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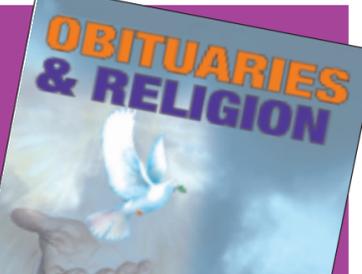
Volume: 108 No.82

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012

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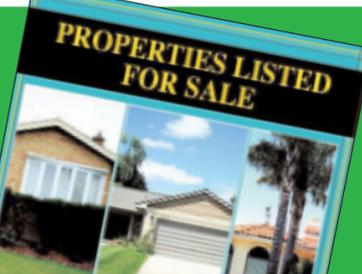
### INSIDE TODAY

## YOUR SOURCE FOR OBITUARIES



### PULLOUT SPECIAL

## PROPERTIES FOR SALE



**FAMILY REBOUNDS FROM DEATH OF MOTHER - SEE RELIGION PAGE 28**

## PLP TELLS ROADWORK-HIT STORES...

# We'll fix your cash problems

STORE owners who suffered or had to close down because of the government road works scheme were promised their financial problems "will go away" if the PLP wins the next election, it was claimed yesterday.

The losses incurred by businesses over the past two years - a combined total in the tens of millions of dollars, according to Coconut Grove Business League representative Ethic Bowe - will be paid back in full if the government changes hands, CGBL members said.

The league, which was originally made up of 50 businesses in the Baillou Hill Road and Market Street area, has now merged with business owners on Prince Charles Drive, bringing the number to more than 100.

The group claims to have suffered massive financial consequences after the government converted Baillou Hill Road and Market Street into one-way thoroughfares and began the New Providence Road Improvement Project (NPRIP).

Businesses were cut off from their customers during the works, sometimes for

months at a time.

Mr Bowe claims he was given assurances by PLP leader Perry Christie that business owners would be compensated if the party is re-elected.

He said this promise is the main reason the league has not moved forward with its legal case against the government.

Mr Bowe said: "We are waiting until after elections to continue our case. We originally won and then the government won their appeal on a technicality."

"We intend to file a civil suit but we are waiting for elections to be done with. Mr Christie told us our problems will go away if the PLP wins and the DNA has told us the same. Do not get me wrong, this is not about politics. It is not political, we just want what we are due."

Rupert Roberts, owner of Super Value, said he was called into a meeting with a "leader of a top political party" and told to wait six weeks and his problems would be no more.

"He called me and said he knows me and he knows what

**SEE page 13**



**CONSTRUCTION WORK** on Prince Charles Road earlier this year. Business owners on Prince Charles Drive have joined forces with those in the Baillou Hill Road and Market Street area in claiming they have suffered massive financial losses during the New Providence Road Improvement Project.

## ABDUCTED MOTHER FORCED TO HAND OVER \$3,500

A MOTHER was abducted from her Paradise Island home yesterday morning by two teenagers who ordered her to drive them to a Carmichael Road bank, where she was forced to withdraw \$3,500.

Police reports were sketchy last night, but it is understood that the mother, the wife of a businessman, had taken her two children to school early that morning. She returned to her Paradise Island condominium around noon only to find two young people - the boy might have been about 18 and the girl about 15 - loitering near the property.

It is understood that someone walking in the area earlier that morning had seen the "child"

**SEE page 13**

### HELP US SAVE WOMEN LIKE YVETTE

By BRITTANY KEMP and MICHELLE GREENE

BREAST cancer has torn apart countless lives in the Bahamas, a fact Yvette Cargill knows well - not just as the former president of the Sister Sister support group, but also as a survivor of the disease.

She was diagnosed on

**SEE page 12**

### NOW HELP US TO REACH \$1M

TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR BREAST CANCER CAMPAIGN, TURN TO OUR CENTRE SPREAD

## EX-POLICEMAN DENIED BAIL

By LAMECH JOHNSON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
ljohnson@tribunemedia.net

AN EX-POLICEMAN convicted of manslaughter was denied bail yesterday by a judge who deemed him a flight risk in the face of a possible life sentence.

Former corporal Donovan Gardiner, who was discharged from the Royal Bahamas Police Force shortly after his

**SEE page 14**

## DEFENDANTS TAMPER WITH ANKLE BRACELETS 7,000 TIMES

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

DEFENDANTS fitted with ankle monitoring bracelets have sought to violate their bail conditions or tamper with the device an average of more than 22 times each.

Since the launch of the electronic monitoring programme in December 2010, 315 persons have been fitted with the device, and more than 7,100

"offender alarms" have been recorded, according to a report from ICS Bahamas, the company that facilitated the programme.

Most of the offenders, the report said, were attempting to go to night clubs or events outside curfew hours.

A small number tried to commit other crimes in the process and were arrested immediately by the police

**SEE page 14**

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LOCAL NEWS

Germany's Kardashians visit Bahamas

POPULAR German reality television show *Die Geissens* has been filming in The Bahamas this week, after a local realtor attracted the multi-millionaire Geissen family to the country. Gavin Christie, of CA Christie Real Estate, hosted reality television stars Robert Geissen, his wife, and two daughters as they search for unique real estate, and tour some of the islands of The Bahamas.

After Geissen contacted Christie expressing interest in purchasing a luxury vacation home in The Bahamas, the

realtor encouraged Geissen to film the prime time show during his visit.

"I saw it as a unique opportunity to tap into the German market, and showcase The Bahamas to that part of the world," said Christie. "I believe the show can boost both the tourism, and real estate industries by luring thousands to the country during and long after the show is on air."

Season two of *Die Geissens* had more than 20 million viewers throughout Europe. The show has been compared to the American

reality show *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*.

When the show's third season airs in Europe later this year, the sun, sand, sea and culture of The Bahamas will be showcased in millions of homes throughout Germany, and in other European countries.

During their visit, the family experienced a Junkanoo rush out, toured Atlantis, visited Exuma cays to swim with sharks and sting rays, and dined at Graycliff in its world famous wine cellar, before departing The Bahamas last Saturday.

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LOCAL NEWS

# Woman finds brother dying from gun shots in back yard

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

A 27-YEAR-OLD man is the country's latest murder victim after his sister found him dying in their back yard. He had been shot multiple times.

It is understood that Clyde McKenzie, of Whyly's Close, off Market Street, was killed shortly after 10pm yesterday.

It is understood that he was on his way to purchase a drink from a neighbour when his sister heard multiple gunshots.

It's claimed she went into the back yard where she found her brother lying unresponsive on the ground with several gunshot wounds.

He was taken to hospital by private vehicle where he was pronounced dead. His death marks the country's

24th murder for this year.

Also yesterday, two men were injured by women known to them, in two separate stabbing incidents that occurred around the same time.

