ADDERLEY HITS OUT AT PLP LEADERSHIP AS HE QITS HOUSE

‘It’s the worst personal experience I have faced’

ATTORNEY voices concern over retired politicians on bench

By TANJA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
Thompson@tribunemedia.net

ATTORNEY Thomas Gomez contends that the number of retired politicians who are taking up positions in the judiciary is hurting the independence of the system. He says the increasing number of former politicians is creating a conflict of interest among judges.

“I call it the 'old boy's network'” he said. “It’s not just about the retired judges who are independent justices, but about those who are taking up positions in the lower echelons of the system. The system is becoming too cozy for comfort.”

Mr Gomez said that the independent judiciary is undermined by the increasing number of former politicians who are taking up positions in the lower echelons of the system. He says that the system is becoming too cozy for comfort.

MALCOLM ADDERLEY
 speaks in the House yesterday.

Hotel Union members protest ruling on president

By NOELLE NEILLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nellls@tribunemedia.net

MEMBERS of the Bahamas Hotel, Catering and Allied Workers Union gathered at Rawson Square yesterday to protest a Court of Appeal ruling that challenged the legitimacy of the union’s elected president.

“We are sick and tired of what is going on. We want our voices to be heard”, said the union president. The union has been in dispute with the government for over 50 years, and the latest court ruling is a blow to their hopes of winning a settlement.

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Tribune Staff Reporter

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter

By PAUL G TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter

By AMY CLARKE
Tribune Staff Reporter

Malcolm Aderley's resignation speech in full

Mr Speaker, I am sure that politics is about human beings coming together to achieve common goals for the good of all. It is about our relationship with one another. It is about our policies and the measures that we take to make Bahamians' lives better. It is about our position in today's world and the way that we respond to the challenges of our future as a member of the Commonwealth and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States.

I am sure that politics is about our capacity to govern and work for the good of the people. It is about our willingness to make the difficult decisions that are necessary. It is about the manner in which we achieve them. It is about the sacrifices that we make. It is about the strength of character that is displayed almost on every day of our political lives.

I am sure that politics is about our personal experience that my family and I. It is about the sacrifices that have been made and the personal experience that my family and my constituents have shared in running this government. It is about the personal experience that my family and I share in the type of politics that I have dealt with them.

I am sure that politics is about our ability to deal with those who work with us. I am sure that politics is about our ability to deal with them who work with us. I am sure that politics is about our ability to deal with them who work with us. I am sure that politics is about our ability to deal with them who work with us.
Perry Christie denies undermining character of Malcolm Adderley

By ALISON LOWE

The Tribune Staff Reporter

PLP Leader Perry Christie yesterday refuted accusations that he undermined or “viciously” belittled the character of Malcolm Adderley, the MP who quit politics altogether was a representative.

The ex-MP, whose resignation occurred in parliament yesterday, said he and his family had engaged in behind-the-scenes tactics against those with whom he had disagreements.

He said of how he perceived the Adderley who undermined or "viciously" belittled the character of Malcolm Adderley, saying his behavior was "extreme politics and hatred". He has been accused of being characterised by "extreme politics and hatred".

The PLP leader said that in the past, Adderley had engaged in behind-the-scenes tactics against those with whom he had disagreements.

He claimed he suffered in the days and weeks that unfolded, not only today but which the course of action personally supported Mr Adderley.

The PLP leader said that in the past, Adderley had engaged in behind-the-scenes tactics against those with whom he had disagreements.

Adderley was characterised by "extreme politics and hatred". He has been accused of being characterised by "extreme politics and hatred".

The PLP leader said that in the past, Adderley had engaged in behind-the-scenes tactics against those with whom he had disagreements.

He claimed he suffered in the days and weeks that unfolded, not only today but which the course of action personally supported Mr Adderley.
Malcolm Adderley bows out—first at last

YESTERDAY, after seven and a half long years of being bullied by a small political enemy, the leaking little dingy, mv SS Adderley, had finally come to rest on the shore looking from without … Yes, mv Elizabeth, there were times when they hesitated. The tremendous courage of the crew on the Adderley, anxious awaiting with baited breath to see if the sea was raging, the waves were blowing and it would come back. It had no sail; it had no motor; it did not have the PLP, a party, he said, that had the “dis- tinct impression of former Prime Minister Sir Lynden Adderley — through a story about a leaking dingy, Adderley told the House of Assembly on Monday of the election victory. “Sad tales from front to back. I had to put my cards on the table. The PLP candidate for Elizabeth in the May elec- tion of that year.”

“This dingy,” Mr Adderley told the PLP, “is the image of our party. There will have to be an inquiry into the damage done.”

SIR ETIENNE DUPUCH, Kt., O.B.E., K.M., K.C.S.G., Publisher/Editor 1919-1972

Shirley Street, P.O. Box N-3207, Nassau, Bahamas

C M

KINGSWAY CENTER

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION FOR SEPTEMBER, 2009.

The Entrance Examination will be held on the school at Bernard Road on Saturday, January 16, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. for students wishing to enter grades 7, 8, 9, or 10. Deadline for applications is Monday, January 11. Applications can be collected at the Business Office or at the High School.

Contact the school at Telephone numbers 324-8811, 324-8269 or 324-8827 for further information.

NOTICE

Mohs Surgery in Nassau

DR. JOHN STRAISWEM, MOHS SURGICAL SPECIALIST, will be performing Mohs Surgery in Nassau January 15th, 2010, Dr. Straiswem trained in West Virginia and is Board Certified and a Fellow of the Mohs College.

Mohs Micrographic Surgery is an advanced treatment process for skin cancer which is now offered in the Bahamas. It offers the highest possible cure rate for many skin cancers and simulates the healing process common with the sacrifice of normal tissue. This cutting-edge treatment requires specially qualified physicians that are both surgeon, pathologist and reconstructive surgeon.

Our visiting Mohs surgeon has extensive experience in the Mohs Micrographic Procedure. This technique is used to treat the most common forms of skin cancer: basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma.

For more information, please contact: The Skin Centre, Harbour Island, East Bay Street Tel. 393-7546.
THE National Development Party is calling for constitutional reform that would limit a prime minister’s chances of abusing his power.

The party charged that the country’s political system is “broken” because it is ruled by a constitution that “offers very little in the way of checks and balances on the vast powers of the Prime Minister.”

The NDP argued that under the country’s current system of governance, the position of prime minister does not facilitate democracy, but “is rigged to produce dictatorship.”

Said the NDP: “Our constitution is extremely vulnerable to abuse, since it is our constitution that permits the prime minister to virtually act alone in selecting the chief justice and two of the other sitting members of the five-member Judicial and Legal Services Commission – the statutory body responsible for appointing judges who decide high court cases.

“It is the prime minister that has constitutional authority to decide whether a sitting Supreme Court judge will be allowed to receive a two-year extension beyond the mandatory retirement age of 65; and it is the Prime Minister who decides when an election is called.

“Such examples of power effectively give the prime minster control of all three branches of our government: the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary – and usually stack the deck in his favor.

“It is the prime minister who decides on the same day that former FNP MP Malcolm Adderley resigned his seat in Parliament and days after he quit the FNP. It is speculated that the politician was wooed by government to give up his seat in exchange for a position as a Supreme Court judge.

“The NDP is calling on the Ingraham administration to cease games of “political power” and honour a 2007 campaign promise to institute local government in New Providence.

The party believes candidates from the two major political parties should be chosen through voter primaries, instead of being selected through an internal party process. The NDP thinks allowing constituents to choose nominees will help to fix the country’s “broken” political system.

