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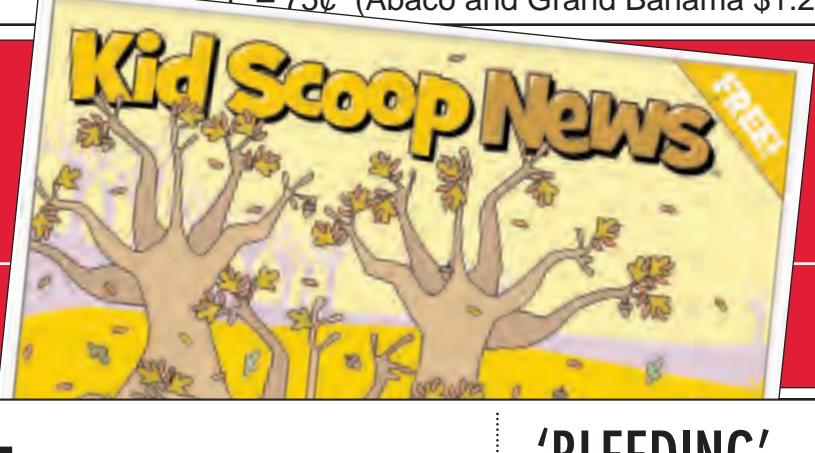


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TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011

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KIDSCOOP NEWS PUZZLES, GAMES AND FUN INSIDE TODAY



Former minister runs for his life

'BLEEDING'
DENGUE FEVER
CASES ARE
CONFIRMED

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

THE public is advised to keep vigilant against mosquito breeding grounds as health officials confirmed cases of dengue haemorrhagic fever yesterday.

Addressing fears that there was now a new and deadlier strain of dengue fever on the island, Delon Brennen, deputy chief medical officer for the Ministry of Health, explained that each strain has the potential to develop into dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF).

Dr Brennen explained that there was still only one strain – out of four possible strains – on the island, dengue type 1, and that there was no way to prevent the illness from developing into DHF.

"Just make sure you're in constant contact with healthcare providers," he said. "In

SEE page seven

Leslie Miller robbed in broad daylight

By PAUL G TURNQUEST
Chief Reporter
pturnquest@tribunemedia.net

FORMER Minister of Trade and Industry Leslie Miller was forced to run for his life after he was robbed in broad daylight during his early morning run in Winton yesterday.

When *The Tribune* met Mr Miller at the Elizabeth Estates Police Station shortly after the incident occurred, the former MP was in the process of giving the police his statement.

Mr Miller said: "I left home around 7.30am and I went for my normal route, which is Sassoon Drive (north) and I went out over the hill to the main road. I was just past JM Pinder's house going slow when I felt this car came very close to me. So I thought to myself, this car must be trying to hit me. It was at this time that the fella grabbed my shirt

and pulled me and I hit the car."

The bandit, it was later discovered, had ripped Mr Miller's gold chain from his neck, and in the process had nearly torn his shirt off his back.

Mr Miller: "This was a young dark fellow in the car. I jumped back from the car. The car then went about 50 yards in front of me, stop, then reverse."

It was at this time Mr Miller said the robber had extended his body out of the vehicle and pointed what he believed to be a gun at him.

"In a split second I had to decide what to do. There was this yard right next to JM Pinder's, so I jumped over the fence, jumped over another fence, and then another fence," he said.

During this process, Mr Miller injured his hand on the

SEE page seven



FORMER MINISTER of Trade and Industry Leslie Miller recalls the robbery yesterday.

PLP LEADER CALLS FOR CHANGES TO DISASTER STRATEGY

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

PLP Leader Perry Christie stressed the need for new policies, faster response times, and total political inclusion concerning the country's disaster strategy.

Senior Progressive Liberal Party officials pointed out "mistakes" and "failures" in the government's disaster preparedness and response to Hurricane Irene at a press conference yesterday.

ference yesterday.

Mr Christie said: "The country ought not to divide when we're doing things to strengthen our capacity to withstand disaster in years to come. The FNM, the PLP, we are obliged to be Bahamians in the face of disaster. There should be no difference between our parties, we must approach this together in a way that people could have confidence that when it comes to

SEE page seven



"This is a country about the rule of law, and we have to abide by decisions made by our courts, even if we don't agree with them. Sometimes to the extent where we have to swallow it and accept it as reality," he said.

"The government cannot execute someone without the court certifying that all things were done properly, otherwise the government itself is committing murder and unlawful killing. Even if we change the

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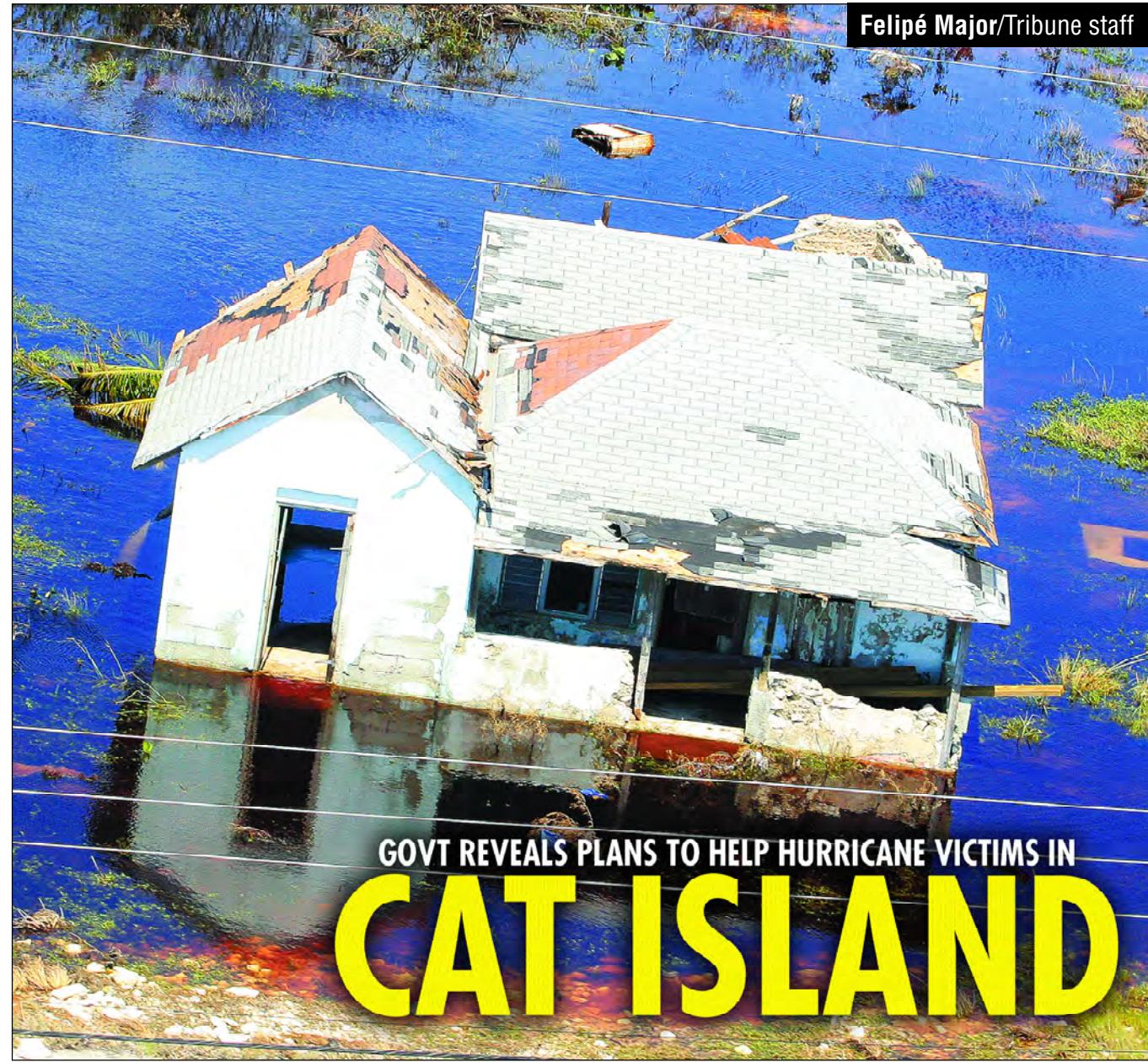
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LOCAL NEWS



CAT ISLANDERS have been without power for nearly a week and this is expected to remain the case for some time.



GOVT REVEALS PLANS TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS IN **CAT ISLAND**

GOVERNMENT will allow eligible residents of hard hit Cat Island to import building materials, electrical material and agriculture supplies duty free in the wake of Hurricane Irene, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham announced.

Government plans to import generators from the US to provide temporary power for Cat Island's reverse osmosis water plant, Mr Ingraham told the media before flying to Abaco to inspect damage there.

"Cat Island seems to be the most affected so they will have the longest period of duty exemption," said Mr Ingraham. "A case could also be made for Acklins and Mayaguana – we think Acklins and Cat Island are at the top of the pile."

A team of Defence Force officers left for Cat Island yesterday to deliver much needed food and water to residents

"The drinking water is running low since there is no electricity on the entire island to generate power for the small reverse osmosis plant there. The local food stores are cleared out (but) a boat will arrive on Wednesday with fresh supplies."

— HUBERT INGRAHAM

who lost homes and possessions after the category three storm ripped through the island.

Drinking water is reportedly running low on the island because the water plant has no power.

Cat Islanders have been without power for nearly a week and this is expected to remain the case for some time.

Mr Ingraham flew to Abaco last night and plans to tour the southern Bahamas before

returning to the capital by Thursday.

The prime minister and his contingent planned to fly aboard the Aga Khan's helicopter.

Private donors have bought \$25,000 worth of building materials, canned goods and water to aid residents affected by Hurricane Irene.

According to Chris Illing, owner of the Greenwood Beach Resort, who helped co-

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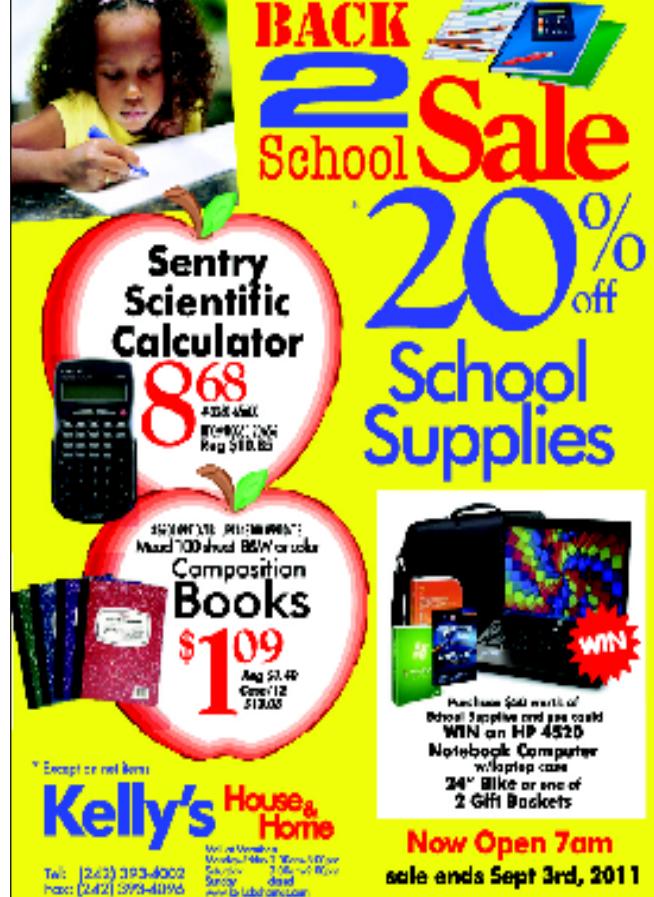
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LOCAL NEWS



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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tribune Limited

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

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The difference between the FNM and PLP

WHILE Prime Minister Ingraham was still out in a helicopter last night — landing in Nassau at 9.45pm— after touring various settlements in Abaco, Opposition leader Perry Christie was in Nassau talking — rather complaining about government's disaster strategy.

At a press conference yesterday PLP officials directed our attention to government's "mistakes" and "failures" in response to Hurricane Irene. We always take these directions as an invitation to go a step further. For us it is a temptation to open the PLP files on their administration's handling of the back-to-back Hurricanes Jeanne and Frances in 2004, and the NEMA disaster funds for which — if memory serves — Bahamians are yet to be given an accounting for that period. Sir Jack Hayward certainly made enough noise over his million dollar donation, which was not used for the hurricane repairs for which he intended them.

On Saturday a 72-year-old lady from Eight Mile Rock said that she realised that many of our islands had been badly damaged by Hurricane Irene. "But thank God that the FNM are in power this time," she added. She said she would never want anyone to experience what they had to experience under the PLP after the 2004 hurricanes. She knew the FNM would be fair. This speaks volumes, and our files of that period will support her words.

What went on today just illustrates the difference between the two leaders — Ingraham and Christie — and their administrations. One talks... the other acts. And when election day comes, Bahamians will have to decide which man they would prefer to administer their affairs — the one landing back in Nassau last night in a helicopter amidst rolling thunder after visiting his constituents, or the one in the safety of the capital complaining to the press.

Mr Christie thought that Prime Minister Ingraham's post hurricane assessment was insensitive to victims whose livelihood had been severely affected.

"When the leader of the country enters into a debate on a matter of a distaste and the impact of it, he has to exercise greater care than (Mr Ingraham) exercised in speaking."

We presume that Mr Christie was referring to Mr Ingraham being disturbed that a newspaper chose the word "devastated" to describe the affect of Irene on these islands. Ever a positive man of action, the word "devastated" conveyed to Mr Ingraham that our islands were down and out for the count. This is a position that he accepts in nothing — damaged, yes, but down and out, no.

He saw the people's suffering. He felt it

deeply. He knew many had lost everything, but he was on a tireless mission to see that they were helped to their feet as quickly as possible. He, like everyone else, was lamenting the destruction, he was not minimising or "making light" of something that was incredibly serious. But, he knew that sitting down crying over a disaster would not get anyone anywhere quickly — and so he moved on from island to island, discovering the damage for himself and deciding how quickly it could be repaired.

He is leaving the walking and talking and touching and looking into people's eyes to see their hurt and pain — as expressed at the press conference by MICAL MP Alfred Grey — to Mr Grey and Mr Christie. While they are "pressing flesh", he will be getting the material to put a roof of people's heads.

"Brave" Davis, Cat Island MP, who hurried to his district right after the hurricane, suggested that Mr Ingraham consider waiving the duty on appliances for affected persons. While Mr Davis was suggesting, Mr Ingraham was doing. He had already announced that government will allow Cat Island's eligible residents to import building and electrical materials and agricultural supplies duty free.

Before leaving for Abaco yesterday to inspect the damage there, Mr Ingraham said: "Cat Island seems to be the most affected so they will have the longest period of duty exemption." He added that he thought a case could be made for Acklins and Mayaguana. However, he thought that Acklins and Cat Island were "at the top of the pile."

While Mr Davis was talking, HMBS Nassau was in Smith's Bay, Cat Island, delivering a team of Defence Force officers to distribute food, water and tarpaulin and other items to Cat Island residents who lost homes and possessions.

The officers will also help clean up the island. Mr Ingraham's government is also arranging to set up a reverse osmosis plant and generators in Cat Island.

This is hardly the behaviour of a man who fails to understand a people's tremendous loss and personal tragedy. We are confident that these stricken Bahamians would prefer what Mr Ingraham and his government are trying to do for them.

If Mr Gray thinks that what the Ingraham government is doing is "fast and inadequate," we leave it to Mr Gray to "walk and talk and touch and look in people's eyes and see the hurt and pain." People will quickly realise that these walks, talks, touching and eye contact will not put bread on their tables or a roof over their heads.

So, Bahamians, take your pick.

The doctor (MD) vs the chiropractor

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I AM listening to a talk show host turned herbalist/dietitian spew with impunity and authority on her bush medicine that she practices from her porch!

She is backed up by two chiropractors, one old and the other young and new. Not a word is said by the medical association of doctors or the minister of health.

I therefore warn; buyers beware!!

I tell you a story

Several years ago, three devout Anglicans sat at the back of St Matthews Church at 7.15am mass. Three old friends, from the same St John's College, talking, talking, talking in church, while mass is going on! One of them a medical doctor, the

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

one in the middle, me! A patient and the other a chiropractor.

The debate on who is a real doctor has been going on for years.

The chiropractor says to me, "look at ya with ya big belly, why don't you let me treat you for that overweight and obvious hypertension!"

I told him I was taking

medication and working out

under the guidance of my

doctor who was his friend!

What happened next you

would not believe: mayhem

break out in church. Cuss

words were exchanged

between the chiropractor

and the doctor, I feared for

my life sitting in the midst.

I cite this true story to make a point.

Be careful with whom you entrust your health.

Be careful taking those

pills or drinking that bush medicine from those who don't know what the hell they are doing.

Trust a qualified experienced physician.

If you are fluffy and wish to lose 50lbs, of course work out with a chiropractor.

For what it is worth, a word to the wise is sufficient!

By the way to this very day the three scholars from St John's are still the best of friends!

TONY FERGUSON

Nassau,

August, 2011.

An open letter to Dr Cleveland A Williams

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I'd like to congratulate you on your great endeavour of putting on the opera of "Porgy and Bess", but am sadly disappointed in the venue of the stage at the Crystal Palace. That auditorium was never built with the acoustical construction required for an opera or operatic performances.

It might be great for a single person with a microphone or a dance performance, but even sitting in the \$50 seats was great to watch but not to hear!

Many years ago I was involved with the Nassau Amateur Operatic Society and they put on some great shows at the Dundas Centre on Mackey Street which also had plenty of car park space.

The early shows were well attended even though the seats were hard and somewhat uncomfortable.

Sometime during the 70's they asked people of the community to donate a chair and that was when all the seats were padded

and with arm rests as well. Many other useful additions were put in place at that time.

They started in 1959 and gave many wonderful shows twice a year in the Spring and the Fall which were almost comparable to many Broadway shows and no one was paid except by gaining a huge applause. (I know this as I was born in New York City and saw many shows throughout the 40's and 50's on Broadway).

We only arrived in the Bahamas in 1960 and lived here ever since.)

I was never on stage but contributed my artistic ability by designing the programme cover which also was used for posters throughout the island and newspaper ads.

I write this in hopes that if and when you decide to direct and produce another great show you might consider the Dundas as its venue.

HELEN ASTARITA

Nassau,

July, 2011.

Government should slap a ban on scrap metal trade

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I READ with interest an article in The Freeport News on July 20, 2011 in the Caribbean section where the industry, investment and commerce minister in Jamaica Dr Christopher Tufton placed a ban on scrap metal export because of the high rate of copper theft in Jamaica. He was allowing the exporters to export what they had but no more trailers would be accepted at the port after a certain date. This copper theft and the damage it creates, has been effecting homes businesses, the sports complex, the local parks and the Power Company in Grand Bahama for years.

This is a problem throughout the Bahamas and in my opinion, this looks like the stand the Government of the Bahamas would have to resort to because it would force the exporters to approach the government to lift the ban but they would have to come up with a plan for the persons bringing the copper to them to have prop-

er identification, to state exactly where the copper came from and proof of permission to remove it and whatever else they can think of to safeguard the people and places that are suffering the damage and theft on a daily basis.

This would create a real hassle for the thieves and I am sure the exporters will see a tremendous drop in the items being brought to them but the country as a whole would be better off.

DEREK B RUSSELL Sr
Freeport,
Grand Bahama,
July, 2011.

(On July 27, government imposed a 90-day ban on the export of scrap metal and copper because of the widespread theft of the metals. Legitimate scrap metal dealers were invited to meet with government on August 2 to agree on how to accredit legitimate scrap metals vendors for future export.- Ed.)

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LOCAL NEWS

MINISTER HITS BACK AT STRAW MARKET CLAIMS



WORKS Minister Neko Grant hit out at those who claim the government did not do enough to secure the tent that housed the Bay Street Straw Market ahead of Hurricane Irene.

Yesterday the Lucaya MP said government officials did all they could to safeguard the tent before Irene lashed New Providence, tore down trees and utility poles, and ripped through portions of the tent covering the temporary market site on Bay Street.

"The tent was secured as best we could. It was unfair to say it was not secured. We took off the parts that we were able to take off," Mr Grant said.

When asked if government would hasten the opening of the new straw market, currently under construction on Bay

Street, Mr Grant said the workers are moving as fast as they can.

