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Volume: 108 No.25

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2011

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**INSIGHT**

## WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THE MEDIA?



SEE INSIGHT ON PAGE 12B

**NFL FOOTBALL: MIAMI DOLPHINS**

## FIRST WIN FOR NEW COACH



SEE SPORTS SECTION E

# Mystery after skeleton found

## Investigation launched into man's death

By **SANCHESKA BROWN**  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
sbrown@tribunemedia.net

**SKELETAL** remains, believed to be that of a man, were discovered in a marshy area of Sea Breeze yesterday evening.

Police say the bones were uncovered by men who were bird shooting near the Sea Breeze canal.

Superintendent Paul Rolle, officer in charge of the homicide division, said the discovery was made around 5:30pm in the western portion of the Sea Breeze canal.

"My officers are still investigating and combing the area. So far, they have recovered a skull with some hair. Right now, we can't say the sex of the skull or how long it was there. We will continue to search the marshy area for other possible body parts," he said.

A source close to the inves-

tigation said the skull appeared to have been there for quite some time but from the facial impressions it is more than likely to be the skull of a man.

Police investigations continue.

This discovery comes two weeks after Baha Mar workers unexpectedly unearthed a human hand during routine road works.

At that time, Superintendent Stephen Dean said police were still in the preliminary stages of the investigation.

A police source said since the discovery officers have been digging in the area where the hand was found, looking for other body parts.

The hand was discovered near Superclubs Breezes resort on December 7, coincidentally close to the former

See page 15

## STARTING CHRISTMAS ON THE RIGHT NOTE



**THE ROYAL BAHAMAS** Police Force Band's Beat Retreat, performed every year in Rawson Square, attracted a large crowd, as well as a host of civic dignitaries. For more pictures, see page 18.

Photo: **Tim Clarke/Tribune Staff**

## REWARD OFFER TO FIND WOMAN

By **SANCHESKA BROWN**  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
sbrown@tribunemedia.net

THE family of Anya Wilmott, pictured, the 22-year-old mother of two who disappeared last month, is offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to "finding her alive or dead".

Anya's mother, Antoinette Newton, said the family is

See page 15

## PM: ROADS PROJECT NOT \$40M OVER BUDGET

By **SANCHESKA BROWN**  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
sbrown@tribunemedia.net

PRIME Minister Hubert Ingraham dismissed reports that the New Providence Road Improvement Project is over budget by \$40 million.

Stating that the road works would have been less costly had it not been shelved by the previous administration, Mr Ingraham said the inaccurate figure was leaked from a committee within the House of Assembly.

Mr Ingraham spoke at the signing of a loan agreement with the Inter-American

Development Bank worth a combined \$131 million on Friday.

The money will be used on water supply and sanitation upgrades and an air transport reform programme.

The Prime Minister said: "The newspapers have been carrying some stories that have been leaked to it by members of the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Assembly who have given you inaccurate information, but you continue to put it forward as fact."

"The truth is the cost that

See page 16

## POLICE HAVE 'SIGNIFICANT' LEADS OVER SHOOTING

POLICE say they are following significant leads in their investigation into the murder of 25-year-old Tyson Deveaux.

Superintendent Paul Rolle, head of the Central Detective Unit, yesterday confirmed that no one has been taken into custody in connection with the fatal shooting Wednesday morning.

Deveaux was walking on Bahama Avenue, off Blue Hill Road, shortly after 8am when he was approached by an armed man who opened fire on him. He died at the scene.

According to police, the

See page 15

## ONE DEAD, ONE PARALYSED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

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

ONE man is dead and another seriously injured in two separate traffic accidents over the weekend.

The first occurred when Abaco police were alerted to a serious car collision at 3:10 am on Sunday, which resulted in the death of a 20-year-old man.

As the man drove on Don McKay Boulevard, police believe he lost control of his red 2007 Nissan Tida and crashed into a wall near the B & L Plaza in Marsh Harbour.

He was then thrown from the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene by a local doctor.

Police Superintendent Noelle Curry said that while they do know who the victim is, the family has yet to posi-

## See page 15 ANGLICAN PRIEST DIES, AGED 78

BELOVED Anglican priest Neil Roach died in Doctor's Hospital over the weekend from a heart related illness.

Known as the longest serving rector of Holy Cross Anglican Parish, Canon Roach died at noon on Saturday. He was 78.

The retired associate priest of Christ the King Church was described as a person of great influence. He was renowned for his role in the country's development.

It is understood that attempts were being made to fly him to Texas where there

See page 16

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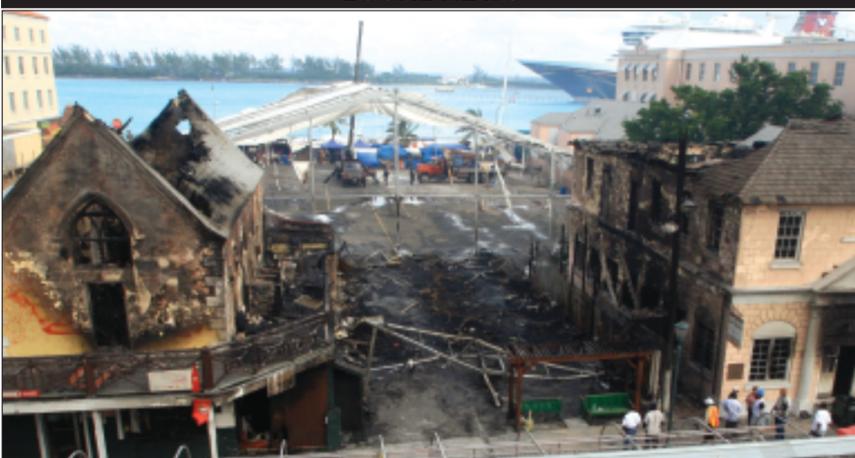
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**RBC Royal Bank**

LOCAL NEWS



THE AFTERMATH of the fire at the start of this month, which destroyed the Pompey Museum, right.

# Museum to rebuild

THE Pompey Museum of Slavery and Emancipation, which is operated by the National Museum of The Bahamas/Antiquities, Monuments and Museum Corporation was destroyed by fire during the early hours of Friday morning, December 2.

The fire extensively damaged the interior of the two-storey building and the western and southern exterior walls leaving much rubble and debris in the aftermath.

The museum is located in the historic Vendue House at the juncture of Bay and George Streets.

Originally used as a mar-

ket place for the town of Nassau, the building constructed of cut-limestone blocks dates to around 1769. Slaves were among the commodities sold from Vendue House. The museum was opened at this site in 1992 and an exhibition entitled "The Road to Freedom: Slavery in The Bahamas" was mounted.

On September 4, 2001, the building was damaged in the Bay Street fire. As a result of the fire, it was evacuated. At the time of the fire, staff and ancillary services demonstrated their preparedness as over 97 per cent of all of the collections on display and stored were saved.

The museum was restored and reopened in June 2004 and two major exhibitions have been mounted over the years, "A Slave Ship Speaks: The Wreck of the Henrietta Marie" followed by the "Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery" created by the Schomburg Institute for Research in Black Culture to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery in the new world.

Over the years, the museum has amassed a significant collection of rare books on the subject of slavery and related topics. Its object collection includes slave shackles of different kinds, a whip, cloth dolls, coins and West African trading beads of note.

There was also a mural depicting Parliament Square

and Bay Street during the 1850s. The mural was created during the 1960s to adorn the walls of the newly opened branch of City Bank located on the ground floor of the Adderley Building. This regrettably was totally destroyed by fire along with all of the information panels and all of the historic documents.

The wooden artifacts, including a slave bed and musket were badly charred and they along with other wooden pieces will need conservation. On display were two cloth dolls, although damaged one survived the fire. The Department of Archives is assisting with cleaning of the book collection, some of them are wet and others were covered with soot and smelled of the smoke. The metal objects, including slave shackles, a double transportation slave collar, and crab style runaway collar are being cleaned and have minimal damage. Over all, 90 per cent of the objects were saved even though a small percentage of them are damaged and all of the books in the special collection were saved even though some of them have some water damage.