After 10pm, a 32-year-old man of Turks Court, Flamingo Gardens got into an argument with a woman he knew, resulting in him being stabbed in his neck and back.

Also after 10pm, a 35-year-old man of Excellence Estates was stabbed in the back after getting into an argument with a woman he knew.

Both were taken to hospital where they are detained in stable condition.

Police are investigating all incidents and appealing to members of the public who may have any information to contact them at 919, 322-3333;

the Central Detective Unit at 502-9991, 502-9910; or Crime Stoppers at 328-TIPS.

Police also released a "crime tip" for Bahamians, encouraging them to establish a neighbourhood watch programme.

"As citizens, you can assist in the fight against crime. Become acquainted with your neighbours and be the eyes and ears for each other," the

police stated. "Establish an active neighbourhood watch and create a bond through such service."

An active neighbourhood watch will "definitely reduce crime and improve your community," police said.

For more information on establishing a neighbourhood watch, contact the National Crime Prevention Office at 302-8430/1.

## MILLER HITS OUT AT INGRAHAM OVER 'PERSONAL ATTACKS'

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

FORMER member of parliament Leslie Miller hit back at Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham yesterday saying that he has been the victim of their continuous personal attacks.

Mr Miller, the PLP's Tall Pines candidate, claimed he is clueless as to why the Prime Minister would say the PLP is desperate, when it is evident the FNM takes every chance to "mud-sling" him and his colleagues.

"It has come to me that Mr Ingraham is sending people door-to-door in Tall Pines to spread lies about me, but no matter what he does, we will win that seat by a large margin."

"They want to condemn you, castrate you, and you just sit silent as they continue to say whatever and then when you blast them out, they want to run to the media," he said.

Referring to two FNM candidates who he claims

made "disparaging remarks" against him, Mr Miller said their leader should have rectified the situation instead of allowing the slander to continue.

"Mr Ingraham was right there," said Mr Miller, "and he could have put a stop to it. He is the Prime Minister, and had the opportunity to say 'Look here cut out the foolishness, stop talkin' garbage and stick to the issues.'"

"He sat and was laughing with them."

In another instance Mr Miller claimed, he, the PLP deputy Chairman Keith Bell, and other candidates were again spoken of poorly at an FNM constituency office opening.

"At the opening for Zhivargo Laing's headquarters last week, Mr Turnquest went on the podium and said 'some of my police friends say I should drop something on Keith Bell. I know Keith Bell would like that, but I don't go that way,'" he said.



Mr Miller further slammed Mr Turnquest for attempting to tarnish the names of people who have worked hard to develop good reputations.

He said: "Turnquest made those damning remarks about Keith Bell, a man with a wife and three children, a top of the line lawyer, who I am told was among the highest scoring young lawyers in his time,

called to the Bar."

"Bell is an ex first class police officer in this country as well. He is a brilliant mind, but why would you have to say such things?"

It is now time to speak to the issues that deeply affect people instead of attacking the character of those who want to make a difference in this country, Mr Miller said.

## FOUR CHRONIC DISEASES ADDED TO DRUG PRESCRIPTION PLAN

By **AVA TURNQUEST**  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

FOUR more chronic diseases have been added to the National Drug Prescription Plan.

Chief pharmacist Dr Brenna Brown-Turnquest confirmed yesterday that more than 17,000 Bahamians are enrolled in the plan, which funds an estimated \$85,000 worth of prescriptions per week. In addition to new medication, Dr Brown-Turnquest said two diseases already included under the plan also will be expanded.

Eligible persons can now apply for treatment for epilepsy, sickle cell anemia, thyroid disorders, and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

"We're also expanding two diseases," Dr Brown-Turnquest said. "Ischaemic heart disease has been changed to just Ischemia to include patients who had a stroke or peripheral artery disease. We're also expanding psychiatric diseases," she said. "We're combining major depression

and psychosis into one category, psychiatric illnesses. This will allow for patients that have any psychiatric diagnosis to access medication available under the plan."

New medications concern treatment for diabetes, cholesterol and hypertension. The changes will increase the plan's spending by \$800,000 per year, according to Dr Brown-Turnquest. She said: "The expansions were made because of prevalence, requests from the community, physicians and also civic groups. For the treatments for the diseases, some of them there have been changes to the treatment and we wanted to make sure it was readily available to patients."

In response to alarming data from the Ministry of Health and private insurance companies indicating that one in three Bahamians suffers from one or more chronic illnesses, NIB launched the plan in September 2010.

Chronic ailments also covered by the plan include arthritis, asthma, breast cancer, diabetes, glaucoma, high cholesterol, hypertension, and prostate cancer.

The plan initially provided prescription drugs and associated medical supplies free of charge to Bahamians in four categories – NIB pensioners, NIB invalids, children, and Bahamians over 65 years.

Seven new groups were added early last year. These include: Indigent persons; staff of Her Majesty's Prison and the Industrial Schools; members of the Royal Bahamas Police Force and Royal Bahamas Defence Force; officers employed in the public service; persons receiving ante-natal care, care connected with child birth, post natal care or any other medical care associated with pregnancy; and persons in receipt of disablement benefit assessed at 100 per cent under the National Insurance (Benefit and Assistance) Regulations.

Eligible persons may apply to activate membership in the Drug Plan by completing application forms available at local offices of the NIB, doctors' offices, government and private clinics and most pharmacies. Application forms can also be downloaded from www.nibdrugplan.com.

## VOTER FRAUD PROBE LIKELY TO GO AHEAD

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

THERE is a good chance the FNM's North Andros candidate will have his request for an investigation into voter fraud claims granted within the next two weeks, *The Tribune* understands.

Minister of Education Desmond Bannister's call for a probe came after he turned over a list of suspected illegal voters to local authorities.

The PLP denies it flew Nassau and Grand Bahama residents in to register in North Andros, but Mr Bannister offered to name the political operatives responsible.

It is claimed that more than 30 persons, who left North Andros between three and 10 years ago, are now registered to vote there in the upcoming election.

*The Tribune* understands the FNM has in its possession sworn statements from some of these individuals, confirming they were flown into the island by PLP operatives.

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A THOUSAND WORDS	NEW	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:50
THE VOW	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:40
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PROJECT X	C	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
ACT OF VALOR	C	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:45
GOOD DEEDS	T	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:40
GHOST RIDER SPIRIT VENG	C	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
SAFE HOUSE	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
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GOOD DEEDS	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:45
GHOST RIDER	C	1:15	3:30	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:45
SAFE HOUSE	C	1:00	3:20	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:50
JOURNEY 2	B	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:35

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# Christie's 'Bridge' nonsense

EDITOR, The Tribune.

