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INSIGHT
**TIME TO TACKLE
POLICE BRUTALITY**
SEE INSIGHT ON PAGE 12B



PAN AMERICAN GAMES: BOXING
**VALENTINO KNOWLES
WINS SILVER**
SEE SPORTS SECTION E



Final farewell to Marco Archer

Family says goodbye to murdered son

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
Tribune Senior Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

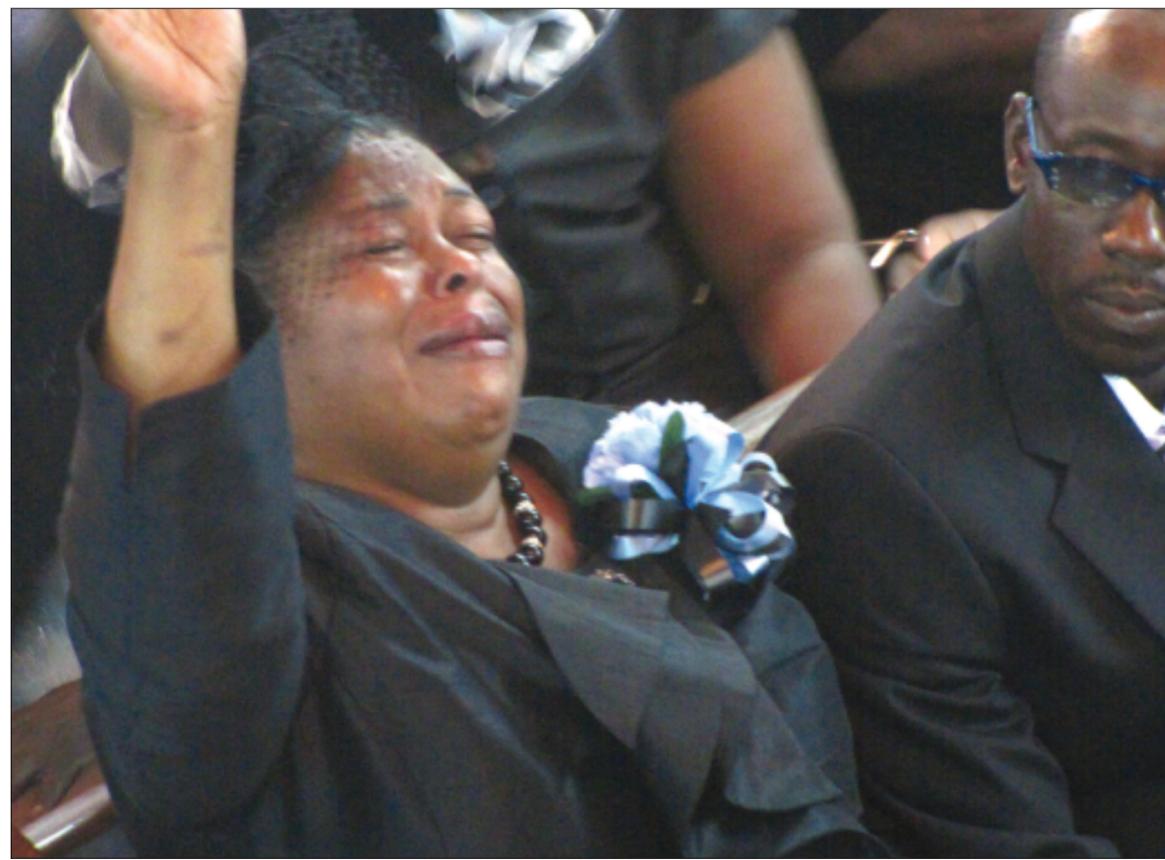
MORE than one month after his abduction and brutal murder, 11-year-old Marco



MARCO ARCHER, who was murdered, aged 11

Archer was laid to rest on Saturday at Lakeview Cemetery. At his graveside one of his three sisters was so overcome with grief she was almost inconsolable. During Marco's memorial service at Mount Calvary Baptist Cathedral, his sisters, brother and mother had to be comforted by friends and family as they wept through the beginning of service and through a musical selection performed by some of Marco's schoolmates. His sister, Lasummer Archer, explained during her tribute to Marco that she had cried over her little brother so much that she had no tears left. Dozens of people attended the funeral, however, the church was not filled to capacity.

See page 2



THE MOTHER of Marco Archer, Tryphiema Meadows, at the funeral service

Photo: Chester Robards/Tribune Staff

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111 IMMIGRANTS SENT BACK TO HAITI

By **DANA SMITH**
dsmith@tribunemedia.net

MORE than 100 illegal Haitian immigrants were sent back to Haiti at the weekend by the Department of Immigration. According to a press release sent by the Department, officers repatriated 111 Haitian nationals to Port-au-Prince via a Bahamasair jet on Saturday at 10am.

See page 12

SCRAP METAL BAN EXTENDED

By **CELESTE NIXON**
Tribune Staff Reporter
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

SCRAP metal dealers who were eagerly waiting to resume business will have to wait longer as the government will be extending the export ban which was set to expire this week, according to a cabinet minister. Speaking with the Tribune yesterday, Minister of State for Finance Zhivargo Laing said the 90-day ban on the

export of scrap metal will have be extended to accommodate the passage the Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers Act through the Senate. Mr Laing could not confirm how long the ban will remain in place but said it should be announced sometime this week. In July, the government placed the temporary ban on the scrap metal trade, while

See page 12

TWO MEN SHOT IN ONE DAY

By **DANA SMITH**
dsmith@tribunemedia.net

POLICE are investigating three incidents on Friday, consisting of two shootings which left two men in hospital, and a car accident in which a man was killed. A 37-year-old man died

See page 12

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NASSAU

LOCAL NEWS



MP FOR Bain and Grants Town Dr Bernard Nottage and Former PLP MP Leslie Miller attend the funeral of Marco Archer



THE CASKET at the funeral of Marco Archer

FINAL FAREWELL FOR MARCO ARCHER

from page one

Dr Bernard Nottage, MP for Bain and Grants Town, attended the funeral and brought condolences on behalf of his constituency.

Dr Nottage assured Marco's family that he would fight for more stringent child protection laws in the House of Assembly. He said he would fight for a child protection law that carries the name of the slain boy - "Marco's law."

Marco's body was found in bushes behind an apartment complex at Cable Beach almost one week after he was reported missing. It is believed he was molested then murdered.

Since his killing, the gov-

ernment has taken a second look at laws regarding child safety and children's rights in the Bahamas, even calling for an inquiry into how the police handled the investigation into the abduction and murder.

Dr Nottage, who championed the call for the inquiry, said during the memorial service that the Bahamas needs new policies and legislation that will protect the rights of children.

Former Progressive Liberal Party minister Leslie Miller also attended the funeral and hit out at the Free National Movement for not having any of its members attend the funeral.

"As a politician myself, I thought it was disgraceful and a slap in the face to human decency that with such a heinous crime taking place in the country and with such an outpouring of concern (throughout the country), that members of parliament did not attend," Mr Miller said.

"I was shocked that other members saw no reason to attend."

He added that he was also disappointed with the number of people who attended the funeral, because there was



THE CASKET is carried from church

mass public interest and discourse over Marco's murder.

