Govt to tighten bail laws

Also plans for more judges and to keep the judiciary independent

The government said it is committed to ensuring that the judiciary is and is seen to be independent and that the laws of the Bahamas are respected and observed by all persons, including the government.

The government promised to pass legislation to amend the Juries Act and provide for non-custodial sentences for first-time, non-violent offenders.

"It is imperative that individuals who commit non-violent crimes are given the opportunity to reintegrate into society. Hence my government will give urgent attention to public safety in all its aspects. Moreover, the government will employ both short and long-term measures to address this phenomenon. Equipment, technology and training available to the police will be enhanced and innovative programmes to promote community policing and thereby achieve reintegration of offenders will be introduced," the governor general said.

The government promised that community policing programmes will be expanded and additional programmes to reduce recidivism will be undertaken. The new government also expects to restore trust in the Police Service Act and Prisons Act. It said that it will also take steps to ensure compliance with the constitutional requirement that fair trials within a reasonable time of persons charged with a criminal offence. In addition, the government said that it will introduce legislation to allow for smaller juries in non-capital cases, whilst upholding appropriate class norms and providing for non-custodial sentences for first-time, non-violent offenders.

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Govt aims to complete budget debate by June 18

By KARIN HERRG and PAUL TURQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporters

The Fidelity MoneyBack Mortgage rebates a portion of your monthly mortgage payment into an investment account for you. At mortgage end, you could have over $100,000 in your investment account plus home ownership.

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Fidelity MoneyBack Mortgage

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More than a Bank

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GROUP yesterday resolutely moved ahead with its aim to complete the national budget debate for the fiscal year of 2007/2008 by “no later than June 18.”

The first interaction between the two sides during the new session of parliament began yesterday in the House of Assembly with the leader of opposition business in the House, Dr Bernard Nottage, requesting more time to debate the government’s Speech from the Throne.

Dr Nottage and leader of the PLP Perry Christie expressed concern over the fact that the debate on government’s policy plans, as outlined in the Speech from the Throne, would be delayed until after the budget debate.

Mr Christie said it is important that the opposition be given the opportunity “to truly appreciate the direction the government is proposing to take the country in.”

The new leader for government business in the House, Mount Moriah MP Tommy Turnquest said he would consider the opposition’s concerns, but added that he is bound by time constraints and that nothing can stand in the way of the budget being debated and passed.

Mr Turnquest said that government will present its budget when the House of Assembly reconvenes on May 30.

By law the national budget has to be passed in both the lower and the upper chambers by the end of June, otherwise government is not authorized to spend money from the Public Treasury, a House of Assembly spokesman told The Tribune.

An observer said that after the budget is passed, there is sufficient time to debate the Speech from the Throne to everyone’s satisfaction.

Among the goals outlined in the Speech from the Throne are many issues that have been foremost on the minds of many Bahamians in recent months.

The FNM government declared that it will facilitate the construction of 600 affordable homes “by providing either fully-serviced lots or newly-constructed houses.”

In addition to this, it was stated in the Speech from the Throne, the FNM administration will introduce a programme “to correct deficiencies in construction and access to public utilities in government subdivisions developed during the last five years.”

The government also pledged to ensure that Lynden Pindling International Airport meets all international safety standards and that the redevelopment of the airport meets the needs of the country’s economy.

In the Speech from the Throne, government further announced it will begin consultations on the possible introduction of local government in New Providence — a matter which has been considered for some time now.
Man charged with firearm possession and robbery

FREETOWN - A 27-year-old Freetown man was charged in the Freeport Magistrate’s Court with possession of an unloaded firearm and causing grievous harm.

Babatun Marvin Firehick, a resident of Fever Bay Dis- trict, appeared before Magistrate Debbie Firehick on charges of possession of an unloaded firearm and causing grievous harm.

It is alleged that on May 16, Firehick was found in possession of a firearm and ammunition at Firehick’s residence in connection with the incident.

It is alleged that the accused, being a holder of a licence under the Firearms Act, possessed a firearm without causing grievous harm to Dis- trict Police Officer David K. with an incident that occurred on March 29 of 2007. A written notice of intention to charge was served on the accused on November 6, 2007 for trial.

Cuba to sign contracts for $150m of US farm goods

COMMUNE Cuba experts to sign contracts for much as US$150 million in American agricultural goods next week at the largest gathering of US farm producers here since Field Coo- perative, the biggest suppliers, attended.

Pedro Alvarez, chairman of the Ministry of Agriculture Com- pany Alamar, said that talks beginning Monday should prove to be a device enough deals to ensure Cuba buys most US goods here since 2007 as well last July. About 100 American farm groups and companies from 22 US states share 15% off Prom="CARPET, FURNITURE, MARBLE & TILE CARE" and freedom of information on House’s agenda

The passage of a Freedom of Information Act and the enactment of a code negations and transparency in govern-

For Your View

Avlin Smith is named Speaker

THE PASSAGE of a Freedom of Information Act and the enactment of a code fundament to our order of House, a code that includes the rights of the people to access information about the process of governing," the government said in rel-


It is expected that our com-

the government and its agen-

The tribune informed the House yesterday that for certain purposes, the government and its agen-

The government also pro-

information, disclosure to the House of Assembly of all public services accessible online.

To access information regar-

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The government also said that next year, the government said, "will be a year of transition to electronic access to public information through the Freedom of Information Act."

The government also pro-

people through regular public reports on the state of the country.

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A word to misguided FNMs

WE HAVE had disturbing reports that in certain government ministries, a few misguided FNMs believe that they are being victimised because their shoes have not been stepped on recently. Just as wrong as victimisation in the hands of the PLP is just as wrong as victimisation in the hands of the FNM.

If the proverbial shoe had been on the PLP’s feet, and the PLP had gone out of its way to confront known FNM employees. When she arrived she announced that she had come to follow. A Human Resources staff member overwrought with revenge that she went out of her way to go no further than the troublesome civil servant that there would be severe penalties if she did not return quietly. A Human Resources staff member, a certain government ministry, a few misguided FNMs should be ashamed of themselves. If the proverbial shoe had been on their feet, and they had gone out of their way to confront known PLP employees. When they arrived they announced that they had come to follow. A Human Resources staff member overwrought with revenge that she went out of her way to go no further than the troublesome civil servant that there would be severe penalties if he did not return quietly.

One man, another, a brother in arms of an FNMP, is supposed to have gone to jail and wear a “T” for Bahamian. If the shoe had been on his feet, and he had gone out of his way to confront known PLP employees.

These so-called FNMs should be ashamed of themselves. If the shoe had been on their feet, and they had gone out of their way to confront known PLP employees. The statements made by Mr. McKinney’s worth the while. lim Guernsey prevailing

I was greatly disturbed by the comments of the ombudsman. They are completely unjustified. I have been steadfast in my belief that there is no restriction on the acreage of Bahamian land. The most unfortunate of the provisions of the so-called FNMP, as opposed to a leasehold estate, is that it removes the right to acquire land for the purposes of agriculture, up to a term of 21 years, irrespective of the size of that land and in any Bahamian land irrespective of whether or not the land was owned by a non-Bahamian citizen who had been in residence for 10 years or more, or by a non-Bahamian citizen who had been in residence for a period of 21 years.

The ombudsman is correct. The FNM party is the government and political party in the Bahamas. We as Bahamians work together for the development of this a happier, more productive country, free of victimisation.

We understand the recent difference of opinion within the PLP. That being said, we believe that this is a healthy development. It is good for democracy.

The FNM administration during the course of their tenure was able to achieve a lot. We congratulate them on their achievements. We believe that they should be left to their own devices and that they should not be interfered with.

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BEC remains silent over oil slick in front of Clifton plant

Container port expands its straddle fleet by 10

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation has yet to set a timeline about when investigations into the oil spill on the ocean in front of their Clifton Pier will be completed. This is despite a pledge by a company representative to begin a statement on the matter "shortly."

On Monday, deputy general manager Airborne Forbes told The Tribune that his company was only made aware of the spill when they saw a picture of it from the front of the paper that day.

"Speaking about the investigations into the spill, Forbes said that the company had been seeking the results of the investigation and would be "shortly" releasing a statement.

The profile should include:
° Name of student
° Name of parents
° Age
° Name of degree expected
° Name of school
° List of awards/recognition
° List of activities
° List of extracurricular activities
° List of things that are needed for the student to enter once their education is completed

Please forward all information needed for the student. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

The Tribune will be publishing its annual Back to School Special in the next few days! More information will be provided once the information is received.

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SALES MANAGER VACANCY

An excellent opportunity exists with a Bahamian media company for the right professional to excel as a Sales Manager. We are seeking a sales professional who is challenged to understand the following duties and responsibilities:

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- Manage the short and long term strategies to achieve Company and departmental goals and objectives;
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- Motivated, creative and organized;
- An excellent oral communicator and must demonstrate excellent written and reporting writing skills; and
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The ideal person will have a proven track record of increasing sales. 8 years of managerial experience and possess a strong work ethic. A bachelor's degree in a related field or an equivalent of education and experience is preferred.

Interested persons are invited to submit a cover letter and resume to the following address or via e-mail no later than Friday, May 25, 2007.

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SALES MANAGER VACANCY

Is something new for Bahamians to have to come to terms with. If there is any change that will go to the Department of Immigration and so there are records of the movement and deport and there are many more who are illegals in the background with their children and grandchildren and the day they do.

What does someone believe, or hope, no government know why the complexity of this problem is going to the answer to it? The answer is that it is beginning to realize, many people feel that what people that think they cannot do something, they think it is going to happen, though.

There will be a new law or an act of God, that makes or makes everyone people, that we do not have a legal status in the country, but leave a child who does, or a grandmother who does not, a sister, a brother or an aunt. It means going to deport a Bahamian but leave a child who does, or a grandmother who does not, a sister, a brother or an aunt.

How will it benefit us to deport the Haitian-Bahamians? It益It is not the simple answer is: it does not benefit us.

The truth of the matter is much more complicated than that. It is a matter of understanding the complexity of the problem.

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Full plane of cocaine crashed in Venezuela

**VENEZUELA**

A small plane, loaded with 480 packages, each of which held a 2.2 pounds of cocaine, crashed near the town of El Tigre, about 250 miles northeast of Caracas. The bodies of the pilot and another person were found in the plane.

**ROYALTIES**

The town of El Tigre is a major struggle for Colombia's cocaine. The plane, which was seized by military troops, was found to contain 2.2 pounds of cocaine. The plane was likely used to transport the cocaine to other parts of the world. The authorities did not give details on what was found inside the plane.

**ANNA NICOLE SMITH'S MOTHER BELIEVES NEW GOVERNMENT WILL CLEAR WAY FOR INQUEST**

Anna Nicole Smith's mother believes new government will clear way for inquest. She is happy now that there has been a change of government. The former high camp, where she was always suspicious, continues over the fate of Anna Nicole Smith. US sources claimed Anna Nicole be exhumed and taken to do with finding what's inside. Anna Nicole herself invested $700,000 to the Personal and Corporate, which is also at odds with Dr Cyril Wecht, the private pathologist who conducted an autopsy on Daniel.

**THE TRIBUNE**

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER TENDER**

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd is pleased to invite qualified companies to submit for tender for Fire Extinguisher Maintenance. Interested companies can pick up a specification document from BTC's Administration Building John F. Kennedy Drive May 22nd to May 31st 2007 between the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Tender should be sealed in an envelope marked "FIRE EXTINGUISHER TENDER" and delivered to the attention of:

Mr. Leon Williams
President & CEO
The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd
P.O. Box N-3048
Nassau, Bahamas

BTC reserves the right to reject any and all tenders.
Haitian dictator’s cash to be released next month, official says

**Geneva**

Money stashed away in Switzerland by former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier could be returned to his family as soon as next month, a senior Swiss foreign ministry official said Wednesday, according to the national law department, Paul Seger, told Associated Press. The government in Haiti tried to recover the funds after Duvalier was ousted in 1986, but the judicial process ground to a halt in the chaos that engulfed the Caribbean country in 2002 in the wake of the explosion of the tiny principality of Liechtenstein.

"It was never proved in a court that the money was of criminal origin, and that would have been necessary for us to be able to confiscate it," Seger told the AP.

To prevent the money going back to the ex-dictator or his family, the Swiss government blocked the accounts in 2002 in the hope that the legal process could be restarted or a deal could be reached with the family. But according to Seger, the government’s authority to block the funds ran out on June 3. After that date, the Duvalier family will theoretically be able to access the funds via a complex chain of ownership involving a foundation in the Bahamas and a company in Panama, he said.

The Swiss government tried for years to reach an agreement with the family to avoid the embarrassment of handing over the money to charitable projects or back to the ex-dictator or his family, the Swiss government blocked the accounts in 2002 in the hope that the legal process could be restarted or a deal could be reached with the family. But according to Seger, the government’s authority to block the funds ran out on June 3. After that date, the Duvalier family will theoretically be able to access the funds via a complex chain of ownership involving a foundation in the Bahamas and a company in Panama, he said.

But it will be beyond our power," he said. "We had reached a resolution, it is principled, which would have seen a large part of the money go to charitable projects in Haiti, and the rest returned to the family," Seger said. 

"But then the family seems to have changed its mind" and simply waited until the Swiss government’s money to freeze would expire, Seger said. The Swiss government’s authority to block the funds ran out on June 3.

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THE TRIBUNE
A customer was upset to learn that the Central Bank’s parking lot, which holds around 50 vehicles—has only eight spaces for customers. The bank was, in fact, the only customer of the lot, with the other seven spaces reserved for the bank’s staff. According to one manager, the bank had never received a complaint until recently.

"I would never have thought of anything so ridiculous," said the customer, who also contacted The Tribune. "When you have a place of business where the desks are treated so much better than the cars..."

"In this case it’s even worse, because the situation is an insult to the bank’s customers—the people of the Bahamas—who are parked into a corner and made to fight over a few spaces for the benefit of a bunch of fat cats and puffed-up bureaucrats."

Responding to the concerns, Mr Fernander, head of administration at the bank, said that parking is a “constant challenge.”

He explained that the bank has 250 staff members and that the situation at the bank—other than for the employees—is an all too common occurrence in Nassau.

Although the one person on duty, declined to comment on the matter, the head of tourism, the minister must surely feel some frustration at the current state of affairs.

The minister acknowledged the problem, calling it absurd, the man-ger of the developing Department of Tourism and Aviation, Neko Grant during a reception marking the annual conference at the Atlantis resort last week, “you can look for-ward to a substantially refur-bished and modernised interna-tional airport; critical projects in the city of Nassau; further extension of tourist facilities in traditional and con-so-meric areas to the development of Bay Street in downtown Nassau with a far greater infusion of Bahamian culture and cultural activities, including the te emergence of a major tourism sector and a restored and revitalised Grand Bahama Island.”

Minister welcomes international travel partners

The Bahamian tourism industry is committed to bringing additional investment to the Bahamas that will match the efforts of the International Tourism Authority with those of the International Marketing and Commerce Corporation with expanding tourism facilities to Grand Bahama Island. The 2007 C-Class is a 4-door, 5-passenger luxury sedan filled with elegance. The powerful C-Class is a prestigious high performance vehicle that’s stylish, comfortable and remarkably safe.
Politicians gather for the grand opening of Parliament and the Senate.

**RIGHT:** Royal Bahamas Defence Force Guards yesterday at the opening of Parliament and the Senate.

**LEFT:** The Governor General reads the Speech from the Throne yesterday at the opening of Parliament and the Senate.

**PLP Deputy Leader Cynthia Pratt is sworn in yesterday in the House of Assembly.**

**GOVERNOR General Arthur Hanna speaks from the throne yesterday in Rawson Square.**

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- Preparation of accounting reports
- General ledger reconciliations
- Journal entries

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work in a growing and dynamic organization as a self-starter, team player, work at the highest standards of performance, and meet deadlines.

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Colina Imperial

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Insurance Ltd,
Sessional committees
FROM PAGE one

- The Library Committee is made up of Minister MP Earl Devonish; Eight Mile Rock MP Vere Henry; South Abaco MP Donald Ferguson; and North Abaco MP Lynett Forbes.
- The Committee on accounts and audit is chaired by C.A. Moulding, MP for Southern Abaco, and includes M.P. Graham Knowles from North Abaco.
- The Committee on Broadcasting, which is made up of St Ann’s MP Reginald Martin, Long Island MP and chairman, and Michael Liu Minis Richardson, MP for North Eleuthera.
- The Committee on Ethics, which is made up of Prime Minister Perry Christie, Bimini MP Obie Wilchcombe, and Nwakan, MP Larry Queeque.
- The Committee on Finance, which is made up of Informative Hall MP Frank Jones, Downtown MP Michael Sobrino, and Prime Minister Perry Christie.
- The Committee on Housing, which is made up of Tenam MP Sidney Collie, West End MP Obie Wilchcombe, and Prime Minister Perry Christie.
- The Committee on Public Accounts, which is made up of Milton Williams, MP for Eastern New Providence, and North Eleuthera MP Leonard Ferguson.
- The Committee on Public Safety, which is made up of George Ferguson, MP for Eastern New Providence, and North Eleuthera MP Leonard Ferguson.
- The Committee on Science, which is made up of Prime Minister Perry Christie, Bimini MP Obie Wilchcombe, and Nwakan, MP Larry Queeque.
- The Committee on Transport, which is made up of Informative Hall MP Frank Jones, Downtown MP Michael Sobrino, and Prime Minister Perry Christie.

POSITION VACANCY

Senior Associate - Advertising and Promotions

Marketing Department

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited (BTCL) is looking for a highly motivated and qualified individual for the position of Senior Associate - Advertising and Promotions. Successful candidates must have excellent verbal and written communication, presentation, organization and management skills.

Job Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain the company’s marketing communications plan.
- Create and implement interactive marketing strategies.
- Develop and launch the Advertising and Promotions campaign.
- Prepare and manage the company’s promotional materials.
- Track and report on the Advertising and Promotions campaign.
- Develop and implement retail promotions strategies.
- Manage and direct the activities with advertising agencies.
- Maintain knowledge about the best avenues to use to deliver the message.
- Work with other team members to ensure effective communication.