The staff of the National Museum of The Bahamas was on hand to secure the objects. The museum's curator gave special thanks to the maintenance crew who packed and transported the objects to safety. The Fire Department especially the officers who entered the building and retrieved the objects are to be commended.

"We at the National Museum of The Bahamas are especially grateful for the outpouring of support and concern expressed by Bahamians at large and in the very near future we plan to provide an opportunity for further public involvement through a Restore Pompey Museum Campaign," said Mrs Kim Outten-Stubbs, the museum's chief curator.

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LOCAL NEWS

# 'If this had happened to me in New York, I would have died'

When New Yorker Helen Kaufman came to visit her family in Grand Bahama, it could have had a terrible ending - if it wasn't for the tireless efforts of medical staff who came to her aid when she suffered a heart attack. So good was the medical assistance that she said if she had been in New York, she would have been dead. Here, in a letter to *The Tribune*, her family tells the story of her treatment.



EDITOR, *The Tribune*.

This letter is about a gift of life given to my family by the doctors (private and government), nurses at the Rand ICU and the remarkable EMS in Freeport.

Over the years, people have been heard to say: "Don't get sick in Freeport"; "medical care in Freeport is non-existent". For the most part, this is from foreigners, ex-pats and, yes, sometimes Bahamians.

My mother came to Grand Bahama Island several weeks ago to spend the holidays with her family. We were so pleased that this healthy 93-year-old woman would fly here from New York City to spend this time with her family who live here — her son, daughter, grandsons, and great granddaughters.

On Monday, December 5th, she had chest pains and her jaw hurt. We found out later that this is symptomatic of a heart attack in women.

Mother asked me to take her to the Rand. Because we know how busy the ER is, we went to see Kevin Bethel, MD (right across the street from the hospital) to have the symptoms assessed. He confirmed that she had a heart attack and that we had to get her to the Rand.

The EMS was called and the ambulance was there in less than two minutes. My mother was frightened, but EMS personnel Justin Hepburn and Arnold Russell were



THE MEDICAL TEAM transport Mrs Helen Kaufman and get her safely aboard the plane to Fort Lauderdale.

calm and reassuring and explained everything to her and eased her concerns. She was brought to the trauma area at the ER and was then admitted to ICU.

Mother remained in ICU, was administered stabilising drugs, where there are four beds and 24-hour care. She was awestruck at the care provided by Petrona Campbell, RN, Mariselle Aguilar, RN and all the nurses in ICU under the watchful eyes of Deputy Nursing Officer Mrs Audrey Rolle.

Dr Edwards was in charge of her care and monitored her, along with her huge case load, and Dr Ohueyi and Dr Ibaceba.

We cannot say enough about Dr Forbes, mother's cardiologist. He knew what had to be done. He didn't want her to have another heart attack. Her episodes of discomfort were increasing and he said, without alarming her, that she needed to be airlifted to hospital in Florida,

whether the Cleveland Clinic or University Hospital in Miami — it was her choice.

This is where his explanation made sense and reassured my mother: if she were in New York with her own doctor or here with Dr Forbes, neither one would be the doctors to perform an angioplasty. This procedure can only be done by doctors that perform these procedures all the time. She would not know the surgeon in New York and she wouldn't know the surgeon in Florida.

On Saturday, December 10th, Dr Forbes said that she had to go that day. He didn't stop, he moved mountains. He was on the phone with me at 11:50pm Saturday evening and said that the Air Ambulance from Nassau would be landing in Freeport by 1am. Our Freeport EMS (Venesha Bartlett and Richard Swain on board the ambulance) went to the airport to pick up the Flight Doctor, Dr Allick, and the paramedic.

They brought them to the Rand, where they hooked mother up to all the machines, put her on a gurney, back onto the ambulance and onto the plane (20 minutes). We arrived in Ft Lauderdale in 22 minutes. An ambulance ordered by the Cleveland Clinic was there.

The flight doctor and paramedic got on the US ambulance with my mother, brought her to the ER at the Cleveland Clinic, got her registered, made sure she was hooked up to everything and then left. My mother could not believe that all this happened so quickly and professionally.

On Monday, December 12th, Dr Forbes' recommended surgeon took care of the three blockages in mother's arteries. "She's all fixed," the doctor reported.

We got back to Freeport on Thursday, December 15th. Here is the quote from

watching mother get her strength back, there was a knock on the door and EMS delivered beautiful flowers to my mother (from their own funds). She was all smiles. There were hugs all around.

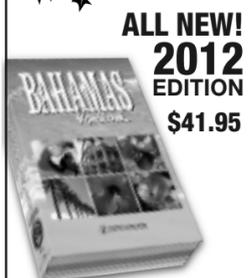
Thank you all for giving our mother, grandmother and great grandmother back to us for the holidays. We love you all.

**Karen Clarke, John and Wendy Gehr and all the rest of the family on Grand Bahama Island.**

Grand Bahama, December 18, 2011.

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HAPPY FEET 2	A	1:15	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:40
IMMORTALS	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:40
JACK AND JILL	T	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:35	10:50
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PUSS IN BOOTS 3D	B	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:30
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## Proposal testing views on casinos

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — Despite its status as a Bible Belt state, Arkansas has gradually shed its opposition to most forms of gambling. With lottery tickets, charitable bingo games, race tracks and video poker now a regular part of life, the state has embraced nearly every form of wagering — except casinos.

A Texas businessman's proposed constitutional amendment could test that stance, but getting it onto the ballot could be a longshot.

Michael Wasserman says he plans to start gathering signatures in February for a proposed constitutional amendment that would grant him exclusive rights to build and operate casinos in Boone, Crittenden, Garland, Jefferson, Miller, Pulaski and Sebastian counties — in border towns and population centres. It's the third time the owner of Arkansas Hotels and Entertainment Inc. has had his proposal certified — the first before gathering the more than 78,000 signatures needed to place his measure on the ballot.

The biggest factor Wasserman has in his favour is a much friendlier environment for gambling than when he first proposed casinos in 2006.

Even though voters rejected casino initiatives in 1996 and 2000, they approved charity-run bingo games and raffles in 2006. Gambling long has been allowed at the Oaklawn Park horse track in Hot Springs and at Southland Park, a greyhound track in West Memphis. Video blackjack, poker and other electronic games of skill were added to the tracks in late 2006.

Arkansas voters have expanded gambling even further, a state-run lottery to raise money for college scholarships was authorized in 2008.

Wasserman said he believes voters were already open to the idea of casinos, but said the passage of the bingo and lottery measures reinforces the idea that Arkansans may support expanding gambling if they see how it'll benefit the state. "I know the voters are open to it," Wasserman said.

The biggest obstacle Wasserman may face is organisation. In 2006, he stopped his campaign after his sister died. At the time, he said, he had gathered at least 78,000 signatures and was confident he could have gathered more than enough to put the proposal before voters. He had hoped to gather between 120,000 and 130,000.

He tried again in 2010, but missed the

deadline to submit his petitions.

This time, Wasserman says he's relying on paid signature gatherers and is confident they can get the work done in time. If he can, he says, he'll point to the jobs and tax revenue that would be created by the casinos and the business they'd bring.

"Of all the businesses you could have that would benefit the state, this seems the most logical because it touches so many different people and so many different industries," he said.

For now, gambling opponents say they don't view Wasserman's proposal as a major threat and point to his unsuccessful attempts in the past to get it on the ballot. But that doesn't mean they're not keeping a close eye on the measure.

Jerry Cox, head of the Family Council, said he doubts Wasserman will get his proposal on the ballot next year. But Cox still issued a statement criticising the measure the day after Attorney General Dustin McDaniel certified the proposed amendment's language.

If it does reach the ballot, Cox said his group will probably have to go beyond a strictly anti-casino message. The group unsuccessfully tried to tie the lottery to fears about it opening the door to casino gambling when voters backed the games to pay for college scholarships in 2008. That means reaching out to those who might otherwise back the idea of casinos or other gambling.

"The people that would decide such an issue are the ones who are in the mushy middle who are trying to make up their mind and are asking, is this good for Arkansas?" Cox said. "An appealing message to those people would be even if you're for casinos, are you for this kind of proposal?"

