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VOLUME 17 NUMBER 19 OCTOBER 1st, 2009

BEC discusses new power plant

700 to 800 at orderly Town Meeting hear from government



The Bahamas Electricity Corporation hosted a Town Meeting on September 10 at New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour to inform the people of Abaco about its plans for the new generating plant now under construction inland from Wilson City. Frederik Gottlieb, Chairman of the Board of BEC, third from left, gave an overview of the research and options that BEC considered before deciding on generators burning bunker C fuel. The moderator for the meeting was Kevin Basden, General Manager of BEC, shown on the right. Minister of State for Utilities, the Hon. Phenton Neymour, second from left, spoke briefly about the reasons that the Wilson City site was chosen. Minister of the Environment, the Hon. Dr. Earl Deveaux, left, closed the meeting after many in the audience had spoken about the concerns and had asked questions. Photo by BIS

By Navardo Saunders

Fearful that their lives and surroundings may be in grave danger from bunker C fuel pollution, a massive crowd attended the public meeting organized by the government to address growing concerns that the power plant being constructed at Wilson City would harm people and do irreparable damage to the environment.

Hundreds of people from throughout Abaco crammed into New Vision Ministries on September 10 as top government officials, local and international environmentalists and an official from Man Diesel, the German-based company that is constructing the \$105 million bunker C fuel plant, attempted to convince the anxious public that the plant is being built in a way that there is only a remote possibility that some of their worst scenarios could come true.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, Member of Parliament for North Abaco, sat among the crowd but did not participate in the discussion, which at times became contentious and emotional, but was nowhere as explosive as many had anticipated.

Some people said they changed their opinion about the power plant that is being built

Please see BEC

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Nassau delegation tours power plant site



The plan of the new power plant being constructed at Wilson City is shown in the drawing. Wilson City is about 14 miles south of Marsh Harbour. The large building with adjacent exhaust stacks will contain four 12-megawatt generators that will supply electricity for all of Abaco. This almost doubles the capacity of the generators currently in use in Dundas Town. A machine shop is located between the large building and the tanks holding new lubricating oil, used oils, diesel and bunker C. All tanks are enclosed in a bund wall, an enclosure that can contain the contents of any of the tanks. On the far left is a tank for water in case of fire and a fire station with pumps and valves. Explaining the design is Carlos Escobar, construction superintendent in the white hard hat, while the Hon. Phenton Neymour and Administrator Cephas Cooper listen. More details are on page 6

Chinese look at Abaco's farming potential



Mr. Edison Key, MP for South Abaco and Chairman of BAIC, left, hosted an agriculture expert and interpreter from China who were pleased with the potential for a large scale farming project on Abaco. Mr. Yiqing, second from left, with his interpreter are shown talking with Mr. Key and the BAIC General Manager, Arnold Dorsett.

Provided by Bahamas Information Service

A Chinese concern wants to do large scale farming in Abaco. "If this could happen, it would mean a tremendous boost for the agricultural sector in this country," Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) Executive Chairman Edison M. Key said.

On September 15 he hosted Yiqing Sun, Director of the Shandong High-speed Quila Construction Group, National Stadium Project, and interpreter Baoquo Xing on an exploratory investigation

of what is being offered on Abaco. The team also included BAIC General Manager Benjamin Rahming, and Assistant General Manager, Agriculture, Arnold Dorsett.

"We enjoyed our visit and we are very satisfied with the land conditions for agricultural development," said Mr. Xing. "You have plenty of farmland and you have plenty of water." A further study of the conditions on Abaco by agriculture

Please see Chinese

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BEC's Town Meeting allays fears from many

BEC

From Page 2

to meet Abaco's rapidly growing demand for power after hearing from those intimately involved in its planning and construction. These included Minister of the Environment, the Hon. Dr. Earl Deveaux; Minister of State for Utilities, the Hon. Phenton Seymour; Bahamas Electricity Corporation Chairman Frederik Gottlieb; BEC's General Manager Kevin Basden; and Director of the Bahamas Environment and Science Technology Commission, Philip Weech. A number of people referred to their presentations as thorough and convincing.

The presenters took a fair amount of time clearing up what they referred to as misleading statements about the power plant.

Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC) Chairman Gottlieb called a popular You-

tube video lambasting the 48 mega-watt Bunker C fuel power plant nothing more than a scare tactic filled with inaccuracies. He urged residents to do their own research and put any concerns they may have to the experts before jumping to a conclusion.

Mr. Gottlieb admitted, however, that BEC is partly to blame for the controversy surrounding the power plant as the corporation waited too long to meet with the people of Abaco to discuss the project.

The Chairman agreed with many people that there are dangers associated with bunker C fuel, but added that measures are being taken to address the negative effects. "The concerns about air emissions, storage of the bunker C fuel at the plant site and the impact on water resources, we are addressing all of them," he said. "We're doing everything possible to ensure that the threat of harm to

people or the environment is slim to none. When the plant becomes operational, we anticipate that there will only be a remote possibility that something could go wrong. In the event that something does go wrong, we are putting plans in place to address it quickly and efficiently," Mr. Gottlieb added.

Mr. Gottlieb responded to questions about using wind, water or even diesel rather than bunker C to produce power for the 8,500 BEC customers on Abaco. He

explained that there is not sufficient wind off the ocean and the cost of operating such plants is far more expensive. In the case of diesel, he said it would cost about \$10 million more annually to operate.

There are currently about 140 people working on the power plant at Wilson City with the number of foreign workers and Bahamians almost split down the middle. The new power plant is scheduled to become operational in March of next year.



After presentations by BEC Chairman Frederik Gottlieb and others, the audience was able to ask questions and make comments. The first one to comment was Dr. Frank Boyce, who is concerned about the carcinogens that the workers at the new power plant will be exposed to. At the podium is Kevin Basden, General Manager of BEC.



The auditorium of New Vision Ministries was filled to capacity on September 10. Residents gathered to hear from BEC officials about the new power plant now under construction. Shown in the foreground, right, is the line of those wanting to ask questions or make comments.

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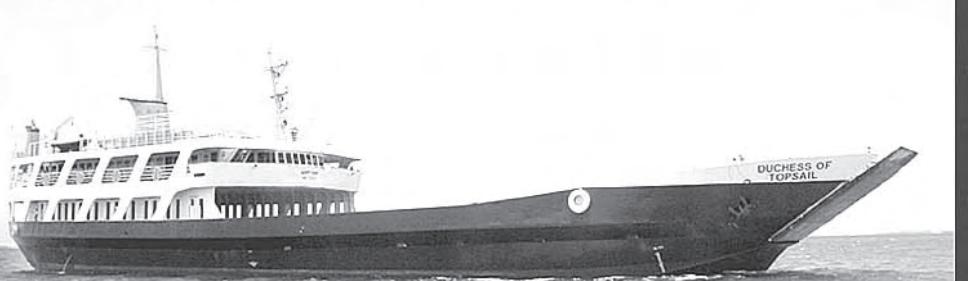
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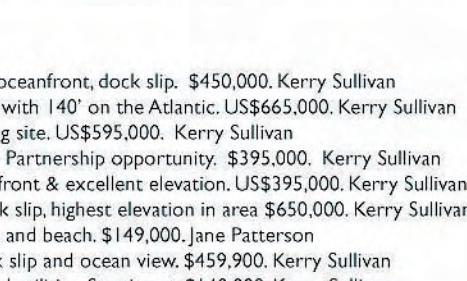
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Chinese consider agriculture on Abaco

Chinese

From Page 1

experts is scheduled for next month after which an agreement will be prepared, he said.

They were shown 10,000 acres of the old sugar plantation properties south of the Spring City and 3,000 acres of the former Key and Sawyer/Bahama Star farm in North Abaco.

"They have asked for certain information relating to the climate and rainfall which we will supply. By October they will send in a team of experts to do a study of the land and assess the possibilities," said Mr. Key. "It looks very positive."

This coincides with a BAIC food production initiative on Abaco which, Mr. Key said, has attracted "a huge interest by the young people." Already BAIC has subdivided thousands of acres into five- and ten-acre plots which are leased to Bahamians for farming. "We are moving in the right direction because the Chinese have the technology and they have the expertise," said Mr. Key. "I see this as a very posi-

tive step in the right direction."

Mr. Key looks forward to this project being the impetus for the construction of canneries and factories in the islands "where we can start processing food and put the product of The Bahamas on the shelves. This is the beginning."

He said Mr. Sun was impressed with the available acreage and the quality of the soil. "This would create a tremendous employment opportunities for Bahamians," he said. "We would also be able to produce a lot of the food products we import."



Chinese officials Yiqing Sun (right) and Baoquo Xing of the Shandong High-speed Quila Construction Group look at available acreage in Abaco for agriculture. They are shown here with Arnold Dorsett of BAIC

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Edison Key showed the port facility in Marsh Harbour to Yiqing Sun (left) and Baquo Xing as suitable for shipping agricultural products.


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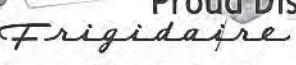
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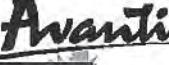
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Director of BEST discusses power plant

By Navardo Saunders

The power plant under construction at Wilson City will have little to no impact on water resources; a spill at the site would be confined and emissions will blow far away from the population, Director of the Bahamas Environment and Technology (BEST) Commission Philip Weech told reporters during a tour of the site.

Mr. Weech said the BEST Commission has been working closely with the Bahamas Electricity Corporation and the government to make the 48-megawatt bunker C fuel power plant as safe as possible. Two Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) have been conducted. One was to determine the best possible site for the plant and the other was to determine the impact of the pipeline which transfers fuel from the harbour to

the power plant and transmission line from the plant to the main Abaco highway would have on its surroundings. The latter is still under active consideration.

As for concerns about fresh water levels being negatively impacted, Mr. Weech said those concerns are unwarranted. "Sea water will be used in the operation of the plant," he said. "So people need not worry about fresh water resources being depleted by the plant."

Concerns about oil being stored on the ground are also being addressed, according to Mr. Weech. "The oil will be stored in solid concrete structures which are currently being constructed at the site. If there is a leak, the oil will be confined within the structure," he said. The structure will be made with concrete from the bottom up

so that the oil will not seep into the ground and contaminate fresh water resources.

Another concern for many people are the emissions that will come from the plant, Mr. Weech pointed out. "The plant will consist of stacks so that the emissions are discharged sufficiently high into the atmosphere and blow far away from the site," he said. "The higher the stacks the farther away the emissions will blow. Also one of the reasons why Wilson City was selected as the site for the plant is the fact that the prevailing winds blow in the opposite direction of Marsh Harbour so the emissions will travel to an area that is uninhabited."

Mr. Weech also addressed concerns about why Wilson City was selected as the site for the plant as opposed to Snake Cay or the existing site in Marsh Harbour. "When the decision was taken to put a new power plant in Marsh Harbour, the government went through a site selection process which the BEST Commission was also involved in," Weech explained. "We wanted

a site that was sufficiently far away from the community, that is expandable so there is room for growth, one that didn't have the impact of noise from residents, one that did not pose a threat to the environment and one with deep water access in order to transfer the fuel onto the site safely."

When the selection process began, three possible sites were under consideration by government.

The existing site in Murphy Town which was determined inadequate because there was no room for expansion. And, of course, a number of critical infrastructures would have to be put in place. A new pipe line would have to be run through the town and in addition to that the government determined that the noise level at the existing site made it unsuitable.

The other two sites we looked at were at Wilson City and Snake Cay. The Wilson City site was deemed to be the best site be-

Please see Power

Page 7



The official party is examining the foundation for one of the four large generators. Shown here is the massive amount of steel rebar required for the heavy engines. The Hon. Neymour is in the center of the photograph. The building will be constructed after the four generators are in place.



The Hon. Phenton Neymour, Minister of State for Utilities, and his group toured the site of the new power plant. They are examining the foundation for one of the smaller tanks that is completed.

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Director Weech answers

Power

From Page 6

cause the site at Snake Cay has some very serious environmental issues and was determined to be very ecologically sensitive."

Mr. Weech said the advantage of the site at Wilson City is that it is about 15 miles away from Marsh Harbour proper and 10 miles from Spring City. "It is sufficiently away from the public, you cannot see it unless you are prepared to drive another four miles off the main Abaco highway, and it provides for the deep water access the boats need in order to off load cargo."

Mr. Weech said the plant will be modified to include environmental management programmes. A program to account for fuel would also be implemented.

"You need to make sure that every ounce or gallon of fuel is properly accounted for in the operation of the plant," he said. "There could be spill that is undetected or the fuel could be going to another part of the plant where it shouldn't be going so this is very important."

Mr. Weech said residents with concerns should feel free to contact the BEST Commission and air them.



This foundation is for one of the larger tanks. The entire construction area is lit by floodlights for workers to continue working into the night as the cement pours must be continuous and not interrupted.

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concerns of Abaconians



While the foundations are being poured, another crew is installing a double transmission line out to the highway to carry the electricity. The road leading to plant will be on the left.



This steel rebar is being put in place preparatory to concrete being poured. The cement is coming from Abaco Block and Concrete and Caribbean Constructors, both in Marsh Harbour. Each truck load of cement is given a slump test. If the quality is not sufficient, the cement is returned.

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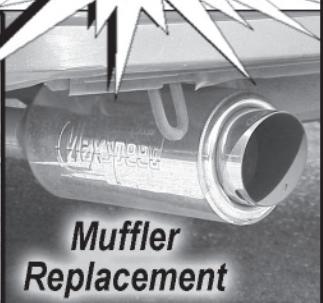
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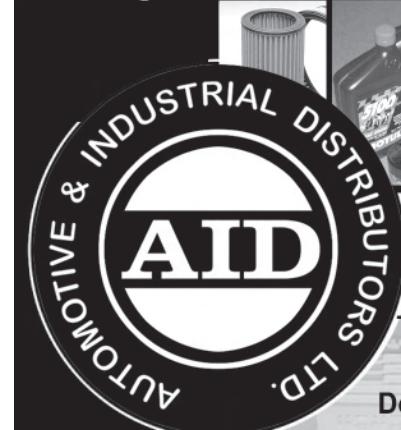
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The Editor Says . . . Power conservation is needed



The extensive presentation by government on September 10 is over. This program justified the new Bahamas Electricity Corporation generation plant now under construction. On entering the New Vision Ministries building, government and BEC officials were astounded to see the hall filled to capacity. Estimates of those seated and standing range from 700 to perhaps 1,000, the largest gathering seen on Abaco other than political rallies. Cars were forced to park a quarter mile away.

Although held two or three years late, BEC officials got good marks for their presentation. They came equipped with facts and to their credit admitted past mistakes. They got the message that Abaco people are concerned with our environment and will be holding BEC and government responsible for the proper operation of the facility. BEC officials profess to embrace a new culture and work ethic for the plant.

BEC Chairman Frederik Gottlieb set the tone with a comprehensive report on the various challenges the corporation faced developing the new power plant for Abaco. He gave reasons for the choices made and covered the topics well. His information was reinforced by other speakers expanding on specific elements of the design.

Various members of the audience urged BEC to venture into alternate sources of energy, primarily wind or solar. BEC has a study committee in Nassau looking into alternate energy. It was pointed out that present electrical technologies are either very expensive or experimental on the scale required by a utility company.

For instance, windmills are feasible but expensive. However, they need an alternate power supply for calm weather, effectively requiring an investment in two separate systems. The same back-up system is required for solar which needs an alternate supply for nights and extended cloudy weather. Wind and solar technologies are feasible for single home installations, particularly in remote locations, but they are expensive.

We are aware of one house in the area that has been solar powered exclusively for 20 or more years but without the comfort

of air conditioning. A colony of foreign-owned homes not served by BEC has extensive solar installations, but in every installation we are aware of, there is a generator ready to provide backup power. These systems are not for those with marginal finances.

There are technologies that government and BEC could encourage consumers to use to reduce the reliance on imported fuel. Many Caribbean islands encourage solar water heating which is a mature technology - buy it, connect it and use it. This puts additional expense on homeowners to purchase and install the systems. But it reduces the electrical demands and subsequent fuel consumption of the power company. Although BEC should be encouraging solar water heating, it is essentially up to government to either mandate the use of solar water heaters or provide incentives such as duty concessions to encourage its use.

Government did make a minor concession several years ago to encourage the use of solar electric panels by allowing them to be imported duty free. We are not aware that the concession extended to the controllers, batteries, battery chargers and inverters which are required parts of the complete system. These solar systems work well but are expensive. These are not plug-and-play. They are not installed by your neighbourhood plumber. Most of these residential solar photovoltaic systems stop short of supplying air conditioning needs which is not satisfactory for most of our local consumers.

Another technology available to those generating electricity by alternate sources is net metering. This is a process where surplus electricity generated by the homeowner goes into the electric company's power lines. This electricity is purchased by the power company. This is a proven and mature technology. The problem is that it is presently illegal in The Bahamas to sell electricity to BEC. This could change, but it will take government legislative action to make it happen.

All these alternate methods of residential

power generation should be encouraged by government and BEC as they reduce the load on the power plant with consequent reductions for imported fuel. Our legislators have been slow to embrace these technologies or to enact measures to encourage homeowners or businesses to install them. BEC has been equally delinquent in encouraging the public to conserve electricity. Along these lines of missed opportunities is the reluctance of the Bahamian public to use available measures and technology to reduce its electric consumption and its monthly bill.

The use of solar water heaters and alternate residential power systems should not be looked at as luxury items for the wealthy with a high import duty or other restrictions that penalize their use.

BEC is remiss for not having staff members who can provide an electrical audit for their consumers to show them where electric consumption can be reduced. After all, reducing the demand means that the existing plant may be able to supply all of us without load shedding exercises we now have. This would also benefit fuel consumption in the new plant. Some governments world-wide have actually given consumers the CFL bulbs to reduce the electric demands with subsequent fuel savings.

BEC should be faulted for inaction on emphasizing electrical conservation. Management would rather complain about its inability to produce power and its need for new equipment rather than helping consumers figure out how to reduce consumption.

Now Abaco's number one environmental organization, Friends of the Environment, has a wonderful opportunity to regain its standing in the community by embarking on an expanded educational campaign. After all, its professed mandate and specialty is environmental education as opposed to the public's perception of the group being vocal environmentalists.

Friends should now work to become involved in the monitoring of the new plant operation, emissions, fuel transfers and other issues of environmental concern. The

plant is scheduled to be operational in six to eight months so there is time to get with the proper authorities and become a part of the monitoring process. This time can be used to learn about the monitoring processes and other operational issues. It was said that the plant will have an environmental officer and Friends should begin the process of working with this person.

The organization should marshal its supporters to lobby government for legislative changes to allow reverse or net metering for consumers which will encourage home and business installations of alternate power sources.

Friends can lobby and educate the public on the use and merits of solar water heaters. This would require lobbying government for reduced duty.

Installing and using programmable thermostats for air conditioning is a proven money saver, but a technology that the public has not widely accepted. These devices reduce air conditioning costs by raising the room temperature slightly when the building is empty and restoring the desired temperature later prior to the return of the occupants.

Compact fluorescent lamps, CFL in short for these curly bulbs, save money for consumers and save fuel for BEC. They are available in Marsh Harbour at attractive prices when bought in packages of eight or ten.

Success in these areas would reduce the power demands on the utility system which translates to reduced environmental impact.

Government has a long way to go to achieve adequate utility-grade power by methods acceptable to its consumers. Government needs to be much more willing and cooperative with keeping us informed. We must be willing to accept trade-offs in this process.

We need to be more assertive in explore alternate energies, to encourage power conservation and to enact legislation which allows or encourages consumers to take advantage of new technologies.

Letters to the Editor

Friends states its position

Dear Editor:

Friends of the Environment would like to thank everyone who made the time to attend BEC's public meeting on September 10th, as well as those who wrote letters, made calls and provided information. FRIENDS would also like to extend a special thank you to the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Ingraham and the Ministers for taking the time to hear Abaco's concerns. It was an impressive turn out and demonstrates Abaco's concern for our future and willingness to listen, learn and comment.

As an education-based group, FRIENDS believes it is our mandate to provide information to the public. FRIENDS requested this public meeting with BEC be held in 2008. We certainly wish that more public consultation had been done from the onset. As an organization we do have concerns regarding the choice of fuel as well as the location of this power plant, and the attendance at the public meeting shows that many members of the public do also.

FRIENDS realizes that Abaco does need power and the government is moving ahead with this project. It is our intention to continue to educate the public about the dangers associated with bunker C fuel. It is true that many of these dangers can be reduced with proper planning, training, maintenance and responsible monitoring.

FRIENDS hopes to be able to work with BEC, the Bahamas government and people of Abaco to make sure that all of these initiatives are taking place. We encourage the government and BEC to continue to move forward from the public meeting in good faith and provide the information necessary to assure the public that their promises will be kept.

In addition, FRIENDS would like to assist in moving forward with some of the other initiatives that were mentioned at the meeting including

grid

- Establishing larger scale alternative energy in Abaco
- Providing education about ways homes and businesses can use less energy
- Establishing contact between experts in the field of alternative energy and the appropriate governmental officials so their knowledge can be used to benefit The Bahamas

These matters are never simple and clear cut, and there are no easy answers. But we all want what is best for the future of Abaco. FRIENDS looks forward to working with all interested parties towards that common goal.

Kristin Williams, Executive Director
Friends of the Environment

Still concerned about bunker C

Dear Editor:

My letter to the editor in the 14 September edition of the Abaconian was submitted on 3 September. Since that time, the BEC Town Meeting was held on 10 September. Unfortunately, my letter was published after the fact on 14 September.

The Town Meeting made it clear that the new BEC power plant is currently under construction and will not be stopped at this time due to economic reasons and lack of

The Abaconian

David & Kathleen Ralph
Editors & Publishers
P O Box AB 20551
Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 8

alternative sources of energy. I concede the need for improvement of our electricity supply for Abaco. I hope that BEC will monitor and maintain the plant and environmental controls as they have assured the community.

Nonetheless, I continue to have concern regarding the burning of bunker C fuel at this site. I would urge all members of our community to continue to press BEC and our government to persevere in its efforts to utilize alternative energy at the earliest possible opportunity to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and its adverse effects on our health and environment.

Respectfully,
Frank Boyce, M.D.

A letter of praise

To Frederik Gottlieb
Chairman Bahamas Electricity Corp.
Dear Fred:

I congratulate you on the presentation which you gave on Thursday evening relating to the highly controversial issue relating to the new power station at Buzzard Hill.

You presented this in a very thorough and simplistic manner and at the end of your presentation I heard many people saying, "You can now close the meeting for we understand what is being done, and the things that have been said by those who oppose this plant are fabricated to stir up opposition to something which we desperately need."

All of your presenters reinforced your presentation with facts and figures to support what you already stated.

On behalf of the people of Abaco I want to thank you for the job which you are doing on our behalf.

Kindest regards,
John C. (Jack) Albury M.B.E.

Praise for the Chairman

Dear Editor,

I attended the town meeting held September 10th, 2009, regarding the new BEC plant at Wilson City for Abaco and the controversy surrounding bunker C. I feel the environmental issues were blown way out of proportion.

Perhaps many of you do not know that Frederik Gottlieb has served this country, and more so Abaco, in many ways for many years. I list below the capacities in which I am aware of his service:

- Member of Parliament for South Abaco 1987 – 1992
- Chairman of The Bahamas Development Bank
- Chairman of Bahamasair
- Chairman of Water & Sewerage
- Chairman of BEC

I would just like to ask this question? Do you think a person who has served his country and Abaco and, indeed, lives here with his family would want to bring anything so harmful as described by the environmentalists to our beautiful island. I BELIEVE NOT.

Which one of us would have served Abaco the way he has done? I did not believe for one minute that Mr. Gottlieb, Chairman, and his great team had not performed their proper investigations into this matter.

I would like to encourage more of our Abaconians to be more informed of what is going on in your island and country by reading one of the Bahamian newspapers or watch your Bahamian news and/or House of Parliament on television. You would then know what is going on in your country.

Instead of us complaining, we should be grateful that we have and continue to have improvements on Abaco. Sure, we

want a hospital and could use many more things, but we have to learn to be patient. We are truly blessed compared to some of the other islands in The Bahamas.

Once again, I am grateful that Frederik Gottlieb served Abaco so efficiently. During his tenure of service as Chairman of Water and Sewerage, the water plant was upgraded, and now he is going to have BEC revamped for us.

All in all, I feel the meeting was very informative, and I am satisfied that Mr. Gottlieb, Chairman, and his team have searched every avenue and are doing what is BEST for Abaco at this era in time.

Thankful and Remembering

Don't spoil your islands

Dear Sir,

I am a tourist of the Bahamas and have been visiting your pristine country for some time. The power plant that you have under construction on Abaco is of great concern and distress to me.

The project under way is moving quickly and quietly. The technology that is going to be used burning bunker C has been proven the world over to be unsuitable for electric production.

This chain of events has not gone unnoticed. There is no question that this will be exposed as unsuitable for Abaco and The Bahamas. You must put your people and your islands first.

I beg you as a neutral outsider, please protect and preserve these precious island jewels from the foulness ahead.

Provide your constituents with the proper information as to the benefits and liabilities of this project.

Please halt this project. There are many superior alternatives that are available to you.

The future of Abaco lies in your hands.

Appreciates Abaco people

Dear Editor:

My wife and I are fairly recent second homeowners on Abaco, and we have been deeply impressed with the residents we have met all over the area.

Recently our boat battery died in the Marsh Harbour inlet, and we made a general call for assistance. Troy Cornea, who co-owns Wally's Restaurant with his sister, responded to our call. Troy was very understanding of our predicament and jumped our battery in minutes and refused to take payment for his time. My wife and I would like to say publicly thank you to Troy and ask that residents and visitors visit Wally's Restaurant.

The Corneas are great neighbors, great people and have great food. They also own the marina across from the restaurant. We look forward to meeting other great compassionate people of Abaco like this family.

Sincerely,
The Coppedge Family

Appeal to the Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister:

I have known you for almost 30 years. I met you at the opening of the Treasure Cay airport almost that long ago. I was particularly pleased with your political career as Prime Minister and happy to learn that you were again going to seek the highest office, as my wife and I closed on our home with you in Marsh Harbour some years ago. I have always known you to be a person to do the right thing.

As a young child, I grew up in Fort Lauderdale in the 1940s and 1950s. During those peaceful times I particularly remember the power plant that was several miles from our home, a plant similar to the one that is now being proposed for Abaco. I remember the sky often being filled with brown smoke, obscuring the blue yonder

and the beautiful white clouds that would turn flamingo pink as the sun rose in the morning. Sometimes when the wind was still, the smell of the burning oil would settle in our neighborhood.

In 1960 I traveled to The Bahamas for the first time by myself on my little boat. During that crossing and on the trips that still follow, I always appreciate the clouds, the wonderful sky and the fresh air. Needless to say, The Bahamas instantly became home and it still is.

Last night I lay awake for some hours, unable to sleep as I thought about the disturbing email that I received announcing that an oil-fired power plant was in the making for Abaco. I pictured Bahamians losing their sky, its color and its ambience. I thought of school children smelling the power plant as I had and experiencing the brown sky. I thought of the nearby islands particularly involved in the change. The hummingbirds would certainly be among the first to go as the environment changed.