Requirements:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or related field.
- At least five years of experience in a similar role.
- Excellent verbal and written communication, presentation, organization and management skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple projects simultaneously.

Business hours: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

To apply for this position, please submit your resume and cover letter to HR@btclbda.com.
Exchange students come back from Rhode Island

CORY Eldon and Patrick Thompson

THE first ever College of the Bahamas students to take part in an exchange arrangement between COB and a university in the United States have returned to Nassau after completing their academic term at the University of Rhode Island. The two students have attributed their success in their studies and in life off the academic scene to the University of Rhode Island's facilities and their supportive professors.

Two Psychology majors, Cory Eldon and Patrick Thompson, both senior, came back full of enthusiasm for their experience. The University of Rhode Island is a highly competitive international university, and its facilities are highly respected worldwide. They both have known for a long time that COB students and academic programmes are highly competitive internationally. Cory Eldon and Patrick Thompson, both senior, came back full of enthusiasm for their experience. The University of Rhode Island is a highly competitive international university, and its facilities are highly respected worldwide. They both have known for a long time that COB students and academic programmes are highly competitive internationally. "I went out taking snowmen!" said Thompson, who achieved five A's during the semester. Eldon said he thoroughly enjoyed the labs with the University of Rhode Island. They also enjoyed being able to pull up notes on PowerPoint presentations in all their classes and both Bahamas students also adapted successfully.

Although major Eldon did extremely well in his studies, he realized that to achieve the level of performance expected at the University of Rhode Island, they require dedication and hard work because the Rhode Island grading scale gave an A only for a mark of 95 and above. "You have to be almost perfect to get an A," said Thompson, who achieved five A's during the semester. Conegolisation and Thompson had positive experiences in their classes because they were happily exposed to the labs with three high-tech facilities and equipment. Eldon had positive experiences in his classes. "I really enjoyed the labs with the University of Rhode Island," said Eldon. They both imagined that the lab facilities were over reliant on a computer programme called Maple that allows students to pull up notes on PowerPoint presentations in all their classes, allowing them to complete their assignments and locate their notes.

"The University of Rhode Island requires you to be on top of your game because a lot of students don't remember what they learned-they are just learning themselves," said Eldon. The two young men quickly realized that to achieve the grades they expected to earn, they needed dedication and hard work because the Rhode Island grading scale gave an A only for a mark of 95 and above.

They also enjoyed being able to borrow books from other university libraries through the inter-library loan service and the 24-hour study rooms with all the facilities were an extremely attractive proposition.

"I learned that the class room setting, both young men felt a little lost and were somewhat overawed by the size of the Rhode Island University Kingston campus with its three bus routes and 2,400 acres - the University of Rhode Island is just over 16 acres - but they soon felt at home.

Once they had familiarised themselves with the university's layout and the locations of the rooms for their classes, they never looked back. "It seemed so big on the first couple of days, but once we got the bearings, the guides had a lot of bearing," said Thompson. "We were just overwhelmed by the size of the university." Thompson said he was happy to borrow books from other universities, they didn't enjoy the cafeteria, they didn't enjoy the cafeteria, but they enjoyed the labs with the University of Rhode Island.

However, one thing that they couldn't adapt to was the university food. "They both missed well-seasoned, home-cooked Bahamian fare and, although they tolerated the meals in the cafeteria, they didn't enjoy it. 'The lack of taste was a shock to the system,' commented Thompson, and after a while we were improving or if I had last my taste buds," said Cory Eldon. They both enjoyed the labs with the University of Rhode Island, they didn't enjoy the cafeteria, but they enjoyed the labs with the University of Rhode Island.

Fortunately, both had pre- purchased winter coats, boots and other warm clothes before setting off in the Bahamas and after the exchange, both said they were improving or if I had lost my taste buds. "I was improving or if I had lost my taste buds," said Eldon, "and I want out taking photographs and even built a snowman!"
GB Power invests $1.6 million in upgrading East End service

Transmission lines extended and new sub-station planned

As part of its continued commitment to Grand Bahama, the Grand Bahama Power Company is investing $1.6 million to provide reliable service to the east end of the island.

The project involves the extension of the existing transmission lines from Fortune Bay to South Riding Point.

The Grand Bahama Power Company said in a statement that it understands that, with major developments forecast for this area in alignment with expected growth, bringing reliable power to the area is a priority.

Along the new route, the company will continue to expand the electricity grid to serve the needs of the community.

The company noted that it will provide reliable service to the customers in the east end of the island.

The Grand Bahama Power Company, along with other company employees and local contractors, started early in January, 2007, with Arnold Adderley, project assistant, in the planning and scheduling department of Grand Bahama Power Company, and continued with the construction of the sub-station.

The full project, including the construction of the sub-station, is hoped to be complete in November, 2007. Adderley added: "This is the first under-water powerline in the northern Bahamas and it is also the most technically efficient."

This ongoing project is just one of the many new initiatives Grand Bahama Power Company during 2007. Others include a lightning avoidance programme, hurricane safety tests and drills, and a 24-hour customer call centre.

The Grand Bahama Power Company serves the island's 50,000 residents from east to west.

It employs more than 180 Bahamians and has one of the lowest rates in the Caribbean, according to the statement.

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**CONSUMER TIP**

If your telecommunications service provider has not resolved your complaint in a satisfactory or timely manner, you have the right to complain to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

For more information, contact the PUC Consumer Helpline – 325-7157 TODAY! Or visit our website www.pucbahamas.gov.bs
Venezuela's Supreme Court rules TV station must stop broadcasting

VENEZUELA

VENEZUELA'S Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that an opposition-aligned television station must stop broadcasting for "protective measures." The ruling means the government will be replaced next week by a public-service station.

Non-renewal of RCTV's licence was announced on its website that it had accepted the appeal presented by Radio Caracas Television, but rejected its request for "protection measures." The Supreme Court announced on Monday that it had accepted the appeal presented by Radio Caracas Television, but rejected its request for "protection measures." This means the commercial station will be replaced next week by a public-service station, announced by President Hugo Chavez, though the channel is still operating.

In a prepared statement, RCTV, stated its licence was "inciting rebellion" during a short-lived 2002 coup against Chavez and showing "lack of respect for authorities and institutions." The government outlines its reasons for not renewing RCTV's licence in a 360-page government book "does not accept that there are justified allegations." Human Rights Watch said government action was "incompatible with the state's regulatory authority to punish a media outlet for its criticism of the government." The government outlines its reasons for affirming the closure decreed by the government, of the Americas division for the publication called "White Book Rights Watch, issued a statement on Tuesday that "Chavez is misusing the state's regulatory authority to punish a media outlet for its criticism of the government." The government outlines its reasons for affirming the closure decreed by the government.

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Chavez said the new, state-financed station will respect freedom of expression by opening its doors to all Venezuelans. But claims the government action was "incompatible with the state's regulatory authority to punish a media outlet for its criticism of the government." The government outlines its reasons for affirming the closure decreed by the government. It said the government action was "incompatible with the state's regulatory authority to punish a media outlet for its criticism of the government." The government outlines its reasons for affirming the closure decreed by the government, of the Americas division for the publication called "White Book Rights Watch, issued a statement on Tuesday that "Chavez is misusing the state's regulatory authority to punish a media outlet for its criticism of the government." The government outlines its reasons for affirming the closure decreed by the government.

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Grateful thanks to the people of St. Anne’s and all Bahamians across this great nation. Please be assured that I will continue to serve everyone.

THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF OF ST ANDREW’S SCHOOL CONGRATULATES THE IB CLASS OF 2007

Christopher (J) Albury
Genea Albury
Brian Birch
Kryeil Campbell
Kal Chaglin
Renaldo Cleare
Bennett Peter Cole
Andrew d’Alvane
Rachel FPolding
Cyril (Jabob) Fountain

Morgan Fraser
Lauren Gibson
Graham Hardt
Michael Kleta
Canderta Leela
Amelia Major
Ian Martin
Ashley McPherson-Brow
Aynstey Merk

Lauren Pinder
Jade Pratt
Lalinda Rahming
Lisa Rodgers
Frances Scrain
Meredith Turner
Nicole Urrues
Staj Ward
Stephanie Wiliams
Rusako Williams

The International Baccalaureate Programme: Quality international education and community service for life-long learning.

Among the institutions making offers of admissions to the year 13 students were:

Barnard College, Bard College, Boston College, Boston University, Brock University, Brown University, Bryant University, Dalhousie University, Emory University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida International University, Fordham University, Harvard University, Hunter University College, Ithaca College, King's University College, Lehigh University, Lynn University, Marquette University, New York University, Northwestern University, Queens University, Riso University, Ryerson University, Sarah Lawrence College, Stanford University, Tufts University, University of British Columbia, University of Chicago, University of Georgia, University of Miami, University of North Florida, University of Pennsylvania, University of Richmond, University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario, Vassar College, Yale University, York University.
University of West Indies Chancellor calls on the Governor General

Sir George Alleyne, Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, paid a courtesy call on Arthur Hanna, Governor General of the Bahamas on May 18 at Government House. Sir George is also the special representative of the United Nations Secretary General on HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean. Pictured from left are Missouri Sherman-Peter, Permanent Secretary to the Cabinet Office and president of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association; the Chancellor, Sir George; the Governor General, under secretary in the Cabinet Office Carl Smith, director of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association.

(BIS photo: Raymond Bethel)

OFFICERS of the Bahamas Baptist Youth Department and contestants in their speech contest paid a courtesy call on the Governor General Arthur Hanna and presented him with an award on May 18 at Government House. Pictured from left are Brian Strachan, Donna Duncombe, Elvy Rolle, Glenis Clarke, Joyntha Miller, Thelma Smith, the president Urban Smith, Governor General Hanna, the first vice president Deno Cartwright, Kendera Armbrister, Arlieth Rolle, Allen Russell, Andrey Russell and Joseph Ferguson.

(BIS photo: Raymond Bethel)

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Saturday May 26
10am - 1pm at Lowe's Pharmacy Harbour Bay

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Public Utilities Commission

JOB OPPORTUNITY

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) was established by the Public Utilities Commission Act 1993, as amended in 1999 to regulate controlled public utilities. It is currently mandated to regulate the telecommunications sector. The PUC is inviting suitably qualified persons to apply for the position of Human Resources Manager. This position will be responsible for all aspects of human resources and will report to the Executive Director.

Principal duties and responsibilities of the position:

These will include:

- Develop and maintain Human Resource Management (HRM) strategies, policies and practices that promote employee commitment, team building, cooperation, productivity and performance and that facilitate the achievement of the PUC’s business objectives.
- Staff recruitment and administration of workforces planning and employment activities.
- Develop and facilitate processes for effective labour/manpower relations and agreements.
- Administer compensation, benefits, and recognition and performance management systems.
- Manage the training and development programmes and collaborate with management in conducting needs analysis, co-ordinating plans, preparing manuals, and monitoring and evaluating training.
- Facilitate employee commitment to a culture which embraces the core values of the organization and forms an understanding of and commitment to diversity.
- Develop and Maintain the Human Resource Information Systems

Qualifications and Experience:

The successful candidate will be an experienced leader with:

- A minimum of a university degree in Human Resource Management, Business Administration, Education or one of the social sciences from a leading university.
- A clear understanding of basic management functions and experience in management and supervision.
- A minimum of 10 years of progressively responsible experience as human resources manager in a unionized organization of around 100 persons.
- Professional Certification (PHR, SPHR, CHRP), an asset.
- Good knowledge of legislation affecting employee rights and other employee related laws, immigration and copyright laws.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Applications particularly word, excel and power point.

As a member of the PUC team, the successful candidate will benefit from a comprehensive benefits package and excellent opportunities for continued development. Starting salary will be commensurate with relevant experience.

Interested applicants should submit their resumes to the PUC by 6 June, 2007 to:

Executive Director, Public Utilities Commission
4th Terrace East, Collins Avenue
Fax No. (242) 323-7288
E-mail: PUC@pucbahamas.gov.bs
Ministry staff welcome new minister

Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture staff members turned out in mass to welcome their new minister. Carl Bethel took over on May 23, in the heart of the Ministry of Education Building on Thompson Blvd. Mr Bethel introduced Minister of State for Youth and Sports Byron Woodside, and Minister of State for Culture Charles Maynard. Mr Bethel, the MP for Sea Breeze, is pictured addressing the team.

(BHS photo: Derek Smith)

New supervisor appointed at Bahamas Waste Limited

ARTHIA MACKETY has been appointed to the position of managing director of Bahamas Waste Limited. She brings to us a wealth of knowledge and experience and we now look forward to his killing, an allegation the Russian government, spokesperson said on condition of anonymity in line with government policy.

A Russian lawmaker, Mitrofanov, of the nationalist Liberal Democratic Party, said at a session of the Duma, the lower house of parliament, RIA-Novosti news agency reported. Mitrofanov, a witness of Putin's crime. Mr Bethel introduced Minister of State for Culture Charles Maynard. Mr Bethel, the MP for Sea Breeze, is pictured addressing the team.

(BHS photo: Derek Smith)

New supervisor appointed at Bahamas Waste Limited

ARTHIA MACKETY has been appointed to the position of managing director of Bahamas Waste Limited. She brings to us a wealth of knowledge and experience and we now look forward to

Bahamas Waste Limited holds the title of largest private waste management company in the Bahamas and servicing more than 1,000 homes and businesses in New Providence, and Paradise Island. The company supplies containers and regular collection service to hundreds of construction sites and also provides special collection services to clients in Free Creek, Andros.

The primary business involves the leasing of containers and contrainers and routine empting and disposal of contents.

On his deathbed, the 43-year-old Litvinenko, a former KGB agent, accused of killing ex-KGB man Alexander Litvinenko, a former KGB agent poisoned last year with the radioactive substance polonium-210 after meeting Lugovoi and two other Russian men at a London hotel.

On his deathbed, the 43-year-old Litvinenko, a former KGB agent, accused of killing ex-KGB man Alexander Litvinenko, a former KGB agent poisoned last year with the radioactive substance polonium-210 after meeting Lugovoi and two other Russian men at a London hotel.

An extradition request will be forwarded to the Russian government by New Providence, the director of the 25 packers and roll-off trucks and other support vehicles are out in the community seven days a week, starting in the early morning hours.

Bahamas Waste Limited, in a public entity whose shares are traded on BSE, is the largest solid waste hauler in the Bahamas. "We have a court, we have a prosecutor's office independent of the executive power — that I and the murder of investigative journalist Anna Politkovskaya. It is more dangerous," Berezovsky said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The primary business involves the leasing of containers and contrainers and routine empting and disposal of contents.

Meanwhile, self-styled Russian billionaire Boris Berezovsky, who has accused the Kremlin of being behind Litvinenko's killing, predicted Lugovoi would be "killed within the next two or three years."

One Russian lawmaker, from a party that generally supports the Kremlin, urged Lugovoi to speak directly to their Russian counterparts about the matter.

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Come in and see us today on Village Road - at Master Technicians and Best Buy Furniture. Where you will be satisfied, because we're simply the best, always!
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**ALL STORES OPEN**

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### Specials Good May 24th to May 30th

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- **Green CABBAGE** 49¢ per lb
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- **PILLBURY Microwave LAY'S SMALL 1 oz CHIPS** 289¢
- **MICROWAVE LA YOGURT 6 oz Ass't** 89¢
- **ACURA 15 oz BEANS Red or Black in Coconut Milk** 5.29
- **ACURA 182 oz JUMBO CLOROX BLEACH** 4.99
- **HOT HOLIDAY SPECIALS ALL WEEK LONG!**
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- **USDA CHOICE BEEF BACK RIBS** $9.99 per lb
- **HALF OF A ROTISSERIE CHICKEN** $3.99 each
- **GWALTNEY JUMBO HOT DOGS 16 oz** $1.69 ea Save 20¢
- **ALL VARIETY PRE-MAID BAGELS** $2.69 a pk Save 50¢
- **GWALTNEY JUMBO HOT DOGS 16 oz** $1.69 ea Save 20¢
- **ALL VARIETY PRE-MAID BAGELS** $2.69 a pk Save 50¢
- **HALF OF A ROTISSERIE CHICKEN** $3.99 each
- **GWALTNEY JUMBO HOT DOGS 16 oz** $1.69 ea Save 20¢
- **ALL VARIETY PRE-MAID BAGELS** $2.69 a pk Save 50¢

### FRESH Produce

- **FRESH CAULIFLOWER** $2.39 each
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### FRESH Frozen dairy / quick

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- **16 OZ FROZEN VEGS** Whole Kernel Cut Corn, Green Peas, Whole Okra, Mixed Peas/Carrots & more
- **WHITEWAVE SOY MILK 64 oz** 5.39
- **PILLBURY MICROWAVE PANCAKES 16.4 oz** 3.59
- **ACURA 15 oz BEANS Red or Black in Coconut Milk** 5.29
- **ROBIN HOOD 5 LB GRITS** 2.29

### Grocery Savings

- **MORE SPECIALS AVAILABLE AT OUR 12 LOCATIONS**
- **CLOROX 32 oz Cleaners** $5.79
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- **GRILL 'N CHILL BARBECUES & SUPPLIES**
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- **ROBIN HOOD 5 LB GRITS** 2.29

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**Advertised products may differ from the photos shown. Some product availability may differ for Grand Bahama stores.**
Elephant baby makes first public appearance

AN AS yet unnamed baby elephant makes his first public appearance at the Zoo in Berlin, Germany, Wednesday, May 23, 2007. The little bull was born by his mother, Pamina, on Sunday, May 20, 2007, watched by zoo visitors, weighed 1122.4 kg (243.6 pounds) and was 91 cm (35.8 inches) tall.

(AP Photo/Michael Sohn)

Leaders of Fatah, Hamas make new push for cease-fire with Israel

MOROTIVE Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas made a new push Wednesday to end their civil war with a comprehensive peace agreement. The two leaders met for the first time since Hamas-Fatah infighting touched off a week of intense fighting broke out two weeks ago and killed more than 50 Palestinians. The two sides reached a cease-fire over the weekend, but tension remains high because the key dispute over the security forces remains unresolved.