"I was disappointed with the turnout because those Bahamians ranted and raved in newspapers and on the radio and all we get is hollow rhetoric," he said. "This is a clear example of the inhumanity that exists in this country."

During his sermon, Rev Dr Philip McPhee, who officiated over Marco's memorial service, lambasted both political parties for not amending the country's child protection laws sooner.

"Both parties have failed the children of this country," he said. "The children of the Bahamas have little to nobody fighting on their behalf."

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FNM QUESTIONS PLP LEADERSHIP VOTE

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Tribune Senior Reporter
crobar@tribunemedia.net

THE Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) may not be able to have a democratic vote for leadership because of the number of stalwart councillors appointed by party leader Perry Christie, according to the Free National Movement (FNM).

However, the FNM contended that any shift in power within the PLP would inevitably rip the party apart in the end.

"Mr Christie has stacked the deck by appointing hundreds of stalwart councillors who can easily out-vote elected delegates and councilors," an FNM press release said.

"Opposition and its Leader are caught in a cleft stick, a classic catch-22 situation in which the party is floundering and Perry Christie is flailing about as if his political life is in jeopardy - which it is."

The FNM also contend that the PLP's constant attempts to blame the depressed state of the economy on the FNM, is a last ditch effort at turning the political tide.

"His strategy is to impress those hundreds of stalwarts who keep him in office," the release said.

"From the very beginning of the global economic downturn, Mr Christie and his colleagues sought to convince the Bahamian people that the FNM Government was to blame by stopping, reviewing and



ANY CHANGE of leader in the PLP from incumbent Perry Christie, pictured, could rip the party apart, rivals FNM have suggested, due to the way Christie has appointed stalwart councillors.

canceling all those wonderful projects they said they had on the drawing board.

"The party's prospects for winning the next election are quite slim and there is little the leadership can do to change things."

The FNM touted its own accomplishments undertaken during its term in office in the release, citing new road corridors, new utility lines, the new airport, the new Straw Market, Baha Mar and the

transformation of the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre, as projects the PLP could not get done during its five-year term in office.

"Mr Christie has simply changed his tack and is

looking somewhere else for resonance. Now he has done an about-face and is in essence complaining about all projects that the FNM has undertaken which has added to the national debt.

"But the country's affairs are being well-managed and the country is not 'insolvent' as was foolishly and irresponsibly proclaimed by Mr Christie's Finance-Minister-in-waiting Ryan Pinder."

PM CALLS FOR 'CULTURE OF PEACE'

By DANA SMITH
dsmith@tribunemedia.net

PRIME Minister Hubert Ingraham called for Bahamians to promote "a culture of peace" in his speech yesterday at the opening of the new headquarters of the Atlantic Caribbean Union of Seventh Day Adventists.

He said material wealth has had a "debilitating influence" on Bahamians, stating: "Far too many among us in the Bahamas have forgotten the true purpose of our lives, to love God and our neighbours as ourselves. "We must rediscover and strengthen positive attitudes

which earlier typified our people, and reinforce the spirit of volunteerism and giving among our people."

Mr Ingraham claimed the Bahamian people have a mission to "promote a culture of peace and non-violence, a culture of mutual

well-being and fellowship, (and) a culture of life and respect for the Giver of Life."

The Prime Minister said the Seventh Day Adventist church has "long been a beacon of faithful service and Christian stewardship

in our country", praising the church for its "support of healthy family life and healthy lifestyles".

He applauded its members, stating: "Seventh Day Adventists in The Bahamas continue to live model lives of service and integrity."

LANE CLOSED ON ROBINSON ROAD

BEGINNING today, the eastbound lane of Robinson Road between Baillou Hill Road and First Street will be closed to allow the installation of underground utilities at the junction of First Street and Robinson Road.

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THE RUM DIARY	NEW	1:00	3:20	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
THREE MUSKETEERS 3D	T	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY	T	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
JOHNNY ENGLISH	T	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40
FOOTLOSSE	B	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
THE THING	C	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:55
REAL STEEL	B	1:05	N/A	N/A	7:05	N/A	10:05
COURAGEOUS	B	1:00	4:05	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
ABDUCTION	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:45

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THREE MUSKETEERS	T	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:40
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY	T	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:55
REAL STEEL	B	1:00	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
FOOTLOSSE	B	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:50

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A threat to the Bahamas' tourism industry

IN A recent article in The Tribune John Issa of Breezes warned that "the Bahamas, and more particularly Nassau and Freeport, will have to put more effort into developing and promoting our other resort attractions because gambling will be less of a draw than it was in years past". Also, he said, the cost of doing business in the Bahamas would have to come down, if this country hoped to compete internationally.

On Friday, Kerzner International's Bahamas Managing Director George Markantonis also warned the Bahamas to expect a big hit on its tourism product if the three massive casinos proposed for Miami-Dade and Broward counties are built next year.

As Mr Issa wrote: "Since the birth of Las Vegas over 60 years ago, casinos were considered, during the earlier decades, a sufficient attraction to be the main draw for a resort or destination."

When gambling was legalised in the Bahamas - over the loud objection of the Baptists - the fact that these islands were only a 30-minute flight from Miami set the gambling addict's heart aflutter. Regular charter flights from the US were provided weekly by the Lucayan casino to fill its gambling tables. It proved a good business and was certainly a revenue spinner for the Public Treasury.

It eventually spread to Nassau and fairly recent legislation provided that any hotel with a certain number of rooms constructed on any of the Family Islands could include a gaming room as a part of its attractions.

While it lasted, it brought in good business. In those days, committed gamblers - and there were many - had to travel many thousands of miles to find a casino. There were the casinos of Las Vegas, Monte Carlo, Macau, Baden Baden, Havana and Nassau. These were the areas that rolled the dice.

Today, there is such a proliferation of casinos that one no longer has to travel any distance. A player can even stay at home and indulge in online betting. That indeed is the rub for the Bahamas. No one has to book a charter any more to get to the gaming tables.

Baha Mar's 1,000-acre, \$3.5 billion Cable Beach resort, which aims for a 2014 opening, boasts that with a 100,000sq ft space it will have the largest casino in the Caribbean. It says that it will be twice the size of Atlantis, which when it was opened on Paradise Island by Resorts International boasted that it was the largest casino complex in the Bahamas. In those days, that was indeed a proud boast - it had put Freeport in the shadows.

And now comes Florida - just a half hour away - threatening all of them with the world's largest casinos.

The obvious difference between Atlantis and Baha Mar is that the Cable Beach venture - misreading the market trend - is banking on attracting the convention and

gambling crowd. Atlantis - although it too went for conventions in a big way just before conventions were being curtailed in the US, and nurtured its casino business - decided to create a family-oriented resort. In the end, it might find itself - with its magnificent display of marine life and water attractions - in the best position to weather the resort storm when the need for offshore gambling starts to fade.

Tempting Florida, which was hard hit by the collapse of the housing market, and high employment, is an offer by Genting Corporation, a Malaysian company, to build three lavish \$2 billion casinos in South Florida.

"And with the promise of tens of thousands of sorely needed jobs and many millions of dollars in tax revenue, Florida politicians are recalibrating their positions," reported Lizette Alvarez of the New York Times on Friday. The artist's drawings of the three casinos are indeed surreal as they point skyward on what appears to be layer upon layer of large saucers. Obviously, they have not been designed with hurricanes in mind.