"The situation there is being evaluated. We are working feverishly in an effort to complete the new straw market."

"We don't see us moving into the new market until it's finished. We have no plans to replace the tent," he said.

Straw vendors were issued letters by the ministry on August 22 – two days before the storm hit New Providence – advising them to remove all goods from the market.

They were also told that the ministry would not be responsible for any damaged goods left at the site during the hurricane.

After Irene, vendors moved their wares to the Prince George Wharf. The new market is set to open in September.



IRENE RIPPED THROUGH portions of the tent covering the temporary market site on Bay Street.



TRAFFIC LIGHTS SHOULD BE FULLY OPERATIONAL BY THURSDAY

By JASMINE LOPEZ

TRAFFIC lights on "flash mode" since last Wednesday should be in full operation by Thursday morning.

Ray McKenzie, civil engineer at CCG Traffic Signal Company, said his company's assessments of lights throughout the capital are 90 per cent complete.

Intersections that have non-functioning lights include:

- Madeira Street and Montrose Avenue,
- Prince Charles Drive and Beatrice Avenue
- Cowpen Road and Faith Avenue
- Wulff Road and Montrose Avenue
- Wulff Road and Collins Avenue
- Wulff Road and East Street
- JFK Drive and Gladstone Road
- Collins Avenue and Fifth Terrace.

Mr McKenzie said two signals were completely lost on Collins Avenue and Fifth Ter-

race, and the wiring has to be repaired on the JFK and Gladstone Road signal.

He also said there will be police assistance on the JFK and Gladstone Road intersection during peak traffic hours until the light is functioning again.

Mr McKenzie added that the repair work is being hampered in areas where the power is still out.

"It's a challenge for us to restore lights to places that have no power, but we intend to have our (signals) back in power by Thursday," he said.

Repair work on all traffic lights is covered by the maintenance contract that CCG signed with the Ministry of Works, he said.

Signals across the capital were put on flash mode before Hurricane Irene passed near New Providence last week.

Mr McKenzie said all of the computerised components were removed and stored in a safe place.

WSC WORKING TO CLEAN UP PINWOOD SEWERAGE OVERFLOW

THE Water and Sewerage Corporation worked throughout the day yesterday to fix a sewerage overflow in Pinewood Gardens caused by a disposal well failure.

The problem occurred in the Plane Street area over the weekend.

"Efforts are underway to put the new, recently completed, disposal well in service and

the corporation's Sewerage Operations Team is currently ensuring full site cleanup," said WSC in a statement.

"Additionally, due to a mechanical failure, the McNeil Sewer Lift Station experienced some challenges late Saturday/early Sunday, which led to an overflow of wastewater in the West Dennis Court area.

"This was rectified on Sunday morning and clean-up efforts in the area continue," it said.

In both incidents, the statement said, repair and clean-up efforts were launched as soon as the first report of a problem reached the WSC.

"The corporation apologises for the inconvenience caused, and appreciates the patience of both its customers and the general public," it said.

The WSC also noted that water supply rationing will continue for a few more days across New Providence, as the corporation is still trying to recover from the interruption in water shipments from Andros during Hurricane Irene.

The restricted supply is limited to decreases in water pressure and will not include full interruptions, the WSC said in the past.

The public is invited to contact the corporation's Call Centre with any complaints or concerns on 302-5599, 325-0505, or by emailing wscomplaints@wsc.com.bs.

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Funeral Service For

ROSLIE M. AUSTIN, 85

of #7 Breezy Hill Road, who died at 2:35pm in the Princess Margaret Hospital on the 21st day of August 2011, will be held at Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral on Wednesday the 31st August, 2011 at 2:00pm. Officiating will be Father Glen C. Nixon and interment will follow in Ebenezer Methodist Cemetery, Shirley Street.

She is survived by her son, Gordon P. Soles; granddaughters, Giahna, Gia, Paige and Greer Soles; sisters, Gertrude Gonesh and Eldika Moss; numerous family members and friends. Special mention is made of granddaughter TaGia Monai Patricia Soles who predeceased her.

Friends may pay their last respects at Pinder's Funeral Home on Palmdale Ave. and Patton Street on Friday from 4pm to 7pm and on Wednesday at the church from 1:00pm until service time.

COURT NEWS MAN CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH SHOP BREAK-IN, THEFT OF GOODS

A MAN was arraigned in Magistrates Court yesterday in connection with a break-in at a shop and the theft of more than \$5,000 worth of goods.

Peter Armbrister, 39, of East Street, appeared before Magistrate Derence Rolle-Davis in Court Eight, Bank Lane, on charges of shop breaking, stealing and receiving.

He is accused of breaking into Good Times Clothing Store in Destiny Plaza on Farrington Road between Wednesday, August 24 and Thursday, August 25.

He is also accused of stealing jewellery, sports clothing and gear, and accessories.

He is alleged to have stolen:

- nine Casio G-shock watches and 18 other Casio watches together worth \$900
- nine NFL jerseys worth \$600
- a soft ball glove and shoes together worth \$99
- 20 caps worth \$400
- 52 Oakley classes worth \$2,820
- 40 Power Balance wrist bands worth \$400
- one Louisville Slugger bag and a Coach bag, together worth \$75
- one Nokia cell phone and charger worth \$30

The accused plead not guilty to the charges and was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison, Fox Hill.

The matter was adjourned to August 31.

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HURRICANE IRENE AFTERMATH

IMMEDIATE RELIEF EFFORTS FOR THE FAMILY ISLANDS

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

HUMANITARIAN agencies have mobilised their resources to assist Family Island residents in the wake of Hurricane Irene.

Relief efforts started immediately after the storm passed with Red Cross volunteers working over the weekend to pack food parcels destined for Acklins, Crooked Island and Cat Island.

Caroline Turnquest, Red Cross director general, said the organisation sent around 200 parcels to the Family Islands "with the greatest need" on the weekend, and is on standby to send more supplies.

The Red Cross is working in conjunction with officials from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to coordinate the disbursement of supplies. They also have representatives on the ground in each island.

Water and non-perishable food are high priority items for donations, according to Ms Turnquest, who said the organisation is also looking for "clean clothes in good condition."

"We are looking for food and water items from the public and good clothing. For some reason when we say clothing, they just clear out their closets and dump everything," she said.

Although the emergency relief phase is expected to take about two to three weeks, Ms Turnquest said the Red Cross is in for the long haul.

Marsha Kanady, community relations officer at

the Salvation Army, said they are seeking monetary donations, as well as non-perishable food and water. On Sunday, the Salvation Army sent food, water and cleaning supplies on an emergency flight to Acklins and Long Island.

The Bahamas Methodist Habitat is providing aviation support to NEMA and local humanitarian agencies, like the Red Cross and the Salvation Army, to transport relief supplies.

Abraham McIntyre, executive director, said the organisation has operated about 15 flights across the islands, transporting a range of relief supplies.

The organisation works with dozens of pilots in the United States, who donate their services to assist in relief efforts.

Twice a year they conduct a fly-in to the Bahamas "on low stress weekends", to familiarise the pilots with the process.

Throughout the year they conduct home repairs in Eleuthera and other islands.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, the organisation will work with NEMA to repair and reconstruct homes where needed.

The organisation will also provide clean-up crews to help with the recovery.

After Hurricane Ike, the organisation rebuilt about 50 homes in one month, said Kenrick Pierce, construction co-ordinator.

Donations can be made to the disaster relief account of the Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church at the Royal Bank of Canada. The account number is 05715-1284553.



JOE'S CREEK, part of Leisure Lee Development, has several canals often used by boaters for storm protection. It does not always work out as expected. These boats are from The Moorings charter fleet based at the Conch Inn in Marsh Harbour. They can probably be refloated with minimal damage.

Photo: Marilla Santillo



A HAITIAN BOAT brought into the Marsh Harbour harbour several weeks ago was seen being tossed back and forth during the storm, finally lodging in the Marsh Harbour Marina (Jib Room restaurant) on Pelican Shore. It snapped several pilings and knocked the bow off two boats, one visible here. Remarkably, it is still afloat.

Photo: David Ralph

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION
PROJECT No: BH-M1008

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation has received grant funding from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the Bahamas Virtual Platform Project, a collaboration of the Bahamas Agricultural & Industrial Corporation, Bahamas National Craft Association and the Chamber, and intends to apply part of the proceeds to procure the services of a Business Consultant for the project's Business Requirements Identification Phase.

The Business Consultant will be required to:

- (i) Conduct requirements analysis of selected pilot project associations and individuals, with a view of validating initial project assumptions, identifying initiatives, opportunities and strategies, for the business & technical specification requirements and design of the virtual platform;
- (ii) Provide input & feedback for all project activities, during the information gathering & validation phase of the project (Component 1), that may have potential business implications;
- (iii) Provide business analytical input/support to the project coordinator and act as liaison between the business and technical project participants & stakeholders during Component 1;
- (iv) Completion & Delivery of the Business Requirement Document for the Project's Platform Design and Development phases.

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested candidates must provide information along with a detailed resume establishing that they are qualified to perform the services. The Criteria for Selection will be based on the following qualifications and experience:

- a) **General Qualifications:** At least a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration, Economics, or similar discipline. An MBA with an information technology/ finance concentration is preferred;
- b) **Work Experience:** Extensive and/or proven experience in conducting business analytics for IT development projects and working with both IT and business stakeholders in an intermediary or liaison capacity, at a national and/or regional level;
- c) **Adequacy for the assignment:** At least 7 years of professional experience as a business or general management consultant, with demonstrative knowledge of change management tools and techniques. Knowledge of the handicraft sector or tourism industry will be an asset.

The services of the consultant will be required for a period of eight (8) weeks and all deliverables must be received within this time frame.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank, *Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank* (GN-3350-7) and this opportunity is open to all eligible consultants as defined in the policies.

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

Communications with the above indicated information must be delivered via direct mail or e-mail to the address indicated below by 25 August 2011.

Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation
Attn. Project Coordinator, Bahamas Virtual Platform
Address: Shirley St & Collins Avenue
Tel: 322-2145
Fax: 322-4649 (please provide notification prior to sending facsimile)
E-mail: virtualplatform@bahamaschamber.com

IT Technical Consultant

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION
PROJECT No: BH-M1008

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation has received grant funding from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the Bahamas Virtual Platform Project, a collaboration of the Bahamas Agricultural & Industrial Corporation, Bahamas National Craft Association and the Chamber, and intends to apply part of the proceeds to procure the services of an IT Technical Consultant for the project's Business Requirements Identification & Platform Design Phases.

The Consultant will be required to:

- (i) Work closely with the Project Coordinator and Business Consultant to identify general & specific deliverables for the development of the technical design and specifications for the platform;
- (ii) Provide input & feedback for all project activities, during the 'business requirements identification' and 'platform technical design' phases (Components 1 & 2), that have technical implications;
- (iii) Participate in stakeholder meetings to discuss the proposed operations and structure of the Portal in the existing and futuristic business environments;
- (iv) Completion & Delivery of technical specifications document for the development of a functioning virtual platform that reflects current and future business practices;
- (v) Preparation of the Terms of Reference procurement document for the platform design and development work.

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested candidates must provide information along with a detailed resume establishing that they are qualified to perform the services. The Criteria for Selection will be based on the following qualifications and experience:

- a) **General Qualifications:** At least a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Information Technology, MIS, or similar discipline, with a concentration in E-Commerce or network design. An MBA with an information technology concentration is preferred;
- b) **Work Experience:** Extensive and/or proven experience in designing or developing IT platforms for national, regional or international applications and distribution channel or value-chain development;
- c) **Adequacy for the assignment:** At least 7 years of professional experience as an IT consultant, with demonstrative knowledge of enterprise architecture concepts and techniques. Knowledge of the handicraft sector or tourism industry will be an asset.

The services of the consultant will be required for a period of eight (8) weeks and all deliverables must be received within that time frame.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank, *Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank* (GN-3350-7) and this opportunity is open to all eligible consultants as defined in the policies.

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LOCAL NEWS

THE VMA'S: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

By INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

NORMALLY, I will let an idea for a joke or column bounce around in my head for a few days, sometimes even weeks, tossing and turning in my cranium like angry seas, long before I take it to the stage, airwaves or the dailies.

However, after the other night's fiasco known as the MTV VMAs (Video Music Awards) there is no time for procrastination on this one.

Here's my no-holds-barred take on that over-hyped, underachieving event, which I can only classify as another feeble attempt to reward mediocrity.

Buckle up, here we go!

THE GOOD: Chris Brown evoking memories of a young Michael Jackson (when Mike still had his original nose) with his musical walk through the decades and acrobatic dance routine.

THE GOOD AND BAD: Britney Spears' Vanguard (nothing to do with Dr John McCartney's former political party) Music Award. Well deserved for such a chronicled and decorated superstar in the music industry. The Bad – and possibly even sad

COMIC'S VIEW

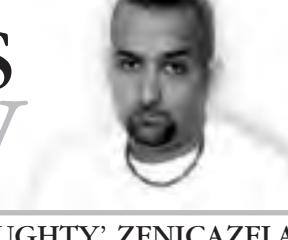
INIGO 'NAUGHTY' ZENICAZELAYA

part — was watching her wax rhapsodic about Beyoncé as she introduced her show-stealing performance. (That was a first; a specialty award recipient introducing a winner of a lesser award. It doesn't make much sense to me... but maybe that's just me).

THE BAD: Where do we start? There were too many good options to just name one. Let's start with Selena Gomez with her Goth prom dress, straight out of Elvira, Mistress of Dark's closet.

And since we are talking fashion...

I really don't like putting Nicki Minaj on this list. I hate to say her attempt at the futuristic "Toy Doll" look was an epic failure but what made the outfit worse was her hairdo. The tired multi-coloured creation inspired many looks (not too many good ones either). In my opinion Nicki's hair resembled cotton candy, which has been attacked by a



flock of sea gulls, who had just consumed Skittles, and also unleashed a multi-colour aerial assault of "rainbow turds" which were direct hits on their mark—her head.

Speaking of marks, you ever notice how much Marc Anthony (J-Lo's soon to be ex) looks like Skeletor from "Masters of the Universe"?

Maybe it's just me.

THE UGLY: Lady Gaga's new alter ego of her ex boyfriend who came to life... addictions and all.

Jay-Z and Kanye West posted up talking to one another at the VMAs definitely fits the ugly. If you look at the snapshot — it appeared to be a camel (Jay-Z) and a werewolf (Kanye) conversing. I still think "Boungie with Teeth" better suits Kanye but we will roll with werewolf.

Also, Kanye doesn't get off the hook for his tights/stretch

denim/ jeggings! (Yes, I am ashamed to say I now know that jeans leggings are called 'jeggings.' A plague o'er your house, Kanye!!!)

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY:

Beyoncé. Yes, all by herself, Beyoncé. Winning another VMA award definitely was a good look for Beyoncé.

The Bad would be the way Beyoncé announced her pregnancy on stage wearing those "preggers" pants (is that what they are called?), upstaging everybody else and bringing me to the painful but obvious conclusion that the other 190 minutes of the show amounted to hours of my life totally wasted, which I will never get back.

The Ugly will definitely be a no brainer: The expected first child of Jay-Z and Beyoncé. With a father that looks like "Joe Camel" and mother who is a princess in her own right, this could be a wicked mix! Hopefully the DNA from some of Beyoncé's good old Bahamian roots will come out in the wash. If not their spawn will no doubt still serve a great and higher purpose in life...

Aren't camels on the endangered species list in the Middle East?



CHRIS BROWN performs at the MTV Video Music Awards. (AP)

FROM page one

their future we are one."

Mr Christie explained that — regardless of intent — Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham's post-hurricane assessment was insensitive to victims whose livelihood had been severely impacted.

"When the leader of the country enters into a debate on a matter of a disaster and the impact of it, he has to exercise greater care than (Hubert Ingraham) exercised in speaking."

Mr Christie added: "People who have experienced it, people who have actually seen it, then say 'why is my Prime Minister not seeing this as it took place, why is he minimizing or making light of something that is incredibly serious'?"

After extensive site visits to the affected Family Islands, MPs V Alfred Gray and "Brave" Davis lamented the destruction experienced by residents.

Mr Gray, MICAL MP, argued that the level of devastation experienced by his constituents — whose homes and businesses were severely damaged or destroyed — could not be denied, despite the fact that there was no loss of life. Mr Gray contended that the government's response, which he termed as "fast but

PLP LEADER CALLS FOR CHANGES TO DISASTER STRATEGY

inadequate," lacked depth in their survey of Acklins and Crooked Island.

Mr Gray said: "If you sent Social Services and the other agencies of the government and all they did was to follow the ministers around in cars that is not what I consider to be adequate response.

"They needed to walk and talk and touch and look in people's eyes and see the hurt and pain," he said.

Mr Davis, Cat Island MP and deputy leader, said that the government's lack of preparedness was demonstrated by the communication break down at the southern end of Cat Island after the storm made landfall and the subsequent setbacks to power restoration. BEC workers on the island were said to be without the necessary equipment to effectively restore supply.

In addition to physical relief efforts, Mr Davis said that there was also a need

for counselling for victims suffering post-traumatic stress.

He also suggested that the government consider waiving the duty on appliances for affected persons.

"The observations we make are intended to get the government to understand that we are still in the hurricane season, that other hurricanes may come this way and therefore, having had our failures exposed, let us make necessary preparation this time to ensure that we have the kind of equipment on the island that we need immediately after disaster strikes."

In an effort to encourage stewardship on New Providence, Mr Gray said that accounts will be set up at several lumber yards today, including Kelly's, JBR, and TOPS Lumber. The party has also asked their supporters to make donations to the National Emergency Management Agency.

PM: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 'WILL PROBABLY NOT BE A REALITY'

FROM page one

law, it will take some time for that law to be able to be applied to persons who are convicted, and so there are several other things the society ought to consider in the interim rather than to expect something that is not likely to happen."

One of the suggestions made by the Prime Minister is to change the current life sentence from 25 years to actual life imprisonment.

"We may have to determine that life imprisonment means life in prison, your natural life in prison, you won't come out anymore," he said.

"We will have to categorise murders to determine that some cases should warrant the death penalty, while others may warrant imprisonment for life, their natural life and others for a lesser period of time. So that's what we are seeking to do."

The government was scheduled to debate the death penalty bill before they adjourned for the summer. However, when the House adjourned the bill was still not ready for presentation.

The proposed legislation will outline specific categories of murder. It is still unclear if the government will bring the bill when Parliament resumes on October 5.

Opposition leader Perry Christie said in his national address if the Progressive Liberal Party is elected to government his party will carry out the law as it relates to hanging.

Mr Ingraham declined to comment on Mr Christie's statement but did say he was pleased Mr Christie was able to address the nation on national television.

"When I was in opposition it was not possible for me to do so. With one radio station I couldn't buy time to be able to address the nation. He has a right to do so and I applaud him for doing so. I also want to point out that while he was prime minister I found no record of a national address by him in his five years in office."

No hangings were carried out under the PLP administration. The last time a convicted murderer was hanged was on January 6, 2000.

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FROM page one

FORMER MINISTER RUNS FOR HIS LIFE

light in the area on the "Cash for Gold" businesses — which police have since started to target as possible contributors to crime.

Mr Cartwright: "People are being robbed left, right and centre, and the government hasn't closed them down yet! Listen, these fellas want a job, but they don't want to work."

Mr Cartwright said he has filed his robbery with the police but has heard nothing from them to date. Another officer, Mr Cartwright added, attempted to help him and did a search of the registra-

tion of the car and discovered that it was owned by the mother of a "known armed robber."

"I have not heard from (the police) since," he said.

For his part, Mr Miller said, "Cash for Gold" establishments need to be shut down immediately as they are causing "serious problems" in the country.

"These people will take your life for a couple of dollars. Those places need to close down. I am asking for the Minister responsible to shut these people down, on behalf of not for myself, but

especially for the women who may not have been able to run or get out of the way because you never know if they might have raped them, and they could have killed them. It is time we take serious action against these things."

The same thing happened with this scrap metal. They are now going around and disconnecting people's air-condition units. Just disconnect them. The Minister (Tommy Turnquest) needs to get up off his (expletive) and start dealing with this," Mr Miller said.

'BLEEDING' DENGUE FEVER CASES CONFIRMED

FROM page one

the course of the disease, even if it doesn't go to dengue haemorrhagic fever, there will be drop in platelet count which helps in clotting. So when you're brushing your teeth, or if you're prone to nosebleeds, you will see some bleeding."

