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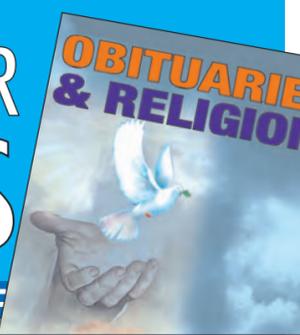
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Fishermen alive after 5 days adrift

US Coast Guard airlifts men back to Nassau

By SANCHESKA BROWN
Tribune Staff Reporter
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FOUR missing Andros fishermen have been rescued and returned to their families after being adrift at sea for five days.

The men - Prince Jolly, Allan Wright, Roger Miller and another man known as KK - were airlifted to Nassau by the US Coast Guard at about 5pm yesterday. They were then taken to the Princess Margaret Hospital for treatment.

Lieutenant Commander Neddy Martinborough, of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force, said the men were discovered around 1pm drifting in waters near Andros.

He said: "They were found by US Coast Guard aircraft about 32 miles south of Andros. All four of them were in one boat.

"Two of them are very sick and need medical attention. You have to understand these

men have not eaten since Saturday. When they were first discovered, the Coast Guard gave them a radio and remained on the scene until the helicopter from Operation Bahamas, Turks and Caicos (OPBAT) arrived to rescue them.

"They all appeared to be in good health although they were obviously exhausted from the entire ordeal. They were dehydrated and therefore for health reasons they were flown to Nassau for medical attention. They do not appear to be injured and will be fine after a couple days of rest."

A friend of the fishermen, said the entire Andros community is grateful to the Defence Force and the U S Coast Guard for their assistance.

"The whole community," he said, "is elated and thankful and grateful."

SEE page 17

CHOIR WELCOMES IN CHRISTMAS



MEMBERS of the Bahamas National Youth Choir perform during their third annual Christmas concert on Tuesday night at the Trinity Methodist Church. The choir was directed by Cleophus Adderley. For more pictures, see page 9.
Photo: Felipe Major/Tribune Staff

CABLE BEACH POLICE STATION OPENED

By CELESTE NIXON
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ANOTHER piece of the Baha Mar puzzle fell into place yesterday as the government opened the new Cable Beach Police Station.

A number of cabinet ministers and opposition MPs were present yesterday for the building's ribbon-cutting ceremony and blessing.

Security Minister Tommy Turnquest said a new police station was necessary to accommodate the expanding Cable Beach community and to continue the government's battle against crime.

He said: "We are here today to witness the opening of a state-of-the-art police station with provisions of emergency management services.

"The government is taking the lead in the fight against crime - implementing many ini-

SEE page 6

CUSTOMS STAFF STAGE WALKOUT

By SANCHESKA BROWN
Tribune Staff Reporter
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CUSTOMS and Immigration Officers at the Lynden Pindling International Airport walked off the job yesterday morning, after a foul odour from raw sewerage became "unbearable", union officials confirmed.

The walkout occurred around 8.30am and caused operations in the customs and immigration department to stop working for a little more than an hour.

Sloane Smith, of the Bahamas Customs Immigration and Allied Workers Union (BCI-AWU), said the officers have been complaining of the smell for quite some time.

"The officers in the customs and immigration reported the odour to management a few months ago and nothing happened," he said. "What is happening is there is a pipe which

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MINISTER ACCUSES BELL OF PLP LINK

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
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DISMISSING claims that the FNM interfered with a housing investigation, Minister of Security Tommy Turnquest claimed that former lead investigator Keith Bell is and always has been a "political operative" for the PLP.

Mr Turnquest spoke out against Mr Bell's accusation that the investigation into allegations of corruption in the Ministry of Housing were subject to political interference, claiming the statement was opportunistic.

He said: "His comments were most inappropriate this morning. He is a political operative, he was a political operative while he was a part of the police force and I take anything he says with a grain of salt."

An investigation was launched in November 2006 as a result of claims made by contractors and inconsistencies in housing documents uncovered by *The Tribune*.

By mid-2007, the investigation had stalled for the lack of evidence. In 2008, police said the case was still active and more charges were to be expected.

This week, former Housing Minister Kenneth Russell confirmed the long-awaited probe had been completed, but never made public and at least six more people were

SEE page 17

BAIL DENIED FOR HAITIAN ON DRUG CHARGES

By DANA SMITH
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A MAN and his son were remanded to Fox Hill Prison yesterday after being arraigned at Magistrate's Court for weapon and drug charges.

Haitian-born Dieudonne Jean Pierre, 53, and his Bahamian son Donald Jean Pierre, 25, both of Freeport, Grand Bahama, were charged before Magistrate Joyanne Ferguson Pratt.

The prosecution claimed that on Saturday, December 10, a team of police officers entered a residence at Forest View Apartments on Outlaw Lane with a search warrant for dangerous drugs and unlicensed firearms.

SEE page 15

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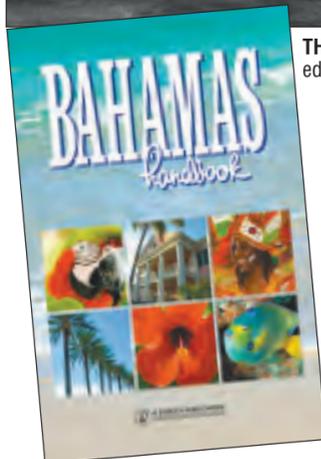
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DISCOVER Clark Gable's connections to the Bahamas.

high and low station helped to rescue and care for the survivors.

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LOCAL NEWS

\$4m deal to fix roads

By **KHRISNA VIRGIL**
kvirgil@tribunemedia.net

THE government signed contracts worth almost \$4 million for the repair of badly damaged roads in Andros and Harbour Island yesterday.

Works, Transport, and Housing Minister Neko Grant travelled to Stanyard Creek, Andros where residents have reportedly lost vehicles to roads that have become almost unusable.

Charmain Lubin, a preschool teacher on the island, said she lost two vehicles because of the "deplorable roads".

She said: "I've been back here 10 years and I have changed two vehicles since I came back here - front end gone."

"That's how bad the roads are, especially the inner communities, that's in Stanyard Creek, Blanket Sound, and Stafford Creek."

"We prefer to ride bicycles and walk because we cannot afford to ride our cars on the roads."

Mr Grant and other officials signed a \$2,523,280 contract to repair 5.3 miles of road in Stanyard Creek.

He said: "Just over a month ago I executed contracts for some \$3.5 million on



BATTERED ROADS on Andros infrastructure works in Andros and today I will execute a contract for some \$2.5 million."

"Never in the history of this island has \$6 million in contracts for infrastructure work been executed in such a short period."

The contract, awarded to Mr Basil Neymour, the father of Phenton Neymour, will be completed in phases, with plans for the first phase to be completed in six months.

Basil Neymour, who built 78 miles of road in Long Island, and 51 miles of road

in Cat Island more than 40 years ago, said he is the best man for the job. "You should have seen my product, I am one of the best and I have proven that," he said.

Another contract was signed in Harbour Island where residents have complained for months about the poor roads. Nu View Construction Company will spearhead the \$1,285,208 project.

Earlier in the year, the government signed a contract to repair the island's roads, however, preexisting water problem's prevented the work from being carried out.

The minister responsible for the Water and Sewage Corporation, Earl Deveaux, said the government had to make some important decisions before the road works could continue at that point.

"When we were here to do the roads, we signed a contract and the infrastructure for your water was so bad and so advanced in corrosion that we were stuck and we were asked not to pave the road until we restored and rehabilitated the water mains," he said. "Unfortunately it took a long time to fix."

Quinten Kemp, the lead contractor for this project, hopes to begin the road work on Friday. The project is expected to take six months.

PINTARD AND MCALPINE COULD BE CANDIDATES

By **DENISE MAYCOCK**
Tribune Freeport Reporter
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FREEPORT - With the Free National Movement in search of "new blood" to run in the next general election, senators Michael Pintard and Frederick McAlpine could be on the list of new candidates for Grand Bahama.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said the party is always in search of new talent and in the coming weeks, will unveil its line-up of candidates.

Sources say Kay Smith, a former FNM senator, could also be on the list.

While in Grand Bahama this week, Mr Ingraham confirmed that some current MPs will not be running again.

"We want for this election to put forward the best team that we can. In order to do that, some of our members who are now in the House are going to retire," he said.

Senator McAlpine said the FNM has always been renewing and reviving itself.

"Whether it is with women or young people, they have

always sought to give people an opportunity, and that is one of the things I was always fascinated with when it comes to our party," he said.

Rev McAlpine, a native of Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, was appointed to the Senate in 2007.

He is president of Frederick McAlpine Evangelistic Ministries and a senior minister at Freeport Fellowship Centre.

Senator Michael Pintard was appointed in March to fill a vacant seat in the Senate.

Mr Pintard is a well-known entrepreneur, human

resources development consultant, poet, lecturer and writer.

He said the FNM is looking to transform the lives of people in Grand Bahama, offer a new vision, generate jobs and increase Bahamian home ownership.

Following the recent firing of former Housing Minister Kenneth Russell, Mr Pintard said persons expecting a division in the party are going to be disappointed.

"We are going to pull together at the correct time; all is at stake," he said.

OLD BAHAMA BAY TO CLOSE

By **DENISE MAYCOCK**
Tribune Freeport Reporter
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FREEPORT - The Old Bahama Bay resort in West End will reportedly close by the end of the week, leaving more than a dozen persons out of a job.

According to a source, the resort is expected to close on Friday - when all employees, including the management, will be terminated.

Only a small skeleton crew will remain to oversee the property, the source said.

The resort's financial controller Paul Hansen and project manager Derek Gape could not be reached for comment.

According to an article published in *Tribune Business* last month, Lubert Adler, the main financier for the stalled \$4.9 billion Ginn sur Mer project, has control of the Old Bahama Bay property and 225 surrounding acres, plus another 294-acre parcel that contains the golf course.

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NEW YEAR'S EVE	T	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:35
THE SITTER	C	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
THE IDES OF MARCH	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:35	10:45
THE MUPPETS	A	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:30
ARTILLERY CHRISTMAS	A	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
THE TWILIGHT SAGA	T	1:30	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:50
HAPPY FEET	A	1:15	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:40
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NEW YEAR'S EVE	T	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:40
ARTILLERY CHRISTMAS	A	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:35
THE TWILIGHT SAGA	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:50
IMMORTALS	C	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45

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Britons cry for return of death penalty

WHILE the Bahamas government, in an attempt to crack down on crime, this year made life sentences for murder mean just that — “the remaining years of a convicted person’s life” — there was an uproar in England when it was suggested that mandatory sentences should end.

On December 7, an article in the *Sun* by Anthony France reported that legal experts in England who recommended the ending of mandatory life terms for murder were ridiculed as “diabolical dogooders” by victims’ families.

“The Homicide Review Advisory Group wants judges to decide the length of sentences based on each individual case,” France reported. “It argued that the current system — where mercy killings and serial murders both carry a minimum sentence of 15 years — is unjust.”

The Lord Chief Justice Lord Judge wants MPs to consider reform of the mandatory sentence law.

A parent, whose 10-year-old son was killed by thugs, warned that “criminals will continue laughing at the law” if mandatory sentences for murder are abolished. The suggestion that mandatory life sentences no longer be mandatory, but left to the discretion of judges, opened a new debate — the return of the death penalty in England for murder.

“We need the return of the death penalty, not a watering down of life sentences,” said a mother whose daughter was stabbed to death in London.

“Yes, mandatory life sentences should be abolished,” commented another British citizen, “and replaced with the death penalty.”

In amending the Bahamas’ Penal Code, Prime Minister Ingraham pointed out that “the courts” — in fact the Privy Council — “have determined that the death penalty is not a mandatory punishment for murder. They have also decided that the death penalty may only be used in the worst of the worst cases.”

Although many Bahamians believed that the case from the Bahamas on which this decision was made was indeed the “worst of the worst,” the Privy Council did not agree. Based on that judgment mandatory capital punishment in the Bahamas was effectively abolished.

However, in its amended legislation, the Bahamas government listed what it considered the “worst of the worst” cases when the mandatory sentence would be

either the death penalty or life in prison for various crimes. The death penalty was to remain an option for the murder of a police officer or other law enforcement officials, persons critical to the judicial system, such as the killing of witnesses, jurors, judicial officials, prosecutors, a murder in the furtherance of robbery, rape, kidnapping, terrorism or other felony, multiple murders and contract killings.

So what was seemingly taken away by the Privy Council was given back by an amended act of parliament.

Other murders are punishable in a range of from 30 to 60 years. The only exception would be the conviction of a minor — that is a person under 18 years of age. A minor would be sentenced to a minimum of 20 years in prison after which “his continued confinement will be reviewed by the court every five years”.

With the mandatory death penalty removed for murder, government decided that some way had to be found to deter our criminal element, which under the protection of the various Privy Council rulings, was indeed laughing at the law. Therefore, the heinous crimes that did not measure up to the Privy Council’s “worst of the worst” were to get mandatory life sentences. Life no longer means 25 years with more time shaved off for good behaviour. Life for murder means just that — years of waiting for the undertaker to remove the dead body from the prison cell.