PERRY Gladstone Christie seems to be proud of his new slogan; "I am the bridge from Sir Lynden to the future" Really? What does he really mean? Well, maybe we should revisit the past.

When the PLP won the government in 1966, it inherited a disciplined and admired Civil Service. Fast track on the "Bridge" to the future. We now have a bloated and inefficient Civil Service with an entrenched history of malfeasance.

I remember quite well when the ubiquitous drug trade was at its peak in the seventies and eighties. Every family island settlement located on the coastline had a major drug trafficker operating therein. Virtually all of the local drug barons were PLP Generals. Fast forward on the "Bridge", the drug boys who are not awaiting extradition have graduated into enforcers and cold blooded hit-men.

Sir Lynden craftily cultivated a culture of mistrust of foreigners and white people, and it kept him in power for a long time. Fast forward on the "Bridge" the "New" PLP are still chewing on this old, stale, contaminated bone, thereby keeping the PLP's spirit of xenophobia fully entrenched. We put Bahamians first, is merely their euphemism for intolerance.

Let me explain. This slogan is calculated to infer that the

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

FNM puts foreigners and white people first. They are well aware that this is a lie, but they don't care as long as their supporters suck it up. The FNM parliamentarians are all raw bone Bahamians, it is so disingenuous and silly to accuse them of putting foreigners before Bahamians.

Unfortunately, the PLP (true to form) continue to live down to my low estimation of them. However, I expected at least one new candidate to defy the norm. Dr Michael Darville is a well liked, well respected, prominent physician in Freeport. I know his father and I know him. Regrettably, he has fallen prey to the PLP's Achilles' heel, Race division.

I am a proud Bahamian whose ancestral roots are deeper than the hole that the PLP are digging for themselves. I love the Bahamas more than any other country and Bahamians more than any other nationality. As a real Bahamian man, my priority has always been; God, country, mother, wife, and daughters. Perhaps, that is why I chose to marry a Bahamian woman, 'cause I put Bahamians first.

In the Bahamas, there is empirical data that Bahamian women have excelled moreso than Bahamian men.

Consequently, eligible successful Bahamian males are in short supply. I suspect that there are scores of successful eligible single Bahamian women who would have wanted to marry prominent Bahamians like Dr Darville, Jerome Fitzgerald, Philip Davis, Fred Mitchell, Obie Wilchcombe. The first three are married to foreign women. Is that putting Bahamians first? The other two obviously don't think Bahamian women are good enough to marry. "Them two" almost eighty and never walk down the aisle.

Don't get me wrong, I have no beef with Bahamians marrying foreign. Their spousal choice is their business. However, when you enter politics and start being hypocritical...you make it my business! Furthermore a word of caution to the aforementioned "big three", you are being disrespectful to your wives when you continue to bray like a jackass "we put Bahamians first."

Just for the record, Hubert Alexander Ingraham, has done more for Bahamians than any other Bahamian, former Prime Ministers or otherwise. His regime has benefited Bahamians of all complexions and class distinction, especially the poor. So please stop this repugnant nonsense, "we put Bahamians first."

THE SCRIBBLER  
Nassau,  
February 27, 2012.

## Airport negotiators sworn to silence

BAHAMAS Customs, Immigration and Allied Worker's Union leaders and their legal adviser, having met with Labour Minister Dion Foulkes yesterday morning, have gone undercover and sworn everyone to secrecy about the outcome of those talks. Meanwhile - up until yesterday - the labour unrest with immigration officers continued at Lynden Pindling International Airport.

Over the weekend, the union repudiated its industrial contract under which they had agreed to work a shift system, opting instead to work under General Orders, which gives them a 9am to 5pm job, with no work on Saturdays and Sundays. It virtually means that about 200 civil servants are in a position to wreck this country's main industry - tourism. Their action affects the livelihoods - including their own - of every Bahamian, be they hotel waiter or waitress, taxi driver, or business owner.

Prime Minister Ingraham said it was unthinkable that people would do such "nonsense".

Although it has been denied on all sides, Mr Ingraham is satisfied that what is happening at the airport is "politically motivated".

The situation reminds us of one of our favourite TS Eliot poems - Macavity, the Mystery Cat.

"Macavity's a Mystery Cat: he's called the Hidden Paw -

"For he's the master criminal who can defy the Law.

"He's the bafflement of Scotland Yard, the Flying Squad's despair:

"For when they reach the scene of crime - Macavity's not there!"

Macavity might not be there, but in this one we see his paw prints all over the place.

"The reality is that most of those (Customs) officers," said Mr Ingraham, "were hired by the government on the basis that they would work shifts. Many of them have signed a letter confirming, that's how they got hired and so the fact that they don't want to work that way is putting their own jobs in their hands for them to decide themselves."

Ominous words. We would advise these civil servants to take those words seriously. From experience - and we have been around a very long time and seen the outcome of many ill-conceived union threats - the only persons to suffer in the end are union members - the union leaders continue to draw their fat cheques, while the workers are looking for another job. So, remember, Immigration officers, your jobs are in your own hands - let union leaders mislead you at your peril.

But, it's election time, and the unions are on the rumble.

The vice-president of the Bahamas Air Traffic Controllers Union has downplayed reports of possible protest action from his quarters, but wants to know "how much longer" his union has to wait for its new agreement. Until after the election, would be our friendly advice.

He did not want to get to the point of a protest, he just wanted to get back to the negotiating table.

"We're reasonable people," he said. "I mean we know what's going on in the economy, but yet we expect to be fairly compensated for the work we do... it's stressful."

At least they are a few steps ahead of their Immigration colleagues - they know "what's going on in the economy", and because of that they should thank God they have a job. It might be "stressful", but imagine what the stress would have been like if Mr Ingraham had followed the world trend and fired half the civil service to reduce the country's debt. These civil servants should show some gratitude, and consideration for their country. All of them have jobs, while many of their fellow Bahamians in the private sector are losing their homes and don't know where the next penny is coming from.

Now is not the time for sabre rattling. Banish old Macavity - the cat that "always has an alibi, and one or two to spare" - and get back to work.

The announcement of an election is only a few weeks, if not days away, so if workers want a fair hearing they should wait to hold discussions with whatever government they return at the polls.

## This is no remedy

EDITOR, The Tribune.

DR RODGERS recently announced his remedy to save homes from foreclosure.

In summary, he suggested:

- "...reduce the Central Bank Prime Rate from 5.25 per cent to 2.25 per cent or lower..."
- Banks "could reduce the principal on their troubled mortgages by 50 per cent..."
- "...the Government should take immediate steps to establish a Foreclosure Trust Fund" ... of \$150m.

First, times are difficult and families losing their homes must be devastated, but to suggest that reducing the Prime Lending rate to 2 per cent would help save a home from foreclosure is not possible. The Nassau Institute

worked the sums back in June 2011, and the results tell a different story.