I have every confidence you will do the right thing. I know you have traveled to places where heavy oil provides the electricity. I hope that Abaco will be spared the loss of the sunsets and the brown mornings I remember in the small town I grew up in. May the legacy of the best Prime Minister I have ever known not include the changes proposed for Abaco.

Sincerely,
Gerald R. (Jerry) Smith
Cheryl Ann Smith

Dundas Town Township Chairman Speaks Out

ear Editor:

Please permit me to respond to an article published in the Abaconian on the 15th June, 2009. The article was written by Samantha V. Evans under the heading "Local Government at Work - Dundas Town Committee." This article in its totality addressed the good, the bad and the ugly of what is being called Local Government in Abaco.

As the elected chairman of the Dundas Town Township Committee, I note that my name appears in the article associated with the Brown's Bay project located in Dundas Town. This project was a locally developed project which stemmed from the need for my people in Dundas Town to have and enjoy certain basic rights and amenities, such as to have a proper beach and park

to enjoy within the Dundas Town District.

Notwithstanding certain portions of your newspaper's article pertaining to Brown's Bay Park and Beach, what is absolutely irrefutable is the fact that my people of Dundas Town are able to enjoy a beach within their community at a time when I serve as the chairman of the Dundas Town Committee in Local Government, and at a time when beaches for Bahamians are being diminished or taken away from us. At no other time previously could I recall that any of my predecessors or for that matter any other Parliamentarian has seen it fit to provide such a facility to the people of Dundas Town, which is the most populated district in the Right Honourable Prime Minister's constituency.

In writing this letter, my intention is not to seek any aggrandizement or praise but merely to point out that when one is elected by the people, one must be aware of the importance of service to the people and on behalf of the people. It is important to note that if the system set up to serve the people is going to work, as it was intended to do, the protocol established within the law must be adhered to. One such protocol is that, as the duly elected chairman of the Dundas Town committee, I was elected by the people and my fellow colleagues to lead the committee. As such, the primary focus is on me when things are not well in the community and the same is true when we have innovated good projects such as Brown's Bay Park project.

The people of Dundas Town well know that I, Cay Mills, have been and will continue to be in front on their behalf whether the situation is good, bad or ugly. I have now come to realize that there are some who only wish to be highlighted when there is a perception of something good being done. At all other times, these people bury their heads in a hole and as a songwriter puts it, "You can't find Jerry Roker in Town." The people of Dundas Town know of what I write here. In recent times I have come to realize that the Dundas Town Committee, together with the Island Administrator, have suddenly began calling Town Committee meetings, setting their own agendas and making various decisions without my involvement or approval as the elected chairman of the committee.

Please see Letters

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Apr 2006

BEC's Town Meeting is response to popular demand

By Larry Smith

Faced with overwhelming disapproval from a standing room-only crowd of Abaconians upset over the bypassing of local interests, Bahamas Electricity Corporation chiefs orchestrating a town meeting last week admitted to a failure of process and promised to learn from their mistakes.

"Things could have been handled better," BEC general manager Kevin Basden told his critics, referring to construction of a 48-megawatt oil-fired power plant on Abaco that proceeded without any local consultation, "and lessons will be learnt from this."

The town meeting was hastily called to address a groundswell of concern about the environmental and other implications of the plant, whose foundations have already been laid on a 25-acre site near Wilson City, about 14 miles south of Marsh Harbour. But in many respects the effort came years too late.

As BEC chairman Frederik Gottlieb confirmed at the meeting, the Christie administration decided to build the \$105 million power plant back in 2005, after years of dithering. And the construction contracts were signed by the Ingraham government in December 2007. But neither government has involved the people of Abaco at any stage of the planning process.

"The existing plant is 30 years old," Mr. Gottlieb explained. "It has an installed capacity of 27 mw and peak demand is 24 mw, so the loss of a single engine causes serious load shedding. The present site is too close to residential areas and there is no room for expansion, but Abaco's energy demand is growing by five percent per annum. I met the letter of intent for the new plant signed by my predecessor, and

we went ahead with it."

From all accounts, the audience that filled New Vision Ministries to overflowing on September 10 was a reasonable cross section of Abaco communities - including black and white Bahamians as well as second homers from a number of settlements.

Many said it was the largest public meeting ever seen on Abaco outside of an election campaign. And whether or not the participants shared strong feelings about the environmental implications of the new plant, there was little doubt as to their anger over the lack of meaningful public consultation on this massive infrastructure project.

In fact, Freeport lawyer Fred Smith, who has taken judicial review of the Baker's Bay development on Guana Cay all the way to the Privy Council in London, told the meeting he had been hired by a group of local and foreign property owners and would seek to halt the power plant project until due process had been achieved. He defined "due process" as an opportunity for all interested parties to provide input.

"This is the biggest capital expenditure in Abaco's history and there has been no meaningful public consultation," Mr. Smith told me after the meeting. "I will be writing to the relevant central and local government agencies for evidence that all approvals and permits have been properly obtained. I don't expect any answers, and they will probably continue to do what they are doing, but the project will then be subject to judicial review."

During the meeting Mr. Smith suggested that the project could be proceeding illegally. "We continue to disrespect the local government institutions that the FNM itself put in place. We don't know if all statu-

tory permits for this power plant have been granted. But it is incumbent on government to ensure that due process is respected - that is the essence of democracy."

Those "relevant agencies" include the BEST Commission, the Department of Environmental Health Services, the Town Planning Department, local government councils, the Ministry of Works and the Cabinet Office. But Mr. Smith's threat led BEC to pre-empt him by halting its own project temporarily. The Ministry of Works confirmed on Monday that the project was on hold while BEC applied for construction permits.

In response to this, one well placed political source remarked, "Yes, BEC should follow the rules. But how many other government construction projects - from schools to roads - do you know that get permits?" Well, I can't speak for all such projects, but I know of at least one that does have the necessary approvals - the Nassau airport redevelopment. The point is - how can BEC spend \$100 million of borrowed money without going through the required legal processes?

After years of virtual silence on its plans for Abaco, BEC and government officials pulled out all the stops for the meeting last week. Representatives from MAN Diesel Canada (which has the overall contract for the plant), KES Environmental Services (which did the environmental impact assessment) and the BEST Commission all gave presentations.

Nassau lawyer and Bahamas National Trust council member Pericles Maillis also spoke in support of the project, making it clear he was there in a personal capacity. He had been wrongly identified as a BNT spokesman on the official programme for the meeting.

BEC chairman Frederik Gottlieb acknowledged rather testily that the meeting was held in response to a "surprising, sudden opposition" to the power plant gen-

erated by misleading propaganda, principally a video published on You Tube. But as Abaconian newspaper publisher Dave Ralph pointed out, this was "the first public disclosure of any consequence by BEC or the government" on this massive project for the island. So what do you expect to happen?

And the lack of disclosure is despite the fact that the decision was made four years ago, that contracts were signed almost two years ago, that financing was approved by Parliament in the summer, that construction is already well underway, that the chairman of BEC is a leading Marsh Harbour citizen and that the Prime Minister himself represents an Abaco constituency.

In fact, Hubert Ingraham slipped into the meeting unannounced wearing a baseball hat, and two senior opposition MPs, Fred Mitchell and Obie Wilchcombe, also attended as observers. One wag noted the presence of "the next leader of the PLP" to much laughter, but it was unclear which one of those gentlemen he was referring to.

Until Tough Call, my column in the Nassau Tribune, reported on the power plant EIA in this space a couple of weeks ago, there was no substantive information on this project anywhere in the public domain. And for some strange reason, BEC officials were unwilling to answer basic questions for my report, which pointed out their atrocious track record on environmental matters. Many of those questions were answered at the town meeting, however.

For example, the plant's state-of-the-art generators will burn heavy fuel oil so efficiently that cancer-causing particulates will be minimised and more power will be produced per unit of fuel. Also, the fuel used will contain less than two percent sulphur, producing emissions that are well within World Bank guidelines. And heavy fuel power plants already operate throughout

Please see Smith

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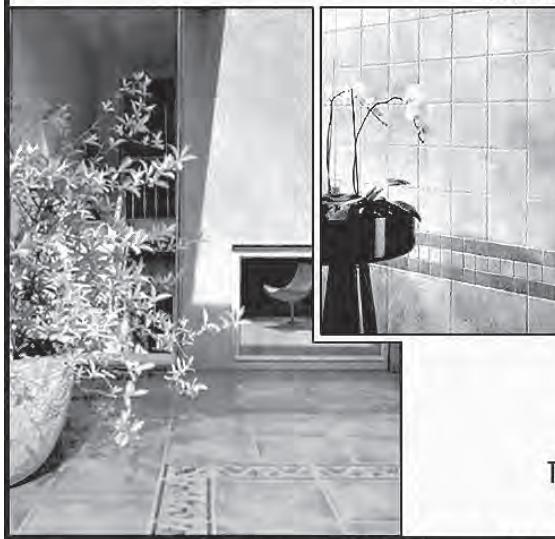
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Public wants more government transparency

Smith

From Page 10

The Bahamas and Caribbean as well as in the US and Europe.

Rising cost estimates for the plant over the years were attributed to depreciation of the US dollar and additional costs for the fuel terminal, pipeline and transmission lines. The plant should be operational by next spring, but it is unclear when the new transmission lines will be ready or what other work needs to be done to decommission the existing power plant and upgrade the local grid, which residents say is in poor repair.

The town meeting featured the usual slew of cranks who took up most of the question and answer time with lengthy non-sequiturs and personal advertisements. These inconsiderate bores can be found at every public meeting in The Bahamas, wasting time and spouting nonsense. They especially love to talk about themselves, and they are a boon to officials because they divert so much time and attention from the real issues.

Cay Mills, a local taxi driver, said he was glad to see that Abaconians were finally getting some payback from central government for their taxes but noted that "we should have a say in whatever is brought into our district. The cart is before the horse with this town meeting. Abaco people read, are intelligent and want to be part of their own future. We want democracy, not an elected dictatorship."

It was a sentiment that seemed to be shared by many in the audience and was aptly illustrated by Dave Ralph in a recent editorial. He quoted the Prime Minister's comments about someone using the wrong colour to paint the House of Assembly.

"You shouldn't allow strangers to come in your place and determine the decor. I don't condemn initiative, but uninformed initiative is not to be tolerated."

Well, many folks on Abaco feel the same way about the power plant issue. According to Ralph, "Government and BEC have been negligent about informing Abaco on this project and in requesting local input."

Equally negligent is the fact that there was no public consultation in the EIA process. The power plant assessment, contracted to an unknown Florida firm with no website, was completed last October but is still under review by the BEST Commission. The EIA for the fuel terminal and pipeline has only just been completed. And no environmental management plan for the plant has been produced, yet construction is well underway.

Pericles Maillis likened these concerns to a storm in a teacup. "I was president of the BNT when the Clifton power plant was being expanded, and we don't have acid rain in Nassau. These controversies can only hurt the environmental movement. This plant is not a surprise, it's been years in the making and was no secret."

But who knows what conditions are at Clifton, or at other BEC plants around the country, when there is no public disclosure, and we have only the corporation's self-serving statements to rely on?

According to Philip Weech of the BEST Commission, the Wilson City EIA is now under active review with other government agencies, which will determine what needs to be done with the environmental management plan. "Oil tankers in The Bahamas have an enviable safety record," he said. "and there will be no impacts on freshwater resources. Wetlands will be impacted

along the pipeline corridor, but we feel that can be safely managed."

Meanwhile, BNT officials told me after the meeting that they would be seeking full involvement in the development of the environmental management plan for the Wilson City plant and any monitoring initiatives that will be put in place. And Abaco's home-grown green activists, Friends of the Environment, said they also want to be involved going forward.

"The number of people that attended the public meeting shows not only that the people of Abaco are concerned about what happens in their community, but that they want to be involved in the decisions that affect them," Friends' Executive Director Kristin Williams told me. "We hope that the government and BEC move forward in good faith and provide the information necessary to assure the public that the promises they made are being kept."

This is not the place for a technical discussion of the merits of using heavy oil as opposed to diesel in a power plant. Suffice it to say that, although different spokesmen cited varying figures at the meeting, using diesel fuel would add millions to the annual operating costs, and it is not clear if the environmental benefits would justify that. However, it is clear that heavy fuel oil plants require more maintenance than other types of plants - and again, BEC's track record is not very inspiring.

However, the issue of conventional versus renewable energy, on Abaco in particular, has not been sufficiently explored in my view. Although BEC is being dragged kicking and screaming (by Earl Deveaux, Frederik Gottlieb and others) towards a renewable energy future, a national energy policy that would promote these initiatives

is nowhere near being implemented.

A consultative committee chaired by Philip Weech was formed after the election to build on earlier efforts by the Christie administration. A draft report was completed last November but has only just been posted to the BEST Commission's website (almost a year later) for public comment. And a Nassau Chamber of Commerce meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow September 17 to discuss this with Utilities Minister Phenton Neymour.

Consultants funded by the Inter-American Development Bank have just been hired to evaluate the economic disaster that BEC is now known to be, and to revamp our existing energy regulatory regime. But at this rate, we will all be dead before any effective energy policy or fossil fuel reductions can be implemented.

There is no doubt that conventional energy must continue to play a big role in power generation in the Bahamas. But as Leazona Richard put it at the town meeting, "We should take a stand for renewable energy, which could brand our island and would attract so much attention worldwide and set a legacy of green change. This government could set a huge precedent in that regard."

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CASUARINA POINT

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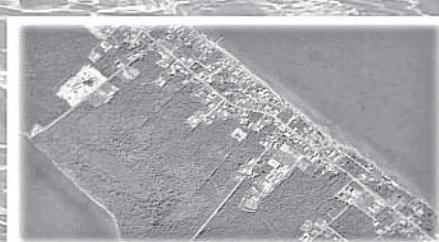
#13935 Price: \$120,000



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VOL 3

BTC Launches MORE TALK for Mobile Customers

By Indira Collie
BTC Public Relations Department

BTC mobile subscribers now have six new attractive packages to choose from. The company has announced the launch of a fresh marketing campaign aimed at making its post-paid offerings more appealing to customers. The campaign has been branded "More Talk" with the slo-

gan 'more minutes, more ways'.

BTC Marketing VP Marlon Johnson said "We are thrilled to introduce More Talk to our customers. Their needs are always changing, and it is our responsibility as their mobile provider to find innovative ways to keep them connected to their needs. We reviewed our previous packages and decided to add a 'pay as you go' package, to increase the amount of min-

utes in each package and lower our security deposits. These changes we hope will make our packages irresistible."

The new 'More Talk' packages offer customers more reliability, more flexibility and most importantly more convenience.

"There is a common misunderstanding that customers pay more with post-paid packages, however this is not the case.

Post-paid packages are actually more affordable as you pay less per minute than a prepaid customer. What's also great is that our security deposits have dropped to as low as \$100.00." Johnson continued.

For more details visit us on face-book, at www.facebook.com/mybtc or on our website at www.btcbahamas.com. You can also call us at 225-5282.

More About MORE TALK

What's in the packages?



With this plan you only pay for the minutes you use each month.

Monthly Access Fee: \$10.00
Weekday Charge: .20¢ per minute
Evenings Charges: .10¢ per minute
Weekend Charges: .15¢ per minute



Minutes: 160
Monthly Access Fee: \$29.99

Additional Minutes: .20¢ per minute weekdays, .10¢ per minute evenings & weekends
Features: Caller ID, Voicemail, Call Waiting, Multi-party Calling



Minutes: 650
Monthly Access Fee: \$99.99

Additional Minutes: .15¢ per minute weekdays, .10¢ per minute evenings & weekends
Features: Caller ID, Voicemail, Call Waiting, Multi-party Calling plus 100 FREE Text Messages



Minutes: 100
Monthly Access Fee: \$19.99

Additional Minutes: .20¢ per minute weekdays, .10¢ per minute evenings & weekends
Features: Caller ID, Voicemail, Call Waiting, Multi-party Calling



Minutes: 375
Monthly Access Fee: \$59.99

Additional Minutes: .15¢ per minute weekdays, .10¢ per minute evenings & weekends
Features: Caller ID, Voicemail, Call Waiting, Multi-party Calling



Minutes: 1100
Monthly Access Fee: \$139.99

Additional Minutes: .10¢ per minute weekdays, .10¢ per minute evenings & weekends
Features: Caller ID, Voicemail, Call Waiting, Multi-party Calling plus 300 FREE Text Messages

MORE TALK *Fitter's*

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The rates per minute for More Talk are cheaper. There are a variety of packages with a bundle of minutes in each pack.

More Talk Postpaid Packages offer:

- Security deposits as low as \$100.00
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- Four FREE features: Caller ID, Call Waiting, Voicemail & Multi-party Calling

2. What Do I Need To Sign Up?

- Photo Identification
 - Passport
 - NIB
 - or Drivers License with your NIB Number)
- Deposit – (deposit is \$100.00, for customers signing up for the Moon, Earth or Venus Pacs).

3. How Will I Be Billed?

All mobile customers are billed for services one month in advance.

4. What Is A Credit Limit?

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 - Town Centre Mall
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Central Abaco News

Western Air now offers flights to Marsh Harbour

By Samantha V. Evans

August 10th was the day that Western Air made its premier flight into Marsh Harbour. Regional Manager Tonell Dames was on Abaco to ensure that the local agents were well trained and equipped to greet their first passengers. Western Air is owned by Androsians Rex and Shandrice Rolle, who have had a successful business for the past eight years. According to Mrs. Rolle, vice president of the company, it has wanted to start flights to Abaco for a while now but waited until it got its new Saab planes in so that its can cater to the Abaco community in style.

The airline is excited to finally be able to offer three daily flights to Abaco. The planes that the company uses are a 33-seat Saab and a 19-seat Metro 3. The flights from Marsh Harbour leave at 7:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The flights leave Nassau at 6:30 a.m., 12 noon, and 5 p.m. According to Ms. Dames, they are the only airline that offers a mid-day flight into Abaco. She believes that this flight will meet the needs of many persons who wish to travel during the early afternoon hours.

Western Air now has an introductory airfare of \$140 excluding closing fees. Those persons who become frequent flyers have the opportunity to fly free for their 11th flight with them. Even though there are two other carriers who fly to Abaco, Ms. Dames stated that the company loves competition but more importantly, it offers service second to none.

Western Air is the largest private carrier in The Bahamas having five Saab 33-seaters, seven Metros 3 19-seat planes,

one King Air executive plane that seats nine persons and two Beach 1900 planes that also seat 19 persons for a total of 15 planes. The phone contact at the Marsh Harbour airport is 367-3722.

Black Opal Tour comes to Abaco

By Samantha V. Evans

Two sales and marketing representatives from Black Opal Skin Care and Cosmetics Line, Santina Smith and Marie Alcee, were on Abaco September 5th for the Black Opal Tour that started on Abaco. This cosmetic and skin care line was designed by a female dermatologist who is herself a woman of color. It was created with the general make up, life style, eating habits and body chemistry of women of color in mind.

Promotions were done on Nassau and Freeport earlier but September was set aside as the month for the Black Opal Family Island tours. The inspiration for the tours was that clients continued to ask a great deal of questions about the products and how to use them properly. Hence, this tour was born and taken on the road to offer free consultation, make-up application, makeovers, and beauty tips.

The promotions were held at Inspirations Beauty Depot on Forest Drive. Ms. Smith stated that the response of the public has been great, and she can attest to the fact that the product line is very good. Black Opal has a skin care line that clients can use to take care of the skin with or without make up use. Even though this is the first Black Opal tour, the needs of clients will dictate how often or if another such tour is needed. Refreshments and live music was provided during the promotional hours.

Cycles Unlimited opens on Abaco

By Samantha V. Evans

Cycles Unlimited, in business for over 30 years in Nassau, is opening on Abaco. The store opened on Queen Elizabeth Drive next to Home Fabrics on September 3rd. The store with the motto "The most comprehensive cycle shop in the Bahamas," specializes in the sale of all bikes from the high end to regular cruiser bikes. It offers a full service center to handle all repairs. It has a wide selection of bike accessories as well as scooter parts, tires, tubes and rims. The store carries a good selection of cycling gear from jackets to riding shorts and jerseys.

According to Kimberley Weech, office manager of the Nassau store, the owner, Maria Campbell, has been coming to Abaco and continues to see a lot of dilapidated bikes. Her initial intention was to open a repair shop but the entire store came to be on the island. Ms. Weech came to train the staff who will be working at this store.

Local manager, Julie Farquharson, is excited to be here as she notes that this community is growing and so is the need for bikes for people from the very young to the old. She hopes to one

day soon start a cycling club for locals. The store has professional cyclers, three wheelers, stationery bikes, and trailers for bikes, tricycles, seven speed bikes, scooters, skate boards, skate ramps and baby bike seats. Bikes range in price from \$55 to \$3500. The more expensive bikes are the racer bikes.

The store is open Monday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. The phone contact is 367-2453.

Abaco Photos Opens

By Jennifer Hudson

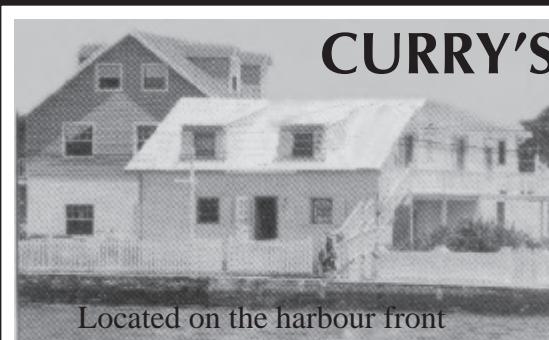
Abaco Photos is the newest photography studio on Abaco, having opened on July 6. It is located in the Memorial Shopping Plaza in Marsh Harbour and is owned by Beulah Wong, who does all of the photography. Beulah will go to the location

Please see Central

Page 15



Two sales representatives from Black Opal Skin Care and Cosmetics promoted its products at Inspirations Beauty Depot. They did make-overs for some of the ladies who attended the event.



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More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 14

of her clients' choice for family portraits and glamour shots or they can be done in her studio at the back of her shop. She travels all over Abaco to photograph weddings and has wedding package brochures available in her store. Beulah handles christenings and any of other noteworthy occasions.

Store hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday and by appointment on Sunday. During

the Christmas season and other special occasions such as Mother's Day and Valentines, hours will be extended.

Beulah began her photographic career at the Snap Shop where she was employed for several years before starting her own wedding photography business in 2006.

The store has a selection of locally handmade frames featuring shells and beach wood for sale as well as local artwork. Contacts are telephone 242-367-0707 or abacophotos@yahoo.com. Her website is www.abacophotos.com



Calvin Briggs, left, taught at two schools in Central Abaco 30 years ago and returned recently for the first time. He was shocked at the many changes that have taken place during those years. He is shown here with his wife who also taught and their daughter who attended the Dundas Town Primary School. They are with Principal Eunice Mills of Central Abaco Primary School, second from left, and Cay Mills, one of Mr. Briggs' students.

Retired Barbadian educator visits Abaco

By Samantha V. Evans

Retired educator Calvin Briggs returned to visit Abaco after not being here for 30-plus years. He taught at the Spring City School as a teacher in 1970 and, after teaching there for six months, was transferred to Dundas Town Primary School. After one year there, he became principal. He stated that sometime later the Spring City School became a high school. He recalled teaching Cay Mills and others and stated that when he exited the plane at the Marsh Harbour airport, Cay Mills was the first person he saw.

Mr. Briggs stated that Abaco is a completely different place from when he was here. He spoke of its remarkable transformation and development. He spoke in a reminiscent voice as he recalled what was on various sites during his three years spent teaching on the island. After leaving Abaco, he returned to Barbados where he taught and later became a principal.

He was accompanied by his wife Lorna Briggs, who was a teacher here as well, and his daughter Debbie Briggs, who completed grade one at Dundas Town Primary. Thanks to Cay, he has seen the new Abaco including Central Abaco Primary School where he spoke with principal Eunice Mills, who lived across the street from the Dundas Town Primary School. Mr. Briggs and his family are on vacation and decided to come to Abaco for a few days. Even though he has visited Nassau previously, he promises to make Abaco a more regular stop as he enjoys his retirement.



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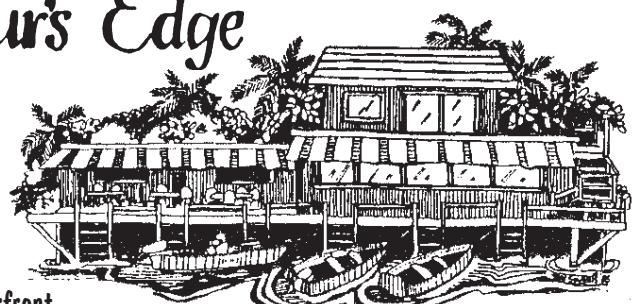
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NETWORKS

Work on the power plant has been halted

By Julian Lockhart

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham halted all construction at the Wilson City Power Plant after the September 10th Town Hall Meeting in Marsh Harbour where hundreds of concerned Abaconians turned out in full force to hear what the government and their experts had to say about the new plant.

However, the stoppage in construction had nothing to do with the concerns of the people, but with the questions levied by lawyer Fred Smith when he asked if the Bahamas Electrical Cooperation had all of its proper documents and paper work from the necessary agencies to start and continue with construction.

After the meeting Prime Minister Ingraham found out that BEC had not dotted all its I's and crossed all its T's as they still needed permits from Ministry of Works and the Port Authority in Sandy Point for permission to be building the power plant.

So Abaco will have to wait a little longer – the proposed completion of the Wilson City Power Plant was February of 2010 – to move off the current generators and be powered by the more reliable and consistent generators run on Bunker C fuel.

The entire controversy leading up to the meeting was the concern of the damage Bunker C fuel does to the environment as there were a number of emails, mass letters and even a six-minute YouTube video depicting the dangers of the

crude oil extract. However, it was the oversight of the government and BEC that halted their production and not the concern of the people.

It is not surprising that a government agency tried to circumvent the law that is enforced by the Bahamian government and thus put a halt on the building of a much needed boost in electrical technology on Abaco.

No private individual would have been able to start building a house or business without the proper permits from the necessary government agencies, but somehow BEC was able to get around this process. That was until Fred Smith brought to light that maybe they didn't have all the proper documentation and permits needed to start the building process, much less finish.

There are some major downfalls and detractors to Bunker C fuel, but BEC has been burning it in New Providence and Grand Bahama for years; and despite some of negativity, there is no acid rain or major health issue on those two islands. There is a chance of an oil spill with tankers maneuvering in and out around the reefs as they bring in the Bunker C fuel, but the spillage of this fuel is less damaging on the environment than diesel.

For all those detractors to the use of this crude oil extract, they have still not come up with another viable solution as to what BEC should do to provide electricity for not only the current population, but future habitants of Abaco.

Invitation to compete in Open Water Swim Meet

By Navardo Saunders

The Abaco Swim Club is inviting the entire community to take part in its 5k Open Water Swim. The annual event, which has been sanctioned by the Bahamas Swimming Federation, is set for October 3 at Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour and is open to people of all ages. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the start time at 9:30 a.m.