In England, Prime Minister David Cameron stepped in to calm tempers. He assured citizens that his government had “no plans” to do away with mandatory terms.

“The most serious crimes deserve the most serious sentences,” a spokesman added.

The same sentiments were expressed by the Ingraham government. It’s a joy to now report the daily chirping of magistrates reminding lawyers that under the law they can no longer grant bail to repeat offenders and persons accused of heinous crimes. This must be music to the ears of law-abiding citizens, who have had to wait a long time to read such words in court reports.

As for the criminal who might think he is being treated unfairly, he has only one alternative and that is to turn his back on his life of crime, reform his life and start making a worthwhile contribution to society.

Political succession planning

EDITOR, The Tribune.

SOMETIME ago, Bishop Simeon Hall released an article in which he pointed to a need for the major political parties in the Bahamas to begin a process of succession planning. The comments caused me to undertake a little bit of research on the subject. However, I soon became distracted and discontinued the effort.

I resumed my research sometime after conventions by both the PLP and FNM at which time they both placed significant emphasis on the need for the involvement of youth, with special focus on a commitment to the youth of our nation. I once again became distracted and discontinued my research.

Recent comments by Prime Minister Ingraham regarding the FNM’s intention to seek to offer fresh, new, young faces among its group of candidates for the upcoming General Elections have caused me to resume the effort I have twice put aside, with a determination to identify whether what the Prime Minister is now saying is mere political expediency or whether it is supported by previous actions on his and his party’s part.

My intention, when I initially commenced my effort several years ago, was for the research to have a three-fold focus. The initial focus would be on identifying former Young Liberals, the youth arm of the PLP, and former Torchbearers, the youth arm of the FNM, who are present

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

sitting members of Parliament or who may have previously been elected to Parliament.

Secondly, the focus would be expanded to identify members of both political youth arms who had previously received the nomination of their party to contest an election.

Finally, I thought to look to identify members of Parliament from both political parties who may have been born subsequent to the PLP attaining a majority of the seats in the House of Assembly, an era some refer to as “majority rule”, a terminology I detest as I find it divisive to our peoples.

Majority Rule, by name and by inference, emphasises the ascendancy of one group of persons and the defeat of another, the rule by persons of one hue and the subjugation of persons of a differing hue.

I know of no other country in the region, all of whom have a similar political background to ours, that have slavishly clung to such a notion. But that’s another topic for another day.

My political succession planning research was aborted without me ever getting beyond first base upon discovery that there are presently four elected members of parliament — Tommy Turnquest, Carl Bethel, Zhivargo Laing and Kwasi Thompson —

all who have ascended from the youth arm of the Free National Movement. All four have emerged from the Torchbearers.

Additionally, Labour Minister, Senator Dion Foulkes, a former Torchbearer, is a former elected parliamentarian on an FNM ticket.

I was, however, unable to identify a single present or former member of the Progressive Liberal Party’s youth arm elected to Parliament on a PLP ticket.

I was, nevertheless, successful in identifying a former Young Liberal who had been elected to serve in Parliament in the person of David Wallace. Mind you, my research did reveal that while David Wallace served as a former Young Liberal, his election to Parliament was on an FNM ticket.

In my view, my research, though limited in scope, is conclusive. The recent pronouncements by Prime Minister Ingraham regarding the need for the FNM to introduce fresh, new, young faces among the FNM’s slate of candidates is clearly not mere political rhetoric, but born out by historical fact.

Failure on the part of any organisation to renew, to regenerate itself, will surely lead to its decay. The limited research outlined above clearly portrays the PLP as an organisation in decay while the FNM is portrayed as an organisation in ascendancy.

MICHAEL R MOSS

Freeport, Bahamas,
December 11, 2011.

Vendors should pay in full - like everyone else

EDITOR, The Tribune.

THE precedent that has been set with the straw vendors as it relates to the relaxing of the various outstanding monies that is normally collected by other business persons cannot be right. There is a joke being played on the public purse.

I am not satisfied that this practice of allowing the vendors who make enough money, to be responsible for living up to the obligations that every other business person is expected to pay.

Vendors are bragging how they “outsmarted” the government. If an ordinary business person cannot give an account of their business activities for a number of years, they would have a problem renewing their business license. How come the straw market is different?

If an ordinary business is found wanting, as it relates to unpaid National Insurance contributions, they would have a major difficulty with government. Why are the vendors different? How come a group of vendors who brag

about being able to throw two and three hands in a \$200 per day asue are given a free pass? No one believes that they cannot afford to pay National Insurance and the outstanding business license fees. What’s up with this?

This precedent is not going to bear good fruit. What cause the authorities to be so lenient? This cannot be for political purposes because the market is the market. I am flabbergasted to know that vendors who missed tens of years of National Insurance and Business License fees would be exempted from paying all of the arrears. What happens if every other business does the same? Where will the line be drawn?

This is unfair and should not be continued. If no other business is allowed to ignore their obligations to the state then the vendors must be treated the same.

Imagine this, the US’ IRS finds out that a business has not paid their taxes for 10 years, do you think that they would be given an opportunity to play these kind of games. I think not!

The US Government has imprisoned the highest ranking officials, actors, athletes, congressmen, the wealthiest and others for these same kinds of things. There are no exceptions or excuses accepted.

We gave the vendors a free brand new facility funded by our money, and then they refuse to contribute to National Insurance, and refuse to pay Business License Fees. This cannot be right and therefore should be revisited, otherwise, level the playing field so other business could enjoy the same privileges.

The Bahamian people should not be left to pay the vendors’ bill.

This is not settling well with many Bahamians who are simply “too chicken” to voice their opinion. The intentions to help the vendors relocate are just, but they must pay their own way, not the public who does not benefit from it.

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Elwood obtained Masters in Public Administration from M.I. College, Nassau, Bahamas

Police clamp down on crime

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Police have launched an intensive initiative to combat crime during the Christmas season.

Assistant Commissioner Emrick Seymour said Operation Winter Storm will involve heightened police visibility on the streets and in residential and business communities

throughout Grand Bahama.

Mr Seymour was speaking at the Royal Bahamas Police Force's annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at the Gerald Bartlette Police Headquarters Complex on the Mall.

A number of students and parents attended the event. The Police Youth Band provided music and prayers were offered up for the police force and the nation.

Santa Claus also rode in on a police motorcycle and handed out candy to the youngsters, but the highlight of the evening was the lighting of the Christmas tree by Mr Seymour and his children, Emrick Jr and Emrinique.

Mr Seymour said Christmas is a time of reflection and fellowship.

"As people prepare to purchase gifts, dine and socialise, I want to remind you to remember the true meaning of the season which is to reflect and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ who was born into this world to redeem us of our sins," he said.

He also stated that the police are committed to ensuring that everyone has a safe holiday season.

"One of the things we are doing is increasing police presence on the streets and



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER Emrick Seymour

trying to sensitize members of the public of what they can do to protect themselves for the season.

ACP Seymour said a team of officers have been specifically assigned to "Operation Winter Storm," which will cover businesses in the downtown area, the International Bazaar, and Port Lucaya, as well as residential areas.

He also noted that the police have conducted various walkabouts and met with residents to speak about crime prevention. Officers have also distributed safety tip brochures in the community.

"We have seen some success already and have had some arrests and taken some illegal weapons off the streets," Mr Seymour reported.

Mr Seymour said residents should continue to be vigilant going into the holiday season.

He said persons should always be aware of their surroundings. He stressed that persons should always remember to buckle up when driving.

Mr Seymour noted that shoppers should make certain that purchased items and valuables are in the back trunk of the vehicle.

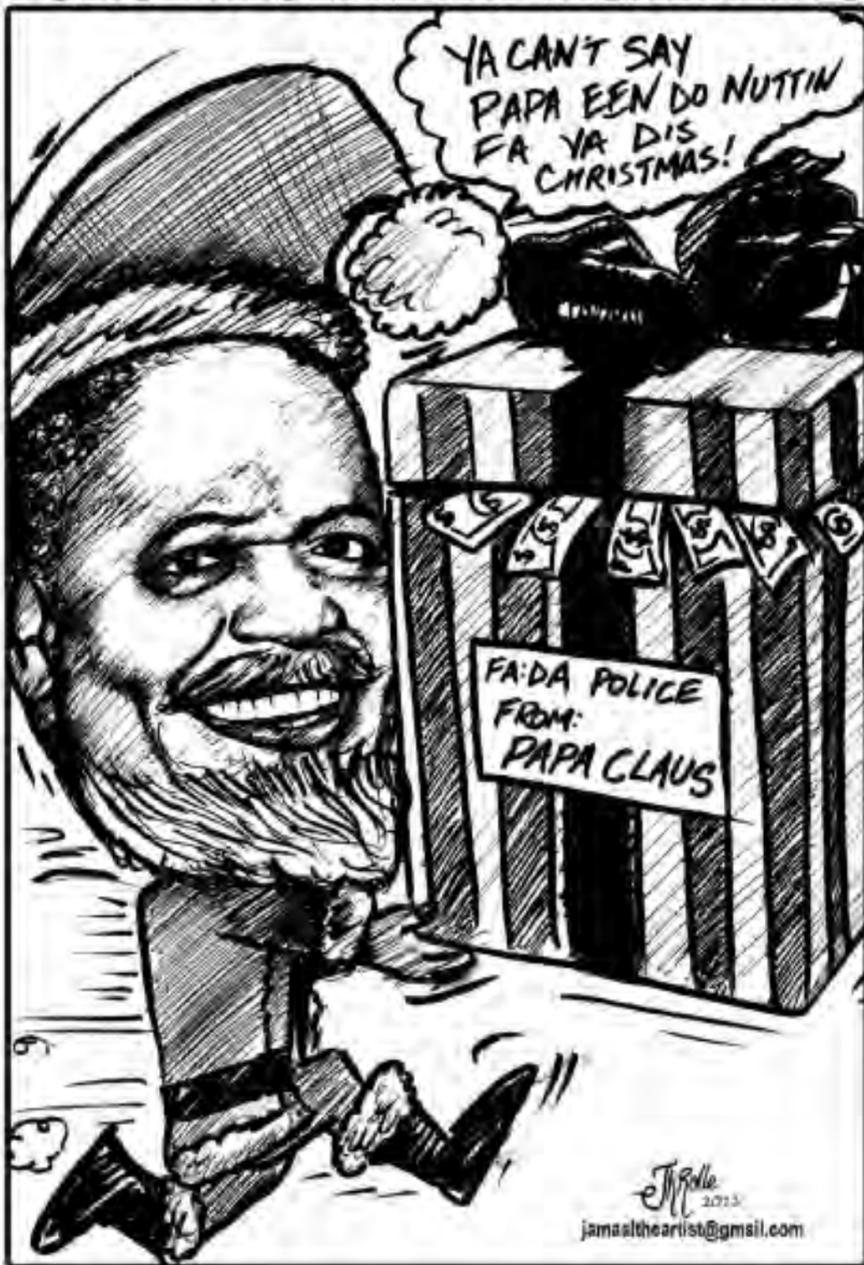
While shopping, he said persons should carry small amounts of cash, and businesses should make regular deposits.

"We also want to urge individuals to observe persons coming into their business establishment and lurking around their shops," he said.

"If anything looks suspicious go with your gut and call the police at 911 and let us check it out. We want every member of the community to have a safe Christmas holiday."



POLICE RECEIVE PAY INCREMENTS



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All to the Glory of God
1 Corinthians 10:23-33
All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being. Eat whatever is sold in the meat market, asking no questions for conscience' sake; for "the earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness." If any of those who do not believe invites you to dinner, and you desire to go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no question for conscience' sake. But if anyone says to you, "This was offered to idols," do not eat it for the sake of the one who told you, and for conscience' sake; for "the earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness." "Conscience," I say, not your own, but that of the other. For why is my liberty judged by another man's conscience? But if I partake with thanks, why am I evil spoken of for the food over which I give thanks? Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

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LOCAL NEWS

Cable Beach police station opened



DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER Brent Symonette holds the ribbon as Tommy Turnquest, Minister of National Security, cuts it, with Commissioner Ellison Greenslade looks on. Photos: **Felipe Major/Tribune Staff**

from page one

tiatives and new legislation that together with the work of police officers, we expect positive results."

For those who reside, work and visit the western area, Mr Turnquest said they can be assured the best of policing.



A TOUR of the cell block for visitors to the new station.

By placing this new police facility in the centre of a new commercial village, Mr Turnquest said protected services should rival or surpass any other area of the Bahamas.

He added, however, that the facility is not unique to Cable Beach.

"The government has invested considerable resources to provide for the safety and security of residents and visitors alike," said Mr Turnquest.

He said this year alone, the government has spent some \$14.5 million on new equipment, technology and crime fighting tools for the Royal Bahamas Police Force.