Secondly, to state that banks should reduce the principal of mortgages in default by 50 per cent is reckless. Banks lent money to the borrowers in good faith, and at market values. It is worth noting that banks here are not responsible for the world's economic woes.

Third, Government has no money to establish a Foreclosure Trust Fund. As Milton Friedman is reported to have said, government has no money, they must take it from the taxpayer one way or another - taxes and/or debt, etc.

It's always curious how so many people justifiably take issue with government programmes, yet believe they can design them and everything will work just fine. Freiderich Hayek called that *The Fatal Conceit*.

He was right when noting: "The curious task of economics is to demonstrate to men how little they really know about what they imagine they can design."

It's difficult times like this when families should come together to see how they can best help each other. Sometimes foreclosure is the only

option but some people have been lucky enough to move in with their family members and rent their home to keep the payments current. Banks also help if borrowers do not pretend they don't exist. The possibilities will vary with each circumstance.

Even with his scheme, Dr Rodgers laments, "You can't save all of the mortgages. Some of them are going to go down because people have no jobs and no monies at all".

Taking tax dollars from Bahamians so people in the political class and Civil Service can decide who they want to give it to is a dangerous precedent. It would be preferable for people with like minds to Dr. Rodgers risk some of their own money to be altruistic with. Maybe a private trust fund to help the less fortunate retain their homes is possible. That way it might be exempt of the political gamesmanship like so many other Government schemes in the past.

Altruism with other people's money creates more problems than it solves.

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THE TRIBUNE has been asking readers what they think the most important change is in terms of improving public transportation.

# Readers have their say on jitney services

TRAINING and certification of drivers is the most important change needed to improve public transportation, according to readers in a Tribune242 poll.

As part of *The Tribune's* ongoing campaign to improve the bus service, readers were asked what they think should be prioritised for change.

The regularisation of bus drivers was backed by 220 voters, while 107 readers said passenger security was paramount. Ninety-one voters thought something should be done about the number of bus companies in operation, and 47 voters thought the roadworthiness of vehicles should be the top priority.

Readers commenting on the poll expressed their support of critical changes to the country's public transportation system.

Record keeping on the number of buses in operation is essential, according to "Bahamianpeople", who said that two areas should be prioritised.

The reader wrote: "The two most important ones, in my opinion, would be training and certification of bus drivers and the number of bus companies in operation. Safe driving, knowing (and sticking) to assigned routes and 'certification' (whatever that means) is a bit self-explanatory. If you

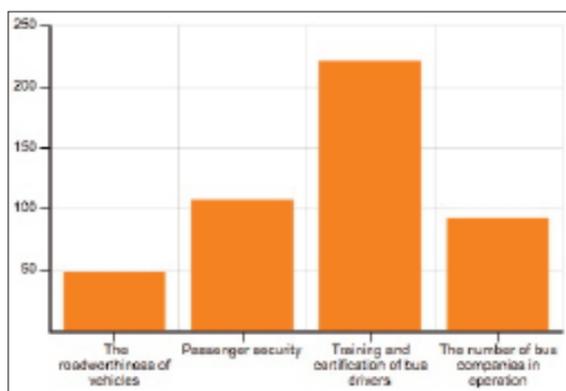


Chart by amcharts.com

don't know that then one should not be on the road. The number of bus companies in operation however is essential. Once you can keep a record of this (owner, employees, etc...) it can be monitored and controlled."

Other readers suggested that the system be based on an American model, and include assigned bus stops.

'Noun' said: "There should be only one bus company, like a real system how it is setup in the US. Also all of those distractions need to be taken away like DVD players, CD players loud music, rims and tints - these buses should be plain like again how the bus systems are set up in the US and a dress code/uniform must be worn."

'Genus86' wrote: "Bus dri-

vers need to be salaried. There needs to be a bus depot. Routes need to be posted somewhere readily available to the public. The buses need to use bio-diesel. The buses should run on a schedule."

'College Kid' added: "They need to change ALL of the above!!!"

Thanks to all of those who took part and don't forget to check [www.tribune242.com](http://www.tribune242.com) for a brand new poll.

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LOCAL NEWS

# ESCAPED PRISONER ARRAIGNED IN COURT

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Escaped prisoner Paul Rigby Jr and a young woman were arraigned in the Eight Mile Rock Magistrate's Court following his recapture early Wednesday morning.

Rigby, 26, of Martin Town, Eight Mile Rock, and Ruby-Ann Appalonia Clarke, 18, of Nansen Avenue, Freeport, appeared before Magistrate Gwen Claude on charges in connection with his escape from police custody last weekend.

Rigby escaped from the Eight Mile Rock Police Sta-

tion on March 3. He was apprehended by police early Wednesday morning at a residence in the Nansen Avenue area.

Clarke was arrested and taken into police custody.

At the arraignment, Clarke pleaded guilty to harbouring an escaped prisoner and was ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.

Rigby pleaded guilty to escape, and damage to the Police Station. He pleaded not guilty to assaulting a police officer.

Magistrate Claude deferred sentencing on the guilty pleas until June 20 when Rigby returns for trial on the assault charge.



PAUL RIGBY JR outside court.

# Pair accused of murder claimed victim had harassed woman

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Police statements taken from murder accused Ginton Louis and Coletor Johnson indicated that the victim, Markinson Justin, approached their car and attacked Johnson, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

Officer Darcy Williams took statements from the pair on July 13, 2011 following their arrest.

It is alleged that Johnson and Louis were in a gold coloured Buick Century when it struck and killed Justin, 26, who was walking on Explorer's Way.

Dr Ana Tancawan, a pathologist at the Rand Memorial Hospital, said Justin suffered several abrasions, internal organ and tissue damage, and significant blood loss.

Officer Williams, of the Central Detective Unit, said he charged Johnson and Louis after receiving Justin's death certificate.

He said they were co-operative and gave statements after being cautioned. These were entered into evidence and read in court yesterday.

Johnson told police Justin was a former boyfriend and the father of her daughter.

They met in 2006. After she became pregnant and moved out of her parent's house, she said, Justin became abusive to her.

She described a very tumultuous relationship, involving constant physical abuse, threats and harassment.

Johnson said Justin choked her while she was eight months pregnant, tried to

throw her and the baby down stairs, and once sprained her arm.

She said the victim would also come to her job and harass her, and send her threatening text messages.

The harassment continued after she left him, Johnson said. She said Justin once kicked down her apartment door and beat her and their daughter because they would not let him in.

Johnson said she was afraid to stay at her apartment, as on one occasion, faeces was smeared all over the door.

She said she reported Justin to the police on a few occasions and had him bound over to keep the peace, but he continued to harass her.