Wasserman pushes back against Cox's criticism that he's trying to write himself into the constitution to make a profit. He acknowledges that he hopes to make a profit with the casinos, but said he's also trying to bring benefits to the state as well.

No matter how it fares, Wasserman's proposal indicates how difficult of a fight gambling opponents may face in the future. If the key to defeating his proposal is swaying those who aren't normally casino opponents, what happens if a more direct proposal comes along?

"I think that if a clean well-written measure were to come along, it would be problematic," Cox said. "I'm not sure we would lose, but I wouldn't predict victory."

By Andrew DeMillo, Associated Press

# Ambition without ability

EDITOR, The Tribune.

THE ambition to be without the ability to do. These are the words commercialised on a local radio station. How powerful these words are. Is this the reason for the state of affairs in our country? Let's take a closer look.

The word ambition means goal, desire, determination, drive, get up and go and aspiration. I am of the view that every human being has ambition. But is ambition enough? Can ambition alone take you through?

In 1933, Adolf Hitler became the chancellor of Germany. This was a move that would change the course of history because Hitler's intentions were no secret. He wanted to exterminate all Jews and start a 1,000 year reign.

Did Hitler have ambition? Of course. Did he possess the ability to win World War 2 on his decision making? No, he did not. He was not a military strategist but he was making crucial decisions with regards to Germany's war effort. His inability to make proper decisions and realise good advice ultimately led to Germany's demise.

Does this sound familiar? Many of our leaders know how to get to top positions but when they get there, they make a mockery of themselves and the position. This I believe is the crux of the problems in the Bahamas. Let me explain.

## Politics of contradiction

EDITOR, The Tribune.

A YOUNG Opposition Member of Parliament recently blasted the government about the problem the country faces with the ever increasing national debt. He is correct about the borrowing, but as is typical with political hyperbole, he offers no specifics on how to solve the problem or how his party would have handled the world recession.

He then contradicts himself in a newspaper article by asking, "Why invest more borrowed money into the ground, rather than in people?"

Suggesting the country borrow to spend on people refutes his earlier position that the government is borrowing too much.

Of course, inconsistencies

## LETTERS

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surgery on your family member if he had a desire to do so?

Would you fly in a 747 jet from Nassau to Miami if you know a carpenter was at the controls?

Would you allow a carpenter to overhaul your car engine if he told you that he had an itch to do so?

If you answered no to these three questions, then I know that all is not lost in our country.

Would you allow a carpenter then to construct your roof? The answer to this would be yes, I hope, but I trust you would perform due diligence and hire the best carpenter you think can execute the job.

As Bahamians elect union presidents, civic organisation presidents, parent-teachers association presidents and the like I am hopeful that we would take proper action and perform our due diligence. Someone wrote a recent article in one of the dailies and the title was "Collective Shame and Collective Responsibility".

The prevailing wisdom cannot remain that the person is a family member or that he is a lodge brother or that he gives out perks. It cannot be just about the person's ambition only. It should be about his ability as well.

DEHAVILLAND MOSS

Nassau,  
December 14, 2011.

The Public Service has produced many outstanding employees over its tenure. But they have also produced many employees who operated and are still operating at a very low level. How is it that the public service continues to provide poor service, is ineffective and inefficient in its operations and is allowed to continue in its laissez-faire way?

Did you ever consider that the persons charged with this responsibility did not possess and currently do not possess the ability to turn this service into a well-organised machinery?

The fiscal policies that are adopted in the Bahamas leave more questions than answers.

Is our debt increasing or decreasing? Are we in a better position to borrow money today than yesterday? Will we be in a better position financially ten years from now?

What are we doing to ensure that our fiscal policy is strengthened and that we borrow less and save more?

Did we ever consider that the persons charged with this responsibility don't possess the ability to formulate and stick to sound fiscal policy?

Would you allow a carpenter to perform an open heart

like this can be found on both sides of the aisle when politicians think of little more than sound bytes in attempt to "motivate" their supporters. But this does more harm in the long run, particularly on big issues like the national debt. Repayment of the borrowed money does not discriminate along party lines. Every citizen is responsible for it one way or another so there needs to be some agreement between those in Parliament on a possible resolution.

Dr Richard Rahn, of the CATO Institute, pointed out recently that the political class in Canada and Sweden "summon(ed) the political will to make necessary changes in spending, taxing and regulations" to prevent fiscal disaster. Both governing and oppo-

sition members there came together in the mid-1990s to make those necessary changes. Surely the political class here can follow their lead?

One thing that is certain, the bigger the government gets, and the more it attempts to "provide", the more citizens have to pay in the form of taxes and/or inflation. Either way a lower standard of living results because nothing is free.

Members of Parliament know this, but in some cases, it appears the hope of short term political gain is more important than future generations.

Yours in Liberty,

RICK LOWE

www.weblogbahamas.com  
Nassau,  
December 18, 2011.

## Street light frustration

EDITOR, The Tribune.

PLEASE allow me a few lines in your valued newspaper to express a major frustration that I have which relates to the Village Road and Park Gate corner street light, and I'm sure many persons share this same gripe.

Has it not occurred to the Road Traffic department that whenever this light is on and working in the mornings that there is snail-like traffic coming from the east in particular because of it.

The traffic at times is backed up all the way through Monastery Park and as far

back as Fox Hill.

Would it be too much to ask if someone at the Road Traffic Department can turn it off in the morning a few times and then vice versa and just watch what happens?

It has become very obvious to me and I'm sure to many others too (some of whom have expressed their frustrations to me) regarding this light and they all agree that it's better if it's off in the mornings until around 10:00am.

FRUSTRATED

Nassau,  
December 13, 2011.

## Abysmal mobile service

EDITOR, The Tribune.

NOTWITHSTANDING Batelco/Lime's generous commitment in support of Junkanoo and all the fanfare surrounding their recent 4G launch, their performance and service over the last few months has been abysmal, particularly with respect to cellular and internet service. Dropped calls and sporadic or no service are seemingly now the norm.

Today, I received my latest bill but with no record of my previous month's payment and the balance carried forward yet again.

To add insult to injury, I drove to the Batelco office in

the Shirley Street plaza to resolve the discrepancy only to find it closed at 2 o'clock in the afternoon with the staff apparently attending a Christmas party at JFK headquarters.

Does Batelco now close their offices island wide for parties or is this a part of their new customer friendly approach?

If these are examples of the much-heralded first world service we were promised during all of the hoopla associated with the takeover, I should be very pleased to have my third world service restored.

IAN MABON

Nassau,  
December 16, 2011

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# Loans deal to improve water supply

By SANCHESKA BROWN  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
sbrown@tribunemedia.net



**PRIME MINISTER** Hubert Ingraham said the money would go toward reducing water loss.

THE government put pen to paper on two loans from the Inter-American Development Bank worth a combined \$131 million, to be used on water supply and sanitation upgrades and an air transport reform programme.

The Water and Sewerage Corporation will receive \$81 million to rehabilitate selected sewerage infrastructure and make its other services more effective and efficient.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said the majority of the money will go toward reducing water loss in the capital.

"We will direct \$49 million at reducing non-revenue water, \$15.5 million will go toward rehabilitating sewer plants infrastructure and designing a master plan for waste water treatment and \$5.5 million will be allotted for institutional strengthen-

than the water barging we just discontinued.

"We will also be able to increase water pressure from 19 pounds per square inch to 25. We will essentially increase the quality of water supply in the Bahamas."

The \$50 million Air Transport Programme loan will be used to purchase a new radar system for the Lynden Pindling International Airport; and general development at the Leonard Thompson Airport in Marsh Harbour, Abaco and the Exuma International Airport.

Some of the money will go towards reforming the aviation sector.

Minister of Tourism and Aviation Vincent Vanderpool Wallace expressed thanks and appreciation to the IDB for their continued assistance.

"We will use this money to show the world that the Bahamas is made up of more islands than New Providence and Paradise Island. We will focus on upgrading airports in the Family Islands and show the world the variety of the Bahamas through an improved aviation regime," he said.

IDB vice president Roberto Vellutini signed the loans on behalf of the bank.

They are expected to be paid off in 25 years and carry an interest of 1.24 per cent.

Prime Minister Ingraham said the removal and replacement of water pipes throughout New Providence should not place a further burden on commuters as most of the work will be carried out at night and the pipes are small and require little "digging up."