"We've seen patients with drops in blood count," he said, "but they are not marked cases or large numbers of people having major complications from the bleeding."

Dengue haemorrhagic fever, according to the World Health Organisation, is a potentially deadly complication that is characterized by high fever, often with enlargement of the liver, and in severe cases circulatory failure. Victims of DHF have described their ordeal as a "hellish" experience, marked by constant bleeding and severe pain and fatigue.

Data on the number of persons to experience DHF was unavailable up to press time; however, Dr Brennen said that there had been only "a very few" cases.

"Most people recover from that without incident and don't need medical intervention, it's just when you have massive spontaneous bleeds — then we may need to intervene medically," he said.

Health officials also noted a slight decrease in the number of cases; however, the number of persons arriving at the clinics was said to be

influenced by hurricane activities.

Last week, it was feared that Hurricane Irene could destroy the government's efforts to contain the dengue fever outbreak.

High winds held the potential of both preventing mosquitos from breeding, and disrupting fogging efforts.

The Department of Environmental Health has confirmed that it will continue heavy fogging schedules, specifically targeting densely populated areas and schools throughout New Providence.

"We still have to be vigilant, even once we see decreases in numbers," he said, "it doesn't take away from the fact that we still have a lot of work to do."

"We still need to be vigilant, so we're going to continue to have town meetings, go into communities to distribute insecticides."

The country has seen a record number of clinical cases — more than 1,500 — this year while public health officials are investigating three suspected fever related deaths.

Three to 15 days after a mosquito bite, an infected person will feel chills, a headache, a high fever and pain behind the eyes. Lower back pain and achy joints are also early symptoms.

Persons experiencing dengue fever-like

symptoms are asked to call the hotline at

359-2929 to speak with a healthcare professional before visiting the Princess Margaret Hospital.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HURRICANE IRENE AFTERMATH

FLOOD IMPACT MULTIPLIES AS WATER RISES ACROSS NJ

LITTLE FALLS, N.J.

Associated Press

NEW JERSEY rivers busted out of their banks Monday, causing record floods in some places, leaving residents elsewhere frustrated that they're stuck with homes that flood regularly and offering the first major test of new flood-control measures in one town that was awash 12 years ago.

The scene in inland areas showed that the sense of relief a day earlier — that Hurricane Irene's wrath in the state wasn't as bad as feared — was premature.

Tracks at the Trenton train station remained covered by floodwaters, a prime reason Amtrak officials did not know when they would be able to restore service between Philadelphia and New York City. New Jersey Transit said it planned to restore most of its commuter rail service Tuesday, though service between New Brunswick and Trenton would remain suspended.

Detours were set up on hundreds of roads big and small because of high waters and fallen trees. More than 600,000 homes and businesses were still without electricity Monday afternoon, even as utility companies brought hundreds of thousands of others back on line.

And the number of deaths that authorities said may be linked to the storm grew to at least six. Most of the dead were caught in fast-moving floodwaters.

"We're not out of the woods yet regarding this storm," Gov. Chris Christie told a news conference Monday night in Manville, the scene of major flooding.

Christie said waters had reached or passed record levels at nine river locations, and he warned that the Passaic River had not yet crested.

"We're talking a tragic mass of flooding," said David Robinson, the state's climatologist, based at Rutgers University.

Residents of Little Falls, along the Passaic River, watched brown river water lap



RESCUE WORKERS pull a boat with a woman as they wade through floodwaters caused by Hurricane Irene, Monday, Pompton Lakes, N.J. Pompton Lakes is surrounded by three rivers and was seeing serious flooding Monday. Record crests were expected in the area. (AP)



A MAN is seen on a jet-ski in floodwaters as officials surveyed a neighborhood in Pompton Lakes, N.J. (AP)

up at the edges of their driveways on Sunday. By Monday, their basements and first floors were submerged, with the water not expected to stop rising until Tuesday.

Carlos Medina found the water was so high that it breached his rubber overalls as he made his way to his front door to check on damage.

"Everything's ruined," he said. "My couch and all my furniture — underwater. My computer — gone. But life is good. At least I have my family."

Longtime residents said it was the worst flooding they'd

ever seen — even in a neighborhood where some people have beautiful flood gardens borne of various seeds that washed up and took root in previous floods.

In parts of Pompton Lakes, a northern community surrounded by three rivers, there were severe floods again, something that has become frustratingly commonplace lately.

"We were told 10, 11 years ago when we moved in that this was a 100-year flood zone," said Joe Sevean. "This has happened seven times in 10 years, so which one is the 100-year flood?"

The neighborhood was the scene of one of the most dramatic moments of the flooding when a house in the evacuation zone exploded early Monday. No one was there. At the time, natural gas lines were still on in the area.

As firefighters fought rushing, chest-high water to try to extinguish the fire, Sevean's wife, Joy Sevean, was a few blocks away, half-jokingly suggesting that its owner may have gotten the best of the deal. She and other residents said they have given up hoping that the government will step in and either fix the flooding problems permanently or buy them out and turn the area into wetlands.

"We have two children, and I don't want them living like this," she said as she pointed to the flooded park. "We want out, but it seems like nobody listens to us."

Bound Brook, a town along the Raritan River that had some of the most dramatic floods 12 years ago when the remnants of Hurricane Floyd swamped the state, was getting hit again, but it seemed that flood controls built since then were keeping the waters from rising as high this time.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state started putting infrastructure in place to lessen the impact of flooding. A system of water pumps, levees, flood walls and diversions was making the difference this time around between outright disaster and a manageable emergency, officials said.

Downtown Bound Brook looked like an eerie movie studio Monday afternoon. Quaint clothing stores with mannequins in the windows stood alongside Ooh-La-La's gentleman's club and a Chinese restaurant. The normally bustling downtown was completely vacant as pumps sucked water from the main strip. At its height, the water reached businesses' door knobs, officials said, but by late Monday only a few feet remained.

A larger pump was pulling 180 cubic feet of water per second from Bound Brook's streets while a second drew 160 cubic feet. A contractor manned the larger pump throughout the hurricane as waters rose around him. At least five diversion pipes allowed water to flow to the pumps under the street from

other areas.

"This is how we calculate the benefits," said Col. John Boule, an Army Corps commander. "It's very satisfying for us and for the contractors who build it and did it right — just the way it was designed to be built."

The federal government has shouldered most of the cost of building the system, with New Jersey picking up about one-third. The project is still in progress and will continue until the last component — a closure gate — is completed in next year.

Even though much of Bound Brook is still under water and the damage is immense, it's a small fraction of what it would have been had the town not planned ahead, officials said.

The floods were all over the state. Homes were evacuated from Hoboken, across the Hudson River from New York City, to Vineland, on the Maurice River far in southern New Jersey.

At the Enterprise car rental office in Lawrenceville, at least 10 cars were totaled from the water. In Wayne, floodwater from the Pompton River came so fast it buckled the asphalt in a car dealership.

In several places, 5-ton watertight National Guard trucks helped get people out.

For those with normal vehicles, the flooding made getting around New Jersey an enormous challenge as roads, including parts of Interstate 287 and the Garden State Parkway, were washed away. Some businesses, such as Johnson & Johnson's headquarters in New Brunswick, told workers to stay home.

In Denville, St. Clare's Hospital kept about 110 patients in place as floodwater surrounded the building. One nurse used a kayak to get to work.

Hurricane Irene hit at Little Egg Inlet north of Atlantic City early Sunday, only the third to make landfall in the state in the last 200 years. The winds gusted to over 60 mph along the shore, mostly evacuated of its visitors and residents.

Beaches were severely eroded, but structural damage on the shore wasn't as bad as officials feared. But the rains Saturday and Sunday were heavy — and not just on the shore.

Over 10 inches were recorded in Stockton and Wayne and at least 5 inches almost everywhere else.

Robinson, the climatologist, said Irene would join the handful of storms whose names make people wince, like Hurricane Floyd in 1999 and the Ash Wednesday Nor'easter of 1962.

He said that as a rainstorm, it will end up about as bad as Tropical Storm Doria, which doused the state 40 years earlier.

The only worse flooding statewide was the Great Flood of 1903, which came in October of that year, the month after the last hurricane that made landfall in the state.

It had been a wet month before Irene's rains arrived Saturday.

Robinson said the average total rainfall from observation centers across the state will be about 15 inches for the month — 3 inches more than October 2005, which had been the rainiest recorded in the state. Some locations have had about 2 feet of rain in all.

VERMONT REELS FROM HISTORIC FLOODING

WATERBURY, Vt.
Associated Press

VERMONT was reeling Monday from a flooding disaster left by Tropical Storm Irene that washed out roads and bridges, cut off about a dozen towns, left thousands of homes and businesses without power, and killed at least three people.

Waterbury was among the hardest hit. Flood waters shut down the Vermont Emergency Management headquarters, the Vermont State Hospital and other state agency offices. About 50 patients were moved from the psychiatric hospital to other facilities.

"It breaks your heart to see the extraordinary devastation that we're seeing here in Vermont," Gov. Peter Shumlin said after touring the state by helicopter with U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and other officials. "I do not believe that we have seen flooding like this in our state's history."

State emergency workers had to evacuate Monday in the middle of trying to manage the disaster. They moved to Federal Emergency Management Agency offices in Burlington.

"We lost our (computer) server and email," said Mark Bosma, spokesman for the state agency. "We had to set up Gmail and Hotmail accounts."

And to top it off, they lost the disaster management software they use.

Throughout Waterbury were signs of Sunday's storm: a mud-caked Main Street, an inundated ball field, and flooded-out homes.

"It's a mess, a total disaster," 42-year-old Justine Barup said, her voice breaking, as she surveyed her front yard covered in silt and mud.

About 35,000 electric customers remained without power Monday, down from about 50,000 during the storm.

A ski lodge partially collapsed at the Killington resort in south-central Vermont. No one was in the lodge at the time, but about 300 guests at a resort hotel and condominiums as well as 100 Killington resort staff were stranded because the roads were washed out, said Killington marketing manager Chris Danforth.

The deaths included a young woman from Macedonia participating in a work program at southern Vermont's Mount Snow resort. She was swept away while watching the Deerfield River on Sunday.

The governor said a man died in Ludlow, though no additional details were immediately available.

A Rutland City worker checking on the city's water supply in neighboring Mendon, apparently fell into the Mendon Brook when a river bank collapsed. Michael Joseph Garofano, 55, was later confirmed dead. His son, 24-year-old Michael Gregory Garofano, who was with him at the time, was missing.

KEMP'S FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

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Funeral Service For

Mrs. Audrey Ruth Russell, 85

of Harmony Hill, Nassau, The Bahamas, who died at Doctors Hospital, Collins Avenue, Nassau, on Tuesday, 23rd August, 2011, will be held at Trinity Methodist Church, Frederick Street and Trinity

Place, Nassau, on Wednesday, 31st August, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Reverend Bill Higgs, President, Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church, will officiate and interment will be in Ebenezer Methodist Cemetery, East Shirley Street, Nassau.

Mrs. Russell was predeceased by her husband, Kingsbury George Russell and is survived by her sons, Gregory, Andrew and Michael Russell; daughters, Charlyne Acree and Deborah Finger; grandsons, Christopher Finger, Cory Russell and Lucas Russell; granddaughters, Jennifer Finger, Melissa Daye and Kristy Russell; sons-in-law, Robert Acree and John Finger; daughters-in-law, Nora Russell and Kim Russell; grandson-in-law, Kyle Daye; granddaughter-in-law, Juanita Finger; brothers-in-law, Walter Russell and Kenaz Russell; sisters-in-law, Irene Russell and Kay Russell; nephews, William, Steven, Walter and Norman; nieces, Sherry, Julie, Melinda and Melodie and many other relatives and friends.

Instead of flowers the family request that donations be sent to the Cancer Society of The Bahamas, P.O. Box S.S. 6539, Nassau, in memory of Mrs. Audrey R. Russell.

Arrangements by Kemp's Funeral Home Limited.

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LOCAL NEWS



Felipé Major/Tribune staff



CAT ISLAND



ABACO



CAT ISLAND



CAT ISLAND RESIDENTS



THE MUD, ABACO

PM IN GREEN TURTLE CAY



PRIME MINISTER Hubert Ingraham meets residents of Green Turtle Cay.



THE PRIME MINISTER greets Green Turtle Cay Mayor Floyd Lowe.

LOCAL NEWS

SCENES FROM THE HURRICANE DEVASTATION IN ABACO



ABACO



ABACO

Felipé Major/Tribune staff



THE MUD, ABACO



BRINGING WATER TO CAT ISLAND

ordinate the relief efforts, the canned food and drinking water will leave New Providence today and is expected to reach Cat Island by Wednesday.

"The drinking water is running low since there is no electricity on the entire island to generate power for the small reverse osmosis plant there. The local food stores are cleared out (but) a boat will arrive on Wednesday with fresh supplies."

"If they don't drink water there's always a can of soda and most stores are still intact but (drinking) water is running out," said Mr Illing, who will return to Cat Island from New Providence later this week.

Anyone wishing to donate to the relief effort can bring bottled water and canned goods to the vessel Eastwind at Potter's Cay before 4 pm today, he said.

Roofing materials donated by the group of concerned citizens in the capital and second-home owners based in Florida should be in Cat

Island by the weekend, he added.

Government has agreed to pay the cost of the freight, Mr Illing said.

"We started a private relief fund and with the help of the government we are able to bring the freight from Miami to Cat Island free of charge. We're able to bring in \$25,000 in roofing materials through privately raised money and government is picking up the cost of the freight."

"We have a good mix of plywood, nails, shingles as well as some cement coming that should be on the island by Sunday."

Irene ripped through Cat Island between Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

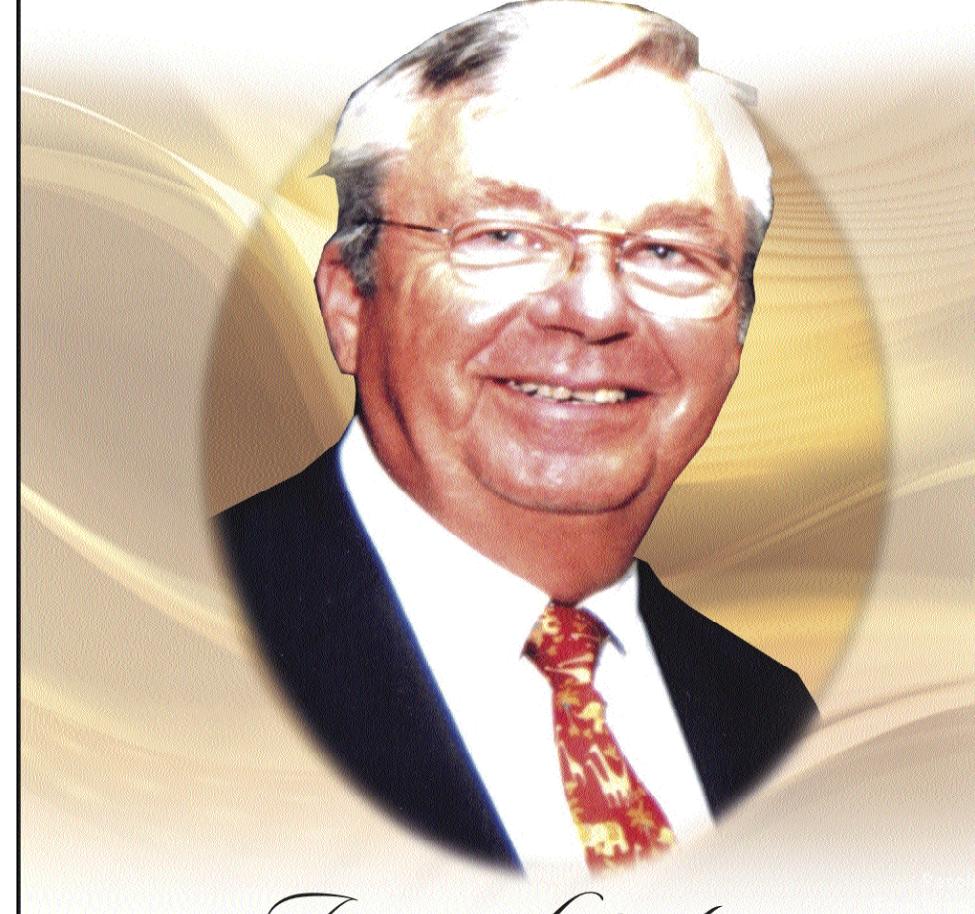
The storm snapped power lines, uprooted utility poles and trees, and left dozens of homes damaged or uninhabitable.

When *The Tribune* visited the island last Friday, residents were already repairing roofs and sifting through water-soaked debris to salvage what they could.

GOVT REVEALS PLANS TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS IN CAT ISLAND

FROM page two

Death Announcement



Jacques Latendresse

The Board of Directors of Credit Agricole Suisse (Bahamas) Ltd., and the staff, would like to extend our condolences on the passing of Mr. Jacques Latendresse, Executive Vice President and Head of Private Banking, to his loving wife Lise and family. Our prayers are with you and may God strengthen you during this difficult time.

A Memorial Service will be held at Ebenezer Methodist Church on Thursday, 1st September 2011 at 4:00pm

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BUSINESS

THE TRIBUNE • SECTION B • business@tribunemedia.net

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011



BAHAMAS WASTE EYEING 'BOOST' FROM IRENE

- * Landfill issues 'limit productivity'
- * Gov't says failure of public to dump 'green waste' at designated site behind facility's late opening/early closure

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business
Editor

BISX-listed Bahamas Waste yesterday said it expected to receive "a little boost" from the Hurricane Irene clean-up, although its productivity in the two days immediately after the storm had been "limited" by issues at the Tonique Williams-Darling Highway landfill.

Francisco de Cardenas, Bahamas Waste's managing director, said the company currently had 18 trucks on the road, compared to the normal 12-13, "until things calm down a bit, probably in a week or so".

The company has been busy serving both its regular customers and clients who had requested one-off services to remove hurricane debris, but Mr de Cardenas said late openings at the landfill on Friday and Saturday "had caused us some frustration, and we will have to wait and see how this affects us".

"It has caused us some problems, and usually the first two-three days after a storm are the busiest," the Bahamas Waste managing director told Tribune Business. "That really put us in a bind. When people can't get what they want from you, they go somewhere else."

SEE page 4B



SEVERE DAMAGE to the roof of this complex on Cat Island.

Felipe Major/Tribune staff

- * Carrier aiming to process '80%-plus' of Irene claims within six-eight weeks
- * \$300-\$700m insured losses projection for Bahamas 'out of left field'
- * Industry believes 'significant impact' for profits, but no wipe out

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE BAHAMIAN general insurance industry is likely to incur around \$90 million in insured losses as a result of Hurricane Irene, a leading executive said yesterday, with his company aiming to process "80 per cent-plus of claims" within six-eight weeks.

Patrick Ward, president and chief executive of Bahamas First, told Tribune Business that he, too, believed the level and volume of Hurricane Irene-related property and casualty claims would be below

SEE page 4B

BEC: MORE THAN 100 NEW POLES REQUIRED

- * Cat Island and Eleuthera 'the two biggies'
- * Minister says outage info accuracy and trees falling on power lines Irene's major lessons

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION (BEC) has to install almost 100 new electricity poles between Cat Island and Eleuthera alone, its chairman yesterday saying it was "making exceptional progress" in restoration efforts that were likely to be completed in two weeks.

Michael Moss described Cat Island and Eleuthera as "the two biggies" in terms of BEC's electricity supply restoration efforts, with work in the former island likely to take two weeks, although 100 per cent of customers elsewhere would be reconnected sooner.

"Still waiting to be done is Cat Island, which requires 62 poles, and the number for Eleuthera is 35 poles," Mr Moss said.

"Those are the two biggies in terms of major work needed in concentrated areas. That's where the



MICHAEL MOSS

FISHING INDUSTRY FACES 'LOST MONTH'

Fears 'thousands' of traps damaged or lost

By NATARIO
McKENZIE
Tribune Business
Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

THE fishing industry has been heavily impacted by Hurricane Irene, with the next "two to three weeks" projected to be very difficult as Bahamian fisherman try to get back on their feet, the Bahamas Commercial Fishers Alliance's (BCFA) chief, Adrian LaRoda, told Tribune Business yesterday.