THE TRIBUNE
TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM

LOCAL NEWS

NDP calls for reform to limit a PM’s chances of power abuse

THE National Development Party is calling for constitutional reform that would limit a prime minister’s chances of abusing his power.

The party charged that the country’s political system is “broken” because it is ruled by a constitution that “offers very little in the way of checks and balances on the vast powers of the Prime Minister.”

The NDP argued that under the country’s current system of governance, the position of prime minister does not facilitate democracy, but “is rigged to produce dictatorship.”

Said the NDP: “Our constitution is extremely vulnerable to abuse, since it is our constitution that permits the prime minister to virtually act alone in selecting the chief justice and two of the other sitting members of the five-member Judicial and Legal Services Commission – the statutory body responsible for appointing judges who decide high court cases.

“It is the prime minister that has constitutional authority to decide whether a sitting Supreme Court judge will be allowed to receive a two-year extension beyond the mandatory retirement age of 65; and it is the Prime Minister who decides when an election is called.

“Such examples of power effectively give the prime minister control of all three branches of our government: the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary – and usually stack the deck in his favor.

“It is the prime minister who decides on the same day that former FNP MP Malcolm Adderley resigned his seat in Parliament and days after he quit the FNP. It is speculated that the politician was wooed by government to give up his seat in exchange for a position as a Supreme Court judge.

“The NDP is calling on the Ingraham administration to cease games of “political power” and honour a 2007 campaign promise to institute local government in New Providence.

The party believes candidates from the two major political parties should be chosen through voter primaries, instead of being selected through an internal party process. The NDP thinks allowing constituents to choose nominees will help to fix the country’s “broken” political system.

THE TRIBUNE
TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM

LOCAL NEWS

NDP calls for reform to limit a PM’s chances of power abuse

THE National Development Party is calling for constitutional reform that would limit a prime minister’s chances of abusing his power.

The party charged that the country’s political system is “broken” because it is ruled by a constitution that “offers very little in the way of checks and balances on the vast powers of the Prime Minister.”

The NDP argued that under the country’s current system of governance, the position of prime minister does not facilitate democracy, but “is rigged to produce dictatorship.”

Said the NDP: “Our constitution is extremely vulnerable to abuse, since it is our constitution that permits the prime minister to virtually act alone in selecting the chief justice and two of the other sitting members of the five-member Judicial and Legal Services Commission – the statutory body responsible for appointing judges who decide high court cases.

“It is the prime minister that has constitutional authority to decide whether a sitting Supreme Court judge will be allowed to receive a two-year extension beyond the mandatory retirement age of 65; and it is the Prime Minister who decides when an election is called.

“Such examples of power effectively give the prime minister control of all three branches of our government: the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary – and usually stack the deck in his favor.

“It is the prime minister who decides on the same day that former FNP MP Malcolm Adderley resigned his seat in Parliament and days after he quit the FNP. It is speculated that the politician was wooed by government to give up his seat in exchange for a position as a Supreme Court judge.

“The NDP is calling on the Ingraham administration to cease games of “political power” and honour a 2007 campaign promise to institute local government in New Providence.

The party believes candidates from the two major political parties should be chosen through voter primaries, instead of being selected through an internal party process. The NDP thinks allowing constituents to choose nominees will help to fix the country’s “broken” political system.
The Christie-led PLP won the 2002 general election, when MP for Elizabeth since the said the MP.

He was appointed Chairman of the Gaming Board in 2005 after the retirement of Prime Minister in 1997 — Mr Adderley's withdrawal from politics to stop.

In the meantime, it is rumoured that Mr Adderley is set to be appointed as a Supreme Court judge by the then Prime Minister in February.

Instead, he claimed he chose to quit after considering that this "constant and perpetual undermining of the daily elected Member of Parliament in total disregard of the will of the people of Elizabeth" that this contrivedCREATE_vulgar called creation of constituents once Prime Minister

"It's the worst personal experience I have faced"... that this contrived the will of the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived the perpetual undermining of the leadership... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disregard of the people, of Elizabeth... that this contrived the people of Elizabeth... that this contrived a constant and perpetual disrespect of the legislature in total disreg...
Bradley Roberts: I won’t be running for by-election

By TANEKA THOMPSON Tribune Staff Reporter tthompson@tribunemedia.net

CHAIRMAN of the Progressive Liberal Party Bradley Roberts laughed off reports that he would throw his hat into a by-election race for the vacant Elizabeth seat left by former PLP Malcolm Adderley.

He also called on Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham to call a general election instead of “squandering” public money on a by-election.

Speaking to The Tribune yesterday, Mr Roberts said he was “tickled” by the idea of running, which he admitted some supporters have approached him about – but claimed there was no merit to reports reaching The Tribune that he will be the PLP candidate in the looming by-election.

"Some people have advanced that idea but I have no interest. I've been there and I've done that," he said, laughing.

His comments came the same day Mr Adderley – who was voted in by Elizabeth constituents for two consecutive terms on the PLP ticket – officially resigned from the House yesterday, just days after quitting the opposition.

It is a move that the chairman sees as a "betrayal" of the people of the Elizabeth constituency.

This means a by-election in the area is imminent, however it is still unknown if the cash-strapped PLP will offer a candidate.

Mr Roberts refused to comment on speculation that it would be beneficial for the PLP to enter a candidate using minimal financial support.

"We got to go through the process – the PLP is not like the FNM you know, it doesn't have one man who runs everything," he said.

"What I want Mr Ingraham to do is call the general election; that's what I want him to do instead of wasting money that the government said it doesn't have.

So far, attorneys Ryan Pinnder, Craig Butler and Ken Dorsett have expressed interest in representing the PLP in the Elizabeth area.

PLP CHAIRMAN

Bradley Roberts

PLP to enter a candidate using minimal financial resources in order to test voter support.

He would only say that the party’s plans would be revealed when the party’s National General Council meets in the coming days.

"The members in the area areommitt, however if it is still unsure if the cash-strapped PLP will offer a candidate."

Mr Roberts refused to comment on speculation that it would be beneficial for the audience.

Mrs. Kephene Cunningham LLL is Hons. (Lond.) LL.M (Lond) Postgraduate Dip. Postgraduate Cert. (Lond.) MCAtb (Lond.), former Vice-President of the Industrial Tribunal of The Bahamas announces the opening of her Law Chambers

KELPHENE CUNNINGHAM & COMPANY

Barrister
Council and Attorneys-at-Law
Corporate and General Legal Services, Arbitration, International Dispute Resolution and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Notaries Public

320 Bay Street
P.O. Box N 12
Nassau, The Bahamas
Tel: (242) 322-9414-6
fax: (242) 322-9417
Website: cunninghamlawchambers.com
Email: kcliffe@cunninghamlawchambers.com

FOR RENT

Shop & Warehouse
Harbour Bay Shopping Center
serious inquiries email: hbs shop4rent@gmail.com

JERRY SEINFELD

Saturday, January 23, 2010
Imperial Ballroom
9:30 PM

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL 363-6601

ANNOUNCEMENT

Fashion Hall

Top of the Hill Mackey Street:
Mail at Marathon Town Centre Mall

New Year's Blowout Sale

January 17, 2010

TAKING 30% OFF

All regular priced items

TAKING 50% OFF

All items on the clearance racks

REWARDS CLUB

Members will receive an extra 5% OFF their final bill and Wednesday is Double Points Day.