"These assets are to make it easier for police officers to do their job more effectively and additionally it is incumbent on them to take care of these assets," he said.

Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade said the new facility is perfectly positioned to serve the communities of western New Providence and the Baha Mar development.

He said: "This new station is purpose built and will provide comfort and amenities like nothing that exists on the force today."



COMMISSIONER of Police Ellison Greenslade, along with Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard and the Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest is shown the new station by Supt Elaine Sands OC, of Cable Beach.



TOMMY TURNQUEST, Minister of National Security unveils a plaque at the Cable Beach Police and Fire Station yesterday.

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PERRY CHRISTIE, leader of the PLP, signs the photograph of the new police station.

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

Former MP criticises selection of Moss

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

RESPONDING to media reports that nearly all of the PLP incumbents have been ratified, former MP George Smith has criticised one alleged choice.

"The decision in respect of Exuma was based on an inadequate and unfair assessment, which was obviously biased and laced with disregard for the facts and for many who are affected by the outcome," Mr Smith said.

His comment is in refer-

'The Bahamas deserves the best talent; there should be no room for mediocrity or second-rate performance.'

George Smith

ence to allegations that current Exuma MP Anthony Moss is likely to be ratified to run again for the constituency.

A decision Mr Smith has firmly opposed in recent weeks.

"An accurate review and

investigation throughout Exuma may have resulted in a different conclusion and wider acceptance," Mr Smith said.

Last month, he went on record opposing the nomination of Mr Moss to once again run in Exuma under the PLP.

Mr Smith said while it is not personal, Mr Moss "has not met the standard" to be able to represent the people of Exuma.

In a recent statement, Mr Smith stated: "The Bahamas deserves the best talent; there should be no room for mediocrity or second-rate performance."

PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts refused to confirm if Anthony Moss has been ratified.

"The PLP will make an announcement if and when that occurs," Mr Roberts said.



ANTHONY MOSS MP

ONE YEAR ON, JUNKANOO LOSS REMAINS A MYSTERY

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**
Tribune Features Editor
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

issued by the Junkanoo Shack's Asian suppliers, he said.

ONE year after \$50,000 worth of Junkanoo supplies disappeared, the owners of the merchandise say the matter has yet to be resolved.

Last year, a major shipment of Junkanoo supplies, predominantly feathers on special order for three major Junkanoo groups, was "lost in transit".

The products were shipped through the multinational courier DHL by the Junkanoo Shack, a popular East Street Junkanoo supplies store.

When the shipment arrived, it was short \$50,000 worth of goods, said James Miller, owner of the Junkanoo Shack.

He said no "acceptable explanation" has been put forward for why the shipment was short when the incident occurred last year.

One year later, he said the status remains the same.

"After one year of inquiries and questions, no one in the company can say to me, your items were found in Hong Kong, Jamaica, or where," he said.

A spokesperson for DHL said last year the goods were "simply late". During the holiday season, the spokesperson said, "that is the norm".

The company claims any suggestion otherwise is false propaganda.

According to Mr Miller, a truck-load of goods, believed to have been the contents of the missing shipment, was destined for the black market but was intercepted by private investigators working with police.

The goods were identifiable based on a customer number

Because of the incident, Mr Miller said the Junkanoo Shack has had to adopt a new business model that has made business a lot more risky.

"We lost a lot of our customers based on that event. They were unsure, because it is still not proven today what was the problem.

"What we had to do was go out and purchase supplies from January.

"In Junkanoo, you would want to know what is the colour code the groups are using. Sometimes you only have sufficient funds to order items to cover the groups, but because of what happened, we had to order early and purchase practically every colour," said Mr Miller.

"Now we have to order anticipating what the groups might wear and hope that someone uses the colour we have.

"That is a risk, because we don't know if they will like the style of feathers or the colours we have," he said.

The Junkanoo Shack has returned to using Tropical Shipping, its regular shipping company for 10 years.

Mr Miller said the company decided to use DHL last year because they had a last minute order that was more suited to a multinational courier capable of delivering on a three-day deadline, as opposed to the standard three-week shipping schedule.

All hope is not lost, according to Mr Miller. He said the Commercial Crimes Unit of the Royal Bahamas Police Force is still working the case, and is expected to "bring closure shortly".

ROYAL VISIT TO BAHAMAS

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

Jamaica and Belize.

THE Bahamas will reportedly be visited by a member of the British royal family next year.

According to media reports, as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the entire family will visit Commonwealth countries and other nations where the queen is head of state or which have ties to the United Kingdom.

Prince Harry will reportedly be visiting the Bahamas on behalf of the queen.

The exact date of the visit and what he will do while in the Bahamas is yet to be announced.

However, according to the Daily Mail's website, Prince Harry may use his visit to "stage a fundraising polo match on behalf of his Sentebale charity". In addition to the Bahamas, Prince Harry will reportedly be visiting

Other Caribbean countries on the tour will be visited by the Earl and Countess of Wessex. These include: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit the British Virgin Islands and Malta.

The recently married Duke and Duchess of Cambridge will visit Tuvalu, the Solomon Islands, Malaysia and Singapore, reports say.

Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall will travel to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, and Prince Charles will visit the Channel Islands and Isle of Man alone.

The Duke of York will visit Mozambique, Zambia, and India while the Duke of Kent will visit the Falkland Islands and Uganda.

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LOCAL NEWS



THE CROWNING glory of the Downtown Revitalisation Project, the newly refurbished Churchill Square featuring the bust of Sir Winston Churchill.

Kiosks to be added to Churchill Square

FREEPORT – As the Downtown Revitalisation Project nears completion, the Grand Bahama Port Authority has announced it will introduce kiosks for the sale of indigenous Bahamian products as an added attraction to the newly refurbished Churchill Square.

This complementary fea-

ture is intended to enhance the downtown experience for tourists and locals alike.

The first of the “Making it happen” initiatives launched in 2009 and the brainchild of GBPA President Ian Rolle, the three-phase project has now begun breathing new life into the centre of Freeport.

Chairperson for the DTP Nakira Wilchcombe said: “We are seeing the fruits of everyone’s hard work and commitment to the project.

“More and more of the building and shop owners have come onboard to support what is being done.

“More importantly, this past summer with major events like ‘Rush for Peace’

and the ‘Downtown International Food and Cultural Festival’, we’ve proven that downtown is an ideal location for such cultural events.”

As Churchill Square is just about ready, GBPA officials hope to make the downtown centre a regular stop for tour bus passengers and other groups.

The kiosks were introduced to add cultural flair and break up the monotony of the general retail stores in the area.

A public notice by GBPA’s Business Development Department invited local artisans interested in obtaining one of four kiosks planned for phase one to submit their business ideas.

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LOCAL NEWS

School's gift from China

THE Chinese Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Hu Shan presented Minister of Education Desmond Bannister with a

cheque for \$10,000 to assist in the rebuilding of the Crooked Island High School, which suffered severe damage during Hurricane Irene in August.

In making the presentation at the Ministry of Education on Monday, Ambassador Shan told Education officials that when the hurricane

struck, the Chinese people felt as if it were their own tragedy and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao sent a letter of sympathy to Prime Minister Ingraham.

Shortly after, the Chinese government donated \$300,000 to assist with the hurricane relief efforts.

The ambassador said when he learned from Minister Bannister and the Education Permanent Secretary Elma Garraway about the damage at the Crooked Island High School, he decided to provide the school with \$10,000 "as a token of regard of the Chinese Embassy and also an expression of our esteem for education."

He said: "Like the Bahamas, China attaches great importance to education, which is reflected by a popular saying in China, which literally reads, 'In a hundred-year strategy, education is the base,' and the

'It is important for us to rebuild this school because it is the birthplace of secondary education in the Family Islands.'

Minister of Education Desmond Bannister

ambassador for his recent donation of laptops and printers to the CI Gibson Senior High School's technology programme.

The Chinese Embassy has also been instrumental in the establishment of the Performing Arts Programme at the Government High School and has donated thousands of books to public libraries throughout the Bahamas.

Acting Principal of Crooked Island High, Jerome Forbes, thanked the ambassador, explaining that the school needs to be rebuilt for the students as well as the adults in the community, who also take classes there.

deep meaning is that education is of fundamental importance to the fulfillment of a nation's long range mission."

Thanking the ambassador, Minister Bannister said: "It is important for us to rebuild this school because it is the birthplace of secondary education in the Family Islands. It was the first central secondary school to be established in the Bahamas," he said.

He said the government is determined to rebuild the school, not only for its historical legacy, but more importantly, to meet the needs of the students of Crooked Island.

Mr Bannister also lauded



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FROM LEFT ARE Director of Education Lionel Sands, Counsellor and DCM of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China Zhai Xingfu; Education Permanent Secretary Elma Garraway; Crooked Island High School head boy Laquinton Armbrister; Minister Bannister; Ambassador Hu Shan; Acklins High School head boy Douglas Collie; Crooked Island High acting principal Jerome Forbes and NEMA director Captain Stephen Russell.

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Congratulations go out to both of them for achieving their goals and we encourage them to continue improving their skills in the Caterpillar product field.

From:
Machinery & Energy Limited Management & Staff

LOCAL NEWS

Maritime event to forge partnerships

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - The first annual Maritime Symposium will take place on Grand Bahama on Monday, December 19, at the Lucayan Harbour.

Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest is expected to deliver the keynote address at the opening. Commodore Roderick Bowe of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force is also expected to attend.

The symposium is being organised jointly by the Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF), the Port Department, and the Department of Marine Resources.

Sub Lieutenant Glenn McPhee, officer in charge of RBDF Northern Command, said the purpose of the symposium is to initiate dialogue between Grand Bahama fishermen and industry partners.

"The Commander of the Defence Force, Commodore Roderick Bowe, would like to ensure that the RBDF fulfills its role as an active community partner," he said.

He noted that some of the other industry partners include the Port Department, the Department of Marine Resources, Bahamas Customs, the Royal Bahamas Police Force Marine Division, the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association, and the US Coast Guard.

Sub Lt McPhee said the Defence Force also wants to promote a greater awareness of maritime legislation; promote maritime safety and enforcement among fishermen; identify challenges experienced by fishermen, and resolve them through collaborative action.

The symposium will include sessions on boat safety requirements, and Assistant Port Controller Shannandor Evans will give a presentation on water-skiing regulations and the Motor Boat Act.

A representative from the Department of Marine Resources will give a presentation on the rules and regulation governing fishing in Bahamian waters.



FROM LEFT, Amanda Riley, inventory manager at Fashion Hall, Olivia Major, assistant administrator for Bilney Lane Children's Home and Abigail Minns, director of sales and marketing for Fashion Hall.

GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

FASHION Hall threw a Christmas party for The Bilney Lane Children's Home on Dec 9 and donated a computer set and printer.

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SUMMARY:

Responsible for developing and managing of strategic and tactical marketing plans for CBL's REVOICE services. This involves identifying market opportunities, defining and creating products and managing their market entry and roll out. Duties include monitoring, researching and analyzing technological, competitive and market factors to drive development and market-place activities; ensuring effective control of marketing results and taking corrective action to ensure achievement of revenue and customer objectives within budget; managing the development of customer growth; managing product development activities to ensure consistency with strategic and tactical plans; ensuring timely and successful implementation of product initiatives and consistent product documentation; managing product life cycle and management activities, including, pricing, positioning, sales channel management, sales support, promotions and performance; and tracking and managing expenditures to marketing budget.

RESPONSIBILITIES: VOICE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

- Develop a road map for product development for the next 12 months and 3 years
- Define product set with clear features and benefits
- Carry out customer/market segmentation for all products
- Assist in setting revenue and customer objectives by product and sales channel
- Position products within the current CBL portfolio
- Create and execute launch plans
- Devise communications plan to include internal and external PR, advertising and promotions
- Manage the implementation and execution of marketing plans and supporting measures
- Timely and successful implementation of product initiatives, promotions and ensure consistent product documentation
- Manage product life cycle and management activities, including, pricing, positioning, sales channel management, sales support, promotions and performance
- Track and manage expenditures to marketing budget

SKILLS REQUIRED:

- Educated to Degree level
- Must have strong people skills
- Strong verbal and written skills
- Working knowledge of the technical aspects of the voice product
- Working knowledge in using MS Office products

REPORTING:

This position reports to the Vice President of Marketing & Sales.

Resumes should be submitted by December 19 2011 to Mrs. Carrie Collins or sent via e-mail to carrie.collins@cablebahamas.com.

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LOCAL NEWS

Island School recruits Schatz for next school year



JOHN SCHATZ, who has a long history with the Island School semester programme, will be taking over as head of school in the 2012-13 school year.

THE Cape Eleuthera Island School, an internationally recognised leader in education focused on sustainability, has announced a new head of school starting in the 2012-13 school year.

After an extensive 18-month search, John Schatz has been hired to fill the position. He has a long history with the Island School semester programme.

Mr Schatz joined a pioneer teaching team in 2001 as a mathematics teacher.

