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INSIDE SPORT TODAY

CHILDREN'S SOCCER



...PLUS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR CHEETAHS

INSIDE: CENTRE OF HOPE SPECIAL



52 years in jail for death row inmate

No execution for murderer of 16-year-old girl

By LAMECH JOHNSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
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16-year-old Donnell Connover in 2002. Her body was found off Cowpen Road, battered and bruised, her skull crushed.

Evidence also revealed that parts of Ms Connover's body were burned after her death.

A month after his conviction, then Senior Justice Anita Allen (now Court of Appeal President) ruled that the crime committed by Tido warranted the death penalty.

The decision came days after the Privy Council ruled that the mandatory death sentence in place up until that point in the Bahamas was not constitutional.

In 2009, the Committee for the Prerogative of Mercy decided the law should take its course, as Tido's case was not one that warranted mercy.

However, Tido appealed to the Privy Council, the highest court of appeal recognised in the Bahamas, which ruled that the killing of Connover did not warrant execution.

SEE page 8

FORMER death row inmate and murder convict Maxo Tido spent the first night of his new 52-year sentence at Her Majesty's Fox Hill prison last night after being resentenced for killing 16-year-old Donnell Connover.

Tido's exit from the Supreme Court, flanked by police, brought about closure for the teen's mother, Lavern Connover, who has mourned for her daughter throughout the 10 years that the case has been before the courts.

Ms Connover said: "I was looking for more years, but I can live with that. I could put a little closure to it now and move on with my life."

Tido, who was sentenced to die in 2006, saw this decision overturned by the London-based Privy Council in June of 2011.

On March 20, 2006, a jury convicted Tido of murdering

26TH MURDER VICTIM OF THE YEAR NAMED



KASNO MAJOR has been named as the country's 26th murder victim of the year after his body was found lying in a dirt road early on Wednesday morning. For the full story, see page 9.

BPC INTENDS TO DRILL TEST WELL THIS YEAR

By CELESTE NIXON
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DESPITE there being no foreseeable end to the moratorium on oil exploration in the short term, Bahamas Petroleum Company is claiming it intends to drill its first

test well this year and no later than April 2013.

While, according to Minister of Environment Earl Deveaux the moratorium, which remains in effect, covers oil exploration and "definitely drilling", the Bahamas SEE page 10

EDUCATION ON LEADERS' AGENDAS

THE state of public education was a prominent theme for both Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and opposition leader Perry Christie as they addressed supporters last night.

Mr Ingraham told an FNM crowd in Yamacraw that Mr Christie's neglect of education was one of his "greatest betrayals".

SEE page 8

JOURNALIST DEFENDS VIDEO ON 'CRIMEWAVE'

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
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AUSTRALIAN journalist Nick Lazaredes defended the journalistic integrity and relevance of his controversial crime documentary "Caribbean Crimewave" yesterday.

Rejecting calls for a public apology, Mr Lazaredes called for a more open discussion on crime challenges and social ills in the country during an exclusive interview with The Tribune.

Mr Lazaredes said: "In my SEE page 12

U-TURN FOR BRAN ON MARITAL RAPE LAW

By SANCHESKA BROWN
Tribune Staff Reporter
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WHILE not personally agreeing with the marital rape law, DNA leader Branville McCartney said yesterday if elected he would "put it to the people".

In what appeared to be a turnabout from his previously stated position on this issue, Mr McCartney said "like many other issues facing the country, the DNA believes this one can be resolved through mutual understanding and compromise".

DNA LEADER Branville McCartney who now says the issue over the marital rape law can be resolved through compromise.

A statement from the party said: "Mr McCartney is convening a focus group of representatives from both clergy and women's rights activists in order to build consensus amongst the varying perspectives."

"By facilitating a conversation where all voices can be heard, Mr McCartney hopes to develop a policy that will enforce our Christian values and protect women's rights. Our goal as a government is to ensure complete equity and equality for Bahamian women and complete protection of every civil, human and legal right as afforded men."

However, while on the TV programme Citizen's Review.

SEE page 8

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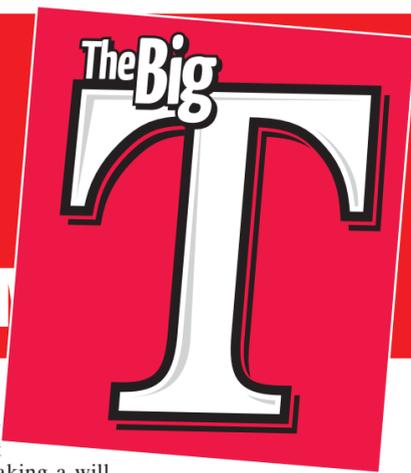
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DON'T miss *The Big T*, on sale tomorrow, packed with news, features, fashion, entertainment and up to \$150 in food and shopping coupons.

This week, check out how a new technology that could revolutionise the country's fishing industry.

Also read about how the Bahamas could take a cue from Iceland, a country with a similar population size, which

has launched a search engine that allows residents to find out if they are dating a relative.

In our weekly columns, find who the FNM's worst Cabinet Minister has been according to Adrian Gibson in "A Young Man's View"; and read about how John Marquis cannot take Tommy Turnquest's comments seriously when it comes to the country's crime

situation.

To learn why it is extremely important that you consider making a will, read our legal advice column "Legal Brief" this week.

And to find out what Bahamians are really vexed about this week - is it crime, politicians or road works? - check out "Why You Vex?"

In our STYLZ section, find

out about the essential bags are that every woman should own in "Handbags 101" and read about how a local accessory designer is on a mission to infuse Bahamian women's wardrobes with a dose of marine-themed chic.



SC MCPHERSON Junior High School student Davaro Chase sings "His Eye is on The Sparrow".



TALENT CONTEST HITS NASSAU

KINGSWAY ACADEMY Junior Choir performs a gospel song.

Photos: Eric Rose



HO NASH Junior High School students Anthony and Mark Johnson sing "He'll Do It Again".



DW DAVIS Junior High School student Terrell Tinker sings "Nobody Greater".

