

▶ NEWS

New showroom to bring in big bucks

BARBADOS STANDS TO EARN foreign exchange through the opening of an elite furniture showroom by world-class interior designer Jenny Blanc on the West Coast.

Blanc, an interior designer to the British elite, launched the showroom in Sunset Crest, St James, on Tuesday night before an audience that included Cabinet Ministers Denis Kellman, Minister of Industry and Small Business, and George Hutson, Minister of International Business.

Hutson, Member of Parliament for the area, commended Blanc for investing in Barbados, calling the showroom a "significant achievement" for the country.

Kellman said the services of Jenny Blanc were well known on the island. And he was delighted that Blanc had made the next step with the opening of the showroom, which will

largely be high-end.

"[Jenny Blanc's] presence in Barbados has given opportunities to our designers, artisans and service providers to showcase their skills and talents . . .

Jenny Blanc, a family-run business, is moving forward with the production of its own line of furniture, which will be a combination of its own design skills and the work of some of this country's leading artisans.

"The fruition of these

plans certainly has the potential to boost our foreign exchange earnings. What we are witnessing here is part of a journey which hopes to culminate in Barbados being the No. 1 entrepreneurship hub in the world by 2020," Kellman said.

Having a company with such a reputation based in Barbados emphasized the message "that Barbados is a good place in which to do business", Kellman said.

"The opening of the Jenny Blanc Interior

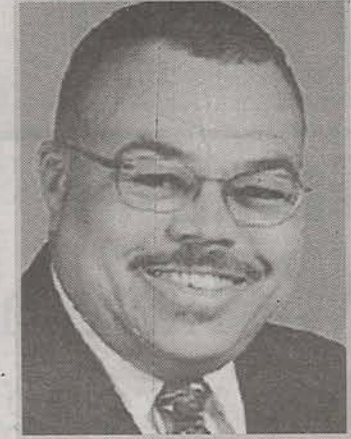
Design Showroom in Barbados supports Government's strategy to diversify the Barbadian economy through the development of cultural industries," he added.

Blanc, the winner of the **World's Best Interior Design Award** at the **International Property Awards**, said that the local market accounted for about 50 per cent of her business.

"I have been working here for private clients over the last ten to 12



DENIS KELLMAN (FP)



GEORGE HUTSON (FP)

years and the demand has gotten greater and greater and I am now getting our own furniture made here.

"Barbados is very important to me. Eighty to ninety per cent of our clients are English and they have homes here . . . the synergy between the United Kingdom and Barbados is enormous,"

she said.

According to Blanc, "We get clients coming to us who have been to Barbados and they come back to us in England to get us do their English house and vice versa, so Barbados is probably going to be more important to us at the end of the day than even our UK base." (MK)

Still in dark over Weather News hitch

VIEWERS of the state-run **Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)** are still in the dark over the January 10 airing of offensive audio during the weather segment of the **Evening News**.

Yesterday, the **CBC** issued a statement from acting general manager

Rod London, indicating that management had carried out a thorough and intensive investigation resulting in appropriate action being taken.

He further noted that the corporation had existing policies and procedures intended to guide employees in

maintaining the highest acceptable standards for the broadcast industry.

The release, however, gave no specifics on what action had been taken by management on the unintentional airing of the audio "that was punctuated with erotic sounds for more than 30 seconds". (MK)

SWIMMING POOL

EQUIPMENT, PUMPS, ACCESSORIES & CHEMICALS



Suppliers of Dual Test Kits, Filter Cartridges and all the **CHEMICALS** needed to maintain your POOL in first class condition

caribsupply

• Cheapside (Opposite Post Office), Bridgetown. BB11000
• TEL: 436-6788 • FAX: 427-5477 • EMAIL: sales@caribsupply.com