Already Genting, according to The New York Times, has paid \$236 million cash for The Miami Herald's headquarters on Biscayne Bay. It has also bought neighbouring properties to make up 30 acres for one of the casinos.

In addition, Genting has promised Florida the world and more besides to get its commercial heart beating again. It is an offer - considering the economic times - that will be hard to refuse.

In January, a casino bill will be debated in the Tallahassee legislature. It will have to change Florida's position on gambling if the Genting project is to get off the ground. And this is where the future of the Bahamas' tourism hangs in the balance.

Although there is a strong lobby supporting the Genting proposal, Disney, Florida's most powerful corporation, is totally against. Disney claims that casinos - certainly casinos on such a large scale - will destroy Florida's theme park image. Disney is backed by the Chamber of Commerce.

"Expanding casino gambling in Florida would never make sense in a good economy," said Mark A Wilson, the president and chief executive of the Florida Chamber of Commerce. "And the only reason they are even targeting Florida is that they are hoping that desperate people will reach for desperate measures. There is never a good time to push a bad idea."

Not only does Florida's future hang in the balance, but come January so does the Bahamas'. As Mr Issa and Mr Markantonis have said, it is now up to the Bahamas to improve its product. Mr Markantonis pointed out that the advantage that Florida has over the Bahamas is that it has "drive traffic and we have airlift".

Airlift is another sad story for another day.

Opposition remarks are too late

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The leader of the Opposition speaks well to what is needed for this country, and his recent remark that policy-makers understand the link between the reform of young people and the economy could have been commendable; however his utterances are about 30 years late.

I don't like to kick dead horses but to imply that governments can fulfil their obligation to a neglected category of persons by giving money away must be questioned. And these are persons who have been systematically marginalised for an entire generation.

Some politicians have short or bad memories and open their mouths at inconvenient times just to make a point that is not needed; especially in this time-frame.

Mr Christie has conveniently forgotten that some of the turmoil this nation is experiencing can be linked to his organisation's handling of the legal and education ministries in this nation, and during their last term in office, the fact that these two portfolios were the responsibility of a single minister is a high-light.

Perhaps, he does not see the long-term implications, but if your people are not educated, you have to import skills and this "importation" causes economic, social and cultural displacement, and we can add the fact that most expatriates who come don't want to leave and will not leave, even if there is a Bahamian qualified for that job.

So when we talk about economics and jobs, there are many problems that could be corrected at the local level if we become proper stewards.

Landscapers, engineers, lab-technicians, nurses, contractors, etc, etc, etc. Most of these persons are here because the national education component has not been competently handled over the last 40 years.

Another dilemma is that, when you have qualified Bahamians, they have to struggle to get a job in their own country; it is as if their qualifications mean nothing. Degrees that required extended sacrifices, not only by families, but by successive governments.

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

Call it what you wish, in this culture, political sincerity and common sense just does not seem to go together.

We are seeing the fruits of our indiscretions to the point where politicians are freely expressing the view that it is government's responsibility to "look after" the people when their role is to "govern."

But there is a spark. I hope the leaders of the Opposition listened to the "tone" of their younger members as they presented their views on the Crime bill.

Most of them have become moderates and they are expressing a new-found wis-

dom; they are seeing the situation for what it is, but it is ironic that the persons in their "safe seats" are slinging forth the same garbage of "too little, too late", and the persons they represent have not seen significant changes in their communities, just a gradual deterioration over the decades.

I guess, since they are not in charge the leadership of the Opposition, they do not see what the Bahamian people are going through as their problem, so they are only prepared to do something about it if they are elected; if they are elected it will truly be "too little, too late".

EDWARD HUTCHESON
Nassau,
October 20, 2011.

DNA not ready to govern - a rebuttal

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The heading, "DNA Not Ready to Govern", appeared in the Opinion section of The Nassau Guardian on Friday, October 21, 2011. This contained a well-written article by Mr Kevin Evans.

While the writer in my opinion appears to be well learned, I must humbly disagree with his assumptions. Experience is the best teacher, but we must remember that experience is not the only teacher.

The writer rightly said that the last two prime ministers have over 70 years of parliamentary experience or an average of more than 35 years each.

This fact cannot be refuted and it is indeed impressive. He said that with Mr Ingraham and Mr Christie at the helm, at least the Bahamian people know what they are getting.

This reminds me of the saying, "The lesser of two evils." I would ask the writer to please advise what effective national policies regarding immigration, crime, education and finance have been implemented in the Bahamas under this 70 plus years of parliamentary experience?

The writer also rightly said that running a law firm and the country are two totally different things. I would not argue that point either. Government is big business and running a law firm is chicken feed when the two are compared. But aren't the basic principles the same. Law firms, just like governments,

have to pay staff, light bills, water bills and they need to keep their infrastructure intact. What happens if the law firm can't pay its utility bills? Eventually, the firm inherits bad credit and when you start defaulting on your expenses, you run the risk of going out of business. Wouldn't being able to manage your own affairs first, be a good prerequisite before offering yourself to become a member of parliament and/or running the government?

In summation, the writer said that the DNA candidates are totally out of their league and suggested that they get involved in local government. I would like to know what the writer thinks are the qualifications needed to become a member of parliament. On what basis are these assumptions made? Should the House of Assembly be only for PLP or FNM members? Don't we need more average citizens in parliament? Don't we need more parliamentarians who fully understand the people's plight? I am interested to know what the writer would say about Cassius Stuart and Renward Wells.

The present and former prime ministers have offered a lifetime of service to our country. Their contributions are well recorded and etched in history. But suggesting that the DNA is not ready to govern based on experience alone is a conclusion that I cannot support.

DEHAVILLAND MOSS
Nassau,
October, 2011.

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TOURISM EXPERTS ARE WELCOMED BY AMBASSADOR



By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT: Bahamian Ambassador to Washington C A Smith visited Grand Bahama with 100 travel experts from Richmond, Virginia, on board Vision Airlines as part of a series of planned familiarisation trips to the island.

Mr Smith and the group were met by tourism officials on arrival at the Grand Bahama International Airport around noon and were hosted to a welcome reception.

This trip marks the end of a four-week Familiarisation Tour by Vision Airlines to promote the new service to Grand Bahama. The Grand Lucayan Resort and Golf Resort has partnered with the airline.

Vision will commence

direct non-stop service on November 3 from five US cities, including Fort Lauderdale, FL; Baltimore/Washington, Richmond, VA; Raleigh, NC; Louisville, KY. The rotations will operate daily, except on Wednesdays.

Over the past several weeks, the airline has flown in groups, comprising media planners, dive specialists, and travel agents from the various cities to experience Bahamian culture and attractions.

Mr Smith believes the service provided by Vision will significantly benefit the island, which has suffered as a result of the impact on leisure travel by the global recession.

He urged all stakeholders on the island to do their part to ensure the partnership is successful.

Mr Smith said the Richmond flight will be able to cater to millions of visitors from the entire area, including Delaware and Washington.

"There is a potential of million of people of which to draw from. It is a great potential, a great opportunity for Grand Bahama," he said.