"It's definitely going to

SEE page 5B

THE BAHAMAS 'STILL ON TRACK' FOR 1-2 PER CENT GROWTH

- * Central Bank governor says Irene to have 'minimal' impact on GDP growth forecast at worse
- * Reinsurance inflows, which totalled net \$128m in 2004, to offset external reserves drawdown
- * Reserves at \$1.038bn

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE BAHAMIAN economy is "still on track" to grow by 1-2 per cent during 2011 and shrug off Hurricane Irene's worst effects, the Central Bank of the Bahamas governor yesterday saying insurance inflows would "counterbalance" any foreign reserves drawdown.

Wendy Craig said that, at worst, the Category Three storm would have "minimal"

impact on the Bahamas' gross domestic product (GDP) growth projections, given that the main drivers - tourism and foreign direct investment projects centred on Nassau - were spared the worst.

And, while there might be some drawdown on the Bahamas' \$1.038 billion in foreign currency reserves to finance Irene-related repairs, Mrs Craig said this was likely to be more than offset by

SEE page 5B

GAS TRACKER

Shell	\$5.55
Esso	\$5.43
Fuel	
Texaco	\$5.55

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SEE page 2B

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BUSINESS

REGULATOR DISMISSES BTC NUMBER FEARS

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE COMMUNICATIONS industry regulator has dismissed the Bahamas Telecommunications Company's (BTC) fears that this nation's telephone numbering resources will be fully utilised by 2016, saying it "does not predict exhaustion... any time in the near future".

In its response to the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority's (URCA) consultation on the National Numbering Plan (NNP), BTC had expressed "surprise" at the regulator's apparent prediction that the NNP would only last until 2016, five years from now.

The newly-privatised carrier added that "work should be started now to redesign the NNP" if URCA genuinely believed this, adding that "exhaustion implies a fundamental re-design on the dialling plan, and experience elsewhere indicates that such a redesign and implementation can take between four to five years".

And BTC also urged URCA "to set a more ambitious target"

- * Also brushes aside privatised carrier's SIM card concerns
- * URCA says phone numbering plan flexible enough for Next Generation Networks

for NNP exhaustion, arguing that current capacity - equivalent to 20 numbers per person, based on a forecast Bahamian population of 400,000 in 2030 - "should endure for many years".

But, clarifying its position, URCA said it had merely noted that the Bahamas was assigned its own Numbering Plan Administrator (NPA) for the 1-242 code in 1996. In the original consultation, the regulator said it had noted that "with good management" the NNP was likely to satisfy demand for 20 years - hence until 2016.

"URCA notes that full liberalisation in the sector did not happen as expected to the extent that BTC remains by far the most significant user of numbering resources, and there remains a significant proportion of the NPA

available for assignment," the regulator responded.

"While URCA notes that the 242 NPA, when allocated in 1996, was expected to last until at the very latest 2016, URCA has - and does not extend this position to mean - that the 242 NPA is expected to last until only 2016.

"Currently, assuming prudent management, URCA does not predict exhaustion of the 242 NPA at any time in the near future."

Elsewhere, BTC said the key criteria in evaluating applications by communications providers for new number blocks should be the level of consumer usage when the application was made. Because providers were required to 'age' numbers previously in service, it argued that '100 per cent utilisa-

tion' could never be achieved.

The privatised carrier, now 51 per cent majority owned by Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC), identified further issues with cell phone SIM cards. These took "weeks" to order and deliver, BTC argued, with SIM cards held at one retail outlet unavailable to the customers of another.

This, it said, affected the availability of cell phone numbers to BTC's customers. Yet the regulator responded: "URCA does not agree that the bulk assignment of telephone numbers to SIM cards that are held in inventory by any retail outlet, waiting for sale to a customer, should be considered as a telephone number already committed to a customer."

"Hence, such pre-programmed telephone numbers must be classified as numbers available for assignment. URCA's position is that a telephone number only becomes 'unavailable' after it is assigned to a specific customer.

"Providers should manage their inventories of telephone numbers, whether or not they elect to bulk

program SIM cards or carry out similar activities, so that customers approaching a retail outlet may have access to the 'available telephone numbers'."

Meanwhile, BTC's main competitor, Cable Bahamas, expressed concern that the draft NNP did not allow for Bahamas-based service providers using Next Generation Networks (NGN), which required different naming, addressing and numbering systems.

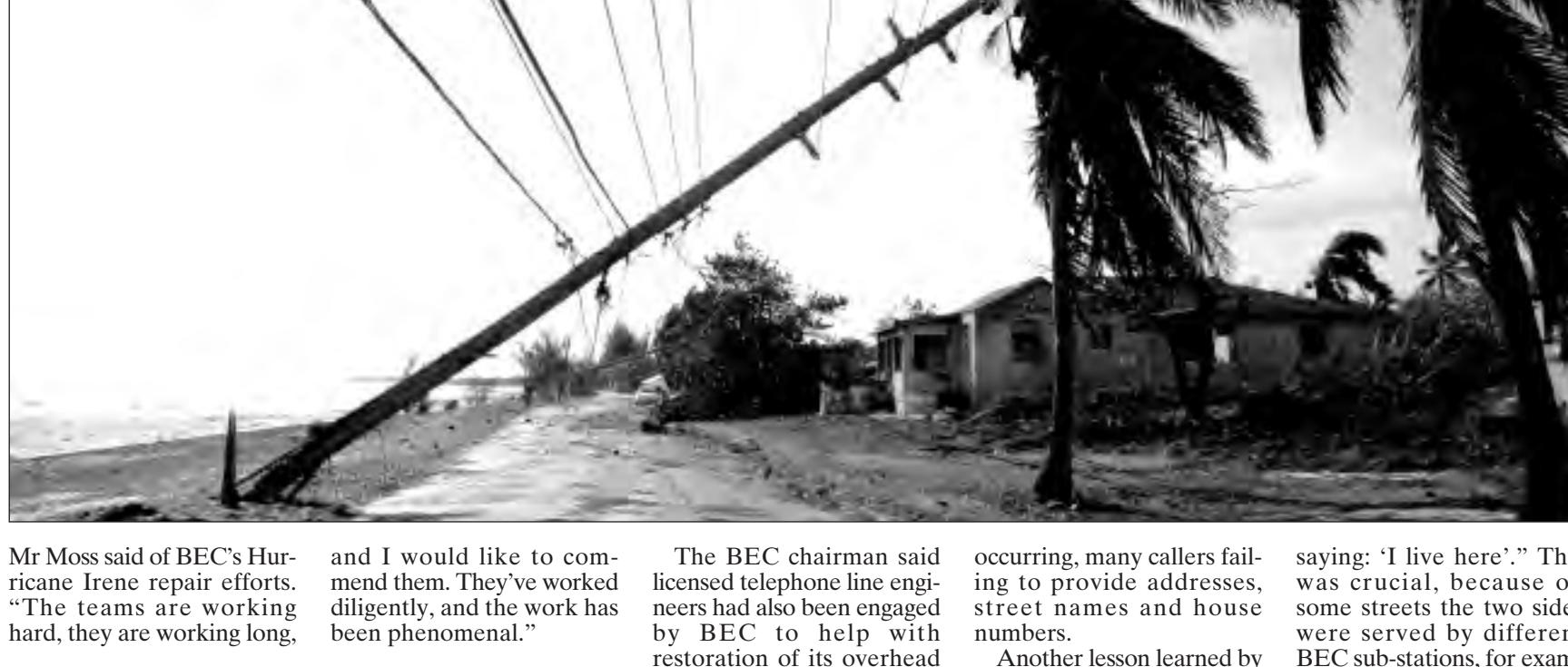
In response, URCA said: "URCA notes Cable Bahamas' opinion that the draft NNP does not deal with service providers using Next Generation Networks (NGN)."

"URCA believes that while the plan is based on E.164 resources for central offices, this does not mean that other numbering, naming and addressing protocols could not be introduced into the NNP as developed and as needed in the sector."

"At present, work on these new protocols is still under development, and existing NGN networks have generally been deployed using E.164 resources."

FROM page one

BEC: MORE THAN 100 NEW POLES REQUIRED



Mr Moss said of BEC's Hurricane Irene repair efforts. "The teams are working hard, they are working long,

and I would like to commend them. They've worked diligently, and the work has been phenomenal."

The BEC chairman said licensed telephone line engineers had also been engaged by BEC to help with restoration of its overhead power cables.

In total, Mr Moss estimated that some 150 BEC personnel had been engaged in line repairs and electricity supply restoration, with the need to man phones and tackle customer service issues taking the overall number involved to around 300.

Earl Deveaux, minister of the environment, told Tribune Business yesterday he had been impressed with the Irene response of both BEC and the Water & Sewerage Corporation, plus the Department of Environmental Health Services (DEHS). He had visited the control rooms of both corporations during the storm.

The minister, though, said that could have been "better served" during Irene if it had been fed more "accurate information" by customers about where power outages and problems were

occurring, many callers failing to provide addresses, street names and house numbers.

Another lesson learned by both BEC and the wider Bahamian public, Mr Deveaux said, should be the need to prune and trim tress so that they, and their branches, do not fall on overhead power lines.

"I was extremely impressed with the dedication of the personnel," Mr Deveaux told Tribune Business. "Where we could have been better served, on reflection, was the accuracy of information coming in from persons reporting outages."

"We called people, and got streets, addresses and house numbers on a lot of physical locations. With that information, BEC could monitor the grid and identify where the most appropriate places were to take people off the grid and re-route power."

Bahamians and residents, the minister explained, needed to "do a better job in

saying: 'I live here'." This was crucial, because on some streets the two sides were served by different BEC sub-stations, for example.

"The grid does not go the way you might think," Mr Deveaux said. "In Imperial Park and Sea Breeze, all the infrastructure is behind people's houses. Those are very challenging areas to restore power to after a hurricane."

Elsewhere, he added: "Perhaps one of the most significant lessons we [BEC] and the public ought to learn from this is the location of trees near power lines." This, Mr Deveaux explained, meant BEC and homeowners/businesses pruning them in such a way as to ensure they did not directly fall on power lines during a storm.

The minister agreed with Mr Moss that it would take Cat Island "about two weeks to return to normal from a BEC perspective", given that electricity poles took a pounding from the storm surge.



BUSINESS

CONTRACTORS EXPLORE VOLUNTEERING SERVICES

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Business Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

THE BAHAMIAN Contractors Association's (BCA) president yesterday told Tribune Business the organisation was looking at volunteering some services to help Family Island residents rebuild in the wake of Hurricane Irene.

Godfrey Forbes said he intended to put the idea forward to the BCA's council members. "This is something we are going to have to sit down and strategise," he explained.

"We have to see exactly what the Government's plans would be in terms of allocating certain amount of funds to assist. If the Government is going to come up with some funds then of course we would look at having some of these contractors go ahead and be willing to carry out some of the work, maybe not for what it would be normally in terms of them dealing with ordinary construction."

"Here we are dealing with sectors of our country who, in most cases, may not have the means to deal with the kind of repairs and damages they may find themselves suffering from. Some people may have, but I believe the overwhelming majority may not have the insurance to pay for damages. Once we are done with our meeting I intend to call the Prime Minister to see what we can do in terms of assisting with work."

Mr Forbes added: "I'm trying to look at ways to get contractors to buy into it and assist in that and, at the same time, be helping out there in the islands."

"Even though you as a contractor may not be walking out with a 15 or 20 per cent profit for whatever work you may do, if you go ahead and accept maybe 5 per cent or



THE REMAINS of a house destroyed during Hurricane Irene.

something like that, you got something out of it."

"It may be a way we can do something whereby it will be a win-win situation for all. But, at the end of the day, the Government still will need to come up with some funds to offset the overall costs."

Mr Forbes was unable to say if

hurricane repairs would be major boost to the Bahamian construction industry. "There definitely will be some work that's going to be required. As it relates to business, I don't know how much," he said.

The BCA president added that the domestic housing sector was extremely important to the con-

struction industry, as many contractors cater to that segment.

"It is extremely important to our local industry because the majority of our contractors are contractors that cater to that part of the industry," Mr Forbes said.

"They basically deal with single family homes, and most of them for

the most part deal with the affordable homes. With that, if you have the bulk of your construction industry that caters to that market, then of course when that is flat it affects the majority of contractors, our smaller and medium-sized contractors. At

the end of the day it does impact negatively on the overall economy."

BAHAMAS MOVING ON FISHERIES CERTIFICATION

Industry says it's in Govt's hands

By NATARIO
MCKENZIE
Tribune Business
Reporter
nmckenzie@
tribunemedia.net



LARRY CARTWRIGHT

THE MINISTER of Agriculture and Marine Resources, Larry Cartwright, said yesterday the Bahamas was making progress towards meeting the requirements mandated by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). He told Tribune Business: "That's in progress and we are on target. Before the effective date comes into being we should find ourselves all prepared, and the industry should not suffer."

"It's just a matter of getting some other things in place. The exporters would have to get some extra equipment for their facilities, and there is the matter of enlightening the fishermen on the various documents they have to complete to make sure that the items that are exported from the country can be traced back to where they were harvested from."

Mr Cartwright said MSC requirements are expected to come into effect some time next year. At its core, the MSC certification programme is about ensuring the sustainability of fish populations globally. It encourages governments, the private sector, consumers and all stakeholders to embrace sustainable practices, such as documenting fish populations, implementing management plans, enforcing catch size limits, and respecting sea-sion bans. The Bahamas has yet to comply.

Adrian LaRoda, president of the Bahamas Commercial Fishers Alliance (BCFA), told Tribune Business: "We're not much further than we have been at the beginning of the year. Right now the ball is not in the fishermen's hands. At this point as fisherman we have gone

eries industry at risk of losing huge sectors of its export market.

Leading seafood retailers in the US and Europe, the core export markets for the Bahamas' \$80 million crawfish industry, have signed up to the certification programme of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). The MSC is the international leader in certification and eco-labelling for sustainable seafood.

Certification is granted to the fishing industry as a whole, not individual stakeholders. In order to qualify for certification, all stakeholders have to be mobilised, including fishermen, processors, exporters, retailers, consumers and marine resource regulators. It is not a mandatory certification, but the global industry is trending towards and embracing it.

The Bahamas is the fifth largest producer of crawfish tails in the world. In 2008, it exported 4.5 million pounds.

The fishing industry is the third largest income producer in the Bahamas behind tourism and the financial services sector.

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No.45 of 2000) In Voluntary Liquidation
<p>Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, (No.45 of 2000), ENCHANT INVESTMENTS LTD., is in dissolution CONTINENTAL LIQUIDATORS INC. is the Liquidator and can be contacted at 60 Market Square, P.O. Box 1906, Belize City, Belize. All persons having claims against the above-named company are required to send their names, addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator before the 22nd day of September, 2011. The date of commencement of dissolution is the 22nd day of August, 2011.</p>

Breezes staff to get portion of wages

Schooner Bay withstands 4ft storm surge and 125-130 mph winds

SuperClubs Breezes

yesterday said it would pay staff a percentage of their wages to minimise the impact of its two-month closure until November 1, 2011, as it moves to repair roof damage caused by Hurricane Irene.

Explaining in a statement that it was impossible to keep the property open while the repairs were taking place, the Cable Beach-based resort said it had no option but to temporarily lay-off staff for two months starting on September 1.

Apart from paying staff a percentage of their wages, SuperClubs Breezes encouraged them to take accrued vacation

so they could receive full pay for two weeks.

The resort added that some staff would remain in areas such as house-keeping, food and beverage, engineering, security, front office and administration.

Meanwhile, the multi-million dollar Schooner Bay development in Abaco withstood Hurricane Irene's 125-130 mile per hour winds, the storm's eye passing directly over it.

A statement from the developers said the seawall, harbour, groin, dune system and completed homes also held up against a four foot storm surge. The homes are designed to withstand

Category Five storms, with the minimum elevation of the first floors set at 12 feet in the Schooner Bay village, and 60 feet above sea level for ridge homes.

Adding that "not a single roof shingle was lost, nor did any rainwater enter the houses", the developers said: "With millions of dollars invested in raising the rough grade of the entire village up to a minimum nine to 10 feet above sea level, the water did not flood any building lots in the village."

"The homes with their finished ground floors at a minimum of 12 feet above sea level were undamaged."



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Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following position: Council Secretary, responsible for supporting the good governance and management of The College. Duties and responsibilities include preparing all materials necessary for effective decision-making processes by Council; providing broad general guidance on legal and regulatory matters and recording all legal obligations entered into by The College; acting as the College's industrial relations liaison between employees and management and presenting management's position in contract negotiations, grievance arbitrations and unfair labour practice hearings. Applicants must have a Master's Degree in Business Administration, Industrial Psychology or Labour Relations and a minimum of seven years practicing law coupled with experience involving collective bargaining, contract administration and management.

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- A cover letter of interest
- College of The Bahamas' Application Form ([available online at www.cob.edu.bs/hrprofile](http://www.cob.edu.bs/hrprofile))
- A current detailed curriculum vitae
- Copies of qualifications obtained
- Copies of all available transcripts (original transcripts required upon employment)
- Copy of the information page of passport
- The names and contact information for three professional references

BUSINESS

BAHAMAS WASTE EYEING 'BOOST' FROM IRENE

FROM page one

Mr de Cardenas said Bahamas Waste could only operate during the hours the Tonique Williams-Darling Highway landfill was open, as its trucks needed to make regular calls to deposit waste loads before getting back on the road to new jobs.

However, the delayed openings on Friday and Saturday, which caused truck backups on the main road, had "limited our productivity."

"As far as collections are concerned, I think it's had quite a substantial impact," Mr de Cardenas added. "Not only is it trying to pick up regular customers, but going beyond the call of duty to get extra requirements met."

"Things seem to be back to normal now, but the first couple of days was a challenge. We actually had to empty some loads here in our yard so we could get some equipment out to people who needed it."

Earl Deveaux, minister of the environment, yesterday told Tribune Business that based on reports from the Department of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) the problems at the Tonique Williams-Darling Highway landfill were caused by trucks failing to deposit 'green waste' at the designated site.

"When the hurricane struck, we agreed as a matter of policy that we would send all the green waste to a dedicated site, and continue to send the solid waste to the original site," Mr Deveaux explained.

This decision was taken because 'green waste', such as trees, branches and other hurricane-related debris, solidified when wet and, if placed in the main landfill, were likely to ignite fires.

"We have in mind to ship from Eleuthera to Nassau an industrial mulcher that will permit us to convert a lot of this debris to usable mulch," Mr Deveaux explained. "In order to do that, the Department had to prepare the site, and the public bringing in that waste had to be directed to that site."

"They had challenges to get the public to use that site for green waste - trees, twigs and leaves. I'm confident that they had serious challenges and conflicts, and so they closed the site early one day and opened late the following day."

"All I expected was a level of co-operation to accommodate that endeavour, and it takes a little order to do that."

The minister added that waste was being dumped on the one mile road between the weigh scale and the actual landfill, and the DEHS had to spend "considerable sums cleaning that up".

FROM page one

the 'couple of hundred million' that the industry paid out as a result of Hurricane Frances in 2004.

And he described as "out of left field" the assessment by a Boston-based risk modelling agency, AIR Worldwide, that the Bahamas had sustained insured losses of between \$300-\$700 million as a result of Irene - a sum more than double what was sustained in Frances.

Meanwhile, other Bahamas-based general insurers said that while the level of insured losses from Hurricane Irene would have a "significant impact" on carriers' projected 2011 profits, it would not completely wipe them out - unless another storm hit the Bahamas later in the season.

"I think our current assessment is that the claims will definitely be below the level we incurred during Frances," Mr Ward told Tribune Business.

"Our thoughts, from a market standpoint, is that we're probably looking at insured losses of \$90 million in total. In terms of economic damage, it could be several times that amount, but it's difficult to estimate until we get more information in."

The Bahamas First president said "there are several factors behind" Irene's volume and value of claims being lower than those for Hurricane Frances, namely the fact that it held a more easterly track and did not impact major population centres, particularly Freeport and Abaco, "to the extent" of the latter.

"We have people stationed in various islands, and within

INSURERS ESTIMATE \$90M TOTAL LOSSES

the next couple of days we will have adjusters on the ground in every single location we have a presence in," Mr Ward told Tribune Business.

"We have aggregate or exposure in every island of the Bahamas. We have a bit of exposure in Exuma, Cat Island, San Salvador, Ragged Island, Acklins, Crooked Island, the whole lot."

Bahamas First had already started processing Hurricane Irene-related claims, and Mr Ward added: "We've already set up our Hurricane Claims Processing Centre."

"It's a standalone operation that segments hurricane claims from the normal pull of activities, enabling them to focus exclusively on dealing with our adjusted claims."

"We anticipate, in the first six-eight weeks, having dealt with the majority of claims reported - as much as 80 per cent-plus of claims dealt with."