In his statement, Louis said Justin came to his apartment, threw the daughter's clothing on the porch and said since he was seeing Coletor now, it came with the package.

On July 12, Louis said he was taking Johnson to work and had stopped at the intersection of East Atlantic Drive and Explorer's Way.

He said Justin came toward the car and started hitting Johnson. He said Justin then tried to grab Johnson and pull her out of the car.

Louis said he turned the car to the left to shake Justin off, then drove down the street and turned around.

He said he then noticed Justin running directly toward the vehicle as if he was going to "drop kick" the car.

After they collided, Louis said he did not know what to do, so he drove off.

He said he did not mean to hit Justin.

Louis said they went to the police station to report the incident, but did not know Justin was dead.

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## TOASTMASTERS TO HOLD SPEECH CONTEST TODAY

TOASTMASTERS Area 87 will hold its International Speech and Table Topics contest today (Thursday) at 6.30pm at the Praise Room, Evangelistic Temple, Collins Avenue, 4th Terrace W.

The event will see contestants from Division I Area 87 compete for a chance to take on the winners of the

other six areas at Division Level.

The Division Level winners will then go on to compete at the District Level in South Florida, after which, if successful, they would challenge at International Level at Headquarters in California.

Admission to the event is free.

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**Monday, March 12th, 2012**

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Bishop Dr. Elgarnet B. Rahming & Minister Jacqueline B. Rahming

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LOCAL NEWS

# DNA: Oil drilling answers inadequate

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

THE DNA is prepared to take "bold and decisive action" if the FNM fails to properly respond to its questions about oil drilling.

The party claimed the responses issued by Environment Ministers Earl Deveaux and Phenton Neymour were "inadequate" considering the seriousness of the issue.

Last Monday, the DNA claimed the Bahamas Petroleum Company has plans to begin drilling for oil off Bahamian shores this year.

DNA Montagu candidate Ben Albury said good sources confirmed BPC's plans.

The party said: "BPC, which was granted a new series of agreements and permits from the previous government in 2005, will begin drilling this year."

When questioned about this, Mr Deveaux and Mr Neymour both denied it, emphasising the government's stance on oil drilling "hasn't changed".

"The Bahamas has a moratorium in place and it will remain in place," Mr Deveaux said.

"We, in the DNA, believe this response is disrespectful and inadequate given the magnitude of what is at stake," the fledgling party said. "We are prepared to hold these elected officials accountable and challenge the media not to be dismissed with answers meant to curtail any further inquiry."

The DNA demanded the government fully explain its position on oil exploration in the Bahamas, and say specifically if the moratorium applies to BPC's existing permits.

The party also wants to know the names of the 12 undisclosed companies that "BPC has been petitioning to drill for oil" in the Bahamas.

The DNA said it under-

stands "most of these companies are of Chinese origin."

The party also asked if a deal was negotiated to allow the government to receive 12.5 per cent of the proceeds from oil drilling with the other 87.5 per cent going to the oil companies.

"If true, the DNA believes this to be another sweetheart deal that the FNM has configured for a foreign company," the party said.

The DNA also asked what the FNM is doing to ensure that the environment is protected in the case of an oil spill.

"Reports estimate that oil reserves in the Bahamas are worth over \$1 trillion. The DNA wants FNM government to know that this will not be another BTC situation."

"The DNA urges the FNM government to be transparent with the Bahamian people and explain the full details of the oil deal with the Bahamas Petroleum Company and how the lives of Bahamians will be affected," the party said.

"If the FNM government fails to demonstrate adequate answers to the listed questions then the DNA is prepared to take bold and decisive action."

"Ben Albury, DNA Candidate for Montagu, has begun

an online petition of Bahamians prepared to demonstrate their disapproval through protest. We hope to avoid this course of action."

Meanwhile, the Ministry of the Environment released its own statement reiterating the government's position on oil "exploration and exploitation" within Bahamian waters.

"The minister advises that, notwithstanding the pressure of commercial interests, the same rationale which led the government to impose the moratorium on oil exploration exists today," it said.

Prior to "even considering" oil drilling in the Bahamas, the ministry said it would seek to have "comprehensive and robust" provisions in place.

Environmental policy, safety policy, tax policy, revenue policy, training and employment policy, contingency plans and insurance requirements would all have to be in place before oil drilling can be allowed, the ministry said.

"Further, consideration would not be finalised without opportunities for wide public dialogue," it said. "The moratorium, which binds all interested parties, affords government the opportunity to properly prepare for the future."

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THE TRIBUNE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2011. PAGE 3

## Frustration over lack of cable and internet services

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

**WEMYSS BIGHT** - Amid promises that their concerns will soon be addressed by Cable Bahamas, frustrated South Eleutherans claim the lack of cable and internet services is keeping them out of the 21st century.

Residents of the Wemyss Bight settlement voiced their frustration to *The Tribune* yesterday over the fact that Cable Bahamas has not created the infrastructure in their community to allow them access to cable television and the internet.

They said their children are missing out on important opportunities in the age of technology.

"It is embarrassing that in 2011, where technology is so important, that we are without. They have no interest in us, they believe we live out in the wilderness," said Clement Thompson, Wemyss Bight township chairman.

With a small settlement of just over 300 adults and a school student body of 100, Wemyss Bight residents feel their voices are not being heard.

According to Bishop Ernest Sweeting, member of the Wemyss Bight Township, the community is one of the only settlements in South Eleuthera with no cable or internet.

Bishop Sweeting said Cable Bahamas came to Eleuthera to connect Greencastle and Deep Creek, which are neighbouring settlements, and bypassed Wemyss Bight.

"With regard to the school kids, it's robbery," said Bishop Sweeting.

He added that last year, Cable Bahamas went to Cape Eleuthera but on again more settlements.

Bishop Sweeting said same as last year, he has been faced to the cable company to demand that the only response being "that there is nothing on the table for

children of this area at a disadvantage, they are being deprived."

Thirteen computers were recently donated to Wemyss School Library, but children are unable to access the internet or use educational learning and research tools, Mr Thompson said.

Meanwhile, settlements as close as two miles away are hooked up to Cable Bahamas.

Mr Thompson said: "It does not take much to extend cable to this area. By not doing so, they are leaving us out to dry - everyone else has service but Wemyss Bight."

He described the community's utter disappointment when they could not watch Chris Brown, a native of Wemyss Bight, win a silver medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

"It was such a shame," Mr Thompson said, shaking his head. "I would like to be able to turn on my TV and see what is going on in the rest of the country."

"We have been appealing to the powers that be for years with no results - nothing but excuses."

Mr Thompson added that he is not blaming anyone, that their fight is not political or about taking sides in any way, but rather about what is best for their community.

When asked to respond to the concerns, Anthony Butler, president of Cable Bahamas, said the company is continuing to work to connect the Family Islands to their system, but added that he could not say when Wemyss Bight would be visited by the company's technicians.