Outside the classroom, he was head of the boys' dormitory, sea kayaking guide, research advisor for a number of different projects and in his final year he ran the daily programme as dean of the school.

"John is remembered well as the teacher/mentor who was always there to challenge and at the same time support the community," said the Island School in a statement.

"After four years of committed service to the Island School, John went on to receive his masters in education from Columbia Teacher's College and taught at several private schools.

"This past summer, John returned to help run the new Island School summer term; he realised that there was an opportunity to come back and help raise the bar for the semester journey.

"John brings a wealth of experience with Eleuthera and the Island School journey; he shares the school's vision to inspire the next generation of leaders to know they have the ability to effect positive change in the world."

Although the school is already very successful, the statement said Mr Schatz is

not being hired to maintain the status quo, but rather is committed to enhancing opportunities for faculty and students across all programmes.

"The Island School journey will experience significant growth under John's leadership. John's new leadership role will give Chris Maxey the chance to help

support the larger mission of the organisation that includes sharing solutions through the Deep Creek Middle School and Cape Eleuthera Institute.

"Chris is also looking forward to doing more teaching and spending more time out on expedition with future Island School classes," the statement said.

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LOCAL NEWS

Targeting the tourist



MINISTER OF TOURISM and Aviation Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, supported by his industry training team, addresses BahamaHost graduates.

THE Ministry of Tourism has eliminated its director of product development post in an effort to better focus on the most important element of tourism – the visitor experience.

Minister of Tourism and Aviation Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace told hundreds of taxi drivers, jet ski operators, airport workers and other new graduates of the BahamaHost programme that the old post with replaced with a “director of visitor experience” position.

This, he said, took the focus off buildings and physical attributes and put it on the “human perspective”.

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said that for a long time, tourism and hospitality experts convinced themselves that marketing was largely about advertising.

“But at the end of the day, the most powerful part of marketing, we all know, is word of mouth,” he said. “Where does word of mouth come from? It comes from the experience that the visitor has in the Bahamas. It is the most powerful form of marketing.”

What the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation has done in terms of improving visitor experience is remarkable, though largely unpublished, the minister said.

“We have spent more money than ever before in history making sure we get the visitor’s experience right as opposed to spending money overseas (on advertising) to keep talking about the whole thing over and over again,” he said.

“Because in today’s world, you can’t fool people anymore. There is something that happened that made word of mouth more powerful and more important than ever before. Do you know what that thing is? It is the internet.”

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace pointed out that marketing professionals have coined the term “digital word of mouth” to describe a powerful form of internet marketing. The term refers to the comments people post online about their experiences with a product or service. People often post such comments after a vacation.

“The problem now in our day is that when someone goes to the computer and puts that phrase or that feeling in about their experience in the Bahamas, it is there permanently,” he said. “So it is more important than ever before, and that is why you see us investing so much more and making sure the experience is right. I’m delighted to tell you that it has been getting better.”

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace lauded two long-standing Ministry of Tourism programmes for their impact on visitor experience – BahamaHost and People to People.

He pointed out that these programmes – which he was involved with from the beginning – are particularly valuable because of the focus they bring to improving how guests experienced the country.

The minister reported that since 2005, visitor surveys have been reaping more positive results.

It was people like the BahamaHost graduates who made all the difference because they engaged guests on a personal level, he said.

“The most important people in the Bahamas tourism sector are the people who touch the visitor directly,” Minister Vanderpool-Wallace said. “We don’t seem to understand that many times.”

He said the ministry has

adopted a purpose statement that calls for all staff to identify and attract visitors who can significantly enrich the people and economy of the

Bahamas and then deliver the kinds of experiences that compel them to tell their friends and relatives that it is better in the Bahamas.

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LOCAL NEWS

SANTA BRINGS SMILES TO THE SCHOOL RUN

THE school pick-up traffic jam on East Bay Street took a jolly turn last week as Santa Claus 'Ho Ho Ho-ed' to all the passing children.

Santa was assisting with the launch of the Bahamas Realty Holiday Home Showcase featuring with thousands of dollars in prizes, the company's Christmas Gift to the island.

The competition began last Friday, when the Christmas lights went on at Bahamas Realty.

Entry forms are available at Bahamas Realty on East Bay Street; on Bahamas Realty's Facebook page; at Builder's Mall stores on Wulff Road; Jolly Roger Paint Suppliers on Shirley Street; and AG Electric on Jerome Avenue.

Entries close on December 19 at 4pm.

Santa is also making guest appearances on "Bahamas Realty Now" on Mondays and Thursdays in December, according to show host Sara Parker, a broker at Bahamas Realty.



Photo: Andrea Brownrigg

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LOCAL NEWS

Bail denied for Haitian

from page one

According to police, during their search they uncovered seven pounds of suspected marijuana and an unlicensed Desert Eagle .44 magnum pistol with six rounds of .44 ammunition.

Prosecution also told the court of a "large quantity"

of US currency that was found during the search, which they believe are proceeds from criminal conduct.

On December 12, Donald was arrested for questioning by Grand Bahama police. The prosecution claims that during questioning, he admitted to living in the residence

where the weapons, drugs, and money were allegedly found.

His father, Dieudonne, was later found and also arrested in connection with the incident.

The pair were charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm, possession of ammunition without

proper certification, and possession of drugs with intent to supply.

Dieudonne pleaded guilty to all counts while Magistrate Pratt allowed a short recess in order for Donald to "properly" consult with his attorney.

After the break, Donald pleaded not guilty to all

counts.

The court will meet again, today, at 1.30pm for sentencing, after Magistrate Pratt

allowed more time for "prosecution to do proper criminal checks of pending matters."

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LOCAL NEWS

Customs staff stage walkout

from page one
 runs through that area which carries waste, and the smell is horrible. It is really strong in the customs area and it flows over into immigration. "So from what I know, the men arrived to work and the

smell was so overbearing they walked outside to catch themselves. "They were out there for a little over an hour before a representative, I'm assuming from the Nassau Airport Development Company, came in and directed the

pipeline outside the building. When the problem was fixed, the men returned to work. It's a health issue, so they acted in a way that was constitutional and sanitary. They did what any responsible person would have." Shonalee Johnson,

spokesman for NAD, said as far as she is aware there was no issue with customs yesterday. Ms Johnson said the area was temporarily closed for "maintenance." "The area shut down around 8.31am for maintenance and everyone was back

at their posts by 9.20am. There was no impact on flights or anything because the first flight was scheduled for 9.30 and by then things were up and running," she said. This latest incident is just one of many customs and immigration officers have had with management in the last few months.

Last month, 200 staff staged a protest outside their administrative complex on Thompson Boulevard after they claimed their concerns were not being heard. Among those concerns were: staff members not being paid hazard allowances where workers suffer from dusty

substances; staff not being confirmed after years of work without any credible or legal reason; persons being disciplined for lateness while they should not be as it is defined as more than four times per calendar month. Such action has resulted in employees not being confirmed or promoted; employees shift premiums, call allowances or overtime not paid appropriately; reimbursements for courses of study outstanding.

Mr Smith said he believes the government has a "personal vendetta" with customs and immigration because they refuse to give them basic necessities.

The officers in the customs and immigration reported the odour to management a few months ago and nothing happened.

Sloane Smith, Bahamas Customs Immigration and Allied Workers Union



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LOCAL NEWS

MINISTER ACCUSES BELL OF PLP LINK

from page one

expected to face charges as a result of the police investigation into allegations of corruption.

On Tuesday, Mr Bell urged the government to give a full account of the police investigation into the allegations

made against the Ministry of Housing, and any further findings.

"There is obviously political interference and political influence going on with this administration. There is no question about it," Mr Bell said.

He added: "I don't know of no case in the history of

the Bahamas where it took a whole team of officers five years to investigate - not even Sir Harry Oakes' murder."

Earlier this week, Mr Bell confirmed he has offered himself up for candidacy in the next general election. However, he said the PLP has not yet made a decision.



MINISTER for National Security Tommy Turnquest says that former investigator Keith Bell is and always has been a "political operative" for the PLP

FISHERMEN ALIVE AFTER FIVE DAYS ADRIFT

from page one

"The men seemed to be fine. They were dehydrated, but I was told they were given food and water. The families are thankful to the Bahamas for all the prayers and efforts. They feel relieved because these past few nights have been terrible for them. They

can rest their heads now knowing their loved ones are safe."

The fishermen, who all live in Mangrove Cay, Andros, were reported missing by relatives on Saturday at 11.20am.

According to family members, the men were aboard the Tropic Explorer.

The vessel was left near the

Fish Cays when the four men boarded two dinghies - two in each dinghy - and headed in a west southwest direction. However, when they were discovered all four were in one dinghy.

It is not certain what happened to them nor why they did not return to the Tropic Explorer.



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ROBIN HOOD INVESTOR WOE

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

ROBIN Hood's principal yesterday pledged that the retailer would "do our best to recover", following a bitter bust-up between himself and an investor who, just five months ago, had agreed to recapitalise the business.

Sandy Schaefer confirmed to Tribune Business that he and Bahamian businessman, Hubert Pinder, had parted company over the latter's alleged failure to provide promised equity capital in the millions of dollars to recapitalise Robin Hood.

Reluctant to say much, Mr Schaefer said their parting was likely to result in legal action, although he declined to comment further. Tribune Business attempted to reach Mr Pinder for comment prior to press deadline, but the number it had for him just rang out.

"We are no longer involved together," Mr Schaefer told this newspaper yesterday about his relationship with Mr Pinder. "There are issues we are turning over to the courts and our attorney."

"It's such a sticky wicket right now. I can't comment, other than to say our deal was never consummated, because the

SEE page 9B

- * Retailer's principal pledges to 'do our best to recover' following split with Hubert Pinder
- * Alleges proposed recapitalisation funding never materialised

BAHAMAS' EXPORTS TO US DECLINE 6.4%

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

BAHAMIAN exports to the US declined by 6.4 per cent year-over-year to \$691.3 million in 2010, falling from \$738.3 million the year before, a US Congressional report saying Freeport-based Polymers International's products generated the "second-highest gain" in consumer welfare.

The latest document from the US International Trade Commission on the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) largely blamed the decline in the value of Bahamian exports to the US last year on falls in the value of refined petroleum products.

And, not surprisingly, Bahamian imports from the US increased in dollar value by some 31.5 per cent during 2010 to \$3.2 billion, growth again driven by "increased exports [meaning Bahamas imports] of refined petroleum products".

The Bahamas, in seeing its US imports increase from \$2.4 billion in 2009 to \$3.16 billion last year, accounted for 17.1 per cent of all American exports to CBERA countries. This latter percentage grew by 0.5 percentage points year-over-year, from 16.6 per cent in 2009, leaving the Bahamas as the second biggest US importer behind Panama.

The US report said the impact of

- * But Polymers International's \$95m exports generate 'second highest gain in consumer welfare' from Caribbean
- * FDI into Bahamas fell 25% year-over-year in 2010, says US congress report
- * Bahamas' imports from US grow 31.5% to \$3.16bn

trade preferences was negligible for the US economy, and more beneficial for

SEE page 10B



Paul McWeeny

BANK BUILDS NEW BUSINESS MODEL

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

BANK of the Bahamas International yesterday said it was "building a new business model" focusing on high transaction volume areas, its managing director describing this as "best suited" to counter reduced earnings from lending activities.

Emphasising that the BISX-listed

SEE page 8B

- * Private label credit cards in the works at Bank of Bahamas
- * Mario's Bowling and three other locations targeted for off-site ABMs
- * Looking to 'redesign liabilities', plus alter equity 'composition' in next 24 months

WATER CORP COST RECOVERY TO FALL TO 'HIGH 60%'S

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE Water & Sewerage Corporation's operating cost recovery rate is projected to further decline to the "high 60 per cents" range for 2011, its chief financial officer yesterday saying the impending project to overhaul its operations would generate a "huge" \$233 million saving for Bahamian taxpayers.

Sandra Edgecombe effectively told Tribune Business that the \$81 million Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) loan to overhaul the Water & Sewerage Corporation's operations, and New Providence's water and sewerage infrastructure, paled into insignificance when compared to the potential multi-million dollar savings for the Government and taxpayer - a net \$152 million.

And she added that the phasing-out of water barging from Andros had generated further "considerable savings" for the Water & Sewerage Corporation, as water produced by BISX-

SEE page 6B

- * IDB project to generate 'huge' \$233m subsidy savings for Gov't and taxpayer
- * Subsidies projected to fall from \$414m to \$181m over 10 years
- * Barging end saves \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons

CRUISE VISITOR SPEND UP TO \$137M TO Q3

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Business Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

CRUISE passenger spend up to the 2011 third quarter is estimated at \$137 million, a Ministry of Tourism official telling Tribune Business yesterday that things were "looking positive" heading to the Christmas/New Year peak.