Sign up for a Rewards Club Card today in-store or on our website @ www.fashionhallbahamas.com
Fitzgerald fires fresh broadside at Laing

PLP Senator questions Minister's political fitness

In a statement issued yesterday, Senator Fitzgerald said that his criticism of the government's stewardship has been reasonable and constructive, and that the statements made by Mr. Fitzgerald should be taken seriously.

The Bahamian national debt has almost tripled from $430 million in 2002 to $1.1 billion at the end of 2009. This is due to the government's borrowing, which has increased and persisted and the economic base has weakened somewhat... against us, we have to take what I say seriously and listen carefully to the warnings given by Standard and Poor's. It's not a pretty picture. It's a sense of urgency to develop a plan to reduce our national debt, diversify our economy and reduce our dependence on imported goods.

I again invite the Minister and the PLP government to carefully review the contents of my initial release and respond in a mature and reasoned manner, which is what the Bahamian people expect of them.

To stabilize and improve following a more proactive government policy response to reduce debt level--like Mr. Fitzgerald said.

That is why I am calling on the PLP government to take the contents of my initial release and respond in a mature and reasoned manner, which is what the Bahamian people expect of them.

Senator Fitzgerald added that the fact still remains that the foreign currency portion of the Bahamian national debt has almost tripled from $430 million in 2002 to $1.1 billion at the end of 2009.

PLP Senator Jerome Fitzgerald.
Chinese govt expresses support for the Baha Mar resort project

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnnicolls@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – The Chinese government is expressing support for the Baha Mar resort project.

The potential financier, and China State Import-Export Bank, the potential financier, and China State Import-Export Bank, is expected back in the country early this year to carry out negotiations with the government.

While the government is not directly involved in negotiations, it is facilitating something for state-owned companies the others must compete in the market on their own.

"Our intention and best wish is to promote bilateral relations and ensure the Chinese government and the embassy would like to do more to help to improve bilateral relations and ensure the Bahamian people profit," said Mr Tan.

Mr Tan said the number of Bahamians and the Chinese that occurred at Workers House this week

Tyrellex Star Motors
284, P.C. Highway, Nassau, Bahamas, Tel 242.325.4961 • Fax 242.323.4667

THE Mercedes-Benz C-Classis equipped with many innovative technical balance which delivers a driving experience that is unique in this class. Think beautiful design, elegant ease and stately presence. The new C-Class has been completely revised to meet the Mercedes-Benz philosophy. It's performance art.

Our parts department is fully stocked with every component necessary to ensure your Mercedes-Benz runs smoothly. To order, call or visit our Parts Department.

Tyrellex Star Motors
284, P.C. Highway, Nassau, Bahamas, Tel 242.325.4961 • Fax 242.323.4667

TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM

WEB STORE

raid on to WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM

WEB STORE

WEB STORE

WEB STORE
Looking for an exciting career in retail?

We Should Talk

John Bull Ltd. is looking for people who:

• Know what it means to give outstanding customer service
• Have an interest in retail sales and management
• Desire to be fun and enthusiastic to our family
• Truly believe the customer always comes first

We offer:

• A great group of people to work with
• A competitive benefits package
• An outstanding employee discount policy
• All of the training you’ll need to be highly successful

We should talk.

The premier retailer in The Bahamas currently has job openings for the following positions:

Technician
Database/Network Administrator
IT Project Manager
Sales Associates
Beauty Advisors
Store Managers

The position is responsible for ensuring profitable portfolio growth and revenue generation for the entire Scotia Private Client Group (SPCG). This will be achieved through effective customer service, marketing and new business development, and the development of all “Relationship Banking” solutions, including the need to develop and maintain the highest of service levels to our clients. The position will also be responsible for ensuring the highest levels of customer satisfaction and for helping our customers to achieve their financial goals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

• University undergraduate and/or equivalent degree preferred.

OTHER INFORMATION:

• Must be committed to excellence.

*ScotiaBank (Bahamas) Ltd. is seeking a Senior Relationship Manager, Scotia Private Client Group. This position will involve expanding your role in Scotia’s ScotiaPrivateClient Group to develop a high-impact account strategy and deliver superior customer service.

Looking for an exciting career in retail?

John Bull Ltd. is looking for people who:

• Know what it means to give outstanding customer service
• Have an interest in retail sales and management
• Desire to be fun and enthusiastic to our family
• Truly believe the customer always comes first

We offer:

• A great group of people to work with
• A competitive benefits package
• An outstanding employee discount policy
• All of the training you’ll need to be highly successful

We should talk.

The premier retailer in The Bahamas currently has job openings for the following positions:

Technician
Database/Network Administrator
IT Project Manager
Sales Associates
Beauty Advisors
Store Managers

The position is responsible for ensuring profitable portfolio growth and revenue generation for the entire Scotia Private Client Group (SPCG). This will be achieved through effective customer service, marketing and new business development, and the development of all “Relationship Banking” solutions, including the need to develop and maintain the highest of service levels to our clients. The position will also be responsible for ensuring the highest levels of customer satisfaction and for helping our customers to achieve their financial goals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

• University undergraduate and/or equivalent degree preferred.

OTHER INFORMATION:

• Must be committed to excellence.

*ScotiaBank (Bahamas) Ltd. is seeking a Senior Relationship Manager, Scotia Private Client Group. This position will involve expanding your role in Scotia’s ScotiaPrivateClient Group to develop a high-impact account strategy and deliver superior customer service.

Looking for an exciting career in retail?

John Bull Ltd. is looking for people who:

• Know what it means to give outstanding customer service
• Have an interest in retail sales and management
• Desire to be fun and enthusiastic to our family
• Truly believe the customer always comes first

We offer:

• A great group of people to work with
• A competitive benefits package
• An outstanding employee discount policy
• All of the training you’ll need to be highly successful

We should talk.

The premier retailer in The Bahamas currently has job openings for the following positions:

Technician
Database/Network Administrator
IT Project Manager
Sales Associates
Beauty Advisors
Store Managers

The position is responsible for ensuring profitable portfolio growth and revenue generation for the entire Scotia Private Client Group (SPCG). This will be achieved through effective customer service, marketing and new business development, and the development of all “Relationship Banking” solutions, including the need to develop and maintain the highest of service levels to our clients. The position will also be responsible for ensuring the highest levels of customer satisfaction and for helping our customers to achieve their financial goals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

• University undergraduate and/or equivalent degree preferred.

OTHER INFORMATION:

• Must be committed to excellence.

*ScotiaBank (Bahamas) Ltd. is seeking a Senior Relationship Manager, Scotia Private Client Group. This position will involve expanding your role in Scotia’s ScotiaPrivateClient Group to develop a high-impact account strategy and deliver superior customer service.

Looking for an exciting career in retail?

John Bull Ltd. is looking for people who:

• Know what it means to give outstanding customer service
• Have an interest in retail sales and management
• Desire to be fun and enthusiastic to our family
• Truly believe the customer always comes first

We offer:

• A great group of people to work with
• A competitive benefits package
• An outstanding employee discount policy
• All of the training you’ll need to be highly successful

We should talk.

The premier retailer in The Bahamas currently has job openings for the following positions:

Technician
Database/Network Administrator
IT Project Manager
Sales Associates
Beauty Advisors
Store Managers

The position is responsible for ensuring profitable portfolio growth and revenue generation for the entire Scotia Private Client Group (SPCG). This will be achieved through effective customer service, marketing and new business development, and the development of all “Relationship Banking” solutions, including the need to develop and maintain the highest of service levels to our clients. The position will also be responsible for ensuring the highest levels of customer satisfaction and for helping our customers to achieve their financial goals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

• University undergraduate and/or equivalent degree preferred.