According to Glen Leville, general manager at WSC, the infrastructural work is not expected to begin until 2013, after the corporation conducts the necessary surveys and studies.

## God's People Are Comforted Isaiah 40:18-22

To whom then will you liken God?  
Or what likeness will you compare to Him?  
The workman molds an image,  
The goldsmith overspreads it with gold,  
And the silversmith casts silver chains.  
Whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution  
Chooses a tree that will not rot;  
He seeks for himself a skillful workman  
To prepare a carved image that will not totter.  
Have you not known?  
Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?  
It is He who sits above the circle of the earth,  
And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,  
Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

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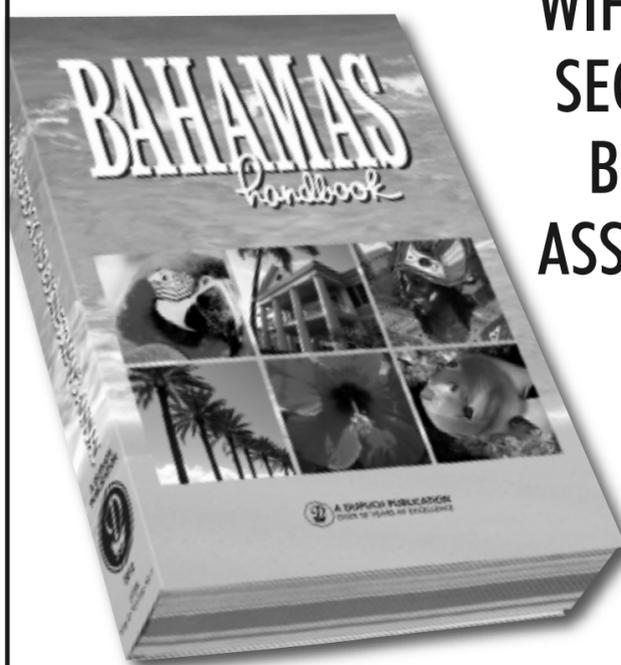
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LOCAL NEWS

WARM WELCOME FOR CUBAN ENVOY



MINISTER OF YOUTH, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard (left) greets Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba Ernesto Soberon Guzman, during a courtesy call at the Ministry on December 15. Photo: Eric Rose/BIS

# Man in hospital after being shot during armed robbery

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – A 38-year-old Freeport man is in hospital after being shot multiple times during an attempted armed robbery at Deadman's Reef on Sunday.

The victim is detained in serious, but stable condition, at Rand Memorial Hospital. His identity has not been released by police.

Asst Supt Loretta Mackey, press liaison officer, reported that police received a call at about 12.51pm of a shooting and armed robbery in West Grand Bahama.

She said officers were dispatched to the scene to investigate.

According to initial police investigations, three persons employed at the Meat Market Produce & Convenience Store, located in the Friendship Shopping Centre in Eight Mile Rock, were using the company's van.

Ms Mackey said the driver was dropping off a female employee at her home in Deadman's Reef.

When they arrived at the home, they were approached by three masked men armed with handguns.

The culprits demanded cash.

ASP Mackey said when they got no money they fired several shots, hitting the driver. He was taken by ambulance to hospital in Freeport.

His condition was not known up to presstime on Sunday.

"We are appealing to residents of West Grand Bahama, particularly to persons who were in the area and would have seen the culprits running away or driving away at a high rate of speed, for their assistance," Ms Mackey said.

Anyone who can assist the police is asked to call 350-3107/8 or 911.

Ms Mackey said police are again encouraging business operators and employees to vary their routine during the holiday season.

Police made 17 arrests over the weekend for various offences including rape, armed robbery, damage report, disorderly behaviour, obscene language, vagrancy, possession of dangerous drugs, assault of a police officer, resisting arrest, driving under the influence of alcohol, attempting to leave the scene of a traffic accident, breach of electronic monitoring bracelet and warrants of apprehension.

## STEPPING UP TO DOWN MARKETS

By MIKE LIGHTBOURN

REMEMBER the ancient curse, "May you live in interesting times"?

While many property owners are indeed cursing the current real estate climate, many buyers see opportunities.

In a "soft" market, the short-term options dwindle, but seasoned investors in for the long haul are positioned to take advantage.

In the words of billionaire J Paul Getty, "Buy when everyone else is selling and hold until everyone else is buying".

Just like the stock market, more money is often made in a down cycle than in an up market.

Slower times encourage sellers to be more open to negotiation.

Combine acceptance of lower prices with currently lower interest rates, and you've got the perfect recipe for bargains.

Real estate is continually cycling, and it's guaranteed that prices will rise again. The time to get in is now, before that begins to happen.

A "buy and hold" strategy works in this market if you have the funds and while your property appreciates.

While you wait, if you have a building consider leasing it.

The property can help to pay for itself with rent collected, and an investor who can pay off a small mortgage is in an excellent position indeed.

Now is the time to get going. Some of you are looking to make your first purchase.

There has probably never been a better time to buy. 2012 will soon be on us. Set your goals now.

There are also many owner financing opportunities out there. Best of luck to everyone for next year. Buy well and you won't regret it.

Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty.

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LOCAL NEWS



CAPTAIN TELLIS BETHEL, right, presents a plaque to General Charles Jacoby Jr.

## MILITARY COMMANDERS COMPARE NOTES

GENERAL Charles Jacoby Jr, Commander of the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) and the United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) paid a cour-

tesy call on Acting Commander of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force, Captain Tellis Bethel, at the Defence Force's Coral Harbour Base on December 14.

General Jacoby was accompanied by

NORAD officials, along with military personnel from the Office Defence Corporation (ODC). Topics of mutual interests were discussed and gifts were exchanged, followed by a tour of the base.

# Masked men rob pair of workers

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Two employees of Butler's Food World were robbed of a "substantial amount of cash" in the parking lot of the First Caribbean International Bank on Friday morning.

According to police reports, a 43-year-old female employee, accompanied by an 18-year-old male employee, left the bank at about 10am and were held up by two masked men as they headed to their car.

Police spokesperson Asst Supt Loretta Mackey said the culprits pushed the employees and snatched a bag containing the company's payroll.

She said the suspects then ran to a car that was parked nearby and sped away.

The getaway car is described as a light-coloured sedan with dark tinted windows.

ASP Mackey said: "A substantial amount of cash was stolen by the suspects and we are asking anyone with information that can assist the police to call 350-3107 or 911."

In the meantime, she said, the police are advising business owners and persons making bank transactions or dealing with large sums of cash to hire a security firm.

"We also want to appeal to persons to be very vigilant and to be aware of their surroundings or persons lurking in the area," she said.

## OLD BAHAMA BAY RESORT TO CONTINUE

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Old Bahama Bay Resort said it is not closing as previously reported, but has decided not to renew its rental management agreement with the condominium owners at the resort.

In a press release issued on Friday, the resort said the employees directly involved in the rental and property management of the condos will now work under the unit owners themselves, and not the resort.

The statement said: "Consistent with its established effort to focus attention on the development and operation of the commercial and utility prop-

erties it owns, the Old Bahama Bay Resort development company has announced that it will not renew its rental management agreement with the condominium owners at the resort.

"A proposed continuation plan would result in the property and rental management responsibilities reverting to the condo owners themselves, while OBB Resort will continue to operate the marina and oversee food and beverage operations.

"Contrary to reports in the local press, Old Bahama Bay Resort is not closing operations."

Old Bahama Bay Resort and the surrounding 225 acres, plus another 294 acre parcel that contains the golf course in West End, are now controlled by Lubert Adler, the main financier

for the stalled \$4.9 billion Ginn sur Mer project.

The resort property also includes a 72-slip marina and two restaurants.

According to the statement, there are indications that the condo owners will continue to operate their units at Old Bahama Bay Resort, and may maintain some of the existing human resources.

"Old Bahama Bay Resort will continue its efforts to extend the development community of West End, which includes seeking out capable third party operators for its various assets in the region.

"These steps will further clarify and streamline the developmental structure, and allow for greater progress to be seen for West End and Grand Bahama island," the statement said.