"It is based on the availability of the construction crews which are currently working in Grand Bahama and Long Island," said Mr Butler.

When asked why Wemyss Bight was "passed over" when neighbouring areas were hooked up, Mr Butler only said his crews have a schedule and will be working to the schedule on the Family Islands this year.

However, Dr Keith Wisdom, public relations manager at Cable Bahamas, said Wemyss Bight has not been left out and can expect services to begin being installed by the end of September.

However, Dr. Keith Wisdom, public relations manager at Cable Bahamas, said Wemyss Bight has not been left out and can expect services to begin being installed by the end of September.

# Honouring women in an age of participation

**OPINION**  
By **JOHN DINKELMAN**  
US Embassy Chargé d'Affaires

SECRETARY Clinton has noted that "What we are learning around the world is that if women are healthy and educated, their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will flourish. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will flourish. And when families flourish, communities and nations will flourish."

These words have particular relevance as we celebrate International Women's Day around the world and as we continue to make strides for women's progress.

Women are a cornerstone of America's foreign policy because the simple fact is that no country can hope to move ahead if it is leaving half of its people behind.

Women and girls drive our economies. They build peace and prosperity. Investing in women means investing in global economic progress, political stability, and greater prosperity for everyone – the world over.

In December, President Obama released the first-ever US National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, charting a roadmap for how the United States will accelerate and institutionalise efforts across the government to advance women's participation in preventing conflict and keeping peace.

This initiative represents a fundamental change in how the US will approach its diplomatic, military, and development-based support to women in areas of conflict, by ensuring that their perspectives and considerations of gender are woven into the fabric of how the United States approaches peace

**'This is a time where every individual, regardless of gender or other characteristics, is poised to be a contributing and valued member of their society.'**

## John Dinkelman

processes, conflict prevention, the protection of civilians, and humanitarian assistance.

International Women's Day is an opportunity to renew the call for action, investment, and commitment to women's equality. We are at a moment of historic opportunity.

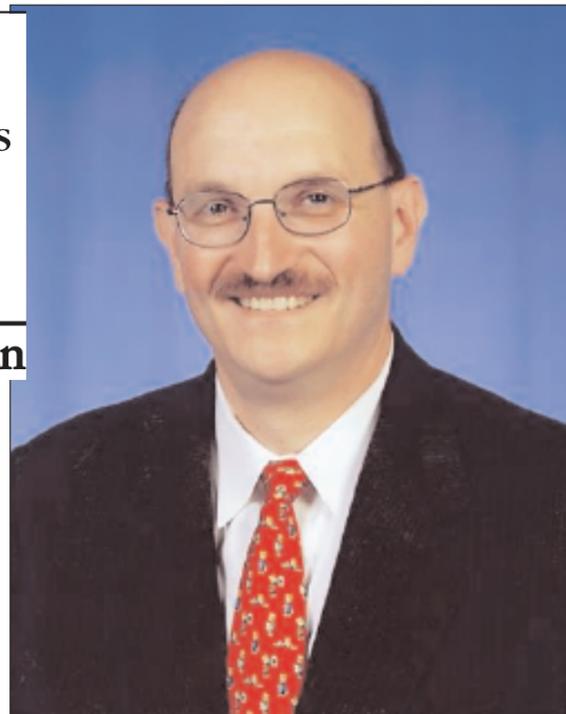
Secretary Clinton has referred to this era as "the Participation Age".

This is a time where every individual, regardless of gender or other characteristics, is poised to be a contributing and valued member of their society.

Around the world, we are witnessing examples of the Participation Age. Most notable in the Bahamas is the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Women's Suffrage Movement when women voted for the first time on November 26, 1962.

The US Embassy applauds the Women's Bureau, the College of the Bahamas and all of the students, academics and family members who participated in the three-day event in recognition of this critical milestone.

We also congratulate the



US Embassy's 2012 International Woman of Courage Award winner, the Hon-

ourable Janet G Bostwick, who was selected in recognition of her pioneering work over the last four decades in advancing women's rights.

As she noted in her in speech at the College of the Bahamas on Tuesday, women have made great strides in the Bahamas and it's important for the next generation to continue to the fight for equality.

The US Embassy stands ready to partner with women leaders throughout the Bahamas as you work to advance the social, political and economic rights for all Bahamians.

We will continue to invest in women through professional exchanges in the United States, such as the International Visitor Leadership Programme; training opportunities in the Bahamas and regionally; and targeted support to civil society organisations focused on empowering women and girls.

May we all use International Women's Day as an opportunity to honour the achievements of Bahamian female trailblazers from all walks of life with the recognition of the essential role that women can and must play in building just and sustainable communities in the 21st century.

As we honour them today, may we also renew our collective resolve to work for the cause of equality each and every day of the year.

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BETWEEN

ROSINA SMITH  
As the Personal Representative in the Estate of  
Thomas Bertis Davis  
a/k/a Thomas Bertie Davis

Plaintiff

AND

BAHAMAS VARIETY (1989) COMPANY LIMITED

Defendant

TO: BAHAMAS VARIETY (1989) COMPANY LIMITED

**TAKE NOTICE**

- That:
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  - It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected upon on you by virtue of this advertisement.
  - 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 Writ by filing a Memorandum of Appearance at the Registry of the Supreme Court, Marlborough Street Annex, 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 23rd day of January, A.D., 2012

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280 Shirley Street,  
Nassau, The Bahamas  
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LOCAL NEWS

# UNION SILENCE

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

AS the labour stand-off at the airport continues, immigration and customs union officials have made a deal with Labour Minister Dion Foulkes not to speak to the press about their discussions going forward, Trade Union Congress president Obie Ferguson revealed.

Mr Ferguson, legal representative of the Bahamas Customs, Immigration and Allied Worker's Union, said negotiations with the minister resumed on Wednesday morning at 8am.

Agreeing with Mr Foulkes not to discuss the contents of the meeting, Mr Ferguson would not comment on the progress of negotiations or if the strike action would continue while negotiations are continuing.

Following an FNM constituency opening in Long Island on Monday, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said the recent action taken by civil servants is "politically motivated" as customs and

immigration officers were hired under the terms that they would be working shifts. "The reality is that most of those (Customs) officers were hired by the government on the basis that they would work shifts. Many of them have signed a letter confirming, that's how they got hired and so the fact that they don't want to work that way is putting their own jobs in their hands for them to decide themselves," Mr Ingraham said.

Responding to the Prime Minister's comments, Mr Ferguson said the union's position has nothing to do with politics. He said: "The union has done nothing to suggest that this is a political matter." Customs and Immigration officials walked off the job at 5pm a week ago citing "general orders".