OTHER INFORMATION:

• Must be committed to excellence.

*ScotiaBank (Bahamas) Ltd. is seeking a Senior Relationship Manager, Scotia Private Client Group. This position will involve expanding your role in Scotia’s ScotiaPrivateClient Group to develop a high-impact account strategy and deliver superi
**Synergy Bahamas 2010 Training Schedule**

---

**Course**

- **Adobe Photoshop Graphics Designer**
- **QuickBooks Professional**
- **Microsoft Office 2007 (MCA)**
- **Certified Office Administrator**
- **Introduction to Personal Computing**
- **Certified Computer Technician**

---

**Description**

- Create professional-looking images for print and direct marketing campaigns and the web.
- Learn from the world’s most popular small business accounting software to manage your business.
- Get Certified in the latest Microsoft Office suite, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Learn the fundamentals of operating and managing a computer language and become a certified interpreter.
- Learn to use your personal computer to create digital content, both visual and audio online and interact.
- Learn how to become an IT Professional: First, you need to learn how to be IT and troubleshoot computers.
- Learn the skills of network security and understand how it relates to other areas of IT.
- Jumpstart your career in Information Technology by earning three of the most sought after IT certifications.

---

**Schedule**

- **Adobe Photoshop Graphics Designer**
  - **January 29** – **May 8**
  - **7:00-9:00 p.m.**

- **QuickBooks Professional**
  - **February 2** – **March 27**
  - **4:00-6:00 p.m.**

- **Microsoft Office 2007 (MCA)**
  - **March 30** – **May 13**
  - **7:00-9:00 p.m.**

- **Certified Office Administrator**
  - **January 30** – **May 12**
  - **7:00-9:00 p.m.**

- **Introduction to Personal Computing**
  - **February 26** – **March 27**
  - **7:00-9:00 p.m.**

- **Certified Computer Technician**
  - **March 8** – **April 5**
  - **10:00-12:00 p.m.**

---

**TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM**

---

**Pre-clearance legislation could boost Grand Bahama economy**

Pre-clearance legislation could boost Grand Bahama economy

---

Based on legislation that has been passed in the United States, Pre-clearance is a new method of processing passengers at Grand Bahama International Airport (GBIA). It is similar to the processes of pre-clearance at Jamaican and Canadian airports and it is designed to allow passengers to clear customs and immigration before traveling to the United States. The program was implemented in the United States in 2008 and has since been expanded to other destinations.

Benefits of the Pre-clearance program include:

- Faster and more convenient processing of passengers.
- Reduced wait times at US ports.
- Improved passenger experience.
- Increased safety and security measures.

The Pre-clearance program is expected to bring several economic benefits to Grand Bahama, including:

- Increased tourism numbers.
- Boost to local businesses.
- Increased employment opportunities.
- Economic growth and development.

The program has already been implemented at several international airports, including:

- Miami International Airport, USA
- Toronto Pearson International Airport, Canada
- Jamaica’s Murtala Muhammed International Airport

The Pre-clearance legislation is currently being debated in Parliament. If passed, it will allow for the implementation of Pre-clearance at GBIA, which is expected to attract more international passengers to the airport and boost the local economy.

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) has expressed support for the Pre-clearance legislation, stating that it will create a more efficient and streamlined process for processing passengers at GBIA, leading to increased tourist arrivals and economic growth.

---

**TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM**

---

**Superclubs executive chairman conferred with honorary degree by University of West Indies**

---

The Superclubs executive chairman, John Issa, has been awarded a honorary degree by the University of the West Indies. The award recognizes Mr. Issa’s contributions to the tourism industry and his role in shaping the Caribbean’s tourism landscape.

Mr. Issa is the founder and executive chairman of Superclubs, a leading hospitality company in the Caribbean. He has played a significant role in the growth and development of the tourism industry in the region, particularly in Jamaica. Mr. Issa has been instrumental in establishing and expanding Superclubs’ operations across the Caribbean and Latin America.

The University of the West Indies praised Mr. Issa as one of the field’s most influential figures. The award is a testament to his unwavering commitment to excellence in the tourism industry and his dedication to improving the quality of life for people in the Caribbean.

---

**TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM**

---

**Beyond his hotel ventures, Mr Issa has deep roots in Jamaica:**

---

Beyond his hotel ventures, Mr Issa has deep roots in Jamaica. He served as a senator from 1983 to 1989, chairman of the Jamaica Hotel Law Board, and the first chairman of the Jamaica Tourism Board. He also founded the Travelers’ Aid Society and Negril Beach Village, and opened Breezes, the all-inclusive resort at Cable Beach.

Mr. Issa has played an influential role in Bahamas tourism with the 1995 opening of Breezes, which was the first all-inclusive resort in the Bahamas. He has also introduced the Super-Inclusive holiday with his Negril Beach Village in 1976. Mr. Issa’s contributions to the industry have been recognized with several awards, including an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies.

---

**TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM**

---

**Pre-clearance agreement (amendment) Bill**

---

The Pre-clearance agreement (amendment) Bill has been passed, allowing for the implementation of Pre-clearance at Grand Bahama International Airport (GBIA). The legislation will enable passengers to clear customs and immigration before traveling to the United States, providing a more convenient and efficient process.

**Aims of the legislation**

- Faster processing of passengers.
- Reduced wait times at US ports.
- Improved passenger experience.
- Increased safety and security measures.

The Pre-clearance program at GBIA is expected to attract more international passengers, boost tourism, and generate economic benefits for Grand Bahama.

---

**TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.TRIBUNE242.COM**

---

**We are committed to both your learning and career success by offering:**

- **Free resume and interview workshop**
- **Free career workshops**
- **Free job placement assistance**
Hotel Union members protest ruling on president

The teachers and the workers are really excited. We don’t want to lose our job, and we want to make sure that our children can go to school. We are reaching out to all organizations for help. We are not going to take this lightly. We are going to fight for our rights, and we will not give in to any threats. We are not going to just walk away. We are not just going to pay the bill. We are going to stand up for our rights. We are not going to be pushed around by anyone. We are going to fight for our rights.

FROM page one

Malcolm Adderley resigned on the recommendation of the Judiciary Committee of Parliament, which was appointed to the bench last month. The committee has been investigating allegations of misconduct by Mr. Adderley. According to the committee, Mr. Adderley had been involved in various legal matters, including a conflict of interest, which questioned if Mr. Adderley was qualified for the bench.

However, Mr. Adderley has denied any wrongdoing and has appealed the decision. The case is currently pending before the Supreme Court.

Registration centres to open today

Nicola Martin, one of the former first vice-presidents of the Union, has been appointed to the bench. She has been a long-standing union member and is well-respected by the workers. She has been a strong advocate for workers’ rights and has always stood up for what is right. She is a true representative of the workers and has been a great asset to the union.

FROM page one

Nicola Martin, the ex-MP who was arrested last month in connection with a conflict of interest, is expected to make an opening statement in her appeal. She has denied any wrongdoing and has appealed the decision.

It is too early in the year for this. One judge makes a de- cision and another judge makes another decision. It sounds like there’s no consistency in the court system, who say all it is, a mockery. We are not going to stand by idly to let no court system, which questioned if Mr. Adderley was qualified for the bench.

The workers are really feeling it. We don’t want to lose our job, and we want to make sure that our children can go to school. We are reaching out to all organizations for help. We are not going to take this lightly. We are going to fight for our rights, and we will not give in to any threats. We are not going to just walk away. We are not just going to pay the bill. We are going to stand up for our rights. We are not going to be pushed around by anyone. We are going to fight for our rights.