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# Rival parties get in

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## CANDIDATE HOSTS PARTY FOR RESIDENTS

MOUNT MORIAH'S Stapledon Park came alive on Saturday as PLP area candidate Arnold Forbes, hosted a Christmas Treat for residents over the weekend.

Hundreds poured onto the grounds from surrounding communities and descended on McKinney Ave for the holiday event.

PLP Deputy Leader Philip Brave Davis also joined the huge event where gifts, food, music and entertainment by marching bands all filled the grounds.

Davis and Forbes also made presentation on behalf of the party to civic groups as they shared the spirit of gift-giving to the children.



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**BOXING DAY**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2011**  
CLOSED

Normal Banking hours will resume  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2011**  
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2011**  
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2011**  
CLOSED

**NEW YEAR'S DAY OBSERVED**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2012**  
CLOSED

Normal Banking hours will resume  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012**  
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**FNM CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY IN MOUNT MORIAH**



## TURNQUEST TURNS SANTA FOR EVENT

HUNDREDS of children enjoyed the annual Mt Moriah Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, 17 December, 2011, hosted by the Hon Tommy Turnquest, MP for Mt. Moriah and Minister of National Security, his wife Shawn, and the FNM Mt Moriah Constituency Association.

The festivities included food, drinks, ice cream, face painting, fun and games. Each child received a Christmas gift and a party bag from Santa Claus and his helpers.

Derek Adams and "Charlie the Yellow Bahamian" provided entertainment and kept the children laughing while imparting a positive message.



The Mt Moriah team made sure that everyone had an enjoyable afternoon, which was evident from the smiles and handful of goodies as they left.



FNM event photos: BigPaddyBahamas



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Saturday December 24th 10:00 p.m.  
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Christmas Day Sunday December 25th  
 7:15a.m. Mass & Sermon  
 10:30a.m. Solemn Sung Mass

**NO EVENING SERVICE**

Saturday December 31st 10:30p.m.  
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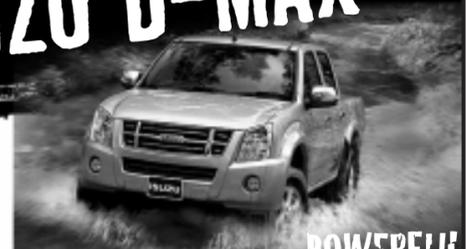
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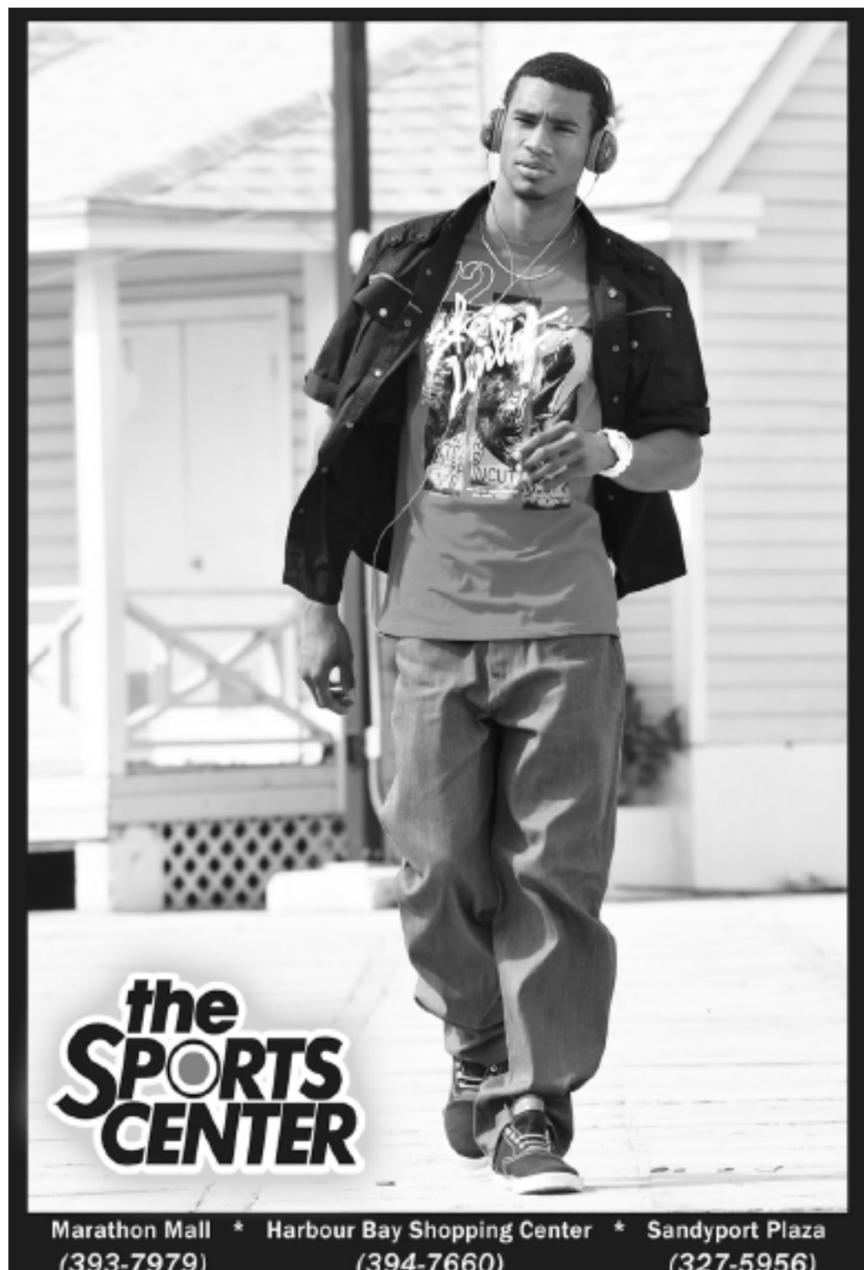
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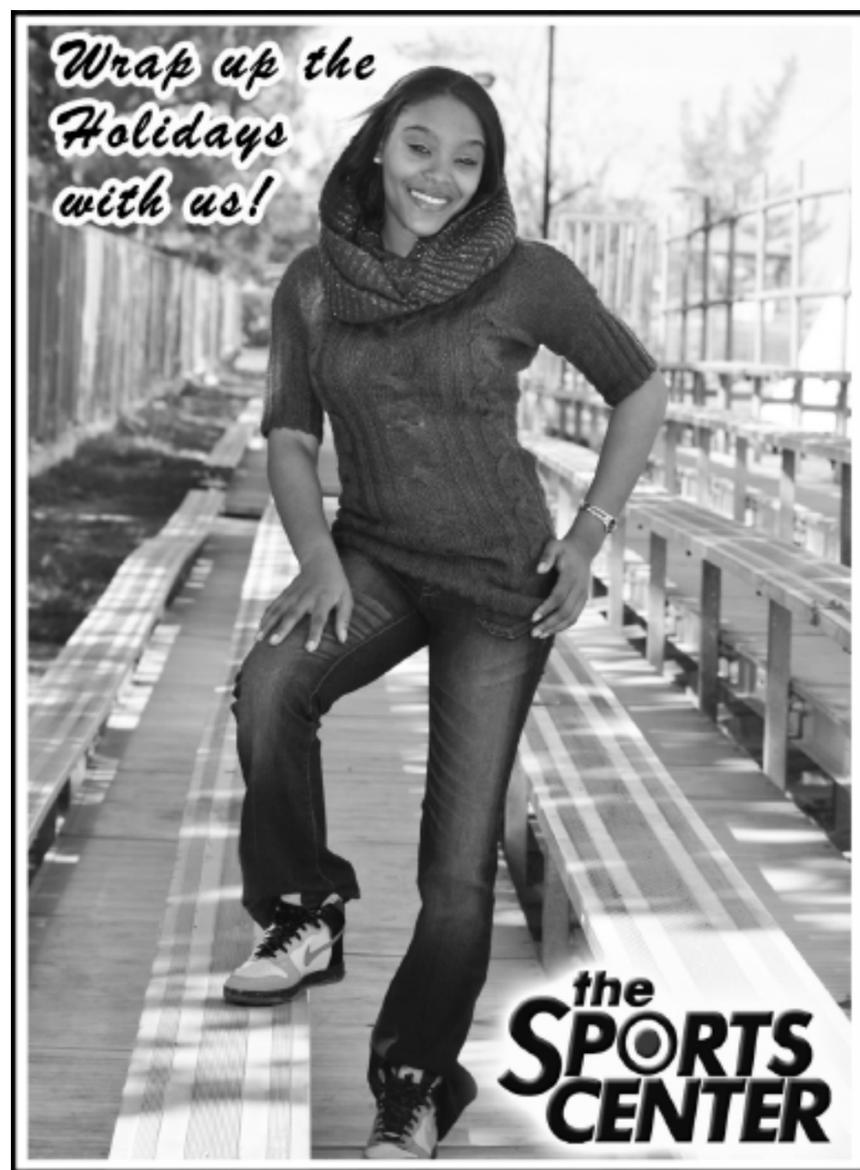


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LOCAL NEWS

# Grand Bahama to host marine animal trainers workshop



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STAFF from the Dolphin Experience will take part in workshops during a two-day event in Freeport.