"Last year we had about 40 participants," said Malinda Williams of the Abaco Tourist Office, which is sponsoring the event along with Esso, Pinder's Plumbing Company and Abaco Groceries. "It was a mix of local participants, participants from elsewhere in the country and participants from abroad. This year we're hoping to have more participants. We're inviting everyone, young, middle aged and not so young to participate."

The swim consists of two categories – individual and relay. There are various age

groups including 12 and under, 13 to 17, 18 to 35 and 36 and over. Individual participants will be required to pay an entry fee of \$20. Relay teams, which will consist of three persons, are required to pay an entry fee of \$45.

The 5K triangular race will end where it started at Crossing Beach. Emergency Medical Services personnel will be on hand in case they are needed, according to Ms. Williams. "We will also have police and other emergency personnel present," she said. "There will be food on sale and so we're inviting the public to come out and participate either as a participant or spectator. It's going to be very exciting."

Persons interested in taking part or wanting to collect an entry form can contact Ms. Williams at the Abaco Tourist Office at 367-3067, Sara Knowles at 366-0024 or Brenda Sawyer at 367-2951 or email: abacoswimclub@yahoo.com.

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\$239,000.

CASUARINA POINT

Residential Lot 10, Block 3 # 1463 - 10,000 s/f parcel with nearby beach access to sandy Casuarina Beach. All utilities available. Priced to sell quickly.

\$39,900.



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TURTLE ROCKS

"seaGlas Cottage" # 1237 - Charming 2 bed, 2.5 bath, 3 level furnished beachfront home on private 1.20 acre parcel. 1,800 s/f under roof, plus 900 s/f decks/patios. 100' sandy & iron rock shoreline. New windows & central A/C. Panoramic sea views.

\$949,500.

NORTH ABACO

Boiling Hole Parcel # 1022 - Total 11 acres sea-to-sea from Sea of Abaco to bay side. 153' high rocky shoreline on Sea of Abaco. Magnificent sea of Abaco views. (Also available in smaller parcels.)

\$299,500.

Boiling Hole Lots # 1030 - 2 Sea of Abaco waterfront parcels on Great Abaco Highway. Choice of 73' or 80' rocky shoreline, utilities available, great sea views.

EACH \$95,000.

Sunset Ridge Community Lots # 570 - 14 spacious residential lots from 14,792 s/f to 18,488 s/f. High elevation, close to Treasure Cay. All utilities available.

Starting at \$47,500.

GREEN TURTLE CAY

"High Point" Seaview Lot # 684 - Hilltop 0.405 acre parcel on White Sound Bluff overlooking Sea of Abaco, Fantastic Sea Views, Privacy, near beach

\$365,000.

LEISURE LEE

"Double Eagle" # 757 - Recently renovated 3 bed, 3 bath, plus loft, 2,500 s/f furnished home on 11,610 s/f canal front parcel. 95' sea wall, 68' fully serviced dock. Underground utilities. Near beach.

\$776,000.



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LEISURE LEE

1374 - 18,600 s/f waterfront parcel, 108' deep water frontage, plus 50' long boat slip. 3 bed, 3.5 bath, 2,284 s/f home under construction. Price will increase as construction progresses. All utilities available, privacy entrance wall & fence. Great sea views.

\$322,000.

Residential Parcels

823 - 10,150 +/- s/f canal lot w/130' frontage & 105' deep water dock w/ water & electricity, Fantastic beach nearby.

\$345,000.

1258 - 9,000 s/f canal lot with 87' of water frontage, 160' of lay-along docks & shared recessed boat basin

\$335,000.

602 - 15,334 s/f canal corner lot w/197' seawall.

\$299,500.

1080 - 12,100 s/f canal parcel with 110' sea walled canal frontage. Boat davits installed.

\$238,950.

704 - 10,400 s/f elevated canal lot w/104' deep water canal frontage. Sea views, walk to beach.

\$239,500.

811 - 10,400 s/f sea view corner lot with 194' of road frontage. Walk to beach. All utilities available.

\$99,950.

998 - 13,459 s/f canal view corner lot, near beach

\$96,500.

567 - 2.139 acres on highway near Leisure Lee. Includes 50' elevated ridge, 119' highway frontage.

\$149,700.

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TREASURE CAY

"Camelot" # 1234 - Beachfront Estate. New custom designed 4 bed, 4 bath Ocean Blvd home, plus 2 bed, 1 bath guest house. Total 7,793 s/f under roof on 1.5 acre grounds Beachside pool, numerous enhancements.

OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! \$7,849,000.

Ocean Blvd. Beachfront Estate #1455 - Exceptional 5 bed, 5.5 bath main house, separate 3 car garage and 1 bed, 1 bath guest suite. Total 7,160 s/f under roof, 2.50 acres with 250' of sandy beachfront. Unfurnished. \$5,725,000.

"Argyll House" # 483 - Elegantly furnished, elegant 4 bed, 5.5 bath, 6,900 s/f Ocean Blvd. estate on 1.6 landscaped acres with 153' beachfront. Includes vehicles & 2 additional residential lots.

REDUCED TO \$3,995,000.

"Another World" # 1007 - Ocean Blvd. 4 bed, 4.5 bath, 3,500 s/f furnished beachfront home, pool, patio & garage on 1.2 landscaped acres. Excellent rental income history.

\$2,500,000.

"Sandpiper" # 1265 - Ocean Blvd. 3,000 s/fbi-level furnished home on 1.87 acres with 180' sandy beach frontage. Adjacent lot also available.

\$2,357,000.

"Tranquility" # 1307 - 4 bed, 5 bath, furnished bi-level Brigantine Canal home on 2 lots. 3,580 s/f under roof, plus decks & balconies. 90' canal frontage, dock, boat lift, plus sea views from virtually every room. Tastefully decorated, excellent condition.

\$2,200,000.

"Trident House" # 317 - 3 bed, 3.5 bath, furnished 3,500 s/fbeach front home. Breath-taking beach & sea views. Good rental income.

NOW \$1,999,000.

"Windward Palms" # 1454 - Splendid 3 bed, 2 bath furnished Windward Beach home. 2,500 s/f under roof plus 1,600 s/f patios & walks on 16,000 s/f landscaped parcel with 100' sandy beach. Meticulously maintained, Many extras, superior sea views.

\$1,955,000.

"Flip Inn" - Windward Beach # 1008 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,620 s/f under air beach home w/garage on 2 lots totaling 28,252 s/f. Recently refurbished, tastefully furnished. 180' sandy beachfront.

\$1,725,000.

"Seascape", Windward Beach # 1469 - 3 bed, 2 bath 2,050 s/f furnished beach home on spacious 26,125 s/f parcel with 120' sandy beach.

\$1,379,000.

"Pilot House" - Rock Point # 1380 - 2 level, 3 bed, 3 bath furnished waterfront home at entrance to Treasure Cay harbour. 3,314 s/f under roof on 18,800 s/f parcel. Boat/plane ramp to sea. Great sea views.

\$1,160,000.

"Toad Hall" # 1373 - 5 bed/4 bath, 4,000 s/f, 2 level Ocean Blvd. furnished ocean view home includes 1 bed/1 bath apartment on 2 adjoining parcels totaling 22,500 s/f. Private beach access.

\$695,000.

Royal Poinciana Beachfront Condos -Phase 4
716) Premier 3 level, 3 bed, 4.5 bath, plus loft newly built condos on Treasure Cay Beach. 2,860 s/f under roof, attached garage. 644 s/f covered/open balconies/porches.

OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! \$2,075,000.

Bahama Beach Club 2046 - # 1009 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 2nd level Phase 5, 2nd level, 1,750 s/f living space condo, closest to beach, tasteful contemporary furnishings, unparalleled sea & beach views.

\$1,150,000.

Bahama Beach Club 2020 - # 1139 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,650 s/f 2nd level beachfront condo, Stunningly furnished, elegantly decorated. Superior beach & ocean views.

\$1,035,000.

Bahama Beach Club 2047 - # 1468 - 3 bed, 3 bath, ground level Phase 5 unit, 1,750 s/f living space condo, close to beach, tastefully furnished, numerous upgrades & enhancements. Superb sea views.

\$950,000.

Atlantis Condo 2112 - # 929- 4 bed, 4 bath 2,000 s/f 2 level furnished waterfront condo on Brigantine canal, great water views. Preferred end unit. Includes 2 large boat slips. Short walk to beach!

\$865,000.

TREASURE CAY

Bahama Beach Club # 2005 - # 1370 - 3 bed, 2 bath ground level 1,645 s/f comfortably furnished condo. Awesome sea views from most rooms Overlooks beach and pool. Great vacation residence.

\$822,000.

Royal Poinciana # 2511 - # 1483 - Deluxe 2 bed, 2 bath ground level furnished 1,300 s/f beachfront condo. Well maintained. Great sea views, excellent rental income potential.

\$625,000.

Royal Palm Condo # 2424 - # 1399 - 3 bed, 3 bath, (including loft) 2nd level, 1,264 s/f furnished condo overlooking harbour & marina. Well maintained, near beach, excellent rental income potential.

\$599,950.

Sand Dollar Condo # 7 - # 1456 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f ground level furnished beachfront condo. Well maintained, superb sea views, community pool. Best Value! Priced to sell.

\$499,995.

Beach Villa 507 # 782 - Newly renovated, 2 bed, 2 bath 1,150 s/f villa, plus 592 s/f patios. Tastefully furnished. Many extras. Close to beach, marina, golf course.

\$490,000.

Atlantis # 2215 - # 1471 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f furnished 2nd level "end unit" condo on Brigantine Bay. Includes 2 storage units and finger dock. well maintained, great water views.

\$485,000.

Royal Palm # 2304 - # 1472 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 950 s/f furnished ground floor level condo directly overlooking marina. Includes boat slip. Rental history

\$403,000.

Atlantis Condo # 2202 - # 987 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2nd level furnished waterfront unit, includes boat slip & golf cart garage. "Turn-Key", Near Treasure Cay Beach.

\$465,000.

Atlantis Condo # 2203 - # 1000 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2nd level, 1,000 s/f furnished waterfront unit, includes fully serviced boat slip & golf cart garage. Overlooks Brigantine Bay, Near beach.

\$465,000.

Atlantis Condo # 2201 - # 1175 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f, 2nd level furnished waterfront condo. Recently renovated, well maintained. Includes storage garage & private boat slip/dock. Near beach.

\$460,000.

Royal Palm # 2304 - # 1472 - 2 bed, 2 bath 950 s/f furnished waterfront condo with private boat slip. Overlooks marina basin.

\$403,000.

Beach Villa 703 # 1209 - 2 bed, 2 bath 885 s/f furnished villa close to beach, marina, restaurants & shopping area. Great rental income potential.

\$349,000.

Mariner's Cove Condominiums:
1181 - 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 level, 1,650 s/f furnished harbour front condo. tastefully refurbished.

\$649,000.

454 - 2 bed, 1 bath, 2 level, poolside condo

\$295,000.

985 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level harbour front end unit,

Refurbished in 2000 REDUCED TO \$271,500.

928 - 2 bed, 1 bath 2 level unit, overlooks harbour

\$249,000.

655 - 2 bed, 1 bath condo with marina view

\$249,000.

455 - 1 bed, 1 bath, ground level, poolside.

\$185,900.

Beachfront Parcel - Ocean Blvd. # 876 - 1.5 acres with 100' of beach frontage, on spectacular Treasure Cay Beach. All utilities available Gorgeous beach & sea views.

\$1,510,000.

Superb Beachfront Parcel # 1362 - Treasure Cay level & cleared beach lot of 12,600 s/f with 90' fabulous sandy beach frontage. Breath-taking sunset & sea views. All utilities available.

\$1,449,000.

Beach & Canal Lot Package #941 - Windward Beach lot of 17,542 s/f with 100' of beach frontage on Sea of Abaco, PLUS Galleon Bay lot of 17,955 s/f with approx. 76' of sea-walled canal frontage.

\$1,446,000.

Ocean Blvd. Jumbo Sized Beachfront Parcel # 1266 - Approx. 52,575 s/f parcel (1.20 acres) with 115' sandy beach frontage & 460' depth. Superior building lot. All utilities available. Fantastic sea views.

\$1,386,000.



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TREASURE CAY

Ocean Blvd. Beachfront Parcel # 1260 - Splendid 44,600 s/f parcel on Treasure Cay Beach, 75' beach frontage of sugar-white fine sand. All utilities available. Spectacular sea & beach views.

\$1,350,000.

Windward Beach - Beachfront Parcel # 1283 - Cleared & walled 17,542 s/f parcel with 100' of sandy beach. Sea of Abaco views. All utilities available.

\$1,024,000.

Windward Beach - Beach Parcel #1470 - 23,151 s/f parcel with 101' of stone wall & sandy beach on Sea of Abaco. All utilities available.

\$843,000.

Windward Beach # 999 - 12,750 s/f beachfront parcel with 85' of frontage on Sea of Abaco. All utilities available, great building site.

\$599,950.

Galgantine Bay # 1200 - 13,664 s/f canalfront parcel with 106' of bulkheaded deep water frontage. Includes dock & dolphin pilings, protected dockage, All utilities available. Superb water views.

\$525,000.

Windward Beach # 817 - Half acre waterfront parcel directly on Sea of Abaco, 124' beach frontage. Newly installed sea wall. All utilities available.

\$482,000.

Galleon Bay # 1356 - 24,732 s/f large canal front parcel with 158' of bulkhead & sandy waterfront. All utilities available. Panoramic water views.

\$465,000.

Galleon Bay # 744 - 19,256 s/f cleared canal parcel with 68' bulkheaded deep water frontage. All utilities available. Superb views along Galleon Bay.

\$460,000.

Galleon Bay # 1473 - Approx. 10,000 s/f canal parcel with 100' of sea-walled & protected water frontage. All utilities available. Easy access to sea.

\$349,950.

Brigantine Bay # 1173 & 1174 - 2 adjacent deep water canal parcels, each 11,200 s/f with 80' bulk head & generous 140' depth. Cleared, all utilities available.

EACH \$299,950.

Galleon Bay # 422 - Prime 10,295 s/f cleared canal lot. 88' + protected canal frontage. Sea-walled, plus dock & davit pilings. All utilities available.

\$350,000.

Galleon Bay # 1208 - Large 20,970 s/f canal parcel with sea wall & 90'+deep water dock & dolphin pilings. All utilities available. Fantastic building lot, spectacular water views along Galleon Bay.

\$299,950.

Windward Beach Drive - Sea View Parcel # 1353 - Excellent 11,090 s/f residential parcel. Level building envelope, all utilities available. Short walk to both Windward Beach & Treasure Cay Beach.

\$120,000.

St. Andrews Estates, Golf Course Lot - # 1341 - 11,151 s/f residential parcel with 130' of golf course frontage. All utilities available. Short walk to beach.

\$58,500.

MARSH HARBOUR

"Sea View" - Great Abaco Club # 1203 - 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 1,880 s/f furnished sea view home, plus 280 s/f of open deck on 4,918 s/f parcel. Well maintained, gated community, great rental income potential. Includes private deep water dock.

Obituaries of Family and Friends

Maggie Dell Rolle, 61, of Cooper's Town died at her residence on September 10.

She is survived by husband Ronald Rolle; daughters Melba and Anna Rolle and Deadrie Cooper; sons Wendell Rolle and Peter McIntosh; sisters Naomi and Ruth McIntosh; brother Herbert Newbold and many other relatives and friends.

The memorial service for **Edwin Swindel Smith**, 64, formerly of Grand Cay, was held on September 12 in Nassau.

He is survived by his sons Jason and Stephen Smith; daughters Oneeka Imana, Juanita, Lenora and Melba Smith; son-in-law Emanuel Imana; grandchildren Jai and Jean Smith, Jade Amber, Julie and Emanuel Imam; sisters Melba Lightbourne, Nell Smith and Harriet Cooper; brothers Charles Smith and Alfred Smith Jr.; sister-in-law Claire Smith; nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

A Roman Catholic Rite of Christian Burial Service for **Linda Ann Cove** was held at the grave side in Man-O-War.

She was the daughter of Capt. T. Lloyd Albury and Annie Mae Albury Kit-



Linda Ann Cove

toe of Guana Cay. She attended school in Nassau and later worked in the dental office of Dr. Norman Cove. She worked alongside Norman until her illness.

She is survived by her husband Dr. Norman Cove; daughter Amanda Sheratt; son Andrew Cove; son-in-law Michael Sheratt; stepchildren Stuart Cove, Sara Kehoe, Susan Griffin, Sandra Cove and Sean Cove; brothers Don Albury (deceased), Tyrone Albury, Carson Albury and Andre Albury; sisters Alice Albury, Theresa Albury and Donna Albury; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Kenneth James "Jimmy" "Ba Rocks" Lockhart**, 65, formerly of Dundas Town was held on September 19th in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

He is survived by his wife Erneiline; children Henza Dawkins, Stephanie and Hubert Campbell, Donna Burrows, Troy Mills, Constance and Patrick Bethel, Kayla and Vernessa Lockhart, Areth and Duane Mackey Sr., Indira Edwards and Tamara Johnson; grandchildren Patrick, Tuwari, Shikera, Chase, Jessica, Omar, Jamie, Troy Jr., Chenara, Jade, Naason, Gabriella, Alana, Jubert, Sinclair, Drake, Chandra, Duane Jr., Sarah, Shehannah; great-grandchildren Donnaaja and Shavantae; his children's mother Elvert Mills; siblings and spouses Edmund and Sylvia Moxey, Hiram and Dorothy, Osborne and Maxine

Lockhart, Elgin and Mae Bridgewater, Eliza and Carolyn Wallace, Persis Lockhart, Maureen and Emile Lesbott, Joan and Derek Culmer, Desmond Edwards, Kathleen (Ethlyn) and Hayward Dorsette, Miriam Seymour, Eulean and Nathaniel Green, Henry and Gertrude Seymour; nieces and nephews Pastor Mario Moxey, Sharon Babbs, Deborah Rolle, Marva Moxey, Marlon and Hope Johnson, Vandera, Denise, Clarington, Herbert, Dale, Christopher and Egbert Wallace, Wendy Eneas, Cindy Concepcion, Kelly Banks, Mitchel, Myron and Jason Lockhart, Keisha Taylor, Marquin Edwards, Thelicia, DeeDee and Samera Rolle, Melissa, Richard and Alexander Lesbott, Carolyn Calmer, Ophelia Andrews, Shalon and Jahmal Lockhart, Sandra, Vernita, Richard and Elvin Bridgewater, Clifford and Cheryl, Dave, Grace, Pedro Seymour, Jacqueline Johnson, Mitzi Robinson, Sheniquia Dames, Keith, Thelma, Paige, Anthony Smith, Matilda McPhee, Shantel Charles, Ethelyn, Christine, Agnes, Carla. Shantel and Christina Seymour, Hayward Dorsett Jr., Juliette Lloyd, Hayward and Cedric Johnson, Delano and Nathaniel Green, Jr., Colin and Shikera Johnson, Tommy Robinson Jr., Henry Outten, Gordon Fowler; grandnieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Gordon Dean, Sr.**, 47, of Dundas Town was held on

September 18 in Nassau. Pastor Silbert Mills, Rev. Christopher Dean and Rev. Lynden Dean, Sr. officiated. He is survived by his wife Theresa Huyler-Dean; children Gordon Jr., Jigeria Dean and Raquel Knowles; grandchildren Alfianna and Raquan Knowles; parents Joseph Dean Sr. and Alice Morley; stepmother Enamae Dean; brothers Rev. Kenneth Knowles, Rev. Christopher Dean, Rev. Lynden F. Dean, Sr., Joseph Jr., Selwyn Sr., Marvin and Garnet Dean, Absalom, Albert, Min. Freddie Archer and Richard Morley Sr.; sisters Eleanor Heild and Charmaine Wells; nephews Kareem, Corderro, Richard Jr., Rodney Jr., Carl Stuart, Tony Scriven, Pastor Henry Seymour, Lynden Jr., Selwyn Jr., Shivago and Breyian Dean; nieces Nancy, Chervain, Lachrisser, Trudy, Christy, Abria, Sophia, Shenique, Christy, Lynisha Lynell, Marira, Breyante and Aisha; uncles Rev. Copeland Morley and Wilfred Edgecombe; aunts Prescola Edgecombe, Castella Darling, Agnes Ferguson, Evamae Ingraham and Helen Knowles; son-in-law Alfred Knowles; father-in-law Livingston Huyler Sr.; brothers-in-law Rodney Wells Sr., Livingston Jr., Garner, Austin, Hartman and Patrick Huyler; sisters-in-law Nathalie Knowles, Shane Archer, Jackie Morley, Christine, Diane, Bernadette, Shanihska, Sandra Dean and Murline Huyler.

The funeral service **Desere Dore Saundier Gibson**, 34, of Murphy Town was held on September 19 at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Marsh Harbour. Bro. Calvin Thompson officiated assisted by Bro. Todd Drakes. Interment followed in the Public Cemetery in Marsh Harbour.

She is survived by her husband David Gibson; father Jacob Saunders; stepdaughter Cindy Gibson; brothers Jason, Rocky Kyshawn, Anthony Saunders and Preston Latique; sisters Carolyn, Crystal, Deborah, Paula Saunders and Friendly Cartwright; grandmother Rosena Stubbs; nephew Tyrell Latique; niece Odesa Saunders; aunts Viola Woods, Kathleen Johnson and Cheryl Stubbs; uncles Leroy Woods, Alexander Saunders, Rudolph, Dwight and Eddison Stubbs; mother-in-law Carol Gibson; sister-in-law Nicole Latique; brother-in-law Anthony Cartwright; cousins Elkin, Kathleen Smith, Norma, Stephanie, Theresa, Rose, Ethlyn, Terry, Tamara, Jessica, Cyril, Rustin, Sydney, Michael, Shyan, Stanford, Raymond, Bradley, Larry, Brian, Eleanor, Ernestine, Lavette, Terrell and Ashley; and many other relatives and friends.

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Immigration apprehends more illegal immigrants

By Canishka Alexander

A routine patrol carried out on September 15 allowed officers at the Department of Immigration to collect a number of persons on Abaco who were not here legally.

According to Supt. Hubert Ferguson, 10 persons were arrested when his office

checked their status in the country. He was quick to point out that there was no raid carried out that day as was reported; he added that the latest raid was the one carried out in July when 305 illegal Haitian immigrants were caught as part of a joint effort among his department, the Defence

Force and Police officers.

Supt. Ferguson said the detainees could not produce evidence of being in The Bahamas lawfully, and some even admitted that they did not have documents. He said when illegal immigrants are processed at the Department of Immigration, they undergo a screening process that determines if they have legal status.

If it is confirmed that they have no documents indicating that they are here legally

and therefore do not have a right to be here, they are sent to the Detention Center in Nassau. In Nassau they are subject to a secondary screening, which also determines whether or not they are legal. If documents are found, they are released.

Although the department has caught those of other nationalities, he said all of the people arrested here were of Haitian descent.

Man is disappointed with Department of Immigration

By Canishka Alexander

Adie Telme was one of several people standing outside the Marsh Harbour Port Administration building on September 15, a few hours after officers from the Department of Immigration went on a routine patrol and arrested 10 Haitian nationals who were here illegally.

While he has no objections to illegal immigrants being caught, he sympathizes with those like himself who have tried doing things the right way and still cannot make any progress.

Mr. Telme, who was born in The Bahamas, is very displeased with the Department of Immigration because he applied for his citizenship since 1996 and still does not have it. He then applied for his permanent residence and was fortunate. He was told to reapply for citizenship, which is also referred to as reconsideration of naturalization and that within five years he would receive his citizenship. That was since May 10, 2004, and Telme said nothing has happened. He explained that without his Bahamian citizenship, he cannot get his Bahamian passport nor can he purchase a home with a mortgage or assist his children with their status.

"I believe if I had gone through the back door, I would have gotten it long time; but I am trying to do things the right way," he said. Mr. Telme said the situation becomes even worse when he travels to Haiti with a Haitian passport and says he is Bahamian.

"I haven't returned to Haiti since 2006. They said, 'Oh, you were born in The Bahamas, and you want to come to Haiti with a Haitian passport.' I was scared; I thought they were going to fight me. I haven't been back to Haiti since," he said. "Imagine a big man like me getting gray hair in my beard, and I still don't have my Bahamian citizenship."

He has sisters who were also born in The Bahamas, but chose to remain in Haiti because of the challenges he has faced. He said things are not so bad in Haiti once you have something to do.

However, a woman who waited on the outside of the Port Administration building disagreed. She said many of the companies have closed in Haiti, causing unemployment to soar. Mr. Tilme said the economic crisis is affecting everyone, adding that the great need for the American dollar has adversely impacted the country as well.



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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Bernadette Hall, Assistant Manager of the Abaco Tourist Office, gave an informative outline of the Keep Abaco Beautiful program at its second annual awards ceremonies held on September 11 at New Vision Ministries.

A very important person and one of Cherokee's most visible workers, Peggy Albury, was nominated for the Volunteer Leadership Award. Eight people from the different districts around Abaco were in competition for this award and we feel honoured to have a person from Cherokee chosen to receive this recognition. We all

know that whenever there is a function in Cherokee, Peggy is always there, whether it is for her church, our school or for the community; and we want to add our thanks her for her many years of unselfish services.

To finish off the program, Cherokee Sound Primary School gave some very interesting statistics on the environment which turned out to be informative as well as entertaining. There is nothing shy about our kids; they gave a very good presentation.

Epworth's annual Missionary Meeting

September 12 and 13 marked Methodism's Annual Missionary Meeting when

the church raises money to support its various charitable projects. Not all of the monies are sent off the island. A portion of the funds raised is sent to help with the managerial work of the Conference office in Nassau and a portion goes to Epworth's own missionary projects abroad; but a large portion of the funds raised is kept in the community to assist with building maintenance, scholarships, assistance and ministry to the elderly and work with our young people as well as any unforeseen local crises that may arise.

Our annual auctions are always energetic and loud, as all auctions are. Some of the record prizes this year included one of the

most beautiful bird pepper trees you've ever seen (full of red peppers), which went for over \$100, but no one knew who donated it. Sadly, it will not be staying in Cherokee as the winning bid came from a Man-O-War man who took it home with him.

An interesting piece of history was donated, an old wooden block and tackle made into a desk lamp. Someone even donated a new (or almost new) Singer sewing machine. But the outstanding plants, fruits and vegetables really made the day the success that it was as did the many preserved items such as

Please see South

Page 21



A special service was held on September 13 at the Epworth Chapel in Cherokee Sound during its annual Missions effort. Rev. Charles Sweeting, retired Methodist minister, was guest speaker. Attending the service were several church leaders. Shown are Rev. Joseph, District Minister for Abaco Region, Eleanor Jergenson, church secretary and Lay-Preacher; Michael Knowles, Lay-Preacher; Vincent Higgs, Lay-Preacher; Patrick Bethel, Lay-Preacher; and Rev. Sweeting.