The meeting ended with the two leaders agreeing their factions would have to be conditioned on Israel's ending all attacks on militant groups, said a Hamas spokesman, said Israel would have to withdraw from the Gaza-Isracl border, and Israel would have to stop raids in the West Bank. There militants. A cease-fire with Israel that had collapsed under a previous truce, brokered in November, applied only to the Gaza-Israel border and Israel rejected repeated Palestinian proposals that it also halt attacks against Palestinians.

"If it is going to be for Gaza alone, they need to ask us to ease the Palestinian security force's attempts to control that area," a Hamas official said.

Abbas, and aides, including Ismacl Yousef, said the two leaders met for the first time since Hamas-Fatah infighting touched off a week of intense fighting broke out two weeks ago and killed more than 50 Palestinians. The two sides reached a cease-fire over the weekend, but tension remains high because the key dispute over the security forces remains unresolved.

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"If it is going to be for Gaza alone, they need to ask us to ease the Palestinian security force's attempts to control that area," a Hamas official said.

Leaders of Fatah, Hamas make new push for cease-fire with Israel
Harry Potter author to give midnight reading of new book

**LONDON**

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling will mark the release of the final book in the hugely popular series by giving a midnight reading and signing in London, according to Associated Press. About 1,300 lucky fans in Britain and Ireland will get a chance to have Rowling sign a copy of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," the event will take place at the Natural History Museum on July 21, the day the book is released.

The first 500 randomly selected winners will also be invited to attend the midnight reading. Tickets will be made available for purchase at participating retailers beginning this week. After the event, winners will receive a free copy of the book.

The book is the seventh and final installment about the adventures of the schoolboy wizard and Rowling previously has said the event will take place in London and hotel accommodations to participate in the reading. Entries to the free contest are available online at the Web sites of publishing houses Scholastic and Bloomsbury, who are sponsoring the event.

The first 500 randomly selected winners will also be invited to attend the midnight reading. Tickets will be made available for purchase at participating retailers beginning this week. After the event, winners will receive a free copy of the book.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US Navy launches show of force off Iran's coast

The carrier strike groups led by the US John C. Stennis and USS Nimitz were joined by the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard and its own strike group, which includes landing ships carrying members of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The Navy said nine U.S. warships passed through the busy Strait of Hormuz on Wednesday. Merchant ships frequently collided with merchant ships in the busy shipping lanes of the Gulf.

Call NOW to reserve your seat

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US Navy launches show of force off Iran's coast

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| THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007, PAGE 23

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**Enjoy Great Food, Prizes and Lots of Fun!**

**Let Charlie the Bohemian Puppet and his sidekick Derek put some smiles on your kids' faces.**

Bring your children to the McHappy Hour at McDonald's in Oakes Field every Thursday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm during the month of May, 2007.

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**SHOW**

**TMC**
How to Increase Your Chances

By Steve Becker

How many words of four letters are there in a nine-letter word. No plurals. Excellent 29 (or more). Solution tomorrow.

How to Increase Your Chances

1. Assess the situation. Is the declarer likely to have a trick or two up his sleeve?
2. Consider the possibility of a finesse. If you think the declarer may have a trick, try finesse.
3. Look for a way to isolate the declarer. If you can isolate the declarer, you may be able to force them to discard a trick.

A business associate gets you involved in a difficult situation early in the week, Gemini. Keep your anger in check until you find a way to complete an important project by Thursday, Virgo. While you can't right now. Instead, buckle down and get to work. Stand your ground when a loved one doesn't mean to insult you; he or she just doesn't realize that it is hurtful. Aquarius, but don't let this upset you. This puts a lot of pressure on you, but don't get overwhelmed.

For more information on the previous week's column, visit the Tribune's website at www.tribunecomics.com.
As it fights terrorists, the United States is also spreading fear and eroding rights across the globe, a prominent human rights group said Wednesday, according to Associated Press.

In its annual report, Amnesty International said politicians around the world — from Australia to Sudan — were taking advantage of shortsighted U.S. leadership in the war on terror to trample on liberties and stifle dissent.

"One of the biggest blows to human rights has been the attempt of Western democratic states to roll back some fundamental principles of human rights," Amnesty's Secretary-General Irene Khan told The Associated Press before the launch of her organization's annual report on the global state of human rights.

The U.S.'s response to Sept. 11 attacks had not reduced the threat of terrorism, and was setting a destructive example to other nations, the report said.

The Bush administration's policy of extraordinary rendition — the alleged practice of secretly flying terror suspects to countries where they could be tortured — came in for particularly scathing condemnation.

"The U.S. administration's double speak has been breathtakingly shameless," the report said. "It is unrepentant about the global web of abuse it has spun in the name of counterterrorism."

Europeans were mocked for failing to challenge the U.S. rendition scheme, while U.S. allies Britain, Australia, and Japan were singled out for pandering to U.S. rendition laws.

"The (Australian John) Howard government portrayed desperate asylum seekers as a threat to Australia's national security and raised a false alarm of a refugee invasion," the report said.

Russia's crackdown on journalists also attracted Amnesty's ire, as did the deteriorating human rights situation in Zimbabwe, and, above all else, the continuing violence in Darfur, which Khan called "a bleeding wound on world conscience."

"The authoritarian drift in Russia has been devastating for journalists and human rights defenders," the report said, noting the assassination of journalist Anna Politkovskaya and new laws clamping down on rights organizations.

The report also criticized China's role in shielding Sudan from U.N. action, saying that the Chinese government and companies showed little regard for their "human rights footprint" on the African continent.
In shark infested waters
it's comforting to know that
British American Financial provides
Financial Solutions for Life!

Do you NEED a plumber,
computer consultant,
or a wedding planner?

You can find them all in BTC's Yellow Pages

A MELTED MIDDLE THAT STACKS UP TO DELICIOUS

HOW DO YOU DO YOUR DOUBLE MELT?

For a limited time.
1/2 lb.

BACON SWISS

DO WHAT TASTES RIGHT
Fidelity plans Abaco retail bank expansion

BISX-listed institution awaiting final regulatory approval on branch for Marsh Harbour’s Abaco Shopping Centre

The growth in Abaco’s economy has been driven largely by the second biggest market and tourism, much of it centered on marinas and boating, in addition to the Abaco Club and Great Guana Cay developments.

In addition, Fidelity’s Western Union money transmission business is also likely to find a large client base among Abaco’s Haitian and Haitian-Bahamian community.

The Abaco expansion is the latest move by the BISX-listed institution initiated to respond itself to a niche place in the Bahamian commercial banking market, able to operate more smoothly in reaching to customers and drawing on the capital markets to provide funding opportunities in the six per cent majority ownership, Fidelity Bank & Trust International, to provide clients with a ‘one-stop’ product shop.

Apart from offering traditional commercial banking products, such as mortgages and credit, Fidelity Bank (Bahamas) is also supplying wealth creation and management tools. It is using this to differentiate itself from rivals by providing expertise and products relating to brokerages and investment management.

Fidelity Bank (Bahamas) raised $15 million in a rights issue in 2006, to continue to expand in six sister islands in New Providence and Grand Bahama as Fidelity Financial Centre. The six branches are located on Frederick Street, Mackey Street, Wulff Road, Cable Beach and Paradise Island, plus the Freeport Financial Centre.

Domestic banks ‘underpin entire Bahamas economy’

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Domestic banks ‘underpin entire Bahamas economy’
In the competitive financial services industry, Caledonia provides an extensive range of tailored and flexible solutions designed to meet your investment needs.

Caledonia is an independent securities firm. We offer a full portfolio of services to clients, providing timely execution in line with Client’s expectations. Our services include:

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Contact us to see how our experience and expertise can maximize your success.

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**DANGER AREAS FOR PROVIDERS IN CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

In May 2006, the Consumer Protection Act was enacted to protect and regulate the interests of consumers in the Bahamas, particularly in regard to the protection of transactions involving the sale of goods and services. This legislation enabled the regulatoryandering, in public law, for the recognition, preservation and promotion of consumer rights and remedies within the Bahamas. These had long fallen under informal contractual and social arrangements, which did not have the force of law.

Definition of ‘Consumer’ and ‘Provider’

With regard to goods, a consumer is defined, under Section 2(1) of the Act as:

* A natural person who acquires or enters into a contract to acquire goods for his own private use or consumption; and
* A commercial undertaking that purchases consumer goods.

With regard to services or facilities, a consumer is “any person who employs or wishes to be provided with the services or facilities (otherwise than for the purpose of any business of his).” A provider in relation to goods is any person who sells goods, and in relation to services or facilities, any person who provides services or facilities.

Consumer Protection Commission

Section 4 of the Act also established a Consumer Protection Commission whose purpose is to promote consumer welfare and interests. For more information, visit their website.

SEE PAGE 10

**PREMIER TRAVEL**

**4 DAYS & 3 NIGHTS IN ORLANDO, FL**

R/T airline to Orlando, FL - $231.70
Florida Mall Hotel - $90 per night
Mid-size Dollar Car Rental - $38 a day
Adult Package - $432.70 per adult
Child Package - $209.70 per child

Hotel and Car fare based on double adult occupancy. Airfare based on mid-week travel. Rates subject to change upon availability.

**SUMMER VACATION ANYONE?**

**ANIMAL FUN DAY**

SAT 26 May 10AM to 6PM Botanic Gardens
BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO THE FAIR
and
BRING YOUR DOG TO THE DOG SHOW

Sponsored by

Pedigree & Lightbourn Trading Co Ltd
Government plans all-encompassing Investment Act

**Government plans all-encompassing Investment Act**

*by CARA BRENNEN-BETHEL, Tribune Business Reporter*

The FNM government will review the country's investment policy to ensure there is a "level playing field" for Bahamian and international investors, the Governor-General said in the Speech from the Throne yesterday.

"The FNM recognises the need to enhance jobs and ensure Bahamian business ownership in the Bahamas economy," he said.

Therefore, my government will undertake a review of the National Investment Policy of the Bahamas, and legislation will be pleaded before this House to give effect to that policy," he said. "It will consolidate all investment incentives legislation and provide transparency, certainty and a "level playing field" for investing in the Bahamas in order to attract foreign and international investment.

The Governor-General also intends to simplify the process of starting a business in the Bahamas so that entrepreneurs can convert their ideas into businesses as quickly as possible.

This will be done through the creation of an Omnibus Business License Act, which would provide a single licence for all businesses except for financial, insurance and professional services, gaming and the construction of hotels and related building activities.

The Governor-General said that overall strong economic growth will be fostered by the adoption of a balanced budget, fiscal policy, further simplification of customs tariffs and maintenance of international and competitive tax rates.

To further assist Bahamians in their business ventures, the Government intends to further simplify the government loan guarantee programme in support of small and medium-sized businesses, particularly in the tourism, food processing and light manufacturing sectors.

Lignum Technologies Bahamas Ltd.

**Notices**

Due to the Whit Monday Holiday the Betty K will receive freight on Tuesday May 29th and Wednesday May 30th for Marsh Harbour, Abaco at our receiving Palmade Depot.

Arriving Thursday Mat 31st Marsh Harbour
Betty K apologizes for any inconvenience

For further information please contact your customer service representative.

**Lignum Institute of Technology**

**NOW OFFERING:**

Autodesk, Building Services (4 DAY TRAINING COURSE)

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For Only $1025

Limited Seats Available!!!

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Candice Albury
Office Assistant/Training Coordinator
Lignum Technologies Bahamas Ltd.
Harbor Bay Shopping Plaza
Phone: 242-367-0593
Email: candice@lignumtech.com

**Domestic banks 'underpin entire Bahamas economy'**

*by CARA BRENNEN-BETHEL, Tribune Business Reporter*

Although the FNM Government has committed itself to encouraging international investments in the tourism industry, it remains convinced that "domestic banks 'underpin entire Bahamas economy'".

The Oxford Economics study found that for every 100 jobs created in the financial services industry, another 1.4 jobs were created elsewhere in the Bahamian economy, another 1.5 million in "value added" output in other sectors of the economy.

The study found that the Bahamian financial services industry housed the nation's biggest domestic product (GDP) by virtue of 5.5 per cent through spin-off benefits for other industries, boosting tourism's output by between 1.1-1.4 per cent; real estate by 0.8-1.2 per cent; construction by 0.6-0.7 per cent and distribution by 0.6-0.7 per cent.

The Government has said that overall strong economic growth will be fostered by the adoption of a balanced budget, fiscal policy, further simplification of customs tariffs and maintenance of international competitive tax rates.

"This is particularly so where development and land."

"This really demonstrates that perhaps reconsideration of the economic model and how it is presented could expand the economy in general."

**Notice**

Betty K Agencies
Nassau - East Street North Kelly Dock
Ph: 242 - 322 - 2142
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Marsh Harbour Abaco Don Mackey Blvd.
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Ph: 242 - 367 - 0593
Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company is in dissolution, which commenced on the 22nd day of May 2007. The Liquidator is Argosa Corp. Inc., P.O.Box N-775 Nassau, Bahamas.

ARGOSA CORP. INC. (Liquidator)
MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES

ELEUTHERA - LOT NO. 14B & 7B, PALMETTO POINT

Appraisal: $15,959.00

DUNDS TOWN (ABACO)

Appraisal: $265,225.00

LOT NO. 1, BLOCK NO. 45.

Appraisal: $151,007.00

MURPHY TOWN ABACO

Appraisal: $30,000.00

LOT NO. 6 BLOCK 13 WOODLAND WAY, WINTON HEIGHTS (BAISLAW)

Appraisal: $365,369.75

LOT NO. 12, BLOCK 3 MILLAR'S HEIGHTS

Appraisal: $239,500.00

VACANT PROPERTIES

DUNDS TOWN

Appraisal: $17,836.50

LOT NO. 108, PALMETTO POINT

Appraisal: $72,000.00

MUTTON FISH POINT NORTH ELEUTHERA

Appraisal: $51,276.00

MUTTON FISH POINT NORTH ELEUTHERA

Appraisal: $151,421.00

MUTTON FISH POINT NORTH ELEUTHERA

Appraisal: $51,421.00

For conditions of sale and other information contact
Philip White 502-3077 email philipwhite@scottishcolibri or Harry Collee 502-3034 email harry.collen@scottishcolibri Fax 355-3851
To view properties go to: www.stopnshopbahamas.com - Click on “Real Estate Mall” - Click on doorway “Enter Online Ss
PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

Mr. Troye Tonny Smith, the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence one of the inhabitants of the Bahamas intends to change his name to TERRY TYRONE SMITH. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you are hereby advised that you may object by writing to the Registrar of Deeds and Mortgages no later than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

Pelican Bay At Lucaya seeks to employ dynamic energetic and enthusiastic individuals who enjoy working in the Hospitality Industry for the following positions:

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Pelican Bay At Lucaya seeks to employ dynamic energetic and enthusiastic individuals who enjoy working in the Hospitality Industry for the following positions:

EXPERIENCED RESERVATIONS MANAGER

If you have extensive experience in Hotel Reservations Sales, then this is a great career opportunity for you. The following is required:

- At least three (3) years experience in supervision and training of reservations sales staff.
- Familiarity with Epitome (PMS) System and (HIS) preferred.
- Knowledge of constructing Rates, Packages, Promotions, and Reservations.
- Knowledge of Yield Management.
- Good written and oral communication and computer skills, along with strong attention to detail, organizational skills and follow-through.
- Flexibility in work hours.

Minimum qualification requires: Associate Degree in Business Administration or equivalent

Applications are available at the Security Gate or e-mail: hr@pelicanbayhotel.com

Deadline is May 25, 2007.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE!

Application in writing only.

From page 1

Mr. Smith said Fidelity believed the remaining 16 City Markets locations could be offered to Western Union clients if a licence were obtained from the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The City Markets locations include: City Market, Ashburn; City Market, Manoah; City Market, One Way Market, and City Market, Malmesbury. The final two, Mr. Smith said, would be on Great George Street and Ashburn. Mr. Smith said that Fidelity would be offering a sub-agency agreement to BTC, under which BTC would become an independent operator to manipulate BTC's compression algorithm in a market to its own advantage.

The PUC also noted that BTC was "not a telecommunications service" because services offered included the "broadband Internet" service and the sale of the Internet service, leaving the company "non-competitive, unable to respond to future competition and insufficiently regulated by BT to provide interconnection with independent operators." In its response to the PUC, BTC said that "the commission could not find evidence to support the claim that there were any objections to the change of name by Deed Poll."

In its response, the PUC also said that "BTC's licence does not confer a monopolistic position in the provision of commercial voice services to the public."

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US and China fail to solve currency dispute

By FOSTER KLUG
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and China concluded two days of high-level economic talks on Wednesday with a variety of issues unresolved and both sides determined to make progress in their dispute over China's undervalued currency.

"While we have made more work to do, we have tangible results for our efforts that we believe stand to build a solid foundation," Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, the head of the U.S. delegation, said at a briefing. "These results are like signposts on the long-term strategic road, building confidence and encouraging us to keep moving forward together." But he indicated no breakthroughs on the key issues that the two countries agreed on steps to be taken in such areas as financial services, energy and the environment and civil aviation.

Indicated

But he indicated no breakthroughs on the contentious issue of currency, only reiteration that it is in China's interest to allow its currency to be held up.

American manufacturers contend that China is manipulating its currency to keep it undervalued against the dollar because by as much as 40 percent, making Chinese goods cheaper in the U.S. market and American products more expensive in China.

Issue

The issue has added to growing resentment among U.S. farmers, who are enduring a spat of bills that would impose sanctions on China for what critics call predatory economic practices. Many blame America's worsening trade deficits and the loss of one in six of its manufacturing jobs since 2000 in part on claims of Chinese currency manipulation and undervaluation.

"We're not there," said Vice Premier Wu Yi, the head of the Chinese delegation, and other ministers were scheduled to meet Wednesday with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. "We're very close," he said. "We're closing in." But he added, "It won't be finished this week." Paulson said the two sides would cooperate in the development of clean energy technology, something "essential to China," a country that depends heavily on coal-fired power plants.

Officials

Senior U.S. officials had tangled down expectations of major breakthroughs at the talks, which they described as "strategic discussions," not negotiating sessions.

The U.S. side made a point of noting simmering frustration. U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez described the talks as "a constructive dialogue," but said he had been "frustrated" by the lack of "substantive" progress on currency.

