 376 packages made available by the Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA).

Don Demeritte, who is spearheading the initiative, told Tribune Business that the proposed Bahamian Chapter of the Caribbean Institute of Certified Management Consultants (CICMC) would also seek to forge close links with the College of the Bahamas (COB), in a bid to attract talented young Bahamians to the profes-

SEE page 4B

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BUSINESS

SECURITY & GENERAL GAINS NEW TOP MAN

FROM page 1B

Tribune Business that Mr Rollins had been appointed to take over the reins at the property and casualty carrier more than a year after the last full-time incumbent, Marc Shirra, had left the post. Mr Rollins' first day in his new post was yesterday. Married to a Bahamian, he has worked across the world in various insurance markets, including Jamaica, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the UK, Saudi Arabia, Oman and the Channel Islands.

COURTESY CALLS

COLINA AGENTS VISIT CONSUL GENERAL IN ATLANTA

BAHAMAS CONSUL GENERAL Katherine Smith recently hosted Executive Agents of the Colina Imperial Insurance Agency during their attendance at the Million Dollar Round Table Conference, held in Atlanta. Consul General Smith was also a speaker during the agents appreciation dinner. The agents are pictured along with Consul General Smith at the official residence of the Consul General in Atlanta.



HAITIAN CONSUL GENERAL COURTESY CALL



NEW CONSUL GENERAL for Haiti in Atlanta made a courtesy call to The Bahamas Consulate General in Atlanta. Pictured at the meeting are (left to right) Reginald Michel, Vice Consul at the Haitian Consulate, Consul General Katherine Smith and new Consul General for Haiti Gandy Thomas. "Considering the close ties The Bahamas enjoys with Haiti we expect the relationship with the Consul General for Haiti in Atlanta to be equally as important," noted Katherine B. Smith, Consul General.



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BUSINESS

20% soft costs 'killing' Bahamian home buyers

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Business Reporter

Home purchase "soft costs", adding up to 20 per cent of a property's value, are putting ownership and mortgages out of reach of many Bahamians, a former president of the Bahamian Contractors Association (BCA) said yesterday, with negative knock-on effects for the construction sector.

Stephen Wrinkle said: "It's a difficult situation that's being influenced by local as well as international factors, and unfortunately we are caught in a global recession. It's only going to be when that sorts itself out that we are going to get some fresh direct foreign investment that will stimulate the economy enough so that Bahamians will be able to afford to buy homes again."

"I think the log jam is in the fact that Bahamians are not qualifying for their mortgages, and there are a number of factors affecting that. The banks have made the qualifications a bit more stringent; they have required people to put up more cash, to take a bigger equity position."

"The closing costs on the property, the closing cost on the mortgage, the closing cost on the legal transactions, the cost of the insurance, all of the soft costs that go into pur-



STEPHEN WRINKLE

chasing a home can add up to 20 per cent of the home, and this is killing the poor Bahamian working individual. They just can't afford to take out a mortgage and come up with 20 per cent additional cash; it just isn't there."

Mr Wrinkle said this is having an adverse affect on the Bahamian construction industry. "No houses, no work. I don't care how many Baha Mars you have, unless the housing sector gets going, the construction industry is going to be in a slump. The housing sectors accounts for two thirds of the work force in the construction industry," he added.

Mr Wrinkle noted that despite the fact that the dollar

“Until we can find a way to reignite the housing market we are going to be in a slump in our sector. Its' going to be a struggle.”

figure is higher on a project like Baha Mar, for instance, the actual trickle down effect is not as significant as the housing sector.

Housing

"All work is good for construction, but the housing sector is the dominant area for employment in construction and for trickle down economics. Until we can find a way to reignite the housing market we are going to be in a slump in our sector. Its' going to be a struggle," Mr Wrinkle said.

A report by a United Nations (UN) body noted that the Bahamian construction industry "value added plummeted 23.5 per cent in 2010", which together with a

decline in private sector credit growth reflected "flagging investor confidence" and foreign direct investment. T

The report noted that the sharp fall in construction reflected a downturn in foreign investment-funded projects and domestic private investment, as investors wait for the global and local recovery to strengthen.

In its analysis of the Bahamian economy for its 2010-2011 *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* report, the UN's Economic Commission for the region (ECLAC) revealed that "total loan disbursements for new construction and repairs fell by 37 per cent, while mortgage commitments, an indicator of future activity, fell in number by 10 per cent".

"We need to look at alternative methods for purchasing home and lot packages. We need to look at alternative methods for financing, for qualifying, for insurance."

"We need to get all of the stakeholders around the table and try to reformulate the process of home ownership in the Bahamas because the current model is not effective," Mr Wrinkle said.

He added that the BCA is currently in discussions with the banking sector and the Ministry of Works to identify new avenues that will alleviate some of the burdens for Bahamians looking to become homeowners.

NO HAWKSBILL 'OVERRIDE' IN CUSTOMS BILL

FROM page 1B

thing in the Hawksbill Creek Agreement, but rather to enhance Customs' ability to do its job anywhere in the country. That job has to be consistent with the law. We are modernising the legislative framework of Customs, and we are seeking to cause our borders to be better protected, our revenue to be more efficiently and effectively collected in accordance with the law, and to put Customs officers in the best professional environment to do their jobs."

Several Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) licensees have expressed concerns that the new legislation may contain provisions that attempt to circumvent or override the Hawksbill Creek Agreement. Mr Laing said he was only made aware of those concerns through statements in the press, and was unclear exactly what particular provisions raised concern.

"Sometimes you can pass a law that has unintended consequences and you can make adjustments accordingly, that is possible. It has to be that someone can point to a particular provision and say this is a problem for us, or we don't understand it so clearly, or we don't think it will fulfill its intent," Mr Laing said.

"When the drafters of the Bill were drafting it they met with private sector representatives. You are never going to get into a situation where everyone is going to see it, but you use your consultative process based on representation, and that did happen when the drafters were drafting the Bill."

"I don't know about a committee that was supposed to be formed. I am not aware that the Government appointed any committee as such, but I know that in the consultative process there were meetings held with stakeholders in trying to go over the provisions of the Bill, and some comments made by those persons were reflected in the Bill."

Mr Laing said that he agreed with comments made by Freeport-based attorney Fred Smith to the effect that if there was something in the Bill which contradicted the Hawksbill Creek Agreement, it could face challenges in the courts.

"That is very true. That's why our courts exist. That is not an issue for us at all; we did not develop this Bill to erode that agreement," Mr Laing said.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT, 2000

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In Voluntary Liquidation

NOTICE is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of The International Business Companies Act, 2000, VASELEKOS CORPORATION is in dissolution.

The date of commencement of the dissolution was the 13th day of July A.D., 2011.

Mr. Michael C. Miller, P.O. Box EE-17971, Nassau, Bahamas is the liquidator of VASELEKOS CORPORATION.

Michael C. Miller
Liquidator

Maritime chairman: Act 'commercially essential'

FROM page 1B

Tribune Business: "I can't stress it more highly. The reality is there was some suggestion that allowing weddings at sea by Bahamian-registered vessels would take away business from the likes of Atlantis and Sandals. That's a complete myth."

Cruise ship passengers can already marry on vessels plying Bahamian waters, Mr Fair said, but, until passage of the Act, could not do so on vessels registered in the Bahamas. He added that Princess and one other cruise line had already switched to the Maltese shipping register specifically because they could then conduct weddings at sea.

"It's big business for the cruise ships. There's been heavy pressure to pass this for a number of years," Mr Fair said of the new Act. "What would have happened if cruise ships had continued to leave us to go to Malta or Bermuda? They would still have conducted wedding business, but not on Bahamas-registered ships."

The BMA chairman said the Oasis of the Seas, in particular, had built a "massive wedding chapel" in anticipation of conducting numerous marriages. He added that one cruise line had given a Powerpoint presentation showing how much additional revenues would accrue to the Bahamas, in terms of marriage licences, registration fees and the like, if Bahamian-registered ships were permitted to conduct weddings at sea.

"It's a complete win-win for us," Mr Fair said, telling Tribune Business that cruise ships accounted for about 18 per cent of the 56,000 gross tonnes currently registered on the Bahamian ship registry.