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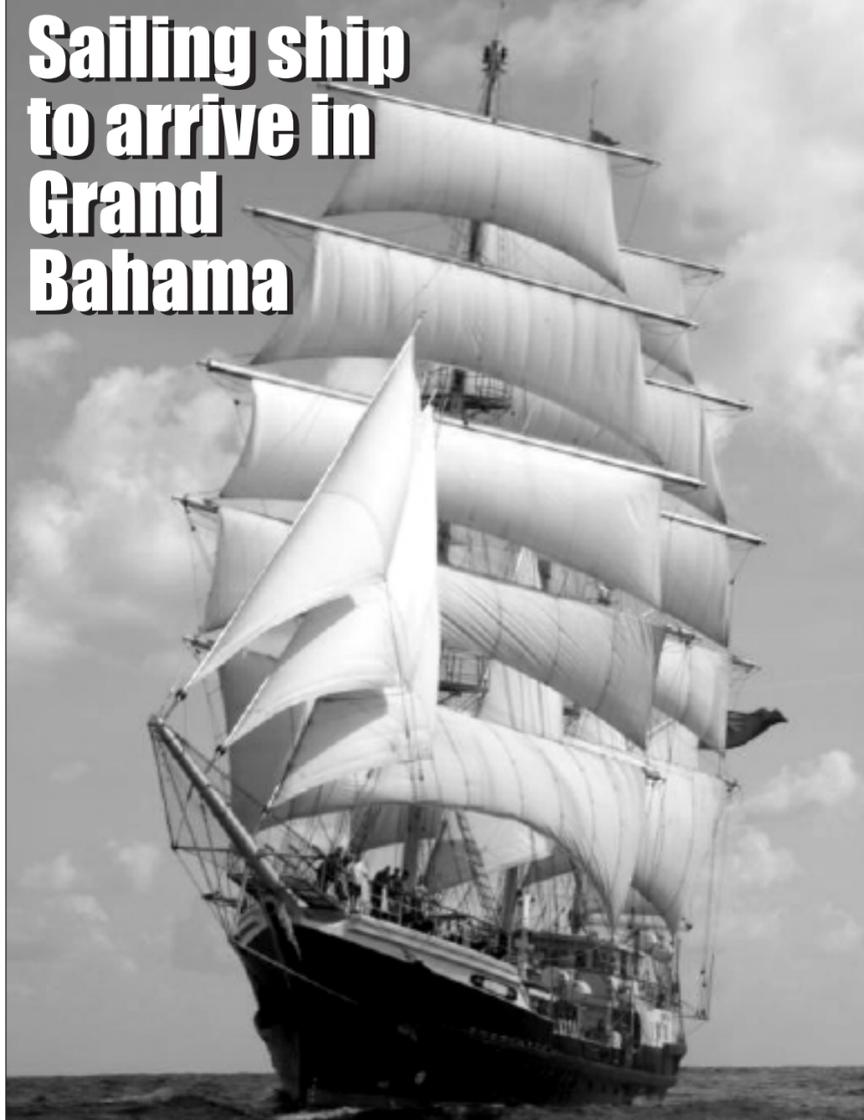
RAEDAWN LEWIS and Alyscia King represent Bahamas Academy, singing "Pray On".



DW DAVIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL students sing the gospel anthem "All Gone" during the first day of the E Clement Bethel National Arts Festival's New Providence adjudications.

LOCAL NEWS

Sailing ship to arrive in Grand Bahama



THE JUBILEE Sailing Trust, a registered charity that promotes the integration of people of all physical abilities through the challenge of tall ship sailing, is bringing its

ship, the Tenacious, to Grand Bahama. For many, sailing on one of the trust's specially designed ships can be a life-changing experience where adventure, challenge and

friendships come together. The Tenacious, which is making its way around the Caribbean, spent some time in Nassau before setting sail for Grand Bahama.

'Murderers beat up victim's pregnant wife'

BY DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
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FREEMPORT – After gunmen shot and killed Erison Tanelus, they beat up his pregnant wife and threatened to kill her and the couple's young son if she did not give them "the money", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

Frantzcia St Louis Tanelus gave a statement to police on January 7, 2009, about what took place early that morning. She said three masked gunmen forced their way into the couple's apartment and shot her husband in the head.

Samiko Rigby, 24, of Jones Town, Eight Mile Rock, is on trial for the murder. He is also accused of armed robbery and burglary. It is alleged that he was one of three men who entered the couple's apartment in Hepburn Town, Eight Mile Rock that morning.

Detective Sgt Johnson, of the Serious Crime Unit, said he arrived at the scene around 3.30am and was directed to Apartment Five. He noticed that the lock was damaged and that a spent .9mm casing was on the ground outside.

Sgt Johnson was led inside the apartment, and to an upstairs bedroom where the door lock was also damaged. He said a black man was lying on the floor with a gunshot wound to the head. The body was removed around 5.58am.

Sgt Johnson said around 7.55am, he went to the Rand Memorial Hospital's Maternity Ward, where he saw Mrs Tanelus. Mrs Tanelus was 27 years old and nine months pregnant at the time.

She said the couple went to bed around midnight. Mrs Tanelus' sister-in-law, who



SAMIKO RIGBY, who is charged with murder

was visiting from Haiti, was sleeping downstairs.

Sometime after 2am, Mrs Tanelus got up to use the bathroom. Her husband also got up, looked out the window and saw three men trying to get into the house. He called police.

Mrs Tanelus said the three men gained access to the house then forced open their bedroom door. They were wearing cloths with eye-holes over their faces, dark, hooded jackets, and were carrying medium-length guns. She said one of the men went up to her husband and shot him in the head.

Her husband grabbed a cutlass and swung it at one of the men, then fell to the ground bleeding from the head.

Mrs Tanelus said the men went downstairs, then came back and removed the bed mattress, searching for money. The men asked for money in Creole and threatened to kill her and her son. She said one of the gunmen started beating her in the face with his fist and demanding money. Mrs Tanelus showed them her son's piggy bank. The

men continued to beat her, demanding more money.

She told police they took her son downstairs and said they would kill him if she did not give up the money. She said she heard her son crying then heard a gunshot.

Mrs Tanelus pleaded with the men not to kill her baby. A short time later, she said, her son came upstairs.

She told police she then got a towel for her husband, who was still on the floor bleeding.

Mrs Tanelus said in addition to stealing \$340 from the piggy bank, the gunmen also took another \$70; her husband's LG cell phone valued at \$400; and her sister-in-law's LG cell phone, valued at \$290. She said she did not know why the men were looking for her husband.

According to Mrs Tanelus, one of the men spoke with an American accent. He kept telling her that she talked too much, that she had given police information, and that his friend got locked up in connection with an earlier break-in at the house.

The trial resumes today.

LACK OF RUNNING WATER AMONG ISSUES AT PRISON

By DANA SMITH
dsmith@tribunemedia.net

HER Majesty's Prison, Fox Hill has no running water after 6pm – just one among the many problems that have the Bahamas Prison Officers Association up in arms.

Executive members of the association detailed a list of problems affecting the prison which include derelict kitchen facilities and a lack of protective gear for officers.