The Underwater Explorers Society (UNEXSO): The Dolphin Experience in Grand Bahama is to host a two-day workshop in conjunction with the International Marine Animal Trainers Association (IMATA) in Freeport.

The conference will take place on March 17th and 18th, 2012, and will focus on "Dolphin Interactive Training" and "The benefits of Open Ocean Training & Straight-line Swimming".

Located in a nine-acre lagoon, Sanctuary Bay, the Dolphin Experience is one of the most popular tourist destinations while visiting Grand Bahama and is open 7 days a week for dolphin swims, encounters, open ocean swims and assistant trainer programs.

Attendees at the conference will have the opportunity



to spend time visiting The Dolphin Experience training facilities and participate in open ocean training sessions.

"Training is what the workshop is all about," noted Eiser. "The sharing of knowledge is the key to success in our field."

Meetings will be held at The Dolphin Experience and all 14 employees will attend.

"The workshops will be immense for our training staff, they can show off their unique training talents and also gain exposure in the international community of mammal trainers," said Eiser.

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ROYAL BAHAMAS POLICE FORCE - NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION OFFICE



MEMBERS of the Royal Bahamas Police Force recently visited the Mall at Marathon to pass along safety tips to shoppers to avoid crime during the holiday season.

Pictures: Tim Clarke/Tribune Staff

# Holiday business armed robbery prevention tips

By Constable 3011  
MAKELLE PINDER

THE Christmas holiday is one of the busiest time of the year in the Bahamas, it is the time when individuals should be extra careful of their surroundings and their whereabouts. It is also the time of the year when business owners should take various precautions to ensure the safety of their staff and establishment, therefore please pay attention to the following Armed Robbery Safety Tips that will assist in making this holiday safe and peaceful.



Armed robbery is one of the most serious and potentially dangerous crimes committed today. A robber commits a hold-up because he or she believes that their profit will be worth the risk. By decreasing the possible profit and increasing the risk of apprehension, potential businesses can reduce their chance of becoming a target.

Businesspersons must face the possibility of robbery on their premises realistically, and they should make security training a high priority. You can avoid becoming a victim of such crime by adopting the following crime prevention measures provided by the Royal Bahamas Police Force National Crime Prevention Office:

- BEFORE A ROBBERY**
- Greet everyone who enters your business.
  - Keep doors and windows clear of signs and posters to allow good two-way visibility.
  - Use video surveillance

- and make it well known.
- Make bank deposits at least once a day.
  - Place a surveillance camera behind the cash register facing the front counter.
  - Install an emergency (panic) alarm.
  - Make your sales counter clearly visible to observers.
  - A clean environment is good for business and uncomfortable for robbers.
  - Keep your business well-lit inside and outside

- DURING A ROBBERY**
- Stay calm and don't resist!
  - Do as instructed. Don't make sudden moves.
  - Keep your hands in sight at all times.
  - Get a look at the robber but don't stare.
  - If safe - Get a description of the robber's vehicle and direction of travel.
  - Activate the panic alarm ONLY when it's safe.
  - Personal safety first! Money and merchandise are not important.
  - Don't chase or follow the robber out of your place of

business. Let the police catch the robber!

- AFTER A ROBBERY**
- Close the store and lock the doors.
  - Call the police; even if the alarm was activated.
  - Don't touch anything the robber may have touched.
  - Ask witnesses to stay until the police arrive.
  - Only step outside when the police arrive and contact you via telephone.
  - Call your business owner, manager or other designated person.

- TIPS**
- Use a drop safe that is secured to the floor.
  - Post signs indicating limited cash on hand.
  - Professionally install security cameras to capture the best images of the suspects.
  - Trim landscaping for good view into and out of your business.

Should you be a victim of crime, please do not resist but take note of the description of the culprit e.g. his appearance, clothing, height, physical details and the direction or mode of escape. Call the Police as soon as it is safe to do so.

If you come across any suspicious person(s) loitering around your business or have any information pertaining to any crime, please do not hesitate to contact call the police emergency at '919' or Crime Stoppers at 328-tips (New Providence), 1-300-8476 (Family Islands).

Happy Holiday, Bahamas.

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# IBM think pads are donated to children's home



PICTURED at the donation are (left to right) Reuben and Jacqueline Byrd, Brennamae Cooper and Enzy Jones, GBCH Assistant Administrator.  
Photo: Erik J Russell

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Your smile would always see me through  
You taught me how to love unconditionally  
And how to be the best in all I do.  
You gave your all to God and your family  
Never once stopping to thing of you.  
You were more than a mother you were my Best friend and a great listener too  
Oh how I miss our special talks, and All the fun things we used to do.  
Its your favorite time of the year mommy Merry Christmas to God's chosen Angel.  
Angel Oleta.....you will always be my mommy so loving  
And so loved by me.  
My Christmas Angel. Until we meet again .

Your Loving daughter  
Donna Elizabeth

CHILDREN at a Bahamian children's home are better equipped to learn thanks to a generous donation.

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When accepting the IBM Think Pads, GBCH Administrator Mrs Brennamae Cooper said: "What a wonderful surprise gift for us!

"We all know how important computer training is today - and, to date, our children have had to struggle to get their time on the computers we have.

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# Airline facing its last flight?

## insight

### WORLD VIEW

By SIR RONALD SANDERS

LIAT, the small Caribbean airline that has been the workhorse of the region for several decades, is having its goose cooked.

And the cooking is being done by a few of its pilots, two of the 10 unions representing its workers, and some Caribbean governments and Caribbean institutions which have failed to act positively.

In the meantime, the airline is hemorrhaging money and, if it continues at this rate, it will be lucky to survive beyond the first few months of next year.

For sure, LIAT lost money in 2010 and it will lose more money in 2011. Its shareholder governments in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and St Vincent and the Grenadines, already strapped for cash themselves, have no money to put into it.

In this circumstance, LIAT will continue to lose money in 2012, unless all the partners are prepared to make concessions and introduce strategic changes that might call for sacrifices from all of them.

If LIAT does collapse, the biggest losers will be the LIAT workers, who will be hard-pressed to find alternative employment.

Also, a collapsed LIAT may find it difficult – if not impossible – to meet its obligations for pensions and other severance payments to those workers.

This difficulty would be further complicated by the fact that a portion of LIAT's pension contributions are already tied-up in CLICO, a company whose capacity to meet its own obligations is very doubtful.

Fortunately, LIAT stopped paying CLICO when it appeared to be collapsing and, thus, it preserved a significant portion of the pension funds.

Despite this worrying scenario, there appears to be an unconsidered goal by some of the unions representing LIAT's workers to run to the precipice. The Christmas season is traditionally a period of high earnings for LIAT as it moves Caribbean people and tourists to various destinations within the region.

But, threats by the unions of strikes and other industrial action is causing potential passengers to look for alternative means of travel, and, where that cannot be achieved, cancel travel altogether.

What this achieves is nothing more than to increase LIAT's losses, making it even more difficult to meet demands by unions, particularly the pilots.

When the pilots staged a sick-out in early December without giving the airline's management any notice, it not only cost the airline an estimated US\$750,000, it effectively stranded 5,000 people over two days across the network of LIAT's Caribbean destinations.