"It's the reputation of that cruise ship side that is important to us. Cruise ships are of a high quality nature, and do high quality business, and go to high quality registries. People look at the Bahamas registry, and say: 'If it's good enough for them, it's good enough for me'. The reputation side was vitally important."

"It would be a major mistake not to allow weddings at sea, and it will not impact on local businesses. It was a critical element for us, and we're delighted it passed..... It was commercially essential."

Mr Fair described the BMA as "a real money spinner", generating some \$15-\$16 million per annum, with cruise ships accounting for a greater share of that income than their 18 per cent of the ship register's gross tonnage.

Apart from generating registration income by placing their ships on the Bahamian register, Mr Fair said there were far more persons employed on cruise ships than other vessel types, thus making them far more



IAN FAIR

valuable in terms of generating additional revenue streams, such as renewing seamen's books."

"That's another element of the cruise ship industry - a lot of add-on income," Mr Fair explained. "There are way more people on cruise ships. They represent 18 per cent in terms of tonnage, but in terms of income, money, they represent something more than that because of the money gained from renewing seamen's

books."

The BMA was also concerned that if one cruise line decided to leave the Bahamian registry because of the 'weddings at sea' issue, there would be a 'domino effect, as competitors followed their lead.

"Once one company says they're going, others will say: 'Hang on, if they're going, we're going as well'. It's a slippery slope, and if you try to reverse it then you will get no gratitude, and will be fighting a rear-guard action," Mr Fair said.

Others, though, are not so sure about the consequences for Bahamian businesses that rely on the destination wedding market.

The Bahamas Bridal Association declined to comment, but Tribune Business understands that concerns relate not so much to stopover tourist weddings, but the business obtained from cruise ship passengers visiting Nassau and Freeport.

Ryan Pinder, PLP MP for Elizabeth, in his House of Assembly presentation, alleged that the legislation could "cannibalise" the Bahamas' wedding business, impacting more than 1,000 marriage officers.

"My good friend Matthew Sweeting is a marriage officer, where performing marriages is a significant, if not a primary source of his family income," Mr Pinder said.

"Ninety-eight per cent of his weddings are to tourist destination weddings. In fact, Matthew has a business arrangement with a US travel company where he caters to weddings from cruise ships, performing up to six cruise ship weddings a week during the busy season. This is just one company, one marriage officer."

"His livelihood could now be at risk, his career of catering to destination weddings, and even cruise ship weddings is in danger. But it isn't only Matthew Sweeting who is at risk. Matthew was telling me during his busy season he can employ upwards of 30 Bahamians in his wedding business, many solely because of the requirements imposed by cruise ships and their travel coordinators."

Arguing that the destination wedding market was essentially "recession proof", Mr Pinder said the legislation's consequences might negatively impact flower shops, bakeries and cake makers, limousine and taxi drivers, and Bahamian disc jockeys (DJs).

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- Detects and prevents criminal activities by inspecting both the exterior and interior of the Bank and it's property before the staff enter and is opened to the public
- May assist with transporting cash between bank branches
- May assist with receiving cash shipments after normal business hours when necessary
- Monitors and replaces security video tapes
- Assist with some administrative duties while on duty
- Maintains a keen sense of awareness

Minimum Requirements:

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- Ability to pay attention to details and situations
- A clean driver's license
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- Strong oral and interpersonal skills

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BUSINESS

'Protect ourselves' on single regional airspace proposals

FROM page 1B

would result.

He also, though, pointed to the potential pitfalls for the Bahamas if a single regional airspace became a reality, saying these had been highlighted by the recent controversy surrounding Barbados-based low-cost carrier, REDjet, and its struggles in getting permission to fly to Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago.

Captain Butler said REDjet, which is incorporated in St Lucia, had made its home in Barbados, a Category Two country with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

As a result of this Category Two status, which relates to weaknesses identified by the US supervisory authority with Barbados's aviation regulatory structure, carriers based there cannot fly directly to the US because they lack the proper certification.

However, under a single regional airspace as envisaged by the San Juan Accord and CASSOS, the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS), CARICOM member states - such as the Bahamas - would have to accept all airlines certified by their fellow members, Captain Butler said, as a uniform regulatory system would be created.

Once certified in one CARICOM country, they have to effectively be certified by all others, and the Sky Bahamas' chief said that in the absence of safeguards built into regional air transportation services agreements, it was thus possible for carriers in Category Two countries to obtain certification from Category One countries, such as the Bahamas.

Captain Butler said such a 'back door' route could allow 'Category Two' country carriers to use certification from the

Bahamas to enter the US market. And, once in possession of Bahamian certification, he added that this nation became responsible for oversight of such carriers, creating potential reputational risk.

"We don't want to be considered as facilitating certification - a flag of convenience," Captain Butler told Tribune Business. "Before we go into these agreements, we need to make sure regulations are in place to protect ourselves.

"It's a real issue we're going to have to look at. It's going to be good for the transportation industry, but we're going to have to make sure the proper rules and regulations are in place to make sure we're not used for something we don't want to be."

Permission

REDjet was yesterday given permission to fly to both Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago from its Barbados base, but Captain Butler said the Bahamas should implement regulations that would enable it to refuse certification to airlines operating from countries that did not meet international standards set by the likes of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

"They did not put that in there, and are now bound," Captain Butler said of the San Juan Accord and CASSOS.

"We have to be careful about that. We have to ensure all the countries in the Caribbean come up to the same standard with ICAO."

CASSOS is an initiative designed to coordinate Caribbean aviation industry technical expertise and provide cost effective oversight, harmonising licensing, certification and inspection procedures.

The Bahamas has yet to sign on to CAS-

SOS, although Barbados and Trinidad, plus some other Caribbean states, have already done so.

The other issue with the San Juan Accord and CASSOS, Captain Butler added, was that signing on to them would pave the way for rival regional carriers to enter the Bahamian market and provide stiffer competition for Bahamasair, thereby creating a dilemma for the Government.

"I'm all for competition, all for liberalisation and harmonisation of the rules - the rules are the same for everybody," Captain Butler told Tribune Business.

"The challenge we're going to have now: Is the Government going to continue to support Bahamasair? Is the Government ready for Bahamasair to compete now and stand on its own feet? It will not only have competition from the likes of Sky Bahamas, it's going to have Caribbean Airlines competition and REDjet competition.

"They are going to be better funded and better structured in terms of not carrying the debt." Caribbean Airlines earlier this month applied for Bahamian regulatory permission to resume the thrice-weekly round trip service to Kingston previously performed by Air Jamaica, the carrier it has now absorbed.

Captain Butler was speaking after Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, minister of tourism and aviation, told Tribune Business that he agreed in principle with the concept of a single Caribbean regional airspace, especially since it could boost intra-regional travel.

However, he acknowledged that "politics and sovereignty", and traditional rights "jealously guarded" by governments, were formidable obstacles standing in the way.

Management consultants targeting August 8 launch

FROM page 1B

sion.

Speaking to this newspaper after returning from the CICMC regional conference in Santo Domingo, where he outlined progress in establishing the Bahamas Chapter, Mr Demeritte confirmed that the latter would be established - with interim status - in early August 2011.

"It went very well," he said of the CICMC conference. "They agreed to give us a go on August 8. We are looking to officially launch on August 8." In his presentation to the Santo Domingo conference, Mr Demeritte said that after the Interim Chapter was launched, the Bahamas was looking to have two Certified Management Consultants (CMCs) by year-end.

That development will allow the fully-fledged Bahamas Chapter to launch in the 2012 first quarter, and Mr Demeritte told the Santo Domingo conference that this nation wanted to have a "minimum" four additional CMC-qualified Bahamians - making a total of at least six with the designation - by December 2012.

Targeting "more opportunities" for Bahamian management consultants through the Chapter's launch, Mr Demeritte told Tribune Business: "We also want to begin to speak to COB to attract young students to the sector. That is the growth for sure. We see that as the way to grow and strengthen the sector.

"The EU has provided CEDA with the means and support to actually implement and strengthen the consulting industry."

In his Santo Domingo presentation, Mr Demeritte said an October 2010 CICMC survey had shown that the management consulting industry faced stiff competition from non-Caribbean firms.

He noted that management consulting faced "a two-tiered market with a weak middle", as the survey found that 63.4 per cent of the industry's clients spent less than \$100,000 per annum on such services, accounting for just 10.1 per cent of the market.