U.S. lawmakers, who had eaten pet food made imported from China. Johanns said the U.S. raised the issue of food safety, which has been highlighted by such incidents as the deaths of pets who had eaten pet food made with tainted meat glutens imported from China. Johanns also said steps were aimed at "downgrading" the status of the two sides' top policy makers togeth-

ers twice a year to work toward reduced trade tensions. The first meeting was in Beijing last December.

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DANGER AREAS FOR

FROM page 1

or recommendation to the Minis-

try as it thinks fit.

4. Prevent the development of operations formed for the promotion of the consumer.

5. Formulate and implement standards in relation to the con-

sumer protection policy (the

aims of the Ministry responsible for consumer protection as pub-

lished by the Ministry from time
to time, according to Section 2 of the Act).

6. Provide information to consumers on their rights as

well as any other aspect of

consumer education.

7. Resolve disagreements between consumers and providers.

In special circumstances, where the complainant is a minor

acting through her/his parent or guardian, or an

informed or deceased person

through his/her personal rep-

resentative, the Ministry may

appoint an assessor in the

matter, subject to the

complainant to the

availability of an assessor in

writing. It is the

Act gives the Consumer

Commission the discretion not
to investigate or continue to

investigate a complaint, if it

finds that the complaint is
dismissed or withdrawn,

or if the complainant

takes action or fails to

take action in the interests of

the complainant.

8. To contest or settle in court

2.662852
3.1827°**

in relation to consumer issues.

3.1827°**

The Ministry of the Public Service, will

be referred to the attention of Ms.

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Students interested in participating should

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The deadline for entries, which should be

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Antoinette Thompson, Deputy Permanent

Secretary, Ministry of the Public Service,

Friday, 22nd June, 2007.

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consumers, the date on which the consumer was aware or should have been aware of the false or misleading representation, or the date on which the consumer was or should have been aware of the goods or services.

A provider is required to issue a written indemnity to the consumer, stating the following:

- 'Obtain a written indemnity from the provider stating that the goods or services will be delivered in the manner specified by the consumer and that the provider will be liable for any failure to comply with such delivery specification.'

Exclusion of liability for breach of contract

No party to a contract is entitled to a refund of the amount paid, in addition to the statutory remedy of delivery or replacement of goods or services.

Failure to comply with the Act

A consumer who is dissatisfied with the goods or services provided may commence a complaint before taking the matter to court. The Consumer Commissioner is authorized to confirm the complaint by a written decision and to order the provider to comply with the Act. The consumer is entitled to a fair and reasonable remedy for any failure to comply with the Act. The Consumer Commissioner may grant a refund in the event of a breach of contract.

The provider is required to comply with the Act and any other relevant legislation. The provider is liable for any failure to comply with the Act and any other relevant legislation. The provider is required to comply with the Act and any other relevant legislation. The provider is liable for any failure to comply with the Act and any other relevant legislation.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — The House, eager to do something about record high gasoline prices, moved Wednesday to approve still penalties for those found guilty of gasoline price gouging.

The bill directs the Federal Trade Commission and Justice Department to determine when price gouging occurs and makes it a crime to engage in it. It was expected the legislation should it pass Congress.

The bill needed the approval of two-thirds of the members of the House because the leadership considered it under an urgent medical necessity, one over the threshold for passage.

A similar measure is being considered in the Senate. The bill would for the first time make legal a Federal Trade Commission measure to ensure that consumers are not being gouged.

The bill calls for criminal penalties of up to $150 million for corporations and up to $2 million for individuals who are found to be engaged in price gouging.

Opponents said the legislation was too vague and amounts to "price controls." They said: "I don't know what 'unconscionable means," said Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, referring to a phrase that would trigger a price-gouging law.

Barton said today's high gasoline prices are the result of supply and demand and not price gouging. "Demand has gone up," he said, "and the price has gone up," said Barton.

The White House said it would support the bill if it passes Congress.

"It would harm consumers. If it would harm consumers, it would harm consumers," Mr. Hoover told the President, "I will support the bill if it passes Congress."

The bill calls for criminal penalties of up to $150 million for corporations and up to $2 million for individuals who are found to be engaged in price gouging.

"I want to see the law passed and the price gouging stopped," said Mr. Hoover. "I want to see the law passed and the price gouging stopped."
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THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007, PAGE 13B
The Tribune

BUSINESS

US regulators want to end card confusion

By JEANNE AVREBA AP Economic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Confused by the fees and terms of your credit card? No need to worry about missing them at the last minute, new rules require your issuer to break them down in a summary table. Those separate statements would also be discontinued.

The public, industry and other interested parties will have an opportunity to weigh in on the Fed's proposal. So it could be changed before the Fed adopts a final plan.

The banking industry said the Fed is to be commended for taking a comprehensive look at improving disclosures in credit card agreements. "This is a welcome step to provide consumers with clearer and more comprehensive disclosures," said Edward Yingling, president of the American Bankers Association. "We're pleased to see the Fed working on "improving the proposal's benefits and costs."
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Contest ends August 31, 2007.

The Tribune

OBITUARIES & RELIGION

The Tribune

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LUNETTE F. KELLY

June 15, 1915 - May 1, 2007

Lunette F Kelly, 91, passed away May 1, 2007 at Hope Hospice-North, Cape Coral, Fl. Formerly of Nassau, Bahamas she has been a resident of N. Fort Myers since 1977. She was predeceased by her husband, Albert R. Kelly in 1986. She was a long-time member of N. Fort Myers United Methodist Church.

She is survived by two sons, Anthony C (Cynthia) and Godfrey A (Regina) Kelly, both of the Bahamas; five grandchildren, Amanda Albury, Glen, Adam, Matthew, and Rachael Kelly and three great-grandsons, Joshua, Evan and Daniel.

Visitation one hour prior to the service at 12:30 - 1:30pm on Saturday, May 5, 2007 at Fort Myers memorial Gardens Funeral Home, Fort Myers. Burial at Coral Ridge Cemetery, Cape Coral.

Sadly missed by relatives and friends.

In Loving Memory

ERROL J. MORRIS

1942 - 2003

Even though you’re gone and we’re apart, your smiling face still remains in our hearts.

Sadly missed by your loving wife Judy, children, Kenrick, Eddie, Timolin, Samantha & Meryl; grandchildren, relatives and friends.

You May Be Gone But Not Forgotten!!
THE TRIBUNE OBITUARIES

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR

PATRICE CAMILLE LOCKHART KNOWLES, 43

of Claridge Road will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. at Zion Baptist Church, East and Shirley Street. Officiating will be Rev. T. G. Morrison, assisted by Rev. Leon Johnson. Cremation will follow. She is survived by her husband, Corporal 695 Stanley Knowles; 2 children, Jason Darling and Janae Knowles; her parents, Osborne and Ethelene Lockhart; 1 grandchild, Jalia Darling; step grandchildren, Romaine Hinds, Garineque Stubbs, Travagnin, Tyrese, Tyree Knowles, Shonawen, Dashawn, Devon Musgrove; nieces, Mia Lockhart, Tanyone Gaitor, Simone and Whitney, Tredia and Tyra Rahming, Kelliann Peart, Karise Shaffane, Olivia, Shalisa and Rodrique Knowles; cousins, Ruby Morris, Anthony, Sandra and Kenneth Johnson, Rev. Pete and Minister Juanita McKenzie, Patricia and Oscar Munroe, Delgicia and Jeff Smith, Dr. Livingston Marshall, Sandra and Naaman Forbes, Pamela and Levi Adderley, John Marshall, Delores Johnson, Michelle and Ernest Miller, Natasha and Devine Saunders, Monique, Dexter and Demetrius Sands, Deborah, Andrew, Sammy, Glen, Enith and Jaleta McKinney, Jenniema, Nelson, Joy and Olive, Clifton, George, Rosemary, Dwayne, Theresa, Kevin, Patrick, Perry, Simeon, David, Philip, Elroy, Roselyn, Suziema, Lorenzo, Ed, Gloria Lockhart, Janet Nixon, Anna Hall, Lydia Jones, Octavia, Omar and Oran, Ayanna, Lauren, Ivanna, Nadia and Nameka, Terelle, Tristan, Leon, Crispin and Lakesha, Eamel and Ernest, Devainia and Dwayne Jr., Marvin and Madisson, Dexter Jr., and Dexter, William, Sabrina, Steve McKinney, Izzie Maynard, Daphne Laing and Elsie Stubbs, other relatives and friends including, the entire staff of Prescription Centre, David and Alice Key, Ms Betty, Fionia, Ericka, "T-Boy", Nadine, Renee, Ketia, the Wulff Road Police Station, Carol, Brenda, Joyce, Roslyn, Janene, Deaconness Helen Knowles, Sabrina Baron, Marietta Darling Wilmore and family, Andrew Stanford, Hotense Rahming and family, Maxine Rahming and family, Tilly Burrows, Ms. Hazel, Rev. T. G. Morrison and family and the entire Zion Baptist Church of East and Shirley Streets, Hon. Dr. Earl Deveaux, M.P. for Marathon Constituency, the Human Resources Department of BEC, the Central Records Department of NIB, the Rahmings of Fox Hill, the Leadon family, Omara, Jarvardo, Marcian, Brooke, Sloanee and family, The Knowles family of Nassau and Tampa, Florida, Davis Landscaping, Lowes Pharmacy, Staff of L. and S. Jewelry, Staff of Russell's Department Store, Cycles Unlimited, Adam Eve and so many others too numerous to mention.

Friends may pay their last respects at East Sunrise Mortuary, Rosetta Street, Palmdale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and at the church from 9 a.m. on Saturday until service time.
A part-time resident of Little Deadman's Cay, Long Island for 34 years, died peacefully at his home in Pittsburg, Pa.

He was married to Ginny Prozan Wellman and together they founded Sonshine Swim Camp 27 years ago.

Willard was the Senior Pastor for 25 years at the Bethany Collegiate Church in Philadelphia. This was the church founded by John Wanamaker, the famous department store owner and who, at one time, was the Superintendent of the largest Sunday School in the world.

Willard (affectionately known as Will) was born in 1912 in Minnesota. He graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois and the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia. He raised three sons, who were frequent visitors to the Bahamas.

After his first wife died, he married Ginny Prozan, who had been Head Teacher in several government schools in the Bahamas. They made their first home in Georgetown Guyana, where Will was pastor of St. Andrew’s Kirk, formerly of the Church of Scotland, and Ginny was Visiting Lecturer in Education at the Guyana Government Teacher Training College. One day a week they taught Religious Knowledge courses in the Presbyterian schools there. Will also developed a lay leaders’ education programme to help fill pulpits in churches which had no pastors.

It was in 1972 as they were returning from Guyana, that the Wellman’s bought the lease on Little Deadman’s Cay, restored the home that was built there and eventually founded the Sonshine Swim Camp. The Wellman’s spent their winters there as well as directing the camp in the summers.

In Pittsburg he was called to be the Pastor of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, a church of 2500 members. After retiring, he served as Interim Pastor of eight different churches in the area.

He will be sorely missed for his wonderful sense of humor and for his prayers for the ill and bereaved he visited, on Long Island.

Memorial gifts in his honor are suggested to be given to

Sonshine Swim Camp and Scholarship Fund
C/o William Delancy
P.O. Box N7018
Nassau Bahamas

Contact person:
Ginny Wellman (412) 828-1048
or
William Delancy (242) 362-1224

In Memory of

BARRY WALTER RUSSELL, 66

of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, formerly of Nassau, Bahamas passed away on April 22, 2007.

Left to cherish his memories are: his wife, Patricia; sons, Preston, Myles and Barry Jr.; daughters-in-law, Stacy and Marcy; grandchildren, Mitchell, Madison, Megan and Brandon; sisters, Rose-Marie Moree and Suzanne Denhart; brothers-in-law, Jack Moree and Mitch Smeykal; sisters-in-law, Verenna Russell and Linda Smeykal; nephews, Jody Moree, Scott and Brian Cory; nieces, Darnell Darville, Kelli Redman, Marlena Mayhew, Lisa Cory and Linda King; his aunt Geraldine and uncle Anton Brown; cousins, Brenda and Linda Albury; friends, Julie Kellar, Lynward and Karen Albury, Jeff Roberts, Lydia Roberts and a host of other relatives and friends.

You will forever be in our hearts.
The body will repose in the Blessed Redeemer Chapel at Ferguson’s Funeral Director’s, 7th Terrace Collins Avenue on Friday from 10am to 5pm and on Saturday at the church from 9:30am until service time.
Demeritte’s Funeral Home

BAHAMAS’ OLDEST MORTUARY
MARKET STREET • P.O. BOX GT-2097 • TEL: 323-5782

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR

DAVID ALEXANDER CHARLTON, 43

a resident of Carmichael Road and formerly of Mayaguana, will be held at Cousin McPhee Cathedral AME Church, Carmichael Road, on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Pastor Ranford A. Patterson. Interment follows in Southern Cemetery, Cowpen and Spikenard Roads.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Maria Charlton; 1 son, David Alexander Charlton Jr.; mother, Evelyn Charlton; sisters, Dianne Burnside, Marilyn and Judy Charlton; brothers, Steven Romer, Ivan, Alonzo, Esau, Jacob, Wesley, Kenrick and Demerie Charlton; mother-in-law, Sybil McKinney; father-in-law, Joseph McKinney; sisters-in-law, Doris Romer, Eudeen Charlton, Ann McKinney, Eunice Rolle, Sophia Fisher, Viola McKinney, Emily, Thea and Naydeean; brothers-in-law, Alley, Christopher, Ephriam and Ishmael McKinney and Andrew; uncles, King and Huelen Charlton and Robert Taylor; aunts, Doramae Charlton, Missy Taylor, Naomi Charlton, Beryl, Flo and Mariam; 24 nieces including, Dianne, Tiffany, Nakia, Christie, Shandy, Theone, Anastacia, Ashlyn, Terranique, Tori, Thazunique, Ivanique, Alonique, Ivanette, Ivonia, Deandrea, Shekedra, Alffia, Lavette, Tammy, Willama, Deondrie, Cindy and Rolisa; 25 nephews including, Bertram, Kevin, Richard, Glen, Ricki, Thomas, Steven, Keno, Deno, Reno, Shavago, Alonzo Jr, Kenrick Jr., Wesley Jr., Lovell Jr., Brandin, Lavardo, Wellington, Kel and Baby Geno; 10 great grand nephews, 9 great grand nieces; other relatives and friends including, Patrice Ambrister, Louise Darville, Michell, Claudette, Samantha, Emane Moss, Ivy, Myrtle Johnson, Maud and Pat Rolle, Cathy, Lita, Jan, Tucker and Junior Bowleg.

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

BABY DAEMONDRE CHARLES MATTHEW JOHNSON, 4 MONTHS

a resident of Harbour Island, will be held at Wesley Methodist Church, Harbour Island, on Friday at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Bishop Samuel Higgs. Interment follows in St. Catherine Cemetery, Harbour Island.

Left to mourn, his mother, Nicayne Johnson; father, Desmond Johnson; one brother, Tanajh Johnson; two grand mothers, Drucilla Butterfield of Freeport, Grand Bahama and Francis Bullard; two grandfathers, Charles Johnson, Edgell Johnson; one step grandfather, Humphrey Hitler Percentie; one great grand mother, Eloise Johnson; one great grand father, Rev. Stanley Johnson; eight aunts, Jennifer Ward of Upper Bogue, Eleuthera, Irelan Strachan, Vernita Adderley, Stacia Johnson, Verneva Johnson of New Providence, Tamara Johnson of Lower Bogue, Beanchor and Nichelle of Harbour Island; nine uncles, Baron, Humphrey, Steadman and Charles Johnson Jr. of Lower Bogue, Raymond Ward of Upper Bogue, Charles Adderley, Nicquito, Ricardo and Eric Butterfield of Freeport, Grand Bahamas; other relatives and friends including, Velma Cash, Ivy Cleare, Eva Sawyer, Shirley Gibson, Lucinda Deveaux, Iona and Candice Kelly, Shirley Johnson, Prescilla Neilly, Ismae Edgellnine and Roslyn Johnson, Sylvia Moss, Joyce "Big mama" Neilly, Anita Curry, Stanekka, Patricia Fisher, Agnes Mather, Denise Davis, Pauline Young, Elma Roberts, Sabrina Johnson, Penny, Madeline, Calvin and Andrew Johnson, Peter Hasting "Bugs" Moss, Eardley Neilly, Richard and Hartcourt Johnson, Aziel Moss, Bishop Ivan Neilly, Elder Preston Neilly, Harrison Kelly, Delbert and Reginald Neilly, Harry Cash, Bruce Deveaux, Bishop Algernet Gibson, Summer Johnson, Jeffrey Johnson, Leon Johnson, Warren "Bugs" Johnson, the Albury, Bain, Cash, Neilly, Cleare, Higgs, Percentie, Bullard, Johnson, Moss, Farrington, Kelly, Munroe and Emmanuel families of Harbour Island, Lower Bogue, Bluff, Upper Bogue and Hatchet Bay, The Staff of BTC and The Staff of the Landing Hotel.