Carla Stuart, director of cruise development at the Ministry of Tourism, told Tribune Business yesterday that up to the third quarter of this year the Bahamas received 3,320,720 cruise passengers. She estimated a head tax total up, to the third quarter

SEE page 6B

GAS TRACKER

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By DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

IMAGINE yourself as a consumer. What is the first thing that attracts you to a product: Expiration date, price or packaging? If you answered packaging you are absolutely correct. "Design Packaging has to grab the consumers in seconds to create an emotional connection," says Jason Kempen, an international creative director.

Would you agree that a shopper has to observe your product before it can be dropped into their cart? Your product must engage the shopper, as they will scan the shelf for three seconds and, if your product is not appealing, it is unlikely they will see it. Remember, books are judged by their cover.

What is more, most of what we purchase comes in a package. For example, toothpaste, tide, beauty supplies, pharmaceuticals and software covers are all around us, especially in magazines, advertisements, the Internet and newspapers, etc.

Great design is innovative and does not copy existing ones, but improves upon them. I especially like the view of a designer who said: "People see the past, artists see the present, but designers see the future". There is nothing new under the sun; we need only the humility and wisdom to correctly reinvent what came before us.

Have you ever wondered what Product Packaging Design does for your product? It identifies your brand, communicates with consumers and distinguishes your product from your competitors. Packaging refers to the process of design, preservation, evaluation, logistics and production of packages. It is also the science, art and technology of marketing, storage, sale and end use.

Bear in mind that the greater percentage of all purchasing decisions are made in-store, and packaging design must take priority and make all the difference at the point of sale, as this is where the product either dies or lives by making it into the shopping cart.



THE ART OF GRAPHIX

BY DEIDRE M BASTIAN

Throughout the years, design packaging has evolved from an information tool to an identifying tool, and is a specialised area for graphic designers. It involves the visual elements of design, and takes into account how people think and act when shopping. It also helps businesses to open doors that weren't open before.

If designers aim to be successful when launching packaging ideas, it is essential for them to keep abreast of evolving trends. It is also noteworthy that industry specialists have moved towards packaging designs that are unambiguous, concise and timeless.

In every product category, from elegant wine and spirits to perfumes and apparel, packaging is truly an emotional experience as opposed to a functional one. I know this because, if the product packaging doesn't reach out and instantly connect with the consumer, you know what happens? Yes, check mate; the game is over.

Sounds crazy, but it is true. When facing the task of creating new packages, it is important to consider how the consumer's mind manages the intense overload while browsing the aisles. Here is a snapshot: The mind filters with amazing speed. Then some-

thing catches it, holding it long enough for the brain to register and connect with the heart. This is time packaging has to make a sale, and win on the shelves.

It is important to understand the 'lingo' of packaging design, as marketing is where everything begins. A month ago, I was asked during an interview what my true passion was. I could only confess that marketing was my first love, followed by graphic design.

Drawing on both was advantageous and got me off to a great start. I was privileged to amalgamate both perspectives (marketing and graphics) and methodically analyse designs. More significantly, you must exploit our use passion, and infuse your language to speak to subscribers.

To do this, be brutally honest with your approach, as a handful of words with an attractive design can possibly double sales. Also, if you are brave enough to ask, I might tell you that fire is what customers follow, and lucid packaging is one of the things that will help a successful business.

I particularly love 'artistic' labels, but packaging is ineffective if all you are selling is beauty. Design packaging is really about communications and building a relationship with your consumers. Images such as cartoons or pictures can be included on the packaging designs as well.

To avoid confusion, try not to paste an image of a dog if you are making a packaging design for hot dogs. This might mislead consumers into believing it is dog food, or the hot dog is made of dog meat.

Designs should be honest and transparent, easily understood and not hide defects or weaknesses. Clearly, an honest label does not claim features it does not have. I recall sometime ago designing a line of labels for a client who ran out of promotional and performance ideas for their labels, and shamelessly I was asked to "be inventive". (Be careful of labels).

To this end, ask yourself if

SEE page 10B



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BUSINESS



ATLANTIS TARGETS 90% CHRISTMAS OCCUPANCY LEVEL

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Business Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

ATLANTIS is running at 90 per cent occupancy levels for Christmas and into the New Year a Kerzner International executive said yesterday, telling Tribune Business that occupancy levels for the winter season were up 7 to 8 per cent over last year.

The resort is also projecting significant growth in group business in 2012, Kerzner International spokesman Ed Fields said.

He told Tribune Business: "Christmas

- * Winter season projected up 7-8% over 2010
- * Projecting 2012 group business up 10-15%

and New Year travel is strong again this year, and we will run approximately 90 per cent for the total resort. Certain towers like Cove and Reef have been full for months."

"Next Year we expect growth again, with stronger group business up 10 to 15 per cent."

Atlantis executives said earlier this

month that the resort expected to finish the year up 33 per cent over 2010 in terms of group business. Group travel is an integral part of Atlantis' success, with groups and conventions accounting for a significant percentage of the resort's total business.

Mr Fields also told Tribune Business: "Our winter season looks good with occupancies up 7 to 8 per cent over the previous year."

In late October, Atlantis launched its 'Winter Mega Sale' promotion to help boost occupancy levels during the winter months. The resort advertised room rates at all five towers within the Atlantis resort by a discount of as much as 60 per cent.

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- Have the ability to draft and negotiate vendor contracts, consulting, commercial, and service agreements.
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- Have the ability to negotiate and draft agreements required for marketing and promotional activities. Advise on compliance with laws and regulations governing promotional activities and marketing. Review of marketing materials, including websites, marketing campaigns, press releases and social media.
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- Curriculum Vitae;
- Writing Sample – on any Commercial Legal topic (non property related), to be at least five (5) pages in length and double spaced; and
- Two (2) References.

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BUSINESS



WELCOMING guests at the Royal Bank of Canada Annual Customer Appreciation event in Grand Bahama were (left to right) George Roache, RBC and Finco Management; Nathaniel Beneby, Market Head for RBC Royal Bank Market Head; Tanya McCartney, Area Vice President, RBC Finco; guest Sir Albert Miller and first time visitor to the island David Hackett, Regional President of Business Banking for Caribbean Banking RBC, who was also the special guest at the event.



ERIK J. RUSSELL / Barefoot Marketing Photos

LOCAL Grand Bahama business men and women enjoyed a sumptuous buffet while listening to classic Christmas songs by Shelly Carey and Tru Music at the annual RBC Client Appreciation event.

ROYAL BANK PLEDGES TO STAY CLIENT COURSE

ROYAL Bank of Canada and RBC FINCO have held their customer appreciation night in Grand Bahama at the Grand Lucayan Resort. "Our employees continue to set Royal Bank apart by putting our clients first, and by demonstrating integrity in their actions every day. Our ability to do the right things for our clients, our communities and each other will continue to drive our success," said Nathaniel Beneby, RBC Royal Bank's market head. "Our commitment to our clients has been the cornerstone of our success. We pledge our continued support as you create the lives and community you wish for in Grand Bahama." Joining Mr Beneby was a strong contingent of RBC and FINCO management including George Roache, market head, business banking; Tanya McCartney, area vice-president, RBC Finco; Michael Munnings, area vice-president, New Providence; Brian Knowles, senior account manager, business banking; and Jan Knowles, manager, public relations and communications. An RBC client, Sarah Rolle, co-owner of Ocean Motion Water sports, said: "My husband and I have banked with RBC for many years, but recently we have had more communications and support from them. Brian

Knowles, RBC senior account manager in business banking, has been wonderful to work with. He discusses with us areas that they can help us with and understands the rises and falls of our business flow. I look forward to meeting him tonight and thanking him for his assistance." First-time visitor to the island, David Hackett, regional president of business banking for Caribbean banking at RBC, was the main guest. He said: "Our Mission 'to put our strength to work for you' is not an empty statement. We come prepared to meet the future with our focus on delivering exceptional service at every opportunity." Mr Hackett described Grand Bahama as "one of our largest markets in the Bahamas, and plays a pivotal role in RBC's strategic plans for the Northern Caribbean." "With its first class infrastructure, extensive deep water harbour, one of the longest airstrips in the Western Hemisphere, excellent telecommunications and technology, along with an abundance of skilled professionals in a variety of fields, it stands to reason that Grand Bahama is a very important market to RBC in terms of future growth potential."



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Introduction to Computers
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AutoCAD 2012 Advance
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BUSINESS

STOCKS, EURO SLIDE AS WORRIES ABOUT EUROPE PERSIST

NEW YORK
Associated Press

A GROWING sense that Europe's leaders have failed to contain that region's debt crisis swept through financial markets Wednesday.

It started with the euro dropping below \$1.30 for the first time since January and a jump in borrowing costs for Italian government debt. By the end of the trading day the Dow had lost 131 points, European stock indexes fell as much as 3 percent and gold dropped \$76, ending below \$1,600 an ounce for the first time in more than two months.

Investors dumped assets that might be seen as risky and piled into the most conservative ones around: the dollar and U.S. government debt.

The market appears to be in "sell now and ask questions later mode," said John Canally, investment strategist at LPL Financial.

Since European leaders reached an agreement to rein in future government budget deficits last week, investors and credit rating agencies have criticized the deal for failing to address current problems. "Markets are impatient," Canally said. "They still can't see how all these efforts will get this situation stabilized."

Italy had to pay higher borrowing rates in its last bond auction of the year Wednesday. The euro zone's third-largest economy paid 6.47 percent interest to borrow euro3 billion (\$3.95 billion) for five years, up from 6.30 percent just a month ago. The higher rates make it more expensive for Italy to borrow money and reflect rising doubts that the country will be able to repay its debts.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 131.46 points, or 1.1 percent, to close at 11,823.48. Caterpillar Inc. fell 4.4 percent, the worst drop among the 30 stocks in the Dow.

Canally said the fear that another bank failure will lead to a financial crisis like Lehman Brothers did in 2008 overshadows everything else, he said. Markets are so jittery now that traders see a slight drop in the euro or a small rise in Italian government bond yields as a step toward a wider collapse.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 13.91 points, or 1.1 percent, to 1,211.82. The Nasdaq fell 39.96, or 1.6 percent to 2,539.31.

Gold dropped 4.6 percent to settle at \$1,586, the lowest closing price since July. Commodity prices tend to fall

when the dollar gains strength, since a stronger dollar makes it more expensive for investors using other currencies to buy commodities, which are priced in dollars.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note dropped to 1.91 percent from 1.96 percent late Tuesday as demand increased for ultrasafe assets. High demand for U.S. government debt helped the government sell \$13 billion in 30-year bonds at a record low rate of 2.92 percent. In a note to clients, strategists at Nomura said "the insatiable appetite" for Treasuries at such low yields implies that bond buyers are readying themselves for "the end-of-the-euro-trade."

Mosko forms real estate partnership

CROSS & Mosko Real Estate and Development Company (Cross & Mosko) has been formed as a real estate sales, appraisals and development business. The principals, Jim Mosko and Kevin Cross, have known each other for 20 years and decided to work together in partnership.

Mr Mosko, president of the Mosko Group of Companies, has been involved in real estate transactions for more than 20 years. As a licensed broker, his primary role in Cross & Mosko will be to identify and execute upmarket real estate sales and development transac-

tions.

Mr. Mosko said: "I'm pleased to be moving forward with this new venture with Kevin at the helm. I've known and trusted him for years, and this adds a real estate company to the range of businesses we now have in the Mosko family of companies."

Mr Cross has been involved in real estate for 20 years, and served on the board of the Bahamas Real Estate Association (BREA) for three years. He is a BREA licensed broker and

appraiser, specialising in high value property sales, particularly in private islands and often in conjunction with his exclusive affiliate, Private Islands Inc.

Mr Cross also has a professional appraisal practice, serving leading banks, insurance companies, attorneys and other clients in the Bahamas and elsewhere. He qualified as an appraiser in 1997.

Mr. Cross said: "Jim and I have worked together in the past, and I have always enjoyed his honest and no

nonsense way of doing business. I gained a lot of valuable experience in the last 10 years with Bahamas Realty, but the chance of working as an equal partner with someone of Jim's stature, backed by the business infrastructure of the Mosko Group was an opportunity too good to miss."

Cross & Mosko is exclusively affiliated with the Mosko Group and with Private Islands Online. It is located at Lyford Cay House on Western Road just outside Lyford Cay.

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PLACE: Holy Trinity Activity Centre
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Proposed Modification to Airport Fees and Charges Notice

The Nassau Airport Development Company is proposing a modification of Fees and Charges, effective September 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013 pursuant to article 4 of the Airport Authority (Fees and Charges) Regulations, 2009.

The proposed September 2012 increase is to international passenger facilities charges. The proposed January 2013 increase is to aircraft landing fees, terminal fees, aircraft bridge fees, aircraft parking charges.

For more information or to comment on the proposed modification please see our website at www.nassaulpia.com

BUSINESS

WATER CORP COST RECOVERY TO FALL TO 'HIGH 60%'

FROM page 1B

listed Consolidated Water's Blue Hills reverse osmosis plant was some \$2.80 cheaper per 1,000 gallons.