And just 12.9 per cent of the Caribbean management consulting industry's clients spent \$500,000 or more per annum on the sector, accounting for 62.3 per cent of the overall market.

Mr Demeritte told Tribune Business that these market characteristics also applied to the Bahamas, with the "big boys, the accounting firms, having the lion's share of what stays here".

"We will be seeking to offer our services to the Government and all sectors on writing proposals for grants and contracts," he said. "When you look at the amount of grants granted to the Bahamas by CEDA, we got four out of 376. That spoke to the fact we did not take the approach Jamaica and others took.

"They had consultants sitting down and writing proposals for those funds, as opposed to small and medium-sized enterprises sitting down and writing proposals for themselves. As a client group, we'd like to perform that task not just for SMEs but the Government, and be there for Bahamians."

Mr Demeritte added that Bahamian consultants needed to be "creating business for themselves, as opposed to waiting for business opportunities", and generate significant volume.

In his Santo Domingo presentation, Mr Demeritte said many Caribbean management consultants viewed their home and regional markets as being too small, instead focusing on growth opportunities in regions such as the US, Europe and Asia.

As a result, there was no effort to serve SMEs, even though they were the "most important client base", given that they accounted, in the Bahamas, for some 90 per cent of registered businesses - albeit, contributing just 5.3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) on a per annum basis.

FROM page 1B

Bad loan recovery to take 2-3 years

"In terms of the average age, delinquencies in the short-term 31 to 90 days segment grew by \$11 million (2.2 per cent) to \$508 million, translating into an 18 basis point firming in the attendant ratio to 8.1 per cent," the Central Bank said.

Similarly, the non-performing component - those over 90 days - rose by \$9 million (1.3 per cent) to \$686 million, with the corresponding ratio to loans widening by 15 basis points to 10.9 per cent."

Meanwhile, another Bahamian banker, who requested anonymity, told Tribune Business that while the worst of the recession had passed, and a fledgling recovery appeared to be occurring, "the level of decline is so low that we're not seeing a massive rebound".

He added: "You've got to believe a year from today we will be better off than today, so

people will repay their debts and the levels will come down. Delinquencies overall will be a lagging indicator, and we'll be six months to a year behind it."

The banker added that while the Bahamas had "more investment ongoing in the \$3-\$4 billion range than all the rest of the Caribbean", in the form of Baha Mar, Albany, Balmoral, Turnberry, the Arawak Cay Port and the roads, the major obstacle appeared to be getting per capita spending from tourists back to pre-recession levels.

During May 2011, mortgage delinquencies rose by \$10.9 million or 1.8 per cent to \$632.8 million, largely due to a \$10.1 million or 3.4 per cent rise in the 31-90 days past due category. Non-performing mortgages increased by \$0.7 million or 0.2 per cent.

Consumer loan arrears, meanwhile, fell by \$3.8 million or 1.4 per cent, as both the short-term and non-performing categories fell by \$1.9 million. Banking industry loan loss provisions dropped by \$1.5 million or 0.5 per cent to \$283.2 million, with the ratio of provisions to arrears falling by 0.5 and 0.8 percentage points, respectively, to 23.7 per cent and 41.3 per cent.

Write-offs

Loan write-offs for May reached \$11.1 million, while recoveries stood at \$2.6 million. A further \$19.7 million worth of Bahamian commercial bank loans were restructured.

Debt consolidation loans accounted for the "majority of the credit growth" in April

2011, increasing by \$13.9 million.

While private car loans rose by \$2.1 million possibly as a function of the Motor Show, net debt repayments were registered in April for credit cards (\$1.9 million), 'miscellaneous' loans (\$1.8) million, home improvement loans (\$1.2 million) and education (\$0.8 million).

Although credit extended to Bahamian consumers, households and businesses firmed by \$7.5 million in May, compared to a \$16.9 million reduction in the same month in 2010, the majority of that - some \$5.2 million - was concentrated in consumer loans.

These had contracted by \$11.6 million in 2010, but commercial loans firmed by just \$300,000 in May 2011. Mortgages also firmed by \$1.9 million, but the trends shown by the Central Bank again indicate that banks are concentrating lending in smaller balance, higher interest rate-yielding consumer loans, rather than the productive areas of the economy.

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- Assess the financial position of impaired loans through cash flow projections, asset valuation, credit history and other financial measures
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- Strong analytical skills
- Bachelor's degree in Finance, Accounting or Business Administration
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WOMAN

The Tribune

B O D Y A N D M I N D

health

Drug stops HIV among hetero couples, not just gays

By MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

AN AIDS drug already shown to help prevent spread of the virus in gay men also works for heterosexual men and women, two studies in Africa found. Experts called it a breakthrough for the continent that has suffered most from AIDS.

"These studies could help us to reach the tipping point in the HIV epidemic," said Michael Sidibe, executive director of the United Nation's AIDS program, in a statement last Wednesday as the study results were announced.

"This is really a game changer," said Dr Jared Baeten, the University of Washington researcher who was a leader of one of the studies.

The prevention drug is Truvada, a pill already on pharmacy shelves to treat people with HIV. It's made by Gilead Sciences Inc. of Foster City, Calif. Another Gilead drug, Viread, was also used in one of the two African studies.

Earlier research with Truvada found it prevented spread of HIV to uninfected gay men. But experts were thrilled Wednesday at the first compelling evidence that AIDS medications can prevent infection between men and women. The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, which gave advice last Fall for use of the preventive drugs among gays, is now developing guidance for heterosexuals in this country.

At the same time, national and international health officials said it's far from clear how preventive use of these drugs will play out. How many people would want to take a pill each day to reduce their

risk of HIV infection? Would they stick with it? Would they become more sexually reckless?

Another issue: There already is a supply problem. In Africa, 6.6 million people are now on AIDS drugs, but 9 million people who are eligible for the treatment are on a waiting list, according to the World Health Organisation.

In the US, many state assistance programmes that help people access AIDS medications also have waiting lists.

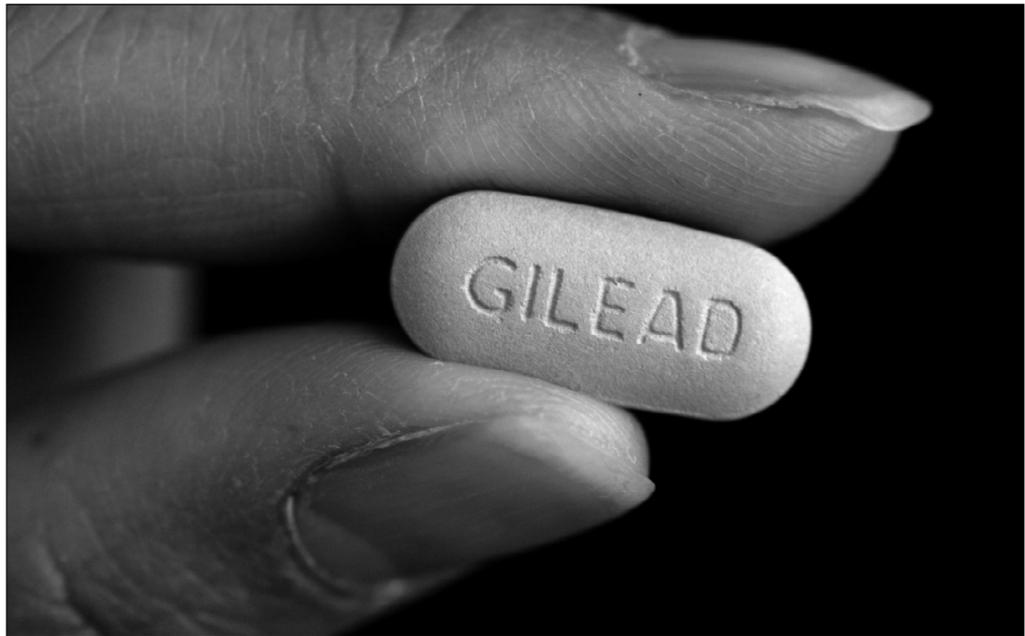
The first of the new studies, run by the CDC, involved more than 1,200 men and women in Botswana. About half took Truvada each day. The other half got a fake pill.

An analysis of those who were believed to be regularly taking the pills found four of those on Truvada became infected with HIV, compared to 19 on the dummy pill. That means the drug lowered the risk of infection by roughly 78 per cent, researchers said.