On February 29, Sloane Smith, the acting president of the Bahamas Customs Immigration and Allied Workers Union, instructed members to abandon their shift schedule as it did not comply with regulations.

The week-long action has caused major disturbances.

# 'We must fight inequality'

By AVA TURNQUEST  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

FORMER cabinet minister and speaker and of the House of Assembly Janet Bostwick challenged Bahamian women to fight against the "shameful" gender inequalities that still exist today.

Speaking at a symposium honouring the legacy of the Women's Suffrage Movement on Tuesday, the first female member of parliament said she has mixed feelings about the progress of the women's rights movement in the Bahamas.

While acknowledging that most of the issues outlined by the suffragettes have been overcome, Mrs Bostwick explained that activists "rested on their laurels" after achieving equal voting rights.

Since then, Mrs Bostwick said, the movement has not mobilised to fight other inequalities such as spousal rape and the right to transfer citizenship.

Mrs Bostwick said: "As women, we have become complacent, materialistic and quiet. We have never been



JANET BOSTWICK, who has challenged Bahamian women to fight against "shameful" gender inequalities.

more educated, nor have we ever enjoyed greater levels of influence, yet this is hardly reflected in our involvement in seeking social justice and true equality.

"It is shameful that we in this age and at this time accept it. It is an equal shame that we are prepared in this day and age to accept that a man may rape his wife and be immune to legal sanctions.

"We who cried out against rape are painfully silent when our children are being abused and raped and murdered.

"We are not agitating for laws and practices to afford us time to be at the schools at crucial times, like at the times

Bahamas, the four-day event features panelists from institutions in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States.

After more than a decade of petitioning, a bill to grant equal voter's rights to women under the General Assembly Elections Act 1959 was passed on February 23, 1961. The legislation came into effect on June 30, 1962.

At the event, Mrs Bostwick was acknowledged as the US Embassy's 2012 International Woman of Courage, the US State Department's highest award for female leaders, for her contributions to the advancement of women's rights.

Mrs Bostwick said: "The suffrage movement reached across partisan lines, racial and social class divides. The movement was actually started by a black woman who, after party politics was introduced in the Bahamas, was a member of the UBP. It was embraced by the PLP, it was adopted by women without party affiliation, supported by women of different races and social standing, and it was championed by progressive men."

# OFFICER TESTIFIES ON BULLETS IN MURDER CASE

By LAMECH JOHNSON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
ljohnson@tribunemedia.net

AN OFFICER of the police force's forensics unit testified about the discharged bullets and cartridges used in the February 2006 killing of businessman Keith Carey outside a local bank.

Detective Sgt Earl Thompson told a Supreme Court jury yesterday that on February 27, 2006, he was given the samples that came from a .9mm calibre gun reportedly used by Jamal Ginton.

Prosecutors claim Ginton was the gunman who shot Carey as he attempted to deposit \$40,000 for the Esso Service Station which he operated.

The accused, alias "Bumper", was unanimously found guilty of the murder and armed robbery of Carey on April 9, 2009.

He had been charged with Dwight Knowles and Sean Brown, who were unanimously convicted and sentenced

for robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery.

However, Ginton's conviction was squashed in the Court of Appeal after the higher court ruled that Senior Justice Jon Isaacs was wrong in law to remove the charges of murder and armed robbery against the two co-accused from the jury at the close of the case for the defence.

Senior Justice Isaacs at the time had directed the jury not to consider the charge of murder against Knowles and Brown.

That direction was one of 17 grounds of appeal filed by Ginton's attorney Craig Butler. The appellate court ruled in Ginton's favour though they ordered a retrial and remanded him to Her Majesty's Prison. He, however, received bail in the Supreme Court.

In yesterday's proceeding, officer Thompson explained to prosecutor Darnell Dorsette that his training and experience in weapon/ammunition forensics

allowed him to identify the likely firearm used in a crime with the ammunition itself.

He told the jury that he received from a fellow officer two bullets and four cartridges that were found at the scene of the shooting. Sgt Thompson said from his examining of the samples, he could tell that one of the bullets was not fired, along with two of the four cartridges.

His study of the samples also linked the discharged ammunition to two likely firearm production companies abroad.

In cross-examination by defence attorney Craig Butler, the officer said no testing was done to find identifying marks or body fluids.

He admitted that he was unable to tell the court anything other than the kind of gun the samples were fired from.

In re-examining, Ms Dorsette asked the officer if his job or qualifications included looking for body fluids.

He said no. The trial resumes today at 10am before Justice Roy Jones.

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LOCAL NEWS

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‘Cancer does not define my greatness, nor does it shape my future.’

YVETTE CARGILL, who survived cancer and has now been cancer-free for a decade. The Tribune has launched a campaign to raise funds to replace the outdated mammogram machine at the Princess Margaret Hospital. See pages 10 and 11 for more information.

### from page one

July 27, 2000 at the age of 38, and underwent surgery on August 5, 2000, followed by a radical mastectomy of her left breast and four cycles of chemotherapy between September and December.

She said: "Along with the hair loss, the thinning skin, loss of bodily fluids, black spots in your mouth, palms and fingernails; the lack of energy, constipation, loss of appetite and darkening of skin, life was pretty much what it was going to be."

Yvette made it through this ordeal, and has been cancer-free for a decade.

She believes she owes her survival to the love and support of her friends and family, and her determination to fight the disease.

"Cancer does not define my greatness, nor does it shape my future," she said, adding that upon being diagnosed,

she set to work right away – learning as much as possible about the condition and surrounding herself with positive energy.

The Bahamas has the highest breast cancer rate in the world, and one in four Bahamian women will face the same struggle as Yvette – some at a much earlier age.

The Tribune is working hard to make sure they are diagnosed as early as possible, and have the best possible chance of surviving.

We have launched a campaign to replace the obsolete mammogram machine at the Princess Margaret Hospital so every Bahamian mother, daughter and sister can have a fighting chance against the deadly disease. Please support the "Caring for Breasts Campaign" and help us save lives.

• See pages 10 and 11 for more information



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LOCAL NEWS

# 'We'll fix your cash problems'

from page one

We have been going through for the past two years. He said he knows I am frustrated, but not to let them upset me.

"He said 'The ballot box is six weeks away and in the next six weeks you might not have to deal with that.' I thought, well that's a pretty good idea, wait a few weeks and see if they will do what the prime minister is insinuating he will do but we have no faith he will do anything," Mr Roberts said.

"Personally, I think we should put the case on hold. We are going to wait until

after the elections. We may be going into a new government and the government may say 'you do not have to go to court, we know we owe you'."

Mr Bowe said they were also told by the DNA that their problems would go away if they are elected.

He said: "Elements in the DNA are picking up the effort to take this matter to the Inter American Development Bank (IDB). The IDB has protocols for carrying out these projects and the impact on commerce.