Gregory Archer, BPOA president, said morale among officers is "at an all-time low" and the association has now joined forces with the National Congress of Trade Unions (NCTU) in an effort to seek improvements.

"For the past two years and some, we've been agitating to the administrator of Her Majesty's Prison on several issues," Mr Archer said. "At one point, nine months ago, the NCTU intervened with us to the superintendent of the prison and we had agreed on short term goals to be accomplished in a timely fashion. As it stands now, a new executive is now in office and these goals have not been met."

BPOA vice-president Scott Williams said: "After 6 o'clock, there is no water in the entire prison. So what happens now is, before the water is cut off we have to store the water in a 55 gallon drum and if you use the water, you have to use a five gallon bucket to flush the toilet."

"For years, we've been trying to find a solution, even if we bring to the table a solution, the administration is always finding reasons why it can't be done. That is unacceptable for us now, unacceptable," he said. "Before an officer or an inmate gets sick with some sort of disease and it spreads throughout the prison, it must come to an end."

In the kitchen, there is just "one baker and one boiler" in charge of feeding 1,500 inmates, Mr Williams said.

The ceiling tiles are black with grease and falling out – to the point where "you can literally look through and see the skies," he said. He added there is an "open grease pit" which emanates a "strong odour", and officers have slipped and hurt themselves.

The men said officers also need more panic buttons, safety vests, radio sets, and pepper spray. They added that lunch hours are not properly regulated, no transportation is provided to and from court for officers, and there is no succession planning for senior staff.

Mr Archer said the BPOA has met with National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest about the problems but he only encouraged the association to

negotiate with prison bosses. But the BPOA would prefer for the government to step in.

As for the reports of possible strike action, Mr Archer said: "Just stay tuned."

Prison superintendent Dr Elliston Rahming could not be reached for comment.

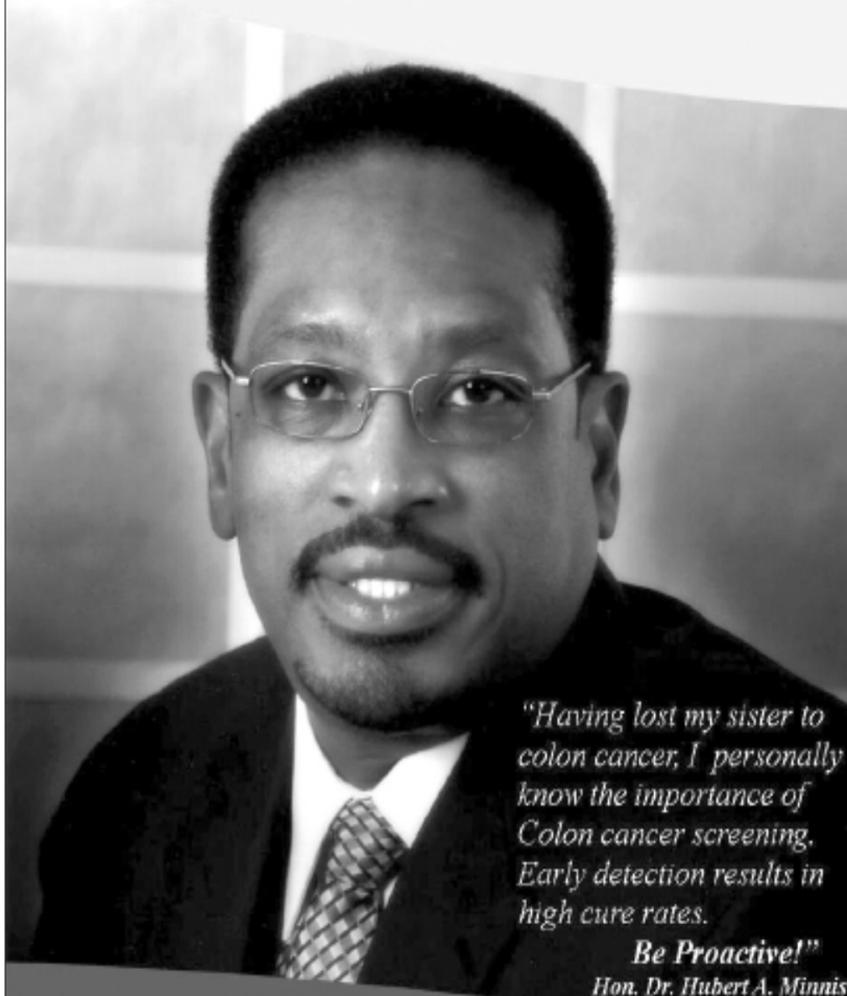
Last night, DNA Sea

Breeze candidate Alfred Poitier said Minister Turnquest must act expeditiously to address the concerns and not take the matter lightly.

"The security of our nation, the health and life of these officers are not trivial matters. Procrastination is not an option."

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21 JUMP STREET	C	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:40
JOHN CARTER	T	1:30	3:50	N/A	6:30	N/A	10:00
SILENT HOUSE	C	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:45
A THOUSAND WORDS	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:50
THE VOW	T	1:30	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:40
DR. SEUSS THE LORAX	A	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:35	10:35
PROJECT X	C	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
GOOD DEEDS	T	1:35	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:40
SAFE HOUSE	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
JOURNEY 2	B	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:35

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21 JUMP STREET	C	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
DR SEUSS THE LORAX	A	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:35
JOHN CARTER	T	1:00	4:40	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
GOOD DEEDS	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:45
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SUMMER DEADLINE FOR END TO CELLPHONE TROUBLES

BY SANCHESKA BROWN
Tribune Staff Reporter
sbrown@tribunemedia.net

and the disruption in service, but most of the issues have been resolved.

these nuisance-type situations would go away. It will take some time to get the network as robust and resilient as it should be, but we're on a track to get there.

"BTC has invested \$43 million in its new cellular network and we are improving."

Mr Johnson also confirmed that another group of employees will be given their

severance packages at the end of the month.

Remaining tight lipped on the details of the packages and the number of BTC employees receiving them, Mr Johnson said the exercise is going as well as can be expected.

"The process is going as smoothly as can be anticipated; we try to avoid getting into particulars to protect the

staff," said Mr Johnson.

He said the staggered timing of the exercises was chosen to allow the company to adjust slowly in an effort to ensure customers are not affected.

The restructuring exercise, Mr Johnson said, is all about maximising customer benefit while preparing for the opening up of the telecommunications market.

ANNUAL LECTURE ANNOUNCED

THE Eugene Dupuch Law School, in conjunction with Dupuch and Turnquest & Co., counsel and attorneys-at-law, has announced the 4th Annual Eugene Dupuch Distinguished Lecture.