The urgent need to stem the bleeding at the Water & Sewerage Corporation, which manifests itself in annual taxpayer subsidies of \$20-\$30 million, was further highlighted by the fact its operating cost recovery rate is projected to fall further than last year's "unacceptably low" 79 per cent in 2011.

"It's projected to decline further for 2011," Ms Edgecombe told Tribune Business, saying it "it's projected to be in the high 60s". Given that

this ratio measures how much of the Water & Sewerage Corporation's costs are covered by its revenues, the projection indicates that almost one-third of its 2011 expenses will not be met by income streams.

Asked about the likely impact of the proposed IDB financing for the Water & Sewerage Corporation's future financial health and sustainability, Ms Edgecombe said simply: "Huge. I think the best illustration of that is we project that, if nothing is done over the next 10 years, the Government will be called upon to provide subsidies in the order of \$414 million.

"If something is done with non-revenue water reduction,

the tariff calculation occurring under an economic regulator, and also with the organisational restructuring and purchase of some additional technology, we expect that amount to be \$181 million over the next 10 years.

"In exchange for \$81 million, we will see savings in the amount of \$233 million, in terms of the amount the Government has to pitch in. It's huge for us, and huge for the Government and the taxpayer. We've known for some time that we need to find some form of financing to address these issues."

Further savings, the Water & Sewerage Corporation chief financial officer said, would come via the end of bargaining from Andros and the simultaneous expansion of the Blue Hills reverse osmosis plant.

"The bargaining costs us more in the order of \$9 per 1,000 gallons, and with the Blue Hills reverse osmosis expansion, the average cost is \$6.20 per 1,000 gallons, so that's a considerable savings on three million gallons per day," Ms Edgecombe told Tribune Business.

The structure of the contract to slash the Water & Sewerage Corporation's non-revenue water losses by around 50 per cent, coupled with mains improvements carried out as part of the New Providence Road Improvement Project and Airport

Gateway project, should leave New Providence's water and sewerage infrastructure in "good shape" for years to come, Ms Edgecombe added.

"Once the non-revenue water has been brought under control, and reduced by 2.5 million gallons per day, that has to be maintained for five years," she explained, "during which time capital investment will be made by the contractor to maintain that level. Then there will be the handover to the Corporation, and the infrastructure should be in good shape."

Together with the improvements related to other projects, Ms Edgecombe added: "All of these things are going a long way to improving carrying capacity, and increasing customer satisfaction because they have more - and better quality - water.

"All these things pave the way for a customer win back, very much so. We do hope that beginning in 2012, going into 2013, we will see some improvement in operations. We look forward to starting in the New Year."

While unable to specify how many Water & Sewerage Corporation customers are currently disconnected, Ms Edgecombe said accounts receivables were having "to be managed very carefully", and that customer non-payment had "been a bit of struggle since 2008".

CRUISE VISITOR SPEND UP TO \$137M TO Q3

FROM page 1B

of this year, at \$59.773 million, and spend at \$137.053 million. Ms Stuart told Tribune Business that tourism officials were extremely pleased with cruise arrivals in Grand Bahama, which recorded as much as a 41.6 per cent growth in the first quarter.

"One of the things we are pretty pleased with is the growth in Grand Bahama. Grand Bahama has experienced tremendous growth with regards to their cruise calls, and that bodes well for the people in Grand Bahama," Ms Stuart said.

"Carnival increased the number of calls to Grand Bahamas significantly, and also there was the injection of Bahamas Celebration, which sails there on a regular basis - at least three times a week.

"We have seen growth in the first quarter of as much as 41.1 per cent. During the second quarter and the third quarter things levelled out, but during the first quarter they saw tremendous growth in Grand Bahama."

Ms Stuart said the Bahamas recorded increases in cruise passenger arrivals this year.

She told Tribune Business: "Based on statistics I have, which is up to October, cruise arrivals have been up. In the first quarter of 2011 versus 2010, it increased by 15.3 per cent. In the second quarter we saw an overall increase of 6 per cent. During the third quarter we saw just a 1.8 per cent increase.

"At the end of August and into September we had some challenges with the weather, which caused a lot of vessels to be diverted. Usually in most instances the ships are diverted towards us, but there were some close calls for us with hurricanes at the end of August and September, so ships were diverted away from us. Despite that our numbers are still extremely positive. Thus far for the third quarter, October already showed a 2 per cent growth. December is usually a peak for us so we expect that to be pretty positive."

NOTICE
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PLUS LIMITED

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Notice is hereby given that the captioned Company is in Liquidation, commencing December 5, 2011. Creditors having debts or claims against the Company are required to send particulars to James B. Gomez, Liquidator of the captioned Company, 4th Floor, Centreville House, P.O.Box SS-6229, Nassau, The Bahamas and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator, come in and prove the said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof, they will be excluded from any distribution made before such debts are proved or precluded from objecting to any such distribution.

Dated: December 5, 2011

JAMES B. GOMEZ Liquidator

NOTICE
SARIO INVESTMENT
PLUS LIMITED

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 133 (1), of the International Business Companies Act 2000 that the captioned Company is in Liquidation, commencing December 5, 2011 and that James B. Gomez, 4th Floor, Centreville House, P.O. Box SS-6229, Nassau, The Bahamas is appointed Liquidator.

Dated: December 5, 2011

JAMES B. GOMEZ Liquidator

NOTICE
PAUL MART LIMITED

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Notice is hereby given that the captioned Company is in Liquidation, commencing December 5, 2011. Creditors having debts or claims against the Company are required to send particulars to James B. Gomez, Liquidator of the captioned Company, 4th Floor, Centreville House, P.O. Box SS-6229, Nassau, The Bahamas and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator, come in and prove the said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof, they will be excluded from any distribution made before such debts are proved or precluded from objecting to any such distribution.

Dated: December 5, 2011

JAMES B. GOMEZ Liquidator

NOTICE
PAUL MART LIMITED

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 235 (c) Companies Act, that the captioned Company is in Liquidation, commencing December 5, 2011 and that James B. Gomez, 4th Floor, Centreville House, P.O. Box SS-6229, Nassau, The Bahamas is appointed Liquidator.

Dated: December 5, 2011

JAMES B. GOMEZ Liquidator

Legal Notice
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- FELICE OVERSEAS S.A.** is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The Dissolution of said Company commenced on December 14, 2011 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Zakrit Services Ltd. of 2nd Terrace West, Centreville, Nassau, Bahamas.
- All persons having Claims against the above-named Company are required on or before the 26th day of January 2012 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator of the company or, in default thereof, they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

DECEMBER 15, 2011

ZAKRIT SERVICES LTD.

LIQUIDATOR OF THE ABOVE-NAMED COMPANY

Legal Notice
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- PEREGRINE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT LTD.** is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The Dissolution of said Company commenced on December 14, 2011 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Zakrit Services Ltd. of 2nd Terrace West, Centreville, Nassau, Bahamas.
- All persons having Claims against the above-named Company are required on or before the 26th day of January 2012 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator of the company or, in default thereof, they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

DECEMBER 15, 2011

ZAKRIT SERVICES LTD.

LIQUIDATOR OF THE ABOVE-NAMED COMPANY

PROGRESSIVE SERVICE ORIENTED COMPANY
LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE.DIESEL AND
HEAVY EQUIPMENT
TECHNICIAN

Prior experience on repairs to heavy trucks and construction equipment mandatory. Experience repairing and diagnosing engines and Electronics necessary. Top wages and incentive program. Uniforms furnished after probationary period.

Please come by and fill out an application, and give us your resume at:

Bahamas Mack Truck Sales Ltd.
Rock Crusher Road
Nassau, Bahamas

Legal Notice
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- COBBLER MANAGEMENT HOLDINGS LTD.** is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The Dissolution of said Company commenced on December 14, 2011 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Zakrit Services Ltd. of 2nd Terrace West, Centreville, Nassau, Bahamas.
- All persons having Claims against the above-named Company are required on or before the 26th day of January 2012 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator of the company or, in default thereof, they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

DECEMBER 15, 2011

ZAKRIT SERVICES LTD.

LIQUIDATOR OF THE ABOVE-NAMED COMPANY



KINGSWAY ACADEMY

ELEMENTARY ENTRANCE
EXAMINATIONS

Entrance Examinations for all Elementary grade levels:-

K3 – January 14, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.
(must be 3 years old by October 31, 2012)

K4 – February 3 & 17, 2012
times are scheduled throughout the day
(must be 4 years old by December 31, 2012)

K5 – March 3, 2012
times are scheduled throughout the day
(must be 5 years old by December 31, 2012)

Grades 1 to Grade 6
Saturday, March 3, 2012.
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Parents are asked to collect application forms between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily from the Elementary Desk in the Herbert L. Treco Administration Building on the school's Bernard Road campus, before the testing date.

Application forms may also be accessed from the school's website
www.kingswayacademy.com.

APPLY NOW

For further information, kindly contact the school at telephone numbers:-
324 – 5049 or 324 - 2158

BUSINESS

BANK BUILDS NEW BUSINESS MODEL

FROM page 1B

institution's development of electronic banking and credit card processing centre were integral to this strategy, Paul McWeeney told Tribune Business the latter was already working with several Bahamian companies on the development of 'private label' credit cards.

Bank of the Bahamas International, he said, was shifting away from the traditional focus on 'bricks and mortar' branches to the provision of off-site electronic banking, an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) being installed at Mario's Bowling & Entertainment Centre the latest example of such a strategy.

Disclosing that the bank would start to outfit its Carmichael Road branch this month, with the facility set to open in four-five months' time, Mr McWeeney also told Tribune Business that Bank of the Bahamas International also planned to exploit the high liquidity in the com-

mercial banking system to "redesign" its liabilities, strengthening the balance sheet by reducing costs.

And, in preparations for Basle III's enhanced capital requirements, Mr McWeeney said that while "well fortified", Bank of the Bahamas International would move in the next 24 months to adjust "the composition" of its \$117.187 million in net equity as at September 30, 2011.

Speaking in the wake of Bank of the Bahamas International unveiling a \$1.09 million profit for the three months to that date, Mr McWeeney told Tribune Business that too much emphasis was being placed on the fact that a \$1.231 million preference share dividend payment left ordinary shareholders with a small loss for the quarter.

He explained that the dividend payment, which was not made in the first quarter of the bank's previous financial year, was a "timing" issue related to when the Central Bank of the

Bahamas, under the regulator's new rules, approved the dividend payment.

The Central Bank now has to pre-approve dividend payments or any other changes to a bank's capital base, and Mr McWeeney said: "It's just a matter of when we submit the request and get that approved. Even if we send it in prior to the due date, we're at the mercy of the Central Bank.

"We did make a good profit. It just happened that as the timing was different, it went to the preference shareholders who take on more risk. At the end of 12 months, the distribution of earnings will always be equitable, as it has been for 19 years."

Mr McWeeney said Bank of the Bahamas International's major first quarter achievement lay in producing a profit despite suffering a 75 basis point margin squeeze on interest income (spreads) as a result of the Bahamian Prime rate cut earlier this year.

"Unlike other banks, we have the customer the benefit immediately of the reduction in the Prime rate," he explained. "That is a 75 basis point spread cut off a \$600 million-plus loan book. Most of our loans are tied to Prime, as we have very few consumer loans, and it takes at least six months to recalibrate deposit rates."

Given that relatively high non-performing loan levels and increased provisioning

were likely to be with the Bahamian commercial banking industry for some time, Bank of the Bahamas International is continuing moves to diversify its revenue streams.

"We're focusing a lot on electronic banking and credit card processing over the next few years, the heavy volume transaction-type businesses, not to mention Automated Banking Machines (ABMs)."

The ABMs, being rolled out under the 'BOB Express' moniker, are multi-lingual, being especially tailored for areas such as Carmichael with "large populations and different cultures". Through enhanced functions and being more consumer friendly, Mr McWeeney said these ABMs would help to "extend the banking market" and provide year-round, 24/7 service.

"Some of the new offsite locations are pretty stand-out and competitive," Mr McWeeney said of the off-site ABM spots. Apart from locations at Phil's Food Services, the Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) and Mario's Bowling, Bank of the Bahamas International had "identified three other off-site locations we're moving on very aggressively at this time.

"We're shying away from bricks and mortar, and putting more emphasis on electronic banking destinations, being a lot more lean, flexible and accessible," the managing director added.

Bank of the Bahamas International is also moving

on its credit card processing platform. "We're meeting with the people from Visa, who are in town right now, looking at how we're going to roll-out new products in the New Year," Mr McWeeney told Tribune Business.

"We've tied down partnerships throughout the world as to how we move forward with that..... We're one of the few banks in the region, possibly there's only one other, that has its own credit card processing facility."

"We're working with several local companies to support the issuance of private label credit cards. We can start doing private label credit cards for customers. We're going to roll-out a whole candy shop of products for customers.

"Credit is down. We know we're going to be in this state for several years, but are going to concentrate on building a new business model."

Mr McWeeney explained Bank of the Bahamas International's new philosophy and business model in the context of the global recession, and its likely medium-term impact on the Bahamian banking market and economy.