Gary Gilbert, CEO of Hutchinson Port Holding Ltd, operators of the airport, said Vision's new air services are good news for Grand Bahama and has already generated a lot of interest from several US cities.

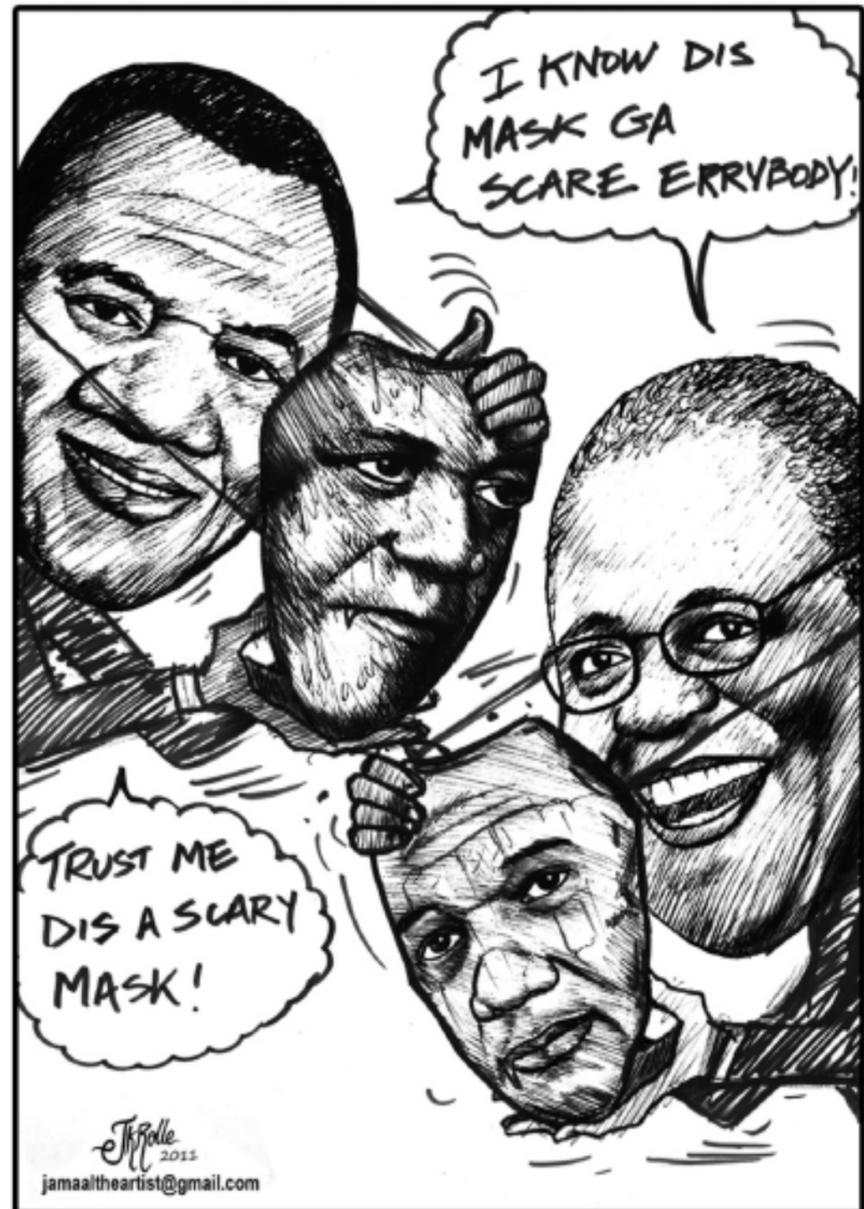
A mini-trade show and destination presentation was held for participants at the Manor House at the Radisson Grand Lucayan Beach & Golf Resort.

The group was then taken on a ferry ride and treated to lunch at the Junkanoo Beach Club at Taino Beach. They also went on a number of excursions.

THE BAHAMIAN ambassador to the US, CA Smith, welcomed 100 travel experts from Virginia as part of a series of familiarisation trips that it is hoped will help to benefit tourism.



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James 5:15-18

And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses[e] to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

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LOCAL NEWS

THE COMMONWEALTH: WILL WISE HEADS PREVAIL?

By SIR RONALD SANDERS

A VISITOR to Perth in Australia during the week ending 30th October would be forgiven in believing that the City revolves around the 54-nation Commonwealth.

The entire city is festooned with banners highlighting "CHOGM 2011" as Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers and hundreds of representatives from every Commonwealth country have gathered here for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) with several important side events.

Among the side events are a Commonwealth Business Forum which, on this occasion brought together businesspeople from many Commonwealth countries, and a People's Forum – a meeting of many of the 90 civil society organisations that exist under the Commonwealth banner.

Perth has certainly been a great host and its people have reacted well to the disruption of their lives with closed-off streets, restricted areas and armed police along the main routes from hotels to the impressive Perth Convention Centre where the CHOGM is taking place, and for which Queen Elizabeth 11 came as Head of the Commonwealth.

Pedestrians are pleased to be helpful to Commonwealth delegates seeking direction on the streets, and vehicular traffic – even buses – have been ready to stop to allow visiting Commonwealth pedestrians to take precedence on the streets.

While there is no doubt that Perth has successfully hosted the Commonwealth meeting and all the activities associated with it, judgment of the success of the actual Heads of Government Conference will have to await the end of what Commonwealth



BRITAIN'S QUEEN ELIZABETH II, sitting second left, is joined by Commonwealth Secretary-General Kamalesh Sharma, sitting left, Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard, sitting second right, Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, sitting right, and leaders from other Commonwealth nations for the official photo of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Perth, Australia, Friday, Oct. 28, 2011. Photo: Torsten Blackwood, AP

Secretary General Kamalesh Sharma said he believed would be a "landmark event" that would raise the bar for future such gatherings.

The Conference has before it two seminal documents: a report from an Eminent Persons Group (EPG) which sets out a road map of urgent reform for the association if it is to remain relevant to its time and its people now and in the future; and another report from the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) which is the body charged with ensuring that Commonwealth member governments behave in a manner consistent with Commonwealth values and principles related to democracy, the rule of law and human rights. CMAG, too, is recommending reform of itself to make it more effective.

The EPG has submitted a 200-page report to the Commonwealth leaders with 106 recommendations. The Report entitled: "A Commonwealth of the People: Time for Urgent Reform" is the centrepiece of the Conference and it warns that the Commonwealth is in danger of losing its relevance unless significant changes are made.

insight

WORLD VIEW

The report speaks directly to Heads of Government, and declares: "Now is the time for the Perth CHOGM to authorise the urgent reform this report recommends and to mandate a concrete implementation plan."

Among those reforms is the appointment of a Commissioner for Democracy, the Rule of Law and Human Rights that would investigate and verify claims of violations by governments of Commonwealth values set out in several declarations between 1971 and 2009.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and the Royal Commonwealth Society united to call on leaders to back the EPG reforms.

So, too, has the Commonwealth Civil Society, which, in a statement issued at the People's Forum, called on Heads of Government to "build on the recommendation from the EPG to convene a Commonwealth Ministers of Foreign Trade Meet-

ing and mandate the Commonwealth Secretariat to convene a joint meeting with Commonwealth Ministers of Finance to develop a joint approach to engagement in international trade and finance processes underpinned by consultation with civil society and a rights based approach to economic development."