The second study was funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and run by the University of Washington. It involved more than 4,700 heterosexual couples in Kenya and Uganda. In each couple, one partner had HIV and the other did not. The uninfected were given either daily placebos or one of the Gilead pills — Truvada or Viread.

The study found 13 HIV infections among those on Truvada, 18 in those on Viread, and 47 of those on dummy pills. So the medications reduced the risk of HIV infection by 62 per cent to 73 per cent, the researchers said.

"Our results provide clear evi-



GILEAD Sciences Inc.'s Truvada pill in their lab in Foster City, California. Two studies announced Wednesday, July 13, 2011 show the pill Truvada helped prevent the spread of the AIDS virus between heterosexual couples in Africa. The drug is already used to treat people with HIV. (AP)

dence that this works in heterosexuals," said Baeten, who co-chaired the study.

An independent review panel on Sunday said the benefit was clear-cut and stopped handing out placebos, instead offering the preventive drugs. Essentially, they deemed it unethical to withhold the medications from people who had been on placebo, Baeten said.

In both studies, participants also

were offered counselling and free condoms, which may help explain the relatively low overall infection rate.

The studies were to be announced at an AIDS conference in Rome next week. But following the recommendation of the review panel to the University of Washington study, both study teams made hasty decisions to release the results.

These are the third and fourth widely reported studies of Gilead's treatments.

The first was announced last year, involving gay men in Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, South Africa, Thailand and the United States (San Francisco and Boston). Truvada lowered the chances of infection by 44 per cent, and by 73 per cent or more among men who took their pills most faithfully.

SCIENTISTS think the musky odour of human feet can be used to attract and kill mosquitoes that carry deadly malaria.



Scientists: Stinky sock smell helps fight malaria

By KATHARINE HOURELD
Associated Press

WHAT do mosquitoes like more than clean, human skin? Stinky socks. Scientists think the musky odour of human feet can be used to attract and kill mosquitoes that carry deadly malaria. The Gates Foundation announced on Wednesday that it will help fund one such pungent project in Tanzania.

If they can be cheaply mass-produced, the traps could provide the first practical way of controlling malaria infections outside. The increased use of bed nets and indoor spraying has already helped bring down transmissions inside homes.

Dutch scientist Dr Bart Knols first discovered mosquitoes were attracted to foot odour by standing in a dark room naked and examining where he was bitten, said Dr Fredros Okumu, the head of the research project at Tanzania's Ifakara Health Institute. But over the following 15 years, researchers struggled to put the knowledge to use.

Then Okumu discovered that the stinky smell — which he replicates using a careful blend of eight chemicals — attracts mosquitoes to a trap where they can be poisoned. The odour of human feet attracted four times as many mosquitoes as a human volunteer and the poison can kill up to 95 per cent of mosquitoes, he said.

Although the global infection rate of malaria is going down, there are still more than 220 million new cases of malaria each year. The UN estimates almost 800,000 of those people die. Most of them are children in Africa.

"This is the first time that we are focusing on controlling mosquitoes outside of homes," said Okumu, a Kenyan who has been ill with the disease himself several times. "The global goal of eradication of malaria will not be possible without new technologies."

Some experts worry eradication is unrealistic because of the lack of an effective malaria

vaccine and because some patients have developed resistance to the most effective malaria medicines.

"This is an interesting project," said Richard Tren, the director of health advocacy group Africa Fighting Malaria. "But there is no magic bullet. We are going to need a lot of different tools to fight malaria. Certainly we need to solve the problems of insecticide resistance and preserve the effectiveness of malaria drugs that we have at the moment."

Other scientists — including some funded by the Gates Foundation — are also researching equally novel ideas, including breeding genetically modified mosquitoes to wipe out malaria-spreading insects and creating a fungus that would kill the parasite.

Okumu received an initial grant of \$100,000 to help his research two years ago. Now the project has been awarded an additional \$775,000 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Grand Challenges Canada to conduct more research on how the traps should be used and whether they can be produced affordably.

Okumu said more research was needed to find the right place to put the traps. Too close would attract mosquitoes near the humans and expose them to greater risk of bites, but the devices would be ineffective if too far away.

The current traps are expensive prototypes but Okumu hopes to produce affordable traps that can be sold for between \$4 and \$27 each. He said they hoped to develop the devices so they would work at the ratio of 20 traps for every 1,000 people.

Edward Mwangi, who heads an alliance of 86 aid groups working to eradicate malaria in Kenya, said keeping costs low was key to developing successful technology in the developing world.

He said the current interventions such as the treated nets and malarial drugs had managed to reduce the child deaths caused by malaria in Africa by 50 per cent.

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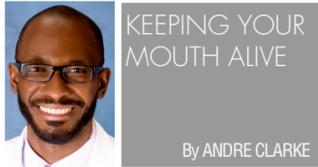
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WOMAN

The cost of keeping your mouth alive

"It seems like the cost of dental care keeps increasing. Dentists charge too much. Why should I pay so much for such a simple dental procedure?"



KEEPING YOUR MOUTH ALIVE

By ANDRE CLARKE

It appears that a financial investment into dental health is viewed as unimportant. The common cries that individuals have regarding the cost of dental treatment are numerous. However, the cost of medical healthcare services is generally accepted as an unavoidable necessity.

The importance of dental healthcare should be viewed as equal to the importance of medical healthcare.

It is seldom that a medical procedure would be put off because of costs; however, many patients are inclined to delay/forgo dental procedures because of cost.

They are willing to risk their dental health, and unknowingly, their medical health (because of the dento-medical connection) to save funds.

An important difference between medicine and dentistry is the perceived degree of control a patient has about whether he should treat his diagnosed dental health problem. The dental patient seems to have full control over how and when to address the professionally diag-

nosed dental health problem.

When a dentist makes a diagnosis, he is often time guilty of presenting the treatment options to the patient based on what he perceives the patient's budget to be. It is difficult to envision a medical doctor presenting treatment options biased by a patient's budget, albeit influenced by insurance coverage.

Nonetheless, the view that dental problems do not represent health emergencies and therefore do not require immediate remedy is erroneous and pervasive.

This misconception often causes the patient to create a false separation in their mind between the mouth and the rest of the body.

The continuum of the physiology of the mouth and body is not remembered and it is this perception, which creates the tendency to leave dental problems untreated.

A delay in seeking dental treatment does not make the problem go

away. It will just predispose to a more involved dental procedure to solve a previously less complex problem. It must be reiterated, that delaying dental treatment does not make a dental problem go away. It will make it get worse.

Tooth and gum diseases are generally accepted as chronic, progressive and destructive. They become more severe over time.

If a patient delays in seeking care, the cost of the inevitable dental intervention will generally be higher than if the patient had sought dental care at the first indication of pain.

Of note, most dental insurance plans, offer complete reimbursement of cleanings and checkups and only a percentage reimbursement of more complex procedures.

The dental insurance companies are being prudent with company funds and are also encouraging patients to invest in preventative measures instead of restorative measures. It is the strongest possible financial incentive to brush, floss, visit the dentist regularly and eat sensibly.

When compared to other surgical specialties that perform procedures in ambulatory care centres and hospital operating rooms, dental surgeons usually carry the burden of all of their operating costs.

This is because they perform procedures in their own offices. The dental surgeon therefore has to absorb the cost of equipment; supplies; electricity that powers equipment; x-ray machines; malpractice insurance and office space rental.

In addition, the dental healthcare professional has to absorb one of the biggest expenses; the cost of staff salaries. The staff is needed to make appointments; submit insurance forms; perform dental assistant duties and even dental hygienist duties.

All of this cost absorption is done with little or no ability to leverage suppliers for major discounts on materials and supplies. This lack of leverage is mainly due to the dental surgeon's inability to buy wholesale or in bulk, as a large healthcare centre or hospital would.

Therefore in reality, dentists do not make more than medical doctors or any other healthcare specialist because they have very large operational costs and large overheads.

Regardless of the aforementioned facts, it is unethical for a dental healthcare professional to place inappropriate fees on patients, to mitigate operation costs.

All ethical matters are usually addressed by the local dental asso-

ciation and the local dental council. These organisations seek to ensure good practice by dental healthcare professionals.