Let’s talk about your life choices.

It takes a lifetime’s commitment raising a child, but only the price of a daily coffee for extra financial security.

$300,000 life cover costs around $30-$40 per month for female/male age 30*. Rates vary with age, but they are very affordable and no medical is necessary. You can consider more options if you are thinking about long-term, family financial security. Atlantic Medical can help you choose savings strategies and/or flexible life cover to meet your targets and your budget. Ask us how to do is safe and ask for a free and personalized financial review from a qualified advisor.

* Illustration only ran way
$7m food market pledges price drop

**Investors eye Freeport FBO**

*Fantastic development* of private aviation

**By NEIL HARTNELL**

Robin Hood’s president yesterday urged more “customer contact” to follow his lead by giving employees ownership stakes in their businesses. Leif Thorpe, chief of Thorpe Group and a long-time friend of the company, told the Tribune that more companies should give ownership stakes to their workers.

Robin Hood, which was granted an ownership stake in their company by the company’s owner, said they should consider giving employees ownership stakes in their companies. He said that the company has given employees ownership stakes in their companies, and that they should consider giving employees ownership stakes in their companies.

Several groups are looking into the establishment of a fully Integrated FBO (freeport business), with the objective of attracting business to the Freeport area. The Chamber chief hopes increased traffic will result in greater airport revenues, lowering commercial aircraft fees and reducing aviation fuel costs.

By CHESTER ROBARDS

Several groups are looking into the establishment of a fully Integrated FBO (freeport business), with the objective of attracting business to the Freeport area. The Chamber chief hopes increased traffic will result in greater airport revenues, lowering commercial aircraft fees and reducing aviation fuel costs.

**By DEREK HOWARD**

A leading fiscal hawk says government achieved “one of the best years in 36-37 years” of independence.

Rick Lowe, an executive with the Bahamas Institute for Economic Policy (BIEP), said the government achieved “one of the best years in 36-37 years” of independence.

He said that the government achieved “one of the best years in 36-37 years” of independence.

The principal investor in Bahamas’ frustrated Orange Light, said he hoped his company would not be among the companies that have seen stake’s value fall.

Several groups are looking into the establishment of a fully Integrated FBO (freeport business), with the objective of attracting business to the Freeport area. The Chamber chief hopes increased traffic will result in greater airport revenues, lowering commercial aircraft fees and reducing aviation fuel costs.

BY K P TURNQUEST

K P Turnquest, responding to the government’s announcement of the establishment of a fully Integrated FBO (Freeport Business) in Freeport, said he was “pleased” with the decision to establish a fully Integrated FBO (Freeport Business) in Freeport.

He said that the government should “future generations of Bahamians will have a burden that no generation has had to carry before”.

PRELIMINARY data shows that Urinon’s Christmas holiday arrivals were up 5.2 per cent year-over-year, but that the minister of tourism and aviation monitors the numbers daily, while a large resort on the island was “handedly swamped” by bookings during the season.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, told Tribune Business that the company that increased airlift into the country’s fastest-developing economy has certainly “fuel oil dividend” and warned that the “future generations of Bahamians will have a burden that no generation has had to carry before”.

The principal investor in Bahamas’ frustrated Orange Light, said he hoped his company would not be among the companies that have seen stake’s value fall.

**Abaco’s Xmas arrivals grow 5% in 2009**

Leading resort says December ‘over forecast’ and ‘way up’ on 2008

**By CHESTER ROBARDS**

Business Reporter

PRELIMINARY data shows that Urinon’s Christmas holiday arrivals were up 5.2 per cent year-over-year, but that the minister of tourism and aviation monitors the numbers daily, while a large resort on the island was “handedly swamped” by bookings during the season.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, told Tribune Business that the company that increased airlift into the country’s fastest-developing economy has certainly “fuel oil dividend” and warned that the “future generations of Bahamians will have a burden that no generation has had to carry before”.

The principal investor in Bahamas’ frustrated Orange Light, said he hoped his company would not be among the companies that have seen stake’s value fall.
Norbert Boissiere, Chairman of FamGuard Corporation Limited (FamGuard) and Ian Fair, Chairman of Bahamas First Holdings Limited (Bahamas First) are pleased to announce that FamGuard and Bahamas First are in discussion with a view to consolidating their two holding companies.

The terms and conditions of the transaction are currently being negotiated and if negotiations are successfully completed will result in these majority Bahamian owned companies coming together under one group holding company.

The companies are currently engaged in due diligence exercises and negotiations, which are subject to shareholder and regulatory approval, are expected to be concluded by June 30, 2010.

If the transaction is successfully concluded the combination of these two companies will result in the creation of the first composite insurance holding company in The Bahamas and the result in the consolidation of approximately $200 million in gross premium revenue.

It is expected that the combined entity will achieve greater efficiencies from the consolidation of operations at the holding company level as well as broaden the market access for all product lines offered by both companies within the Bahamas and the wider region.

Bahamas First and FamGuard share a similar history with both entities having been established as holding companies for their home grown insurance subsidiaries, Bahamas First General Insurance Company and Family Guardian Insurance Company which were established in 1982 and 1985 respectively.

FamGuard became a publicly traded company in 1998 and began the process of restructuring its insurance operations in 2001 with the merger with Star Insurance Company (Bahamas) and the acquisition of the remaining 50% portfolio of BahamaHealth Insurance Brokers & Benefit Consultants Limited in 2002. In 2006 FamGuard entered into a strategic alliance with Sagicor Financial Corporation with that entity acquiring 20% of its shares. In 2008 FamGuard launched its pensions and wealth management subsidiaries, FG Financial Limited and FG Capital Markets Limited.

Since its creation 28 years ago, Bahamas First has taken a lead position in the general insurance market and was the first local general insurance company to exceed $100 million in premium income in 2007. Also in 2007, the company entered into a strategic arrangement with the Economical Insurance Group (EIG) of Canada with that entity acquiring 20% of its shares.

The insurance subsidiaries of both companies are currently rated A-Excellent by international rating agency A.M. Best.

Bahamas First and FamGuard will issue another release upon conclusion of these negotiations.

SAFEGUARD AND BAHAMAS FIRST IN DISCUSSION TO CONSOLIDATE COMPANIES...
The Bahamas' imports from the US grew at a 16 per cent annual rate between 2001 and 2008, data produced by the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) has revealed, with this nation accounting for around 25 per cent of the region's US import bill in 2008.

A CRNM document, describing the Bahamas as the "top import market for US goods in CARICOM", said: "The Bahamas was the most dynamic importer of US goods between 2001 and 2008, overtaking Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. Between 2001 and 2008, the Bahamas' appetite for US goods grew by 16 per cent annually. None of this will come as a surprise, given the Bahamas' proximity to the US and taste for things American, with this nation accounting for 25 per cent of all US exports to the CARICOM region.

This data comes after the US Trade Representative Office’s report on the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), published this week, found that of the $465.823 million worth of goods exported to the US by the Bahamas in the period January-August 2009, some 13.3 per cent or $62.16 million entered tariff-free under the preferences provided by the initiative. These figures represented a drop on the 2008 comparative period, when $93.472 million or 27.9 per cent of a total $334.497 million worth of goods exported to the US by the Bahamas entered under the CBERA.

The figures were achieved despite the bank's $1.5 million investment in sophisticated software and equipment to bring credit card processing in-house, a move that prepares it to supply that service and others to financial institutions and business locally as well as internationally.