The Civil Society statement was issued by more than 250 civil society representatives from every region of the Commonwealth.

In an encounter with Commonwealth Foreign Ministers on the eve of CHOGM, the Civil Society leaders criticised a decision not to publish the EPG report ahead of the Commonwealth Summit even though the EPG had requested that it be released to allow for the "broadest consultation and responses."

Prior to the meeting several governments had indicated their objection to the creation of the post of Commissioner, believing that it would be "intrusive" and "punitive." Among the governments that indicated this unease publicly were India and Sri Lanka. The latter country has been fingered by human rights groups, the UN Secretary-General, and even some Commonwealth governments over human rights abuses.

The EPG has argued that countries accused of violating Commonwealth values should embrace the Commissioner and utilise the expertise of the office to remedy situations quickly and in their own interest. The Group has said that "a country that works with the Commissioner would be in a good position to ward off criticism and demonstrate in a credible way that it is working to maintain Commonwealth values." It has also been pointed out that false or exaggerated allegations against a government could be exposed and dismissed by the Commissioner who would work as a link between the Commonwealth Secretary-General and CMAG.



However, some governments have maintained opposition to the creation of the post, even though it is obvious that it is a missing link between CMAG, which has censorial powers, and the Secretary-General who must try his best, by diplomatic means, to ensure that governments rectify violations quickly.

Having received over 330 written submissions from organisations all over the Commonwealth that point to the need for the Commonwealth to act in defence of the values for which it says it stands, or lose its moral authority and global influence, the EPG report stresses that the creation of the post by whatever appropriate name - Commissioner or Special Representative - will be a litmus test for the Commonwealth's future.

By focusing on this one issue over which fears are expressed, some governments have stopped discussion and acceptance of the EPG's 105 other recommendations which include urgent action on the harmful effects of global warming; securing a voice for small and vulnerable countries in the world's decision-making bodies; improving inter-Commonwealth trade and investment; job creation; providing funds for youth entrepreneurial schemes; ending discrimination against women; and improving knowledge of the Commonwealth.

Hopefully wise heads will prevail at the Commonwealth Summit.

Responses and previous commentaries at: www.sirronaldsanders.com.

The writer is a member of the Eminent Persons Group that has produced a report on reform of the Commonwealth

Responses and previous commentaries at www.sirronaldsanders.com

EXCUSE OUR DUST

By MIKE LIGHTBOURN

MOST HOMES need some fix-up and repairs to prepare them for buyers, but when should they be done? Should an open house for agents be delayed until the house is in "model-home" condition?

For the answers, consider a scenario of a department store during renovations that puts up "Excuse Our Dust" signs.

Which would impress you most: 1) shopping at a store that promises to look better in the future, 2) shopping at one in the midst of actually improving their looks, or 3) waiting to shop until the store reopens, brightly illuminated with spacious aisles and decorated to get your attention?

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picture of their dream home - now.

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They will see only the positives, and you will benefit from an early sale at the best possible price.

Avoid shortcuts and low offers when preparing your home for sale. Ask your BREA agent for advice.

(Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty)



Betty Taylor
Journalist/Entrepreneur

Quote of the week

Your world may be torn apart now, but if you keep fighting and holding on, you will definitely overcome!!!

~ Betty Taylor ~
Original Author



MOUREEN LIDDELL

9 July 1928 - 26 October, 2011

BELOVED MOTHER
OF
OLIVER LIDDELL
& PATRICIA CARPENTER
&
GRANDMOTHER
OF
JAMIE & EMMA LIDDELL &
GRAY CARPENTER

Left to cherish happy memories are the family including daughter-in-law, Vicki Liddell & son-in-law, Gary Carpenter; nephew, Anthony Howard, and many friends here in Nassau and abroad. The family are most appreciative of the wonderful care and advice given to Moureen by Dr. John Lunn, Dr. Michael Darville, Dr. Michael Neville, Dr. Duane Sands and Dr. Ian Kelly.

A special thanks also goes to her kind and caring housekeeper Tess Apolinario.

A memorial Service for Mrs. Moureen Liddell will be held at St. Matthews Anglican Church, Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas on Friday, 4th November, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Father Crosley N. Walkine will officiate.

The family request that those attending the Memorial Service please dress in bright colours.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Cancer Society of The Bahamas, P.O. Box SS 6539, Nassau, in memory of MOUREEN LIDDELL.

Arrangements by Kemp's Funeral Home Limited, Nassau.

In Loving Memory



Prison Officer
Krishna Vaughn Huyler
February 24, 1971 - October 28, 2010

A gentle wind blew cross the land
Reaching out to take your hand
For on the wings the angels came
From up above and called out your name
Left behind, the joys and pain
Loving memories of the years
Of joy & love, a life well spent
And now to God a loved one went.

Sadly missed by your mother,
Dotlyn, family and friends.

LOCAL NEWS

BREEZES REOPENS AFTER HURRICANE DAMAGE REPAIRS

SUPERCLUBS Breezes re-opens at full occupancy this week after being closed for two months for repairs and renovations following Hurricane Irene.

Chairman John Issa said the all-inclusive Cable Beach resort spent approximately \$3million on the restoration.

Through the hard work of four Bahamian contractors, Mr Issa said repairs have been carried out and the resort will be able to re-open on time.

SuperClubs Breezes announced in late August it would be closed from September 1 to October 30, 2011, to carry out roof repairs.

The hotel said it had sustained damage as a result of Hurricane Irene, resulting in water leaks in many of the guest rooms.

Mr Issa said the resort's 300 Bahamian employees will return to work this week.

"It is an historic event for the Bahamas," said Mr Issa. "This is the only hotel of this size that has run for an extended period with a 100 per cent Bahamian team."

With hotel occupancy looking good for November, Mr Issa said the resort is hoping for a good winter season.

Minister of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace said while SuperClubs Breezes is an all-inclusive



THE CHAIRMAN of Breezes, John Issa, shows Minister for Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace around the refurbished resort

hotel, it still stimulates the economy by employing hundreds of Bahamians.

He said: "It is an enormous contribution to the economy. We have a large number of people coming from elsewhere to enjoy this facility, as a result of that employing a large number of Bahamians."

With full occupancy, and a hotel that is not only managed and operated by Bahamians but also employs local contractors, SuperClubs Breezes should be seen as an example of how the tourism industry can be further developed, said Mr Vanderpool-Wallace.



THE BREEZES resort, which has reopened following repairs to hurricane damage.

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THE TEAM at the re-opened Breezes, including chairman John Issa, pictured left

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 Luke 4:18

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LOCAL NEWS

AN ILL WIND BLOWS GOOD AS HURRICANE DEBRIS TURNED TO USE



BAHAMIAN-MADE mulch bagged for purchase.

A LOCAL company is using hurricane debris to create a useful, Bahamian-made product.

Grand Bahama-based Care Maintenance Ltd is taking dead trees and other wooden refuse and turning it into affordable and environmentally friendly landscaping mulch.

In December 2009, the Grand Bahama Port Authority and Care Maintenance began removing more than 2000 acres of dead pine forest in Freeport.