Boston-based insurance risk modelling agency, AIR Worldwide, has estimated that Caribbean-wide insurance losses resulting from Irene will total between \$500-\$1.1 billion. Of that sum, it estimated some 60 per cent - between \$300-\$700 million - would be incurred in the Bahamas.

This estimate was reported as 'gospel' by other Bahamian media yesterday, but Mr Ward and others poured scorn on it.

"I don't know where that number comes from, but it's completely out of left field," the Bahamas First president told Tribune Business.

Mr Ward's assessment was backed by Tom Duff, general manager of Insurance Company of the Bahamas (ICB), the tied carrier through which J. S. Johnson places much of its property and casualty business.

Asked whether Irene-related insurance losses were likely to erode, but not wipe out, the sector's projected profits for 2011, Mr Duff told this newspaper: "That's what I believe at this point in time."

"If this is the only hurricane we see this year, I think it will be a significant loss for the industry, a significant impact for the bottom line, but not a major one."

"The main concern for the industry right now is that we're not even in September yet, we've had a catastroph-

ic event, and there's a good couple of months of the hurricane season still to come. It's better if you have a catastrophic event at the end of the season. If it comes at the beginning, it adds a bit of nervous tension to the industry."

Mr Duff said Bahamian property and casualty insurers were "well protected in terms of balance sheets" due to the high level of reinsurance they acquired annually.

"ICB has a pretty heavy proprietary insurance programme," he explained, "meaning the impact of an event like this is greatly reduced. Whatever the impact is, we'll be fine in terms of the bottom line."

Based on initial reports, Mr Duff said: "The general consensus seems to be that the level of damage certainly was not as bad as Frances or Jeanne."

While not wanting to give "false hope", as larger claims and the "mounting up" of reserves might occur later, the ICB general manager added: "If I was pressed to make any kind of opinion, it's not looking as bad as some of the recent hurricanes we've had."

"So far today I'm more encouraged than I was last Thursday, but it's a little premature to count the chickens. But, overall, I believe the losses are less than Frances and, possibly, Jeanne."

Turks & Caicos, where ICB and J S Johnson also have exposure, was "quite encouraging" as there had not been a huge amount of damage in those islands. And the Bahamian islands most impacted, such as Cat Island, Long Island, Crooked Island and Acklins, were not location where ICB had major exposure.

"I think as an industry we've very well prepared," Mr Duff said, "and I have no concerns about that whatsoever. Having been through three hurricanes between 2004-2005, the industry handled them very well, and learned lessons from them."

"As an industry, we're very good at mobilising loss adjusters to come in and deal with our locations. Whatever damage is incurred, we've responded very well and very professionally."

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

HARPER INC.

Registration Number: 109,149B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) HARPER INC. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against HARPER INC. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of HARPER INC.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

MANUAL TRADING GROUP LIMITED

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GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of MANUAL TRADING GROUP LIMITED.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

DONOVAN INC.

Registration Number: 132,859B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) DONOVAN INC. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against DONOVAN INC. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of DONOVAN INC.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

BRENTCROFT LTD.

Registration Number: 145,588B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) BRENTCROFT LTD. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against BRENTCROFT LTD. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of BRENTCROFT LTD.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

WYNDELL LTD.

Registration Number: 152,648B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) WYNDELL LTD. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against WYNDELL LTD. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of WYNDELL LTD.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

LINKE INC.

Registration Number: 14,086B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) LINKE INC. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against LINKE INC. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of LINKE INC.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

SOUTHERLAND LTD.

Registration Number: 14,068B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) SOUTHERLAND LTD. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against SOUTHERLAND LTD. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of SOUTHERLAND LTD.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

International Business Companies Act
(No. 46 of 2000)

JEFRI INC.

Registration Number: 45,596B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 46 of 2000) JEFRI INC. commenced voluntary liquidation on 10 August, 2011.

Any person having any claim against JEFRI INC. is required on or before the 9th day of September 2011 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the company, or in default thereof they may have excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd., of 303 Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas is the Liquidator of JEFRI INC.

GSO Corporate Services Ltd.
Liquidator

HURRICANE IRENE

AIRLINES SLOWLY BRINGING BACK SERVICE IN EAST

NEW YORK
Associated Press

IRENE IS GONE, and East Coast airports are reopening. But it will take at least several days to get hundreds of thousands of travelers stranded by the storm to their final destinations.

Behind the scenes, ground crews worked through the night to get planes ready, air traffic controllers prepared for a deluge of landings and takeoffs and extra pilots were called into action.

Airports in New York, Boston and Philadelphia buzzed Monday after being closed for part or all of the weekend. The week before Labor Day is always a busy one for airlines, so they struggled to cram travelers stranded by Irene onto already-packed planes.

To make matters worse, more than 1,600 flight were cancelled Monday, adding to the nearly 12,000 grounded this weekend, according to flight tracking service FlightAware. The service estimates that 650,000 passengers have been stuck on the ground since Irene hit, but some experts think it's a million or more.

Delays of mass transit are slowing airlines' efforts to get stranded passengers back in the air.

Some passengers opted for other means of travel.

Joseph McCann, 22, of Northern Ireland, was waiting with a friend at 30th Street Station in Philadelphia to catch a bus to New York.

The pair, who had been visiting California, flew into Philadelphia on Monday morning and were supposed to catch a connecting plane to Newark, N.J., but the flight was canceled. Friends suggested the bus.

McCann will arrive in New York about five hours later than originally scheduled, but said it could have been worse.

"I'd say we were lucky in comparison," McCann said.

The storm is expected to cost U.S. airlines \$200 million in revenue — between lost flying and ticket-change fee waivers. Airline officials estimate it will take about two days to get every plane and crew member back in place.

"The next couple of days are going to be trying," said Mike Flores, a US Airways flight attendant and union president. "Once we get to work we're going to be dealing with a lot people who have been up for 24 hours, camped out in airports."

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that CHEEKO JOSEPH of P.O. BOX SS19753 EAST STREET, 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 30th DAY OF AUGUST, 2011 to the Minister responsible for nationality and citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that PAULLETE DOLCE TOUSSAINT of SPANISH WELLS, ELEUTHERA, 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 23rd day of August, 2011 to the Minister responsible for nationality and citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

BUSINESS

AIRLINE	DEPARTURE	TIME	STATUS	
ALASKA	8455	11:05a	CANCELLED	
DELTA	1172	12:15p	CANCELLED	
ALASKA	5844	12:15p	CANCELLED	
DELTA	1802	12:25p	CANCELLED	
ALITALIA	3504	1:30p	CANCELLED	
DELTA	3413	1:30p	CANCELLED	
JETBLUE	1222	1:35p	CANCELLED	
US AIRWAYS	1270	1:35p	CANCELLED	
UNITED	2544	1:35p	CANCELLED	
US AIRWAYS	1488	12:45p	CANCELLED	
UNITED	2503	12:45p	CANCELLED	
Others	AMERICAN	3428	1:35p	CANCELLED
Others	ALASKA	1462	11:00a	ON TIME
Others	UNITED	3549	11:00a	ON TIME
Others	AIR LUXUS	2888	11:00a	ON TIME
DELTA	3802	11:00a	ON TIME	
Cleveland	US AIRWAYS	3041	12:05p	CANCELLED
Dallas/Ft Worth	AMERICAN	65	11:05a	ON TIME
Dallas/Ft Worth	QANTAS	4608	11:15a	ON TIME
Detroit	US AIRWAYS	1488	12:45p	CANCELLED
Detroit	UNITED	2503	12:45p	CANCELLED
Detroit	DELTA	2802	12:45p	CANCELLED
Detroit	KLM	4861	12:51p	CANCELLED
Fort Lauderdale	JETBLUE	1238	1:45p	CANCELLED
Houston	CONTINENTAL	2240	11:25a	ON TIME
Houston	COXA	5142	11:25a	ON TIME

AIRLINE	DEPARTURE	TIME	STATUS	
Delta	1202	11:05a	CANCELLED	
Delta	1203	11:05a	CANCELLED	
Delta	1204	11:05a	CANCELLED	
NY-LGA/City	DELTA	601	12:05p	CANCELLED
NY-LGA/City	JETBLUE	1104	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	TRICO	4001	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1486	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1487	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1488	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1489	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1490	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1491	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1492	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1493	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1494	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1495	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1496	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1497	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1498	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1499	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1500	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1501	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1502	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1503	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1504	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1505	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1506	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1507	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1508	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1509	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1510	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1511	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1512	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1513	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1514	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1515	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1516	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1517	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1518	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1519	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1520	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1521	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1522	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1523	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1524	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1525	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1526	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1527	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1528	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1529	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1530	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1531	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1532	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1533	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1534	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1535	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1536	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1537	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1538	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1539	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1540	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1541	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1542	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1543	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1544	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1545	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1546	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1547	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1548	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1549	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1550	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1551	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1552	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1553	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1554	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1555	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1556	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1557	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1558	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1559	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1560	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1561	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1562	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1563	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1564	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1565	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1566	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1567	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1568	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1569	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1570	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1571	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1572	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1573	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1574	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1575	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1576	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1577	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1578	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1579	12:05p	CANCELLED
New York-JFK	AMERICAN	1580	12:05p	CANCELLED
New				

BUSINESS

NM GOVERNOR TO SEEK ROAD MONEY IN SPECIAL SESSION

SANTA FE, N.M.
Associated Press

GOV. SUSANA MARTINEZ'S administration plans to ask the Legislature to provide \$41 million for road maintenance across the state to help offset costs the Transportation Department incurred paying its share for the Rail Runner commuter train system.

The Republican governor wants lawmakers to provide the money in a capital improvement financing bill during a special legislative session, which is to start next week.

The administration developed the request after reviewing the Rail Runner's long-term costs to the state. A new analysis by the Department of Finance and Administration estimates the commuter rail operation is costing an average of \$65 million, with the state picking up the biggest share of that.

The largest expense is debt service — averaging nearly \$42 million a year for the state — to retire bonds for capital expenses to start the rail service, including locomotives and rail cars. Those costs are similar to the financing charges that homeowners pay on a mortgage.

The Rail Runner Express serves an average of about 4,500 one-way riders along a corridor between Belen and Santa Fe, according to the Rio Metro Regional Transit District, which oversees operations of the rail system.

Scott Darnell, a spokesman for the governor, said the administration prepared the financial analysis "to gain an accurate understanding of the true costs of the Rail Runner."

Package

The Legislature is expected to consider a more than \$200 million package to finance capital improvements across the state. Martinez wants \$41 million this year for the Department of Transportation for road work — an amount nearly equivalent to the Rail Runner debt service. The money for capital improvements will come from the proceeds of bonds backed by severance tax revenues.

"Given the significant investment of state road fund dollars to the Rail Runner in recent years, statewide road maintenance has suffered," Darnell said in a statement.

The department is financed separately from the state's main budget account. The agency gets earmarked revenues, including taxes on gasoline and diesel and fees on trucking companies.

According to the administration, Rail Runner debt service accounts for about 11 percent of the money in the state road fund that is available to the department for its operations and highway projects.

Terrence Doyle, director of the Rio Metro transit district, said Monday the rail system had an operating budget of nearly \$24 million last year.

To include debt service in Rail Runner expenses — as the Martinez administration does in its analysis — magnifies costs in a way that usually isn't considered when looking at the price tag of a highway project, he said. Road projects often are described only by their construction costs.

The Rail Runner was financed as part of a \$1.6 billion transportation bond program approved by the Legislature in 2003 when Democrat Bill Richardson was governor.

The Martinez administration estimates the state will pay \$834 million in debt service by 2027 on the Rail Runner and that cumulative operating costs will reach nearly \$496 million by then.



DON DAVIS is seen with some of his herd on a parched meadow at his ranch, near Tarpley, Texas. This year's severe drought in Texas and the southern Plains has crippled hay production, so ranchers and feedlot owners have been scrambling to find food for their cattle — sometimes shipping hay in from several states away. (AP)

DROUGHT, HIGH DEMAND MAKES HAY HARD TO FIND

OMAHA, Neb.
Associated Press

A SCORCHING DROUGHT in the southern Plains has caused hay prices to soar, benefiting farmers to the north but forcing many ranchers to make a difficult choice between paying high prices or selling their cattle.

Ranchers in much of Texas, Oklahoma and even Kansas are having to pay inflated prices for hay and then shell out even more to have it trucked hundreds of miles from Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska or South Dakota. Their only other options are to reduce the size of their herds or move cattle to rented pastures in another state.

"It's pretty ugly," said Don Davis, who raises grass-fed beef on his ranch about 75 miles northwest of San Antonio.

Davis said he used to think last year's dry weather couldn't get worse, but this year's record-setting drought has put even more pressure on ranchers.

Parts of Texas haven't received any rain since last fall, and forecasters predict the drought will last at least through November. The situation isn't much better in western Oklahoma, southern New Mexico and parts of southern Kansas.

Officials say only a handful of Texas' 254 counties received enough rain to grow hay this year, so significantly less is available at the same time demand has skyrocketed because pastures are parched.

That's why the average price of hay climbed to \$170 per ton this summer from \$112 per ton last July, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics. But many ranchers are paying much more because the price doesn't include shipping costs.

"Hay has gone up tremendously in price, and it's hard to get," said Jay O'Brien, who runs a ranch near Amarillo, Texas.

Some farmers have turned to social networking to find hay. The Hay Connection, a Facebook site started by two Oklahoma brothers, matches buyers and sellers and had more than 7,500 fans by midday Sunday.

Farmers in Iowa and Wisconsin banded together last



RANCHER Don Davis delivers a bail of hay to his cattle, near Tarpley, Texas. (AP)

week to donate several truckloads of hay to ranchers in Texas and Oklahoma, but those donations are likely to offer only a temporary reprieve.

Nebraska hay farmer Cory Banzhaf said he's shipped about 80 percent of his crop — roughly 2,000 tons — south to Kansas and Oklahoma this year because of the drought.

Banzhaf said trucking the hay grown near Pleasanton, Neb., adds \$50 to \$70 to the cost of each ton, leaving ranchers with bills of between \$225 and \$270 a ton.

"It's great if you're selling it, but horrible if you're buying it," said Banzhaf, who can sympathize because he also raises about 1,000 cattle.

Continuing to buy hay at those prices could be a recipe for bankruptcy, so ranchers have been selling off calves and cows of calf-

bearing age even though they know it will be costly to rebuild their herds later.

Davis said he had to truck in hay from Nebraska this year at a total cost of about \$240 a ton to supplement the emergency supply he had in his barn. Normally, he relies almost entirely on pastures to feed his cattle.

The cost led to his decision to sell off more of his cattle this year, even though he estimates his herd is about 40 head smaller today than it was in 2008.

"I don't know that anyone could significantly plan for a drought like we've had," Davis said.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service drought specialist Travis Miller said many livestock auctions in the state are so busy right now that they've been turning cattle away. Ranchers have been selling off cattle at double or triple the normal rate.

"We've been culling and culling heavily," Miller said.

Scott Dewald, executive vice president of the Oklahoma Cattlemen, said the southwest and northwest corners his state are in especially bad shape, forcing ranchers to bring in hay from as far away as South Dakota.

Many ranchers also have lost access to water because ponds have dried up, adding

to the need to reduce the size of herds or even sell all their cattle, he said. Fortunately, prices paid have largely remained strong because of high demand from foreign markets and other factors, enabling ranchers to make some money on the sales.

"At least we didn't have the added insult of selling into a down market," Dewald said.

Share your news

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



BUSINESS

IRENE LIKELY TO LEAD TO HIGHER INSURANCE PREMIUMS IN US

WASHINGTON
Associated Press

THE \$7 BILLION in estimated losses from Hurricane Irene compound the vast damage caused by weather in the United States this year. Yet despite billions they've paid out for floods, tornadoes and earthquakes, big insurance companies can expect another profitable year.

And their customers can expect higher premiums.

The stocks of major insurers shot up on Monday as investors celebrated Irene's less-than-expected damage. The storm didn't even cause most analysts to adjust their profit estimates for insurers.

In part, that's because insurance companies have been raising premiums this year, especially for customers in high-risk areas. Homeowner and auto policies cost 5 to 10 percent more than they did a year ago, according to research by Gregory Locraft, an industry analyst with Morgan Stanley.

The damage from Irene and other disasters means that property insurance premiums will likely rise across the board into 2012, Locraft said.

"Irene is just another log on the fire," he said.

The storm seems unlikely to hurt the overall U.S. economy. Analysts agree that damage from Irene will likely run less than \$10 billion — a tiny fraction of the \$14 trillion U.S. economy.

Reconstruction might even strengthen areas hit hard by Irene, analysts said. Rebuilding homes, repairing cars and fixing streets and bridges should help boost those local economies late this year and early next year, they said.

Irene is the 10th U.S. weather disaster this year to have caused more than \$1 billion in damage, the National Weather Service says — the most for any year on record dating back 30 years. And 2011 is hardly over.

Excluding Irene, this year's natural catastrophes had caused about \$18 billion in damage to insured properties, according to the Insurance Information Institute. Irene will add \$3 billion to \$5 billion, said Robert Hartwig, an economist and president of the group.

In a normal year, industry losses typically total \$15 billion to \$20 billion, said Robert Litan, an industry expert and senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. And the peak hurricane season is only about half over.

Another reason insurers are expected to raise premiums is that reinsurance companies are set to boost their rates Jan. 1. Reinsurance is coverage that insurance companies buy to cover their potential losses from catastrophes.

This year, reinsurance hasn't offset insurance companies' costs. Reinsurance policies don't kick in until a single disaster's costs to insurers top \$10 billion. When the billions are spread over numerous disasters, as has happened this year, insurers — and their customers — must absorb the costs.

That won't stop reinsurance companies from hiking their rates — costs that will be passed on to homeowners.

Insurance companies that cover major disasters are set up to absorb big costs. They manage investment portfolios that produce relatively stable income. Most of their policies never result in claims. In those cases, the premiums are pure profit.

And when a string of catastrophes hits, as in 2011, they can raise the premiums they charge homeowners.

Above from higher costs, finding coverage at all will become harder for people in areas where insurers are sensitive to risks from catastrophes. Few insurers, for example, will cover homes on fault lines or near the Gulf Coast, said Robert Rusbuldt, CEO of the Independent Insurance Brokers and Agents of America.

"When it comes to property insurance, it's all about location," Rusbuldt said.

Disasters overseas, as in Japan, have compounded the financial burdens for insurers, many of which have affiliates abroad. Hard-hit regions, such as the North Carolina coast, will suffer from lost tourism, in addition to the hurricane's damage and destruction.

The national economy, though, will scarcely feel the impact of Irene.



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
walks out of the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Monday, with Princeton University labour economist Alan Krueger, right, to announce that Krueger has been named as top White House economist. (AP)

OBAMA TAPS LABOUR ECONOMIST FOR TOP WHITE HOUSE JOB

WASHINGTON
Associated Press

FACING a public deeply dissatisfied with his handling of the economy, President Barack Obama on Monday tapped a prominent labour economist to join his cadre of advisers and help steer a fall jobs agenda that will be critical to the president's reelection bid.

In nominating Alan Krueger as chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, Obama gains an economist with expertise in the labour market and unemployment, a key drag on the U.S. economy and Obama's presidency. Krueger, a former Treasury Department official and Princeton University economist, has advocated for hiring tax credits for businesses and increased government spending on infrastructure, two programs Obama aides are considering proposing this fall.

His appointment also caps a wholesale makeover of Obama's economic leadership team during the past year. Several high-ranking advisers, including Lawrence Summers, Christina Romer and Austan Goolsbee, have all left the administration, leaving Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner as the

only top official remaining from the president's original economic team.

Obama has often reached within his administration's ranks to fill vacant posts on the economic team, and Krueger is no exception. Though he spent last year at Princeton, he served as assistant secretary for economic policy at the Treasury Department during the first two years of Obama's administration.

Reputation

Gregory Mankiw, a former CEA chairman under President George W. Bush and long-time acquaintance of Krueger, said Obama's new nominee has a reputation as an analytic, data-driven economist, not as a champion for many specific policy initiatives.

While Mankiw said he believes Krueger is highly-qualified for the post, he doesn't expect him to push the administration in any new directions when it comes to tackling the nation's economic and unemployment woes.

"This is more of a continuity appointment rather than a move-in-a-new-direction appointment," said Mankiw, now an economics

professor at Harvard University. "I don't think the president wanted a change. He's keeping the basic structure of the team in place."