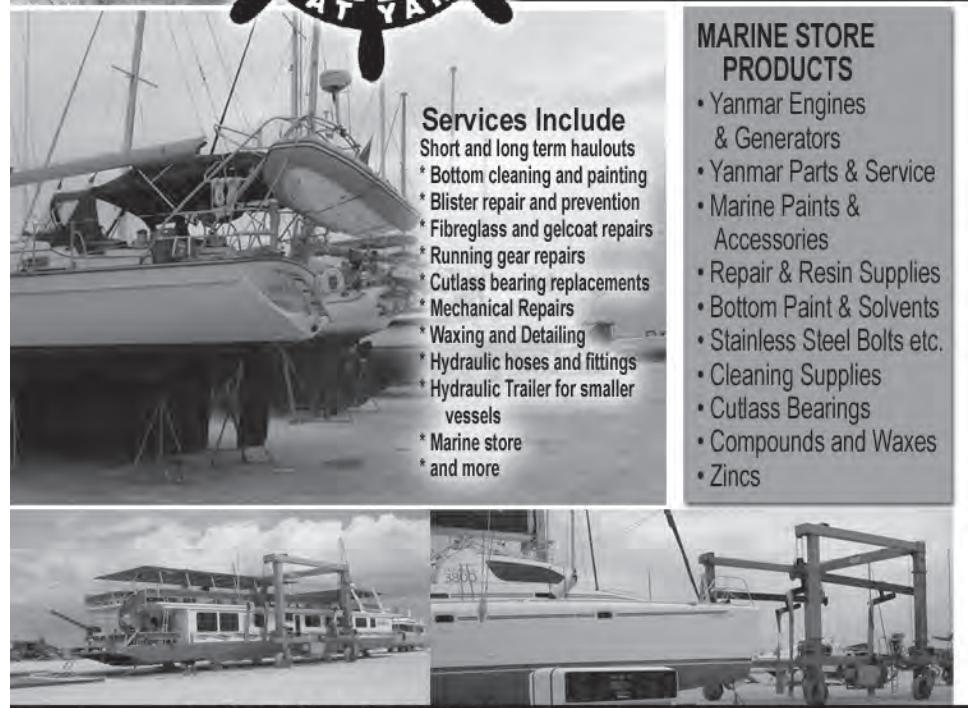
Patrick Bethel, auctioneer on the porch of the Methodist manse, assisted by Rev. Charles Sweeting, by the steps are shown at 2009 Missionary Auction held at Epworth Chapel in Cherokee Sound on September 12. Once again the church reached its goal of raising \$10,000. Cherokee descendants along with second homeowners swell the group of residents bidding on the items donated for the auction.

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| | |
|---------------|----------|
| C - 20 CU. FT | \$145.00 |
| B - 43 CU. FT | \$195.00 |
| A - 73 CU FT | \$305.00 |
| D - 78 CU FT | \$325.00 |

2 - SECURBOX

NASSAU - ABACO

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| C - 20 CU. FT | \$ 50.00 |
| B - 43 CU. FT | \$105.00 |
| A - 73 CU FT | \$182.50 |
| D - 78 CU FT | \$195.00 |

PORT HOURS ARE FROM MONDAY TO SATURDAY

8:00 AM - 7:00PM

SUNDAY - 12NOON - 7:00PM

MIAMI
Betty K. Agencies (USA) LLC
3701 N.W. S. River Dr. 33142
Tel: 1-305-635-4650
Fax: 1-305-635-4651

NASSAU - DEPOT
Bradley St. opposite Kemp's Funeral Chapel
P.O. Box N351, Nassau, Bahamas
Tel: 1-242-322-2142
Fax: 1-242-322-6089



More South Abaco News

Cherokee

From Page 20

guava jam, jellies, stewed coco plums, relishes and pickles. I believe people may be getting a little more weight conscience since there weren't many baked items, but what was offered made your mouth water. Not to mention the fresh conch fritters, conch salad and homemade ice cream. Grilled hot dogs were available and hopefully got the bidders in the right mood.

It looks as if this year's auction and

contributions will reach the \$10,000 mark, matching last year's funds. But we could never reach our goals without the help of some very special friends. Some of these people were born in Cherokee or their father or mother was born here. Others are second homeowners or have a special connection to our little settlement and keep Cherokee close to their hearts. They are always very generous to our needs and requests. In the past these special friends of Cherokee have been there to lend their support and financial assistance in many com-

munity projects, starting with the rebuilding of our famous Long Dock, erecting our Old Sailor's Monument that documents our local fishing history and lists the many fishing smacks built here, and, of course, our W.W. Sands Community Center or renovation of our old schoolhouse. Cherokee residents and especially Epworth Chapel thanks these wonderful people who each time they are asked open their hearts and their pocketbooks to our community's needs. We are lucky they still feel this connection to their family roots and family history.



Peggy Albury was pleased to be awarded second place in the Volunteer Leadership category of the Keep Abaco Beautiful program. She is receiving her certificate from Earlston McPhee, Director of Sustainable Tourism from Nassau. Bernadette Hall with the Abaco Tourism office organizes the Keep Abaco Beautiful program and is at the podium.



Cherokee Primary School children performed at the Keep Abaco Beautiful Awards ceremony on September 11th.

**Remember
Conservation begins with YOU**

Notice to all children

Epworth Kid's Korner program for children 5 years to 12 years old will resume meeting on Tuesday afternoons at 3:15 p.m.

Big Community Yard Sale or Flea Market

Everyone is gearing up for the up-coming community Flea Market in Cherokee on October 12th holiday weekend. There will be lots of local foods to enjoy and lots of bargains to be had. Some of the things that will be for sale will include furniture pieces, yard and camping equipment, books and children's videos (lots of these items are brand new). Everyone is hoping for good weather and a big turnout. So why not come to Cherokee and see what we're selling; you won't be sorry.

AA and Al Anon Meetings

The AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Mondays, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

Al-Anon in Marsh Harbour meets by request. Call 357-6511.

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m. at the Hope Town Library.

The AA group and the AlAnon group meet in the Treasure Cay Community Center on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Please call 357-6511 for additional information.

MORE DAILY SERVICE TO FORT LAUDERDALE AND WEST PALM BEACH FROM TREASURE CAY AND MARSH HARBOUR

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Defence Force offers recruitment opportunities

By Canishka Alexander

Those interested in becoming a part of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force were asked to submit their applications by September 14 along with examination results, character references and a police record. The following day a recruitment exercise

took place at Abaco Central High for candidates who qualified to sit the examination.

Chief Petty Officer Lloyd Ferguson said there was a fairly good turnout that morning for the exercise. Twenty people showed up, of which 50 percent met the prerequisites and qualified to sit the entry-level examination. There is an equal number of male and females who have expressed interest in joining the Defence Force, he said.

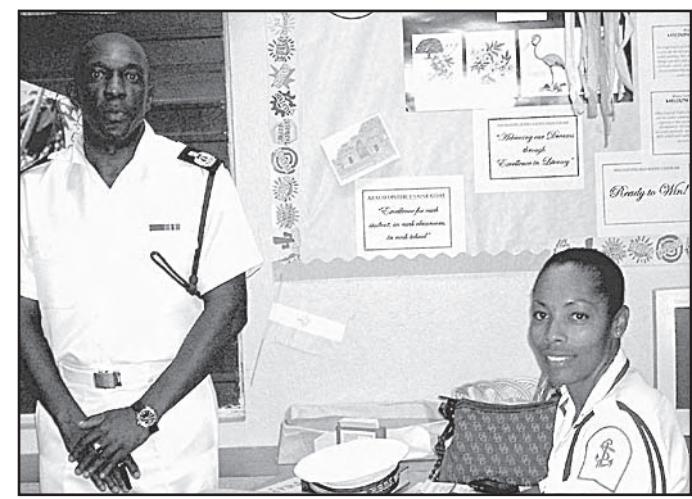
Similar exercises are conducted throughout all of the Family Islands. "Essentially, when we are about to take a new entry into the force, we seek to move throughout the Family Islands in order to tap into the young persons in these local communities so that they can be a part of that training," Officer Ferguson explained.

While the Defence Force is challenging, it offers a rewarding career. "The one good thing about young persons who select or choose the force as a career, whatever their interest is, in terms of professional interest, they can fulfill that interest within the force."

Officer Ferguson described the program it offers as dynamic, and he should know because he has served on the force for 28 years. "I've had the opportunity to do some training locally and abroad; and

I continue to say that the force remains very relevant, very exciting and it's a wonderful time for young persons to seek entry into the force," he said.

Officer Ferguson said recruitment into the force is a process that begins with academics, a security and medical vetting, and finally, the crucial interview stage. "From that interview stage, selection is made to form the next entry," he explained.



The Royal Bahamas Defence Force was recruiting on Abaco on September 14 and 15. Two officers, Leading Woman Elizabeth Simms (seated) and Chief Petty Officer Lloyd Ferguson (standing) were accepting applications.



The Royal Bahamas Defence Force held a recruitment drive on September 14. Chief Petty Officer Lloyd Ferguson was pleased with the result. Twenty people showed up to begin the process of applying.

**Check out
The Abaconian
at www.
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LICENSING GUIDELINES WORKSHOP

Marsh Harbour, Abaco

2-4 p.m. Tuesday, October 6, 2009

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Island-wide Abaco Listings

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|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Abaco Vacations + | 800-633-9197 |
| Abaco Vacation Planner + | 25 hse 367-3529 |
| Bahamas Vacations + | 800-462-2426 |

Lubbers Quarters

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Sea Level Cottages | 4 hse | 366-3121 |
| Man-O-War | | |
| Island Home Rentals + | 8 hse | 365-6048 |
| Schooner's Landing | 5 condos | 365-6072 |

Marsh Harbour area

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------|--------|----------|
| Lee Pinder + | 3 hse | 366-2053 | Abaco Beach Resort | 82 rms | 367-2158 |
| Marina Albury Cottages | 5 cottages | 366-2075 | Abaco Real Estate + | 6 hse | 367-2719 |
| Rosie's Place | | 352-5458 | Alesia's | 3 rms | 367-4460 |

Green Turtle Cay

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|----------|----------------------|-------|----------|
| Bluff House | 30 rm | 365-4247 | Ambassador Inn | 6 rms | 367-2022 |
| Cocabay Cottages | 6 cott | 365-5464 | Bustick Bight Resort | 8 rms | 367-3980 |
| Green Turtle Club | 35 rm | 365-4271 | Conch Inn | 9 rms | 367-4000 |

Grand Cay

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|----------------------|---------|----------|
| Island Properties + | 34 hse | 365-4047 | D's Guest House | 6 rms 3 | 367-3980 |
| New Plymouth Inn | 9 rm | 365-4161 | Island Breezes Motel | 8 rms | 367-3776 |
| Ocean Blue Properties + | 34 | 365-4636 | Lofty Fig Villas | 6 eff | 367-2681 |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|----------|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Roberts Cottages | 3 cott | 365-4105 | Pelican Beach Villas | 6 cott | 367-3600 |
| Dive Guana | 11 hse | 365-5178 | Regattas (Prev. Abaco Towns) | 32 effic | 367-0148 |

Guana Cay

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------|--------------------------|------|----------|
| Dolphin Bch Resort | 4 rm 10 cott. | 365-5137 | Moore's Is Bonefish Camp | 8 rm | 366-6334 |
| Donna Sands + | 12 hse | 365-5195 | Sandy Point | | |
| Guana Beach Resort | 6 units | 365-5133 | Oeisha's Resort | | |

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|----------|
| Guana Seaside | 8 rm 7 cott | 365-5106 | Pete & Gay's Resort | 14 rm | 366-4119 |
| Ocean Frontier | | 519-389-4846 | Rickmon's Bonefishing | 10 rm | 366-4477 |
| Ward's Landing | 4 units | 904-982-2762 | Spanish Cay | | |

Hope Town

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|
| Abaco Inn | 22 rm | 366-0133 | Spanish Cay Resort | 18 rm 6 hse | 365-0083 |
| Club Soleil | 6 rm 1 cott | 366-0003 | Treasure Cay | | |
| Crystal Villas | 7 villas | 888-812-2243 | Bahama Beach Club | 88 units | 365-8500 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|----------|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Elbow Cay Prop + | 53 hse | 366-0035 | Island Dreams + | 45 hse | 365-8507 |
| Hope T Harb Lodge | 25 rm | 366 0095 | Treasure Cay Resort | 95 rms | 365-8801 |
| Hope T Hideaways + | 63 hse | 366-0224 | Mark's Bungalows | 4 units | 365-8506 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Hope T Villas + | 3 hse | 366-0030 | Wood Cay | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lighthouse Rentals | 4 cott | 366-0154 | Sea Gull Cottages + | 3 hse | 366-0266 | Tangelo Hotel | 19 rm 3 villa | 365-2222 | Sea Spray Resort | 6 villas | 366-0065 | Web Sites with Abaco Information | | | Tanny Key + | 43 hse | 366-0053 | http://www.abaconian.com | | | Turtle Hill | 4 villas | 366-0557 | http://www.abacoinet.com | | | | | | http://www.abacoinfo.com | | | | | | http://www.abacos.com | | | | | | http://www.go-abacos.com | | | | | | http://www.oii.net | | | | | | http://www.bahamas.com | | |
| Sea Gull Cottages + | 3 hse | 366-0266 | Tangelo Hotel | 19 rm 3 villa | 365-2222 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sea Spray Resort | 6 villas | 366-0065 | Web Sites with Abaco Information | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tanny Key + | 43 hse | 366-0053 | http://www.abaconian.com | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Turtle Hill | 4 villas | 366-0557 | http://www.abacoinet.com | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | http://www.abacoinfo.com | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | http://www.bahamas.com | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Emergency Services

| | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|
| Police - Marsh Harbour | 367-2560 | • 911 |
| B. Electricity Corp | 367-2727, 367-2846, | 367-4667 |
| Water & Sewerage | 475-1499, | 475-5518 |
| The following services are provided by volunteers | | |
| Fire - Marsh Harbour | 367-2000 | |
| Fire - Dundas Town | 367-2935 or 4935 | |
| Fire - Hope Town | VHF Ch 16 | |
| Fire - Green Turtle Cay | 365-4133 | |
| Fire - Man-O-War | 365-6911 | |
| Treasure Cay Fire & Rescue | 365-9112 | |
| BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas | Marine VHF 16 | |
| Hope Town 366-0500 | Marsh Harbour | 367-3752 |
| Guana Cay 365-5178 | Treasure Cay | 365-8749 |

Medical Services

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Abaco Family Medicine Marsh Harbour | ...367-2295 |
| Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic |367-0020 |
| Marsh Harbour Medical Centre |367-0049 |
| Government Clinic Marsh Harbour |367-2510 |
| Corbett Clinic Treasure Cay |365-8288 |
| Government Clinic Cooper's Town |365-0300 |
| Government Clinic Green Turtle Cay |365-4028 |
| Government Clinic Hope Town |366-0108 |
| Government Clinic Sandy Point |366-4010 |
| Government Clinic Fox Town |365-2172 |

Tourism's People-to-People program

Be matched with a local person or family with a similar interest such as Bird watching, Attending church, Foreign language, School class visit, Environmental interest. Marine, Native plants, History, Humane Society, etc. This is not a dating service or an offer for a free meal or lodging but an opportunity to meet someone locally with similar interests. Call Tourism's Doranell Swain at 367-3067 for more information. Email: dswain@bahamas.com

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| | |
|---|---------------|
| Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is |367-2266 |
| American Eagle - Miami |367-2231 |
| Bahamasair - Nassau,W. Palm B, Ft Laud |367-2095 |
| Continental Connection - Miami Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach |367-3415 |
| Regional - Freeport | |
| Sky Bahamas - Nassau |367-0446 |
| Southern Air - Nassau |367-2498 |
| Twin Air Calypso - Fort Lauderdale |367-0140 |
| Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale |367-0032 |
| Local air charters serving Bahamas & S. Florida | |
| Abaco Air |367-2266 |
| Cherokee Air Charters |367-3450 |

Dive Shops

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Abaco Dive Adventures, Marsh Harbour |367-2963 |
| Above & Below, Marsh Harbour |367-0350 |
| Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour |367-2787 |
| Froggies, Hope Town |366-0431 |
| Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay |365-8571 |
| Brendal's Dive, Green T. Cay |365-4411 |
| Dive Guana |365-5178 |
| Man-O-War Dive Shop |365-6013 |

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Plus extra for each passengers above two | |
| • Marsh Harbour Airport to: | (effective 22 Dec 08) |
| Clinic, Downtown, Regattas, | \$10 |
| Ab Bch Resort, Eastern Shore, Pelican shore | \$15 |
| Spring City | \$15 |
| Dundas Town, Nat Ins bldg, C Abaco Primary Sch |\$15 |
| Murphy Town & Great. Cistern |\$20 |
| Snake Cay |\$35 |
| Casuarina Point |\$60 |
| Cherokee, Winding Bay, Little Harbour |\$80 |
| Bahama Palm Shore |\$90 |
| Crossing Rocks |\$105 |
| Sandy Point |\$150 |
| Leisure Lee |\$50 |
| Treasure Cay Airport, G Turtle ferry |\$80 |
| Treasure Cay Resort |\$85 |
| Fox Town |\$185 |
| • Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and: | |
| Clinic, downtown, Ab Beach Hotel |\$5 |
| Nat. Ins. Bldg, Murphy Town, Gr. Cistern |\$10 |
| Waiting time X\$20 per hour, X\$10 per half hour | |
| Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people | |
| Luggage X\$1.00 each over four, Surf boards X\$4.00 ea. | |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| • Treasure Cay Airport to: | Effective 22 Dec 08 |
| Green Turtle Cay ferry dock |\$10 |
| Madeira Park |\$20 |
| Sand Banks |\$25 |
| Treasure Cay Resort |\$30 |
| Leisure Lee |\$45 |
| Black Wood |\$20 |
| Fire Road & Cooper's Town |\$40 |
| Cedar Harbour |\$60 |
| Wood Cay |\$70 |
| Mount Hope |\$80 |
| Fox Town |\$70 |
| Crown Haven |\$90 |
| Marsh Harbour airport |\$85 |
| Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport |\$80 |
| T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour |X\$65 + \$10 |
| T C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry (Blue Hole \$24) |X\$18 + \$5 |
| T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles |X\$22 + \$5 |
| T C Hotel to Joe's Creek |X\$35 + \$5 |
| T C Hotel to Moxey |X\$16 + \$5 |

**Compliments of The Abaconian****www.abaconian.com**

All phones use area code 242 unless noted

Ferry Schedules • Departure times shown • Daily service unless noted

Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War - 20 minutes, Guana Cay - 40 minutes

Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16 • Hope Town & Man-O-War from Crossing Bch**Marsh Harbour > Hope Town** 7:15 am 9 10:30 12:15 pm* 2 4 5:45

Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm* 3 4 5 6:30

Marsh Harbour > White Sound Contractor's special - Mon - Fri 7 am**Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War** 10:30 am 12:15 pm 2:30* 4 5:45

Return 8 am 11:30 1:30 pm 3:15* 5 * Not on Sundays or holidays

Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) from Conch Inn

(6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45*

Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 5:45

Fare • Adult prepaid one way \$15 / open return \$25. • Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free

Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16 • Ten minute ride**Green T Cay to Treasure Cay Airport** 8 am 9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30**T Cay Airport to Green T Cay** 8:30 am 10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5

New Plymouth one way adult \$10 (Children \$7) • Round trip \$15 • Extra to some G T Cay docks

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16**Treasure Cay to Guana Cay** Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT**T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town** - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT**T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise** - Fr \$25 , call for time**Pinder's Ferry Service** Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -**Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah.** -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm

McLean's Town to Crown Haven - return Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm

Fare \$45 OW / \$90 RT • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information

Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Bahamas Ferries Sandy Point to Nassau under 4 Hr. Call Sandy Point 366-4119

or Marsh Harbour 367-5250 for sailing dates • Adults \$95 RT, \$55 OW • Cars & trucks

The Great Abaco Express Marsh Harbour charter bus to N Abaco • Call 367-2165, Group tours**Attractions**

Albert Lowe MuseumGreen Turtle Cay

Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits.....Green Turtle Cay

Memorial Sculpture Garden..... Green Turtle Cay

Wyannie Malone Historical MuseumHope Town

Elbow Cay Light Station.....Hope Town

Walk to & swim on Mermaid Reef off M Harb. ..Pelican Shore

Drive to & swim in Blue HoleTreasure Cay farm road

Art studio & working foundry- Little Harbour

Working boatyards..... Man-O-War cay

Pocket beaches • Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour

• Witches Point - 3 miles S. of Marsh Harbour

• Little Harbour - 20 miles S. of Marsh Harbour

• Cherokee - 23 miles S of Marsh Harbour

Miles of beach are generally on ocean exposures

• Treasure Cay • Green Turtle Cay • Guana Cay • Elbow Cay

• Man-O-War Cay • Casuarina Point • Bahama Palm Shore

• Sandy Point & more

Items of interest • Man-O-War boat yards • Blackwood

blue hole & sisal mill • Cedar Harbour plantation ruins - need

guide • Hole-in- Wall lighthouse - last mile very rough road •

Abaco wild horses by appointment 367-4805 • Bird watching - ask tourism 367-3067

Please bring errors & revisions to our attention - Rev 15 Jun 09

Everyone reads The Abaconian

Charter Boats

Lucky Strike - Hope T 366-0101

Sea Gull - Hope Town 366-0266

A Salt Weapon - Hope Town 366-0245

Down Deep 366-3143

Local Boy 366-0528

Back Breaker 365-5140

Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts**Rentals * Marsh Harbour**

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Bargain Car Rentals 367-0500

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Marsh Harbour

info@abacocaysrealty.com • www.abacocaysrealty.com

HOMES HOMES HOMES HOMES

*"Prince's Trust"*

Great Guana Cay

- ± 1.5 Acres
 - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bath
 - 1,760 s.f. Residence
 - Covered & Open Decks
 - 160' of Ocean Beach
 - Fabulous Ocean Views
 - Additional Land Available
 - Boat Slip Available
- #GGH1129 - \$2,495,000.

*"Split Coconut"*

Great Guana Cay Orchid Bay

- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
 - 1840 s.f. Residence
 - 955 s.f. Porches & Decks
 - Land - 74' Sea of Abaco
 - 11,016 s.f. - 0.25 Acres
 - Auxiliary Generator
 - Private Dock
 - Fabulous Views
- #GGH1123 - \$1,160,000.

*"Entre Deux Mers"*

Man-O-War Cay

- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 2,664 s.f. Residence
 - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath
 - 838 s.f. Guest House
 - Land - Sea-to-Sea
 - ± 43,800 s.f. - 1.1 Acres
 - 98' Ocean Beach Front
 - Private Dock on Creek
 - Fabulous Views
- #MWH1116 - \$3,750,000.

GREAT GUANA CAY

- "SEA-TO-BAY" - 11.5 Acres - 1,198' of Waterfrontage - Over 500' of Protected Boat Basin Frontage - Superb Building Sites - Good elevation - Fabulous Views - Perfect for development or Elegant Private Estate. #GGV1008 \$9,995,000.
- "PRINCE'S TRUST" - Estate - 12.5 Acres - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths - 1,760 s.f. Residence - Covered and open decks - 593' of Ocean Beach - 664' on Sea of Abaco - Fabulous Views - Private Boat Basin. #GGH1096 - \$4,950,000.
- "ART CAFE & BAKERY" - Settlement - Commercial - at Main Public Dock - Best Location in town - 1,900 s.f. Colonial Bldg. - 400 s.f. Cov. Veranda - Commercial Grade Kitchen - Land - 96' x 84' - 8,064 s.f. - Great Restaurant or Retail #GHI1109 - \$867,500.
- "SANDCASTLE" - 2 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, - 960 s.f. Residence - Covered Porch - Land - 5,000 s.f. - Dock Access - Furnished. #GGH1011 - \$375,000.

GREEN TURTLE CAY

- "THE LOYALIST" - 6-A Leeward Yacht Club - 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bath 2,016 s.f. - 392 s.f. Covered Veranda, 392 s.f. Covered Balcony. Land 9,241 s.f. - 54' of frontage on Black Sound - Onsite dockage available. #GTH1127 - NEW \$1,325,000.
- "THE SOUTHERN" - 7-C Leeward Yacht Club - 3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Bath 2,743 s.f. - 728 s.f. Galleries and Verandas, 334 s.f. Screened Porch. Land 9,450 s.f. - Onsite dockage available. #GTH1126 - NEW \$1,225,000.
- "MARINA VILLA # 4" - 2 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath - 1,455 s.f. luxury villa - Covered Screened Porch - Land - 7,554 s.f. - Deeded Dock - Boat Lift - Golf Cart Garage - Auxiliary Generator - Complete Renovation 2007. #GTH1098 - \$995,000.
- "FLIP FLOP" - 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath - 2,500 s.f. Residence - 2,044 s.f. Screened Porch. Land - 12,091 s.f. - 0.277 Acre - Great Family Home - convenient location - GTH 1128 - NEW \$695,000.



Green Turtle Cay

- 50 % Shared ownership
 - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
 - 1,355 s.f. of Residence
 - Covered Screened Porches
 - Land - 0.54 Acre
 - 253.06 of water-frontage
 - Two Docks 36' - 170'
 - 56,000 gallon cistern
 - Generator House - tool shed
 - 50 KW Diesel Generator
- GTH1137 - \$625,000.



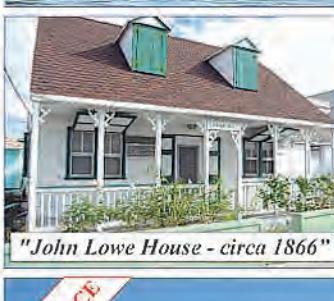
Marsh Harbour - Sunrise Bay

- 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths
 - 4,468 s.f. New Residence
 - 1,742 s.f. Covered Verandahs & Balconies
 - 0.3394 Acre - 14,787 s.f.
 - Swimming Pool
 - 30 KW Auxiliary Gen.
 - Boat Slip.
- #MHH1084 - \$2,700,000.

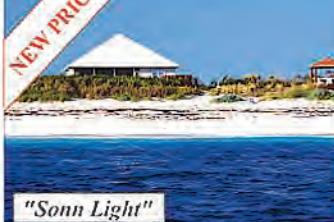
*"Angel Bay House"*

Man-O-War Cay

- ± 0.975 Acres
 - 100' Ocean Beachfront
 - 127' Creek front
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 1,336 s.f. Residence
 - 88' dock, 35' T
 - Auxiliary Generator
- #MWH1139 - \$2,150,000.

*"John Lowe House - circa 1866"*

- Green Turtle Cay New Plymouth
 - 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 2,170 s.f. Residence
 - 285 s.f. Covered Porches
 - Land - 3,480 s.f. - Near Public Dock in Harbour
 - Historic - Gingerbread
 - Harbour Views
- #GTH1119 - \$450,000.

*"Sonn Light"*

- Green Turtle Cay
 - 5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths
 - 4,977 s.f. Residence
 - 3.5 Acres - Sea-to-Sea
 - 130' Ocean Beachfront
 - 200' on Coco Bay
 - Private Dock on Coco Bay
 - 15KW Aux. Gen.
 - 600 GPD - Watermaker
- #GTH1097 - Four Possible Sale Options - From: \$462,000 - for 1 acre w/dock lic. on Coco Bay. to \$2,300,000 for entire Estate

*"Coconut Grove Cottage"*

- Man-O-War Cay Eastern Harbour
 - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 1,030 s.f. Residence
 - 1,290 s.f. Covered Deck
 - 0.877 Acres
 - 82' Ocean Frontage
 - Semi-Private Dock
 - Superb Ocean Views
- #MWH1076 - \$1,550,000.