The Eugene Dupuch Distinguished Lecture is intended to provide a forum for the scholarly discussion of topical jurisprudential matters that are of interest to the legal profession and civil society. Distinguished lecturers are drawn from the legal fraternity in The Bahamas and the Caribbean and the speakers are persons who have excelled in various areas of the law.

The 2012 Distinguished Lecture will be presented by Mr. Thomas Evans, QC, on Wednesday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort. The topic of Mr. Evans' lecture is "The Law and Social Change: A Look at Legal Reform in The Bahamas."

For the fourth consecutive year, the Distinguished Lecture is co-sponsored by the law firm of Dupuch and Turnquest & Co. Both the Eugene Dupuch Law School and Dupuch and Turnquest & Co. are excited about the scholarly information that Mr. Evans will share with the Bahamian society as a whole and more specifically, with the legal community on this very important topic.

The lecture is open to the public and is free of charge.

The Eugene Dupuch Law School is one of three law schools operated by the Council of Legal Education, where students can obtain post graduate legal education, before being called to the Bar in various Caribbean countries. The other law schools operated by the Council of Legal Education are the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad & Tobago and the Norman Manley Law School in Jamaica.

Warm response to survey of roadwork-hit businesses



ROADWORKS have hit a number of areas of Nassau, including Prince Charles Drive, pictured here.

By DANA SMITH
dsmith@tribunemedia.net

THE government's survey for businesses adversely affected by the ongoing road work has been greeted "very warmly", according to Ministry of Finance officials.

Starting Wednesday, the government went door-to-door asking businesses on roads where major work has been done to detail any losses incurred as a result of the construction.

The survey will be used to work out the details of a comprehensive repayment scheme, the ministry said.

Deputy director of investments Viana Gardner said: "I can tell you in general terms, from the reports that I heard, that it's going quite well, actually. Most of the enumerators have been met very warmly by business owners on both Market Street and Baillou Hill.

"As far as I understand, the questionnaires have been dis-

tributed to the businesses on those streets.

"Persons are asking questions and the information that we have available, I know that's been given to them."

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham announced the initiative on Tuesday.

Speaking to FNM supporters, he said the government will compile information, including the businesses' expenses, revenue, profits, and accounts receivable and payable during the period 2007 to 2011.

"Businesses that are in operation as well as any that may have closed temporarily as a result of the roadwork will be included in the survey.

"The results of the survey will help us determine how best we might lend economic or financial assistance to those business establishments adversely impacted by the works," Mr Ingraham said.

The survey is expected to last two weeks. The business owners then have one week to complete the surveys, and gather supporting documents, before the ministry collects them. In the weeks to follow, Mr Ingraham said, the information will be analysed and decisions will be made on the assistance to be given in each case.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

No. 3 of 2012 20th March, 2012

This NOTICE is issued by the Insurance Commission of The Bahamas ("the Commission") pursuant to sections 28 and 229(1) of the Insurance Act, Ch. 347 (2009 Consolidated Statute Laws).

The general public is hereby notified that the Commission has approved the registration of **NAGICO Insurance (Bahamas) Limited** (Reg. No. 24006), to carry on general insurance in The Bahamas, effective the 22nd February, 2012.

NAGICO Insurance (Bahamas) Limited is located at #26 East Avenue, Centreville. The Principal Representative is Mr. Bhardwaj Raghubir.

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Superintendent of Insurance

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LOCAL NEWS

52 years in jail for death row inmate

from page one

Consequently, he had to reappear before the Supreme Court for resentencing. However, his resentencing, presided over by Senior Justice Jon Isaacs, had been delayed on several occasions since last November.

Absent attorneys, missing documents, and the hiring of two new attorneys were the

reasons for the delays up to yesterday.

However, new attorney Richard Bootle came prepared for court and the proceedings went on without a hitch.

Probation officer Christina Swain of the Rehabilitative Services Department gave her report on Tido's conduct and progression since his incarcerations based on speaking with him.

In her summation, she said that Tido maintained his innocence of the matter and only expressed remorse and took responsibility for not returning her home safely on a consensual night out.

Tido felt that he had suffered from his "limited involvement" in the matter and should be released from prison.

Regarding progress, she said Tido had repeatedly broken a number of prison rules while he was detained.

Mr Bootle asked Senior Justice Jon Isaacs for leniency in the circumstances of his client having been affected by his mother's abandonment at a tender age and nonexistent father.

He said his client had only one previous conviction, carrying arms, that was served in 2005, well before the 2006 conviction.

He said his client's case, also taking into account

Tido's maintaining innocence, but accepting responsibility for not taking the girl home, did not warrant life imprisonment. He said Tido ought to be given a chance to return to society and make restitution for the crime.

In response, the judge said he took into consideration the circumstances surrounding the incident and the two years Tido served on remand before being convicted.

While he acknowledged it was Tido's right to reserve his innocence on the matter, however the jury had convicted. The judge said he would act on that conviction.

"I have not found in you true remorse," he told the convict. He gave the man 52 years after subtracting the eight years served in prison during the last decade. The sentence began from yesterday's proceeding.



MAXO TIDO being escorted by officers outside court yesterday.

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EDUCATION ON LEADERS' AGENDAS

from page one

"In their five years in office from 2002 to 2007," he said, "the PLP went right back to their selfish ways. They were so busy looking after themselves they couldn't find time to build a single school.

"In this, our latest term, we built three new schools and expanded eight more. The FNM increased national and international scholarships for qualifying Bahamians from the PLP's \$400,000 in their last year in office to \$8 million this year.

"And we increased tuition funding to COB for Bahamian students from \$5 million in their last term in office to \$25 million this term – we spent five times as much on tuition for Bahamians at COB."

Mr Ingraham said if re-elected, the FNM will move forward with their 10-year plan for education and establish a Bahamas Youth Development Corps to allow Bahamians between the ages of 18 and 25 "to volunteer their time at homework centres, after-school programmes, and to assist the elderly, the disabled and the disadvantaged while earning funds towards higher education or entrepreneurial ventures".

For his part, Mr Christie told supporters in South Andros the FNM borrowed hundreds of millions of dollars for infrastructure, "sky-rocketing the national debt" – with most of the money going to foreign contractors – while education remained underfunded.

He said: "Since last spring, the PLP has been calling for the nation to double our investment in education and training.

"I know what this moment in our history requires, Bahamians – we need a revolution in education and training.

"I'm not just talking about tinkering at the edges. I'm talking about innovation and more resources at every level, from pre-school all the way up to workers already in the workforce who need regular training to make sure their skills stay current and they can compete with the best.