White House spokesman Jay Carney brushed off questions Monday about whether Krueger would bring any fresh job creation ideas to the White House, saying only that the president's nominee was the best person for the job.

"He's an excellent economist whose particular skills are more relevant than ever in the economic environment we find ourselves in," Carney said. "His expertise in the labour market is particularly relevant as we focus on the need to grow the economy and increase job creation."

Obama announced Krueger's nomination at a Rose Garden ceremony Monday morning and said he would rely on the economist for unvarnished guidance, not partisan political advice.

"That's more important than ever right now," Obama said. "We need folks in Washington to make decisions based on what's best for the country, not what's best for any political party or special interest."

If confirmed by the Senate, Krueger will join a

White House grappling for ways to boost sluggish economic growth and bring down an unemployment rate stuck stubbornly above 9 percent. Republican presidential hopefuls are traveling around the country, campaigning hard for the GOP nomination by focusing squarely on Obama's handling of the economy.

And an already anxious public is growingly increasingly frustrated.

A new Associated Press-GfK poll shows that 63 percent of Americans disapprove of Obama's handling of the economy. Approval of his economic performance stands at just 36 percent, his worst approval rating on the issue in AP-GfK polling.

Initiatives

Obama has promised to outline a new round of jobs initiatives next week. But it's unclear whether anything he proposes could improve the economy short-term.

The president has already called for an extension of a payroll tax cut that expires at the end of the year and to continue jobless benefits.

Aides are considering other measures, including tax incentives for businesses to

hire and direct infusions of government money into construction projects.

Obama has also said he intends to call for additional long-term deficit reduction to help pay for the short-term spending his proposals would require.

He said Monday that his jobs initiatives will be "the kind of proposals that everybody can get behind, no matter what your political affiliation might be."

The White House said Krueger would not play a role in shaping the proposals Obama will outline next week because his nomination will still be awaiting confirmation.

Krueger is likely to become an important public face for the administration on the economy. Both Romer and Goolsbee, Obama's two previous CEA chairs, were frequent spokesmen for the president, appearing on television and at White House events to promote the president's policies.

The CEA is a three-member panel created in 1946 to analyze and interpret economic development, as well as recommend economic policies. Council members typically come from academic, not political, backgrounds.

BANK OF AMERICA SELLS HALF OF ITS CHINA BANK STAKE

NEW YORK
Associated Press

BANK OF AMERICA CORP. is selling half of its stake in China Construction Bank Corp. to raise cash and shore up its capital base.

The largest U.S. bank by assets said Monday it will sell 13.1 billion shares in the Chinese bank for \$8.3 billion to a group of investors it declined to name. The sale, which had been expected, will generate a gain of \$3.3 billion for Bank of America.

The news came four days after the Charlotte, North Carolina, bank got a \$5 billion investment from Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., which provided a big boost to Bank of America's battered stock. The billionaire investor made investments in other major companies such as Goldman Sachs Group Inc., helping restore confidence in them when they were out of favor.

Bank of America rose 40 cents, or 5.2 percent, to \$8.16 Monday after news of the sale came out. The stock closed at \$6.30 last Tuesday, two days before Berkshire announced its investment.

After the sale, Bank of America will still own about 5 percent of China Construction Bank. It currently owns about 10 percent.

The sale is the bank's latest move to

increase its capital base to comply with new international regulations created following the global meltdown. The rules require big financial institutions to hold more cash.

Finance Chief Bruce Thompson says the bank raised about \$5.8 billion in August. That comes on top of cash and cash-equivalent securities of \$402 billion at the end of second quarter.

The bank has faced many problems stemming from its 2008 purchase of the nation's largest mortgage lender, Countrywide Financial Corp., as well as other issues. Bank of America has lost \$15.3 billion in the last four quarters. Its revenue fell 34 percent in the first half of 2011 compared with last year after new regulations cut into the fees it collects from checking account overdrafts and credit cards.

Half of all U.S. households have an account or do business with Bank of America, making it more exposed than its rivals to weakness in the economy.

On Aug. 8, American International Group Inc. sued the bank for more than \$10 billion, claiming Bank of America deceived the insurer by selling it faulty mortgage investments. Bank of America has already paid a total of \$12.7 billion this year to settle similar claims, but that suit increased worries that more investors would sue and further drain the bank's cash reserves.



The Tribune

BODY AND MIND

health

FDA APPROVES GENE-TARGETING LUNG CANCER DRUG

WASHINGTON
Associated Press

THE FOOD and Drug Administration has approved a new Pfizer drug for a subset of lung cancer patients with a particular genetic mutation.

The twice-a-day pill, called Xalkori, is part of a new wave of personalised medications that fight disease by targeting specific genes found in certain patients. Last week, the FDA approved another drug that uses similar gene targeting technology to treat two rare forms of lymph node cancer.

Xalkori is approved to treat a small subset of non-small cell lung cancer patients, less than 7 per cent, who have an abnormal gene that stimulates cancer cells and causes tumor growth. It works by blocking proteins produced by the gene.

"It's another example of how we're using molecular medicine to subtype lung cancer into more specific and treatable diseases," said Dr Roy Herbst, a lung cancer expert who is chief of medical oncology at Yale University.

Including previously approved targeted therapies, "we have specific therapies now that we can offer for about 18 per cent of lung cancer patients that are far superior to chemotherapy and that in many cases can cause their tumors to melt away with few side effects," Herbst said.

The FDA said it also approved a genetic test to screen for the mutation, known as an abnormal anaplastic lymphoma kinase gene. The test is made by Abbott Laboratories.

About 187,000, or 85 per cent, of the 220,000 lung cancer cases diagnosed each year are non-small cell lung cancer. Roughly three-fourths of patients aren't diagnosed until tumors have spread, and only 6 per cent of those patients live five years.

"It's pretty exciting," said Dr David Carbone, a lung cancer specialist at Vanderbilt University, one of the sites that tested the drug. Only a small share of lung cancer patients have the gene mutation this drug targets, "but for those people it makes a huge difference," he said.

Analysts predict Xalkori could be a blockbuster product for Pfizer, eventually reaping more than \$2 billion in annual sales by 2021.

The FDA approved the drug under its accelerated approval program, which speeds up the clearance of therapies that show promising early results.

Pfizer released follow-up data on the drug in June, reporting that 88 per cent of patients in one study saw their tumors shrink at least somewhat after one year on Xalkori. In a second study, 54 per cent of patients had their tumors shrink by about a third or more and 83 per cent had tumors shrink somewhat. Most patients had only mild side effects, but two of the nine patient deaths during that study were considered treatment-related.

The most common side effects of the drug include vision disorders, nausea, diarrhea and inflammation.

The FDA's accelerated approval program has come under criticism in the last year after follow-up studies showed the best-selling cancer drug Avastin did not extend the lives of patients with breast cancer. The FDA granted the drug accelerated approval because of a single study suggesting it slowed tumor growth. The FDA is now in the process of trying to remove the drug's indication, though the drug maker, Roche, has appealed the decision.



GROUP prayer at 7th Annual Prayer Breakfast.

SISTER SISTER GROUP HOSTS 7TH ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

By ALESHA CADET
Tribune Features Reporter

AS THE days of summer wind down, September fast approaches heralding the much anticipated 7th Annual Sister Sister Prayer Breakfast.

The countdown is on and the anticipation heats up for the event that is set to take place on Saturday, September 3, starting at 7.30am at the Wyndham Crystal Palace Resort Ball Room.

Sister Sister President, Mrs Andrea Sweeting said: "It is our eleventh year as an organisation and our seventh prayer breakfast."

"We have organised the function in conjunction with British American Financial (BAF), who has been our major sponsor for the past seven years. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude."

Mrs Sweeting noted that this year's theme is: "Nothing is too difficult for one who loves."

She goes on to explain: "We will be celebrating life, praising God for another year, and allowing the public and Bahamian community to see that."

"We will be celebrating life, praising God for another year, and allowing the public and Bahamian community to see that."

- MRS ANDREA SWEETING

gospel singers."

Mrs Sweeting added: "We will let them know that there is 'Help and Hope' in our communities, the corporate world, our churches and our civic organizations. They are all helping us to keep our motto alive 'Women Helping Women' of which we are grateful."

"This event couldn't and wouldn't be possible without the involvement of all sisters, supporters, organisations, churches and corporate Bahamas, so we say a hearty thank you, again."

Mrs Sweeting also revealed that the event is open to the public. She says, " Anyone who wishes to can support us, and attend. However, we are asking for a donation to defray the cost of printing programs."

Ticket donations are forty five dollars and are available at the Surgical Suite No. 68 Collins Avenue (phone: 326-1929) or Southern Community Clinic, Soldier Road (phone: 328 6360).



ANDREA Sweeting & Helen Rolle at prayer conference.



CANCER survivors walk during the prayer breakfast.



DR HUBERT Minnis speaks at the prayer breakfast.



WOMAN

HEARING IMPAIRMENT AND THE MOUTH

WHAT is hearing impairment? Hearing impairment is the decreased ability to hear and differentiate sounds. It occurs when there is a problem with one or more parts of the ear or with the sensory pathways of the ear, resulting in a degree of hearing loss.

Hearing impairment is commonly broken into two broad types: conductive and sensorineural. Conductive hearing loss results from problems in the external and middle ear that cause a reduction in sound level. Sensorineural hearing loss occurs when there is damage to the inner ear, auditory nerve or to the ear's central connections. Individuals with sensorineural hearing loss usually experience problems interpreting various sounds and understanding speech. In some persons, conductive and sensorineural hearing loss can occur at the same time and this is known as mixed hearing loss.

Hearing impairment affects about one person for every 10 people with the severity of the hearing disability varying from person to person. It



KEEPING YOUR MOUTH ALIVE

By ANDRE CLARKE

affects all echelons of society and affects women and men equally. This means that there is a high probability of a hearing impaired individual walking into a dental healthcare professional's office for mouth care.

When an individual with a hearing impairment goes to visit the dentist, the main and obvious concern is communication. The dentist will ensure that the patient is not mistreated, nor becomes fearful nor hostile because he does not hear or understand instructions given to him.

It is also not uncommon for a hearing impaired patient's miscon-

ceptions and myths to negatively impact a dental visit. One popular myth is that there can be further ear damage from dental rotary and ultrasonic instruments. This is not confirmed by research. It is, therefore, necessary to dispel fiction and misconception. It is also wise that a prudent dentist encourages fact by ensuring that:

- he and his staff communicate with persons with a hearing impairment in brightly lit rooms; speak slowly and clearly while facing them; do not wear a face mask or shield while speaking to them; and keep their heads steady as they speak.
- all staff use cued speech. Cued speech allows the use of hand symbols for each mouth sound, along with lip reading.
- mirrors, drawings, models and written information are part of all communication.
- there is a small amount of or no background noise, when communicating with the hearing impaired.
- emails, voice-to-text phones, teletypewriters and voice carry over

and captioned phones are used to assist with communication, where appropriate.

The comprehensive care of any hearing impaired patient (in a dental setting) demands that the dental healthcare professional LISTENS carefully to his patient. Many persons with a hearing impairment prefer that persons communicating with them stand about 1 to 2 meters away for adequate mouth and expression reading. Also, some of them prefer to have their hearing aid devices turned off before dental clinic procedures are done. It helps them to relax and may reduce any possible high-pitched interference from dental ultrasonic or rotary instruments through the hearing aid device.

If you have a hearing impairment, please seek out a prudent dentist who LISTENS to your requests. A good dental healthcare professional will take note of all of the aforementioned, in addition to avoiding the use of any ear toxic medications. It is necessary to pursue good dental

health despite of any impairment.

Keeping your mouth alive is as important as keeping yourself alive. Visit a dental healthcare professional of your choice as soon as possible.

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.

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Dr André R Clarke, DDS, MBBS
Special Care Dentistry

PROSECUTOR SAYS MOM AWARE WHEN BABY PUSHED TO FALL

SANTA ANA, Calif.
Associated Press

A WOMAN described by her husband as blinded by postpartum depression knew what she was doing when she drove their 7-month-old son to the fourth story of a parking garage and pushed him over the edge, prosecutors said Thursday.

Sonia Hermosillo's arraignment was delayed until Monday due to medical issues. The 31-year-old faces one count of murder and one count of assault on a child with force likely to produce great bodily injury resulting in death.

Prosecutors say the mother of three took her infant son to the garage at Children's Hospital of Orange County on Monday, removed a special helmet he wore for a medical condition and pushed him over the edge — then re-entered the building to validate her parking ticket before driving away.

"There are some facts to suggest she knew exactly what she was doing," said Scott Simmons, senior deputy district attorney.

Hermosillo was being held on \$1 million bail. A call to her attorney, Chuck Hasse, not was immediately returned.

Hermosillo's husband Noe Medina had said his wife suffered from postpartum depression and did not know what she was doing. He said the couple had no problems during their 13-year-relationship until the birth of their son, who suffered from a condition that required him to wear a special helmet to reshape his head.

"There is no grudge against my wife. Don't judge her poorly.... She is truly ill," Medina said tearfully in his native Spanish on Wednesday, hours after his son died. "Understand the pain that I am in ... I lost my son and now I don't want to lose my wife. I have to keep going on for my two little girls."

Postpartum depression affects up to 20 per cent of new mothers and can be triggered or worsened by stresses such as a traumatic childbirth experience, disabilities in the infant or an unsupportive home situation, experts said.

Most of these women have the "baby blues," a bout of depression that goes away within a few weeks, but a tiny fraction — about .01 percent — develop postpartum psychosis, said Stephanie Morales, a licensed marriage and family therapist who specializes in perinatal mood disorders.

Simmons said he expects Hermosillo's case will go to a jury trial. He said the mental state of the accused always plays a role in a homicide trial, but he has not prosecuted a case involving postpartum depression.

If convicted, Hermosillo could face a maximum sentence of 25 years to life, prosecutors said.



THIS image provided by the Orange Police Department shows Sonia Hermosillo who was arrested Monday, Aug. 22, 2011, on charges that she allegedly tossed her 7-month-old son from the upper level of a parking structure. The baby is in critical condition at University of California, Irvine Medical Center. (AP)

By all accounts, Hermosillo was a wonderful mother until the birth of Noe Medina Jr. this year.

The native of Mexico had two older daughters, ages 7 and 10, and she doted on them as a stay-at-home mother while her husband worked in construction, according to neighbors who knew her before she gave birth to her third child.

They said she was involved in her daughters' schooling and walked them to class in the family's working class La Habra neighborhood every day, although she spoke little English. When she learned she was expecting a son, she was excited, said Sonia Herrera, a neighbor whose daughter played with Hermosillo's children.

After the boy's birth, Hermosillo became withdrawn and serious, she said.

Medina said his wife was hospitalized for postpartum depression in June after she said she didn't want the boy. The baby had been diagnosed with congenital muscular torticollis — a twisting of the neck to one side — and wore a helmet to help correct his plagiocephaly, also known as flat-head syndrome. The Orange County Register reported.

Studies suggest that Hispanic women suffer from slightly higher rates of postpartum depression because many are first-generation immigrants and are removed from the social and cultural support systems that surround childbirth in many Latin American cultures, Morales said. A language barrier also prevents some immigrant women from getting help.

Hermosillo's husband said his wife took medication after her hospitalization and had seen a therapist for the first time on Monday. Later that day, she scooped up the baby while her husband was watching their daughters, and left their second-story apartment.

Heel pain syndrome

PLANTAR Fascitis (PLAN-tur FAS-i-tis) is the most frequently used term for heel pain. The formation of a spur may be present but does not represent the cause for heel pain. Pain felt along the bottom (plantar) of the foot from the heel and extending along the arch of the foot. The pain is often worse in the morning and at the end of the day. Persons experiencing this problem often ask, how did I get this problem and what could have caused it? How do I get rid of the pain?

Overview: The foot has a thick band of tissue called the plantar fascia which runs across the bottom (plantar) of the foot which connects your heel bone (calcaneus) to your toes. The plantar fascia acts like a shock absorbing bowstring supporting the arch in your foot. However, when the tension on the bowstring becomes too great, it can create small tears in the fascia. Repetitive stress and strain can cause the fascia to become irritated and inflamed developing what is referred to as Plantar Fasciitis.

SYMPTOMS:

- Usually develops gradually.
- May affect just one foot but eventually occur in both simultaneously.
- A sharp pain in the heel of your foot. (possible spur)

Don't ignore any sign of this condition because it would only get worse and can hinder your regular activities.



FOOT SOLUTIONS

By BERNADETTE GIBSON

CONTRIBUTORS TO PLANTAR FASCIITIS:

Age – This condition is more often experienced between the ages of 40 and 60. This is around the time when the foot starts to age and requires more support.

Sex – It is more often seen in women than men due to the fact that women wear high heels. High heels worn frequently can cause your Achilles tendon which is attached to your heel to contract and shorten.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES:

Long distance running, ballet dancing and dance aerobics are among some of the activities that can contribute to the onset of plantar fasciitis because they place a fair amount of stress on the heel and the attached tissues.

Obesity: Excess weight normally or during pregnancy can cause plantar fasciitis. The extra pounds put stress on your plantar fascia.

Occupations: If your job requires a lot of walking or standing on hard sur-

faces you can be at risk of developing plantar fasciitis.

Improper Shoes: Shoes with thin soles that lack arch support or the ability to absorb shock can cause you to develop plantar fasciitis.

SOLUTIONS:

If you have been experiencing pain in the heel or arch area of the foot, I urge you to seek professional help because it can worsen and affect the entire foot, ankle, knees, lower back and even your shoulders. A supportive shoe, combined with proper insert will put your foot in its natural position for walking and standing. Seek help and be properly fitted with arch supports to put your body in balance and relieve the stress and strain on your plantar fascia.

• Bernadette D. Gibson, a Board Certified & Licensed Pedorthist, is the proprietor of Foot Solutions, a health and wellness franchise that focuses on foot care and proper shoe fit, located in the Trinity Plaza, West Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas www.footsolutions.com/nassau or call 322-3668 www.footsolutions.com/nassau or call 322-3668 (foot).

"The views expressed are those of the author and does not necessarily represent those of Foot Solutions Incorporated or any of its subsidiary and/or affiliated companies.

HOMEMADE BABY FOOD SERVES UP HEALTHY EATING HABITS AND SAVINGS

(ARA) - When it comes to caring for your bundle of joy, you only want what's best. And these days, with early nutrition top-of-mind for many, it's no wonder that a growing number of parents are turning to homemade baby food to help instill healthy eating habits from the start.

Prepping and pureeing easy, everyday ingredients in the home also gives you the satisfaction of knowing exactly what is going into your baby's belly, from avocado and green beans to diced apples, sweet potatoes and peaches. Using fresh-from-the-market finds also lets you avoid preservatives and additives. And by introducing a variety of healthy foods at an early age, parents can help children develop a taste for similar flavors for the rest of their lives.

Another benefit to pureeing baby's meals at home is the savings. Ranging from 50 cents to \$1.50 per jar, the cost of buying premade baby food can quickly add up. By preparing homemade meals for your little one, you're not only ensuring better control of his overall diet, you're also helping keep an eye on your household budget.

Follow these easy tips and tasty recipes to discover ways in which you can hop on this back-to-basics movement and be well on your way to puree perfection.

PREPARING THE BABY FOOD

- Avoid costly specialty baby food mixers or gadgets and opt for an equally effective, easy-to-use food processor, like those from Black & Decker, that puree for baby but also stand up to other culinary tasks.
- Steam, bake or broil the ingredients. Healthy tip: steaming maintains the most



PUREEING and pureeing easy, everyday ingredients in the home also gives you the satisfaction of knowing exactly what is going into your baby's belly, from avocado and green beans to diced apples, sweet potatoes and peaches.

Nutrients.

The liquid the vegetables and fruits were cooked in can be added to the puree to adjust consistency. Breast milk or formula can also be used to thin the puree.

STORING THE BABY FOOD

- Transfer the baby food puree into ice trays or a baby food container. If freezing in glass, use "safe to freeze" jars
- Label the bag with the date of preparation as well as

the type of food. The baby food cubes should be used within one month of freezing.

• When it's time to feed the baby, remove the number of food cubes needed, thaw and reheat.

By following these simple, at-home recipes from Black & Decker, you'll help develop healthy eating habits for your tot, all while keeping your overall baby budget in check.

WOMAN



IN THIS Monday, Aug. 22, 2011 file photo German Chancellor Angela Merkel smiles at the beginning of the weekly board meeting of the German Christian Democratic party in Berlin, Germany. Merkel has reclaimed her status as the world's most powerful woman, according to Forbes magazine which hailed her as the European Union's "undisputed" leader. (AP)

Merkel back atop Forbes' powerful women list

BERLIN
Associated Press

GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel has reclaimed her status as the world's most powerful woman, with Forbes magazine hailing her as the European Union's "undisputed" leader.