The duties of this position include but are not limited to developing short and long term plans to improve reliability and efficiency, providing leadership for the coordination of T & D activities of the utility, external customers and other internal departments, establishing and reviewing appropriate technical standards and T & D maintenance programs.

Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering or equivalent years experience in a Utility Company with at least six years in a technical position and four years in a supervisory or management position. Applicants are required to have proven leadership skills in a unionized work-place, proven ability to improve system reliability and overall efficiency in a T & D organization to meet group and industry benchmarks, experiences leading emergency power restoration, specifically hurricanes, and demonstrated ability to lead a large team through change.

Applications with supporting documentation including a clear Police Certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to.
GENERAL HANDYMAN

The New Providence Development Company Limited is seeking a general handyman to perform various maintenance tasks throughout the group of Companies. Experience in pool maintenance and landscaping is a plus. Candidates must be able to read and write, and be able to work independently.

Please fax your resume to 362-4582 by Monday, January 11th at 11:00am.

COALITION OF THE HOMELESS

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law & Equity Division

SCOTBANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND

ANTONIO E. ROLLE

Defendant

Temple Christian High School

Entrance Examination 2010 - 2011

Temple Christian High School will hold its Entrance Examination on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, 2010 at the school on Shirley Street from 8:00a.m. - 12:00noon for students wishing to enter grades, 7,8,9 and 10.

Application forms are available at the High School Office. The application fee is twenty dollars ($20.00). Application forms should be completed and returned to the school by Friday, February 5th, 2010.

For further information please call
394-4841 or 394-4844

NOTICE

IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 12 of the International Business Companies Act, No. (45) of 2000, NONA HOLDING MANAGEMENT INC and WAIFINAN-MANAGEMENT SERVICES BAHAMAS LTD. are the Liquidator of NONA HOLDING MANAGEMENT INC and WAIFINAN-MANAGEMENT SERVICES BAHAMAS LTD. located at 1351 Meridian Street, One Nassau Centre, 4th Floor, Nassau, Bahamas. All persons having claims against the liquidated companies are enjoined to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the Liquidator (notice date: April 10th, 2000).

DATED the 4th day of January, A.D. 2010.

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.

Chambers,
Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue, Nassau, Bahamas.

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

NOTICE

IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 12 of the International Business Companies Act, No. (45) of 2000, NONA HOLDING MANAGEMENT INC and WAIFINAN-MANAGEMENT SERVICES BAHAMAS LTD. are the Liquidator of NONA HOLDING MANAGEMENT INC and WAIFINAN-MANAGEMENT SERVICES BAHAMAS LTD. located at 1351 Meridian Street, One Nassau Centre, 4th Floor, Nassau, Bahamas. All persons having claims against the liquidated companies are enjoined to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the Liquidator (notice date: April 10th, 2000).

DATED the 4th day of January, A.D. 2010.

Gabrielle Schneider Liquipartners

23, rue Beaumont L-1219 Luxembourg

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF PATRICK A

WAINWRIGHT BRETHER, a.k.a.

WAINWRIGHT PATRICK BRETHER

a.k.a. PATRICK BRETHER

late of and domiciled of Eastover Estates, Bakersville, New Providence, The Bahamas, deceased

NOTICE IS hereby given that all persons who have any claims or demands against or interested in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 21st January, 2010 at the premises of the above Estate, and the above Estate will proceed to distribute the assets of the above Estate having regard to only the claims, demands or other matters in respect thereof and ALL persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle their debts or on or before 17th January, 2010.

V.L. LIGHTBURN & Co.

Attorneys for the Executors

P.O. Box AB-20605

Buck Island, Marsh Harbour

Abaco, The Bahamas

TO DISCUSS STORIES ON THIS PAGE LOG ON TO WWW.Tribune242.com
A BAHAMIAN Businessman has spoken at the Harvard Business School in conjunction with the Caribbean Business Club, an organisation that aims to facilitate the flow of business between the Caribbean and the world, to understand the transformation of the region and the region's history.

Mr Roosevelt Finlayson, who said that though airlift to the Bahamas is back, might not be felt until confidence in the market is back, added that persons in the private sector had not made advance bookings for February, which he said was “very funny” and “way up over last month.”

He said many of the guests visiting the resort during the recent holiday season had not made advance reservations, making occu-pancy forecasts unpre dictable.

Mr Finlayson said the new approach to leadership, adopted by Bob Kramm, who said their hotel had not made advance bookings for February, which he said was “very funny” and “way up over last month.”

He added that despite the economic downturn, Mr Kramm tweaked the resort’s band schedule and that new business models, industries, innovations and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

He added that music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

He added that music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

He added that music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

He added that music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

He added that music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

Mr Finlayson stressed redesigning the learning process in which universities, communities, and linking learning from curricula, along with training from universities, where he said music in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformative role that music played in process, design, process, and that new business models, industries, innovations and new products and services were developed.

The presentation was organised by Bahamian Graham Ward, who said: “On behalf of the Caribbean Business Club, the Harvard Business School, we would like to thank Mr Roosevelt Finlayson for his inspiring presentation. As the first Bahamian speaker ever invited to present at this prestigious business institution, Mr Finlayson’s speech expressed his passion and dedication to transforming action to action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action action act...
Investors eye Freeport FBO

**BUSINESS**

**FROM page 1B**

Fantasy development for Grand Bahama. K P Turnquest told Tribune Business notable: “I think a group is looking at developing an FBO that would be attractive, which is not satisfactory now. The construction of a proper Fixed Base Operation to cater to the kind of visitors and traffic that will result is a fantastic development.”

“There is a group that is looking at building on the site of what they have already put up at Freeport.”

**BETWEEN**

**SCOTIABANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED**

**Plaintiff**

AND

**MARKA T. YOUNG**

**First Defendant**

AND

**BERNARD A. YOUNG**

**Second Defendant**

To: Marsh & Bernhard Young

**TAKE NOTICE that**

An action has been commenced against you by Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in the Supreme Court of the Bahamas by Writ of Summons filed on the 17th of October A.D. 2008 and received on the 19th of October 2009 being Action No. 2008/CL/E/GPN/01728, wherein the Plaintiff’s claim is for the sums due and owing under a Scotia Plan Loan number 1545620 and a Mastercard No. 5449 6505 1000 7611.

It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement:

You must within 21 days from the publication of this advertisement in the daily paper be present in the Court of Appearances on the Attorney’s name and address appear below, otherwise judgment may be entered against you.

Dated the 4th day of January A.D. 2010

Graham Thomson & Co., Chambers, Nassau House, Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue, Nassau, Bahamas

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

**VACANCY NOTICE**

Grand Bahama Power Company invites qualified applicants to apply for the position of Assistant to the CEO—Communications.

This position is primarily responsible for all corporate communications, community and media relations for Grand Bahama Power Company.

The successful candidate will be expected to plan and implement the company’s public relations strategies in conjunction with Senior Executives, with a primary focus on improving the Company’s image in the community. The individual will act as the company spokesperson, representing the company to the press and public in consultation with Senior Executives.

Duties of this position include but are not limited to developing and managing the company’s public relations for internal and external audiences including press releases, newsletters, speeches, articles and advertising campaigns. Developing corporate priorities and aligning with external partners with corporate social responsibility and business strategies; organizing community events; liaising with the media; and engaging and representing the company.

Applications must have completed some college level courses in Communications, Public Relations or related field with a Bachelor’s Degree in Communications, Public Relations or related field preferred. Applications with supporting documentation including a clean Police Certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to:
FROM page 1B

thing during the time of food service," she said. "We also buy a lot of products locally.