"We're going to upgrade the nation's schools, make them technology-and-energy-friendly, 21st century schools, so we make sure our children have the tools they need to participate fully in the information and technology revolutions which are sweeping the world.

"We're going to have Career Path Academies, so we can dramatically expand vocational and technical training and apprenticeship opportunities."

Mr Christie said this education revolution will be for all Bahamians – "for everyone who wants to improve their chances of success, improve their skills and their knowledge, for everyone who knows they can compete with the best in the world if their government believes in them and invests in them".

Mr Ingraham's take on the PLP's education plan was somewhat less optimistic.

U-TURN FOR BRAN ON MARITAL RAPE LAW

from page one

hosted by Erin Ferguson, Mr McCartney when asked if the Marital Rape Bill would be passed by the DNA government, replied: "No, sir. When you get married to a person you are one."

The Bill introduced by the FNM would have a man imprisoned from seven years to life for having sex with his wife without her consent. Mr McCartney said that legislation of this magnitude cannot be rushed because of "international pressure".

"I was a Cabinet member when this legislation was first introduced, and I saw firsthand how divisive this would be to the country.

"Re-education to build awareness is required before making decisions that affect our country's Christian values. We can no longer rush legislation, because of international pressure without considering how it would affect our society," he said.

"I object to Butler-Turner's

assertion that this issue will eliminate the DNA from the political race, mainly because this party, unlike her own, are open to a discussion with women's rights activist, clergymen and others."

Ben Albury, DNA candidate for Montagu said he believed Mr McCartney's comments were misunderstood.

He said: "The party does not condone violence of any type and the party does not condone marital rape.

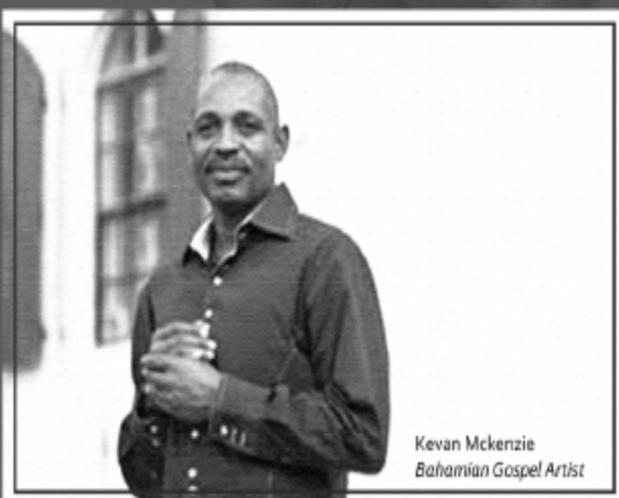
"The problem is Mr McCartney spoke from the perspective of an attorney in that it is very difficult to prove rape between a husband and a wife.

"When you get before a court and it's only husband and wife in the bedroom and the husband is saying one thing and the wife is saying the next and there was no witness, it makes it difficult.

"To pass a law specifically for marital rape would be a great challenge for any administration."

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month

Appendices
epiploicae



Kevan Mckenzie
Bahamian Gospel Artist

I was diagnosed with colon cancer at the age of 45. I had seen blood in my stools several years earlier but delayed having a colonoscopy. Since then I have had surgery and several cycles of chemotherapy. Its been tough but "my worse day is somebody's best day, so I won't complain".

Kevan Mckenzie

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LOCAL NEWS

\$10m to be borrowed to fix flaws in social services

By LAMECH JOHNSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
ljohnson@tribunemedia.net

THE government is set to borrow \$10 million from the Inter-American Development Bank to correct serious flaws in the Ministry of Social Services and its various assistance programmes for those living in poverty.

The funds will launch the "Social Safety Net Reform Programme" which will support the government's efforts to reduce poverty and improve human capital development.

According to Melanie Griffin, former Minister of Social Services, the deal was in the final stages of preparation under the former PLP

administration.

"That was started under the Christie administration. We began the process and it was in it the final stages as we had done the necessary research with the Inter-American Development Bank to bring about the reform that the department needed," she said.

According to the project's profile, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development funds several aid initiatives, including "food assistance, financial assistance, school uniform and footwear, the National Lunch Programme, disability allowance and medical card assistance."

In addition, the National Insurance Board provides non-contributory pension and

assistance benefits for the elderly poor.

However, research has revealed that a number of individuals benefiting from these programmes do not live under the poverty line.

"According to the 2006 Household Expenditure Survey, only 42 per cent of beneficiaries of the Food Assistance Programme and 24 per cent of beneficiaries of the non-contributory pension are in the lowest 20 per cent of the population," an IDB report said.

Through the Social Safety Net Reform Programme, these issues are expected to be corrected.

While acknowledging the great benefits to be gained from the programme, Mrs

Griffin said it was no surprise that the government decided to launch it at election time.

"We were in the final stages of the project when our term in office ended in 2007. And I did follow up to see what was being done with the programme. As a matter of fact, records of the House of Assembly reflect that I asked the government what was being done with the programme.

"The prime minister at the time didn't know about it but he promised to get to the bottom of it. And obviously he now decided to bring it back," she said.

The current Minister of Social Development, Loretta Butler-Turner, was not available for comment.



MELANIE GRIFFIN, former Minister of Social Services, said the Social Safety Net Reform Programme had been started under the Perry Christie administration.

26TH MURDER VICTIM OF THE YEAR NAMED

By SANCHESKA BROWN
Tribune Staff Reporter
sbrown@tribunemedia.net

POLICE still have no leads in the country's latest murder and are asking for the public's help.

The body of Kasno Major, 21, of Montell Heights was discovered lying on a dirt road early Wednesday morning. He was the country's 26th murder victim.

Police say his body was found around 7.30am off Cox Way, East Street.

Head of the Central Detective Unit Paul Rolle said: "We currently have no leads and no suspects. We are appealing to members of the

public who may have heard anything or who may know something to come forward so we can bring this family some closure."

Friends and family of the slain man posted tributes on his Facebook page, describing him as a "fun-loving, kind hearted man, who would do anything for a friend."

Family members were too distraught to speak to *The Tribune* yesterday.

Meanwhile four people – three women and a man – are being questioned by police after the discovery of a large quantity of marijuana.

Eastern Division officers

were on routine patrol on Lumumba Lane around 1pm on Wednesday, when they observed the occupants of a grey Daewoo acting suspiciously.

The officers conducted a search and discovered 60 pounds of drugs with an estimated street value \$60,000.

An 18-year-old Shirlea Park man is also being questioned by police, in connection with the attempted robbery of Wendy's Restaurant on Mackey Street.