Friends may pay their last respects at the church in Harbour Island on Thursday May 24, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. until service time on Friday.
MOTHER VIRGINIA

ALTHEA SANDS, 68

a resident of Rupert Dean Lane, and formerly of Acklins, will be held at New Covenant Baptist Church, East West Highway, on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Bishop Simeon B. Hall, assisted by other ministers of the gospel. Interment follows in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

She is survived by her son, Minister Roosevelt Thompson, Petty Officer Royal Bahamas Defence Force; daughter, Veronica Thompson; adopted daughter, Cindy Rolle; daughter-in-law, Helen Thompson; three sisters, Gwendolyn Johnson, Winifred Sands of Miami Fl, and Mildred Clarke of Freeport GB; four brothers, Ronald Greenslade, Janield, King David, and Thaddeus Deveaux of Miami Fl.; brother-in-law, Alfred Clarke of Freeport, Grand Bahama; grandchildren, Nikisa Ulin of New York, Delon Thompson, Drexel and Romaine Bain, Shantell, Lashanna and Lattia Kittens, Roosevelt Jr. and Rashadd Thompson; aunt, Florence Stevens, Hectcina Williams; nieces, Juetta Patton, Marie Williams, Louise, Marion and Debbie Greenslade, Beverly Beneby, Nioka Ciesbry, of Miami Fl., Earleen Johnson, Sharon Rolle, Nora, Deidre, Chantell and Trisha Clarke of Freeport GB, Zerline, Mary, Margaret, Lillian, Patricia, Maryann, Mary Lou and Janet of Miami, Florida, Eulamae Deveaux, Beatrice Strachan, Veronica Moss, Ethel and Judy Collie, Thomasine Johnson, Marsha Taylor, Lorraine, Lisa Clarinda, Morcia, Wealthy and Shaim Deveaux, Nellie Hanna and their families; nephews, Venal, Earison, Anthony Rodney, Harold, Ormond, Fulton and Oral Collie and their families, David Jr., Wendell, Janield Jr. Dwayne and Anthony Deveaux and their families, Martin, Kim, Junior, Salathiel, Paul, Charles and Kenneth Greenslade and their families; cousins, Pastor Dorinda Dean and family, Rev. Daniel Beneby and family, Bishop Harry Collie and family, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Moss and family, Ronald Miller and family, family, Ashland and Bradford Miller of Orlando Fl. and family, Rev. Newton, Williamson of Pine Field Acklins and family, Mable Collins, Cox and Family, Stevie, Gary and Bobby Jane Greenslade and family, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith of London England, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Beneby and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Hall and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Bootle and family of Perrine Florida, Valerie Saunders, Min. Debbie Lewis and family, Philip, Dwayne, Bernice, Dominic, Bernadette, of Palm Beach Fl, Alfred, Kirkwood, Joey, Tasha, Brian, Steven, Lavado, Daniel, Michelle, Lisa, Dunkin; relatives and friends, Mr. Ronald Thompson and family, Mrs. Clara Thompson of Miami Fl., Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Thompson and family, Mrs. Dorothy Moss and family, Mrs. Aurelia Brice and the entire Brice family, Bishop Simeon and Min. Linda Hall, the entire New Covenant Baptist Church family including, Mother's Board, Pastors, Ministers, Evangelists, Deacons, Deaconesses, Prophetess Alberta Williams and family, Rev. Isolene Rolle and family, The Gifttens family, the John Road, Oxford Avenue, Market St. Baker St. and Rupert Dean Lane Crew, Min. Sonia Marshall. Min. Rinehart Pearson, Rev. Dr. Valerie Carpenter, Evangelist Debra Gaye Strachan, Min. Veronica Farrington, Sjs. Gloria Lighthouse, Macy, Maudline Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. Criswell Pratt, Althea Woodside, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Coakley and family, Rev. and Mrs. Franklyn Lightbourne and family, Rev. and Mrs. Steven Ferguson and family, Mrs. Perl Henfield and family.

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

FRANKLYN "BUBBA J"

JOHN TAYLOR, 44

a resident of Bimini Avenue, will be held at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church, 3rd and 4th Streets, Coconut Grove, on Saturday at 1:15 p.m. Officiating will be Fr. Simeon Roberts, assisted by Fr. Noel Clarke. Cremation follows.

Left to cherish his memory are his mother, Rebecca Taylor-Neely; stepfather, George Neely; 4 sisters, Karen Daniels of Atlanta Georgia, Donna and Marguerite Taylor and Mary Taylor-Strachan; 8 brothers, Stanley Greene, John Williams Munroe of Atlanta Georgia, Al, Alfred, Stanford, Samuel, Michael, Otis and Nicholas Taylor; 4 aunts, Olive, Stanley and Gloria Lockhart and Larie Taylor; 10 uncles, George, Wenzel and Samuel Lockhart of Florida, Clifford Lockhart, Edward, Clearwood, Sammy, Lewis, William and Gladstone Taylor; 1 grand uncle, Osborne Lockhart of Mangrove Cay, Andros; 1 grand aunt, Barbara McKinney; 6 nieces, Saidah Daniels of Georgia, Kristina, Quinica, Opriel, Majesty and Mia Taylor; 6 nephews, Princeton and Quinton Munroe, Anthony Daniels, Justin Greene and Michael Jr., Brandon and Keno Taylor; 1 brother-in-law, Thomas Strachan; 2 sisters-in-law, Jackie Taylor and Yolanda Munroe; numerous cousins including, William and Andrew Cooper, Christopher and Fr. Noel Clarke, Janet Miller, George Jr., Anthony, Aaron, Nobel, Jermaine, Clifford Jr. and Analia Lockhart, Leslie and Roderick Taylor; numerous relatives and friends including, Sandra McKinney, Ian Fsadni, Inez Dorestant, Flora Rahming, John Greene, Bessie Role, Paula Saunders, Rosemary Bodie, Sybill Noymar, Norma Cartwright, Clee Dean, Deacon Raymond Forbes, the entire family of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church, Coconut Grove, the entire family of St. Denedicts and Holy Angels Catholic Church in Mangrove Cay, Andros, especially sister Mary David, Venus "Mother" King, Pearl and Leonard Moxey, Carmie Moxey, Sybil Greene, Mr. Alvin Clarke, Mr. Keith Moss and Mrs. Willie Burrows.

Friends may pay their last respects at Demeritte's Funeral Home, Market Street, from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and at the church from 12: 15 p.m. until service time.
REALAND
ESTELL WEECH
SEWELL, 75
of Alice Town Bimini, who died at the Princess
Margaret Hospital on May 17th, 2007 following a
brief illness, will be held at the Wesley Methodist
Church, Alice Town Bimini on Saturday May
26th, 2007 at 11:00am. Interment will be in the
Southern Public Cemetery. Rev. Stanley Pinder, Rev.
Charles Sweeting officiating. Born in Bimini on April
26th, 1932, she was the first of twelve children of
Fredrick Weech and Sarah Ann (Cash) Weech.

She was married to Thomas Sewell of Bermuda, who
predeceased her 1976. She is survived by three sons,
Thomas, Jimmy(Shirley), and Donny (Laurie), three
grandchildren, Sarah, Karen and Kevin Sewell, Also
left to mourn her passing are two brothers, Fredrick
Jr., and Joseph Hank; and six sisters, Una Russell
(Late George), Elaine Sweeting (Alfred), Agatha
Howard (Robert), Eleanor Spindler (Late Roger),
Jessie Underwood (Allison) and Barbara
Checkley(Michael), She was predeceased by a brother,
Douglas (Elsie) and two sisters, Sherry Weech and
Gean Higgs (David), Also left to mourn are her uncle,
Howard Cash (Sarah) and aunt, Edith Pinder (Late
Clement), five nieces and six nephews and numerous
cousins and other relatives and a wealth of friends.
Mrs. Sewell was a life-long member of Wesley
Methodist Church in Bimini.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Pinder's
Funeral Home Palmdale Ave., Palmdale.
MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE

Viewing will be held in the “Celestial Suite” at Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Ltd., Robinson and Soldier Roads on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and then again at the church on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. until service time.

Henrietta Glinton, 43

of Australia Avenue, Elizabeth Estates, will be held on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Margaret’s Anglican Church, Kemp Road. Officiating will be Rev. Fr. Joseph Mycklewyte. Interment will follow in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

Left to cherish her memories are her loving and committed Mother: Mrs. Vera Glinton, Five Children: Marie and Maria Glinton, Marina, Ricquelle and Reno Thompson, One Brother: Solomon Glinton, Three Sisters: Margret North, Hilda and Winnfred Glinton, Three Grand Children: Lanique, Dwinesha Glinton, and Rod-drick Miller, Four Aunts: Victoria Munroe, Agnes Francis, Castella Curtis, and Astella Adderley, Two Uncles: Rev. Garnet Rolle, Alfred Dixon of Long Island, and Joseph Rolle, One Sister-in-law: Laura Glinton, One Brother-in-law: Henrick Rolle, Seven Nieces: Oliver, Roshanda, Shanier, Samantha, Michellea, Jewel, Hilda, and Gail, Nine Nephews: Trevor, Angelo, Dominick, Joel, Noel, Rashad, Chavano, Michael, and Shumado, other Relatives including: Ricky, Judy, Jennamae, Alice, Helena, Ruthmae, Linda, Mr. Edith and Family, Valerie Dean and Family, Nicky, Joey, Betty, Carmetta, Dorothea, Anthony, Nathaniel, Edith, Janice, Helena, Gwenolyn, Mr. Fraizer, Esteen, Dianna, WPC 273 Annamae Rolle, PC2910 Timothy Rolle, Mary, Lizzy, Samuel, Albert, Marie and Zerline Rolle, the Armbrister Family, the Good Samaritan Family, Perry, Carlos, Anna, Nicky, Faith and Matthew.

Viewing will be held in the “Irenic Suite” at Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Ltd., Robinson and Soldier Roads on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and then again at the church on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until service time.
George LeVerne "Lil' Georgie" Smith, 55

of Blueberry Hill, will be held on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Assembly, Top of the Hill, Harold Road. Officiating will be Apostle Ed Watson. Interment will follow in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

He leaves to mourn his Wife: Kayla, Two Sons: Kyle and Kyro Brown, Mother: Olga Smith, One Brother, Anthony, Two Sisters: Paullette and Donna, Five Sisters-in-law: Nathania Smith, Andrea Major, Geraldine Pickering, Corene Major, and Angelita Major, Three Brothers-in-law: Jeffrey Major, Livingstone Major, and Joseph Pickering, Four Nieces: Ava Smith, Quinn Munnings, Cleopatra Pickering, and Ashley Major, Six Nephews: Angelo, Abassie, Noah, Jay, and Jerrid Major, and Englebert Pickering, Four Aunts: Inez Gillings, Fredricka Ferguson, Sheila and Beverley Johnson, Two Uncles: Joseph Johnson Jr. and Devard Ferguson, One Grand Aunt: Megan Taylor, Cousins: Allison and Betty-Jane Dean, Yvonne and Hannu Manninen, and Maxwell and Helen Dean and their Families, Kenderic and Yvonne Dean, Michael and Renee Dean, Franz and Brenda Johnson, and Karen and Robert "Dicycle" Saunders and their Families, Debbie and Larry Sawyer, Subrina and Morgan Graham, Daphne and Alcott "Tago" McIntosh and their Families, Gail and Jeffrey Johnson; Melissa Johnson, Van and Deloros Ferguson, Raynel and Jimmy Griffin, Leisha Hunter, Shirley Lewis, and Paulette and Charles Minder and their Families, Renay and Melvin Johnson, Sharon and Harold Dawkings, and Robin and Cindy Grant and their Families, T errance Grant, and Michael and Rita Grant, Gileon and Jacquelyn Grant, Mark and Luisa Grant, Philip and Inez Grant, Sandra Bridgewater, Henry Storr, John Ferguson, Pamela Taylor, and Robert and Velma Ferguson and their Families, Godparents: Coral Huyler and Millie McNeil, Special Friends: Mr. Jerome Curley, and Mr. and Mrs. Wenzell Nicholls, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Burrows, Russell and Theresa Carroll, and Mr. and Mrs. DaCosta Williams and their Families, Donald Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour and family, Donald, Beverley and Shelly Archer, Mrs. Freddie Munnings and Hon. Fred Mitchell and their Families, Ernest Meadows, Duncan DeBarrows, Oliver Gibson, Rodger D. Sands, Kenneth Burrows, Randy Raymond, John Ferguson, Jeff Davis, Arthur Breynen, Charles Major Sr., Paul Major, Richard Boode, Micklyn Seymour, Sam Thompson, Stephanie and Luther Cartwright and family, Pastor Leroy Major, and Hartman Poiter, Felix and Thelma Benehy, Joseph and Evelyn Winder, Lawrence and Deborah Elliot, and Hubert and Marina Sands and their Families, Stanley and Earline Adderley; Brian and Carolyn Miller and Karen and Dianne Lockhart and their Families, Centreville Community: Cora, Patsy, Deloris, Wren, Cheryl, Cecilie, Kenny, Gail, Lana, Raphael, Andrea, Cyriannia, Teddy, Greg, Freddie Munnings, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Elliot, Michelle and Stephen Elliot, Special Protégés: Shannon Roberts, Kevin Culmer, Jarien Winter, Bruce Benehy, Shervin and Donald Breynen, and Chelsea Armbrister, and a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Viewing will be held in the "Halycon Suite" at Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Ltd., Robinson and Soldier Roads on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and then again at the church on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until service time.

Deaconness Myrtis Kathleen Scavella, 79

of Montgomery Drive, Miller's Heights, and formerly of Gregory Town, Eleuthera will be held on Sunday, May 27th, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. at Good News Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Great Britain Street, Flamingo Gardens Subdivision. Officiating will be Pastor H. A. Roach, assisted by Pastors Jeremiah Duncombe, Neville Scavella, and R. I. Hanna, and Elder Franklyn Brown. Interment will follow in Southern Cemetery, Cowpen and Spikenard Roads.


May her soul rest in Peace.
FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR

LEISA DENISE MURRAY, 40

of Hillside Park will be held on Friday, May 25th 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at Zion Baptist Church, East & Shirley Streets. Officiating will be Rev. T.G. Morrison assisted by Rev. Ulrick V. Smith II and other ministers. Cremation will follow.

She is survived by her mother: Nathalie Ramsey; Daughter: T revia “Nadia”; Four (4) Sisters: Deanne Wallace-Whitfield, Inga Moree, Grace Cooper and Kim Kelley-Howell; Four (4) Brothers: Anthony, Bradley, Dudley and Stephen Moree; Nine (9) Aunts: Sylvia, Joycelyn and Janet Ramsey, Ethell Rolle, Sylvia Moree, Etoille Cartwright, Myrtle and Pam Logan and Denise Taylor; Five (5) uncles: John, Fred and Kenneth Ramsey, Joseph and Clayton Moree; Two (2) Brothers-in-law: Kenneth Wallace-Whitfield and Michael Cooper; One (1) Sister-in-law: Natasha Moree; Seven (7) Nieces: Kristy, Kelly, Kristina, Leah, Kaja, Kandice and Chrystyn; Five (5) nephews: Kenneth, McKyle, Myles, Malik and Christopher; One (1) Grandniece: Carson; Two (2) Grandnephews: Cameron and Chance; Cousins: Phillip, Michelle, Sonia, Dora, Dwayne, Dion, Desiree, Garvin, Laron, Shantell, Sylvia, Wellington, Nicola and Travain, Dr. Sean, Sophia and Siron Ramsey, Kendra Taylor, Joanne Moree-Rolle and Hansel Rolle, Cheryl, Trevor, Dorothy, Wayne, Satina, Ryan, Syd, Piper, Jerome, Dexter, Elvis and Clifford; and a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Viewing will be held at the chapel of Butlers’ Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Ernest & York Streets on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and at the church on Friday from 9:00 a.m. until service time.

Those wishing to send donations may do so at: Cancer Caring Centre East Terrace Centerville P.O. Box SS-6539 Nassau, Bahamas

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FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

PERSIS CLARKE, 46

will be held on Saturday May 26th 2007, at 1:00 pm at First Baptist Church, Market Street, and Officiating will be Pastor Earle Francis assisted by Rev. Diana Francis, Interment will follow in the Woodlawn Garden Cemetery, Soldier Rd.

Left to cherish his memory are one son, Mario Godet; mother, Ruth Clarke; eight sisters, Harriet Mather, Gloemi Clarke, Arlene Cooper, Attorney at-law Angelene Pyfrom, Janice Ferguson, Pastor Philistia Harriott Susan and Carolyn Clarke of New York; three brothers, Cleveland Clarke, Nermiah Clarke, Lynden Clarke; 3 aunts, Leaita McPhee, Ida Clarke Euvello Anderson of New York and Carolyn Curry; two uncles, Randol Curry Rudolf Curry; one sister-in-law, Brenda Clarke; four brothers-in-law, Lee Mather, Winston Harriet Trevor Cooper, Clayton Ferguson; grand aunts, Everlena Lloyd of Barricrat Exuma; three grand uncles, Preston McPhee Forrester Bodie, Attorney at-law, LB. Johnson; eight nieces, Linda Collie, Adreanna, Lynette, Indira Rolle, Lyndira Clarke, Deandra Clarke, O'hdasa Dean, A'nisa Clarke, Destiny Harriott, Azaria Clarke, Clayshan Ferguson, Anastacia Clarke, Tremela Cooper, Sonya Curry; ten nephews, Nathaniel Mather, Garvin Pyfrom, Leonard Clark, Charles Turnquest, Trevor Cooper Jr., Winston David Jr., Clayton Ferguson Jr., Nemiah Clark Jr., Christopher Clarke; forty-five cousins, Verbilee, Norma, Irene, Eurella Clarke, Almetta Smith, Alington Clarke, Kemit Smith, Gray Rolle, Monique and Felton Robertson, Elvis and Tasha Clarke, Darrella Marcia Weir, Sheba, Glendina, Odell, Tarosha, Angelo, Anwar, Warren, Dominique Rolle, Sherik Bowleg, Brendon, Marco, Andrew, Devroy, Trevor Musgrove, Jacklyn Smith, George-Sandra Moss, Coraloe, Pearlmae, Elise, Brian, Sophia Munroe, Tyrone Munroe, Elvis Munroe, Desmond Munroe, Trevor Taylor, Barry McPhee, Devan Rolle, Monique McQuaris, Kendra Munroe, Hal, Bodie, Rona Davis, Denis Weir and other relatives and friends.

Viewing will be held at Riverside Funeral Home, Bimini Ave. from 2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. on Friday, May 25th.
MR SEBERON "POMPI" MACKEY, 67

of #22 Sparsholt Circle, Freeport, Grand Bahama and formerly of Waterford, Eleuthera will be held at Fellowship Union Baptist Church, Landsdown Drive, Freeport on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at 11am. Officiating will be Rev’d Dr. Keith Russell, assisted by Rev’d Dr. Fred Newchurch and Deacon Fred Ramsey. Interment will follow at Grand Bahama Memorial Park.