Ms Goodtheard said items such as fresh coconuts, lobster and vegetables, and as many produce items as possible, are shipped for locally, before using international markets. Unlike larger wholesalers in the US, Premium Foods does require membership and is completely open to Bahamian retailers. This development comes as catering large food retail chains, such as Fresh Conch, lobster and vegetables, and as many such as Robin Hood and Value and AML Foods, are expanding their businesses.

According to Ms Goodtheard, Premium Foods is 250 per cent Bahamian-run and owned, and employs almost 100 individuals. Mr Lethbridge alluded to huge changes to the store during these three months, which will continue to attempt to drive the prices lower. Premium Foods is operating out of the property constructed by well known contractor Edward Penn and his associates.

Its launch has intensified competition in an already crowded food and grocery wholesale market in the Bahamas, which has long been dominated by the likes of City Market, Super Value and AML Foods. New players, particularly Robin Hood, AML and Value Foods would have little impact on its local market.

"I think it's really of no major concern to become their market in the one Bahamian Food Services services right now," he added. "We probably have huge changes to do in all of AML Food, and it will probably change the way that like that they probably have a couple of groups. People wanting variety is what Robin Hood, I don't think we have much of an impact."
**Little confidence**

A breathless and disbelief.

Considering both PNP and FNM party members it's clear that the Commonwealth's financial stability has only increased in recent years. This is also reflected in the overall situation of the country. There is a growing acceptance of the need for a more balanced approach to economic management.

The Bahamian dollar's devaluation could ultimately lead to the Bahamas' economic stability. However, this is not an automatic result. As Mr Lowe said: "The only way to get out of this is to change the style of government. Government has to be focused on short-term political considerations."

Bailey told Tribune Business that was "the case of borrowing" that it received since 2007. "It's only the Achilles' heel of the economy." The Daily Tribune said: "This is to shrink the size of government. If we get to the next Budget in May, the national debt will be up to $3 billion, Mr Lowe said.

Mr Lowe also said that the current situation is a result of the PLP government's profligacy that has endured since 1992. He estimated the increase in the national debt since 1992 at $2.25 billion, and stated that the government should have been more responsible in its management of the economy. "The only way to get out of this is to change the style of government. Government has to be focused on short-term political considerations," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.

And this ratio is likely to worsen in 2010, Mr Lowe said. "The figures do not include the net effect of the $1.75 billion in additional foreign debt taken on by the government, which will now make it a $3.375 billion debt," Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps us on this path." The Central Bank data showed that since 1992, the national debt has increased by more than $2 billion. And the National Debt Management Office (NDMO) has estimated that the debt has increased by more than $1 billion in 2009.
Snow, ice and wind wreaked havoc on energy markets Wednesday, where a barrel of oil topped $83 for the first time since the fall of 2008, according to Associated Press. Benchmark crude settled up $1.41 at $83.18 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the highest close since Oct. 9, 2008.

Two fronts sent oil prices rocketing, however, the second being divisions among Federal Reserve policymakers over extending a program to bolster the U.S housing industry. That sent the dollar sliding to three week lows, and crude prices to a 15-month high. It could be a worrisome harbinger for consumers, who saw oil prices double last year for much the same reason.

When the dollar falls, it makes oil more affordable for anyone investor holding a strong currency because crude is bought and sold in dollars. According to the minutes released Wednesday from a closed-door Fed meeting in December, a "few members" believed that the $1.25 trillion program to buy mortgage securities from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac might need to go on past the current cut off date of March 31. Within 5 minutes of that information being released, crude prices jumped about a quarter to above $83 a barrel. Prices were already rising as dangerous temperatures knocked fruit from vines in Florida and made driving treacherous in New England.

The Fed minutes and Arctic air easily trumped a surprise report Wednesday from the Energy Information Administration that showed the supply of crude and gasoline in summer months. The U.S. has pulled into storage, but last week was three times greater than what was expected by energy analysts polled by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Co.

That hasn’t stopped gasoline prices from rising on a sharp spike in crude prices pulling pump prices along. By the weekend, the national average retail price for a gallon of gasoline in the U.S. will top $2.50, predicted Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst at Oil Price Information Service. That would be a rough start to the year for U.S. consumers. Prices never hit that high last year, even during the peak of the driving season over the summer.

In other Nymex trading in February contracts, heating oil rose less than a penny to settle at $2.2032 a gallon. Gasoline rose 1.16 cents to settle at $2.1366 a gallon. Natural gas futures rose 37.2 cents to settle just above $6. In London, Brent crude for February delivery rose $1.30 to settle at $81.89 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

Winter blast sends oil prices to 14-month high.

NEW YORK

The Weather Report:

Today: Partly cloudy.

TONIGHT: Partly cloudy.

The Weather Channel 72, 50, 50

THE TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2010, PAGE 11B

Winter blast sends oil prices to 14-month high

JASON KILPATRICK of Wholesale Fuel heads back to his truck after making a delivery of home heating oil in Framingham, Mass., Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010. One of the worst winter blasts in years could not obscure the enormous amount of crude and gasoline the U.S. has in storage and most energy prices began to give way Wednesday, Jan. 6.
The SUM of $30,000 has been pumped into what is being called the biggest gathering of local and international Baptists for the 49th Annual West Indies Baptist Fellowship (WIBF) conference starting January 18.

The gathering has been held in over 16 different Caribbean countries to-date, and this year the Bahamas plays host for the third time in the conference’s 49 years.

Over 200 hundred delegates will travel from as far as Aruba, Curacao and Trinidad in the South, from the Cayman Islands and Jamaica in the West, Barbados in the East, and United States in the North, and of course from the islands in between, to attend the week-long event.

Meetings will begin on January 18, and the public is asked to attend the gatherings which will be held in the mornings from 9am to 12.25pm at the New Testament Fundamental Independent Baptist Church on New Testament Way and Dolphin Drive in Highland Park.

The evening services will begin each evening at 7pm and will be held at the BCPOU Hall on Farrington Road.

“We want God to be promoted and for Him to be actively and directly involved in our lives so that our nations would be affected in a major way,” said Dr David Adams, pastor of the host church (New Testament Baptist Church) for the event.

“In years gone by when a revival swept a town crime came to a halt, houses of prostitution and gambling, liquor stores were closed down,” said Dr Adams.

He hopes the Bahamas and other participating countries will see a similar revival.

There will be a variety of Caribbean speakers each day and night, who will set conference-goers “strong spiritual challenges.”

The objectives for the conference are two-fold -

1. For the spiritual horizon of Baptist attendees to be broadened.

“The Bible teaches that the spiritual life of the Christian has direct correlation to the social and physical situations going on in our lands,” said Dr Adams.

2. To showcase the Bahamas as the greatest country in the world, to boost the economy.

“We want to make sure that we give our visitors a great Bahamian experience,” said Dr Adams.

“And they in turn will go back to their homes and influence others to choose the Bahamas as their place of vacationing.”

“A lot of preparation went into the booklet that we have made for guests,” said Dr Adams. “The booklet is special because it has information taken from the Bahamas Handbook about the Bahamas.”

Organisers have designated days for tours of the island and other events so that the visiting delegates can experience the beauty and culture of the country.

WIBF was started in 1962 by a small
Nassau Methodist Church hosts business coach Joel Freeman

By JEFFARAH GIBSON

At a time when people are more concerned than ever about their financial futures, the Nassau Methodist Church has decided to assist its members by providing them with professional advice.