Police say off duty police officers and a security guard stopped the robbery and confiscated a handgun and ammunition.

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LOCAL NEWS

Demeritte's Funeral Home

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Funeral Service For

Julieann Hart-Pratt, 49



a resident of Bamboo Street, Pinewood Gardens, who died on 10th March, 2012, will be held at **Transfiguration Baptist Church, Market & Vesey Streets, on Friday at 11:00 a.m.** Officiating will be Rev. Dr. Stephen E. Thompson, assisted by Rev. Basil Johnson. Interment follows in Western Cemetery, Nassau Street.

Left to cherish her memories are her **son:** Lamont Moss; **daughter:** Cherese Sands; **3 grandchildren:** Ashley, Shawn & Ashawntae Sands; **father:**

Charles Hart; sisters: Lonice Hart, Sabrina Hart-Anderson; **brothers:** Tracy & Travis Hart; **son-in-law:** Shawn Sands Sr.; **sister-in-law:** Monalisa Pennerman-Hart; **brother-in-law:** E'Van Anderson; **nephew:** E'Van Jr.; **aunts:** Betsy Cartwright, Corine Davis, Dorothy Sands, Olive Martin, Shirley Smith, Carnetta Gibson, Nita Martin, Eunice Occident & Monica Martin both of New York; **uncles:** Joseph Martin of New York, Ben Rolle, Stanley & George Martin & Lennox Cartwright; **cousins:** Rev. Sherma Bove, Rev. Cyril Sands, Annabell Gibson, Carol Wilson, Theresa Mortimer, Lorna Sands, Richard, Stephen, Bradley & Frederick Sands, Monique Charlow, Bridgette Henfield, Shannett, Ricardo, Kimbo & Harris, Herman, Jill & Ellis Occident of New York, Marsha Johnson, Theresa, Joy, Hope Williams & Alexander Flowers, Maxwell, Herbert, Leviticus, Kenneth, Preston, Robert, Clifford, Helena, Sheila, Patrice Cartwright & Theresa Higgs, Craig Martin, Georgette, Georgina & Tammy Martin, Manicha Scott, Viola Roxbury, Lenora, Elizabeth & Dianna Ferguson, Ernestine Hart-Miller, Rev. Neville Hart & family, Inetha Hart & family, Fanny Colebrooke; **other relatives & friends:** Lexie & Danny & families, Peggy Dean, Rupert Anderson & family, Shervin Lloyd, Winston & Joyce Curry, Zelma Nichols, Colamae Butterfield, Mr. & Mrs. Cheval Gray & family, Debbie Taylor & family, Jan Taylor, Helen Butler & family, Carmel Gibson, Carnetta Brown, Paula Bowleg, Patricia Rolle, Samuel Berry & family, Gregory Austin, Transfiguration Baptist Church family, New Mt. Zion Baptist Church family, Judy's Day Care Centre, Ministry of Education, The Bahamas Gaming Board, Kelly's Home Centre, Former Nassau Beach Hotel Staff, Government High School & St Augustine College Alumni Associations & many other relative & friends too numerous to mention.

Friends may pay their last respects at **Demeritte's Funeral Home, Market Street**, from 2-6:00 p.m. on Thursday & on Friday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until service time.



DNA CANDIDATE to Montague Ben Albury speaks to *The Tribune* yesterday.

Photo: **Tim Clarke/Tribune Staff**

BPC INTENDS TO DRILL TEST WELL THIS YEAR

from page one

Petroleum Company's (BPC) website claims the company "intends to continue the exploration programme in the next extension (through 2015)".

Mr Deveaux has confirmed that BPC has certain rights and obligations included in its permit, which are written into the act and regulations.

However, *The Tribune* understands even if the provisions allow non drilling exploration the company has yet to apply for specific permits to test for oil which must

be approved by the Governor General.

Tribune feature writer Larry Smith, in an article published this week said under existing Bahamian law, licensees are required to drill an exploratory well within a certain timeframe – which in BPC's case is prior to April 2013 – or risk forfeiting their rights. The company says it has completed the required environmental impact assessment for this test well and is already working on a management plan.

According to Ben Albury, the DNA's candidate for

Montagu, the website should be clarified by the BPC and the government.

"Either Mr Deveaux is being misleading or BPC is misleading investors," Mr Albury said.

"If the company is out raising money through investors to continue what they are doing based on the claim they have permission to proceed, then I think it is up to the government to save our good name and take a stand and say what BPC is selling this investment on is not true or incorrect."

Last week, *The Tribune* published a list, released by Mr Deveaux, of the companies that have applied for or been granted licenses to explore for oil, either before or during the moratorium.

Mr Albury noted it was listed that BPC is represented by the law firm of PLP deputy leader Philip Davis, and that the company's managing director in the Bahamas is Jerome Gomez, opposition candidate for Killarney.

Once again calling on the PLP to join the conversation on oil exploration, Mr Albury questioned both the party's connection to BPC and whether they are receiving election donations.

Yesterday, Mr Albury provided documents said to be a presentation made by BPC to their investors earlier this month entitled: "Reducing Risk: Ready for the Drill Bit," which said that two new Bahamian directors had been

appointed to the company's board. Mr Albury believes they are Mr Gomez and Mr Davis.

In Mr Albury's opinion, Mr Davis and Mr Gomez's involvement in BPC is a "major conflict of interest", especially if re-elected in the upcoming elections and oil exploration comes before Parliament for debate.

"They should either resign from BPC or if they win their seats excuse themselves from any debate as it relates to oil and Bahamas Petroleum – they need to stand down in the interest of keeping things transparent," Mr Albury said.

Mr Albury said he has written to the minister on a number of occasions expressing his concerns on oil exploration in the Bahamas, most recently on March 21 requesting a meeting to discuss the matter.

The DNA will take all measures to get questions answered, he said.

"Oil drilling threatens two of our country's biggest industries, tourism and fishing, therefore the DNA demands to know if Mr Deveaux and the FNM government have ensured the protection of Bahamian interest."

"It is that these decisions are being made in the confines of back rooms and secret meetings," Mr Albury said. "I want the public to know what is about to happen in our precious sea."

Up to press time, Mr Davis could not be reached for comment.

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Funeral Service For The Late



GERALDINE ELIZABETH HAMILTON, 90

of #3 Joe Farrington Road and Formerly of Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, will be held on Sunday, March 25th, 2:00 p.m. at St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Kemp Road. Fr. Dr. Ronald Hamilton, Rev'd. Aphrodite Cooper and Rev'd. Helen Smith assisted by other ministers of the Gospel will officiate. Interment will follow in Old Trail Cemetery, Old Trail Road.