Their action did not win

them any friends, but it proved that LIAT is essential to inter-Caribbean travel.

Over the past four years, LIAT has moved a million passengers around the region.

No other airline has been able to provide flights to LIAT's network of destinations, some of which remain very marginal to its earnings.

The stranded passengers were understandably angry, and at airports across the region, they lambasted the airline.

But to be fair to LIAT's management, there was nothing they could do if the pilots gave them no notice whatsoever of their intended action.

Whatever the merits of the pilots' grievance, the lack of notice is contrary to all best industrial relations practice which requires that unions give management some warning of the action they contemplate so that at least some modicum of arrangements could be made to cushion the blow.

Instead, what LIAT experienced was the equivalent in the airline industry of a cluster bomb explosion. It was sudden and devastating.

To add to LIAT's woes, the Trinidad and Tobago airline, Caribbean Airlines (CAL), is planning to compete against LIAT by flying most of LIAT's routes beginning early next year.

CAL will be doing so on a most advantageous playing field for while CAL is paying only US\$50 for a barrel of oil based on a huge subsidy from the Trinidad and Tobago government, LIAT is paying US\$120 for the same barrel. LIAT's fuel costs account for 30 per cent of the airline's costs.

Even if CAL gives up the oil subsidy from January 1st, 2013, as its Chairman recently said it would do, LIAT would be hard pressed to continue competing with CAL throughout 2012. At no point has CAL's board under its current chairman sought to explore a partnership or joint venture arrangement with LIAT.

But, LIAT's woes, if it is pushed out of business by a combination of short-sighted unions and a gluttonous CAL, won't be LIAT's woes alone; those woes will be shared by its three shareholder governments and their economies.

In turn, it will have a knock-on effect on the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) of which both Antigua and Barbuda and St Vincent and the Grenadines are a part.

Ultimately, the capacity of the ECCU countries to buy the manufactured goods of Trinidad and Tobago, for which they are the largest single market, will be reduced adversely affecting the Trinidad and Tobago economy as well.

From time to time, it has been suggested that other Caribbean governments, particularly those in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), are interested in participating in LIAT's



ownership and that they would invest capital and acquire shares.

Given the state of the OECS economies and the level of debt in which many of them are mired, their participation in LIAT seems very unlikely even though some of them now subsidize flights by foreign airlines into their countries. They will only come to the table if all other CARICOM governments, in particular Trinidad and Tobago, join the discussion as well.

Against this background, it



CARIBBEAN airline LIAT is running into a host of problems - and could be lucky to survive much longer.

has to be asked: Why have Caribbean governments not convened a meeting at the highest level to address the urgent problem of regional airlines in a holistic way? And why has the CARICOM Secretariat not initiated a meeting and put forward well-studied proposals to address the problem?

As an alternative to regional reluctance to hold such a meeting, LIAT's shareholder governments, its management and its Unions – in their own collective interest - should consider gathering quickly for a frank and realistic discussion of how to save the airline, meet obligations to workers and serve the

Caribbean public.

Without such a meeting, LIAT's goose will be cooked and few will enjoy the eating.

• Responses and previous commentaries: [www.sir-ronaldsanders.com](http://www.sir-ronaldsanders.com).

The writer is a consultant and former Caribbean diplomat.

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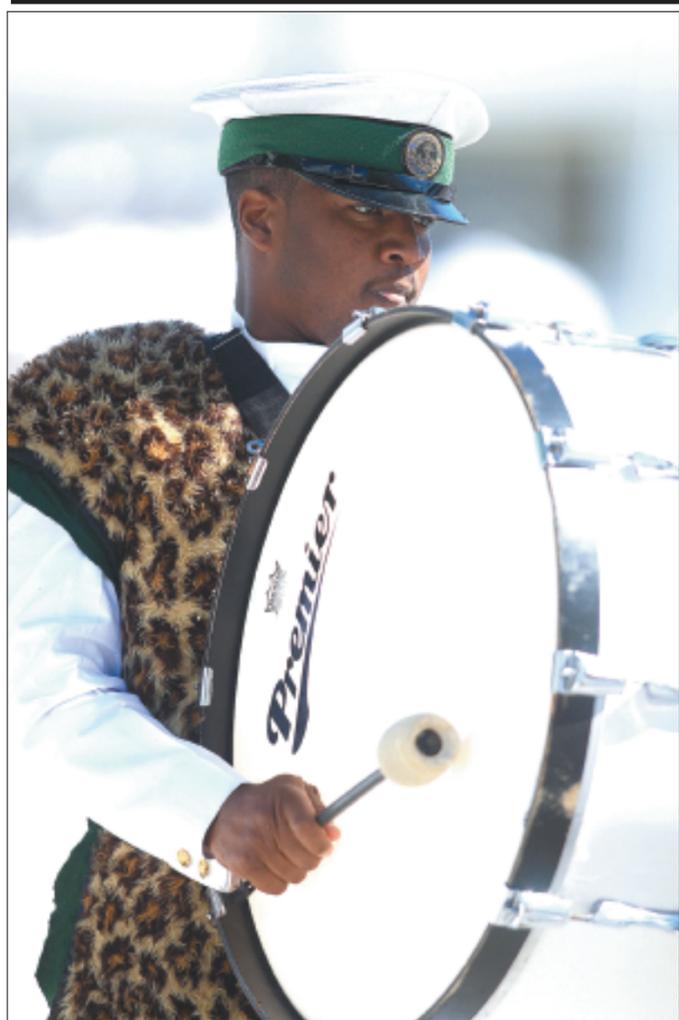
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LOCAL NEWS



# INSPECTING THE TROOPS



**MINISTER** of National Security Tommy Turnquest inspects the guards on Friday at the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Coral Harbour Base as part of the force's end of year review.



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# One dead, one paralysed in traffic accidents

from page one

tively identify him. Police investigations into the matter are continuing. The second accident occurred in the early hours of Saturday morning when a small truck crashed through a seawall on the Eastern Road, not too far from the turn off to Camperdown Heights.

Last night, traffic police could not provide any details of the incident. However, according to persons who arrived at the scene after being awakened by the crash at 2:55 am Saturday, the male driver was presumably heading west when his truck — T557— flipped over on its side, as it crashed through the stone wall on the northern side of the road overlooking the ocean. The truck was wedged between the demolished wall — its top squeezed

## DUMP TRUCK OVERTURNS

A LARGE dump truck carrying fill tipped over on its side, spilling its cargo and creating a traffic jam near Lake Killarney, the main road to the airport, shortly after 7 o'clock last night.

Police were still on the scene gathering details of what caused the accident, while an ambulance was rushing to the chaotic scene.

in on one side by the wall while its wheels and underside were jammed by the wall on the other side. As a consequence it took the "jaws of life" operators about an hour to saw the roof off the truck before they could get to the seriously injured driver, who is believed to be Anwar Elliott, the 30-year-old son of Alfonso "Boogaloo" Elliott. It is understood that the young man is paralysed from the neck down.

Meanwhile, police are investigating the shooting of a 24-year-old male resident of

Dunmore Street, Chipping-ham.

On Friday, December 16, at 7pm, while the man was walking on the Sports Centre Road he was approached by two men.

He told the police that one of the men took out a gun and shot him in the hand.

The victim, who was taken to hospital, has since been released.

Police investigations continue. They are urging anyone with information to contact the nearest police station.



IN THIS photograph submitted by a reader, the wedged truck of a driver who crashed through a seawall on the Eastern Road is seen. The driver was understood to be Anwar Elliott, 30.

# MYSTERY AFTER SKELETON FOUND

from page one

residence of the serial killing mother-son team— Sante and Kenneth Kimes.

The discovery has sparked speculation that the remains could belong to a victim of Kimes.

The two are presently serving a life without parole sentence in a California prison on several counts of murder.

In 1998, the mother and son murdered businessman David Kazin in Las Vegas after he exposed Sante Kimes' loan fraud.

That same year, they also murdered New York socialite Irene Silverman while attempting to steal her Manhattan mansion.

In 1996, they murdered banker Syed Bilal Ahmed in their Cable Beach home.