Tomorrow starting at 9am at the Casuarinas Hotel on West Bay Street, the Nassau Methodist Church will host successful business coach and motivational consultant Joel Freeman.

In an interview with Tribune Religion, Mr Freeman said that this seminar is very timely, and will show attendees how to take a blossoming idea and turn it into a product.

"With this seminar I hope to provide persons with an overview, showing them how to take an idea from the mind to the market place," he said.

"There might be people who have great ideas. For instance, there might be a musician who probably has about 13 singles, and then what? So hopefully they will be able to take something from this seminar and run with it," he said.

He also said that the seminar welcomes all, from those just starting out as entrepreneurs to the seasoned professionals.

Mr Freeman said that while most seminars of this kind aim to sell a product, his is "75 per cent education and 25 per cent inspirational."

"People can benefit greatly from this seminar. I will discuss how the 'idea factory' can help persons expand their business enterprise, the science of bartering and its benefits, and branding concepts that will put persons into a personal creative zone," he said.

In addition, persons will also learn how to enhance individual and group success as well as learn how to fight against "jadedness" and complacency in business and personal relationships, he said.

This is Mr Freeman's first time visiting the Bahamas, but he already describes himself as "Bahamas crazy."

He said he is thrilled about the opportunity to share the knowledge he has gathered over the years which could help open doors for others.

"The seminar becomes something everyone can benefit from. I am giving a lot of good information and I am hoping that attendees leave with their heads and their hearts filled with information," Mr Freeman said.

"Dealing with God's people who drive you crazy" is another seminar Mr Freeman will be hosting during his time in Nassau and this will take place on Saturday at 9am.

This seminar, he said, gives persons the chance to examine themselves in ways that will help them develop skills conducive to enhancing individual identity.

"There is a special focus on looking within. We will take a look at the internal issues that we often deal with. We will also discuss different personality styles, vulnerability and ways that we can turn that same vulnerability into strength," Mr Freeman said.

"Then we will take a look at an external aspect of things. So basically people can expect to be equipped with lifetime tools that have the ability to bring them success."

Although there is special focus on persons in leadership positions, "every and anyone can come out, the youth leaders, persons that work in cleaning areas, or persons who work in the kitchens, so it is open to all persons," he said.

On Sunday, Mr Freeman will preach to the members of the Nassau Methodist Church.

Afterwards he will present his 45-minute award winning film entitled 'A Return to Glory: A White's Man's Journey Into Black History'. This focuses on Black history, the Bible and its modern application.

Born in Maine and raised in a small town in Alberta, Canada, Mr Freeman is an accomplished author, internationally sought-after conference speaker and workshop facilitator, professional counsellor, success coach, behavioral analyst, corporate trainer, and an organisational culture change specialist.

The film presentation will also be held at the Casuarinas Hotel. The entrepreneurial seminar will be held at the Epworth Hall at Ebenezer Methodist Church on Shirley Street.

For more information call 326-1677.
New Year’s Eve Eucharist at a historic church

AS 2009 came to a close, Cat Islanders got ready for their annual New Year’s Eve church celebrations.

But this year, the Anglican Church in Cat Island would hold a Eucharist celebration like none other in the Bahamas.

Each year scores of Anglicans assemble in their respective churches where a service is held for people who reside in Cat Island.

But this New Year’s Eve all Anglicans who did not leave the island to spend the Christmas holidays in Nassau with their families converged and congregated at the church of St Mary the Virgin in Old Bight.

Many modern-day Bahamas hearing the name of the above mentioned church would not realise or recognise the importance or significance of this edifice.

Enshrined in the wall of this church a plaque bears this inscription: “To the glory of God erected in memory of Blayney Townley Balfour, Townley Hall, Ireland, Governor of this said Bahamas at the passing of the Emancipation Act 1834, by his widow commending him to the prayers of all who minister at this altar or worship in this church.”

“This was the only bastion of hope to the now free slaves who resided on the Isle of Cat,” Father Chester Burton, priest in-charge of Anglican Churches in Cat Island, said.

“The significance and proceeding events emanated and resounded throughout the fabric of Bahamian landscape. It meant that all people of colour were now free.”

The church of St Mary the Virgin lay in a dilapidated state from June 2002 to December 2009.

It had no roof for seven long years. Fortunately, after an Anglican Church men’s group from St Jude’s in Freeport came in mid-2009 and erected the roof, the mammoth task of restoration began. Members were elated to be moving back into the church to celebrate services like those of many years ago.

So on New Year’s Eve night at the stroke of 10.30pm members and well-wishers, as well as those who just wanted to witness history being made in the Cat Island Anglican Church, gathered at St Mary the Virgin to join in the Christmas carolling pre-service.

Then, at 11pm, the Eucharist service began. The introit hymn, “Through all the changing scenes of life”, was sung and voices joined together in celebration of the church’s restoration.

Father Burton had promised at a vestry meeting held in November that there would be a Eucharist service for New Year’s Eve at St Mary in Old Bight.

It was mandated in the Anglican Diocesan Synod 2009 by Bishop Laish Boyd, that when churches are planted there should be some concerted effort made by the rector, vestry and people to bring new members to the fold.

“From Emancipation to the present day the vision and values of people of colour have not changed,” Father Burton said.

He said he especially valued the historic moment of the reopening of the church because St Mary’s proposed rededication date is August 2010. After the concelebrated Eucharist, church members enjoyed fellowship at a souse fete, after which they watched as a fireworks display lit up the night sky. Father Burton thanked Catechist Cedric Wilson who could not be present for spearheading the restoration work.

Our gifts

This is the time in the Church’s year when we think of the journey of the wise men or magi to find the Christ-child.

They follow a star for quite some time until they are able to present their gifts to this newly born King.

Our life is a journey that also involves following leads, selecting a destination and the offering of gifts. Let us explore this further.

When we are born, we follow the example of the significant adults in our life.

This is why all adults have the weighty responsibility of nurturing the next generation by engaging in wholesome and godly life-styles.

As we grow, we select friends who will influence us, and model ourselves after teachers whom we have come to admire.

Eventually, we either make a decision to follow God, or advertisements that flaunt a materialistic and consumer-oriented vision, or some guru who attests to being god, or any other “star” that appears (movie, rock, sports).

In following the star, the magi went towards the east until they arrived in Bethlehem.

We, too, have to determine our life direction and the final destination that we hope to attain. If it is heaven, then there are certain guides and guidelines that we have to follow, or we will become hopelessly lost.

The Word of God is a bright light that reveals who God has been, is, and wants to be in our generation. Prayer is the ongoing contact that we maintain with ‘heavenly headquarters’ like a walkie-talkie system that enables us to be directed by the will of God.

Worship occurs every time we stop and remember who it is that loved us enough to send a son to be born among us, live with us, die for us, and be resurrected to raise us up at the last day.

The gifts we bring to God are our lives, including our relationships, labours, finances, talents and everything else that come from God in the first place.

The gifts we give to each other are determined by need and generosity.

What do you think that parents, spouses, children, friends, colleagues and others wish most from you as a gift to them in their present season of life?

I would venture to suggest the following as a way to begin your list:

1. Parents: Respect, gratitude, obedience (where appropriate), and concern.
3. Children: Love, appreciation, understanding and discipline with fairness... 

There are others who are looking to us for gifts as well and need our ongoing generosity: The sick, lonely, bereaved, imprisoned, orphaned, and destitute.

Jesus says what we do for this group is what we do for him because they cannot reciprocate. Become a gift today.