Starting at Lucayan Harbour and moving east, they tagged trees destroyed by hurricanes and began clearing them.

The company soon realised that the dead wood could be recycled into a useful product.

"Our initial aim was to clear away dead pine trees that had become an eyesore,"



CARE MAINTENANCE diversifies into mulch production.

said GBPA president Ian Rolle.

"In this regard, Desmond deGregory, proprietor of Care Maintenance, saw an opportunity to develop a locally-made product that would be easily accessible and affordable for consumers on the island."

After importing the necessary machinery, Care Maintenance was able to convert dead trees, wooden pallets and even cardboard into mulch.

Mr deGregory said the plan makes use of the "Three Rs" – reduce, reuse and recycle.

"Our intention is to produce a cheaper and more environmentally friendly product.

"We're reducing the land-

fill by using these pallets and any other suitable materials.

"So it's basically looking out for the environment, recycling and going green, as well as trying to cut costs down on everything," he said.

This month marks one year since the company experienced a devastating fire at its Grand Bahama Highway headquarters.

According to Mr deGregory, the fire was a huge setback.

"Over the past 38 years of being in business, we've experienced a lot of hurdles," he said.

"Although we had to reduce our staff complement slightly, we're still employing over 20 local workers and

have diversified to meet the needs of the public."

He said Care Maintenance is excited about their foray into the mulch business.

Imported bags of mulch are sold for between \$3.90 and \$4.75 in local stores. But, Care Maintenance's "Bahama Mulch" can be purchased for only \$2.50 a bag from the Grand Bahama Highway plant.

"The Port Authority has given us great support, using our products and expertise in their downtown beautification efforts and we're very grateful," Mr deGregory said.

"At the same time we would like to encourage local residents and contractors to take advantage of our quality, homegrown product, and buy Bahamian."

SERIES OF SPECTACULAR EVENTS PLANNED FOR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

By RASHAD ROLLE

THE 150th anniversary of the City of Nassau and the Anglican Diocese of the Bahamas and the Turks & Caicos will be celebrated through a series of "spectacu-

lar" events, according to the organisers.

At a press conference in Rawson Square Friday – held in front of the statue of Queen Victoria as tribute to the monarch who ordained Christ Church a Cathedral

in 1861 – Secretary to the Cabinet Anita Bernard called on Bahamians to learn about the history of their capital city.

She said that while "it would take the whole afternoon to explain the events

that led to the City of Nassau", Queen Victoria's decree was the main factor.

"The public ought to make themselves aware because to my understanding, very few Bahamians are aware that the city couldn't have been established without a cathedral," she said.

Mrs Bernard was accompanied by other members of the National Events Committee, including Linda Stubbs, the interior designer who will transform Bay Street ahead of the celebrations; secretary to the committee Janice Knowles; police band direc-

tor Valentino Rolle; and band deputy director Andrew Hunter.

Archdeacon of the Anglican Church Keith Cartwright spoke about the religious significance of the celebrations.

"It's a time for us to search inward and see how we can develop ourselves as a people for the future," he said.

The celebrations started on Sunday in Rawson Square with a Beat Retreat band performance featuring the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band and the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Band.

The celebrations will con-

tinue on Sunday, November 4, at 3pm with a mass of thanksgiving at Christ Church Cathedral on George Street, followed by a candlelight procession to Rawson Square for the blessing of the city.

Janice Knowles said the state will be represented by police cadets and Customs and Immigration officers.

"Thirteen visiting bishops will attend the event, including representatives from the Turks & Caicos Islands," she said.

All members of the public are invited, and seating and parking will be available.

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NORWAY VISIT FOR ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

ENVIRONMENT Minister Earl Deveaux is in Oslo, Norway, attending the Bahamas Shipowners Association annual general meeting.

The Shipowners Association, established in London in 1997, is comprised of owners from various nations and shipping sectors – ferry and shortsea vessels, cruise ships, high quality tankers and dry bulk carriers.

The principle objective of the BSA is to promote the interests of owners of Bahamian registered vessels and to facilitate dialogue between the Bahamas Maritime Authority and

shipowners.

The minister will address the Bahamas Shipowners Association AGM on November 2.

While in Norway, he will also meet with officials from the Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy, including Acting Minister Per Rune Henriksen, to discuss Norway's legal and regulatory framework for petroleum, environmental issues and the Sovereign Fund.

Mr Deveaux will also visit Statoil facilities in Stavanger.

Norway is considered among the world's leaders in the petroleum industry, sup-

ported by a very strong regulatory framework, and the minister will engage in discussions with officials with a view to informing the process of regulatory reform in the Bahamas.

Mr Deveaux will also sign the book of condolences for the terror attacks in Norway this summer.

He will be accompanied by Undersecretary Peter Deveaux-Isaacs, Bahamas High Commissioner Paul Farquharson and Bahamas Maritime Authorities Ian Fair, Peter Goulandris, and Davy Rolle.

Mr Deveaux will return on Friday, November 4.



ENVIRONMENT MINISTER Earl Deveaux is in Norway attending a shipowners meeting.

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LOCAL NEWS

ART AND WINE TAKE CENTRE



PETER OTIM ANGOLE was among the artists



TASTING Duval Leroy Champagne during the 21st Wine and Art Festival



TEAM CACIQUE offered food through the day



THE BRISTOL Wines and Spirits stall



CHEF Jamal Small, of the National Culinary team



ARTIST Candis Marshall was a newcomer to the festival

THE 21st annual Wine and Art Festival was held on Saturday. The Bahamas National Trust hosted the event, which this year featured more than 50 artists, a selection of more than 50 wines from Bristol Wines and Spirits and a new feature - a wine and food pairing area sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism's Culinary Tourism Division. On Friday, BNT members got a special preview of the art and a chance to bid on unique, marine-themed silent auction items at the Wishing Fish Auction, sponsored by Gourmet Market, Food Art By CaciQue and Bristol Wines and Spirits. Eric Carey, BNT executive director, said: "The Wishing Fish Auction provides artists with the opportunity to design and decorate wooden fish in their own unique style. All proceeds from the auction will be used in support of the BNT's marine conservation

Tribune Trivia

Friday's Question

Which government and private entities are taking the largest ever Bahamian delegation to the Ft. Lauderdale International Boat Show?

Friday's Answer

The Ministry of Tourism, Bahamas Out Island Promotion Board and the Marine Operators of the Bahamas.

Friday's Winners

Claudine Green	3pts
Penny Sirra	2pts
Gerald Higgs	1pt

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STAGE AT FESTIVAL



JENNIFER MARBURY at the festival



ART DUO Nadia Marie Smith and Rosemarie Laing

initiatives.”
One of the special features of the festival was that guests from participating wineries were on hand to discuss their products.

This year's wine expert was Julian Inarra, from the Trivento Winery in Argentina.

The food and wine pairing demonstration featured three of the finest chefs in the Bahamas, Jamal Small, captain of the National Culinary team, Ocean Club chef Emmanuel Gibson, and Alexandra Mallis Lynch, of Alexandra's Catering, all members of the Bahamas Culinary Association.

New artists participating this year were Judith Papillon, Tori Hermann, Kandice Eldon, Candis Marshall and Shelby Knowles.