According to testimony from Kenneth Kimes, the

banker had flown to Nassau from the Caymans to investigate irregularities in a bank account belonging to the late Kenneth Kimes Sr — Sante's husband and Kenneth Jr's father.

He said he and his mother drugged the banker and drowned him in their bathtub before throwing his body in the sea.

However, neighbours of the Kimes were convinced the body was buried on the site, possibly under the patio of their Cable Beach home.

In July of 2004, police began digging at the Kimes' home and the surrounding area, looking for the body of the missing banker.

However, the search was suspended after Kenneth testified that he and his mother dumped the body at sea.

Syed Bilal Ahmed's body has never been found.

# REWARD OFFER TO FIND WOMAN

from page one

offering the reward in hopes that it encourages someone to come forward.

"I know someone knows something. Someone might have seen something. When Anya first went missing we got a lot of tips but then we got some bad press and things changed," she said.

"We stopped getting help because people didn't think she was kidnapped, they thought she was a fugitive. Hopefully now this money will encourage someone to call in and say something. The police say they got some tips, but nothing has materialised. "They have also told me the case is still a priority and she is still considered a missing person."

Anya was last seen on Tuesday, November 22, at Little Feet Academy dropping her daughters off to school before heading to court.

She was wearing khaki coloured slacks, a white button down shirt and black shoes. She was also driving a right hand Honda Civic.

She is described as being about five feet eight inches tall, of slim build with shoulder length black hair.

Mrs Newton said the hardest part in dealing with her daughter's disappearance is watching Anya's children suffer.

"They constantly watch the door like they are waiting for their mother to come home. They are not sleeping and it is so hard to explain to them

what is going on because they are so young and they just don't understand," she said.

"We are offering this initial \$2,000 but it may increase over time. We are hoping she is alive, but if she is dead we still just want to know. It's hard not knowing if she is alive or dead or well or what. We just want a conclusion."

In an earlier interview Superintendent Stephen Dean said Anya's disappearance is top priority for the police.

He added that police have no new developments, but are following some leads.

Supt Dean said police are not sure whether Anya ran away or if she was abducted. However, they are exploring all avenues.

"It is being treated as a missing person report and we have taken all the steps that we take when anyone goes missing. This case is of major concern to us.

"We want to find her. We want to see where she is at this time. Anyone who might have information on where she might be, we are asking you to please contact the police no matter how small the information might be," he said.

Anyone with information on Anya's whereabouts are asked to contact the police at 911 or 919, the Central Detective Unit at 502, 9991 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 328-TIPS.

Her family can be contacted at 467-7533, 464-9221 or 436-8952.

# POLICE HAVE 'SIGNIFICANT' LEADS OVER SHOOTING

from page one

gunman reportedly fled in a white van.

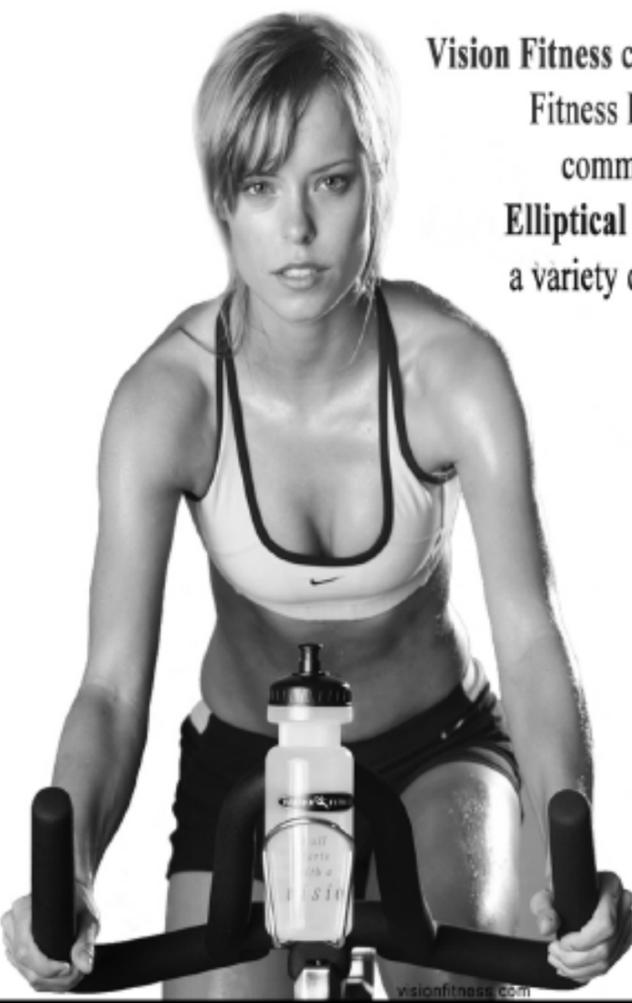
Deveaux, of Pinewood, had previously been accused of the murder of Corrie Bethel, on May 10, 2007, and the murder of Marlon Smith, on April 19, 2009. Deveaux was later acquitted of both charges.

More recently, Deveaux was charged on June 14 last

year, in connection with the shooting of a four-year-old boy on Brazilletta Street, an incident in which he was also shot. Deveaux was cleared of those charges in November this year.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 911, 919; the Central Detective Unit at 502-9991, 502-9910; or Crime Stoppers at 328-TIPS.

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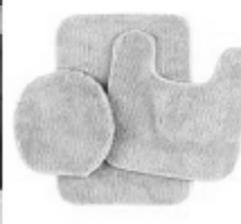
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## LOCAL NEWS

# ANGLICAN PRIEST DIES, AGED 78

from page one

are specialists to take care of his particular condition. However, he died before arrangements could be completed.

Canon Roach was born in Trinidad, but his life was in The Bahamas and his contributions to civic, education, religious and social change in this country are well known.

He played a special part in the development of the modern Bahamas and stood with his Bahamian colleagues and members of the Anglican community in working to build the country.

Canon Roach married a Bahamian and dedicated his life to ensuring that his three daughters and scores of Bahamian children succeeded to assist in the development of a post-independent Bahamas.

His daughter, Melanie, became the first Bahamian woman to become Director of Public Works.

Canon Roach was ordained as a deacon on December 21, 1956, and to the priesthood the following year.

He was a pillar in the community in which he ministered for many years as Rector at Holy Cross Anglican Church in Highbury Park.

Last night, the Progressive Liberal Party extended its deepest sympathy to the Canon's wife and family.

Fox Hill MP, Fred Mitchell described him as an influential religious figure in the Bahamas.

"As Honorary Consul to Trinidad and Tobago, his influence transcended religion where he contributed to shaping of regional foreign policy. When I served as Foreign Minister, we



CANON NEIL ROACH, who has died, aged 78

enjoyed a very good working relationship and I experienced first hand the outspoken nature of Canon Roach as he held strong views about the cultural norms of the Anglican Church and about regional cooperation," he said.

"On behalf of the Progressive Liberal Party, I express heartfelt condolences to the Roach family and may God's grace comfort the Roach family during their hour of bereavement."

# PM: Roads project not \$40m over budget

from page one

will run the NPRIP will be a substantial excess of \$40 million and it is made up of the increase in the price of all, additional works for the Water and Sewerage Corporation and some works resulting from the prolongation of the contract works."

The Prime Minister said a detailed breakdown of all the works and cost will be provided to parliament on January 23.

At that time, the government is also expected to make an application to the IDB for a loan of \$50 million to com-

plete the project.

The project was expected to be completed the first quarter of 2012, however for unknown reasons it has been delayed to September of that year.

In earlier interviews, spokeswoman for the NPRIP, Shenique Albury, blamed weather, rusty pipes and inconsistencies found between infrastructure maps and the actual roads.

The Prime Minister said had the FNM remained in office after the 2002 elections the road works would have cost less than \$60 million to complete.

"I might tell you had the

project been concluded when we first started it before we got kicked out of office, the Bahamian people would have paid less than \$60 million for the project as opposed to the \$119 million we signed the contract for, because the price of oil had gone up by \$50 million by the time we got back in office to do it.

"So if the project had continued where we left it, we would have saved \$50 million at least."

The Ministry of Works is expected to give a report today on the progress of the NPRIP during a media bus tour.

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