Geraldine Elizabeth Hamilton is survived by **11 children:** Rev'd. Helena Smith, Lay Minister Arthur, Royal Sr., Lay Minister Joseph and Renee, Rev'd. Daphne, Kevin, the Rev'd. Dr. Roland and Ramona Hamilton, Cynthia Rahming, Jennifer and Rev'd. Franklyn Colebrooke, Magistrate Gwendolyn Claude and Minister Aphrodite and Bishop Dr. Uziah Cooper Sr.; **29 grandchildren:** Arthur Jr., Lenin, Ricardo and Terryann, Royal Jr., Dr. Roland Jr. and Dr. Ashleigh, Adrian, Tonice, William, Robert, Royal I, Royal II Hamilton; Ishmael and Patricia and Dr. Frederick Smith, Laverne Charlton, David, D'Arcy and Benita Rahming, Dyrnithica and Andrew Charles, Franklyn, Guanette, Obadiah and Brandy, Luanette, Lavana Colebrooke, Tamara and Don Ferguson, Tamielle and Davawn Turner, Edward Claude Jr., Uziah Jr., D'Angelo, Llewellyn and Andrometa Cooper; **28 great-grandchildren:** Royale, Royall III and Rochea, Shante, Lenin Jr. and Lenika Hamilton, D'Arcy Jr., Erika, Cynthia, Malcolm, Matthew and Gian Rahming, Jacob and Jason Charles; Devin, Khai and Mia, Nia Colebrooke, Den'Niece and Joshua Charlton, Marion, Elias, Darin and Charisse Vanier; Tianna Ferguson; Davawn, Jayden and Torion Turner; **1 brother:** Isaiah and Ruth Hepburn; **1 aunt:** Pearlina Smith; **3 sisters-in-law:** Dr. Anniest C. Hamilton Rappel, Dorothy Hamilton and Leonie Hamilton; Israel Hall Sr.; **nieces and nephews** include Joycelyn and Rev. Peter Pinder, Christin, Emmanuell and Jordan, Gaylene and Herman McClain, Carlos and Maria, Charmaine Dawson, Charnae Lindsey, Dominique and Danielle Hepburn; Rev. Newton, Rev. Howard, Timothy, Livingston, Elder Anthony, Arnold, Nicola, Nerissa Hamilton, Althea Grant, Anniest, Armbrister, Rosie Williams, Nathaniel Rappel, Deacon Israel Hall Jr., Edwis, Ashton, Wellington, Timothy, Gregory, Cleveland, Simeon Hall and Lana Hall-Forbes; **cousins:** Ethel and Michael Laing, Elencha, Dr. Josephine, James, Edward and Sylvia Bartlette; cousins from deceased aunts and uncle: Edward Pinder, Oswald Pinder Sr., Rev. Kingsley Pinder, Phillip Pinder, Edith Moore, Betty Pinder, Eudane Russell, Zelma Pinder, Cynthia Meadows, Inez Richardson, Mavis Adderley, Meta Chea, Estelle Campbell, Ferdricka Jimenez, Bernadette Lotmore, Naomi Rolle, Beryl Poitier, Udean Thompson, Laverne Atkinson, Eslyn Jones, Joseph Hollingsworth, Leon Forbes, Sylvia Bain, Zeda Wallace, Coralee Forbes, Agatha Archer, Mary Cooper, Vienna Whitlock, Robert Bain, Whitney Forbes, Pisewell Forbes, Marvin Bain, Marie Rolle, Ruth Swaby, Rev. Allison Pinder, Prince William Grant, Prince Charles Grant, Ann Jones, Naomi Russell, Marsha Chriswell; other survivors include Be Healed Revival Time Tabernacle, Behind The Veil Prayer Healing and Deliverance Ministries; and a host of fellowship churches and other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Friends may pay their last respects at Bethel Brothers Morticians, Nassau Street on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and at the Church from 12:30 p.m. until service time. **In Lieu of Flowers, Donations may be sent to Be Healed Revival Time Tabernacle Building Fund.**

DEATH NOTICE

Millie Mae Bowe-Johnson, 48



of Winton Heights died at her residence on Wednesday, 21st March, 2012.

She is survived by her husband; **two children,** Fredrick Sawyer Jr, and Gabrielle Johnson; **granddaughter,** Finesse Williams; **mother,** Violet

Williams; **sisters, brothers, cousins and many other relatives and friends.**

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.

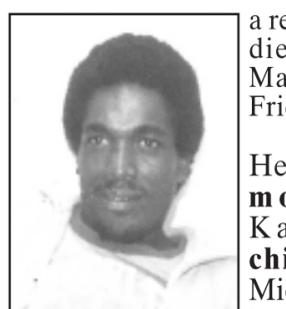
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"God Is Our Rock And Fortress In Him Will I Trust"

Death Notice For

Michael "Shakey" Mortimer, 54



a resident of Kemp Road died at the Princess Margaret Hospital on Friday, March 16, 2012.

He is survived by his **mother:** Louise Kathleen Riley; **children:** Monique, Michelle and Vanessa; **brothers:** Stephen,

Franklyn, Dale, Rudolph and Brent; **sisters:** Gwendolyn Mortimer and Dena Andrews and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral Arrangements will be announced at a later date.

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Memorial Service for



Mizpah Eunice Urich nee Carey, 80

of Shirley Park Avenue, will be held at the **Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Shirley Street at 10:00am on Saturday March 24th, 2012.** Father Mel Taylor officiating.

She is survived by her **children:** Susan Urich, Dave Urich, Paula NgWai and Jillian Urich.

Also, **son-in-law,** George Ng Wai; **grandchildren,** Nicolas and Georgia Ng Wai of Trinidad. Sister of Charles (Sonnie) Carey (deceased), Noreen Lauderdale and Marjorie Albury; **sister-in-law,** Joan Carey; **brother-in-law,** Ronald W (Billy) Albury; **nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.**

Special thanks go out to the Doctors and staff on the 4th Floor of Doctors Hospital and to the home caregivers, Angela Kemp, Vanderlee Rolle, Ursula Kemp, Barbara Augustin and June Grant.

Mizpah's family wishes to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all friends and family for the support and affection received during their time of bereavement.

Services rendered by **Pinder's Funeral Home, Palmdale Avenue, Palmdale.**

IN THE TRIBUNE ON MONDAY

PULLOUT GUIDE TO RIDE FOR HOPE



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Police chief stands down as row over teenager's shooting grows



HUNDREDS of people gather in New York for a rally for Trayvon Martin, the unarmed teenager, inset, who was shot dead in Florida by a neighborhood watch captain.