According to the list released Thursday, Merkel bumped U.S. first lady Michelle Obama from the top spot, reclaiming a position she held from 2006 to 2009, despite dropping poll ratings for Merkel at home.

Forbes praised the chancellor as "the head of the one real global economy in Europe" who is seeking to "stabilize EU debt and keep the 17-member euro zone unified."

Merkel spokesman Steffen Seibert appeared to downplay the listing, saying in a tweet Thursday it was to be taken more lightly than "seriously politically." Merkel herself did not comment.

No. 2 on the Forbes list was U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, lauded for "advancing U.S. interests and policies overseas and pushing women's issues, development and education to the top of the foreign policy agenda." Michelle Obama dropped to No. 8.

Other top international women making the list are Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff at No. 3 and Christine Lagarde, the former French finance minister who now heads the International Monetary Fund, making her debut at No. 9.

The youngest of the power women, coming in at No. 11, is 25-year-old entertainer Lady Gaga, known for her eye-grabbing red carpet fashion and ability to raise money to fight HIV/AIDS.

Merkel's return to the top of the Forbes' women list comes months after she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom with a formal dinner at the White House in June. On Wednesday, the eastern city of Magdeburg bestowed her with a local award for promoting understanding among Europe's various nations.

Yet the string of accolades has done little to stop Merkel's drop in popularity among voters. A poll last week for ARD public broadcaster found 55 per cent of Germans saying they had little confidence in the chancellor.

The feeling in her own Christian Democratic Party is not much better. Merkel's former mentor, ex-Chancellor Helmut Kohl, said this week: "I ask myself where Germany stands today and where it wants to go." The blunt comments were widely seen as criticism of Merkel, although he didn't specifically name Bahamian.

Merkel has also had to work to rally enough support to pass the latest round of eurozone rescue measures in parliament.

Forbes annually selects women who it believes are "in the middle of Richter-registering events," basing decisions on a variety of factors, ranging from wealth to politics to their impact on society.

Merkel has been heavily involved in efforts to resolve the European debt crisis.

PERRY WINS TOP AWARD BUT BEYONCE BABY TOPS SHOW

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP Music Writer

BEYONCE and Jay-Z's offspring doesn't even have a name yet, but it was the indisputable breakout star of Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards, upstaging everyone, even Katy Perry's win for video of the year.

Perry, who had the most nominations coming into the show with 10, came away with three moonman trophies, including video of the year for the inspirational clip "Firework." "I feel like I'm doing something right when I sing that song," said Perry, conservatively dressed in a cotton-candy pink jacket, a skirt and something best described as a Green Bay Packers cheesehead decoration.

But the night's big news came from Beyoncé, who stole the show before it even began when she announced on the black carpet that after more than three years of marriage, the dazzling couple had produced the ultimate all-star collaboration. Dressed in a loose-fitting, off-the-shoulder red gown, she clutched the baby bump that so many celeb-watchers had been predicting since the two wed.

Later, Beyoncé performed "Love on Top," and if Twitter hadn't already spread the news, her outfit gave clues to her impending motherhood; instead of her typical sexy outfits, she dressed in conservative spangled tux — but still danced around in her signature stilettos.

Beyoncé didn't utter a word about the pregnancy, but ended the number by taking off her jacket and rubbing her swollen belly; in the audience, an elated Jay-Z hooted and clapped for his wife as Kanye West hugged him.

In an instant, Beyoncé and her soon-to-be child managed to overshadow the night's events. Lady Gaga's much-hyped opening number, during which she performed as a greasy, leather-jacketed male alter-ego during a performance of "You and I," became less interesting. So did the evening's meticulously planned wild moments, from Nicki Minaj's origami-like outfit to a dance-off between the members of Odd Future and Jack Black, Will Ferrell and Seth Rogen.

There was one apparently unscripted moment during Jay-Z's performance with Kanye West of "Otis," off their chart-topping joint album "Watch the Throne." Near the end of the song, someone tried to walk on the stage, but was quickly apprehended by a crew member as a bemused Jay-Z looked on. It was the second time Jay-Z had someone walk on unannounced during an MTV performance; two years ago, it was Lil Mama.

Britney Spears captured the night's first award, for best pop video, and later was honored with an MTV Video Vanguard award for her visual legacy. Lady Gaga, sticking to her gender-switch shuck, leered at Spears as she paid tribute to her.

"She's a pop music legend, and the industry would not be the same without her," Gaga said. "I used to hang pictures of her on my wall and touch myself when I was in bed."

Later, Gaga fished for a kiss, but as Spears leaned in, she quickly pulled back, reminding viewers, "I've done that before."

The show at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles had no official host, though comedian Kevin Hart delivered an opening monologue and was featured in a series of vignettes during the show.

Adele had perhaps the highlight of the night as the seven-time nominee delivered a powerfully understated performance of "Someone Like You," off her top-selling "21" album.

Chris Brown also wowed with an aerial number, soaring above the crowd in between high-stepping choreography.

Russell Brand provided the evening's rare poignant moment during a tribute to his late friend, Amy Winehouse, who died a month ago after struggling for years with drug and alcohol abuse. Brand urged people to remember the 27-year-old for her music, and urged others suffering to get help.

"A lot of people just get the disease, not many people get the incredible talent that Amy was blessed with," said Brand, who successfully battled drug addiction himself. "Let's remember there is a solution ... that solution is available."



BEYONCE arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011, in Los Angeles. (AP)



SPOTLIGHT ON

Angelique Sabrina

Angelique Sabrina is a mature, focused and determined thirteen year old, Bahamian, singer/songwriter, who has loved music as long as she can remember. She has taken piano lessons from the age of six, played recorder and flute in school, taken drum lessons with Kevin Dean and, after picking up and teaching herself the guitar, she loved it so much that she asked her parents to get formal training with Pat Carey of the Grammy Award winning group, Bahamen.

Her true passion however, rests with singing. She has loved to sing for as long as she can remember and says: "I grew up around this passion, love and creativity for music...it's something that has been passed on to me mentally and genetically. It's in my blood."

At the age of 8, Angelique entered and placed first runner-up in The Little Miss Talented Bahamas, where she wrote, played and sang her first original song, "I Will Shine Through".

Even at such a young age, Angelique Sabrina has written and recorded a number of songs, namely: "Roller Coaster Ride", "Pick on Me", "The Booty Song", "Silly Dance" and, her newest release, "13". She is currently in the process of recording new original songs in anticipation of releasing an album by the end of this year.

Angelique is a pop-style singer, with a flavour of the islands, and her songs range

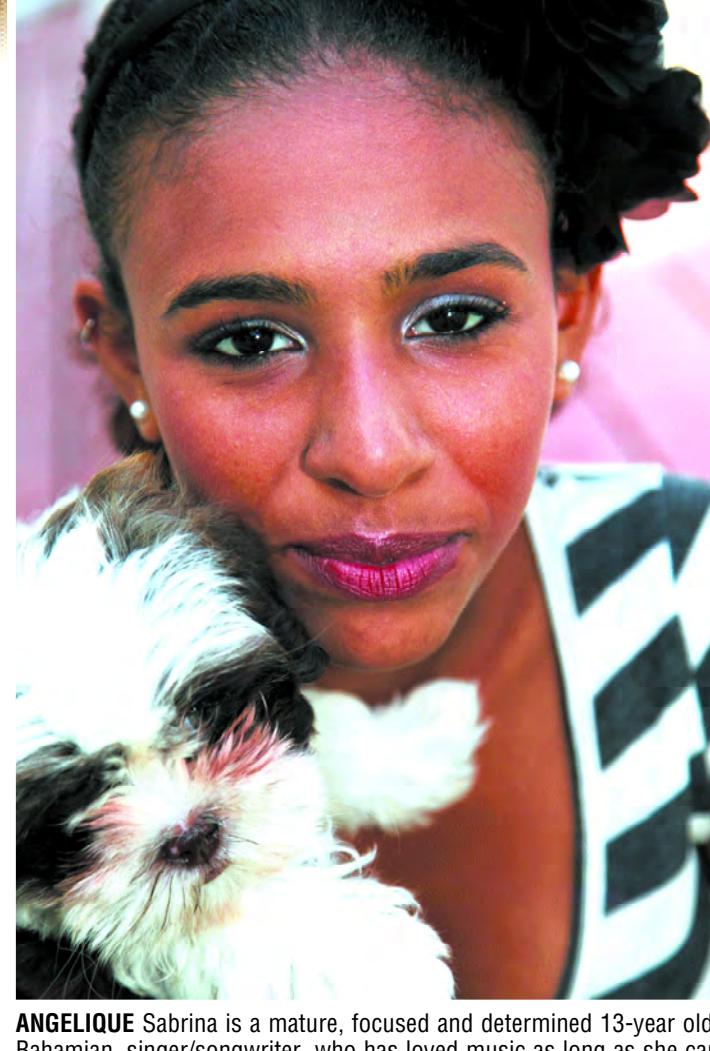
from message-oriented ballads to fun dance songs.

The recent release of "13" -- a great mother/daughter song about a 13-year-old girl asking her mum to guide her through the journey of life - has gotten Angelique strong airplay on most of the Bahamian radio stations such as Y98.7, Island FM, Gems, Star 106.5, Love 97 Nassau and Freeport, ZNS 104.5, and two radio stations in Sydney, Australia, 2RDJ and Triple H FM. She has done a number of radio interviews in Nassau and Sydney, Australia as well as an interview for ZNS TV News. Additionally, she is featured in the August 26, 2011 edition of "Arise Bahamas", a new teen newspaper; in the August 24, 2011 edition of Bahama Islands Info Weekly Newsletter in the Arts & Entertainment Section; and, on the home page of the local search engine, Bahamaslocal.com.

Her songwriting skill, which has caught the attention of other seasoned veterans, has given her the opportunity to co-write with an International singer/songwriter who is currently based in New York.

Angelique Sabrina is a student of St Andrew's High School and is determined to continue to develop her career in music. She encourages her peers to "always do what you love, follow your dreams, create your own resources, develop a support system and ask for guidance because that is how you will get ahead in life."

Visit her website angeliquesabrina.com



ANGELIQUE Sabrina is a mature, focused and determined 13-year old, Bahamian, singer/songwriter, who has loved music as long as she can remember.

WOMAN

THE TRIBUNE • SECTION B

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011

VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS FASHION POLICE

nicki MINAJ



kelly ROWLAND



From Beyoncé flaunting her baby bump to Lady Gaga dressed in drag, there were a lot of celebs that stepped out on the red carpet in their best/worst at the 2011 MTV Video Music Awards. Lets take a look.

ADELE

Jeffarah says: Where she going with this long dress with stockings at the VMAs? And this hair style reminds me of *Hair Spray*.

Alesha says: I LOVE Adele's voice and everything but this right here is not cute! Is this a funeral or what!?

BEYONCE

Jeffarah says: Just lovely. Can't wait to see the "love growing inside of her".

Alesha says: I still can't get over the fact that QUEEN B is actually preggo. Man, she is just glowing in this beautiful floor length burnt orange dress, just beautiful!

BRITTANY SPEARS

Jeffarah says: Remember when Brittany bald her head? Well this is much worse than that!

Alesha says: I don't like it, moving right along!

JERSEY SHORE GIRLS

Jeffarah says: LOL besides them looking like they shopped out of a flee market, what are they even doing at the awards show?

Alesha says: Well I am a huge Jersey Shore fan and I love Snooks and J wow .BUT these dresses are screaming "thrift shop." Dena please bury this ugly dress!

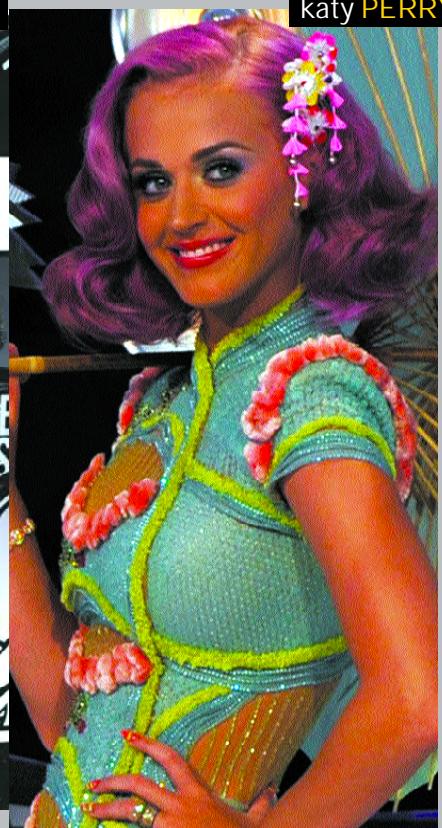
KATY PERRY

Jeffarah says: Oh Nicki I think this

jersey shore GIRLS



katy PERRY



Jeffarah says: I love Katy Perry's ensemble. Very cute! Oh and I especially love her hair.

Alesha says: Man these shoes are the business! Katy always comes up with the cutest ideas.

KELLY ROWLAND

Jeffarah says: Now she get all that fame from *Motivation* she all over the place. But Kelly looks fine. Don't know if I like the dress so much.

Alesha says: Kelly looks very nice, and those red bottoms are banging!

LADY GAGA

Jeffarah says: Lady Gaga just makes me sick. Her entire performance was disturbing and she should have at least changed this dirty shirt.

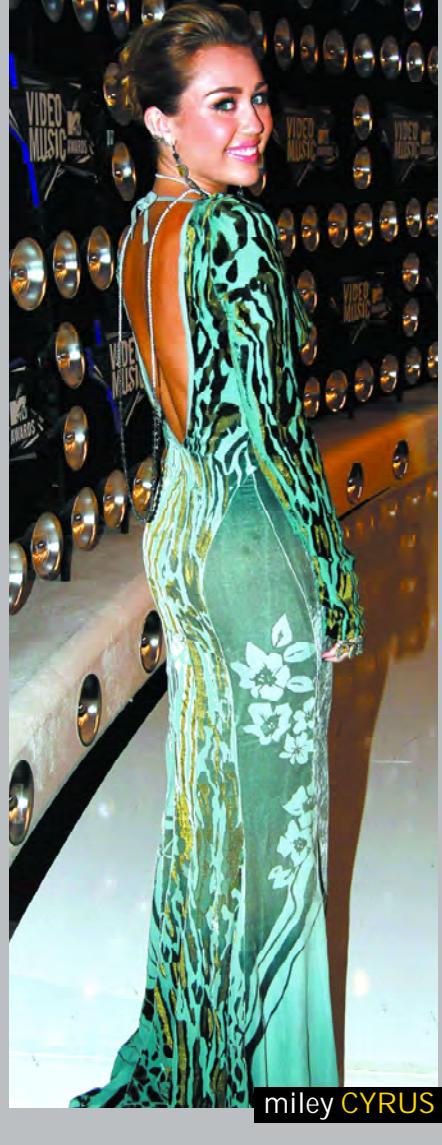
Alesha says: *smt* Lady Gaga or "Joe" looked foolish ALL NIGHT throughout the ENTIRE show! A complete mess!

LIL WAYNE

Jeffarah says: His pants was too tight that's why it only stopped under his bottom. Its bad enough that these pants are tight but they are LEOPARD too!

Alesha says: Weezy jumping up and down the stage in these TIGHT no circulation pants was NOT COOL!

MILEY CYRUS



Lady Gaga look is getting played out

Alesha says: GARBAGE!

SELENA GOMEZ

Jeffarah says: I love the cape thing going on with this dress but I think the top is too fussy!

Alesha says: I'm a Selena fan but this dress is just not it.

Jeffarah says: I love Miley's dress she looks gorgeous!

Alesha says: Miley is definitely growing up, she looks very mature and elegant in this nice number.

NICKI MINAJ

Jeffarah says: Oh Nicki I think this



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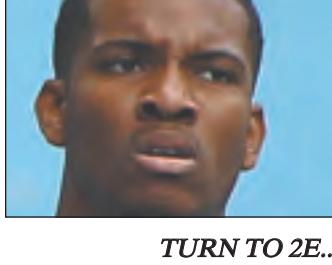
SPORTS

THE TRIBUNE • SECTION E

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011

INSIDE TRAK

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS OF ATHLETES AT THE IAAF WORLDS



TURN TO 2E...

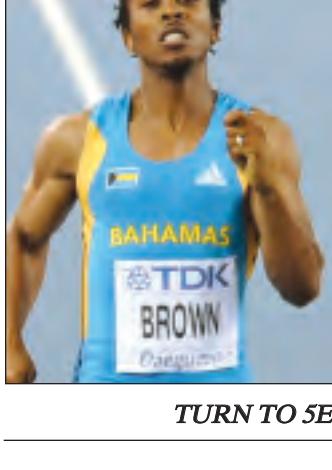
DONALD THOMAS TO BEGIN HIGH JUMP TITLE QUEST

TURN TO 3E...

USAIN BOLT'S FALSE START GIVES GRIFFITH SOME RELIEF

TURN TO 4E...

BROWN, MILLER AND PINDER FALL SHORT IN THE 400M SEMIS



TURN TO 5E.

DOUBLE-AMPUTEE PISTORIUS FAILS TO QUALIFY

TURN TO 7E...

13th IAAF World Championships



Striking gold



GOLDEN GIRL: Carmelita Jeter (inset) of the US celebrates winning gold in the 100m final Monday.

(AP Photos)

SEE FULL STORY AND MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8E

'I THINK SHE WILL DO VERY WELL'

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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DAEGU, South Korea — Her job has been an easy one. As the only woman on the coaching staff, Dianne Woodside has the responsibility of taking care of Anthonique Strachan, her high school prodigy.

As a former athlete herself, Woodside said the experience has been quite a rewarding one, considering that she gets to do something that she truly likes.

"Just to see all of the athletes that you usually see on television and being here and the camaraderie of the athletes coming together and getting along and chilling out together, it's been a rewarding one," she stated.

Having had the chance to nurture and groom Strachan during her high school days at St Augustine's College, Woodside said she has to report that Strachan has been training really hard and is looking very good going into Thursday's preliminary rounds of the 200 metres.

SEE page 5E

COACHING STAFF PLEASED WITH TEAM BAHAMAS SO FAR

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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DAEGU, South Korea — Head coach Fritz Grant said the coaching staff couldn't be more pleased with Team Bahamas' performance so far at the 13th IAAF World Championships in Athletics.

Although Adrian Griffith got disqualified for a false start in the heats of the men's 100 metres and Bianca 'BB' Stuart just missed out on advancing to the final of the women's long jump, Grant said the performances of Sheniqua 'Q' Ferguson in the women's 100 metres and the trio of Demetrius Pinder, Ramon Miller and Chris 'Fireman' Brown in the men's 400 metres have really inspired the team.

"The false start by Adrian was a bit disappointing, but in track and field, you have your ups and downs," Grant said. "This is the highest level of competition in track and field and whatever performances we get out of our athletes, we have to be quite pleased. We would have liked for Bianca to advance to the final in the long jump, but she just fell short at the end."