"Things will never be as they were," he told Tribune Business. "We keep looking to the past for the future, but we need to create the future. Here we understand what's not going to happen, and what will happen, and based on that thinking we can create a new business model for the bank, which

we are confident is best suited to the evolving financial markets and economies."

Bank of the Bahamas International is also moving to strengthen its balance sheet through capital and liability adjustments.

"We have some plans I don't want to disclose at this point in time, but with the heightened liquidity we may look at redesigning some of the liability elements of the balance sheet to assist in reducing costs," Mr McWeeney said.

"At the same time, the important thing is to make provisions where appropriate. That's the first line of defence against losses, and we're exceptionally well provisioned."

On the capital front, Mr McWeeney said Bank of the Bahamas International's combined regulatory capital was over 23 per cent, "well ahead of the regulatory regime".

"We're well fortified there," he added. "With Basle III, we have to meet that standard. We know we have to revisit the composition of the equity in the near term, but that's something we will work on over the next 24 months."

Mr McWeeney added that the expansion and upgrades to Bank of the Bahamas International's Village Road branch were almost completed, with the final elements - the three self-service stations - set to go in by month's end. Village Road will be used as the model for upgrades to Bank of the Bahamas International's entire branch network.



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.

NOTICE

REICHLICH LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- REICHLICH LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 12th December, 2011 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Dizame Consulting SA, Pasea Estate, Road Town, Tortola, BVI

Dated this 14th day of December, A. D. 2011

Blue Seas Administration Ltd.
Liquidator

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF **GEORGE WILLIAM McCULLAGH** late of Berry in the State of New South Wales, Australia,
Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the above Estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the **13th January, 2012** after which date the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make full settlement on or before the date hereinbefore mentioned.

HIGGS & JOHNSON
Attorneys for the Executors
Chambers
P. O. Box N-3247
Ocean Centre
Montagu Foreshore
East Bay Street
Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **RACHEL JOSEPH of P.O.Box SP-61625, East Street South and Juan's Drive, 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 **15th day of December, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **REDMOND JOHN FRASER of #8 Inspiration Rd., Imperial Park, P.O.Box N-10478, 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 **15th day of December, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

VINAGE LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- VINAGE LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 12th December, 2011 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- The Liquidator of the said company is Dizame Consulting SA, Pasea Estate, Road Town, Tortola, BVI

Dated this 14th day of December, A. D. 2011

Dizame Consulting SA
Liquidator

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF STONESTHROW LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that liquidation of the above company commenced on the 12th day of December, 2011. Octagon Management Limited of Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, The Bahamas has been appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Octagon Management Limited
Liquidator

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF BEAUTIFUL STEF LTD.

Notice is hereby given that liquidation of the above company commenced on the 9th day of December, 2011. Octagon Management Limited of Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, The Bahamas has been appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Octagon Management Limited
Liquidator

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **DIANA GEORGE of Carmichael Rd., P.O.Box N-1072, 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 **15th day of December, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **APRIL SAWYER of #17 Dick's Point, P.O.Box N-1237, 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 **15th day of December, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **RONEL ST.MILE of Carmichael Rd., Nassau, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **15th day of December, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **MERDILUS UTILE of #58 PARKER 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 **8th DAY of DECEMBER 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

BUSINESS

ROBIN HOOD INVESTOR WOE

FROM page 1B

funding never came through. We're in a fight, and God knows I'm a fighter."

Tribune Business understands that the relationship between Mr Pinder and Mr Schaefer effectively broke down last week. That represents a remarkable about-turn in just five months, as Mr Schaefer – as recently as July 18 this year – was extolling the virtues of Mr Pinder and his group of Bahamian investors, who had agreed to buy into the then-struggling retailer.

Confirming that Mr Pinder's group was buying a 48 per cent stake in Robin Hood, and taking out his former Miami-based partner, Suresh Khilnani, Mr Schaefer said then: "It's an all-Bahamian group that is buying. We've signed the agreement for 48 per cent, and I'm waiting for the money."

"They're substantial investors in the Bahamas. Suffice it to say, if there's one good thing coming out of this in the eyes and minds of many, it's that a substantial part of this retailer is coming back to the Bahamas."

It is unclear what impact the break-up with Mr Pinder will have on Robin Hood and its 100-plus employees, especially as they head into the all-important Christmas season for retailers, but Mr Schaefer said there were other investors interested in buying into the Tonique Williams Darling Highway-based retailer.

"Clearly, it has a deleterious affect on any business when you're in negotiations for 15 months, and funds are promised and promised, but never materialise," he told Tribune Business.

"This break-up has happened and we are no longer together, but I am encouraged to find there are other peo-

ple interested in investing in Robin Hood.

"I'm confident we'll be able to raise capital to rebuild the company in the vision of what we wanted. But it's a terribly sad experience."

Ever the optimist, Mr Schaefer said Robin Hood was still looking to re-open its second store on Prince Charles Drive, which was closed months after it opened, once the roadworks stemming from the New Providence Road Improvement project came to fruition.

"We're going to do our best to recover," he promised. "We've got some meetings with some good people in the next week. We're hopeful we'll be able to open Robin Hood 2 in a couple of months, once the roadworks are done."

Research by Tribune Business has revealed that Mr Pinder is the "chief financial officer" of a Nevada-incorporated company called the Pros-

pero Group, which is listed on the US "pink sheets" over-the-counter market.

The US Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) initiated administrative proceedings against the Prospero Group in October 2010 for failing to meet its obligations to file timely annual reports since December 15, 2009 (its financial year end being in March).

In describing the Prospero Group, the SEC said it was supposed to have its main executive offices in New York, "but appears to have its primary place of business in Nassau, the Bahamas."

"Prospero purports to be an oil and gas company, and/or multi-faceted business operation with investments in resort development, malaria treatments and water purification."

The Prospero Group, though, did file its annual report for 2010, with the statements signed off by Mr Pin-

der. The company made a \$571,182 net loss for the year to March 31, 2010, compared to a \$46,660 net loss the year before. From its incorporation in July 2002, the Prospero Group has lost a collec-

tion of \$4.446 million.

The financial statements also refer to a company called Cavitation Concepts. Mr Pinder and this latter entity swam into Tribune Business's radar view in 2003, when they were

forced by the Securities Commission to withdraw an investment offering seeking to raise \$2 million because, by holding a press conference to publicise it, they had made it a "public offering."

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2004/CLE/gen/00817

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law and Equity Division

BETWEEN

BANK OF THE BAHAMAS LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND

NOEL CHRISTOPHER O'BRIEN

Defendant

TO: NOEL CHRISTOPHER O'BRIEN

TAKE NOTICE that:

1. An action has been commenced against you by the Bank of The Bahamas in the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas by an Amended Writ of Summons filed on the 22nd day of November, A.D., 2011 being Action No. 2004/CLE/gen/00817, wherein the Plaintiff's claim is for the principal sum of \$109,281.17 and \$2,062.72 being interest due under a demand loan dated the 2nd day of June, A.D., 2004.
2. It has been ordered that service of the Amended Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement.
3. You must within Twenty-one (21) days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication, acknowledge service of the said Amended Writ by filing a Memorandum of Appearance at the Registry of the Supreme Court, British American Building, 1st Floor, Marlborough Street, Nassau, The Bahamas and by serving the said Memorandum of Appearance on the Attorneys whose name and address appear below, otherwise Judgment may be entered against you.

Dated this 7th day of December, A. D., 2011.

.....*Halsbury Chambers*.....

HALSBURY CHAMBERS
HALSBURY COMMERCIAL CENTRE
VILLAGE ROAD NORTH
P. O. BOX CR-56766, SUITE #548
NASSAU, N.P., THE BAHAMAS.
ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF.

Julius Bär

Julius Baer Group, the leading dedicated Wealth Management is seeking candidates for the position of:

Regional Chief Operation Officer
Latin America

Main objectives

The main responsibilities of the Chief Operation Officers Latin America ("COO Latin America") are to manage and/or supervise the operational functions of offices Julius Baer Group throughout Latin America. Depending on the size and characteristics of each office, these functions may include Back Office operation, IT and Logistics, Security Function, Finance, Compliance, General Services and special projects. Management and/or supervision of these functions as detailed below may require interaction and collaboration with operational functions at Head Quarter. The COO will ensure coordination with COO at HQ when and if required.

Operations and Back Office: Supervise and manage operational staff and daily banking business / transactions, reporting on monthly activity and liaise with Head Office for ad-hoc requests and/or projects.

Finance: Supervise the accounting and finance team, facilitate the implementation of new accounting tools, rules and procedures, periodic reporting with Group Finance & Accounting.

Compliance: Supervise the compliance team's activity, ensure proper release and implementation of new policies and procedures

Human Resources: Assist CEO/MD and HR staff with Year End Process, Employee data & files, payroll, Pension Fund etc. and ensure ongoing coordination with relevant HR manager located in Switzerland as substitute to Resident Manager

Special Projects management: Liaise with JB HQ and coordinate planned current and future projects in the areas of IT, Front End systems, HR, premises and others as see fit.

Experience:
 Minimum 7-10 years in International Private Banking Operations or related field

Education:
 A Bachelor's degree with concentration in Economic, Business Administration or equivalent.

Foreign Languages:
 Must speak English and Spanish; a third language would be an asset

We offer a very competitive compensation and benefits package, a stimulating work environment and the opportunity to make a significant contribution to our business while expanding your career.

Interested candidates should forward a copy of their resume by December 23rd, 2011 to the attention of:

BY HAND	BY MAIL
Personal & Confidential	Personal & Confidential
Human Resources	Human Resources
Ocean Centre, Montague Foreshore	P.O. Box N-4890
East Bay Street	Nassau, Bahamas
P.O. Box N-4890	
Nassau, Bahamas	

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT UTILITIES REGULATION AND COMPETITION AUTHORITY (URCA)

ABOUT THE COMPANY:

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority ("URCA") of The Bahamas is seeking to employ three suitably qualified individuals to fill the following posts: (A) Human Resources Manager, (B) Senior Case Officer, Technical and (C) Assistant Case Officer, Economics. All positions will be based in The Bahamas. Position (A) will report to the Chief Executive Officer or designate and positions (B) and (C) will report to the Director of Policy and Regulation or designate at URCA.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE: Human Resources Manager:

- Must have a Bachelors degree in Human Resources or suitable professional qualification from an accredited university/college A Masters degree is desirable
- Must have worked in relevant discipline/function for at least 7 years
- Previous experience in the implementation of performance management and transformation or change programmes generally, and works in regulated companies; utilities or consulting firms will be an advantage.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE - Senior Case Officer, Technical:

- Must have a Masters degree in Electronic or Electrical Engineering or Telecommunications from an accredited university/college; Bachelors degree in above fields may be considered
- Minimum of eight (8) years work experience in the electronic communications industry, consulting or regulation
- Experience working as an Electronic or Electrical Engineer or Technical Lead gained in the communications industry, or direct experience of working for a communications regulator will be an advantage
- Qualifications and or exposure in Telecommunications and other Utility sectors will be an asset
- Experience in the regulation of a competitive communications market, including access and interconnection regulation, and the design and interpretation of multiple voice and data networks technologies (e.g., TCP/IP, multi-layer LAN switching, Wireless, NGN, cable and pay TV) will be an asset

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE - Assistant Case Officer, Economics:

- Minimum of a Bachelor degree from an accredited University/College in Economics or Economics and Finance
- Three (3) to five (5) years work experience in the field of Economics or Economics and Finance
- Experience gained in the communications industry, or direct experience of working for a communications regulator will be an advantage.
- Qualifications and or exposure in competition economics will be an asset.

REMUNERATION & DEADLINE:

The URCA is a performance driven organization and offers a competitive and attractive remuneration and benefits package and opportunities for further training and career experience. For an expanded version of the requirements of the roles and more information about URCA, please visit our website: www.urbahamas.bs.

Interested applicants should email their resume to: info@orgsoul.com. Application deadline date is **December 30th, 2011**. Only applicants who have been short-listed and have the qualifications and experience will be contacted. Thank you for your interest.

BUSINESS

HOW TO ACHIEVE A COMPLETE PACKAGE BAHAMAS' EXPORTS TO US DECLINE 6.4%

FROM page 2B
 your packaging is just a chunk of colourful noise or otherwise. Take the time to learn about your ideal target and then communicate effectively. Getting your concept right is the most important part of the process, and will help your sales.

If the sales of your product are important to your profits, you should not "compromise" on your design, as it is not good business sense to invest in packaging if it is evident it would not be competitive. Take the time to make a good choice and do it right. So until we meet again, have fun, enjoy life and stay on top of your game.

• **NB:** The columnist welcomes feedback at deedee2111@hotmail.com
About the Columnist: Ms Bastian is an extensively trained graphic designer who has qualifications of M.Sc., B.Sc., A.Sc. She has trained at institutions such as: Miami Lakes Technical Centre, Success Training College, College of the Bahamas, Nova Southeastern University, Learning Tree International, Langevine International and Synergy Bahamas.