SANFORD, Fla
Associated Press

THE POLICE CHIEF who has been bitterly criticised for not arresting a neighborhood watch volunteer in the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager announced Thursday that he is temporarily stepping down to let passions cool.

Sanford Police Chief Bill Lee's decision came less than a day after city commissioners gave him a "no confidence" vote, and after a couple of

weeks of protests and uproar on social media websites. Lee has said the evidence in the case supported George Zimmerman's claim that the Feb 26 shooting of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was self-defence.

Martin was returning from a trip to a convenience store when Zimmerman started following him, telling police dispatchers he looked suspicious. At some point, the two got into a fight and Zimmerman pulled out his gun.

Zimmerman told police



Martin attacked him after he had given up on chasing the teenager and was returning to his sport utility vehicle.

The shooting ignited racial tensions in the Orlando suburb. Civil rights groups have held rallies in Florida and New York, saying the shooting was unjustified.

DROWNING CAUSED WHITNEY HOUSTON'S DEATH

WHITNEY HOUSTON died from drowning in a hotel bathtub, but coroner's officials said Thursday that heart disease and chronic cocaine use were contributing factors to the singer's death.

The release of the autopsy findings ends weeks of speculation about what killed the

singer on Feb 11. Houston was found submerged in the bathtub of her room at the Beverly Hilton Hotel and her death has been ruled as accidental.

Several bottles of prescription medications were found in her hotel room, but coroner's officials said they weren't in excessive quantities.

Beverly Hills police said there was no evidence of wrongdoing in connection with Houston's death.

"We are saddened to learn of the toxicology results, although we are glad to now have closure," said Patricia Houston, the singer's sister-in-law and manager.

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LOCAL NEWS

JOURNALIST DEFENDS VIDEO ON 'CRIMEWAVE'

from page one

opinion, problems such as the crime problem in the Bahamas should be discussed openly, not hidden. In the long term the damage is far greater for problems to be allowed to fester.

While he acknowledged conflicting views over descriptive language used in the film, Mr Lazaredes denied claims that he had a subversive agenda to damage the country's tourism industry.

He also noted that most of the information discussed in his report had already been documented by international organisations, such as the United Nations.

Publicised through Australia's Special Broadcasting Services' Dateline programme, the 15-minute report was aired on March 13 and depicts a country under siege by violent crime.

The report examines the country's crime roots and challenges through select interviews with National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest, journalist Jerome Sawyer, evangelist Myles Munroe, an off-duty police officer and two citizens.

The brutal killing of 11-year-old Marco Archer in September last year was high-



THE DATELINE website featuring the Caribbean Crime Wave video.

lighted as a new low for the country, according to Mr Lazaredes, who reported that

Bahamians were forced to live in fear of being attacked or robbed.

Mr Lazaredes said he chose to focus on the murder of 11-year-old Marco Archer because it was a prominent example of the overall toll

exacted by a rise in violent crime.

"The people that are watching are very touched by (Marco's story)," he said.

"People shouldn't think that stories like this are really going to make a terrible and dramatic impact on the tourism industry. These things perhaps can have short term impact but it is far better for such issues to be discussed."

Opposition leader Perry Christie was also interviewed; however, Mr Lazaredes said he chose not to include the footage as it might have politicized the documentary and subsequently detracted from its message.

Earlier this week, Mr Turnquest demanded an apology from the Australian journalist and said the documentary was a "total misrepresentation" of the crime situation in the Bahamas.

Mr Lazaredes said: "I was really impressed with how articulate young Bahamians were about this problem - that's where I'm a little perplexed about where I apologize. The story was a collection of media reports, government leaders, and Bahamians, they expressed the views that's coming out in the video."

He added: "My reaction was on one side a bit horrified that it upset a certain group of people, but at the

same time I guess I was pleased in a way."

Mr Lazaredes said: "For me, I guess that's what journalism is all about, inspiring a reaction in people. I guess I'm glad the issue is being discussed."

The documentary was inspired by the "stark increase" in crime in the past year, according to Mr Lazaredes, who said he'd been monitoring the Caribbean region, specifically The Bahamas, for nearly a decade.

Mr Lazaredes said he was particularly intrigued by the issue of capital punishment and the Privy Council. The proximity, and subsequent burden as so aptly described by Mr Munroe in the documentary, of the United States was also a point of interest.

"In the last 12 months, you saw this rapid spike in murder. It caught my interest because now you had a situation where the death penalty was no longer applied but the crime situation was worsening."

"The fact that you've had so many differences recently with regards to Privy Council, if you like, interfering to the point that you have to change laws. It speaks to the views of Bahamians."

He added: "While capital punishment is a burning issue in many countries, it was very interesting and refreshing to listen to Bahamians and their views as to why or otherwise capital punishment should be carried out."

Up to press time last night, the video had attracted just under 15,000 views on Youtube.

While Youtube comments for the video have been disabled, Mr Lazaredes encouraged persons wishing to express fair views to comment on Dateline's website, www.sbs.com.au/dateline.



JOURNALIST Nick Lazaredes, who made the documentary.

PRAISE FOR CONTAINER PORT FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



WINSTON ROLLE, left, and Michael Maura tour the container port at Arawak Cay.

DURING a tour of the new container port at Arawak Cay, Chamber of Commerce President Winston Rolle said he was much taken by the impressive developments he saw there.

Michael Maura, CEO of the Arawak Port Development Company (APD), updated Mr Rolle on the changes and advancements in the shipping sector over the past three years, which have necessitated new tariff charges.

Mr Maura pointed out the features of the facility that he said bring it into the 21st century of commercial shipping. He said the new port is ful-

ly compliant with ISPS code requirements and customer service is enhanced by APD's state-of-the-art terminal management and NAVIS-Argo with offsite back-up, ensuring accurate and complete trade records and container tracking.

Greater Bahamas Customs control, including two transit sheds and Customs X-Ray capability supported by onsite physical examinations of containers, lower the risk level, which will facilitate faster cargo delivery, Mr Maura said.

The enhanced security at the port includes a single gate, which is rapidly nearing completion and will be oper-

ated by APD in partnership with Bahamas Customs and the Port Department.

Additionally, there will be round-the-clock security, perimeter fencing, and surveillance cameras.

Betty K was the first shipping company to move from Bay Street into the 25,000 sq ft warehouse at Arawak Cay, where it will shortly be joined by the other shippers who have traditionally operated within the narrow confines of Bay Street.

These moves are key to the redevelopment of Nassau, the almost 400-year old capital, for the benefit of both Bahamians and visitors.