The event took place at The Retreat on Village Road.

All proceeds support the national park system of the Bahamas.



HAPPY PATRONS relax and enjoy the event



Clifford Fernander was among the artists at the festival



DAVE LOWE shows his work at the festival

Vacancy

Human Resources Manager

A leading retailer seeks to hire an experienced and highly motivated person for the position of HR Manager. This individual will be responsible for coordinating and implementing all human resources activities such as recruiting, training, development, communication, performance management and administering compensation plans.

Interested persons should possess:

- A Bachelor's degree in HR management
- Excellent leadership and coaching skills
- At least five years' experience in HR management
- Comprehensive knowledge of employment law
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Applications should be sent by November 11th, 2011 to:

HR Manager
P.O. Box CB-12463
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- Well versed in Swiss banking practices and standards
- PC Literacy (MS Word, Access, Excel), Bloomberg
- International banking knowledge and keen knowledge of (trading and settling) capital market instruments
- Additional languages is desirable although not a prerequisite
- A Bachelor's degree with a concentration in Finance or Accounting

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- Excellent organizational and communication skills
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INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD EMAIL AN UPDATED COPY OF THEIR RESUME TO:

HYPERLINK “mailto:recruiting.bahamas@gmail.com” **recruiting.bahamas@gmail.com**

ONLY PERSONS MEETING THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS NEED APPLY

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS: 16th November, 2011

TEACHERS AND SALARIED WORKERS CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT UNION LIMITED

NOTICE TO

OUR VALUED SHAREHOLDERS

Please be advised that Interest/Dividend payments for the year 2010 will be distributed effective **Tuesday November 1, 2011 during the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** as follows:

DATES	ACCOUNT NUMBERS	DATES	ACCOUNT NUMBERS
November 1	001 – 700	November 25	7501 – 7800
November 2	701 – 1200	November 28	7801 – 8100
November 3	1201 - 1800	November 29	8101 – 8400
November 4	1801 - 2400	November 30	8401 – 8700
November 7	2401 - 3000	December 1	8701 – 9000
November 8	3001 – 3600	December 2	9001 – 9500
November 9	3601 – 4200	December 5	9501 – 10000
November 10	4201 – 4500	December 6	10001 – 10500
November 11	4501 – 4800	December 7	10501 – 11300
November 14	4801 – 5100	December 8	11301 – 12100
November 15	5101 – 5400	December 9	12101 – 13000
November 16	5401 – 5700	December 12	13001 – 14000
November 17	5701 – 6000	December 13	14001 – 15000
November 18	6001 – 6300	December 14	15001 – 16000
November 21	6301 – 6600	December 15	16001 – 17000
November 22	6601 – 6900	December 16	17001 – 18500
November 23	6901 - 7200	December 19	18501 - 19000
November 24	7201 – 7500	December 20	19001 on

LOCAL NEWS

TWO MEN SHOT IN ONE DAY

from page one

in Abaco after his vehicle crashed into a tree.

The driver, of Crockett Drive, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, was headed south on S.C. Bootle Highway in the area of Joe's Creek and Leisure Lee Waterways when he reportedly lost control of his truck shortly after 11pm.

The driver received serious injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. A second man was also injured and was taken to a local clinic where he was treated for minor injuries and released.

Also on Friday, two men were shot in two separate incidents.

The first occurred shortly before 3pm at a construction site on Love Beach. The victim was approached by a man armed with a high-powered weapon, demanding cash.

As he tried to flee, the victim was shot in his buttocks by the gunman.

The thug then fled the area, without cash, in a champagne-coloured Cherokee SUV.

The second shooting occurred around 10.30pm on Baillou Hill Road in the area of Milton Street. The 26-year-old victim was walking when he heard gunshots and realised he had been shot in the back.

Both victims were taken to hospital, where they are stable.

Police are appealing for anyone with information to contact them at 919, 911, the Central Detective Unit at 502-9991, 502-9910, or Crime Stoppers at 328-TIPS.

HIGH-TECH GIFTS HANDED OVER TO HELP THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

THE Bahamas Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Disabled Persons' Organization and Yes We Can Products teamed up to assist its members to acquire much-needed adaptive technology and assistive aids at cheaper prices during "these tough economic times".

Mr Antoine Munroe, President of the Bahamas Alliance for the Blind (BABVI), said that assistive aids can be very expensive.

"This service," he said, "was designed some years ago to assist our members in acquiring affordable assistive aids and devices for their home use, on the job, and also in the classroom."

Mr Munroe said that with the teaming up of the three organizations, "we were able to reduce the cost by as much as 60 per cent to our members on every day products such as talking watches and clocks, talking calculators and caller IDs, voice guided digital recorders/MP3 players, telephones, radios, canes for the blind and visually impaired, talking weight scales along with kitchen accessories and bathroom aids.

"There were also health monitoring products, like



ITEMS OF technology are handed over to help those with disabilities. Pictured from left to right are Hannah McPhee, William Lightbourne, Wendy Bonaby, Sheri Fountain, Drexel Deal, Tamina Grant and Antoine Munroe.

talking blood sugar and blood pressure monitors."

Mr Drexel Deal, President of Disabled Persons organisation (DPO), explain that assistive technology is the term used to describe devices and modifications

made to everyday products, allowing them to be accessible for use by persons with disabilities.

A simple example of an every day product that has been modified to accommodate its use by persons who

are blind is the telephone.

The number 5 key has a raised dot, to make dialing easier for persons who are blind or have low vision.

This simple raised dot has been proven to be so effective, that it is on almost all devices with a numeric keypad such as calculators, computers and cellular phones worldwide.

Mr Deal said that this particular order stood out from previous orders, "and not just for the shared volume of aids we were able to assist our members in purchasing. We were also able to bring in some 60 GoBibles on MP3 players with the entire Bible pre-recorded on them".

He pointed out that when a person with a disability has quick and easy access to the Bible, it builds faith and confidence in God's word and leads to wholesome activities.

"This is how integration starts," he said, "enabling us to participate in church services, as well as Bible studies and many other spir-

itual activities."

Mr William Lightbourne, Chairman of BABVI Adaptive Aids and Devices Ordering Service, added that he often wondered what life for persons with disabilities would be like in today's world without the advances in computer technology.

He noted that affordable and accessible technologies, adaptive aids and devices have levelled the playing field and opened many windows of opportunity for persons with disabilities, enabling them to carry out everyday tasks relative to personal and home management, educational and employment pursuits, and recreational activities.

Recognising these advantages, he concluded that many persons with disabilities cannot envisage life without adaptive technologies.

"We are extremely grateful for the many individuals who made this day possible," Mr Deal said, "through their financial assistance our members were able to purchase these much needed assistive aids at a greatly reduced cost."

Such persons like Sir Durward Knowles, Mr Frank Crothers, Mr Godfrey Kelly, Mr Felix Stubbs from IBM, Ms Vernice Walkine from NAD and The Rotary Club of East Nassau were among the donors.

"We are also thankful for the many churches that assisted our members in purchasing their own personal GoBible such as Pastor Gary Curry from Evangelistic Temple, Pastor Mario Moxey from Bahamas Harvest Church, Rev Bryn MacPhail from St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Bishop Laish Boyd at The Anglican Diocese and Rev Emily A Demeritte of the BTC Methodist Church.