Your health is your most important asset. The health of your mouth and the health of your body is worth an investment in time and if necessary, money.

There is a connection between the mouth and the body that is scientifically proven and no longer can be ignored. Be prudent about your decisions concerning your overall health. One part of your body is not more important than the other. All parts are equally important. Keep your mouth alive.

• This article is for informational purposes only. It is not intended and may not be treated as, a substitute for professional medical/dental advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of a physician or dental professional with any questions you may have regarding a medical/dental condition. Never disregard professional medical/dental advice or delay in seeking it because of a purely informational publication.

If you have questions, please send an email to dr_andreclarke@hotmail.com. Dr André R Clarke, DDS, MBBS Special Care Dentist

Flip-flop fiascoes to sunburned toes

Tips for avoiding summer foot woes

(ARA) - Relaxing on the beach, hiking through the mountains, trekking around a new city or just keeping up with all the kids' summer activities - however you spend summer vacation, your feet will carry you through it all.

During the course of these adventures, your feet may endure stubbed toes, miles of walking, hot sand, and possibly even some sunburn. So be kind to your tootsies, and take note of these tips for protecting your feet from summer heat, courtesy of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA):

FOOT CARE ON THE ROAD

You may be looking forward to a beach vacation or lounging by the pool at a luxury hotel. But even those fun activities can take a toll on your feet if you don't practice proper safety.

"Even if you're just lying still on your back soaking up the sun's rays, your feet are still vulnerable," says Dr Michael King, president of the APMA. "You can seriously sunburn your feet. And no matter how up-scale your hotel is, athlete's foot can be present in all public pool areas."

To help steer clear of foot problems, walk barefoot as

little as possible. Going shoeless exposes your feet to sunburn, plantar warts, athlete's foot, ring worm and other infections, and increases the risk of injury. Wear shoes or flip-flops around the pool, to the beach, in locker rooms, and even inside your hotel room, as infection-causing bacteria can linger in carpets and on bathroom tiles.

Just as you rely on sunscreen and drinking plenty of water during the summer, these practices also help your feet. Apply sunscreen on your whole foot, especially the tops and fronts of ankles. Drink plenty of water throughout the day to help minimise foot swelling caused by the heat.

Always pack an extra pair of shoes, especially if you expect your feet will get wet. And take along a foot-care kit that includes sterile bandages, antibiotic cream, an emollient-enriched cream, blister pads and an anti-inflammatory pain-reliever.

AVOID FLIP-FLOP FIASCOES

Ditching heavy boots and wearing lighter footwear is one of the great joys of summer. But be aware that not all types of footwear are good for your feet. Flip-flops, in particular, can cause



problems.

"During warmer months, many podiatrists treat more foot problems, and they can often be traced back to the wearing of flip-flops," King says. "You don't have to give up wearing flip-flops altogether; certain types offer a superior amount of stability and support than

others."

So, what's considered a bad flip-flop? Flip-flops with soles that freely bend and twist offer no support or stability. Choose flip-flops that bend only at the ball of the foot and that provide arch support, which cushions the foot and provides stability. High-quality soft leather for

the thong part of the flip-flop will help you avoid blisters.

Your toes or heels should never hang off the edge of the flip-flop. Throw away flip-flops that are old, worn, cracked or frayed - no matter how much you loved them last season.

Finally, never wear flip-

flops for doing yard work, playing sports, or taking long walks. Do wear good, supportive flip-flops at the pool, beach, or in public places.

Your feet will take you to a lot of cool places this summer. Keeping them safe and comfortable can maximise the fun during your next warm-weather adventure.

Are grandparents safer drivers than mom and dad?

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

KIDS may be safest in cars when grandma or grandpa are driving instead of mom or dad, according to study results that even made the researchers do a double-take.

"We were surprised to discover that the injury rate was considerably lower in crashes where grandparents were the drivers," said Dr Fred Henretig, an emergency medicine specialist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the study's lead author.

Previous evidence indicates that car crashes are more common in older drivers, mostly those beyond age 65. The study looked at injuries rather than who had more crashes, and found that children's risk for injury was 50 per cent lower when riding with grandparents than with parents.

The results are from an analysis of State Farm insurance claims for 2003-07 car crashes in 15 states, and interviews with the drivers. The data involved nearly 12,000 children up to age 15.

Henretig, 64, said the study was prompted by his own experiences when his first grandchild was born three years ago.

"I found myself being very nervous on the occasions that

we drove our granddaughter around and really wondered if anyone had ever looked at this before," he said.

Reasons for the unexpected findings are uncertain, but the researchers have a theory.

"Perhaps grandparents are made more nervous about the task of driving with the 'precious cargo' of their grandchildren and establish more cautious driving habits" to compensate for any age-related challenges, they wrote.

The study was released online Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Northwestern University Professor Joseph Schofer, a transportation expert not involved in the research, noted that the average age of grandparents studied was 58.

"Grandparents today are not that old" and don't fit the image of an impaired older driver, he said. "None of us should represent grandparents as kind of hobbling to the car on a walker."

Grandparents did flub one safety measure. Nearly all the kids were in car seats or seat belts, but grandparents were slightly less likely to follow recommended practices, which include rear-facing backseat car seats for infants and no front-seats. But that didn't seem to affect injury rates.

Only about 10 per cent of

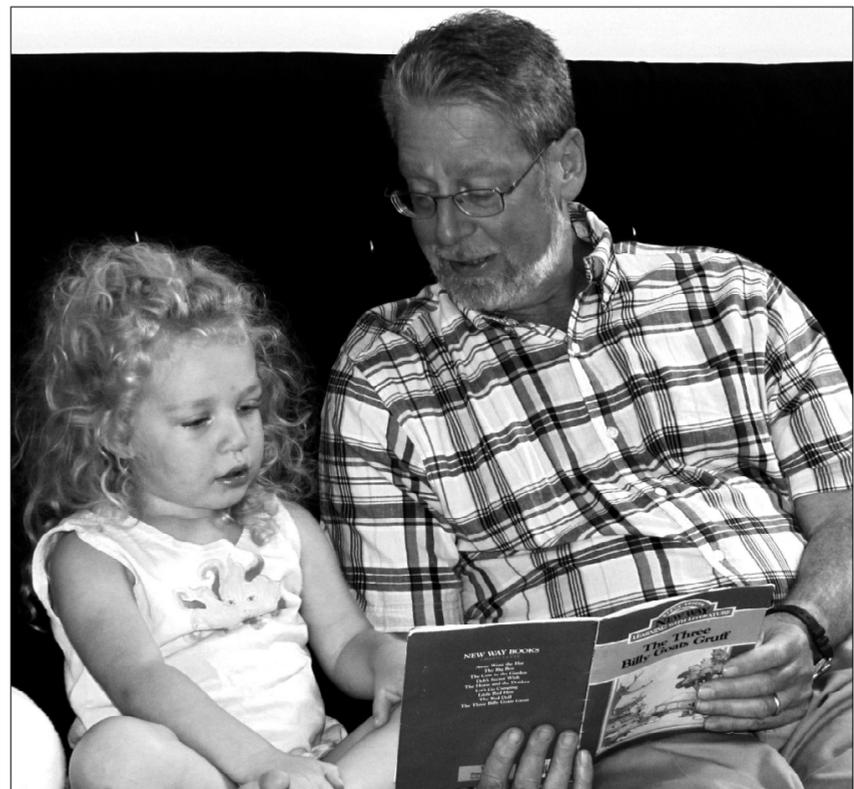
kids in the study were driven by grandparents, but they suffered proportionately fewer injuries.

Overall, 1.05 per cent of kids were injured when riding with parents, versus 0.70 per cent of those riding with grandparents, or a 33 per cent lower risk. The difference was even more pronounced — 50 per cent — when the researchers took into account other things that could influence injury rates, including not using car seats, and older-model cars.

Kids suffered similar types of injuries regardless of who was driving, including concussions, other head injuries and broken bones.

The study does not include data on deaths, but Henretig said there were very few. It also lacked information on the types of car trips involved; for example, driving in busy city traffic might increase chances for crashes with injuries.

Schofer, the Northwestern professor, said other unstudied circumstances could have played a role. For example, grandparents could be less distracted and less frazzled than busy parents dropping their kids off at school while rushing to get to work or to do errands. Driving trips might be "quality time" for older drivers and their grandchildren, Schofer said.