"So the way we have been damaged the lawyers believe

if we take it to the IDB they will get the government to go forward and release the money."

Last July, The Court of Appeal ruled in favour of the government, six months after the CGBL was awarded damages by Supreme Court Justice Neville Adderley.

On Monday, Prime Minister Ingraham revealed in the House of Assembly that the government would compensate business owners affected by the road works.

However, he did not specify what the compensation would be.

# ABDUCTED MOTHER FORCED TO HAND OVER \$3,500

from page one

dren" hanging around and asked it they were looking for someone. No one paid too much attention to them, thinking they were looking for work.

However, as the mother opened her front door, they moved in, tied her up with a rope and for three hours ransacked her home, stealing computers and laptops.

It is understood that they had earlier tried unsuccessfully to enter the condominium.

They were armed with a knife and hammer.

It is understood that while they were going through the house they were talking on a cell phone to an adult in Nassau who was giving them instructions on what to look

## WOMAN FOUND TIED UP IN APARTMENT

A 29-YEAR-OLD woman has been found tied up in her apartment.

Acting on information, police went to the apartment at Rocky Pine Road, off Carmichael Road in Nassau, at about 8pm last night.

Entering the apartment, they found the woman, who

was taken to hospital by ambulance, where she is described as being in a stable condition.

Police are questioning a 63-year-old male, of St Vincent Road, off Baillou Hill Road, in connection with the incident. Investigations continue.

for and what to do.

They threatened her and warned what would happen if she did anything foolish.

They ordered her to take them to the Carmichael Road bank, where she was told that there was someone waiting inside who would be watching her to make certain that she did nothing to alert bank staff.

She was dropped off at the bank.

They avoided the bank's parking lot, but drove to a side area where they could watch her.

According to the police, she withdrew \$3,500. The police report said that her husband called 919 to report the incident.

Police are investigating.

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**EXPERIENCE:** At least three years previous experience with maintaining inventory, demonstration cooking, menu development and pricing development of culinary team preferred. A Bachelor's Degree in Culinary Arts is required.

**DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:** Supervise and coordinate the activities of the kitchen, and its personnel, in regards to the preparation of all products, service and portion control along with ensuring that quality and quantity standards are adhered to. The selected candidate would be responsible for the preparation of work schedules and station assignments for the effective and efficient operation of the kitchen as it pertains to your scope. He/She will participate in the creation and supervision of training and development programs and techniques meant to improve preparation and cooking techniques of our cuisine. Assist in the day-to-day operations prior to and during the opening stages of each outlet as they come on line to ensure the creation of a successful and smooth running operation on a daily basis thereafter. Assist in the planning of special events, menus and recipes as required by the Executive Chef. Continuously monitor and communicate house count, VIP lists and functions in advance of daily operations. To recommend new procedures by which to achieve short and long term goals of improving food quality and service to our customers.

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LOCAL NEWS

# DEFENDANTS TAMPER WITH ANKLE BRACELETS 7,000 TIMES

from page one

with the assistance of the monitoring centre, pinpointing their exact locations.

However, the report noted, on February 10, 2012, the police aided by Electronic Monitoring Centre (EMC) representatives, conducted a 48-hour operation in which 20 offenders were apprehended and brought before the courts for violation of their bail conditions.

"Since then there were no further indications of tampering with the devices by offenders," the report said.

"The ICS Intervention Monitoring Centre has the ability to immediately determine such an act, should it take place and to respond appropriately, while notifying officials."

The programme was

launched in response to the high number of repeat offenders and individuals committing offences while on bail.

In 2008, the government invited tenders from electronic monitoring services providers to create a system of pre-trial and post-trial supervision and monitoring of low and high risk offenders.

The report, which studies the first 14 months of the programme, reported that:

- 315 offenders have been through the programme – 230 from New Providence, 73 from Grand Bahama, nine from Abaco, one from San Salvador, one from Eleuthera and 1 from Exuma;
- 235 offenders are currently being monitored;
- bail was revoked in 10 cases because further crimes were committed, and in an

additional seven cases because the terms and conditions were breached;

• 60 participants successfully completed the terms and conditions of their bail and were released from the programme;

• three died while on the programme;

• The youngest person admitted to the programme was 12 years old. The oldest was 62 years old;

• five women have been admitted to the programme.

Of the 7,100 alarms set off, the report said the offender was made to submit within two minutes in 98 per cent of cases.

"The two per cent who did not comply were either arrested or came into compliance a short time thereafter," it said.

# EX-POLICEMAN DENIED BAIL

from page one

guilty verdict last Friday, will now await the outcome of his constitutional motion on March 20.

He and his attorneys Wayne Munroe, Tecoyo Bridgewater and Tonique Lewis, appeared before Justice Vera Watkins seeking to be granted bail pending the outcome of the hearing.

Mr Munroe is seeking to discharge the jury's 6-3 guilty verdict on the basis of the prosecution's failure to comply with the provisions in a section of the Constitution regarding disclosure of evidence.

A nine-member jury, having heard evidence for more than two weeks, convicted Gardiner of causing the death of 28-year-old Desmond Key.

The prosecution claimed that on the Father's Day evening of June 17, 2007, Gardiner assaulted the father of six with a baseball bat in a cell at the Grove Police Station. Key died of his injuries seven months later in hospital.

Gardiner applied for bail on Monday afternoon, however prosecutor Linda Evans objected to the application. She said the verdict had been passed and added that Gardiner faces up to life imprisonment for the conviction.

The prosecutor further noted the seriousness of the offence, which she said, along with the possible life sentence, increased the likelihood of the former law enforcer becoming a flight risk.

Mr Munroe claimed his client, a committed man who served 22 years on the police force, would not run or hide from the conviction.

He contended that giving Gardiner bail pending the motion's outcome would not be a complication of the judicial process.

Justice Watkins said she would review the matter and return with a decision. She did not go into details of her ruling yesterday but noted it was in writing and on record.

The ruling acknowledged Gardiner's record of comply-

ing with previous bail conditions, lack of criminal record prior to the conviction, and ties to the community through his tenure as a police officer.

The judge also noted the prosecution's lack of formal evidence to support the belief that Gardiner would not return if granted bail.

However, in her statement she said: "I find that the opinion expressed by Counsel is sufficient in this regard as it appears to be based primarily on the fact that he has been convicted of a serious offence."

She further agreed that the offence, along with the penalty of a possible life sentence, "are very strong incentives" for him to run.

"Having regard to the circumstances, I am of the view that there is a strong likelihood of Mr Gardiner not returning to Court should he be remanded to bail."

Gardiner was denied bail and remanded to Her Majesty's Prison. He returns to court on March 20 for the constitutional motion.

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