Left to cherish his memories wife, Sylvia Mackey; four sons, Seberon Jr., Ted, Kevin and Aka; three daughters, Arlene, Joyce Anne and Tracey; two brothers, Simeon and Adam Mackey; four sisters, Winifred and Shirley Moss, Estella Sawyer and Corrine Mackey; sons-in-law, Hylton Dacres and Troy Strachan; daughters-in-law, Woman/Assistant Superintendent of Police Loretta Mackey, Jennifer Mackey and Margo Mackey; aunt, Brazerica Nixon of Nassau; sisters-in-law, Catherine an Elcine Mackey, Mildrew Brennen, Cheryl and Val Delancy; brothers-in-law, Bishop Winslow Moss of New Bight, Cat Island and Henry Delancy; grandchildren; Lori Bartlette, Tori Bartlette, Keva Bethel, Sidell Ingraham, Janae Culmer, Davanna, Seberon III, David Bethel, Sidell Ingraham, Janae Culmer, Davanna, Seberon III, David

MR. FELIX BOWLEG, 91

of Hunter's Grand Bahama, will be held at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church, Hunters, Grand Bahama on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 1pm. Officiating will be Father Reginald Demeritte, assisted by Deacon Jeffrey Hollingworth. Interment will follow at Hunter's Public Cemetery.

He will always be remembered by his loving wife, Doreen; his son, Thaddeaus; adopted children, Evelyn and Lawrence; step-daughter, Carlet Rolle; step-grandchildren, Shenika, Rastrick and Suzanne Rolle, Shawn and Delroy Powell, Gerrise Newbold, Amanda Woods and Kunta Thomas; eight nephews, Lealand and Vernal Jones, Emmanuel Williams, Arthur, Richard, Everett, Michael and Fritz Stuart; five nieces, Zeddy Jones, Rejoinia Martin and Sharrie Webb; nineteen grand nieces including, Cherriemae Hanna, Blanche Garninette of Pensacola, Florida and Alzona Kensaint of Orlando, Florida; and eight grand-nephews. Other relatives and friends including, Roland, Rashad and Alexandra Rolle, Theresa Strachan, Perry Gilbert, Edith Gardiner, Terry Rolle, Melvina Russell and family, Drucilla Russell and family, Richard Russell and family, Mavis Poitier and family, Father Reginald Demeritte and St. Vincent's de Paul family, the Doctors, nurses and EMS at the Rand Memorial Hospital, the Community Nurses at Hawksbill Clinic, Nurse Deborah, godchildren, Muriel and Beatrice Russell, the communities of Hunters, Russell and Williams Town.

Viewing will be held in the "Ironic Suite" of Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Limited, 11-A Coral Road Road, Freeport from 10am to 6pm on Friday and on Saturday at the church from 12noon until service time.
FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

LAMBERT ELTAVOUS BOWE, 38

of Caneby Terrace off Fortune Bay, Grand Bahama, and formerly of Nassau, will be held at Salem Union Baptist Church, Taylor Street on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Rev. Dr. Charles W. Saunders assisted by other Ministers. Interment will follow in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.


Viewing will be held in the “Serenity Suite” at Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Ltd., Robinson and Soldier Roads on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and then again at the church on Saturday from 8:45 a.m. until service time.

MR. ALPHEUS BULLARD, 68

of Long Bay Cay, Andros will be held at St. John's Native Baptist Church, Coral Road and Ponce De Leon, Grand Bahama on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 11am. Officiating will be Pastor Douglas Williams, assisted by Minister Walter Henderson. Interment will follow at Grand Bahama Memorial Park.

He were predeceased by his parents, Mernenchia and Fredrick Bullard and two sons, Alpheus Jr and Sean Bullard and one nephew, Valantanio Bullard. Those fortunate to be apart of his life, son, Brian Sr.; daughters, Valerie, Yvette Bullard and Patricia "Tweedy" Cambridge; stepsons, Michael and Tyrone Flowers, mother of his children, Patricia Baker-Familia; grandchildren, Delano, Geovannie and Brian Bullard Jr., Deniquca Duncan and Denard Bain, Toquell Major, Tajmahal and Thermolla Thompson, Tibah Rolle, Teseanna Bullard, Michael Jr. and Mark Flowers; great grandchildren, Lailah Bullard and Denarjea Bain; brother, Erick Bullard; sisters, Eloine Sweeting and Rozenia Bain; nephews, Glenn, Terry and Derick Sweeting; nieces, Tina Sweeting and Christal Thurston; daughter-in-law, Sandra Flowers; brothers-in-law, Leon Sweeting and Lehenzor Bain; extended family, the staff at the Convalesce Home in Andros, other relatives and friends, Phillip Maycock and Arizona Bain-Bullard.

Viewing will be held in the "Celestial Suite" of Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Limited, 11A Coral Road, Freeport from 10am to 6pm on Friday and on Saturday at the church from 10am until service time.
MR. DENNIS LESLIE DEVEAUX, 56

of Pinedale, Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, and formerly of Nassau, will be held at Central Zion Baptist Church, Eight Mile Rock on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 11am. Officiating will be Rev. Elvis Burrows. Interment will follow at the Harbour West Public Cemetery.

Left to cherish his precious memories are his son, Leslie Dennis Deveaux; one daughter, Teka Deveaux; three grandchildren, Leslie Deveaux Jr., Trenton Deveaux and Razie Pinder; four brothers, Rudy, Gregory, Steven and Phillip; one step brother, Kenneth Forbes; five sisters, Angela, Linda, Cheryl, Brenda and Antoinette; one step sister, Jane Cooper; two aunts, Dolly Rahming and Vanny Deveaux; two uncles, Victor and Roy Deveaux of Oklahoma; 85 nieces and nephews; eighteen grand nieces and nephews; three brothers-in-law, Jarvis Rahming, Mark Baloney and David Richard; three sisters-in-law, Angie Deveaux, Gloria Taylor and Vangie Miller and other relatives and friends including Lucy Jones, Cecil Hepburn, Doris Smith, Lucky, Dennis Bain of D.J. Construction, David Bain, Jacqueline Deveaux, Shadell, Alphonso Miller Bourgue, Renee, Leslie, Wayne, Mercia, Phillip, Tanya, Myra, Audrey, Ricardo, Vivian, Dwayne, Faye, Corrina, Piana and Pamela.

Viewing will be held in the "Irenic Suite" of Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Limited, 11-A East Coral Road, Freeport, Grand Bahama on Friday from 10am to 6pm and at the church on Saturday from 9am until service time.

CHRISTOPHER O'NEIL DIXON, 6

of #22 Increase Way, South Bahama, Grand Bahama will be held at the Chapel of Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Limited, #11-A Coral Road, Freeport on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 at 1pm. Officiating will be Rev. Allen Dixon. Cremation will follow.

He will always be remembered by his loving and devoted mother, Ghislaine Artistie; father, Herman Dixon Sr.; grandfather, Alfred Dixon; brothers, Herman Dixon Jr., Larry, Johnny, Charles, Marvin Elvis, Mario, Otis and Clifford Dixon; sisters, Jennifer and Alexis Dixon; uncles, Rev. Allen, Jacob, Gerard Sonny and Willie Dixon, Patrick, Renald and Joe Athis; aunts, Teasil, Coakley Smith, Deborah Dixon, Magarette, Mireille, Mona and Marie Danielle Athis; cousins, Lester Smith and Samuel Smith, Tobert Coakley, Theresa and Rosalee Bethel, Allen Dixon Jr., Tamika Andrews, Fiona, Pedric, Keshelia and Takezno Dixon, Fabiola Remfort, Gregory Zeffery, Jimmy, Renaldine and Brihana Athis.

Viewing will be held in the "Halcyon Suite" of Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Limited, 11-A Coral Road, Freeport from 10am to 6pm on Friday and on Saturday at the church from 12noon until service time.

MR. MARCEL MATHIEU, 67

of Pinder's Point, Grand Bahama, and formerly of St. Louis Du Nord, Haiti, died at his residence on Saturday, May 19th, 2007.

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.
EARL RICHARD RAHMING, 77

of Imperial Park, Sea Breeze Estates, will be held on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at St. Agnes Anglican Church, Baillou Hill Road. The Rt. Rev. Gilbert A. Thompson, Venerable I. Ranfurly Brown, Fr. Rodney Burrows and Fr. Bernard Beem will officiate. Interment will be made in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

He is survived by his wife, Maureen Rahming; children, Rosevelt, Diane, Earl Augustus and Monique Rahming; grandchildren, Earvin, Javon, Cameron, Earl Avery, Andre and Ennis Rahming; daughters-in-law, Registered Nurse Clare Rahming and Carmel Rahming; brothers-in-law, Ormond Poitier, Rudolph Burgzorg and Vernal Adderley; sisters-in-law, Manette Fullwood, Emma Poitier, Louis Richardson. Joyce Burgzorg, Astrid Brooks, Jane Adderley, Juanta Poitier and Virginia Mortimer; nieces and nephews, Coral Sawyer, Osbourne and Christine Sawyer, Margaret Moxey, Hope Radcliffe and Jerome Sawyer, Ricardo Knowles, Tiffany Molly Sawyer, Joyanne and Daniel Ferguson, Cheryl and Daphne Brooks, Michael and Sharon Poitier, Claudia Glinton and Charisse Brown, Branford, Elise, Arthur, Gail, Haldene, Renee and Colin Chase, Anna-Marie Smith, Vernelle Corey, Patricia Fountain, Sonia Roberts and Brian Adderley, Flora Sawyer, Marie Smith. Eric Poitier, Alfred, Iris, Katherine, Anthony, Kenneth, Ralph. Selwyn Osmond and Steven Richardson, Maxwell Poitier, Marcian, Lorna and Jared Mortimer, Carver, Freddy, Trevor and Ian Burgzorg, Lena Dottin, Joan Fountain and Carol Morley, Manette Cripps, Ida Turnquest, Wendy Albury and Spencer Poitier; other relatives including, Bishop Gilbert Thompson and Family, family of the late Canon Dudley Strachan, Sir Arlington and Lady Sheila Butler, Michelle Strachan-Minus and Marsha Deveaux; also the following and their families, Rodney Brennen, Advidia Scavella, Anzlo Strachan, Lease Strachan, Sylvia Roberts, Corrine Thompson, Rose Thompson, Vivian and Ricardo Strachan, Jack Franks, Earnestine Douglas, Thomas Vivian and Zelma Dean, family of the late Ruth Culmer, Perry and Debbie Strachan, Elsie Strachan, Gwen Moncur, Delores Wilson, Brenda Archer, the late Leon "Doc" Rahming, Stanley Campbell and Lloyd Toppin; godchildren, Clementia Butler, Kendal King and Cyann Corbell; special friends including the following and their families, Mr. Frank Hanna, Mr. Lionel Mackey, Rev. Garnet King, Mrs. Dorothy Albury, Mr. and Mrs. Roger-Ford, Mrs. Klass, Archie Sands, Mr. Carlton McIntosh, Freeland and Harry Deveaux, Reggie Taylor, Mrs. Carmeta Ramsey, Father John Taylor, New York, Ms. Avina Burke, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley McKenzie, Mr. Roland Richardson, Ms Rosalie, Mr. Dave Rolle, Mr Nello Corbell, Ms Paula Cunningham, Mr. Rudy Stubbs, Mr. Rick Martin and The Sunlight Cottage, also James V. Cox, Mr. Kenneth Tucker, Dr. Kevin Moss, Dr. Robert Gibson, the nurses and staff of Male Medical I and II at PMH, Violet Ellis and family, Lorraine Knowles, Mr. Terrance Dorsett, Mr. Clement Cartwright, Bradley "Super" Young, Robert "Bobby" Wright, Lee Stieno Louis, Tony Merdelus, The Rum Cay family, Mr. Warren Cooper of New York, Mr. Alfred Rolle of Miami, Florida. The Run Cay family, staff of City Lumber Yard, staff of Radade, Cable. Each especially the Engineering Department, staff of Frank Hanna Cleaning Company, staffs of BTVI, ZNS, Airway Facility, Civil Aviation and the First Caribbean Bank and others too numerous to mention; neighbours, the following including families, Mrs. Armeta Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Symonette, Sammy Chisholm, the Stors, Thurston, Deveaux, Moree, Craig, Miller, Ms Butterfield, the Wring, Dorothy Albury, Sean Wright, Reggie Taylor, Walter Hanchell, Mr. and Mrs. Barrington Johnson, Kayla Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Morino and Raquel Hines; pallbearers, Brian Adderey, Monty Roberts, Clement Cartwright, Perry Strachan and Trevor Burgzorg.

Friends may pay their last respects at Bethel Brothers Morticians #44 Nassau Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the church from 9:00 a.m. until service time.

MARIA CECELIA CARTER-VIRGILL, 63

of Firefly Road, Stapledon Gardens, will be held on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at The Parish Church of The Most Holy Trinity, Trinity Way, Stapledon Gardens. The Venerable E. Etienne E. Bowleg, assisted by The Rev'd, Fr. John Kabiga will officiate. Interment will be made in The Western Cemetery, Nassau Street.

She is survived by two sons, Charles Wesley Virgill III and Robert Leslie Smith II; two daughters-in-law, Renee Virgill and Lucy Smith; seven grandchildren, Alexia, Charles and Jonathan Brooks, Stephen, Robert II and Ayer the Engineering Department, staff of Frank Hanna Cleaning Company, staffs of BTVI, ZNS, Airway Facility, Civil Aviation and the First Caribbean Bank and others too numerous to mention; neighbours, the following including families, Mrs. Armeta Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Symonette, Sammy Chisholm, the Stors, Thurston, Deveaux, Moree, Craig, Miller, Ms Butterfield, the Wring, Dorothy Albury, Sean Wright, Reggie Taylor, Walter Hanchell, Mr. and Mrs. Barrington Johnson, Kayla Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Morino and Raquel Hines; pallbearers, Brian Adderey, Monty Roberts, Clement Cartwright, Perry Strachan and Trevor Burgzorg.

Friends may pay their last respects at Bethel Brothers Morticians #44 Nassau Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the church from 9:00 a.m. until service time.
WELLINGTON
JAMES BASTIAN, 59

of Rawson Court, Cable Beach and formerly of Mars Bay, Andros will be held Saturday 10:00 a.m. at Zion South Beach Baptist Church, Zion Blvd. Bishop Wenith Davis assisted by other ministers of the Gospel will officiate. Interment will follow in Lakeview Memorial Gardens, J.F.K. Drive.

Cherished memory will live on in the hearts of his loved ones, beloved wife, Vanria; sons, Robert, Jermaine and Wellington "Brock" Jr.; very dear mother and stepfather, Ann and Vernal Lynes; sisters, Preola Rolle, Elaine Johnson, Laurine Bastian, Betty Hinsey, Elizabeth Turnquest, Genice Bastian and Melissa Lynes; brothers, Wilfred and Daniel Bastian; aunts, Marinetta Young, Isadora Johnson, Mary, Janette and Dorothy Ferguson, Olive, Lea, Ulean and Thelma Ferguson; Uncles, Isaac, Jeffery and Robert Ferguson; sisters-in-law, Andrea Bastian, Deanne and Donna Christie, Venera Johnson, Dorothy Taylor, Angelica and Darcia Christie; brothers-in-law, Brenford and Wayde Christie, Leon Johnson, Henry Hinsey, John N.I. Rolle and Larry Turnquest; nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends too numerous to mention but always loved.

Friends may pay their last respects at Bethel Brothers Morticians, #44 Nassau Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the church from 9:00 a.m. until service time.
SENIOR CUSTOMS GUARD
STEPHEN LEWLYN SMITH, 41

of #49 Nelson Road, Freeport and formerly of Nassau, will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at The Pro Cathedral of Christ The King, East Atlantic Drive and Pioneers Way. Officiating will be the Rev. Fr. Rudolph Cooper, Rev. Canon Leopold Cox, Rev. Kingsley Knowles and Rev. Canon Delano Archer. Interment will be made in St. Stephens Anglican Church Cemetery, Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama.

Left to keep his memory alive are his parents, Livingstone Sr. and Lena Smith; three sisters, Janice Brown, Michelle Butler and Chanelle Smith and Karen Fernander; two brothers-in-law, Calvin Brown and Nathan Butler; eight aunts, Audrey Barnett, Verdell Lockhart, Rosemary Adderley, Donna Newbold, Linda and Beatrice Ferguson, Rebecca and Vanria Smith; seven uncles, Howard Newbold Sr., Berkley Smith, Laban Jr., Dan and Romeo Ferguson, Anthony Lockhart, Christopher Adderley and Jacob Barnett; two grand aunts, Lenora Gibson and Lagloria Smith; three nieces, Anique Adderley, Brittney Butler and Caitlin Brown; four nephews, Alexander Broomfield, Jonathan Brown, Donavan Butler and Cosmic Green; godchildren, Miasha Pintard, Berlicia Saunders, Victoria Hanna, Dimaddio Smith and Kenya Johnson; and a host of other relatives and friends including Kevin, Patrick and Shantel Knowles, Andrew Thomas, Daniel Smith, Sophia Smith, Ingrid Edwards, Lloyd Smith, Alphonzo Smith, Mrs. Laura Smith, Rev. Bernard Rolle, Karin Rolle, Shenique Lockhart, Lloyd Rolle, Khalil Lockhart, Prescott, Christian and Marissa Adderley, Dedrie Taylor, Howard Jr., Donnelle and Derelle Newbold, Trevor Pratt, Dashell Freeman, Lonicee, Kendra and Keniece Ferguson, Samuel Hepburn, Aaron Gibson, Glen Hanna, Jerry Lowe, Grace and Carla Deal, Mitchell Johnson, Hubert Tate, Rueben Roberts, Ayanna Archer, Ann Rolle, Akera Martin, Martin Pintard, Mr. and Mrs. Sean Cumberbatch, Joseph Bridgewater, Dwayne King, Nicole Walkin and family, Ethelyn Meadows and family, Leona Davis, Ivan Deveaux J.P. and family, Millicent Rolle & family, Godfrey Knowles and family, Fenrick and Malvese Henley, Senator Pleasant Bridgewater and family, John Miller, Senator Frederick McAlpine and church family, Fr. and Mrs. Rudolph Cooper and members of St.’Stephens Anglican Church; “Rev. Leopold Cox and family, Bahamas Customs Administration and staff, the administration, staff and Auxiliary staff of Bishop Michael Eldon School and others too numerous to mention.

Relatives and friends may pay their respects at Yager Funeral Home and Crematorium, Queen's Highway, Freeport on Friday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the Pro Cathedral from 10:30 a.m. to service time.