THIS PHOTO provided by Dr Fred Henretig, shows Henretig, an emergency medicine specialist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, with granddaughters, Violet, left, and Brett, on Sunday July 17, 2011, in Pond Eddy, NY. Henretig is the lead author of a study that says that children may be safest in cars when grandparents are driving instead of mom or dad. (AP)



GREAT SUPPORT: Family members show love and support to Niambi Hall-Campbell for achieving a doctoral degree in philosophy.

Diving into the psyche

By **JEFFARAH GIBSON**
Tribune Features Writer

NIAMBI Hall-Campbell's keen interest in issues such as race, equality, and solidarity along with her passion to affect change through community efforts, were the driving force that led her to pursue and successfully complete a doctorate in psychology.

Before deciding what area of psychology to delve into, becoming a clinical psychologist was the first thing that came to mind.

"I was always interested in psychology and thought that I would be a counselor or clinical psychologist. I changed my mind my senior year in college when I took a fieldwork course and realized that work-

ing with people on an individual level was not for me," she said.

"I was interested in psychology in general but I became passionate about community psychology during my senior year in college when I started looking for graduate programs. I was very involved on my campus and was in everything from service organizations to school committees. I was especially interested in issues of race and social justice to the point that I would go to my friends' classes and sit in, if I knew that they were going to be discussing racial issues in class that day. I also enjoyed being engaged in efforts that attempted to affect social change through community efforts so when I discovered that there was a field that merged my passion for community work with my love of psychology I was immediately hooked," she told *Tribune Woman*.

The time leading up to the completion of her degree was a challenge—both physically and emotionally, but with continuous support from her friends and family she was able to pull through unmoved.

"The process leading up to the completion of my degree was very challenging. The last few months were especially difficult because the pressure to complete the work and meet the deadlines was strong. The stress of it all manifested in my body and I became very sick, which is why I tell everyone nearing the end of their doctorate program to make sure that they take good care of themselves physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually," she explained.

Now that one of the biggest goals in her life has been accomplished, she intends to exercise the knowledge she has gained to empower communities in the Bahamas.

"I recognize that with this degree people will automatically attach a sense of credence to my work, so this achievement means that I have been given a great responsibility and this is a responsibility that I do not take lightly. This achievement was made possible because I have been supported and uplifted by a wonderful community of family and friends and a host of ancestors, so I intend to use this achievement to also be a support and uplift.

"I definitely plan on returning to The Bahamas and I intend to use my degree to continue to work toward the liberation and empowerment of the communities to which I belong. This work may manifest in many different ways but liberation is always the goal."

• To Niambi Hall-Campbell You Go Girl!

“I recognize that with this degree people will automatically attach a sense of credence to my work, so this achievement means that I have been given a great responsibility and this is a responsibility that I do not take lightly.”



Niambi Hall-Campbell



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WOMAN

THE TRIBUNE • SECTION B

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011



Open Marriages

Is the secret to a happy marriage allowing your spouse to have other partners?

By **JEFFARAH GIBSON**
Tribune Features Writer

I ALWAYS admired actors Will Smith and Jada Pinkett's relationship, as to me they epitomized the essence of true happiness.

When they make appearances on the red carpet, they always look so in love, contented with one another and it seems as though their relationship is break-up proof. And to be a Hollywood couple, staying together for such a long time is something worthy of special commendation.

Then I wondered, although it is not impossible, how this celebrity couple managed to stay together, keeping in mind the lifestyle they both have and what is the norm for most Hollywood marriages - get together, after three months walk down the aisle and after a year, if even that long, get a divorce.

I thought there must be a secret to this couple's happiness and soon found out the secret wasn't remembering to say I love you, or satisfying each other's needs physically and emotionally.

The secret to Will and Jada's successful marriage is that it is open.

The couple revealed their open relationship to a UK tabloid in 2008. Will Smith told the tabloid: "Our perspective is, you don't avoid what's natural and you're going to be attracted to people. So sometimes we have the discussion: 'Wow, this or that girl is freaking gorgeous.' I'm not going to say anything to my buddies that's any different than what I say to my wife," said Smith.

He explained to the tabloid that if the occasion arose where they needed to take a lover outside the marriage they would let each other know. "I'll tell my wife if I need to have sex with someone else." He did however admit that he is not sure how he would feel if his wife told him she needed to take a lover outside of the marriage.

"I don't know how I'd feel. But I know I would react better than if I found out about it afterwards," said Smith, in regards to the possibility

of his wife asking to take a lover.

And if Jada doesn't approve of the lover Will chooses: "I'm not going to do it if she doesn't approve of it".

This is somewhat bizarre, because when marriage is considered one thinks of being monogamously tied to another person and only that person. My question is what is the point of getting married if each person is still going to have affairs with other people.

To seek answers to that question Tribune Woman spoke to a few people who gave their views about open marriages.

Tamara Fernander, a young lady who dreams of beautiful union with only the man of her dreams said this: "I don't know what to say, but I think the whole open marriage thing is a bunch of foolishness. Why you getting married in the first place if you know you are not ready to settle down with one person. That's just like you having your cake and eating it to. I would not be having an open marriage with my husband and if he comes to me asking me about having an open marriage then that tells me he was and will never be ready to settle down with just me," she said.

On the contrary, one man who spoke to Tribune Woman under condition of anonymity said having an open marriage is something that he can enjoy. "See the thing about that is, I would want to have someone outside the marriage but I wouldn't want my wife to have a lover outside our marriage. The thought of her being with someone else would kill me. But I would want to do it. I wouldn't want her to do it. It's unfair but that's just the way it is," he said.

Sharleen Hunter said: "These people are trying to change everything. They are too lost in this world. God knows why he designed marriage the way it is for a reason. And I know it breaks his heart to see people trying to change things just to satisfy their guilty pleasures. Lust is a sin and to take a lover outside of a marriage is adultery and that is what the good book says and I hope all couples who have open marriages have a change of heart before it is too late," Ms Hunter said.



MARRIAGE SUCCESS?: Will Smith and Jada Pinkett revealed to a UK tabloid in 2008 that their marriage is open.

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INSIDETRAK

BAHAMAS STRIKES GOLD IN JUDO



TURN TO 3E...

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FUN RUN/WALK ON NORTH ANDROS

TURN TO 3E...

JAVANO COLLINS MOST OUTSTANDING BOXER

TURN TO 3E...

CAVENDISH CAUTIOUS OVER GREEN JERSEY CHANCES



TURN TO 7E...

MENEZES: BRAZIL WILL BE STRONG AT THE 2014 WORLD CUP

TURN TO 5E...

URUGUAY IN SEMIS AGAIN, THIS TIME AT COPA AMERICA

TURN TO 5E...

Former Olympian hosting 3rd summer track and field clinic

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

For the third consecutive year, one of the Bahamas' track and field icons continues to contribute to the development of our young athletes by coaching and building a positive foundation for the future.

Former Olympian Tonique Williams-Darling is currently hosting the third edition of the eagerly anticipated TWD Athletics Club's Track and Field Summer Clinic.

The week-long clinic is slated for this week at the Thomas A Robinson stadium and aims to place an emphasis on a number of athletic disciplines.

"We have a lot of return participants, we have our Family Island participants that came in and we have a lot of return participants and others whose parents just called in and brought them in because they



TONIQUE WILLIAMS-DARLING (shown) is hosting the third edition of the TWD Athletics Club's Track & Field Summer Clinic. Photo by **Felipe Major**

wanted to connect with coaches like Peter Pratt, Bradley Cooper and others," Williams-Darling said.

"So we have kids that are athletically inclined, they are looking for that help so they reached out to TWD Athletics so we can help them find that right coaching."

Persons interested in joining the clinic in progress can call 328 778 or 565 8782. Walk-ins are also welcome at the Thomas A Robinson Stadium, beginning at 8am.

"One thing we try to do, we want to offer quality. We start with ages 12 and up so we tend to have smaller groups and our coaches can really focus in on the kids and this is a good opportunity to reach out to those kids who do not have coaches and are not a part of a club and pull them to the side, identify them and get them started on their athletic career," said Williams-Darling.

"I have an on-going programme throughout the year focused on sprinters and quarter-milers. But we have also had kids that have come

up to me and we do place them with coaches of other disciplines to work with throughout the year on jumps or throws."