READER FEEDBACK
Hi Ms Bastian:
 I really appreciate the advice you render to us young and up-coming business individuals. The informative articles are always invaluable,

and I loved the article you posted in The Tribune in reference to personalities, *Originality comes with Personality*. To me it gave us readers a new way to put our business plans/outlook in perspective. It helps us to figure out: "What impressions we want to give our customers?", and offers more detail to the approach of our customers and whether we wish to remain lazy, brainy, a show-off, enduring, or ingenious, etc.

But like your signature line says at the end of every article: "Until we meet again, have fun, enjoy life and stay on top of your game." You make it so much easier for us to do all of that. Again, thanks for your invaluable graphic and business advice because evidently it keeps us on top of our game!

Ms. Shoron Miller
 C.O.B Student
 Nassau, Bahamas

Hi Dee:
 I like the article (Designers Personalities), very interesting. Good job Dee!

Regards,
 Jaymes "Jay" Darling
 Nassau, Bahamas

FROM page 1B
 the Bahamas.

"The future effects of increases in imports under CBERA from the Bahamas on the US economy are likely to be minimal, largely because the Bahamas is, and is likely to remain in the near term, a very small supplier to the US market," the report said.

"Foreign direct investment in the Bahamas has largely been directed into the country's tourism and financial services sectors. Foreign direct investment in the Bahamas was \$499 million in 2010, down from \$839 million in 2008. Little of that was reported to have been directed to the production of CBERA-eligible goods."

Foreign direct investment into the Bahamas in 2010 was almost 25 per cent down on the \$664 received during 2009, and 40.5 per cent behind 2008 levels. That, though, should pick up for 2011 due to the \$2.6 billion Baha Mar project.

When it came to Polymers International's polystyrene products, the US report said they saw an increase in Customs value of 1.6 per cent year-over-year in 2010, compared to a 30.7 per cent fall in

2009. The quantity of US imports of Polymers' Grand Bahama-made products dropped by 2.5 per cent, a reduced rate from 2009's 12.5 per cent decline, but their unit value staged a 4.1 per cent recovery last year. In 2009, the unit value of Polymers' exports fell 20.8 per cent.

"In 2010, US imports under CBERA of expandable polystyrene in primary forms accounted for 59.4 per cent of total US imports of other mining and manufacturing products under CBERA," the US report added.

"The Bahamas was the only source of US imports of this product. US imports of expandable polystyrene in primary form increased 1.6 per cent in 2010 to \$95.4 million, after a 30.7 per cent decline in 2009. The decrease in these imports in 2009 to \$93.9 million involved declines in unit value, which fell 20.9 per cent, and volume, which fell 12.5 per cent."

And it added: **"Polystyrene from the Bahamas provided the second-largest gain in consumer surplus (\$5.4-\$5.7 million). Without CBERA,**

the import price of polystyrene would have been as much as 6 per cent higher."

As a percentage of total Caribbean exports to the US under the CBERA, the Bahamas' share fell by one percentage point, from 7.8 per cent to 6.8 per cent.

"The Bahamas accounted for 6.8 per cent of the value of US imports from CBERA countries. About one-half of these imports consisted of refined petroleum products," the US report said.

"US imports from the Bahamas increased by 23.9 per cent in 2009 to \$738 million, and decreased 6.4 per cent to \$691 million in 2010, almost exclusively because of the changes in the value of imports of refined petroleum products."

Bahamian exports for US consumption, likely crawfish, rose by 2.5 per cent year-over-year in 2010, hitting \$99 million compared to \$96.5 million the year before.

Bahamian exports for consumption accounted for 3.4 per cent of the total exported by Caribbean countries under the CBERA, a 0.7 percentage point fall compared to 2009's 4.1 per cent.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2010
IN THE SUPREME COURT No. 376

Equity Side

IN THE MATTER OF ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land containing 7,467 sq. ft. situate on the northern side of Northeast side by land said to be Jeffrey Russell and on the Southeast by Jumbay Street and about 92 ft west of Windsor Place Drive and on the Southwest by land said to be Roy Burrows and on the Northwest by land said to be the estate of Ben Darville in Nassau Village in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

AND
IN THE MATTER of the Quieting Titles Act, 1959

AND
IN THE MATTER of the Petition of Daniel Ritchie, Jr.

NOTICE

The Petition of Daniel Ritchie Jr. in respect of ALL THAT piece parcel of lot of land containing 7,467 sq. ft. situate on the northern side of Jumbay Street and being about 92 feet west of Windsor Place Drive in the subdivision of Nassau Village in the Eastern District of the island of New Providence in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas which said piece parcel or lot of land is bounded on the NORTHWEST jointly by Lots Numbers 32 and 33 of Windsor Place and running thereon respectively Nineteen and fifty-four hundredths (19.54) feet and Thirty-two and Seventy-one hundredths (32.71) feet on the NORTHEAST by land the property of one Jeffrey Russell and running thereon One hundred and Sixty-two and Twenty-eight hundredths (162.28) feet on the SOUTHEAST by Jumbay Street and running thereon Fifty-six and Thirty-two hundredths (56.32) feet and on the SOUTHWEST by land the property of one Roy Burrows and running thereon One Hundred and Thirty-six and Sixty hundredths (136.60) feet which said piece parcel or lot of land has a duplex apartment building and a store room thereon which said piece parcel or lot of land is more particularly described on or by the plan or diagram filed in this action as Number 5247 N.P. and thereon coloured Pink.

The Petitioner, Daniel Ritchie Jr., claims to the legal and beneficial owner of the fee simple estate in possession of ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land hereinbefore described and the Petitioner has made application to the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas under Section 3 of the Quieting Titles Act, 1959, to have its title to the said land investigated. Copies of the filed plan may be inspected during normal working hour at:-

- (a) The Registry of the Supreme Court, Second Floor, British American Building, Marlborough Street, Nassau, N.P. Bahamas; or
- (b) The Chambers of J. Hall and Associates, Second Floor, Malcolm Building, Bay Street and Victoria Avenue, Nassau, N.P., Bahamas.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having dower or right to dower or any adverse claim or claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the 15th day of January, A.D. 2012, file in the Registry of the Supreme Court and serve on the Petitioner or the undersigned a statement of such claim in the prescribed form and verified by an affidavit to be filed therewith. Failure of any such person to file and serve a statement of such claim on or before the 15th day of January, A.D., 2012, will operate as a bar to such claim.

J HALL & ASSOCIATES,
 Chambers,
 Malcolm Building,
 Bay Street & Victoria Ave.,
 Nassau, Bahamas.

Attorneys for the Petitioner

Job Opportunity

Hotel Chief Maintenance Engineer

The Chief Maintenance Engineer is responsible for maintaining the overall operation of the maintenance department and the appearance and working order of the hotel.

The successful candidate must be able to work independently, as well as, with others. Responsibilities include but limited to: maintaining the exterior of the building, parking lot, and common areas, maintaining all equipment in guest rooms, conducting daily, weekly and monthly safety inspections and training the staff on safety and emergency procedures, and working with vendors. The Chief Maintenance Engineer must be willing to respond to emergencies, even if after hours, and work with corporate maintenance on special remodeling projects or capital expenditure needs. This position requires overall maintenance knowledge and trouble shooting ability with skills in painting, HVAC, carpentry, equipment, and tool usage. A minimum of five years experience is required.

Qualified persons need only apply to:
chiefmaintenancemanager@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **RAMONA A. NIXON MUNROE** of St.Lucia Crescent, Elizabeth Estates mother of **RAVANNA ELIZABETH SANDS** a minor, intends to change his name to **RAVANNA ELIZABETH MUNROE**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Chief Passport Officer, P.O.Box N-742, Nassau, Bahamas, within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

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 Butterfield Bank (Bahamas) Limited
 Montague Sterling Centre, East Bay Street,
 P.O. Box N-3242, Nassau, Bahamas
 Tel (242) 393 8622
debbie.higgs@bs.butterfieldgroup.com

www.butterfieldgroup.com



THE BAHAMAS | BARBADOS | BERMUDA | CAYMAN ISLANDS | GUERNSEY | SWITZERLAND | UNITED KINGDOM

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: WEDNESDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2011										
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,342.33 CHG 0.08 %CHG 0.01 YTD -157.18 YTD % -10.48										
FINDEX: YEAR END 2008 -12.31%										
WWW.BISXBHAMA.COM TELEPHONE: 242-677-BISX (2479) FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320										
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.19	0.97	AML Foods Limited	1.18	1.18	0.00	0.148	0.040	8.0	3.39%	
10.63	9.05	Bahamas Property Fund	10.63	10.63	0.00	-0.642	0.080	-16.6	0.75%	
7.50	4.40	Bank of Bahamas	6.24	6.24	0.00	-0.230	0.100	27.1	1.60%	
0.53	0.17	Benchmark	0.18	0.18	0.00	-0.048	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
2.65	2.50	Bahamas Waste	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.030	0.090	90.0	3.33%	
1.06	1.77	Fidelity Bank	1.77	1.77	0.00	0.097	0.070	18.2	3.99%	
10.46	8.29	Cable Bahamas	8.38	8.38	0.00	0.245	0.320	34.2	3.82%	
2.80	2.33	Colina Holdings	2.60	2.60	0.00	0.438	0.040	5.9	1.54%	
8.50	8.33	Commonwealth Brewery	8.50	8.50	0.00	0.740	0.000	11.5	0.00%	
7.00	6.21	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	6.51	6.51	0.00	0.496	0.320	13.1	4.92%	
2.00	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs	1.56	1.64	0.08	0.111	0.045	14.8	2.74%	
1.55	1.24	Doctor's Hospital	1.24	1.24	0.00	-0.074	-0.040	16.8	3.23%	
5.50	4.75	Fairguard	5.43	5.43	0.00	0.498	0.240	10.9	4.42%	
7.50	4.50	Finco	4.71	4.71	0.00	0.757	0.000	6.2	0.00%	
9.39	7.75	CIBC FirstCaribbean Bank	8.14	8.14	0.00	0.494	0.350	16.5	4.30%	
4.80	4.80	Fool Class B	4.80	4.80	0.00	0.435	0.230	11.0	4.58%	
1.00	1.00	Fool Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
7.30	5.58	IGD Utilities	7.30	7.30	0.00	-0.122	0.240	-59.8	3.29%	
10.80	9.80	J. S. Johnson	9.82	9.82	0.00	0.880	0.640	11.2	6.52%	
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00	1.207	0.260	8.3	2.00%	
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)										
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity		
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029		
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017		
1.6128	1.5289	CFAL Money Market Fund		1.6116	-0.0012		Prime + 1.75%	5-Aug-11		
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series C) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013		
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015		
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00					
RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)										
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
0.55	0.40	Bahamas Supermarkets	N/A	N/A	14.00		-2.545	0.000	N/M	0.00%
		0.40 RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)										
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.65	0.75	0.40		0.029	0.000	24.13	0.00%
BISX Listed Mutual Funds										
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD %	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date		
1.6779	1.4674	CFAL Bond Fund	1.577926	3.39%	5.87%	1.548717	1.535365	31-Jul-11		
3.0248	2.9020	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	3.0248	2.63%	3.94%	2.981382	2.952663	31-Jul-11		
1.5289	1.5289	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.6116	2.51%	4.53%	1.591903	1.590804	5-Aug-11		
2.7202	2.5398	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.4974	-8.19%	-7.45%			30-Oct-11		
13.8493	13.3578	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.9180	4.19%	5.21%			31-Oct-11		
114.1289	99.4177	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.0922	2.35%	13.88%	114.128861	111.469744	30-Jun-11		
118.4255	101.8693	CFAL Global Equity Fund	118.4255	2.30%	8.26%	118.580785	115.762221	30-Jun-11		
1.1749	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1877	3.59%	4.94%			30-Sep-11		
1.1343	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.1415	2.09%	4.07%			30-Sep-11		
1.1764	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1890	3.47%	5.04%			30-Sep-11		
9.9952	9.5078	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protector TIGRS, Series 1	9.9433	0.98%	4.58%			31-May-11		
11.0885	9.8950	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protector TIGRS, Series 2	10.3596	-6.26%	-2.65%			30-Nov-11		
10.6613	9.7395	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protector TIGRS, Series 3	10.0031	-0.22%	3.51%			30-Nov-11		
8.8504	7.8830	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	8.6507	-0.21%	18.38%			31-Jul-11		
MARKET TERMS										
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00										
52wk-HI - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks										
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks										
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume										
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume										
Change - Change in closing price from day to day										
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today										
DIV \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months										
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 months earnings										
S1 - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/9/2007										
S11 - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007										
YIELD - Last 12 month dividends divided by closing price										
Bid \$ - Buying price of Coins and Fidelity										
Ask \$ - Selling price of Coins and Fidelity										
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price										
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week										
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 months										
NAV - Net Asset Value										
N/M - Not Meaningful										
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100										
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-336-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-366-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525										