Man-O-War Cay - Settlement

- 4 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths
 - 1,240 s.f. Residence
 - 0.3213 Acre - 14,000 s.f.
 - Hillside for great Ocean Views
 - Beautifully Landscaped
 - Fully Furnished & Equipped
- #MWH11020 - \$549,500.

*"Long Bay House"*

Scotland Cay

- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - Bunkroom
 - 1,300 s.f. Residence
 - 1 Bedrooms, 1 Bath
 - 224 s.f. Guest Cottage
 - "Playhouse" with bar
 - 1.82 Acres - 300' of Ocean Beach Front
 - Fabulous Views
- #SCII1094 - \$1,950,000.

VACANT LAND

ELBOW CAY

- "BERKLEY'S BLUFF" - White Sound - Oceanfront Building Site = 31,000 sq.ft. - 0.7116 Acre - 100' of Ocean Frontage 275' in Depth Natural sub-tropical vegetation - Great elevation for spectacular views
- HTV1125 - \$495,000.

GREAT GUANA CAY

- "BLUE LAGOON" - Parcel # 45 - Orchid Bay - 43,480 s.f. - 0.9982 Acre - 190.88' on Sea of Abaco frontage - prime building site - +/- 15' elevations - Orchid Bay amenities - Allows for private deeded dock - mature trees. #GGV1087 \$940,000.
- "WIND N' SEA" - Fabulous waterfront building site - Two parcels containing a total of 69,197 s.f. - 1.588 Acres - 241' of Sea of Abaco Frontage - great elevations to 42' above sea level - GGV1112 NEW LISTING - \$850,000.
- "AERIE" - Parcel # 58 - Orchid Bay - 174,775 s.f. - 4.012 Acres - Orchid Bay amenities - One of the Highest Points in Orchid Bay - Fabulous Panoramic Views. #GGV1077 NEW PRICE \$700,000.
- "CLAIRE'S BEACH" - Beachfront Building Site - 31,243 s.f. - 0.717 Acre - 117' Beach Frontage - Dock Access - Good Elevation - Superb Ocean Views - #GGV1006 - NEW PRICE \$667,000.
- "PARCEL "B" at PRINCE'S TRUST" - Fabulous Waterfront Building Site - ± 242' Southwest Sea of Abaco Frontage - ± 43,803 sq.ft. - ± 1.0055 Acres - Great Sea of Abaco Views - Beach Access - Boat Slips Available - GGV1131 - NEW - \$685,000.
- "PARCEL "C" at PRINCE'S TRUST" - Fabulous Waterfront Building Site - ± 204' Southwest Sea of Abaco Frontage - ± 54,360 sq.ft. - ± 1.2480 Acres - Great Sea of Abaco Views - Beach Access - Boat Slips Available - GGV1132 - NEW - \$685,000.
- "SEAVIEW" - Dolphin Beach Estates - 136' prime waterfront - 0.557 Acres Containing 24,292 s.f. - Shared dock access Superb elevation - Fabulous Views of Delia's Cay and the Sea of Abaco. 8' depth at MLW at shoreline. A private dock can be built on the property. GGV1118 - NEW LISTING \$624,500.
- "LOST SHAKER" - Dolphin Beach Estates - Oversized beach-front parcel - 36,839 s.f. - 0.8457 Acre - 65' of Beach-front Good elevations for superb ocean views. Lush Native Vegetation. # GGV1000 - NEW LISTING \$545,500.

GREAT GUANA CAY

- "ATLANTIS" - 19,239 s.f. - 0.4417 Acre - 95' of North Atlantic Beach-front - 159' in Depth - Beautiful Beach-front building site - Central Great Guana Cay location - Semi-private dock. #GGV1135 NEW-\$485,000.
- "CAPTAIN'S COVE" - 6,653 s.f. - .0152 Acre - 45.47' of Sea of Abaco frontage - Prime building site - can carry private dock - 180 degree views - underground electric and paved road. #GGV1091 \$375,000.
- "PARCEL "A" at PRINCE'S TRUST" - Moderately Priced Half Acre Building Site - ± 25,465 sq.ft. - ± 0.5846 Acre - 204.84' NE Road Frontage - ± 176' - SW Boundary = 133' - NW Road Boundary = 178' - SE Boundary - Fabulous Sea of Abaco Views - Beach Access - Boat Slips Available - #GGV1130 - NEW \$345,000.
- "PARADISE" - 12,141 s.f. - 0.2787 acre - One lot off Beach with beach access steps away - great elevated building site - central Great Guana Cay location - #GGV1138 - NEW - \$199,000.

GREEN TURTLE CAY

- "CONCHED OUT" - offered in 1 to 4 prime sites - 100' - 460' of water frontage - Atlantic Beach and Sea of Abaco frontage available - 10'-32' elevations - 360° views - Very private Area #GTV1008 - \$546,000. - \$3,000,000.
- "PLAYING HOOKY" - 15,948 s.f. - 0.3661 Acre - Prime Building Site - Unobstructed views of Coco Bay Beach - Public Dock Access - Beach Access - 50' from Coco Bay Beach. #GTV1080 \$595,000.
- "LONG BAY BEACH" - Incredible beach parcel - ± 26,589 Sq.ft. - ± 0.6103 acres - 60' of spectacular beach frontage - Private gated entrance - Affordable building site for cottage or beach cabana. #GTV1121 - NEW \$325,000.
- "LONG BAY SOUND" - Back to nature. - Secluded - 24,565 Sq ft - 0.5639 acres - 105' of Black Sound frontage - Ideal home site - Dock site possible. #GTV1122 - NEW \$325,000.
- "COCO BAY VIEW" - 32,690 s.f. - 0.7567 Acre - Dock Access - Beach Access - Good Elevation. #GTV1009 \$291,000.
- "COCO BAY BREEZE" - Two Prime Building Sites - 2,699 Acre - .2255 Acre - Dock Access - Beach Access. #GTV1007 \$47,500. - Lot
- "CASUARINA" - 8,126 s.f. - 0.1865 Acre - Corner lot - Prime building site - Central location - Short walk to Bita Bay Beach - Snorkel right off shore #GTV1074 \$89,000.

MAN-O-WAR CAY

- "GRAND BOIS" - Rare Prime Ocean-front building site - 0.51 Acre - 125' Atlantic Ocean frontage - Central Location - Fabulous Ocean Views-Lush Native Foliage. #MWV1081 NEW PRICE \$495,000.
- "SUMMERPLACE" - Prime Building Site - 10,719 s.f. - 0.246 Acre - Over 150' of Sea of Abaco frontage - Concrete Seawall on Sea of Abaco views. #MWV1082 - NEW PRICE \$325,000.

MARSH HARBOUR

- "GREAT ABACO CLUB" - Parcels # 6A and # 7A - # 6A - 9,243 sq.ft. - # 7A - 13,845 sq.ft. - Private Dockage - Great Sea of Abaco Views. # 6A-#MHV1102 \$970,000. # 7A-#MHV1103 \$1,455,000.
- "GREAT ABACO CLUB" - Parcels # 48 and # 49 - # 48 - 7,548 sq.ft. - # 49 - 7,117 sq.ft. - 50' of Boat Basin Frontage. - Semi-Private Docks - Ridge Parcels - Good Elevation #48-#MHV1100 \$667,000. - #49-#MHV1101 \$667,000.

SCOTLAND CAY

- "141 Hillside Developer Parcels" - Over 1/2 Acre with beach access. Aircraft Landing Rights and Boat Slips available NEW LISTING #SC1140 Priced from: \$170,000 - \$438,000.
- "Block Q - Parcel # 1" - Fabulous one-half acre building site - 25,658 sq.ft. - 0.5890 Acre - 172.61' on Sea of Abaco - Hillside - great elevations and superb views of the Sea of Abaco - Shoreline protected by small cay. #SCV1117 - NEW LISTING - \$485,000.



The Abaconian

SECTION B

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 19 OCTOBER 1st, 2009



Hope Town holds run/walk and wellness clinic

Medical team do screenings for common diseases



Hope Town residents supported a wellness fair organized by the Concerned Citizens Watch. Medical staff from two government clinics and the Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic offered many free health screening tests. Dr. George Charite of the Auskell Clinic made a presentation on healthy lifestyles. Shown here is the group who participated in the run walk held on September 12. Photo by T. Sweeting.

By Navardo Saunders

Hope Town residents observed the first annual Caribbean Wellness Day by staging their first ever Fun Run/Walk and health fair. The fair was organized by the Concerned Citizens Watch of Hope Town in conjunction with Hope Town police, nurses and doctors from government clinics in Marsh Harbour and Hope Town and Auskell Medical Center to encourage healthy lifestyles. Young and not so young alike participated in the Fun/ Run/ Walk after which they all were presented with medals, trophies and certificates.

Following the presentation of awards everyone enjoyed delicious apples, oranges, pineapples, strawberries and mini tuna and egg sandwiches with Gatorade.

While the children played and danced to the music that was provided by a deejay, the adults took advantage of a range of free health screenings including iron, cholesterol, blood pressure, pulse, Body Mass Index, height and weight. There was a presentation on healthy lifestyles and stress management by Dr. George Charite

Please see Cays

Page 2

New US Ambassador is named

The United States has named Nicole Avant as the first African-American woman to be named ambassador to The Bahamas. She is expected to arrive in Nassau in early October.

She has said that she is passionate about mentoring schoolchildren in The Bahamas and wants to promote the *Read To Lead* program, a literacy program in government schools that was initiated in 2005 by former U.S. Ambassador to The Bahamas, John Rood. She also expressed a keen interest in humanitarian assistance programs. She emphasized the need to consid-

er increased support for scholarship opportunities for Bahamians.

Mrs. Avant is committed to enhancing the excellent relationship between The Bahamas and the United States.



Nicole Avant
US Ambassador
to The Bahamas

Marsh Harbour's new runway will open by October 1

Abaco junior sailors compete in Nassau



Six junior sailors represented Abaco at the 2009 Bahamas Optimist National Championships held in Nassau on September 19 and 20. They are Giavanna Manni, Catalina Albury, Jeremy Pleydell-Bouverie, Brandon Weatherford, Keano Armbrister and Alton Janes. Behind is the Abaco Junior Sailing coach, Sarah Gilmer, who accompanied the group. The sailors did very well coming back with medals and trophies. Photo by James Pleydell-Bouverie

By James Pleydell-Bouverie

A team of six Abaco Junior Sailors have just returned from competing in the 2009 Bahamas Optimist National Championships, a competition held annually in Nassau. Boats, sails, rudders and center boards were loaded on a trailer, driven

to Sandy Point to go on board Bahamas Ferries that, as long time supporters of Bahamian Junior Sailors, carried them "gratis" to and from Nassau. Once there,

Workshop for gov. agencies emphasizes fiscal restraint



Donna Delancy, Deputy Treasurer, presented at a workshop on September 10 held for heads of all government agencies on Abaco. She emphasized fiscal restraint due to the poor economic situation and discussed ways of managing their budgets. Shown here are Ms. Delancy; Assistant Administrator Whelma Colebrook; Senior Administrator Cephas Cooper; and Abaco's Financial Officer, Nania Fox. See story on page 6.

Please see Sailors

Page 4

News of the Cays

Cays From Page 1

of Auskell Clinic.

Wanda Sweeting, president of the Concerned Citizens Watch said, considering the rise in non-communicable diseases, they felt it is important to promote healthy living. "We need to focus on eating healthy and making exercise a part of our daily routines," she said. "High cholesterol, diabetes and some cancers are the result of unhealthy living. So what we want people to take away from this is that they have a choice. They can chose to live healthy or not. It's their choice."

Mrs. Sweeting was pleased with the number of Hope Town residents who participated in the health fair. "It shows that

people are interested in their health and well being," she said. "I'm glad that many people took advantage of the free screenings. It's a wonderful thing because, as the doctors have said, even though we may feel fine, we could be suffering from some kind of disease and don't have the slightest clue."

Managing Director of Auskell Medical Center Angie Collie said Auskell is all about promoting healthy living and giving back. "We just want people to know that we care about their well being," said Mrs. Collie, who brought along a team of doctors and nurses to conduct the free screenings. "The blood glucose machines that we are giving away are worth \$150, but we're about giving back to the community."

Collie stressed that everyone should get tested for non-communicable diseases at least once a year. Oftentimes someone may be infected with a non-communicable disease and does not even know it because the symptoms are faint or non-existent. "I have a cousin who is in his thirties. He was in a coma and didn't know he had diabetes," she said. "One day he blacked out while driving and crashed. Good thing there were people around because otherwise he would not have gotten the help he needed and may have died. The diabetes was wearing down on his body, causing extreme fatigue and unconsciousness. That's why it is so important to get screen tests because on the outside our bodies may appear fine, but the inside is a whole other

story. Persons find out they are anemic, they find out they have what they call sugar, which is diabetes, they find out they are hypertensive. Early detection is key. It's very important."

Mrs. Collie was pleased with the response from the residents of Hope Town.

"It surpassed our expectations. It shows that the people of Hope Town are serious about living healthy. Hats off to them."



Angie Collie



This medical team staffed the health fair held in Hope Town on September 12. After a run/walk, they offered many screening tests. The government clinics in Marsh Harbour and Hope Hope were joined by staff from the Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic in Marsh Harbour. They are Nurses Jennifer Williams, Peggy Sands, Antionette Cumberbatch, and Trineka Williams along with Dr. S Swarn and Dr. B. Swarna.



The response to the health fair in Hope Town was very good. The event began with a run/walk that was well attended. Screening tests for a number of health problems were offered by medical staff. Both photo by T. Sweeting.

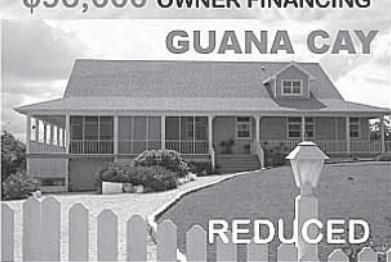
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GUANA CAY



REDUCED

Residential Lot
\$93,000 OWNER FINANCING



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

WAS Guana Cay Home
\$1,750,000 NOW \$1,250,000



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

"New" 2.5 acres 325' of waterfront. \$725,000

GUANA CAY



Dolphin Beach Estates
Lot# 28B \$120,000



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

Seashore Villas & Harbour View Haven \$2,650,000



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

"New" waterfront home 3 beds 2 baths, fantastic views. \$750,000

ABACO REAL ESTATE AGENCY

GUANA CAY



REDUCED

Dolphin Beach Estates
Lot 93A/92B \$129,000



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

Coconut Tyme
\$569,000

GUANA CAY



REDUCED

Guana Cay Waterfront
Lot# 28 \$275,000
OWNER FINANCING



GUANA CAY

REDUCED

Coconut Grove
17,400 Sq. Ft. lot
Great Harbour Views
\$239,000

SOUTH ABACO



Casuarina Point Home
\$230,000

MARSH HARBOUR



4 Residential Lots
starting at \$51,000
CALL FOR DETAILS

| MATERIAL | DESCRIPTION | PRICE | LOCATION |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Outrigger 2bed 1 bath house | Bahama Coral Island Lot | \$175,000 | B.P.Shares Beachfront acre section 1 |
| Sunrise Bay lots from | Leisure Lee 4 lots (each) | \$250,000 | Long Beach Lots 316 & 418 (each) |
| Sweetings Village lot | Joe's Creek Lot 12 | \$55,000 | Long Beach Lots 412, 413 & 414 (each) |
| Royal harbour Lot 26 | Treasure Cay Galleon Bay lot | \$279,000 | Long Beach Lots 373 & 374 (each) |
| Pelican Shores Harbour Front | B.P.Shares lots 5&6 section 4 | \$1,225,000 | Long Beach Lots 31 "owner financing" |
| | Casuarina Point Lots 90 & 91 | | Lynard Cay Lot 10 |
| | B.P.Shares lots 5&6 section 4 | | Dorros Cove - Elbow Cay |
| | | | \$199,000 |
| | | | \$457,000 |
| | | | \$457,000 |

Damianos

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GREEN TURTLE CAY #4936
GILLIAM BAY ESTATE - BEACHFRONT 1.7 acres. Best price on Green Turtle Cay Beach. Highly desirable neighbourhood. Existing 2 bed home. **US\$800,000.**
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NEW PRICE
LUBBERS QUARTERS #4516
SUMMIT - IMPRESS YOUR GUESTS when you entertain in this spacious, well-appointed home with spectacular 360 degree views. Deeded dock slip. **US\$775,000.**
Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



LUBBERS QUARTERS #4939
GETAWAY - ABACO OCEAN CLUB Escape from it all! Cozy 1 bed 1 bath cottage with A/C on the water. Community dock. Extra lot available. **\$349,000.**
Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



MAN-O-WAR CAY #4336
WATERFRONT - LOOKOUT HOUSE Stunning views overlooking western harbour; 2 bed 1 bath main house with 1 bed 1 bath dockhouse cottage. **\$1,395,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



NEW PRICE
MARSH HARBOUR #4249
PERKY PELICAN - PELICAN SHORES Waterfront 4 bed, 4 bath with views of the Sea of Abaco. Value added, new sea wall. **Was \$2,775,000. Now \$2,300,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



MARSH HARBOUR #4859
WATERFRONT - GREAT ABACO CLUB #36 Spectacular home, pool & views. 4 bed 4 bath, 2,750 sq. ft. with dockage. Open to Offer. **\$1,599,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



MARSH HARBOUR #4657
WATERFRONT - THE STOWE AWAY-GREAT ABACO CLUB 50 ft dock with lift, meticulously appointed sea views, also extra lot available. **US\$1,499,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4736
SUNRISE BAY #7 Beautiful 3 bed 3.5 bath home with pool, dock slip, beach access. **Very desirable family neighbourhood.** Gated community. **\$1,350,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4989
R FANTASY - WATERFRONT - GREAT CISTERNS New 4b/3b home with dockage. Gorgeous pool with sea views. Guest Cottage. **US\$995,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



NEW PRICE
MARSH HARBOUR #4658
WATERFRONT - GRANDER - GREAT ABACO CLUB 3 bed 2 bath, add your own finishing touches. Prime area with 55ft dock. **New Price. US\$774,000.**
Lydia.Bodamer@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



MARSH HARBOUR #4674
WATERFRONT - New 3 bed 3.5 bath penthouses at The Crossing. Carefree getaway with dock slip. Panoramic Views **\$645,000 - \$745,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4688
SOME R' HOME - PELICAN SHORES, TWO 3B/2B homes, sea & harbour views, pool. Rent will offset mortgage. **US\$699,000. Or lease. US\$2,795.**
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NEAR PORT OF MARSH HARBOUR #4914
STARLIGHT SEAFOOD BUILDING - COMMERCIAL WATERFRONT with dock, easily converted to residential. **\$350,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



NEW LISTING
TREASURE CAY #4969
FINAL APPROACH - CANALFRONT - 5 bed 4 bath huge 5,500 sq.ft family home with 100' dock on 5 lots. **US\$1,990,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298



TREASURE CAY #4969
TREASURED TIMES - CANALFRONT-OPPORTUNITY TO OWN outstanding 3 bed 3 bath home on 2 lots. 157 ft on canal. Fully serviced dock. Well priced. **US\$1,740,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298



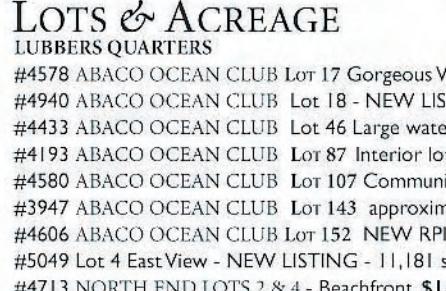
TREASURE CAY #3897
PAPI'S PALACE & SUGAR SHACK New 3b/2b/2 storey/pool homes on Treasure Cay Beach. **\$15,000 credit towards furniture. \$695,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298



NEW LISTING
TREASURE CAY #5129
BAHAMA BEACH CLUB - BEACHFRONT Luxurious spacious condos. Pool, spas & other great club amenities. **\$810,000-\$1,750,000..**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298



NEW LISTING
TREASURE CAY #4841
BEACHFRONT - SAND DOLLAR #3 Best priced condo on TC beach! 2 bed 2 bath, 1,000 sq.ft. & pool. Excellent rental history. **\$580,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298



TREASURE CAY #4714
LOTS & ACREAGE LUBBERS QUARTERS
#4578 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 17 Gorgeous Water View. **\$225,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#4940 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 18 - NEW LISTING- Steps to water. **\$180,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#4433 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 46 Large waterfront lot. **\$298,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#4193 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 87 Interior lot with high elevation. **\$125,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#4580 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 107 Community dockage available. **\$79,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#3947 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 143 approximately 11,450 sq. ft. **\$150,000.** Bill Albury
#4606 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 152 NEW RPICE - dockage available. **\$119,900.** Laurie Schreiner
#5049 Lot 4 East View - NEW LISTING - 11,181 sq.ft with designated dock slip. **\$165,000.** Jane Patterson
#4713 NORTH END LOTS 2 & 4 - Beachfront. **\$180,000 each.** Laurie Schreiner
#4714 INTERIOR LOTS - 14,295 sq.ft. **\$59,500 - \$62,000 each.** Laurie Schreiner



TREASURE CAY #4071
BAHAMA PALM SHORES Lot 43 Good residential area. **\$30,000.** Bill Albury
#4493 GREEN TURTLE CAY LEeward YACHT CLUB Lots & house packages. From **\$275,000.** Stan Sawyer
#4533 GUANA CAY - Dolphin Beach Estates. Lot 68 Hilltop View. **\$180,000.** Bill Albury
#4572 LITTLE HARBOUR - .97 acre, 150 ft. harbourfront. **\$250,000.** Laurie Schreiner
#4689 CEDAR HARBOUR - 2 acre eco-friendly site with deeded water access. **\$59,950.** Lydia Bodamer
#4632 MARSH HARBOUR - High Rocks Waterfront Lot. High elevation & views. **\$599,000.** Bill Albury
#4888 TURTLE ROCKS - 10 ACRES Water access and good elevations. **\$349,000.** Lydia Bodamer
#4803 TREASURE CAY - CHOICE CANALFRONT LOT. **\$320,000.** Stan Sawyer

FOR LEASE
#5050 CENTRAL PINES SEAGRAPE APT#1- 2B/2B duplex. **\$1,365/mo.** Lydia Bodamer
#5053 GREAT CISTERNS- 3B/2B Sea of Abaco Waterfront. **\$1,965/mo.** Lydia Bodamer
#4858 PELICAN SHORES - 3B/2B with pool, sea & harbour views. **\$2,795/mo.** Lydia Bodamer
#5055 EASTERN SHORES - 4B/4B with pool & shared dock. **\$4,000/mo.** Lydia Bodamer

SEE SECTION A, PAGE 3 FOR HOPE TOWN, ELBOW CAY & TILLOO CAY

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Abaco Junior Sailors do well in Nassau

Sailors

From Page 1

the boats were taken to the Nassau Yacht Club waiting for the races on September 19th / 20th.

The sailors included Alton Janes, Giavannah Manni, Brandon Weatherford, and Jeremy Pleydell-Bouverie, all from Man-O-War Cay, and Catalina Albury and Keano Armbrister both from Guana Cay. They were accompanied by Abaco Junior Sailing President, Matt McCoy and their Abaco Junior Sailing coach, Sarah Gilmer. Organisers and parents included James and Ann Pleydell-Bouverie, Rhiannon Thomas, Jan Manni, and Kellie Janes.

Leaving early on the morning of September 18, the group flew to Nassau and put in an afternoon of sailing.

Up early the next morning, they awaited the 8:30 a.m. "Skippers" meeting. Present at the meeting were all 52 sailors repre-

senting clubs from Long Island, Governors Harbour, Harbour Island, New Providence and Abaco. At the meeting the skippers were reminded of the rules, given last minute instructions and could ask questions. This done, the "boats in the water" signal was given, and competitors headed to the start line which was located off Montague Beach at the eastern end of Nassau harbour.

The fleet was split into "Green" for the 20 less experienced sailors and "Championship" for the 32 that were more experienced. The "Championship" fleet had a longer and more difficult trapezoidal course while the "Green" fleet sailed a simpler, shorter triangular course. The "start" gun went off at 10:30 a.m. to signal the first of the day's four races of approximately 45 minute each with the fleets starting five minutes apart. After the second race, lunches, donated by KFC, were enjoyed on Montague Beach, then two afternoon races

were sailed. Conditions were good with a 10 to 15 mph breeze and a light chop on the water. After seven hours in their boats the young competitors returned to the yacht club, and a social evening followed, hosted by the Royal Nassau Sailing Club.

On Sunday it was another early morning start launching boats for the final three races. Weather conditions remained quite similar except when a strong squall passed, producing winds that reached over 20 mph, causing testing conditions and delaying the start of one race. These eight to 14 year old kids completed 12 hours in their boats over two days and finished the second day happy but completely exhausted!

The closing presentations and awards were made at the yacht club. All the sailors got a participant's medal while class and overall winners got trophies. Danny DeCardenas retained his title as National Champion while Man-O-War sailor Jeremy Pleydell-Bouverie received a trophy

and did well to be top Bahamian sailor in his 11 to 12 age group. He also got a trophy for being fourth in the overall top five in the Championship fleet. Alton Janes sailed with determination and got a trophy for being second in his 10 and under age group while also being 11th overall. Man-O-War had two first-time competitors in the "Green" fleet. Brandon Weatherford made us proud winning two races and getting a trophy for coming in second in his fleet. Giavanna Manni won her first race and was not far behind in seventh place. Catalina Albury and Keano Armbrister, both from Guana Cay, sailed better and better as they progressed from race to race. Catalina won her first ever race and came in 9th in the green fleet while Keano was not far behind in 13th position. They could both rightfully claim the "crown" for being

Please see Sailors

Page 22



Capt. Perry Thomas
Realtor, Office Manager



Tina Wells
Sales Agent



Janet Harding
Realtor®

Endless Summer #508, Eastern Shores, 2 story, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 210' water frontage, 80' dock, 6' low water, 9,000 lb. boat lift. Cypress ceiling and interior walls, laundry room, single car garage, carport, 15 KW back-up generator. Reduced from \$1,675,000 to \$1,412,500 gross

Great Business Opportunity #506 A restaurant that is ready to go with all the necessary equipment needed to operate this lovely building, has sea views, is on 100'x120' lot.
REDUCED \$424,000.