July 25-27, the clinic will shift to Abaco for yet another year.

Peter Pratt is one of several nationally renowned head coaches who has worked closely with the programme since its inception.

"I worked with TWD last year and it was such a good programme I told her I would work with her again this year," he said.

"We need more support from Abaconians. I think there are a lot of good athletes in Abaco that can benefit from the programme. Here in Nassau, we are making an onslaught on the 12-year-olds coming to the camp.

"To those that know they can jump, those that believe they can jump and those that want to learn, you will have the opportunity to experiment and get yourselves ready for 2013 when we host the Carifta Games in the Bahamas," said Pratt.

'Fantastic four' run for gold



GOLDEN RUN: Ramon Miller (second left) receives the baton from Michael Mathieu (far left), as Trinidad and Tobago's Renny Quow (second right) gets the baton from Deon Lendore in the 4x400m relay final at the Central American and Caribbean Athletics Championship in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Sunday. The team of Latoy Williams, Avard Moncur, Mathieu and Miller finished in 3:01.33s for the gold. Trinidad and Tobago finished second in 3:01.65s while Jamaica was third in 3:02.00s.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8E

(AP Photo)

Blackett's words of encouragement at COB camp

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

THE Athletics Department of The College of The Bahamas brings its third annual Summer Sports Camp to a close this week, and the final segment of the event began with encouraging words from an internationally renowned coach and former athlete.

Andrea Blackett, assistant women's track coach at Rice University

and former Barbadian Olympian and multiple national record holder, visited the scores of campers at the campus in Oakes Field yesterday.

Blackett encouraged the group to set goals early and increase their expectations with each milestone they achieved en route to success.

"As young people, as young citizens of the Bahamas, you have to set goals for yourself. When I was growing up and I first started running I was about 10 or 11 years old and my ultimate goal was to make

the Carifta team. I made my first team at about 15, then I made another team a year later. After I did that, I set further goals for myself and I started to think bigger and that is what I want you guys to do from today onward.

"As soon as you achieve those goals you have to start thinking toward and moving to the next level. So after Carifta I wanted to go to the CAC Games, then the Pan Am Games and onward," she said.

"I was no different than anyone

else when I started. My first time at Carifta I came in fourth. But I went from being fourth in the Caribbean to being first in the Commonwealth years later. So continue to think big for yourself. It's all about desire, dedication and determination, nothing worth having comes easy."

Her greatest achievement in athletics is the gold medal she won in the 400m hurdles at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur

SEE page 2E

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SPORTS

Blackett's words of encouragement at COB camp

FROM page 1E

in a games record time. She also competed in the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester but was unable to retain her title.

Blackett represented Barbados in six IAAF World Championships (1997-2007). She qualified for the final four times and in 1999 finished fourth. She competed in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, qualifying for the semi-final of the 400m hurdles and she competed in the 400m hurdles at the 2004 Athens Olympics. She has also represented her country at the World Indoor Athletics Championships.

Blackett was also selected in the Bajan team for the 2008 Olympics but was ruled out due to injury and retired from international competition.

Blackett has a personal best of 53.36 in the 400m hurdles in Seville which is also a national record for Barbados. She set the Barbados 100m hurdles record of 13.39 in 2003[2] in Liège.

Blackett graduated from Rice University in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in managerial studies and Spanish, and she also holds a master's degree from the University of Houston in hotel management.

She stressed the importance of higher education and a supportive family structure on the success of her career thus far.

"Education was so impor-



Photos by Felipe Major/Tribune staff

tant to my career progressing to where it is today. You can be the fastest athlete out there but if you are not smart

enough to sit down, study and focus it is all for nothing. You really have to take care of your education and study

hard. It is very important to be an educated young person. Even if you do become a very good athlete it is important

to have something to fall back on. No one is going to hire a coach to coach at the college level if they don't have a college degree themselves so it was very important to my career," she said.

"My family was very supportive, they were always behind me 100 per cent. They were there for me at the highs and the lows and it kept me humble. No matter how well I was doing, I was always the same person. That's an important lesson for you guys to remember, regardless of how well you do or you don't you have to be who you are and not let success or failure get to you. If track is something that you love to do, stay at it."

The COB summer camp featured four sporting disciplines that students between the ages of eight and 14 participated in, including basketball, soccer, swimming and track and field.

Sean Bastian, assistant athletics director and director of intramural sports, also serves as camp co-ordinator and spoke highly of his expectations for the event.

"Since its inception two years ago, we had a lot of repeat campers who have enjoyed themselves and we saw progression in them as athletes. What makes the camp so exceptional and so different is that every hour and 15 minutes we rotate to another sport so at the end of

the camp you will really see some improvement in their skill level.

"We touch on not just one discipline but a camper will have exposure to four. I have seen kids progress and they are always happy to report to us and let us know that they made their primary school or junior high teams and that is a good positive way in showing how the camp has helped its participants in the time they were with us during the summer."

Boasts

Bastian said the camp boasts of the additional benefit of exposing young students to the collegiate atmosphere.

"One of the key aspects of the camp is that it introduces students at an early age to the College of the Bahamas. While they are on campus, we take them for tours through the various classrooms and buildings so they are very comfortable and familiar with COB as early as possible," he said.

"Them being exposed to COB's campus and what a college environment is all about, it begins to set the wheels in motion for them to really want to go to college when they finish high school and I think parents should look at that as a motivating factor for parents to send their kids to our camp.



TONIQUE WILLIAMS-DARLING (left) and Andrea Blackett (centre), assistant women's track coach at Rice University, can be seen with scores of campers yesterday at The College of The Bahamas' third annual Summer Sports Camp.

SPORTS

Bahamas strikes gold, bronze at junior judo tourney in US

THE Bahamas Judo Federation attended the US Junior Open Judo Tournament with an 11-person team this past weekend and won an impressive 17 matches and a gold and bronze medal.

Twelve-year-old Elaina Cuffy dominated her division with an impressive array of techniques, defeating five opponents on her way to the gold medal.

Artio McPhee, 12, also fought his way to a bronze medal, dominating his opponents along the way and narrowly losing to the gold medal winner.

The US Junior Judo Open is one of the most prestigious tournaments in the region. The tournament featured athletes from several countries and the competition was the fiercest since the Bahamas started attending in 2006, according to BJJ president D'Arcy Rahming.

"All the recreation players stayed at home due to the economic conditions so the only players that came were nationally and internationally ranked players," he added.

Eleven-year-olds Lyle Sherman (5th place), Ethan Cuffy (5th place), and 13-year-old Andrew Munnings (5th place) all came up short in the medal rounds despite putting on impressive and competitive performances while winning six matches.