"We are also thankful to the Government through the Ministry of Finance, which allowed us to bring in nearly \$8,000 worth of adaptive technology/assistive aids duty free."

"We were able to reduce the cost by as much as 60 per cent to our members on every day products such as talking watches and clocks, talking calculators and caller IDs, voice guided digital recorders/MP3 players, telephones, radios, canes for the blind and visually impaired, talking weight scales along with kitchen accessories and bathroom aids. There were also health monitoring products, like talking blood sugar and blood pressure monitors."

Antoine Munroe, president of BABVI

SCRAP METAL BAN EXTENDED

from page one

imposing a permanent ban on all copper exports in an effort curb theft and destruction of property which has been said to be linked with the industry.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham tabled the Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers Bill 2011 in the House of Assembly earlier this month which sets out operational guidelines and

regulations for pawn brokers, 'cash for gold' operators and scrap metal dealers.

During his communication in Parliament, Mr Ingraham said the bill seeks to address "the challenges being experienced as a result of the unregulated 'cash for gold' and 'scrap metal' businesses by providing a regulatory regime to protect legitimate businesses, while maintaining safeguards for the public".

111 IMMIGRANTS SENT BACK TO HAITI

from page one

106 immigrants were apprehended in waters off the Exumas by the Royal Bahamas Defence Force, last Tuesday. They were spotted in a vessel 15 nautical miles off Wardrick Wells Cay before being escorted to immigration authorities in the capital by 10.30pm.

An additional five immi-

grants were found in an undisclosed location in the northern Bahamas. Authorities will not state how they found the immigrants, only that they were found without immigration status.

"The Department of Immigration is committed to the timely and orderly repatriation of persons who breach the immigration laws of The Bahamas," the release stated.

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LOCAL NEWS

**Royal Bahamas Police Force
National Crime Prevention Office**

Hallowe'en safety tips

By Constable 3011
MAKELLE PINDER

EVERYONE wants to have a safe and happy Hallowe'en for themselves, their guests and their children. Using safety tips and some common sense can help you make the most of your Hallowe'en, keeping it as enjoyable for your kids as it is for you!

However, the excitement of children and adults during this time of year can sometimes make them not as careful as they would normally be. Simple common sense ideas can do a lot to stop tragedies from happening.

By keeping Hallowe'en a fun, safe and happy day for you and your kids, you'll look forward to many happy years of Hallowe'en fun! By keeping good memories for your kids, they'll be more likely to carry on the traditions that you have taught to them with their own families some day!

Therefore, parents/guardians, please be mindful and pass along these safety tips to your children when "trick-or-treating" this Hallowe'en.

- If you wear dark colored clothing, stay on sidewalks whenever possible and carry a flashlight or a light of some type to help identify you.

- Do not play in piles of leaves while out walking. Reckless drivers may not see you when they drive through the piles of leaves.

- If wearing a costume or mask, be sure that you are able to see well enough and that the costume fits appropriately to enable you to walk or run if necessary. Choose one that is flame resistant and one that is reflective for darker areas.

- Have your food and

treats checked by an adult prior to eating them and never eat open or unwrapped treats.

- Avoid visiting homes that are not well lighted, use only the front door, and never go inside the home.

- Travel in groups whenever possible.

- Allow children to carry cell phones if they are responsible enough.

- Never accept rides from people that are not your family unless pre-arranged by your parents, i.e. riding with a parent of a friend.

- Notify your parents of the area(s) where you will be going. Set a time when children are to be home.

- Stay alert to cars, people, surroundings, etc. If it seems wrong, strange, or suspicious then it probably is.

- Do not cut through yards, driveways, or alleys.

- Stay away from strange animals and do not pet them without the owner's permission.

- Ensure that face paint or makeup is non-toxic.

- Ensure that children know traffic safety as it pertains to crossing the street, using sidewalks, walking against the flow of traffic, etc.

- Emergency identification information should be discreetly placed inside the clothing of small children in case of accidental separation.

- Avoid allowing children wearing their names outwardly on clothing or jewelry, which may enable strangers to call them by name, appearing to know them.

- As always, children should be cautious to avoid strangers.

The Royal Bahamas Police Force would like to wish you and your children a safe and Happy Hallowe'en.

TOURISM IS THE BAHAMAS' GREATEST EXPORT INDUSTRY



Extra cruise ships pictured last week, pulling into the Bahamas to steer clear of Hurricane Rina, bringing more visitors who will take their "Holiday Experience" with them when they depart.

TOURISM is not recognized as an export industry in our region.

This may be explained because our customers come to our shores to collect the product which they have purchased.

When they depart they take their "Holiday Experience", the product which we are selling, with them. This is the same as an export of food from Florida being collected at a Florida port and brought to the Bahamas by a Bahamian ship.

When a cruise passenger buys a watch or straw hat on Bay Street to take home with them, those products have been exported.

There is, of course, domestic tourism but it is a relatively small part of the

VIEW FROM AFAR

JOHN ISSA

industry. If the facts are as I have described, why is it that this self-evident reality has not informed the policies of regional governments.

In fact, in the Jamaican elections in 2007, the successful party stated in its election manifesto that should they win the election, the hotel industry would be treated as an export industry. You guess what happened after its success at the polls four years ago.

One example of the treatment of export industries is that export industries are not normally taxed on their

imported inputs.

This is done so as to allow them to be competitive when they sell their products in the markets of the world.

But rather to going into more specifics, may I suggest an overriding concept which could guide policy.

Consider economic activity which competes on the open world market and earns foreign exchange, such as Tourism and Off Shore Financial Services as supplying the fuel which allows the trading, local manufacturing, local services industries to operate.



Should we accept this concept, then the economy should be so structured as to allow the suppliers of the fuel to grow and prosper because without them the engine of the local economy shuts down.

POSITION AVAILABLE

IT Helpdesk Support Specialist

Are you interested in joining the IT department of a leading financial institution? Through our cutting-edge technology and innovative products, our firm aims to help its clients thrive. We are seeking a talented, computer savvy individual to aid support of the IT environment of our organization. If you're passionate about your craft, have a positive attitude and are keenly interested in developing new skills then we'd like to hear from you!

This will be a combination of helpdesk, network and application support work!

Job Responsibilities:

- Install, configure and test new hardware and software for a global production network.
- Support the administration of servers, server clusters, network devices, etc.
- Perform troubleshooting analysis of servers, workstations and associated systems.
- Document problems and resolution for future reference.
- Assist in helpdesk issue resolution and trouble ticket management.
- Assist in maintenance of IT infrastructure components

Minimum Requirements:

- Recent college graduate with IT skills or individual with strong desire to work in IT
- Keen understanding of computer networking, servers & desktops, and IT security concepts (Active Directory).
- Should possess basic accounting skills and possess strong skills in the Microsoft Office suite of applications, experience with Excel VBA/Macro programming is desirable
- Experience in PC Repair at home, school, business or civic organization is desirable
- A fast learner with good interpersonal skills looking at advancing a career in Information Technology.

Interested persons should email an updated copy of their resume to: recruiting.bahamas@ymail.com by **November 18th, 2011.**

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