JEREMIAH TAMAL DAWKINS, 5

of Hanna Hill, Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Jones' Town, Eight Mile Rock. Officiating will be Rev. Lindy Russell and interment will be made in The Harbour West Public Cemetery, Eight Mile Rock.

Left with cherished memory are his father Tamal Dawkins; mother, Donella Laing; one brother, Tamal Dawkins Jr., one sister, Tearra Dawkins; two grandmothers, Yvette Been and Julize Lewis; two grandfathers, Lawrence Dawkins and Donald Laing Jr.; one step grandfather, Bruce Been; two great grandmothers, Laura McPhee and Loretta Laing; four aunts, Julica Dawkins, Cindy, Lashawn and Shanique Been; six uncles, Bruce, Adrian, Jamal and Shante Been, Lawson and Rennick Dawkins and Eliazor Curry; 11 granduncles and six grandaunts; two godmothers, Maxine Rolle and Lullamae Strachan and a host of other relatives including the following and their families, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Bartlett Hill School, Bahama Rock, Candid Security, Rev. Lindy Russell, Calvin Martin, Ms. Jasmaine Hepburn, Church of God of Prophecy, Mrs. Grant, Eight Mile Rock Urban Renewal, Ministry of Education, Local Government, Social Services and special friends Randy Russell and Natasha Hamm.

Relatives and friends who wish to sign the book of condolences may do so at Yager Funeral Home and Crematorium, Queens Highway, Freeport on Friday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. and at the church from 9:00 a.m. to service time.
RALEIGH BAIN, 92

of Hawthorne Road and formerly of Abraham's Bay, Mayaguana, will be held on Sunday, May 27, 2007 at Breath of Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Marshall Road, Nassau, Bahamas. Officiating will be Pastor Jeremiah Duncombe, assisted by Pastor Michael D. Toote and Elder Admiral Forbers. Interment will follow in Old Train Cemetery, Old Trail Road.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Nurse Patricia Bain, children, Cleomie Burrows, Gloria Pritchard, Ann Bain and Gladstone Thurston; grandchildren, Denise, Richard, Albertha, Leslie, Stanley, Patrick; nieces, Ruth, Helen, Christina, Charity, Terry, Sylvia, Verna, Nicola, Marie, Rhonda, Patricia, Gaylene, Suenetta and Rev. Emily Demeritte; nephews, Wilkin, Hubert, Melvin, David, Franklin, Arnold, John, Kirkland and Michael; sisters, Agnes Bowleg and Dorothy Mortimer; sister-in-law, Majorie Stone; brother-in-law, Nehemiah Bowleg, other relatives and friends including Pearl, Maltise, Hazel, Francis, Mary, Margaret Charlton, Ida Lightbourne, Sarah Rahming, Olga Johnson, Linda Rolle, Sandra Mackey, Costrite staff, the Balfour and Linda Adderley families, The Fort Fincastle and Oakes Field communities.

Special thanks to Dr. Robin Roberts, Kimberly, Michelle, Nerrissa, Delrose Anthony and Tyrone Willis.

Friends may pay their last respects at Rock of Ages Funeral Chapel on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sunday at the church from 1:00 p.m. until service time at the church.
ROY WILFRED MINUS, 92

of Ajax Street off Farrington Road and formerly of Smith's Lane and Mangrove Cay, Andros will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Baillou Hill and Wulff Roads at 10:00 a.m. Officiating will be Fr. Samuel Sturrup assisted by Fr. Shazazzbazzar Turnquest and Fr. Roderick Bain. Interment will follow in St. Barnabas Cemetery, Moore's Avenue.

Left to cherish fond memory are his two adopted daughters, Roxy Minus-Rolle and Antoinette Sturrup-Hall; two brothers-in-law, Calvin and Oswald Thompson; four sisters-in-law, Carnetta, Rosalie, Myrtle and Barbara Minus; fifteen nephews, Prince Albert Wright, James Pennerman, Kermit "Ray" Minus, Allan Livingston Minus, Philip Minus, Neville Glen Minus and Durant K. Minus Sr., Samuel Dawkins, Rev. Dr. Clement Saunders, Rev. Ivan Rolle, Dr. Robin Roberts, Gordon Wong, Charles Collins, Rueben Sears, and Assistant Commissioner of Police Allan Gibson; twenty nieces, Beulah Bonimy, Isabelle Wright, Melverna Wong J.P., Beverley Collins, Lerlean Sears, Jennymae, Janice and Jean Minus, Delores Dawkins, Ikenna Johnson, Ruthann Rolle, Deborah Saunders, Staff Nurse Glendina Minus, Joycelyn Minus, Dr. Carolyn Roberts, Inez Minus, Geraldine Marrett, Pearline Thompson, Joanna Pennerman and Crystal Minus of Miami Florida; numerous grand nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends including, Betty Rolle, Ethel Claridge, Unamae Nairn, Adrianna Mackey, Sherry Sands, Mrs. Darville, Tony Vega, the Dawkins family, the Sturrup family, Althea Bain and family, St. Barnabas Church family and the Smith's Lane family.

Relatives and friends may pay their last respects at Evergreen Mortuary, Mackey Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until service time.
SHARON JOY FERGUSON, 41

of Golden Gates I will be held on Saturday May 26, 2007 at New Bethany Baptist Church, Key West Street, at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Reverend Doctor Victor Cooper assisted by other Ministers of the Gospel. Interment will follow in Lakeview Memorial Gardens, John F. Kennedy Drive.

Left to cherish fond memory are her parents, Benjamin and Merletha Ferguson; four sisters, Joan Clarke, Yvonne Cooper, Beverly Ferguson and Rose Morrison; three brothers, Godfrey, Winston and Lloyd Nelson Ferguson; three sisters-in-law, Janet, Althea and Sharon P. Ferguson; one brother-in-law, Oswald Morrison; ten aunts, Vera, Irene, Edna and Tristina Ferguson, Florence Lewis, Estella Cox, Naomi Munnings, Elizabeth Adderley, Beulah McPhee, Barbara and Lorraine Moss; two uncles, Labon Ferguson and Nehemiah Moss; seven nieces, Sasha, Jasmine, Jade and Emerald Ferguson, Charita Cooper, Raquel and Shakera Clarke; seven nephews, Jerrette and Ryan Clarke, Ashley Williams, Adam Miller, Rashad Ferguson, Chad Woodside and Tyler Morrison; four grand nephews, Jahvaughn, Devonte and Darren Clarke and Kevin Kellman; one grandniece, Alia Pitt; two godchildren, Farrah Styles and Azaria Bethel; numerous cousins, relatives and friends, including, Apostle Paul and Elder Maxine Butler, The Bahamas Fellowship Center family, Rev. Franklyn and Sister Katie Clarke, Dr. Adrian Rolle, The Golden Gates Community, Antoine Hamilton, Tamara Johnson, William and Yvette Styles, The Weech family, Portia Johnson and family, Miriam Adderley, Mary Fernandez, nurse Gayle Rolle, Deidre Allen and a host of other relatives and friends.

Relatives and friends may pay their last respects at Evergreen Mortuary, Mackey Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and again at the church on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until service time.

JENNIE MAE GIBSON, 39

of Churchill Subdivision will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at International Revival Christian Church, Montell Heights at 1:00 p.m. Officiating will be Bishop Michael Ferguson assisted by Pastor Derek Ferguson. Interment will follow in the Southern Cemetery, Cowpen and Spikenard Roads.

Left to cherish fond memory are her children, Christina, Oleander and Anton Gibson, Darrel Johnson and Crystal Dorsette; adopted son, Travis Dorsette six sisters, Elizabeth Gray, Joan Henderson, Theresa Rolle, Jennifer Humes, Helen and Vernita Gibson; three brothers, Samuel Williams, Thomas and Gladstone Gibson; two sisters-in-law, Beverley Williams and Gina Gibson; four brothers-in-law, Walter Gray, Robert Henderson, Kevin Rolle and Emilie Humes; three aunts, Natalie Bodie, Pearl and Enna Johnson; twenty-four nieces, Samantha Rahming, Renee Douglas, Crystal Gray, Sabrina Young, Sonia Gibson, Phillipa Ingraham, Okeal Henderson, Kendesha, Kendra, Kaylisia and K'Sharla Humes, Teashawna Gibson, Presca Mitchell, Crystal Gibson, Maliah Gibson, Denricka, Denisha, Dennisian and Deneka Gardiner, Quettel Williams, Shantell Brown, Tina Eyma, Patrice and Tanaysha; seventeen nephews, Alfred Miller, Jamaal and Jerome Gray, Robert, Owen and Robin Henderson, Kendrick Humes, Teashawn, Terrance, Christopher and Malik Gibson, Dennis Gardiner, Stephen Fines, Samuel Williams, Jr., Valentino Williams, Noel Brown and Tyreke; special friend, Ollie Dorsette; and a host of other relatives and friends including, Ema Forbes, Shermain, Jennifer Forbes, Prince and Omar Bodie and The Staff of Kelly's Home Center.

Relatives and friends may pay their last respects at Evergreen Mortuary, Mackey Street on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and again at the church on Saturday from 12:00 p.m. until service time.
Spokane-area parishes raising $10m for sex abuse victims

By JOHN K WILEY
Associated Press Writer

SPokane, Washington (AP) — In Roman Catholic parishes around Spokane these days, sermons on the teachings of Jesus are mixed with urgent pleas for money to pay people who were sexually abused by clergy decades ago.

Priests sometimes evoke the parable of the good Samaritan — who stopped to help a man who had been beaten and robbed when others looked the other way — as they wage a unique campaign to overcome the financial fallout from clergy sex abuse in the bankrupt Spokane Diocese.

"I've been telling them the focus here is on the children who were hurt and doing what we can to bring them some sort of compensation, some sort of healing," said the Rev Edgar Borchardt, pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in the college and farm town of Pullman, about 80 miles south of Spokane.

A Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization plan approved last month commits the diocese to pay $48 million — including $10 million from 82 parishes — to settle as many as 177 old claims of sexual abuse.

That $10 million is roughly what the diocese's 5,000 parishioners normally put in the collection plate in a year.

Home to Bishop William Skylstad, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops — the diocese is the smallest and poorest of five nationwide that have sought bankruptcy protection against clergy sex abuse lawsuits.

The others are San Diego; Davenport, Iowa; Portland, Ore.; and Tucson, Ariz. Tucson has emerged from bankruptcy protection, while Portland's reorganization plan also has been approved.

Skylstad is himself raising an additional $6.5 million toward the bankruptcy settlement, and Catholic agencies, such as cemeteries, children's homes and charities, are being asked to contribute another $6.5 million.

Over the next few weeks, parish priests will try to sell the settlement to the people in the pews, said Bob Hailey, a Spokane lawyer who is an executive on a grass-roots capital campaign to help parishes raise their share.

How that pitch is made is up to individual priests in each parish, Hailey said.

Borchardt's church began its campaign in February, ahead of other parishes. The congregation's 350 families already have raised — in cash and pledges — about 80 per cent of the $250,000 assessment the parish is expected to contribute, he said.

Some parishioners are angry at Skylstad for taking the diocese into bankruptcy, while others balk at paying bankruptcy lawyer fees. Still others question why they should pay for priests who molested children decades ago in other parishes, Borchardt said.

"The good Samaritan was not at all responsible for the problem, but he was the one who took care of the problem," Borchardt said. "We try to keep the focus on the healing of those who survived the abuse and healing of the people in the pews. This has been fairly traumatic for people in the pews too."

The Rev Mike Savelesky, co-chairman of the Association of Parishes, a group of pastors and laity formed to protect the assets of individual parishes, told his parishioners their church's future may rest on the success of the campaign.

Savelesky is pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, a large church and one of four Spokane-area parishes being used as collateral to secure loans for the diocese.

It is also the former home of ex-priest Patrick O'Donnell, who admitted to molesting dozens of young boys. Skylstad shared a parish residence in the early 1970s with O'Donnell.

Savelesky wrote his parishioners. "Although money does not heal, in our nation's legal system, victims of abuse have a right to just compensation."

During the bankruptcy claims period, a woman accused Skylstad of sexually abusing her when she was a student in the early 1960s. The bishop vigorously denied the woman's claim, saying he has never broken his vow of chastity.

A private investigator hired by Skylstad's lawyer found no proof to back the woman's claim, the bishop told reporters.

Because the names and amounts being paid to victims are sealed by court order, it is not known if the woman is among those receiving settlements.

If $47 million of the $48 million is not turned over to a bankruptcy trustee by December 31, parishes will be required to pay out loans to make up the shortfall.

"What I'm hoping is, people realize this is not a campaign we can afford to fail," Hailey said. "We will rely on all parishioners to share a part of the burden.

Skylstad has sent his own letter in support, but the diocese won't be directly involved in the fundraising, Hailey said.

The reorganization plan calls for Skylstad and the diocese to raise near-ly $18 million in addition to the parishes' contributions. Insurance settlements will contribute about $20 million.

Paul McNabb has been a member of St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in northwest Spokane since 1960. He plans to contribute to the campaign. "I see it as a compassionate way of helping out, of justly compensating the victims of abuse and also helping the diocese to continue with its operations," McNabb said.

Not everyone feels that way.

During the bankruptcy confirmation hearing April 24, Leo Driscoll, a retired Spokane lawyer who attends Sacred Heart Church in South Spokane, opposed confidentiality wording in the settlement he said won't allow parishioners to audit claims that could be false, or to learn more about priests who may have molested children.

Skylast last month rejected a call to resign by four prominent Catholics who vowed they would not contribute "one dime" because the settlement was not subject to a vote of parishioners.

The reorganization plan confirmed last month by United States Bankruptcy Judge Patricia Williams will pay victims from $15,000 to $1.5 million each, depending on the severity of the molestation or rape. A former US attorney will hear claims and decide how much each person receives.

The Spokane Diocese, which serves Catholics in 13 Eastern Washington counties, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in December 2004.

The sex abuse cases nationwide have cost the Catholic Church about $1.5 billion since 1950, according to figures compiled from studies by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Effects of the settlement already are being felt in Spokane.

Skystad lives in a rented apartment after his home was sold to raise money. The diocesan business office was sold last year and is being leased back to the diocese.

The May 3 issue of The Inland Register, the diocesan newspaper, contains six lengthy stories over several pages explaining the bankruptcy settlement, including one in Spanish.

It also contains an obituary notice for the Rev James O'Malley, who died in his native Ireland in April. O'Malley, 87, served in seven Spokane diocese parishes before being accused of molesting children.
Sister Agatha Hunt

Sister Agatha Hunt (formerly known as Winifred Barbara) was born on September 2, 1933 in United Estates, then the largest settlement on the historic island of San Salvador.

My parents, Edmund and Geneva Hunt, now deceased, were blessed with seven children - four boys and three girls.

As I reflect on my family life and experiences, I regard it as being closely knit, well disciplined, Catholic Christian and routinely well ordered. There were limits and boundaries in my family that had to be carefully observed and there were consequences for infractions and positive responses from our parents for good behaviour at home and in the community. We were taught to obey, love and respect, our parents, and love and care for our siblings and for members of the extended family.

United Estates, the name of the settlement on which I was born, does imply that the people of the community have close relational ties. Therefore, very early I learned how to relate to all adults and to other children in the community.

My early religious experience of God and religion came from my parents who were converts to the Roman Catholic Faith. I regard my parents and family as committed, dedicated and deeply devoted to serving God and the church. My father was a leader in the community and the first catechist of Holy Cross Catholic Church. Our home was somehow connected to the church. Actually, it was separated by a few hundred yards only which extended up a rather steep hill. Daily prayers, Sunday observance, Holy Days, Advent and Lent practices and special May devotions to the Mother of God were strictly observed in our family.

My father was regarded as “Father Hunt”, the “Black Father” in the community and on San Sal. At that time all of the priests who served on San Sal were white missionaries from the United States.

Work ethics were carefully taught, chores were assigned for the boys and for the girls in our family. For example the boys cared for the horses and goats, learned how to fish and clean the fish when my father made a successful catch on weekends and cared for the yard. The girls washed the dishes, learned how to prepare the meals, bake, clean the house, wash and iron the family clothes etc. Water and wood for the fire had to be carried by both boys and girls. As children we played games together and with other children. Of course most of the games were played in our spacious and well kept yard.

Teenage activities were permitted, but carefully selected and scrutinized by my parents. Permission to visit family and friends had to be sanctioned. A great deal of our fun time was spent around the fresh water well for the community and in collecting wood for the fire to prepare the food for the family. We were not allowed to attend birthday parties or dances during Advent or Lent. It was understood that all the children in our family were present for church related activities; serious illness was the only exception.

My early childhood education began at age six at the United Estates All Age School, which was built at the edge of the settlement to serve the educational needs of two settlements on the island. At age fourteen I completed the eighth grade and remained in school to study for the School Leaving Certificate Exam and for the GCE. It was during this time I was given the position as a monitor in the school. I taught the middle grades for four years and continued my studies for the external exams.

During my early and late teens I was introduced to religious life for women by my father and the parish priest. In fact, it was my father who chose me as the one whom he felt would dedicate her life to serve God and the Church.

My first experience of coloured nuns was at the time of my confirmation, when three Sisters of Charity and three Sisters of Saint Martin Convent accompanied Bishop Stephen Donahue on a flight to San Sal to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. From the time of my Confirmation and the years that preceded my entrance, I literally struggled with the call to give myself completely to serve God.

Finally, at 18, I decided to seek entrance in Saint Martin Convent and on September 16, 1952 I entered the Convent. Coming from a well structured religious family I was able to make comfortable adjustments to the even more structured initial formation programme at Saint Martin Convent. The two and a half years of my formation, with seven other young women were happy years for me.

In 1955, I made my first vows of obedience, poverty and chastity, and in 1960 I made my final commitment to serve God and the Church in the Bahamas. It was during the second half of my formation that I completed my formal secondary school education at Xavier’s College and joined the teaching staff of the Catholic School System. I taught in most of the elementary schools in New Providence and then moved on to become principal and teacher in Bimini and Grand Bahama. At that time advancement in the teaching profession required teaching the full academic year and travel to Minnesota for summer courses and study at the College of Saint Benedict (CSB).