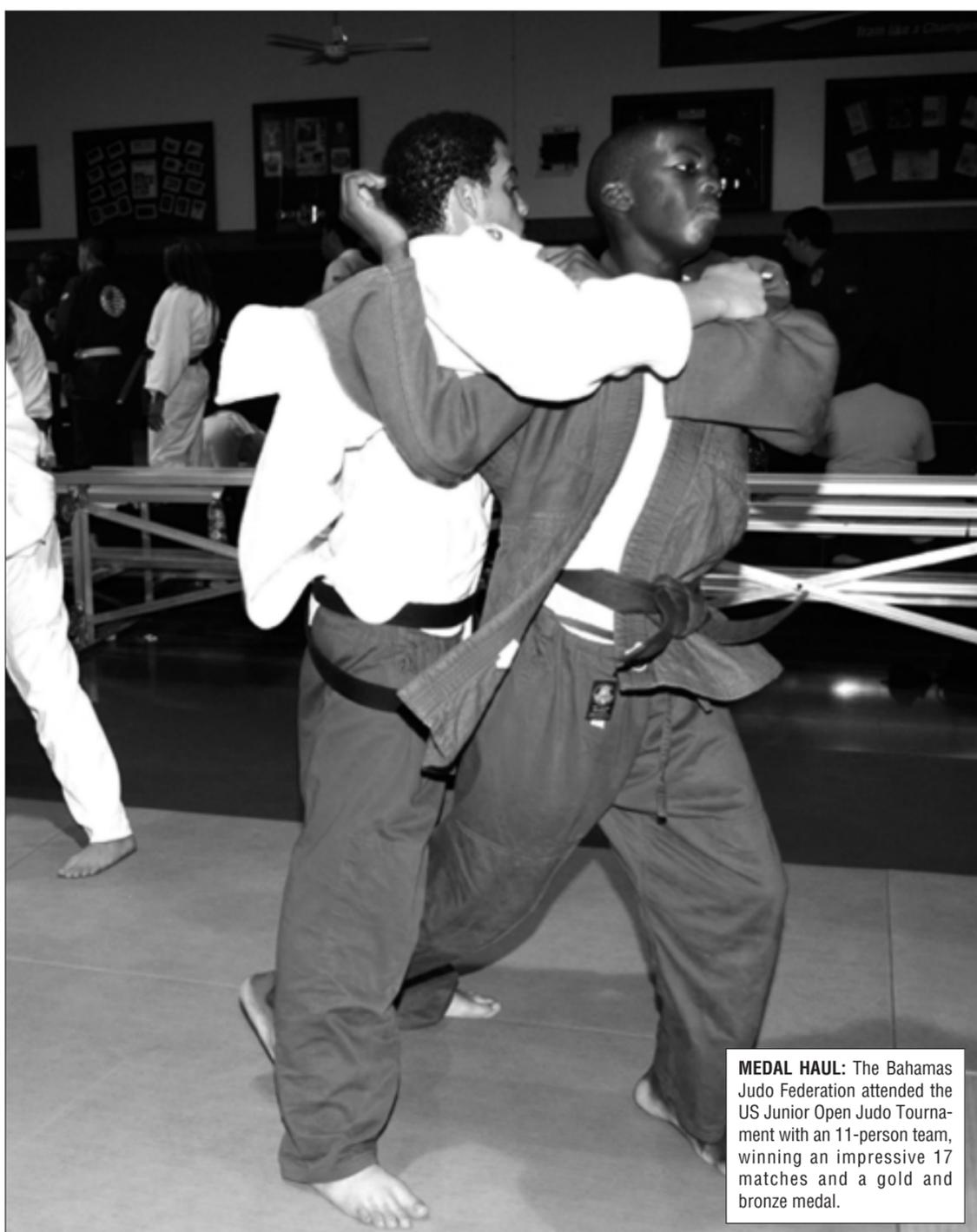
Team leaders captain Nathan Williams and assistant captain Tajaro Hudson were in large and competitive divisions and they both won two matches against very able opponents before falling to the medal winners.

Newcomers on the team, 11-year-old Jayden Kemp, Kameron Knowles, 13, Jacob Charles, 11, and Jason Charles, 9, also fought well with Jacob defeating one opponent.

The team was coached by Chrisnell Cooper and Duet Treco Hanna, both former international competitors. The team was managed by Mrs Michelle Williams. It was chosen based on wins at the Bahamas Judo Open a month ago.

"The future looks bright for the sport of judo in the Bahamas. The team was professionally administrated, trained and coached. A number of countries came up and expressed interest in coming to the Bahamas Open next April. This was based on them wanting to find competitive countries to fight in," said a press release.

Anyone seeking more information on Bahamas Judo, contact the Bahamas Judo Federation at (242) 364-6773 for classes and affiliated clubs.



MEDAL HAUL: The Bahamas Judo Federation attended the US Junior Open Judo Tournament with an 11-person team, winning an impressive 17 matches and a gold and bronze medal.



WELLINGTON MILLER

BOC fun run/walk on North Andros

THE Bahamas Olympic Committee (BOC) has announced its first fun run/walk to be held on North Andros – the island community has been invited to take part in the event, which is about five kilometres, on July 23.

"We would like all the people of Andros to be part of this historic occasion," said Wellington Miller, president of the BOC. "Especially as this is the first time for such an event to be held in the Family Islands," he added.

The fun run/walk is slated to begin at the Government Administrative Office on Queen's Highway and end in Morgan's Bluff.

"We would like all the people of Andros to be part of this historic occasion. Especially as this is the first time for such an event to be held in the Family Islands."

— Wellington Miller

"We are happy as an Olympic committee to take this Olympic movement event outside the capital city. We have asked the people of the community to make this a family fun day and it is our hope that the Olympic fun run/walk will assist in cementing the spirit of community for which Andros is so well-known," said Miller.

The BOC is expected to award prizes for winners in the first three places in each age group, with age groups ranging from under-16 to over 60.

All participants will receive commemorative Olympic certificates of participation.

"We have sent letters of invitation to all churches and other community groups. And we look forward to wide participation. This is a part of our effort to build broad community support in advance of the London summer Olympic Games next year," Miller said.

Javano Collins most outstanding boxer

THE southernmost island of the Bahamas hosted its inaugural event honouring a local boxing icon.

Inagua Amateur Boxing Club (IABC) hosted the First Annual Edwin Clare Memorial Amateur Boxing Tournament over the Independence weekend in Matthew Town, Inagua.

The club, headed by Inspector Dennis Brown, president of the Inagua Amateur Boxing Association

and head coach Harold Seymour, indicated the event was "explosive" and "very successful" as the IABC squared off against the Champion Amateur Boxing Club (CABC) from New Providence.

"We are very excited about this tournament and we're already looking forward to next year's event. We hope to have more amateur boxing clubs from the Bahamas to participate and we also expect to see some

official representation from the Bahamas Amateur Boxing Association," the club said in a press release. "We would like to thank our sponsors Basil McIntosh, Glenn Bannister on behalf of Morton Bahamas."

Javano Collins, of the CABC, captured the coveted prize of Most Outstanding Boxer of the tournament and his club took home the Edwin Clare Memorial floating trophy.

Collins won on points over Colin

Johnson of the IABC, 10-8.

In other noteworthy bouts, Kieron Knowles (CABC) won over Gregory Archer (IABC) in the junior welterweight division after the referee stopped the bout in the first round.

Bancroft Thompson (IABC) won on points over Lester Brown (CABC) in the junior bantamweight division and Salamari Morris (IABC) won over Absalom Sturup (CABC) in an exhibition match.

Mets say Reyes likely to come off disabled list on Tuesday

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Jose Reyes appears ready to come off the disabled list.

The New York Mets star doubled and played six innings at shortstop Monday in a rehab game for Class-A Brooklyn. Mets manager Terry Collins says it looks as though Reyes will be activated Tuesday in time for the opener of a three-game series against St. Louis.

Leading the majors with a .354 batting average and 15

triples, Reyes has been sidelined since July 3 with a strained left hamstring. He was eligible to come off the disabled list Monday, but the Mets wanted him to test his leg in a game first.

Reyes went 1 for 3 and scored a run in Brooklyn's 11-5 loss to Lowell.

All-Star right fielder Carlos Beltran missed his third straight game with a bad case of the flu. Collins said Beltran was headed to the doctor for tests and needed one more day of rest. "He did say he felt better yesterday, but we

got some news today that he's still a little bit under the weather," Collins said, adding that Beltran had lost a lot of weight. "He's got a good case of it. I hope it doesn't spread. You know how it can go around the clubhouse."

Scott Hairston replaced Beltran in right but left the game after two innings. Batting cleanup, Hairston fouled a ball off his left shin in the first inning and jogged gingerly down to first base on a groundout.

Lucas Duda moved from first base to right field in the

top of the third and Nick Evans entered to play first.

The Mets said Hairston has a bruised left shin. X-rays were negative and he is day to day. Hairston filled in for Beltran on Saturday and had a huge game, hitting a long homer and driving in a career-best five runs during an 11-2 victory over Philadelphia.

Elsewhere, third baseman David Wright (back) was slated to play his fourth rehab game with Class-A St. Lucie on Monday night. The target for Wright's return is this weekend at Florida.



INJURED shortstop Jose Reyes jokes around in the dugout during the seventh inning of a game against the Philadelphia Phillies in New York. The Mets won 11-2.

(AP Photo)

SPORTS

CAC Athletics Championships, Puerto Rico...



HUGHNIQUE ROLLE (far left) in the 1500m final at the Central American and Caribbean Athletics Championships in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on Friday.
(AP Photos)



ANDRAE WILLIAMS (centre) in the 400m.



BIANCA STUART competes in the long jump finals Sunday. She won the gold medal.



RAMON MILLER (far right), Trinidad's Renny Quow and Jamaica's Leford Green (far left) in the 400m.