Triplex in Great Cistern #902 Two 2 bedroom 1 bath and one 1 bedroom 1bath, beautifully landscaped and furnished. Lot size 17,250 sq. ft. \$350,300 gross

Duplex in Central Pines New Listing #903 One 3 bedroom 2 bathroom and a 2 bedroom 1 bath apt located in Central Pines. Reduced to \$241,875 gross

Home in Murphy Town #782 4 Bedroom, 2.5 bath, laundry rm with a car port, lot size 90x100 on Forest Drive. Interior needs renovation. \$151,200 gross

New Listing Home in Casuarina Point #806 less than 500 ft off the beach, this gorgeous rustic design with a flare of elegance, 2 br, 2½ bth, living area 14 ft above ground, pine wood floors, cypress ceiling, open floor plan, a/c, 200 sq ft of covered balcony. A perfect beach house for someone who enjoys beachcombing or swimming with no crowds. Price \$349,900 gross

Forest Drive Murphy Town Duplex #810 two 2 bd rm, 2 bth and a three unit building that is 75% completed. Can be completed for commercial or as a triplex. Price for both places \$316,400 gross

Marsh Harbour #790 Vacant lot with beautiful walls, huge entrance gate with brick pavers at two entrances, landscaped with sprinkler system, fresh water from drilled well and two

small pump & storage houses with electric power. This lot ready for a beautiful home to be built. \$139,200 gross

Dundas Town House and Duplex #786 & 784 Two 2 bedroom 1 bath apartments and a two bed one bth home both for

\$315,000 gross

Home in Murphy Town #792 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, laundry rm, two car garage \$330,000

Home Off Forest Drive #778 3 br 2bth home on lot 90x131 ready to move in \$190,400 gross

Duplex #0713 & 0715 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 1 bedroom, 1 bath house in Dundas Town \$260,000

New Listing Duplex Central Pines # 796 two 2 br, 2 bth apts, beautifully landscaped. New building \$293,800 gross

New listing Home off Forest Drive, Dundas Town #798 3 br, 2 bth, laundry rm, tv rm, living & dining rm, single carport and covered front porch. \$299,450 gross

New listing Duplex Marsh Harbour # 800 two 2 br, 1 bth apts near M&R Food Store \$156,600 gross

New listing Large Vacant lot Central Pines 22,047 sq ft. \$43,320 gross

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Triplex #504, one three-bedroom two-bathroom that is 1950 sq ft on the top floor and 2 Two-bedroom one-bath apartments on the bottom floor, property is 90 x 100 Appraised at \$ 440,000 This month sales price \$434,600

Sandy Point #510 waterfront 3 bedroom 3 bathroom 2,000 sq. ft. home with sunken living room, TV room, dining room and large kitchen on a lot over 26,000 sq. ft. of land. \$265,000

Three Unit Town House #0711 3 two bedroom one bath all with beautiful ocean view from upstairs balcony. Property 13,690 sq. ft. \$320,000

Triplex for sale #502 UNDER CONTRACT 2 one-bedroom, one-bath and 1 two \$145,000

Reduced oceanfront lot on Tiloo Cay with beach access and shared dock. Lot size sq ft 0.73 acres 103ft on water and 315 ft. Best price on Tiloo Cay, will not last long. Must sell, owner leaving island. Further reduced from \$278,400 to \$175,000 gross

For sale 15 acres of land at Baker's Heights near Leisure Lee off the Treasure Cay Highway. Priced at \$450,000, this property will go fast. Call today.

For sale three lots located on South Lubbers Quarters in the Abaco Ocean Club Estate. Lots number 11, 44, 112. These lots are priced individually. 11,022 sf. \$88,000 gross
Lot #44 13,307 sf \$98,000 gross Lot # 112 20,485 sf. \$175,000 gross

Two lots 84 ft. x 100 ft. near Treasure Cay, one mile northwest of Treasure Cay School. \$49,500 each

Best prices in Yellowwood big lots on hillside with views near Winding Bay and the Abaco Club
Lot# 7 G3 size 12,600 s.f. \$57,200 gross
Lot # 7 G4 size 12,600 s.f. \$57,200 gross

Best prices on vacant lots in Marsh Harbour.

4 lots 10,286.1 sq. ft. \$59,659 each 2 lots 12,086.1 sq. ft. \$70,099 each

4 lots in Murphy Town, water view, across from Abaco Block and Concrete, commercial. Sold separately 3 lots \$48,614 each, 1 at \$48,730

Central Pines ~~for sale~~ **SOLD** sq ft cleared and footing dug for a two 2br 2bth \$34,000 gross approved plans \$34,000 gross

Off Forest Drive lot with Foundation for a 2br/2bth house. Price \$28,500 gross

Bahama Coral Island lot size 10,066 sq ft corner lot \$29,434 gross

Bahama Coral Island lot size 10,330 sq ft with foundation that is 80% finished. \$34,200 gross

Hillside lot with Foundation in Dundas Town #502 \$18,600 gross **UNDER CONTRACT**

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"NEW" STORAGE UNITS, centrally located in Treasure Cay town centre. Storage units come in assorted sizes for boats, cars, golf carts and "stuff." Starting at \$25,000 FGS

CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENTS

1. CARLETON LANDING

Prestigious Canal Front Development offering Carriage House units in blocks of four plus individual cottages. Both offer docks/ boat slips as well as golf cart or car garages.

Prices start at \$680,000 + 14%

2. NEW LUXURY WATERFRONT CONDOS WITH DOCKS!

"PINEAPPLE POINT RESORT" - Luxury gated community - Treasure Cay's newest waterfront development. 2 bed/ 2 bath and 3 bed/ 3 bath condos with availability of private boat slips. Pre-construction price starting at \$529,000 net (plus closing costs). MUST SEE! Great investment opportunity and a great location in Treasure Cay!

3. THE COTTAGES

Now the newest oceanfront development on Treasure Cay beach comprising 10 individual luxury units

Starting at \$900,000 + 12% closing

4. BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

Luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 3 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features

Starting at \$907,500 Plus 14% closing

5. ROYAL POINCIANA TOWNHOUSES

On-site pool and tennis, newly completed luxury townhouse units directly on Treasure Cay each totalling 3 bed/ 4 1/2 baths plus loft bedroom/ den

Ground floor - garage, 2 bed/ 2 bath with ocean front patio

First floor - open concept living / dining/ kitchen plus master bedroom suite, all ocean views with patio/ balcony

Loft - bedroom/ den with ocean view

MLS \$2,075,000 + 7.5% Closing

6. PALM BAY DEVELOPMENT Unit #3

4 bed/ 3 1/2 bath fully furnished Town House with garage and boat slip with 20' beam. Located at Palm Bay Development 2,000 +/- sq. ft. \$907,500 EXC

Anchorage Estates Multi-family Lots 128' water front, 22,448 sq. ft. Good investment Price \$474,000 EXC

STORAGE / GARAGE UNIT, 21' 6" deep, 11' 8" wide. Listed for a quick sale at the low price of \$29,750.00 EXC

MARINA VIEW VILLA

Recently completed delightful villa with great marina view and access. Modern 2 bed/ 2 bath CBS fully furnished home, 1020 sq. ft. plus porches and garden area. Must see to appreciate.

FGS \$479,000 EXC

TEASURE LANDING

Unit #4 Upstairs 3 bed/2bath fully furnished, direct beach access. Good rental investment EXC. \$514,250 FGS

MARINER'S COVE

Townhouse condos with on- site tennis, heated pool, office, laundry

Marina view, 2 bed/ 1 1/2 bath, fully furnished, never rented, extra feathures.

MUST SEE FGS \$295,000

Marina view, 2 bed/ 2 bath and unit - fully furnished- storm shutters- good rental potential \$271,500 + 7.5% closing

Marina view, 2 bed/ 1 1/2 bath fully, furnished including garage plus vehicle. Good rental potential. EXC \$300,000 FGS

ROYAL PALM

Canal front condos with on site tennis and pool 2 bed / 2 bath lower unit marina view.

Good rental income EXC \$526,350

2 bed/ 2 bath lower unit with marina view. 12 ft. boat slip with 12,000 lb. lift. Never rented. EXC \$655,950 FGS

2 bed/ 2 bath lower unit with marina view, 12' boat slip \$425,000 + 7.5% EXC

TREASURE HOUSE

Ocean front luxury octagonal units with lagoon/ pool/waterfall. Good rental potential.

Unit #7 Two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home.

MLS \$545,000 + 7.5% closing

Unit #9 two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home

E **SOLD** FGS

BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

Resale condos available in first completed project.

Ready to go. Both units never rented but definite potential. MUST SEE PROPERTIES.

Downstairs unit 3 bed / 2 bath with den/ optional 4th bed. Completely and tastefully furnished with many extra features including garage and Ford Taurus \$785,000 + 14%

ATLANTIS

Canal front condo with on-site pool. Bldg 4. downstairs, 2 bed, 2 bath, totally redone, 12' wide slip. \$459,675.00 + 7.5% closing EXC

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Second row beach with direct ocean access. Great view. 2 bed / 2 bath, many special features. MUST SEE EXC. \$460,000 FGS

GALLEON BAY ESTATES

"Gramling House" newly built, 2 storey home located on Galleon Bay canal with a 45' dock. Upper level has 4 bed/ 2 bath. Open living/ dining/ kitchen. Lower level has 2 bed/ 1 bath, laundry room plus covered open boat/ car storage MUST SELL VERY MOTIVATED SELLER EXC \$790,000

"Fish Tales" unique canal front 3 bed / 3 bath home on 2 full lots, 180' waterfront with 118' serviced dock, deep water, great for larger boat. MUST SEE! MLS\$1,725,000 + 7.5%

LEEWARD BEACH ESTATES

"Trident"/"Turquoise Seas" You cannot be more "on the beach" than in this special home. Offering 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath in the main house with detached garage / bed / bath / attic plus storage. Vast deck oceanside with widow's walk. WOW!

MLS \$1,999,000 + 7.5% closing

"Cross Winds" Split level CBS home extra large lot across from 2 beach greenways. Private. Master bed/ bath suite upstairs. Lower level 2 bed / 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/ dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1bed/ 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus! Plus! Plus! MLS \$755,000 + 7.5% closing

"Surf Shack" This CBS totally renovated two-storey luxury modern home is located on a large corner lat in the prestigious area of Lee ward Beach and Sunrise Point. Both levels include 4 bed / 3 1/2 bath plus above ground pool with wrap around deck. many, many more features, i.e. hurricane shutters and generator. "A definite must see!"

\$1,403,600 EXC

WINDWARD BEACH ESTATES

"Dream Point" Special CBS split level home located on a corner lot near "The Point" with two choices of direct beach access. Upper level has master bedroom with ensuite bath plus two guest bdrooms and bath. On the split level there is the main entry into a large open living/dining area, modern well equipped kitchen. All rooms open onto a wrap-around partially covered deck overlook ing the garden. Ground level has an extra large garage/ workshop with lots of storage. EXC. \$996,300 FGS

ROCK POINT

Apartment four-plex, 2 story CBS building, each level 2 apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, livin g...ing/kitchen. Great rental investment. MUST SEE! EXC. \$400,000 FGS

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- Canal Front Beginning at \$350,000 FGS
- Rock Point Waterfront, bulkheaded Beginning at \$430,000 FGS
- Golf Course / Interior Beginning at \$60,000 FGS

ABBREVIATION CODE

EXC - Exclusive listing
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Gov. agencies learn about budget management

By Navardo Saunders

Government departments and ministries on Abaco were advised how to effectively manage their budgets, which have been cut this fiscal year, at a one-day budget management and revenue collection workshop organized by the Bahamas' Government Treasury Department. Deputy Treasurer Donna Delancy spoke during the workshop at Anglican Parish Hall on September 10.

"This workshop is really to sensitize all of the department heads on Abaco about our economic state and the impact it will have on their performance for this fiscal period," Ms. Delancy explained. "The budgets for each department have been cut so we want to ensure that each department is equipped with the knowledge to manage the limited budgetary allocations that have been given to them and still achieve their ministry's or department's goals and objectives for the fiscal period."

It means government departments and ministries cannot conduct business as usual, Ms. Delancy pointed out. "They have to put much thought into every decision they make about spending," she said. "They must prioritize their assigned tasks and spend wisely so they are able to do what is required of them."

According to Ms. Delancy, the goal is to ensure that departments do not run out of money, something the Department of Immigration is faced with, as it used up all its budgetary allocations for repatriation of Haitians.

Budgetary allocations for government departments and ministries are released quarterly, Ms. Delancy explained. "So government departments and ministries have to ensure that the funds they are given do not run out before their quarterly budget

allocations," she said. "That is why we are stressing monitoring with controls as well as adjusting quickly to any environmental changes to minimize any adverse impact on their department's operations."

The budget cutbacks could present challenges to some departments, noted Ms. Delancy. "The Department of Health, Social Services and the Police are among the departments that may not be able to control spending like some other departments because you don't know when somebody is going to get sick and need to be airlifted, you don't know when somebody is going to lose their job which increases the de-

mand on the government to provide food, rent payments and other things. When the economy is not performing, there is usually an increase in crime which means the police have to use more resources to fight crime; so when you cut budgets, it can present challenges. One of the things we talked about was plan for the unexpected."

Ms. Delancy advised the heads of departments and ministries to ensure that employees who are authorized to spend money have some kind of money management and budgeting training.

On the topic of collection revenue, Ms. Delancy said this is most critical in the

government's ability to meet its national goals and objectives. "The revenue collected from government departments and ministries is used to fund capital developments such as roads, new schools and hospitals so you see it is of the utmost importance." Revenue should be collected and deposited in a timely manner so that the government can move hastily in achieving national goals. The Treasury Department will closely monitor government departments and ministries on Abaco and elsewhere in the country to ensure that they heed the advice and recommendations given.

Viewpoint . . . Please Have Respect

Although summer is almost over again for another year, there is yet one more public holiday coming up on October 12. Columbus Day is traditionally the last day Bahamians go in the sea in droves for the year as after that the water becomes a little cool for all but the intrepid, the health conscious and the fitness buffs.

For those residents of Abaco who are not fortunate enough to be able to live beside one of the island's beautiful beaches, it is not surprising that on a public holiday they like to gather together as a family, organization or church and spend the day picnicking and relaxing on the sand and reveling in the crystal clear, balmy waters. No one can deny them this right as the beaches belong to all unless they are officially designated private property.

The groups which travel to the quiet little settlements to set up camp for the day should at least have respect for the people who reside in those communities and this would help avoid much of the animosity

which is felt by local residents on such days. In certain sleepy little settlements, groups arrive in droves all day long often parking on people's garden verges and even in some cases blocking the road which not only prevents residents getting past but would also prevent an emergency vehicle were it necessary.

The unfortunate thing is that these people do not want to come and enjoy the peacefulness of nature, listen to the birds singing, the wind sighing in the trees or the gentle brushing of the waves against the sand with the sandpipers tweeting their little songs. NO, every time they bring their BOOM boxes complete with generators so that they can blare their music to be heard for miles. Residents are fed up with this as they look forward to a day of peace and quiet in their homes to catch up on some rest after their busy work week. Also one resident is trying to recover from a difficult cancer treatment and needs peace and quiet.

As if this is not inconsiderate enough,

many of the influx have no regard for people's property. It appears that it is too much trouble for some of them to walk along the road from their vehicles to the beach. Instead they tramp across people's property, even after repeatedly being asked not to do so by the owner. Even worse is that some of them have the nerve to take over the homeowner's cabanas and use his outside shower!

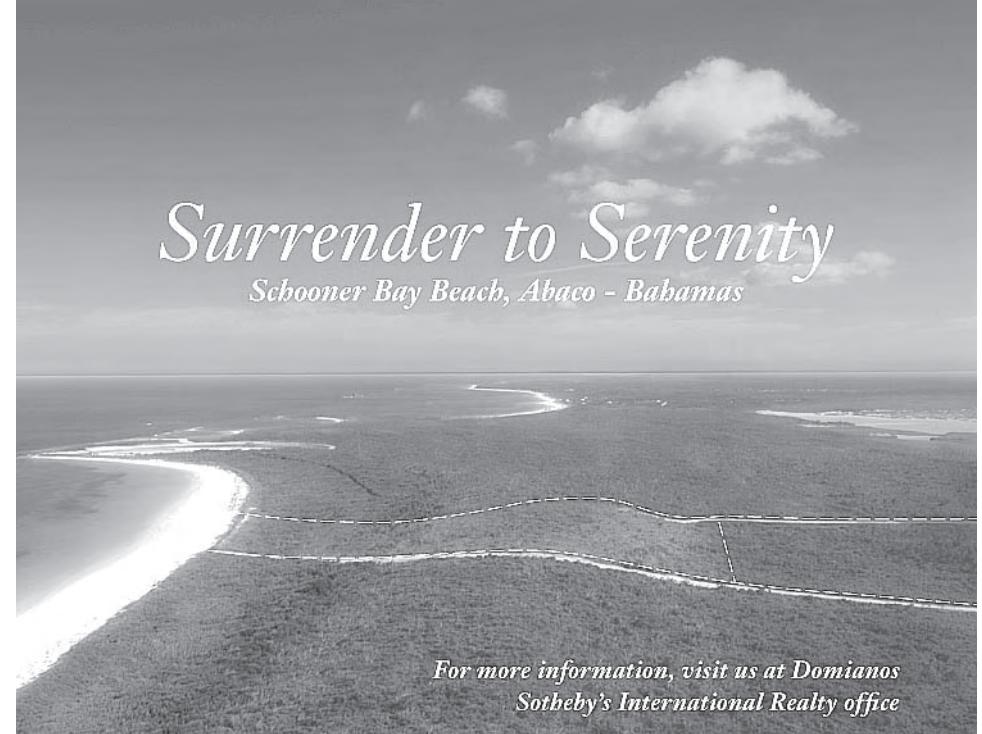
Of course, after the crowd leaves, there is the perennial problem of garbage. Though many do make an effort to clean up a lot of their trash which they carry off in garbage bags, they do not do a thorough job and for days afterwards residents have to go along the beach picking up the remains.

No one wants to deny anyone a nice day on the beach. But if you are planning on going, have a happy Columbus Day. But PLEASE be more respectful of the environment and the people who live nearby.

Thanks.

Surrender to Serenity

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Sky Bahamas celebrates one year with new management

By Samantha V. Evans

Sky Bahamas celebrated one year since Capt. Randy Butler became the CEO of the company. Many activities were planned as a part of this celebration, and the company began celebrating on Abaco since it began flights here some eight months ago. The Abaco community has totally embraced them by taking advantage of the service offered.

The company sponsored several events on Abaco to celebrate this anniversary.

New Programs for Abaco

Captain Butler stated that Sky Bahamas has great plans for Abaco. Firstly, it will be offering a direct flight to Cape Haitian from Marsh Harbour beginning the last week of October to accommodate Haitians.



On September 12 Sky Bahamas held a thank you fun day at Radio Abaco in Dundas Town open to the entire community. A bouncing castle and food was made available for those who attended. Contests were held to see who could sing the company jingle performed by Kirk Bodie (K.B.) and to see who could dance like Michael Jackson. Markison St. Fleur, a student at Abaco Central High School, won the dance competition. Free airline tickets were given to the top two persons to successfully sing the airline's jingle. The third place finisher received a cash prize.

Secondly, a flight to Turks and Caicos will be offered via Freeport beginning in early October. Thirdly, the airline will be expanding its Frequent Flyer program. Persons who fly five times on the airline will receive a 20 percent discount on their next ticket purchased and those flying ten times will receive their 11th ticket free. Finally, the Community Leaders program or its VIP program will offer advance check to make flying easier. Some of the other services it will offer include call-in reservation and pick up service. Both of these programs are a part of their Customer Loyalty Program. Clients can now book all flights online. It will consider flight changes for Family Island passengers who may have a medical emergency and need to stay over longer than intended. Capt. Butler stated

that the airline is client friendly and will do what they can to make flying with Sky a most memorable experience.

Chairman's Welcome Reception

On September 11th Sky Bahamas Chairman's Welcome Reception was held at Snappas. Peter Turnquest, Chairman of the Board from the Freeport Office, spoke to locals about ways that the company can improve the service that Sky Bahamas is presently offering. Mr. Turnquest stated that wherever the airline flies, it tries to make a positive impact in the community. It will do the same for Abaco. It will offer scholarships as needed to assist with

the educational needs of the school it has adopted. The executives believe that even though the company is in business to make money, it can still benefit kids.

Airline Adopts Central Abaco Primary School

As a part of its celebrations, Sky Bahamas adopted Central Abaco Primary School and has committed to donate a swing set to complete its playground equipment and to purchase other sports equipment. The company is even talking about getting the playing field constructed as well. On September 11th Capt. Butler, Kenneth Romer

Please see Sky Bahamas Page 17



The Sky Bahamas staff on Abaco was joined by executives from Nassau to celebrate the first anniversary of new management for the airline. They are all shown here at a reception held on September 11 at Snappas Bar and Grill. One year ago Capt. Randy Butler, second from left, was named the CEO of the company. Peter Turnquest, Chairman of the Board, is third from left and Kenneth Romer, Chief Operating Officer, is on the far left.

BTI and its participating travel agencies have launched their "STAY & PLAY" promotion. Book one of their hotels in Florida and enter to win fantastic prizes in their "STAY & PLAY" Giveaways. Win free accommodations, car rentals, laptops, televisions, and more.



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| Hampton Inn & Suites, Stirling Rd. \$86.00 | La Quinta Inn Sawgrass 96.00 | Sheraton Suites Plantation \$92.00 |
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Questions over permits stop work on power plant

By Navardo Saunders

It may be up to the Supreme Court to decide if the government can proceed with construction of the controversial power plant at Wilson City.

Attorney Fred Smith represents numerous Bahamian and foreign homeowners on Abaco who are strongly opposed to the power plant, citing danger to themselves and irreparable damage to the environment among other concerns. He has sent a letter to Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham dated September 16 regarding the decision to commence construction of the power plant. He continued, "My clients wish to consider whether or not they will challenge such decision by judicial review."

In the letter Mr. Smith refers to the decision, "Can you please indicate who or which entity made the decision to proceed with the development and commence construction of the highway, infrastructure and power plant without any proper adequate consultation, without giving those with affected rights an opportunity to be heard or indeed consideration of the relevant issues and without apparently any proper or necessary permits having been issued." This letter was also sent to Bahamas Electricity Corporation chairman Frederik Gottlieb.

Mr. Smith raised the issue about whether or not government had received all the necessary approvals before proceeding with construction at a government organized town meeting in Marsh Harbour to address growing concerns about the Bunker C fueled power plant. At that time Mr. Gottlieb said, "To the best of my knowledge" all the necessary permits have been granted.

Mr. Smith then challenged the government to provide documents showing that it had received all the necessary permits.

If not, to cease construction because it is "illegal."

The government did not, in fact, have all the construction permits and therefore Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham ordered that construction be brought to a halt until all of the necessary permits have been issued.

In his letter, Mr. Smith asked for confirmation that all further work on the Wilson City Power Plant has been stopped for information about the decision to build the facility and for confirmation that the decision is to be "rescinded."

Mr. Smith also weighed in on comments by Minister of Environment Earl Deveaux, who said that it was not uncommon for government departments to proceed on construction projects without having all the required permits. Mr. Smith said his clients were "shocked" to hear that is how the government operates.

The attorney took issue with reports that South Abaco's local government met to approve applications retrospectively for the power plant's foundation and floor plans which were submitted after work started last month.

"As it stands now, it appears that BEC, or the minister, appears to be attempting to back-pedal and as stated, retrospectively seek approval for what has already occurred," Mr. Smith wrote, adding that his clients regarded proceeding without permits or obtaining approval retrospectively as "unlawful. My clients are of the view that BEC ought to stop any further work at the site and on the highway and should proceed to properly make applications to the relevant statutory and ministerial authorities," he said.

Another major bone of contention, ac-

cording to Mr. Smith, was the lack of consultation on the project. "My clients consider that, before embarking on this project, there ought to have been widespread consultation conducted in a transparent, accountable and democratic manner," he said. "Not only should there have been informative town meetings, but any and all applications should have been made with adequate and meaningful opportunities provided in the permitting processes for interested parties to make their contribution to the extent that any of their interests may have been affected. Although the project has been commenced, it is only at its very infancy, and my clients consider that the opportunity still remains to begin the process afresh by rescinding the decision."

Mr. Smith added that his clients' resistance and challenges to this project are based both on issues relating to due process as well as on the merits having regard to the local issues, environmental matters, health and safety issues.

The attorney wrote that their resistance is also based on whether proper consider-

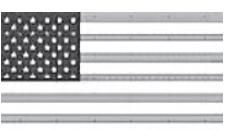
ation has been given to alternative sources of energy production apart from Bunker C fuel and alternative sites for the plant location, as well as the possibility of using the \$105 million to fix the existing generating plants coupled with some alternative energy sources and in general an energy awareness campaign."

"In my clients' view, this is the single greatest expenditure on public works in the history of Abaco and its cays which will have a great and long-lasting impact on the economy, on tourism, on the environment, on property owners, on energy bills, on healthy and safety issues and generally the future of Abaco," Smith stated in the letter.

According to Smith, nearly 2,000 residents have signed a petition voicing objection to the power plant. He added that the petition will soon be presented to the Prime Minister.

The power plant, which is being built to meet the rapidly growing demand for power, is scheduled to be completed by Spring 2010.

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- Beachfront; waterfront; and inland lots on Green Turtle Cay and Munjack Cay.

Church News

Friendship Tabernacle Celebrates New Members

By Samantha V. Evans

On September 6th Pastor Silbert Mills celebrated his fifth year as pastor of Friendship Tabernacle Church. He did not have a traditional pastoral anniversary service, but rather he and his church family celebrated the installation of 11 new members to the church. He invited his family and close friends to celebrate this wonderful day with them.

Before the message was delivered, Senior Administrator Cephas Cooper stating that this church truly has a family atmosphere. He added that Mr. Mills is a gift to Abaco and is one of those Abaconians whose name is a household one. He described Mr. Mills as genuine, inspirational, motivational and upbeat. He added that not many pastors are as multi-talented as Pastor Silbert Mills and can perform tasks with such zeal and energy.

The message Pastor Mills preached was *The Lord Knows the Way I Take*. He stated that he is humbled to have been asked to serve but he reminded the people that the church is God's house not his. His ability to be able to commune with God is important so he does all he can to remain in God's plan. He acknowledged that he has been given the opportunity

to lead by God's guidance. He is further grateful that he was able to do so with a clean heart. He wants all to know that even though they fail sometimes, God is still in control as he allows good and bad things to happen to those He loves. Pastor Mills told them that through adversity and disappointment to keep their relationship with God intact.

A few years ago, he explained, the church was damaged by a hurricane and as they rebuilt, they all grew closer together. When he had troubles, he turned to the church; and the members gave him good counsel, showed him love and cried with him. He plans to remain faithful to the call on his life. If the members agree, he will remain their pastor for another five years. He stated that God promised him a brighter tomorrow than today, and he plans to live his life to the fullest.