Following repeated yearly summer classes at the CSB, I was granted a leave of absence for two years to complete a BA degree at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University. My teaching at the secondary level began at Grand Bahama Catholic High School in 1970. In 1971 I became the first Bahamian principal of the school, where I served for five years and was again able to study at Barry College in Florida during the summer, to obtain a MA degree.

In 1976/1977 I completed a masters degree in Secondary School Administration and Supervision at that institution and returned to the Bahamas. In 1977 I joined the teaching staff of Aquinas College where I served as vice principal and taught religion for five years.

During these years I also served as director of the initial formation programme for new members of Saint Martin Monastery. In 1982 I was elected as regional superior of the Benedictine Sisters of Saint Martin Monastery where I served for four years.

In 1986 I joined the staff of Saint Augustine College and served as assistant principal until my retirement in 1999. My final involvement in education and church ministry was at the Nazareth Centre, a home for abandoned and neglected children. I served as administrator of the Center for six months.

At present I assist with all the affairs of the Monastery making certain that the daily horarium of prayer, work and time of leisure are not interrupted. Since 2004 I became the director of the newly formed Oblate programme of the Benedictine Sisters of Saint Martin Monastery. Oblates are persons who commit themselves to serve God in their present call and to follow the Rule of Saint Benedict. They also pledge to assist the Monastic Community in their daily prayers and service.

It is with profound humility that I give thanks to God for sustaining my life’s journey with its joys and sorrows. I am indeed grateful to my parents, relatives, monastic family and friends and to the people of the Bahamas whom I served for over 50 years. Like St Paul, let us continue to press forward toward the finish line to attain the goal of our heavenly reward of peace and happiness with all the saints forever.
Is any among you afflicted and sick?

By PASTOR MATTHEW ALLEN

:15. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Afflicted: In the Greek it is the word (kakopatheo, kak-op-ath-eh'-o); which means to undergo hardship (hardness), suffer trouble.

If there is one set of people who can identify with the word afflicted or affliction that would be the victims of the Sea Hauler tragedy and the people of Freeport, Grand Bahamas.

Severely

Grand Bahamians have been severely afflicted by the last three hurricanes that came this way, and the majority of them have not fully recuperated. To add insult to injury, the affliction continued with massive job losses from the closure of the Royal Oasis and other business establishments which have left the people in a state of delusion.

There has been much said about the economic boom that's been made available throughout the Bahamas. The question is; who are the recipients of this economic boom? Obviously it's not the grassroots; it's not the hard working men and women from over the hill, from Bain Town, etc. that are being afflicted day by day, year after year, while the elite money hawks of this country, both political and religious, devour every shred of financial opportunities that can better the small man.

In the midst of all this confusion and hardship lies the divided, powerless church which has only a form of godliness. As the church does its religious routine the people have learned to accept the way things are as they come together on their days of worship to be motivated and hear a good sermon preached by their religious leaders. The sick and afflicted are yet sufferers within and outside the churches, whiles the bishops, apostles, pastors and politicians are living as kings and not caring for God's people.

Leadership

Everything rises and falls upon leadership, therefore there is a great level of judgment that all of these twisted leaders would face as a result of their failure to truly love and care for God's people.

Whatever the sickness maybe, the sick persons should be able to call for the elders (mature) of the church, who shall come and pray for and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.

These elders should be living such an uncompromised Godly life in that their prayer of faith shall bring about the healing of the sick, even if he/she has sinned. The manifested presence of God is not being seen throughout our land as God would have it because of the lack of faith and hypocritical lifestyle of most of our leaders. It's time to stop playing church and become the church that would bring glory and honour to our heavenly Father.

It's the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous that will bring about a Godly change in this country.

Since my wife and I returned home to the Bahamas to undertake the work that God has called us too, I'm baffled at the condition and the state of the church. With the amount of churches we've got throughout the Bahamas, the Bahamian people should be some of the most empowered people there are today. But to the contrary, it's because they're holding so tightly to their religion, tradition and culture that they have made the word and power of God ineffective in their lives and churches.

Don't forget that it's culture that has the nation of Haiti in bondage today; it is culture that has Africa in the state and condition that it's in today. Here in the Bahamas, both Government, and especially the church, leaders have been bamboozled and deceived by the enemy into upholding and promoting culture.

Empower

There is much, much more to be said on this and many other matters that would empower you to be and do all that God has ordained for you, but that's all for now. If you want to talk about this or any other matter please feel free to contact me.

Stay in the FOG (Favor of God)

• Join Pastor Brendalee and I along with the family of Kingdom Minded Fellowship Center Int'l, every Sunday Morning @ 10:30am and Thursday Nights @ 7:30pm at the Bishop Michael Eldon High School Auditorium where we would share more of this powerful teaching with you. For question or comments contact us at e-mail:pastormallen@yahoo.com or by ph # 351-7368 or 441-2021.

Church committee inspects Eastern Parade for fair

MEMBERS of the St Matthew's 205th anniversary committee did a site inspection of the Eastern Parade as they gear up to host the Great Fair Saturday, June 23.

Kim Outten-Stubbs (far left wearing cap), chairperson for the 205th Anniversary (), made the appeal to the wider Bahamas to join in the celebration as St Matthew's move into celebration mode for 205 years of Christian witness in the Bahamas.

The Great Fair promises to be a spectacular event as it would bring together bands, community choirs, and a pet and Antique Car Show.

Junkanoo groups are also preparing to descend onto the Eastern Parade, where they will compete for a grand prize of the best banner depicting the church, along with the great civic and religious leaders that were birthed from the parish.
Learning from the Holy Spirit

By REV ANGELA BOSFIELD PALACIOUS

One of the articles, Sharing Magazine, A Journal of Christian Healing (January 2003), written by Karen Belinne, contains this definition of discernment: "Christian discernment is the supernatural ability to see, recognize or understand something which is not clear, to distinguish between truth and error, to discern spirits, and to identify deception in character and relationships."

It is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and is intended to be used to build up the Body of Christ and not for self-advancement.

A persistent prayer life enables every one of us to develop the mind of Christ, to some degree. There is education by enlightenment, information via illumination, right-thinking from revelation which in turn fosters reconciliation, restoration and transformation.

What if every high school and college student had to produce a transcript of transformation in order to graduate? We cannot legislate spirituality but we can advocate change. What if we encouraged each other to be more attentive and responsive to the movement of the Holy Spirit by meeting in small groups to contemplate their spiritual journeys through prayer, reflection, and sharing?

What a blessing this would be if families could do this together, or youth groups, school groups, colleagues at work, neighbours on a street, men's and women's groups, couples or singles, or any random group that wishes to meet.

Our God desires to bless us with more wisdom, insight, knowledge and understanding. Are we ready and desirous to learn all we can while we can? Take time today to pause for a moment of silence and reflect on your spiritual journey.

With whom would you be willing to share your thoughts? Is there a group already in place or can you arrange for such a group to meet in a place suitable for such an activity?

There are books for group study, tapes to review and the benefit of being together no matter how few. Why not make room in your current schedule for the Holy Spirit to mentor you? What else could there be more important than God's desire to converse with you?

Presbyterian court says ban on gay clergy applies to gay candidates for ministry

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP) — The ban in the Presbyterian Church (USA) on ordaining gays who aren't celibate also extends to candidates for ministry, the denomination's high court said.

The Permanent Judicial Commission took up the issue in the case of a lesbian who was allowed to become a candidate for ministry in the Mission Presbytery in Texas even though she was in a same-sex relationship.

The moderator of the Texas governing body had said at the time that the requirement of chastity for unmarried clergy did not apply to those entering the candidacy process.

The presbytery then voted to support the woman's candidacy — moving her closer to ordination. The following year, she withdrew her name from the roll of candidates. But the Judicial Commission said in a May 7 statement that it was still concerned that leaders of the Mission Presbytery had misread the denomination's governing Book of Order and therefore "misled" those who voted on the woman's candidacy.

Like many Protestant groups, the Presbyterian Church has been debating for years how it should interpret Scripture on gay relationships and other issues. Congregants who support full inclusion of gays and lesbians in the church have tried repeatedly and unsuccessfully to challenge the ban.

Famed Harlem church in New York celebrates 200 years

NEW YORK (AP) — When the Abyssinian Baptist Church was founded, Thomas Jefferson was president. Abraham Lincoln was not born yet. African-Americans were still enslaved, and would be for decades more.

A group of Ethiopian sea traders in lower Manhattan refused to participate in segregated church services and formed their own congregation, naming it for their homeland and taking many free blacks from other churches with them.

Two hundred years later, the church is going back to its roots.

Come September, the Rev Calvin O Butts III will lead a pilgrimage of about 200 church members and dignitaries on a pilgrimage to Ethiopia to mark the church's bicentennial.

Observance

The trip, he says, will highlight an observance that begins this month and ends in November 2008, the actual 200th anniversary of the church's origin.

"It was the first 'megachurch' of 2,000 members in the country," Butts said. "We want to celebrate what that experience means, we want to talk about community development, spiritual renewal, and of course the history of Abyssianism Baptist as the primary and premier religious institution in Harlem."

Presidents John F Kennedy and Lyndon B Johnson visited the church, as did Jimmy Carter as a candidate. The Rev Martin Luther King Jr also made one appearance there in the late 1950s or early 1960s, Butts said. The Rev Adam Clayton Powell, pastor at the time, "was known then as 'Mr Civil Rights,'" he said.

Today, the congregation is about 4,000, the largest black congregation in New York state.

Embattled Jerusalem Patriarch says he is still supported by Jordan's King

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greek Orthodox Patriarch Theofilos III of Jerusalem said Monday that he was counting on support from Jordan's King Abdullah II to help resolve a crisis over the handling of church property.

Jordan's Cabinet decided May 12 to "withdraw its recognition" of Theofilos "for failing to fulfill the obligations he promised to the Jordanian government," saying he failed to act on a pledge to annul an unsanctioned church property sale to Israel.

The patriarch of Jerusalem requires recognition from Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority.

The Greek Orthodox Church abides by a 1958 Jordanian law banning the sale of any church property in Jerusalem, which Jordan ruled along with the West Bank until Israel seized the territories during the 1967 Middle East War.

Theofilos, enthroned in late 2005, replaced Patriarch Irineos I following claims he was involved in the unsanctioned sale of church property in Jerusalem to an Israeli company.

Irineos was demoted to the rank of monk after a rare meeting of world Orthodox leaders on the issue that year in Istanbul, Turkey.

In an interview with Greek private and state-run television channels, Theofilos said he had not been given enough time to resolve the property dispute.

"I have said repeatedly that the patriarchate must be regarded as a purely religious institution ... And I have said repeatedly that I am not a businessman," the Greek-bom patriarch said. "In Jordan, our relations with the King are excellent."

Greece has expressed strong backing for Theofilos and described Jordan's decision as "hasty."

In Brussels, Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyannis met counterparts Abdul-Hal al-Khatib of Jordan and Palestinian Ziad Abu Amr to discuss the issue, the Greek Foreign Ministry said.
And so she goes on to challenge Jesus with this response, "How is it that You are a Jew and ask a drink of water?" Jesus then tells her to go and get her husband. She responds with, "I have no husband." It's a real fighter, determined not to be taken easily. 

Jesus accepts her challenge and says, "You have well said, 'I have no husband.' For the one whom you have spoken truly." He then explains to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water I will give will never thirst. 

The woman then asks Jesus, "Sir, why do You say that I have no husband?" Jesus answers, "Every man who has a wife has a husband." The woman then asks Jesus, "Sir, you have told me that You are a prophet." 

Jesus tells her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband.' For the one whom you have spoken truly." 

The woman then says, "Sir, I believe that You are a prophet." 

Jesus tells her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband.' For the one whom you have spoken truly." 

Finally, the text states, "When the woman then left her waterpot and went her way into the city, and said to the men, 'Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?'"
Ascension

By CANON NEIL ROACH

Read Psalm 47
“God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne.” V8

The Ascension of Jesus into heaven is known as his Coronation. He sits on the right hand of God and reigns forever and ever.

“Our God reigns.”

He is King. Jesus, born in the line of David, was destined to become king over the whole earth. (Matthew 1:1). At his trial before Pilate when asked if he was a king; Jesus told him that his kingdom was not of this world. The kingdom of heaven, rather than being a place, is a realm in which God is in control. “God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne.”

“The Lord most high is to be feared.”

Our God is an awesome God in all that he is, says and does. We are to demonstrate our reverence by living God’s truth. We are to acknowledge his holiness and stand in awe. We are not to be afraid of what others may do to us, if our hearts remain in awe of God’s words. “My heart stands in awe of him.” (Psalm 119:161b).

The awesomeness of God or the fear of God ought not to drive us from him. Because he is King he has chosen to love us and invites us to share the most intimate relationship with him. The tender love of God is seen in Jesus who reigns with him above.

“God has gone up with a shout.”

Our God is a triumphant God. God’s glory fills the heaven. But he comes down to earth on behalf of his people. St Paul describes how God came down to earth, applying it to the Ascension of Christ. “When it says, ‘he ascended,’ what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same who ascended far above the heavens, so that he might fill all things.” (Ephesians 4, 9 & 10).

The crucifixion of Jesus seems a failure, defeat and tragedy to many. God views the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross as triumph, it was a victory over the world and the devil so that all men might be saved. “He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.” (Colossians 2:15). He then ascended into heaven, where he sits at the right hand of God.

“For God is king of all the earth.”

Our God is king of kings. God is not an absentee king. Jesus’ ascension into heaven indicates that God has given him the authority to rule; this is the method God has chosen to act and through which his control will be expressed. “No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again” and no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”

Being born again presents some difficulties to some Christians. Being born again is the key to entrance into the kingdom, where Jesus reigns, where he is the King of the earth. When a person is born again Jesus enters his or her life and takes up permanent residence, there is a new relationship. Jesus’ ascension into heaven makes possible a new kind of life for us.

Everyday is Ascension Day.

Prayer: Lord we praise you.
Promise: “Sing praises to God; sing praises.”

Christ Community Church
11th Annual MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT
Theme: “Managing Your Marriage”

RETREAT COST & INFORMATION

DATE: May 30th - June 2nd, 2007
VENUE: Christ Community Club & Paradise Island Harbour Club
COST (per couple):
Individual Rates available
Registration & Church Sessions: $75.00
Day Pass: $175.00 (Registration, Church & Hotel Sessions plus meal)
One night stay: $356.00 (Registration, Church & Hotel Sessions)
Two nights stay: $576.00 (Registration, Church & Hotel Sessions)

For Information contact:
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Tel: 242-361-6782, Fax: 242-361-6328
E-mail: info@christchurch-bahamas.org
“Cultivating The Spirit of The Arts”
Dr Reginald Eldon calls for ‘greater interaction’ between denominations in light of spiritual growth conference

General secretary of the Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church Dr Reginald Eldon yesterday called on the religious community in the Bahamas to tear down the barriers that exist between denominations - barriers that effectively separate individuals within the body of Christ, and in some cases impede the growth of the Church.

“I would like to see greater interaction between denominations because if you look at it, we are serving the same God, heading in the same direction, and we are going to the same place (heaven),” he said. “There are no denominations in heaven. The problem is that down here, we try to compartmentalize ourselves.”

Direction

Making a move in the right direction, Dr Eldon noted, president of the Methodist Conference Kenris Carey already shares close relationships with many leaders in other denominations, many of whom will bring greetings during the nightly sessions of the 2007 spiritual growth conference currently being held.

He said further that while this conference will attract many Methodists and persons who attend their sister AME churches, persons from other denominations are welcome. In fact, the Methodist Conference is excited about building relationships with persons in other denominations.

Conference

The conference, held under the theme, “Practicing Excellence”, began yesterday with an afternoon communion service and a 7:30pm worship service where Rev Dr Dan Johnson (doctorate in theology), senior minister at Trinity United Methodist Church in Florida, one of the largest churches in the Florida Conference of Methodist, delivered the word.

Taking direction from Colossians 3, which outlines how Christians should live spiritually and naturally and how they should operate in their family circles and at work, the Methodist Conference hopes to foster an attitude of excellence among its members, and in the wider Bahamian public. Their aim is it help members realize that God wants His people to use excellence as a benchmark in all areas of their lives - not just when it comes to spiritual matters.

“So we are calling leaders, members, ministers to move towards excellence in their ministries and in other areas of their lives. We want to pull people into the realization that we should want to be excellent at church, at work, in our communities. So a lot of the preaching at this conference will be dealing with excellence in all areas, but from a biblical perspective,” he explained.

Dr Eldon believes that the conference theme is timely and what is taught during conference sessions will be sound teaching to help persons bring about a positive change in their lives.

Mediocrity

“Generally speaking, sometimes we operate in mediocrity and when we do operate in excellence we are not as consistent as we should be. But it’s like Emeril says on his cooking show, ‘Let’s take it up a notch’. We are saying in this conference, let’s raise the standard. Let’s look at areas where we are weak and let’s improve,” he said.

The conference, which is being held at Ebenezer Methodist Church, East Shirley Street, continues today at 9:30am with a Bible study session. At 2pm persons will break into workshop sessions under a variety of topics including, faith and healing: spirit filled preaching; practicing excellence in our faith and finances; growing a church John Wesley’s way; and relational evangelism. The workshops, held at Epworth Hall, which is just two doors down from the church, end at 4pm.

At 7:30pm, participants meet back at the church for an evening session where Rev Johnson will minister again.

Sessions on Friday begin at the church with Bible study at 9:30am, followed by another set of workshop sessions at 2pm at Epworth Hall. Topics range from how to discern God’s will for one’s life, and excellence in spiritual leadership, to a presentation on whether excellence is an attitude or an act, and how to implement changes which will stimulate church growth.

There will also be a workshop on the truth about spousal abuse, domestic violence and rape.

During the evening session at the church, which begins at 7:30pm, Bishop James Swanson, head of the Holston Conference of Methodists, will minister.

Presenter

Bishop Swanson will also serve as the presenter during a special seminar on personal growth and leadership on Saturday at 9am, at Epworth Hall. He will also close out the conference on Sunday at the united worship service, 11am at the Queen’s College Auditorium.

For more information and a full schedule of events contact the Methodist Conference office, 393.3726