SEE page 4E

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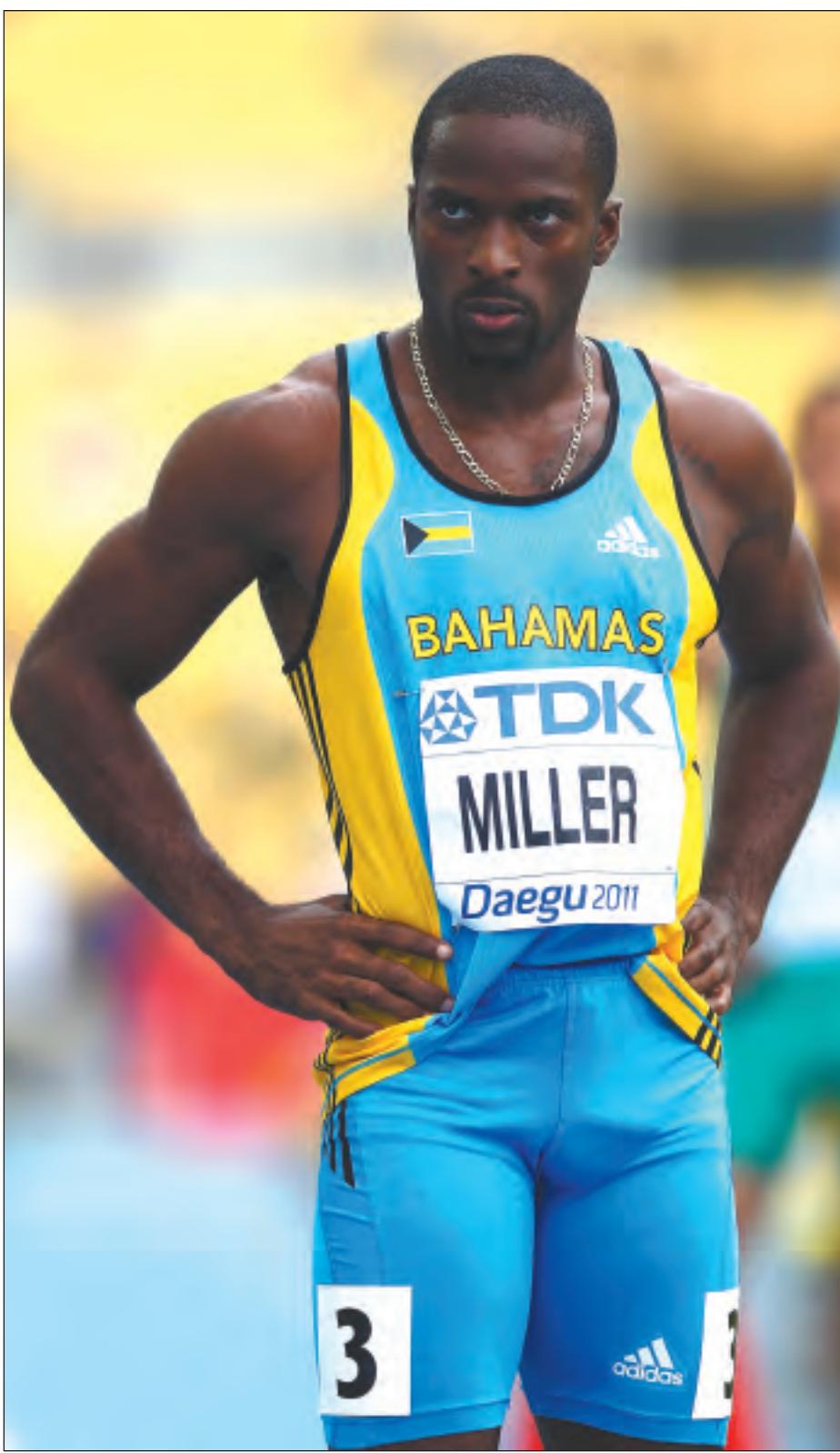
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SPORTS

13th IAAF World Championships

IN FLIGHT: Bianca Stuart competes in the long jump during the 13th IAAF World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea. She ended up 17th overall with a leap of 6.44m.



ON THE RUN: Demetrius Pinder in the 400m. He finished 15th overall with a time of 45.87s.

ON TRACK: Ramon Miller (also top left) competes in the 400m. He was 16th overall with a time of 45.88 seconds.

Photos courtesy of Getty Images

SPORTS

*13th IAAF World Championships***'The Juice' to begin high jump title quest**

By BRENT STUBBS
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DAEGU, South Korea — Donald Thomas' quest to regain his title that he won in 2007 in Osaka, Japan, will begin today when he enters the qualifying round of the men's high jump as the 14th of 17 competitors in Group A.

He will be joined by Trevor Barry, who will be the 10th of 17 competitors in Group B. (see story below)

The automatic qualifying height is 2.31 metres (7-feet, 7-inches) or the 12 best performances will advance to Thursday's final.

Thomas, better known as "the Juice" to his Bahamian fans and "the Sky Walker" on the international scene, is back with his coach Jerry Clayton, who guided him to the world title in Osaka when he made his debut at the worlds. The change came after he failed to advance to the final in 2009 in Berlin, Germany.

"I am just trying to get through qualifications," said Thomas as he and Clayton went through a light workout yesterday at the training facility in the Games Village. "I had some good training sessions leading up to this, so I'm feeling good and just taking it one day at a time. "Qualification is first and that is where our focus is right now."

Thomas, the 27-year-old former basketball player who turned to high jump on a dare from a friend when he was enrolled at Lindenwood College, said Clayton certainly helps to bring out the best in him by giving him the motivation and confidence that he didn't have in the last two years.

"That makes a big difference," Thomas said.

Clayton said from the time he took Thomas under his wing in 2007 when he went to Auburn University to continue his studies, he knew that he had a gem. After a brief break, they reunited last November and he has been quite impressed with the way Thomas has approached his

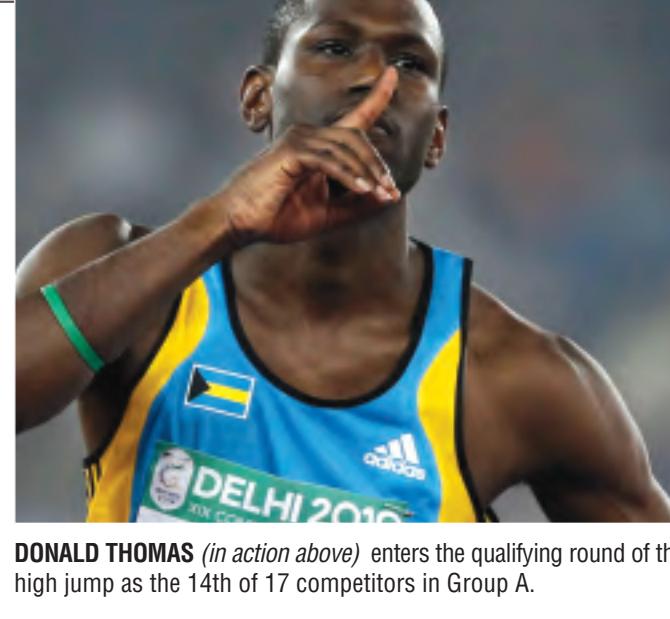


preparation to this season.

"He looks good. He had some good meets, including an awesome performance at Nationals," Clayton said. "We spent the last three weeks working on his approach and from what I've seen, he looks like he's ready. He just needs to go out there and do it."

Judging from what he saw at the previous worlds, Clayton said Thomas will have to be almost perfect in his clearance during the qualifying round in order to set himself up for a real shot at winning another medal in the final.

"He's looking good. He's been working hard and his confidence level is high,"



DONALD THOMAS (in action above) enters the qualifying round of the high jump as the 14th of 17 competitors in Group A.

Clayton said. "So all he has to do is go out there and put everything that we've been working on in practice into perfection on the day and he should be all right."

So far, Thomas said he's relaxed and prepared because he has also been enjoying life in the Games Village.

"I've been training since I got here. I haven't been to the stadium yet, so I don't know what the atmosphere is like there," he said. "We are just working on fine tuning and getting everything ready before I step out in the stadium. But everything will work out well tomorrow. Hopefully, I will get into the final."

The national champion, who has proven to be a "big time performer," said he's just eager to get out and compete.

"This is the first World Championships that I showed up so healthy, so I'm looking forward to competing," he said.

Thomas comes in as the reigning Commonwealth and Central American and Caribbean double champion, having won both titles last year as he began his come back towards regaining his form as the world champion in 2007. He has done a season's best of 2.32m (7-7 1/4), which is shy of his personal best of 2.35m (7-8 1/2).

'MY TRAINING HAS BEEN GOING WELL AND NOW I'M JUST ANXIOUS TO COMPETE'

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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DAEGU, South Korea — To pass the time, Trevor Barry said he's trying to enjoy all of the facilities that the organizers have to offer at the Games Village. But yet still he's anxious to get out and compete today in the qualifying round of the men's high jump at the colourful Daegu Stadium.

"My training has been going well and now I'm just anxious to compete," he stated. "I've been enjoying the

facilities and trying to pass the time until I get ready to compete."

Caught up in the Games Village where he was playing a video game to relax himself yesterday, Barry is scheduled to be the 10th out of 13 competitors in action in Group B. He will be joining national champion Donald Thomas — the 1997 champion from Osaka, Japan, will be the 14th out of 17 competitors in Group A. (see story above)

In order to advance to Thursday's final, they will have to either surpass the automatic qualifying height



TREVOR BARRY (in action above) is anxious to compete in the qualifying round of the high jump today.

of 2.31 metres (7-feet, 7-inches), or be one of the top 12 performers. He goes into the competition with a season and personal best of 2.29m (7-6).

"The plan is to make the final and then take it from there," said Barry, who is coming in as the Bahamas' national, Commonwealth Games and Central American and Caribbean Championships' runner-up behind Thomas. "I'm really looking forward to it."

This is the second appearance for 28-year-old Barry, who made his worlds debut

in Berlin, Germany, in 2009 where he finished eighth in his group, failing to advance to the final.

But unlike his previous senior international meets, Barry will be competing without his coach, Keith Parker, who suffered a case of the dengue fever and was unable to make the trip here.

Parker was also honoured by the IAAF as a recipient of the Veteran's Pin. Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations' treasurer Laura Charlton accepted it on his behalf.

"We've been communicat-

ing through the e-mail and on Skype," Barry noted. "So it's like he's still here. I know I would have preferred to have him here in person. But every time that I go out to the training facilities, I just think about all of the things that he has instilled in me."

Barry, who didn't advance out of the qualifying round of the World Indoors in Doha last year, said he's definitely looking forward to accomplishing his goal of getting on the podium here, with or without Parker guiding him through the competition in the stadium.



REST TIME: Trevor Barry plays a video game in the Daegu Games Village.



SPORTS

13th IAAF World Championships

Bolt's false start gives Griffith some relief

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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DAEGU, South Korea — Adrian Griffith said he knew a lot of people would get down on him for his false start that eliminated him from further competition in the first round of the men's 100 metres at the 13th IAAF World Championships on Saturday.

But two days later, Griffith felt a bit relieved after he watched world record holder Usain Bolt miss the opportunity to defend his title in the final before a packed crowd of 30,000 plus fans at the Daegu Stadium when he also fell victim to the new IAAF rule that forces the athlete who false started to vacate his spot.

"I really think the rule sucks and they need to get rid of it," said a calmer Griffith on Monday as he went through a light workout session on the training track inside the Games Village. "I knew that this was going to be a good opportunity for me to get through the rounds. I was feeling that good."

Griffith, the 26-year-old national champion, admitted that the disqualification has given him a new respect for the rules and regulations of the sport.

The new rule was made on

August 12, 2009, at the 47th IAAF Congress in Berlin, Germany.

Delegates from IAAF member federations were asked to consider the following proposal:

Except in combined events, any athlete responsible for a false start shall be disqualified.

In combined events, only one false start per race shall be allowed without disqualification of the athlete(s) responsible for the false start. Any athlete(s) making further false starts in the race shall be disqualified from the race.

The vote was approved

after 97 members voted yes

and 55 voted no.

At the 43rd IAAF Congress in Edmonton, Canada, on August 1, 2001, delegates from IAAF member federations were asked to consider the following proposal:

To allow only one false

start per race in events up to

and including the 400m. Any

athlete subsequently false

starting will be disqualified

immediately.

It was also agreed that this

rule would not be introduced



DISQUALIFIED: Jamaica's Usain Bolt takes off his jersey after being disqualified for a false start.

(AP)

until January 1, 2003, to allow for a significant period of adaptation by competitors.

It was approved with a vote of 81 yes and 74 no.

Prior to the Edmonton decision, the false start rule had given athletes the right to make one false start and they were disqualified for a subsequent false start.

(AP)

rule was one of the hot topics in just about every circle that you went in. At the Games Village, some of our athletes gave their view on it.

"Ever before and prior to last night, I was thinking that they need to go back to how it was last year. One false start and that's it," she said. "Some things, not out of negligence, you're under pressure and when you're under pressure some people flinch or they move. Before, you got a chance to re-set and get back to run."

"In my humble opinion, unfortunately they don't listen to the people in the media, so it takes Bolt for them to see that we want them to change the rules back," said Debbie Ferguson-McKenzie as she waits for her first appearance here in the women's 200 metres on Thursday.

"Now if they had that one

false start, he would have been able to come back, re-settle and run the race. So sometimes, it takes some things to go to that extreme for them to realize that they

need to listen to the athletes. He's the major player in the game and now that it happened to him, hopefully they

will reconsider it."

As one of the few veteran

sprinters left in the sport today, Ferguson-McKenzie

said she tries not to get

caught up in the false start,

but really tries her best to

react at the crack of the gun.

Said Anthonique Strachan,

the rookie who is preparing

to make her worlds debut in

the 200 on Friday: "I don't

get out of my blocks. It doesn't affect me. I am totally into

it because that is their race and this is my race."

Michael Mathieu, who has

dropped from the 400 to con-

centrate on the 200 this year,

said he agrees that the IAAF

should change back the rule.

"That don't make no

sense," he said. "I don't feel

as though someone should

only have one chance. We

have a lot of people who

train for so long for this meet

and one false start and they

are out. That sucks. I don't

think that makes any sense."

As a new competitor in the

200 on the international

scene, Mathieu said he has

to be concerned when he

steps out on the track on

Thursday. He noted that he's

definitely going to make sure

that his blocks are set prop-

erly and he waits in anticipa-

tion of the gun before he

takes off.

COACHING STAFF HAPPY WITH TEAM BAHAMAS SO FAR

FROM page 1E

because he has come prepared to run in both events.

On Friday, it's the heats and semifinals of the men's 200, the men's triple jump qualifying and the final of the men's long jump and 4x400 relay.

Then on Saturday, the final of the men's 200 will be staged. The meet will conclude on Sunday with the final of the men's triple jump and both the heat and final of the women's 4x100 relay.

That team is expected to comprise of the combo of Sheniqua Ferguson, Debbie Ferguson-McKenzie, Anthonique Strachan, Nivea Smith, Cache Armbrister and Bianca Stuart.

Pleased

"I'm very, very pleased with the expectations for the Bahamian athletes," Grant said. "After we take the break on Wednesday, hopefully everybody will be able to come back even stronger and more geared up for the final stretch to the completion of the championships."

Team manager Ralf McKinney, who took members of the Bahamian press on a tour of the Games Village yesterday, noted that the athletes have for the most part confined themselves to just the training facilities and relaxing indoors until they are ready to compete.



TEAM MANAGER Ralf McKinney (wearing hat) with Demetrius Pinder (far left), Ramon Miller (far right) and Raymond Higgs (standing).

He noted, however, that everything the athletes need is in the Games Village to keep them occupied in their

room or the lounge area in the housing complex on floors seven to nine were either going through light workouts and taking advantage of some of the amenities available such as the computer lab or the game room.

There is also a huge dining room for lunch.

It was certainly a worthwhile trip to the Games Village to view the athletes home away from home.

Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles May-

nard and his wife, and sports director Timothy Munnings – a former competitor in the worlds on the men's 4x400 relay team – are expected to visit the athletes on Wednesday during the off day of competition.



SPORTS

13th IAAF World Championships

PUSHING HARD: Shown (l-r) are Jamaal Torrance of the US, Britain's Martyn Rooney, Jamaica's Kaliese Spencer, and Bahamas' Chris Brown in the 400m semifinal Monday.

(AP Photos)

Brown, Miller and Pinder fall short in the 400m semifinals

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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DAEGU, South Korea — Some things were just not meant to be.

Three Bahamian male competitors, in their bid to make it an historic night at the 13th IAAF World Championships Monday, struggled to get through their quarter-final rounds, leaving the Bahamas without an entry in a lane for tonight's final.

Up first in heat one running out of lane seven, Ramon Miller couldn't get ahead of the field of competitors and had to settle for fifth in 45.88 seconds.

Chris "Fireman" Brown followed in lane two, but was beaten out at the tape for what could have been an automatic berth. His time of 45.43 placed him third.

And also running out of lane two, national champion Demetrius Pinder only caught one competitor but was passed by the same competitor. He ended up seventh in 45.87.

When the final tabulations were done, Brown missed his first appearance in the worlds since 2005 by three spots, Miller fell short in his second straight appearance by eight spots and Pinder, in his debut, was just one place better than Miller at 15th.

Of the three, the long walk off the track and through the tunnel to meet the press was a long and grueling one for Brown.

"I was disappointed, but I still have to give the Lord all praise and credit for coming out healthy," he said. "I didn't even realize that the guy was right there at the line. I did what I was supposed to do, but it just didn't happen."

Brown, 32, was referring to the fact that he came off the final curve and into the home stretch neck-and-neck with Nery Barnes of Croatia in lane two as they trailed Kirani James of Grenada. However, as James surged ahead for the win, Brown went with him.

But on the outside in lane seven, Virgin Islands' Tabarie Henry had a little more in reserve as he sneaked past Brown at the finish line for second in 45.53.

"I really didn't see him. I didn't even know he was there," Brown said. "I am disappointed, very. It went as I expected. I felt the times could have been faster. It felt good in my warm-ups. But it's the slowest time I ran all season, so I'm highly disappointed in that. I can't believe it."

Mentally, Brown said he was prepared to run three days back-to-back and he was right there in a position to get into the final.

"I ran a bad race. I didn't see the guy when he dipped me out, so I'm very disappointed," he said.

Brown, the 32-year-old veteran, said he will now have to regroup and get ready for the relays that start Thursday with the heats. But he indicated that he will have to



CRUISE CONTROL: LaShawn Merritt of the US crosses the finish line ahead of Bahamas' Ramon Miller in the 400m semifinal at the World Athletics Championships on Monday.

take a couple days to get over his performance in the 400.

"I didn't execute my race plan," he said. "I didn't get out as fast as I wanted to. But hey, I'm healthy. Thank God for that."

Merritt, on the other hand, admitted

that he had a bad race.

"I didn't execute my race plan," he said. "I didn't get out as fast as I wanted to. But hey, I'm healthy. Thank God for that."

Competing just ahead of defend-

ing champion LaShawn Merritt in lane seven, Miller said that after he was caught by the American, he stayed with his game plan instead of going after him.

Merritt won the race in 44.76, followed by Kevin Borlee of Belgium, the other qualifier in 45.02.

"Hopefully, I have the relay to focus on, so let's see how that goes," said the 24-year-old national championship runner-up.

In making his debut, Pinder said he will have to chalk up his performance to a "learning experience."

"I tried to do what I could, but it just wasn't my day," he said. "I gave it everything that I had, so I won't say anything went wrong. It just wasn't my night. Everybody has their season, it just wasn't mine."

The Texas University graduate, running from the inside in lane one, was only able to catch Pavel Trenikhin of Russia on the back stretch of his heat.

Coming off the final curve and on the home stretch, Trenikhin was able to accelerate past Pinder to pick up sixth place.

The 22-year-old Pinder held off South Africa's Oscar Pistorius for seventh place.

"I gave it the best I could and that is what I came up with," he said. "We gave it our all. We just all fell short."

Pinder said they are just going to put everything in God's hands as they regroup and get ready for the 4 x 400 relay.

'I THINK SHE WILL DO VERY WELL'

FROM page 1E

"She's ready to run and she's just waiting to get her final instructions as to what she needs to do," Woodside said. "I think she will do very well. I think she will definitely PR (personal best) and make it through some of the rounds."

"Once she puts her race together, she's going to do some good stuff. She's going to surprise everybody. I think people know her before she knew them. People have been coming up to her and telling her 'oh you're the Anthonique Strachan.' So I expect some good things from her. I think the Bahamas expects some good things from her. I think she will surprise a lot of people."

Woodside, the president of the

Coaches Association in the Bahamas, said Strachan and the other female team members have been getting along very great, even though she's the youngest member of the team. But once they are all done with their individual events, they can turn their attention on the 4 x 100 relay.

As the first female to represent the Bahamas on the coaching staff at this level, Woodside said she's really honoured to be here, but she knew it would only be a matter of time before someone made the breakthrough. Fortunately, she was the one to do it.

"I think everyone has their season," she said. "Sooner or later, the women would catch up. I'm just glad that they got started with me. I guess I'm going to be a motivation

to other females. It's not an easy job being a female with a family."

As a mother of a five-year-old daughter, Woodside said she is challenged by the notion that a "mother shouldn't be away from their children" for such a long period. But although this trip is going to be about 20 days long, she is still in touch with her daughter at least twice a day via the Internet. "That's a help, but it's very difficult for women," she said.

With a few names to mention like Tonique Williams-Darling, Pauline Davis-Thompson and maybe even Chandra Sturrup, Woodside said she could see women taking their role as a coach on the senior international level in the future. She's just glad that she has been the pace-setter.



COACH DIANNE WOODSIDE