Gospel Musicians hold Back to School Jesus Party

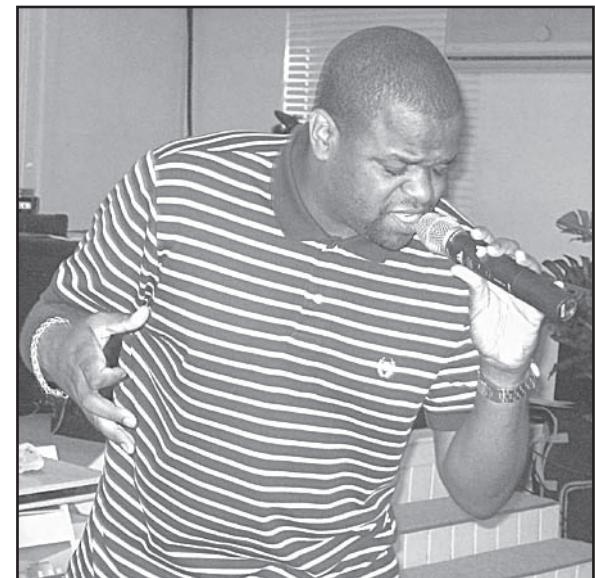
By Samantha V. Evans

On September 11th gospel artists from Nassau visited a few schools on Abaco for their Back to School Jesus Party. While at the schools they ministered in song and prayed for the students. The purpose of this outreach was to empower the kids and to let them know that they do not have to fall prey to the ills of this world but rather

to respect themselves and to know that God has great things planned for their lives.

The artists to perform were Mr. Beeds, Ricardo Clarke, DJ Counselor, Ryan Jupp, Michelle the Mime, and others. They visited J.A. Pinder Primary, St. Francis de Sales, Forest Heights Academy and S.C. Bootle High School. This event was organized by Trenaire Wells of Sandy Point.

On September 14 an evening concert was held at Friendship Tabernacle when all of the musicians performed. Some of them told the youth how they came to know the Lord and what types of deviant things they were involved in before they changed their lives. The church was packed wall to wall and on the outside as young people came to listen to wholesome Christian music and to dance for God. Pastor Mills stated that his youth department will plan to have some activity



This is Ricardo Clarke, one of the performers who entertained students at the Back to School Jesus Parties.

for the youth on a monthly basis. On Sunday morning, the musicians performed at various churches on the island before they returned to Nassau.



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Abaco Auskell Medical Center plans are revealed

By Samantha V. Evans

Plans for the new Abaco Auskell Medical Center were revealed by Angie Collie, Managing Director, and Dr. George Charité, Executive Director. Many interested Abaconians came to learn about their plans on September 19th at Faith Convention Center in Marsh Harbour.

Abaco has been without a hospital for too long and the team at Auskell Advanced Medicine has made plans to provide a much needed medical facility for Abaco. To better help the group meet the needs of the people, the management has hired five new doctors.

The objectives of the Abaco Auskell Medical Center are to provide high quality care, create medical services to meet the needs of the community and to service

600-650 patients per month that is expected to increase by 20 percent annually. The center will have three floors that will be fully equipped and digitalized. Each examination room will have a computer and the clinic will have the use of telemedicine technology. The staff will focus on patient care, on educating patients on preventative medicine and on establishing programs to remind patients of their appointments. It will be expensive for the medical center to function. Therefore, the staff will need to minimize overhead expenses and optimize the number of patients seen.

The Abaco Auskell Medical Center is slated to take one to two years to complete once work begins. The group is in the process of submitting plans for approval. Even though plans were started two years ago, they have been changed numerous times

as many persons have a vested interest in seeing the medical center come to fruition. The center will be open 24 hours, will be wheelchair accessible, will have security and elevators.

Initially five to six doctors will be on staff and the others will come on a weekly

or monthly basis. These physicians will be multi-talented and able to perform minor surgery. However, until the new center is completed, Auskell will put a small surgeon next to the medical clinic in the Garnett Archer Building. The doctors will be able to perform minor surgery and respond to emergencies. Another meeting will be called to address the investment plans and shares that will be available for sale.

A slide show of the plans of the medical center was shown. It will be built in three phases. Phase I will be the medical center, Phase II will be the helicopter pad and morgue and Phase III will be the hospice center. Phase I will consist of examination rooms, patient rooms, two surgery suites - one for minor surgery and one for more major surgery, chemotherapy and dialysis center, a birthing center, eye center, medical spa, cafeteria and staff facilities. The

management is wanting to establish a group practice that will be committed to diagnosing and treating medical conditions while emphasizing preventative medicine and overall wellness. Wellness is more than physical health but includes mental, emotional and spiritual state of mind. The clinic promotes getting a lot of exercise, eating a proper diet and controlling one's stress.

Dr. Charité spoke saying that Abaco has a great advantage over the rest of the Bahamas as this medical center will provide traditional and alternative medicine. It is intended to serve the entire community. The goal of the Abaco Auskell Medical Center will be to meet the needs of the people and this growing community. For instance, he stated that there is no reason for a commu-

Please see Clinic

Page 11



This is the artist's rendition of the proposed Abaco Auskell Medical Center to be built on Don MacKay Boulevard next to Aldersgate Methodist Church. This will be a 24-hour clinic with doctors available, a surgery center, a birthing center and many other services not available at this time on Abaco. It is hoped that it will be operational within two years.



The staff of Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic in Marsh Harbour presented plans for the Abaco Auskell Medical Center. They are Krysta Henchell; Dr. George Charité, Director; Angie Collie, Managing Director; and Rudell Farrington.

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Auskell's frustration to employ doctors

By Navardo Saunders

Since 2004 Angie Collie, Managing Director of Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic in Marsh Harbour, has been trying to get a full-time doctor on staff so that the clinic can provide 24-hour care. But five years later and the clinic is still without a full-time physician and unequipped to provide around the clock service.

Mrs. Collie, a medical lab technician who opened Auskell six years ago to meet the growing demand for healthcare, says she has been trying to recruit a licensed Bahamian doctor for the longest time without

any success while the Bahamas Medical Council (BMC) has rejected every application she has submitted for qualified non-Bahamian doctors to join her staff.

"Here it is we have been open all this time, and there is not a licensed Bahamian doctor who has applied to work with Auskell," Mrs. Collie explained. "This year alone I have placed six advertisements in one of the national newspapers and the only applicants we get are foreigners. But the Bahamas Medical Council has rejected every application we have submitted for a foreign doctor to practice at our clinic. But when you look at our government's healthcare system, there are a lot of foreign doctors."

Mrs. Collie said the latest rejection by the BMC came recently and was somewhat of a shock since the foreign doctor she applied for has a brother who works at the Rand Memorial Hospital in Freeport. She believes that BMC has rejected her applications for non-Bahamian doctors on the basis that there are enough licensed Bahamian doctors who are qualified to fill the vacancy at Auskell.

"If that is the case, why hasn't one Bahamian doctor applied for the job at Auskell?" asked Mrs. Collie.

Despite all the rejections, she has not given up and intends to begin constructing a mini hospital in Marsh Harbour soon. She is now awaiting a response from the BMC on another application that has been submitted for a foreign doctor while still trying to recruit a licensed Bahamian doctor.

In addition to advertising the vacancy regularly, Mrs. Collie constantly asks the 25 specialists who provide service at Auskell to assist her in trying to recruit a licensed Bahamian doctor.

"The thing is a lot of doctors are not prepared to come to a Family Island to work because of the demand that would be placed on them," she said. "We're talking round-the-clock care three, four a.m. Once there is an emergency, the doctor has to deal with it. In the bigger cities like Nassau and Freeport when there is an emergency or someone needs to see the doctor, particularly during late at night or in the wee hours of the morning, the hospital is there to provide care around the clock and there are sufficient doctors for shifts so no one doctor has to deal with every patient."

Mrs. Collie has spoken to Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, who is the MP for North Abaco, and Dr. Hubert Minnis, Minister of Health, about Auskell's dilemma. They both promised to look into the situation, but it has been quite sometime, and she has not heard from either one.

Mrs. Collie has also written Dr. Duane Sands of the BMC, explaining that she has tried for years to get a licensed Bahamian doctor to work at Auskell, but not one has applied. However, she has not gotten a response from Dr. Sands either.

As she prepares to begin construction of a comprehensive clinic in Marsh Harbour, Mrs. Collie feels it is critical that she have full-time doctors on staff. "So here it is. We are the only ones on Abaco making history trying to build this medical center with MRI, optical center, dental center, sit-in rooms, seven beds, a surgical center. As a matter of fact, I just got my licence yesterday (September 11) from the Bahamas government allowing me to open a surgical center," Collie explained. "My thing is this when we apply to the BMC again, what is going to happen because we are going to need surgeons; we are going to need nurses and doctors. If no Bahamians are applying, then what can we do. When it is in the middle of the night and someone is ill and they don't have money to fly out for care, then what are they going to do. The people in Nassau and Freeport have hospitals they can go to. Shouldn't the people of Abaco have somewhere they can go?"

The Abaconian contacted a member of the BMC who said that the Council will release a statement on the matter.

Clinic

From Page 10

nity as progressive as Abaco not to have its own birthing and medical facilities. He explained that every time he travels here, he sees pregnant ladies boarding a plane to go to Nassau or Freeport to have their baby. This is stressful for the pregnant mother and the rest of her family.

Dr. Keith E. Lewis, the newest onsite physician, spoke about the service he now renders to the Abaco community. He has a challenge to educate Abaconians about what he does as his services are new. However, he has been able to help many persons over the course of his career and plans to do the same for Abaco. He is very pleased with the job Angie has done juggling more than 33 doctors and medical professionals who work at the center. He believes that doctors should not only be good at diagnosing but also have good people skills. He stated that when the 35,000 square feet Abaco Auskell Medical Center is completed, it will be a one-stop shop for medical care.

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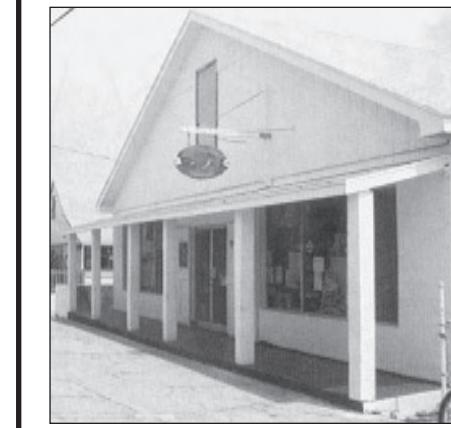
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Keep Abaco Beautiful gives annual awards

By Canishka Alexander

Nominations for the second Keep Abaco Beautiful awards ended on September 4, and the awards presentation took place on September 11 at New Vision Ministries. This year's theme was *Native Plant Expo*.

Leading up to the awards ceremony, Bernadette Hall of Abaco's Tourism office said the mission of the awards is to engage individuals to take greater responsibility of their environment. "It's a community-nomination process, so we ask persons within the community to nominate persons in their areas to recognize them and reward them for their efforts in protecting and preserving Abaco's environment," she said.

The award ceremony recognized individuals and organizations in the community and awarded them in three categories.

Hope Town School was awarded the Educational Award, which is the highest honor given by the Keep Abaco Beautiful committee and is presented to one or more schools that have built and sustained an environmentally conscious program with exceptional success. Every Child Counts and Abaco Central High placed second and third respectively.

The Friends of the Environment Award was given to Abacays Shipping. This award is for a group who has helped build Abaco in the area of environmental consciousness through beautification, litter prevention and promoting awareness. Tropical Shipping came second and Shirley Higgs placed third.

Yvonne Key secured the Volunteer Leadership Award. Peggy Albury placed second and Uli Nowlan and Mimi Rehor placed third.

Mrs. Hall said that a number of people were eligible to qualify for the awards and she had seen some exceptional projects. "We've had some great supporters – businesses and shipping companies have helped with the recycling program, Brown's Bay and Coconut Tree Bay," she noted. She added that volunteer efforts don't go without rewards. "Not only do we reward ourselves with a better community, but we also need to encourage persons to let them know that they're doing a good deed." There were about a dozen nominations in the different categories.

Three companies set up booths designed to educate those who attended the presentation. The BEC demonstration, conducted by Marvin Mills, explained the difference between a fluorescent and incandescent light bulb and showed how they both affected the electric meter when they were switched on. The Department of Environmental Health set up an informative booth on mosquitoes and other pests, and a variety of potted plants was displayed from one of the local nurseries.

Best Kept Yard competition is announced

The third annual Christmas Best Kept Yard was launched during the Keep Abaco Beautiful awards ceremony. In the past the competition was for only the Dundas Town and Murphy Town settlements, but it has now been extended to the entire central district. "We had to figure out how it all worked, and that's why we started off small," Bernadette Hall explained. "We feel like we now have the process together. We have our judges and committee or-

ganized, so we expanded to the central district, not including the cays just yet. That includes Pelican Shores, Eastern Shores, Sweeting's Tract, Spring City where those new homes are, and I understand there's some beautiful work going on there, Great Cistern and Central Pines."

Winners will be awarded fabulous prizes, Mrs. Hall disclosed. "We have two round-trip tickets on Yellow Air Taxi; Scotiabank and First Caribbean Bank have sponsored two bank accounts with \$250 each; and we're in discussions with local government who we're hoping will be sponsoring a prize as well."

The winning categories include first, second and third Best Kept Yard, Best New Entrance, Most Improved Yard and Best Established.

"We're hoping with the Most Improved Yard the person will take a before and after picture so we can see how they've really improved. With Best Established we know we've got some gardeners in our communities, and they've put a lot of work into their yards, so we want those persons to be recognized," she elaborated.

Judging will take place the week of November 3; and prizes are awarded during the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.



For the second consecutive year Hope Town Primary School was awarded the Education Award by the Keep Abaco Beautiful committee. The award acknowledges the school's emphasis on environmental preservation.

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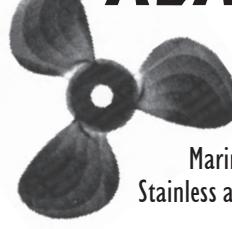
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School News

Pastor gives computer to high school student

By Canishka Alexander

Students of S.C. Bootle High School are consistently being more noticed and recognized in the community for their outstanding academic accomplishments. One student took the school's reputation a step further when he assisted Pastor Carlton McIntosh and Lady Lavinia McIntosh of Wisdom Changing Ministry with a project during the summer.

On September 7 Pastor McIntosh visited



Timmesha, center, received a computer because she is an outstanding student who is active in many areas of her community. The computer was a gift from Pastor Carlton McIntosh, who wanted to acknowledge his appreciation of community service done by an anonymous student at the school. On the right is Rashida Murray, Guidance Councilor at the school.

S.C. Bootle to reward the student. However, the student did not attend school that day and as a result remains anonymous. Undeterred, the pastor was reluctant to leave the school with the reward in hand.

"It was a deed served with all good intentions, and as far as Pastor McIntosh was concerned, the deed was worth a reward," said Mr. Huel Moss, the school principal. "The pastor still felt led to give a brand new laptop to a student who exhibited excellence in character, conduct, community involvement and academic achievement."

Timmesha Russell was the exemplary student selected. "She is a senior in the nursing and maritime cadet program; she is actively involved in the praise dance ministry at Full Gospel Assembly and still finds the time after school to peer tutor. She is a prefect at Sherlin C. Bootle and an honor roll student," Mr. Moss explained.

He was thankful to Pastor McIntosh for giving the reward to Timmesha, who was deserving of the laptop because of her service to her community.

Parents complain of teacher shortage in the North

By Canishka Alexander

The beginning of the school year has been marred with the shortage of teachers at various schools throughout the nation, and parents on Abaco are complaining about similar issues.

Take Fox Town Primary School, for instance. According to PTA President Daniel Curry on September 9 parents were protesting the transfer of third grade teacher, Mrs. Adderley, from the school. He added that this is the second time something like

this has occurred because last year another teacher was transferred. This has forced the school to merge two sets of grade levels: grades 1 and 2 and grades 3 and 4.

Mr. Curry argued that this is what accounts for the poor national grade average that the Ministry has reported because the students cannot receive the quality attention they need in order to advance in their education. He pointed out that this is a crucial year, particularly for the third graders who have to prepare for the GLAT examinations.

Please see School

Page 15



Parents of students in the Fox Town Primary School stood united with their poster boards at the front of the school demanding more teachers from the government. They claim that the school was being treated unfairly. Later a teacher was transferred back to Fox Town.



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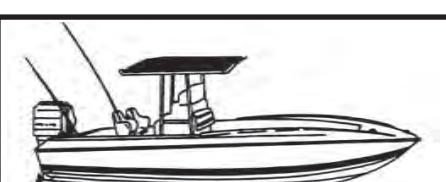
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More School News

School *From Page 14*

Meanwhile, Principal Austin Mills said the teachers that were present at the school were ready to work. Ten students attended school that day despite the school's enrollment of 67 students. The parents demonstrated outside the school until the afternoon, and by September 10, they received the results they had expected.

Mrs. Adderley returned to the school and another teacher returned to Amy Roberts Primary School after they had been transferred to Treasure Cay Primary.

Now Veronica Henderson, a sixth grade teacher at Treasure Cay Primary, said they now have a shortage of teachers. The school has not had a first or second grade teacher since school began, and the fifth grade teacher is on maternity leave, forcing her sixth-grade class to combine with the fifth grade.

While Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham was on Abaco on September 10, he traveled to Fox Town Primary to talk with parents and teachers.

New school year brings changes at S.C. Bootle

By Canishka Alexander

On August 31, many schools around the nation opened in anticipation of a new school year ripe with endless possibilities. S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town was one of them. School's principal Huel Moss said the students were excited as they exited one of four buses that travel from Crown Haven to Treasure Cay.

"Students were given a warm welcome and words of encouragement as they were greeted with hugs and handshakes while

entering the campus," he said. It is a great start to a school year that is emblazoned by the theme of "Working as a Team with a Dream." The theme, which was submitted by Brittany Clarke, an eighth grade student, emphasizes the school's focus on team work this year, Mr. Moss explained.

Despite the loss of eight staff members, Mr. Moss and his existing team remain undeterred. Unlike some schools, they are fortunate that they've gained two new members.

Mrs. Sabrina Russell, who previously held the post of senior mistress at S.C. Bootle High School, is now the new vice principal. Mr. Huel Moss, principal, said the promotion marked a premier post in the history of the school.

Before school opened for students Mrs. Russell offered an in-house mini-workshop for teachers that addressed "strategies for effective grade-level academic success." The teachers were separated into groups based on their grade level and came up with ideas that would create and encourage productivity in their classes.

Mr. Moss said the initiatives that the teachers brought forth were available for consideration, improvisation and implementation for the overall success of the school. He was pleased that Mrs. Russell adhered to the school's theme of "working as a team towards our dream" as her focus for the workshop.

Toward the end of the workshop, Mr. Moss distributed cubic puzzles among the teachers to challenge their minds before the onset of the new school year.

Students entering the 12th grade were accompanied by their parents to their first grade-level meeting on September 4 when BGCSE examinations and graduation mat-

ters were discussed. The National Diploma which will be issued by the Ministry of Education this school year was also addressed. Parents met with a number of subject coordinators in regard to course work, and Rashida Murray, guidance officer, told them about scholarship opportunities.

Educators, pastors attended prayer breakfast

By Canishka Alexander

Before the opening of school principals of Northern Abaco government schools invited teachers and pastors to a district Prayer Breakfast at the Community Center in Treasure Cay. Principal Huel Moss of S.C. Bootle High said that many educators including Mrs. Lenora Black, District Superintendent, attended the breakfast.

Father Dwight Rolle of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Treasure Cay prayed for the teachers, students and parents, particularly for the school campuses in the district of Abaco. Before the close of the breakfast, Mr. Moss along with Principal Myrtis Russell of Treasure Cay Primary School, Principal Austin Mills of Fox Town Pri-

mary and Principal Keva McIntosh, the new head mistress of Amy Roberts Primary School, led the assembly in a prayer of commitment.

Sit-in is held at Central Abaco Primary School

By Samantha V. Evans

On September 15th a sit-in was staged by the teachers of Central Abaco Primary School who believed that they were not being taken seriously by the Ministry of Education. It was staged in accordance with the industrial action procedures with hopes of getting their voices heard as they were frustrated. Additionally, they felt a need to do this because the average class size was now 1 to 35 which is ten more than the norm. They believe that such large size classrooms would make it near impossible for effective instruction to take place.

The sit-in which was held in the staff room began at 8:30 a.m. and lasted until 10:30 a.m. The shop stewards and PTA president spoke with the teachers about

Please see School

Page 16

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More School News

School From Page 15

their concerns. The shop stewards would meet with administration and PTA president would speak with parents and the media. When the sit-in began, the principal informed the superintendent's office of the industrial action. Later that day Superintendent Lenora Black came and met with them.

Mrs. Black heard their concerns and told them what her department was able to do at this time based on the data collected. She stated that even though they lost six teachers, there were not six available to replace them; and the numbers had not yet warranted that six teachers return to the school. She felt that an additional teacher was needed for grades one and three but thought that the others are fine. She is keeping a close eye on the increasing numbers. If they continue to grow, the Ministry of Education will have to decide how best to deal with the issue. She applauded the teachers for being in place to teach the children and thanked them for doing such

a great job.

Mrs. Black informed the teachers that the Ministry is working to get the school's electrical problems dealt with as they just signed a contract for \$89,000 for the work to be done. A plumber is now on staff to help meet the plumbing needs, and furniture is being sought from other schools to assist with the growing numbers until the Ministry of Education can order more for the school. Even though the teachers did not get what they requested, the superintendent was very humble and professional as she addressed them.

At the end of it all, the school was promised two additional teachers.

Central Abaco Primary holds PTA meeting

By Samantha V. Evans

An emergency meeting of the Central Abaco Primary School was held on September 15 to inform the parents of the shortage of teachers at the school. President of the PTA Melissa Bootle stated that she felt it necessary to inform the parents

of the problem as stated by the teachers. However, she reported that the two new teachers promised were now on site. One was placed in the preschool and the other in grade three. The previous teacher in the preschool was moved to grade one.

Superintendent Lenora Black addressed the parents assuring them that she understands the concerns of the teachers and is working to get surplus materials from Fox Town, Guana Cay and Cherokee to accommodate the high numbers at Central Abaco Primary.

These children will grow up soon so they must be nurtured. Mrs. Black firmly believes that without education the kids will become second class citizens in their own country. She wants the kids to know that they must do their part and come to school to learn so that they can excel in the workplace. She stated that educating children is not easy and they will have challenges but together they can overcome them and do what is best for the children at Central Abaco Primary School.

PTA designed bags with school logo to raise funds

By Samantha V. Evans

Three D Signs designed backpacks, lunch and physical education bags with the Central Abaco Primary School's logo on them as a fund raiser for the school. Each time a bag is sold, five percent of the sale goes to the PTA account. The funds raised

will go towards the purchase of water coolers and other needed items. The bags can be purchased from the school and three D signs. The support of the public will be appreciated.

Notable events at Long Bay School

School Year Ended June 30

- 46 Honours students with 3.5 and above GPA
- Damara McIntosh placed first in Grade 9 Spelling Bee
- Lusemara Gay placed second in the Island Roots Heritage Tee Shirt Art Contest
- Perkell Collie placed first in the Children's Environmental Poster Competition sponsored by the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association
- Cicely Gomez placed third in Rotary Speech Competition
- Grades 7 - 9 placed third in Mathematics and Science Competition
- Christian Heild placed third in Grade 2 Spelling Bee

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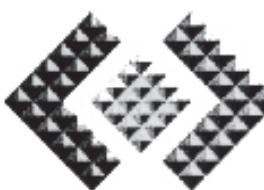
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Medical workshop was held for doctors and nurses

By Canishka Alexander

Local doctors and nurses representing all of Abaco's government clinics attended a Continuing Medical Education workshop on Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases on September 18. This was offered by the Department of Public Health. CNCD is the acronym for Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases.

Nurse Margaret Daxon, CNCD coordinator with the Department of Health, said it was determined that continuing medical education was needed on Abaco after the department conducted a record audit earlier this year. More training was requested by the medical staff they met with.

She pointed out how far apart the government clinics are spread out, and how they assist patients who live in the communities of Sandy Point and Moore's Island in the south; Cooper's Town, Fox Town and Green Turtle Cay in the north; and Marsh Harbour and Hope Town in central Abaco.

The main lecturer during the workshop was Dr. Latonia Moncur, CNCD physician manager. She outlined ways to manage diabetes and went on to cover the medications used to treat diabetes including insulin.

A major concern among many of the doctors and nurses is that most patients expect to receive free medication. They said

some will wait until the clinic acquires the medication rather than purchase it from the pharmacy. Moncur advised that they stress the importance of patients filling their prescriptions on time to avoid risks such as diabetic comas or possibly death.

The cases of diabetes found in the Bahamian population are projected to increase from an estimated 12,000 persons presently affected. "If we don't intervene, they will develop diabetes," Dr. Moncur predicted, adding that lifestyle modifications need to be initiated.

Obesity and lack of exercise are contributing factors in those who will or already have developed diabetes. Prevention is key, so screenings should also be carried out, especially in those patients who have certain risk factors like a family history of diabetes or a pregnant woman who may have developed gestational diabetes. Borderline diabetes is now referred to as pre-diabetes because it gives the wrong perception of the disease, she explained.

Following the lecture on diabetes, presentations were made on hypertension and asthma in adult patients.

Nurse Karen Farrington, diabetes educator, and Dr. Monique Mitchell, a podiatrist, were among the lecturers at the workshop.



The Department of Public Health held a workshop on September 18 for doctors and nurses on the topic Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases. These include diabetes, hypertension and asthma. The presenters emphasized the need for patients to change their lifestyle to reduce the risk of developing the diseases or of minimizing their current situation.

Sky Bahamas

From Page 7

and staff from the Nassau office visited Central Abaco Primary School to share the company's one-year birthday cake with the students who excelled academically last year and made the honor roll. On hand for the celebration was Superintendent of Education Lenora Black, who was encouraged by this gesture of kindness. The students welcomed them by singing a revised rendition of One Love.

Kenneth Romer stated that Sky Bahamas is community-minded and plans to make its presence felt on Abaco. The company believes in education and shows this by investing in school children. It presently has a scholarship program for aspiring pilots and has assisted first year college students with tuition to get them started. It gives free flights for Family Island COB students once per year. Further, it plans to be a part of the Just Boys class at Central Abaco Primary School.

Mr. Romer introduced Capt. Butler to the students telling them that as a young boy he was fascinated with planes. He never gave up on his dream. Today he is a certified pilot and now the CEO of a prestigious Bahamian-owned airline. Capt. Butler

stated that he plans to assist the school in the name of his late son Daniel who died recently. Daniel's Dream: Purpose Fulfilled is the umbrella under which all of this will be done.

The students sang happy birthday to the Sky Bahamas team; then the cake was cut by Capt. Butler and Brianna Greene; both of whom celebrated a birthday on September 10th. She was given the first piece of cake and Widerson Saintilien was given the second piece as he, too, celebrated a birthday on the same day. All of the honour students received cake and fruit punch before returning to their classrooms.



Capt. Butler and Brianna Greene both celebrated birthdays on September 10th. So they shared the first piece of birthday cake that celebrated the fact that Sky Bahamas is under new management. She is shown thanking Capt. Butler.



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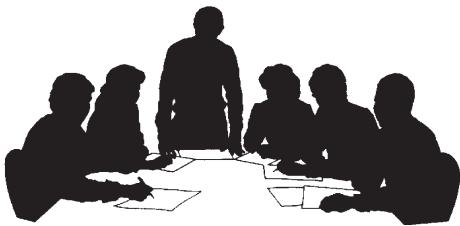
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Marsh Harbour Town Committee Sept 9

By Navardo Saunders

A Marsh Harbour Town Committee meeting came to an abrupt end after two members of the committee walked out during a heated discussion over the decision to terminate a street cleaning contract for the city.

Committee member Yvonne Key brought up the contract at the start of the meeting and pleaded with her fellow committee members to reconsider the termination of the contract held by Robert Marshall, whom she described as an outstanding employee.

At the previous meeting the committee voted 3-2 in favour of terminating Mr. Marshall's \$8,000 per month contract at the end of September.

Mrs. Key strongly disagreed with the committee's decision. "Beside keeping our streets immaculate, Mr. Marshall and his crew can be called on at any time to assist in any way," she said. "Whether it's in a hurricane - he's there helping to secure the city. If there is a dead dog in the road and he is called to move it, he asks no questions. They are not obligated to do so, but they do it anyway. I don't think there is anybody on the island who is willing to do what Marshall and his crew have done for this city."

Mrs. Key said that Marshall recently bought a truck to carry out his duties more efficiently. Had he any knowledge that the contract would have been terminated prematurely, he most likely would not have invested in the truck. He has had the contract for a number of years, and it does not expire until next year.

Chairman Roscoe Thompson III said that

while he agrees that Marshall and his crew are outstanding workers, the contract entered into with Marshall is illegal. "In fact, all the contracts that have been entered into with Mr. Marshall over the years are illegal." The contracts are illegal because Marshall is a Haitian, which makes him ineligible to enter into a contract with the Town Committee since those contracts are exclusively for Bahamians, according to Mr. Thompson.

He also said the directive to terminate the contract held by Marshall, a Haitian, came from a representative of the Central Government and the local committee voted in favour of upholding that decision. Mrs. Key said that while she understands that it is illegal for contracts to be entered into with non-Bahamians, she feels the contract granted to Marshall should be honoured until it expires next year.

Meanwhile, another committee member Colon Curry took exception to remarks by Mrs. Key and Mr. Thompson that there is not anyone else on the island who could perform in the manner in which Marshall and his crew have performed. "That is utter nonsense," Mr. Curry said. "There are many Bahamians here who can do just as good as a job or even better."

While Mr. Curry was speaking, about 10 Bahamians were waiting outside to present their proposals to the committee for the \$8,000 per month street cleaning contract.

But that did not happen after Mrs. Key and Danny Sawyer walked out, leaving less than the required number of committee members to form a quorum to continue the meeting. Mr. Sawyer walked out because he was tired of the bickering.

Mr. Thompson adjourned the meeting, which only lasted about 30 minutes. Matters on the agenda were not discussed at all.

Murphy Town Committee Sept. 14

By Samantha V. Evans

The Murphy Town Township held its monthly meeting on September 14 at the Burial Society in Murphy Town. The meeting was chaired by Chairman Renardo Curry. Six of the members were in attendance.

The speaker for the meeting was Sgt. Raquel Metellus, officer in charge of community relations of the Royal Bahamas Police Force. She spoke to the members on starting a neighborhood watch program to focus on watching out for crime in their community. She encouraged them to be their brother's keeper. Once they do, this will help them to feel safe.

This spirit of community is badly needed as she noted that many burglaries take place in this community and it appears to be increasing. When a surveillance group is formed, it can be the eyes and ears of the police. She would like to deter the guys who hang out on the blocks as they are a negative influence for the children.

Mr. Curry stated that they are concerned about the increasing reports of house burglaries as well and added that they need a watch group in place immediately. Even though they do not have a name for the group, they want one started to make residents feel safer. Ms. Metellus stated that she has already contacted some residents who are ready to serve

but she wanted the support of the governing body of the community. Hence, she came to speak with them.

Eugene Dawkins suggested that the police need to look into obtaining sufficient vehicles to police the area and to respond to calls in a timely fashion because in the past, they have had many excuses as to why they did not respond quickly. The residents are tired of this and need the police to respond quickly and not allow criminals time to rummage through their homes and take what they want. They all agree that more police presence is needed in Murphy Town. A healthy dialogue ensued and additional suggestions made.

Afterwards, the members discussed the way forward for their community projects. They agreed to keep their contracts going and to award new ones as needed. Tenders

Please see Local Gov.

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Hope Town District Council members are examining the plans for Hope Town Inn and Marina that were approved by the Port Authority in Nassau. Shown here are Councillors Walter Sweeting, Glenn Laing and Jeremy Sweeting.

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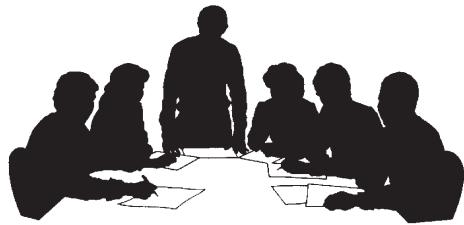
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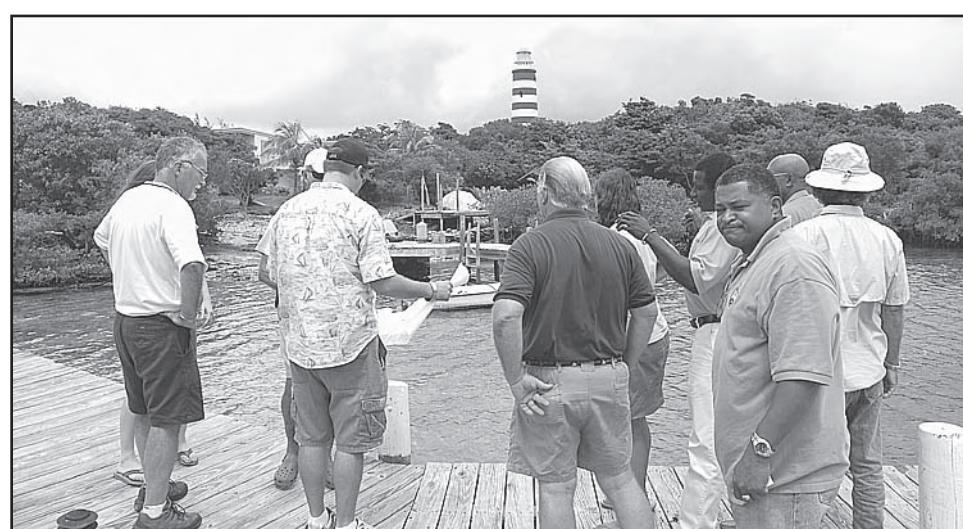
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**Local Gov.**

From Page 18

submitted for the cleaning of side streets were opened and discussed. The members stated that they are pleased with the work that was being done, but they need to decide on one major project to work on this year; one that they can complete and that the people would be proud of. They discussed a few possibilities but decided to plan a town meeting to let the community decide on the project to be undertaken. The day and time for this will be decided at the next meeting.



The Hope Town District Council members did an on-site inspection of the property across the harbour where Hope Town Inn and Marina will be built. The Council is upset that permissions have been granted in Nassau without any input from local residents. The work will entail the removal of a few mangroves and dredging the area to six feet. Capt. Cyril Roker from the Port Board and David Knowles from the Bahamas National Trust accompanied the Council members.

Hope Town District Council Sept. 9

Nassau bypasses Hope Town council

The unexpected arrival of a barge and backhoe at a Hope Town Marina on September 9 put residents and Council members on high alert. The contractor was told to halt all work until permits were approved. A few days later, the Council was notified by the marina owner's lawyer that the approval had been issued by the Port Department in Nassau.

At the September 17 Council meeting, the new owner of the Hope Town Marina property across the harbour was present and showed letters of approval for dredging the cove at the property to six feet. This is the controlling depth for boats entering the harbour. Council members were

told that a member of the BEST commission in Nassau had visited the site. This further irritated Council members who felt they were intentionally being bypassed from the approval process.

Council members were upset and concerned that they had neither been consulted for the 51-slip dock nor had the application and associated work been submitted to the Hope Town Council for recommendation as required. Neither was the Port Director in Marsh Harbour aware of this Nassau approval. The scope of work authorization extended to the removal of two small mangrove clumps on the north shore of the cove. This was justified by placing rip-rap under the shore-side dock for fish habitat.

A wastewater treatment facility is included in the marina design as well as a public pump-out station for boats.

At noon Council members crossed the harbour to see first hand what was proposed and how it might impact the neighbouring properties.

They also went by boat to the end of Nigh Creek where mangroves were being removed for dock construction. It was subsequently disclosed that a dock application had been approved about three years previously although payment for the permit was only made several weeks ago. It was clear that a dock permit had been approved for this site. It was not obvious if the original approval included the removal of mangroves which would have required Nassau approval.

It was pointed out that there are many docks in the area on the outside edge of mangroves with shore access walkways threaded through the vegetation. In this case, the damage had been done, a permit had been issued and construction was al-

lowed to continue.

At the previous meeting, Councillors had been asked to inspect local hotel properties to ensure that various deficiencies were corrected. These deficiencies had been noted in late winter by the hotel inspection team from Nassau and a followup was requested to ensure compliance.

Councillors decided to cease further followup inspections when they discovered that Tourism staff had recently done this.

A request for approval-in-principle was personally made concerning the erection of a building at the south end of Centerline Road to be used for a propriety club serving alcohol. The applicant did not want to invest in a building if a club license would not be approved. Written letters had been submitted by residents in that area objecting to another bar. A recommendation by Council will be given after further deliberation.

The mid-day meeting lasted about five hours.

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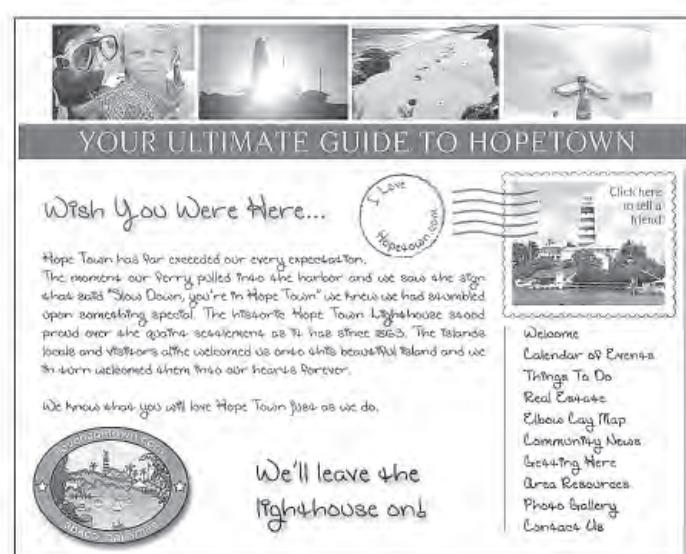
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Vernon Malone - A very fruitful life in Hope Town

By Jennifer Hudson

What would Hope Town be like, one wonders, had Vernon Malone not spent his entire life there? He has had such a positive influence on the community in so many ways that he has been affectionately dubbed the Mayor of Hope Town. Whatever your need, Mr. Malone will help you sort it out, whether you are a family member, long time resident whom he knows well or a newly arrived visitor. Vernon can usually be found either in his small but well stocked grocery store on Back Street, in his bakery "out back" or conducting a wedding ceremony either in St. James Methodist Church where he is a lay preacher or on one of the cay's beautiful beaches.

Vernon became a Marriage Officer in 1994 at the request of the Ministry of Tourism when it first began developing Abaco as an island destination for weddings. On May 21 of this year he officiated at his 700th wedding ceremony when he pronounced John and Lori Pomeroy "husband and wife" on the beach of the Hope Town Harbour Lodge. Vernon enjoys performing marriage ceremonies and is a very popular choice amongst couples seeking a marriage officer as his ceremonies are very beautiful and also personal. At every ceremony he presides over, he offers the same good wishes he and his wife, Bobbie, received by telegram on their wedding day over 40 years ago. "May your years together be as bright and sunny as our Bahamian skies."

Of course, having presided over 700 plus ceremonies, he has many memories. The saddest wedding he was ever at was on Man-O-War Cay where he waited for one hour with the nervous bridegroom, and the bride never showed up. Instead a little girl arrived and said, "She's not coming!" The funniest was at a ceremony on the stern of the William H. Albury sailboat in Man-O-War harbour when, after he had pronounced the couple husband and wife, they sur-



Vernon Malone

prised him by disappearing over the side of the boat into the water in their wedding attire. In addition to ceremonies on Elbow Cay and the surrounding cays, Vernon is also asked to conduct weddings on mainland Abaco and has even been asked into Nassau on a couple of occasions. He is proud to have several celebrity weddings to his credit.

Charles Vernon Malone was born on December 11, 1937, to Eddie and Olive Malone. Olive hailed from Marsh Harbour but Eddie was a Hope Town native and a direct descendant of famous Wyannie Malone, making Vernon a seventh generation descendant. The Malone family home was one of those taken from Wilson City after it closed. Vernon has heard that it was cut into sections so that it could be floated and towed across to Hope Town, then rebuilt.

"It was great growing up in Hope Town," reminisces Vernon. "We ate a lot healthier since we grew whatever was in season and had a diet of seafood every day. Seafood was so plentiful that my father even used lobster for bait. We raised hogs and chickens and to this day I have a problem with eating beef as I was never brought up on it."

Vernon began school at the age of 5 years as was the rule at that time and left at the age of 17. The Hope Town school in those days stood on the same site it does today but instead of the nicely refurbished and equipped building in use now, it consisted then of one large room and one small room with just two teachers-- a principal and a monitor. Children had the choice of

going to school barefoot or wearing shoes. "We were very fortunate as we had a retired school teacher on the cay who did tutoring, and we also did correspondence courses out of London," he remembers.

Most of the activities centred around the sea, and everyone had his own sailing dinghy. The children enjoyed playing ball games such as "rounders." Evenings were spent around the kerosene lamp either reading, playing games or just sitting talking as a family. Vernon's mother was a seamstress, and she would sew as they talked. There is never a time Vernon can remember that he did not attend Sunday School. He was brought up in the Brethren Church and attended the Gospel Hall Sunday School each Sunday at 3 o'clock. Once a teenager and able to think for himself, he began going to the Methodist Church as it held an evening service whereas the Brethren did not. The Brethren Church in Hope Town closed in the late 60's.

Vernon, a dedicated Christian, became a local preacher in the Methodist Church and has continued this commitment for 35 plus years. He also preaches most Sundays at the Kirk of the Pines Presbyterian Church in Marsh Harbour and has preached in most of the churches on Eleuthera, Bimini and in Nassau. He was invited to preach in a Methodist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, after the church donated the pews for the St. James Church when it was rebuilt.

The family loved the company of friends and neighbours, and Vernon remembers the house always being full of visitors. Christmas was an especially busy time as the entire day of Christmas Eve was spent baking pies and other goodies ready to be put on the table on Christmas morning for all the friends and neighbours to come in and share in the food. Sundays after lunch was a time Vernon especially enjoyed as it was "down time" when no one did any work. "If you saw a boat going out of the harbour on a Sunday afternoon, you knew

something was wrong," he remembers.

After leaving school, Vernon began his working life as a dishwasher at the New Hope but soon moved up to run the kitchen for several years before going a little further afield to Nassau to work. After only being away for 18 months, he returned to the New Hope, later to become Elbow Cay Club. In 1962 Vernon opened his own shop. He used the experience gained at Elbow Cay Club to begin a little catering service. He inherited baking skills from his parents as both of them baked and Vernon described this as "a family thing" in his house. Baking bread was a common occurrence in those days. When people saw the products Vernon was bringing in for his catering service, people wanted to buy those products so he began stocking them for customers, thus the famous Vernon's Grocery Store was born.

His was the first store in Hope Town to have a deep freeze. It was run by generator at that time as the cay was not electrified until 1972. "We can supply all of your grocery needs including fresh baked bread, pies and rolls, fresh fruit and vegetables, U.S. meats, imported cheeses and dairy products," Vernon is proud to be able to say, and he is especially famous for his delectable key lime pies. People love to go into Vernon's Grocery where they receive a cheery welcome from Vernon and his wife Bobbie. They enjoy browsing amongst the hundreds of very humorous and often inspirational quips and quotes on index cards pinned up throughout the store. "Originally it was Bobbie who started it all by putting up a quote for the day. This caught on so well that people started asking if they could contribute, and it just evolved," says Vernon, who has now run out of room for them all and has surplus stacks of them under his counter.

Earlier this year Vernon was awarded the Queen's Certificate and Badge of Hon-

Please see Interview

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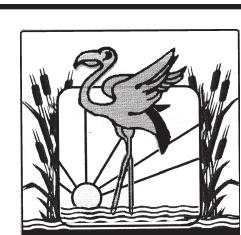
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Interview*From Page 20*

our for service to the community, an honour everyone felt was very well deserved. Over the years the Mayor of Hope Town has been involved in the Wyannie Malone Historical Museum, the Board of Works, the Hope Town Association and Social Services which he especially enjoyed in addition to his many years of service to the church as Lay Preacher. These days he has cut back his activities quite a lot as he felt that he was getting involved in too much. "I feel that now I can do more for people from my own little store than being in a big organization bound by rules and regulations. Now I have freedom to get things done whenever they are needed," he explains adding how much he loves looking after the community.

Vernon is amazed that there are now only about 38 people living in Hope Town who were actually born there out of the 200 to 300 year-round residents. The population doubles in winter and Vernon feels that, "the influx of tourism is really a two edged sword because, although it has provided a way of living, it has also destroyed a way of living and has sadly taken away the way of life where everyone had time to be a neighbour."

Vernon is married to Barbara Malone of Virginia, who is always by his side helping him. They are the proud parents of two children, Brian, who is married to Cat and lives in Tampa, Florida, and Bonnie, who is married to Arnold Hall and lives in Hope Town. Bonnie is the Hope Town Fire Chief and has followed in her father's footsteps of community service. Arnold and Bonnie have a son, Charles Albert, who is the apple of his grandpa's and grandma's eye.

Rangers Begin their Recruitment

By Samantha V. Evans

September was recruitment month for the Royal Bahamas Defense Forces Ranger Program. The officers visited all of the high schools to speak to the students about the program during their assembly. They left application forms at the schools for students to fill out. They have a new group in the north at S.C. Bootle High School where 15 new recruits now meet for practice on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The students from the Central Abaco area meet at Abaco Central High School on Thursdays at the same time.

The lead instructor for the Rangers program is Able Seaman Rosito Thomas, who is assisted by Marine Seamen Anthon Johnson and Emmerson Moss. The new recruits must attend the program from September to April in order to take part in the installation ceremony.

The Rangers who graduated in April of this year will still attend the program but will now focus on leadership training where they are given tasks to perform to earn rank structures.

The Rangers program teaches young people from grades 7 through 12 about responsibility, leadership skills, basic survival skills, character development, social skills and parade training. The students take part in a wide range of activities, competitions, socials, hikes, swimming, community service, games, seminars and drills with trained offers to help them to develop self-worth, discipline, and work towards achieving their goals. There is a \$25 application fee for all entrants.

Living Longer with a Healthy Life

High Blood Pressure: The Silent Killer

*By Dr. Keith Lewis
BS, DC, DABAAHP, FAAIM*

High blood pressure is a major risk factor for heart and kidney diseases, stroke and heart failure. Undetected high blood pressure is especially dangerous in that it gives no prior warning signs or symptoms; therefore, it is important to have your blood pressure checked regularly!

High blood pressure is related to your body producing too much insulin. As your insulin levels rise, it causes your blood pressure to increase. Research published in 1986 in the journal Diabetes, reported that nearly two-thirds of the test subjects who were insulin resistant also had high blood pressure.

Measures you can take to limit your chance of high blood pressure consist of maintaining a healthy weight, exercising, reducing salt and sodium, managing your stress levels, avoiding foods that boost insulin levels, balancing your omega-6 and

omega-3 fat ratios and normalizing your vitamin D levels.

Some dietary supplements that help with managing high blood pressure are potassium, calcium, magnesium, garlic and most importantly, fish oils.

If you would like to have your blood pressure checked, contact Dr. Keith Lewis at Auskell Advanced Medical. Dr. Lewis is also Board Certified in Anti-Aging Medicine and can assist you not only with a chiropractic adjustment but also with the proper combination and choice of dietary supplements to improve your health. If it is not a problem that Dr. Lewis can help you with, he will refer you to a proper specialist. You may contact Dr. Lewis at 242-699-9014 or email him at drlewis@1cbs.net

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Esther Network holds women's conference

By Julieth Stuart-McCafferty

Scores of women drove to Treasure Cay from all over Abaco to participate in the 2nd Annual Esther Network Kingdom Women Conference. Under the theme The Outpouring, the four-day gathering was held from September 9th to September 12th at the Treasure Cay Community Center.

The Esther Network's mission is "To assist and encourage women to discover and embrace their purpose to fulfill their God given assignment on earth." The Founder of the Esther Network, Tara Sawyer-Moss, is a purpose-driven young Abaconian.

On the first three nights attendees experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Speakers for these sessions included Prophetess Brickelle McIntosh from Joyful Sound Ministries, Nassau; Prophetess Shirley Stubbs from Universal Household of Faith Ministries, Freeport; and Tara Sawyer-Moss, Conference Host.

The conference climaxed with a powerful kingdom business expo in which career women and homemakers received life changing nuggets of wisdom. Among the presenters were some of the leading ladies in our community: First Lady Carmen Cornish, Change Ministries International; Simmone Bowe, Human Resources Director,

Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club; Carlene Farquharson, Associate Attorney, Alexiou Knowles & Co.; and Dr. Carnille Farquharson, a Family Medicine Specialist.

The keynote speaker for the event was Deborah Bartlett, a veteran broadcaster and Founder and President of the CEO Network and Bartlett Communication. Using a verse from Ecclesiastes as her reference, Ms. Bartlett presented five principles for women to embody to acquire wealth. She stated that women should be patient, master their professions, lead and inspire others to get to the promised land, be committed to excellence and be a team player. She stressed that wealth begins with our thinking. Ms. Bartlett explained that, "...the slave mentality is not a color but an attitude."

Ms. Sawyer-Moss expressed her gratitude to all the supporters of the Esther Network and noted that she was pleased with the interest the 2009 conference sparked in the Abaco community. Looking ahead to the network's plans for 2010, Mrs. Moss indicated that her organization, with the assistance of the Department of Education, will establish a mentorship program geared towards Abaco's adolescent females.

Police search elder couple's home

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wilchcombe were just as surprised as the Cedar Harbour community when two cars filled with police and CID officers came to their home heavily armed with guns on September 8.

The elderly couple said their two-bedroom home was searched as the officers looked for their grandson, Edison Kemp, also known as Eddie. Mr. Kemp is wanted for questioning in the murder of Christopher Edwin Pratt, an Abaconian who resided in Freeport at the time of his death.

A young man not wishing to be identified said that the incident occurred between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Mrs. Mable Wilchcombe said the officers never produced a search warrant. She told them that her grandson was not at her residence as they swept through the home - looking under her bed and in other possible hiding areas. She told the officers to look for her grandson at his parent's home. According to Mrs. Wilchcombe, they did not follow her advice. Instead, they continued to patrol the area near her home.

Those who were near the Wilchcombe residence at the dock where fish are cleaned were in an uproar over the officers' conduct. They said the officers should have handled the Wilchcombes better than they did in light of their age and Mr. Wilch-

combe's condition. Mr. Wilchcombe suffers from heart problems and is wheelchair bound.

The source said that the police had every opportunity to question Mr. Kemp while he was on Abaco and waited until he left to go about the matter in a contrary way. He said the couple was not in a good emotional state, and Mrs. Wilchcombe's son had to visit the home to comfort her. Her son and other family members did not know what was going on until the source contacted them.

Pratt was found on August 4 in his vehicle on Grand Bahama, his body riddled with gunshot wounds.

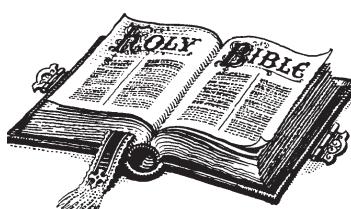
Sailors

From Page 4

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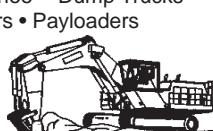
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Nurse Williams promotes breast feeding

By Samantha V. Evans

Nursing Officer Trineta Williams returned to Abaco to work at the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic on August 26th after spending nine years in Nassau supervising the lactation department under the Ministry of Public Health. The focus of this section was on parent craft and breast feeding. She has a passion for training mothers and had sessions for mothers on a daily basis. In fact, she had an entire program set up and at the end of it, the mothers received certificates and prizes. She plans to duplicate that program here on Abaco.

Nurse Williams has been in this profession for over 20 years and has worked as a midwife, trained nurse and now a nursing officer. She has worked in the hospital, in the community, in all government clinics in Nassau, as the nurse in charge on Andros where she headed lactation before she came to Abaco. She has done it all but her ultimate goal is to become head nurse.

When an opening became available for her to return to her husband's hometown, she quickly took it. Now that she is back on Abaco, her focus will be on education, educating the community and visiting the schools to have sessions with students about health care issues. When she arrived, she immediately realized that there is a lot to be



Nurse Trineta Williams

done at the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic. She began her Parent Craft and Breast Feeding one-hour talks at the Marsh Harbour Clinic on September 1st. The classes are held on Tuesdays at 8 a.m. The topics she will address in this series include the importance of antenatal care,

sexually transmitted infections, body changes, breathing and exercise, labour and child birth, nutrition and pregnancy, care of the infant, postnatal care and family planning and child development.

On September 15th she spoke on breast feeding. Mrs. Williams is passionate about teaching new mothers to breast feed their babies, especially during the first six months of life. She firmly believes that it is crucial for the proper health and development of the baby. When babies receive formula, she stated, they grow up to be more aggressive, are not as smart as breast fed babies and are less mannerly. After six months, she stated that parents can introduce them to mashed potatoes, juice and vegetables.

New airport runway will be opened for daytime

Senator Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, Minister of Tourism, was the keynote speaker at the Abaco Business Outlook held in Marsh Harbour on September 23. He announced that the new runway at the Marsh Harbour airport will be put into service for daytime use only. This will allow both commercial and private planes to come in without the danger of damaging their landing gear. Many planes have had extensive damage due to a dip in the current runway. This is a particularly important to jets many of which will not come to this airport because of the dangerous situation. The current runway will be used as a taxiway. The dip is not critical at low speeds.

Mr. Vanderpool Wallace also announced that a new fire engine will be coming for the Marsh Harbour airport to replace the one that has been out of service since June. During these recent months the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department has maintained a truck with two firemen at the airport from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. at a great cost both monetarily and in hours of service. He mentioned that a trained fire crew will also be stationed here.

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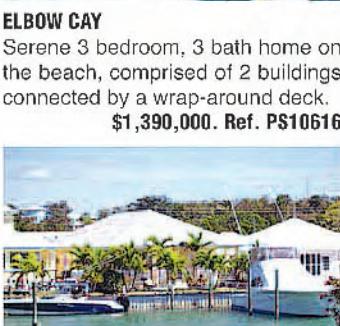
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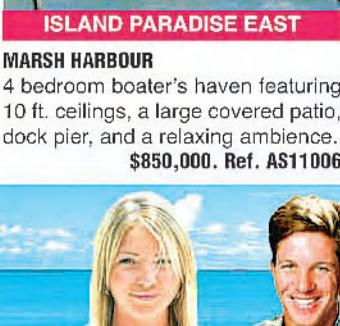
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