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VOLUME 18 NUMBER 3 FEBRUARY 1st, 2010

Minister signs sea wall contract Improvements will be made to Hope Town's Sunshine Park

By Timothy Roberts

The Hon. Neko Grant, Minister of Public Works and Transport and Member of Parliament, visited Abaco on January 13 to sign a contract for the building of a new seawall at the freight dock at Sunshine Park in Hope Town.

The contract, a capital project (meaning the funding comes from central government and is not part of local government's recurrent budget) costing \$206,394, was awarded to Abaco Tug and Transport which includes a new reinforced sea wall with sheet piling and other works. The work is scheduled to begin within a few weeks and is expected to be completed within three months.

Jonathan Higgs, manager of Abaco Tug and Transport, was on hand to sign the contract with the Minister and stated that he was grateful that his company was being awarded the contract and would fulfill their obligation on time and with quality workmanship.

The project was tendered and bids opened at government's Tenders Board through the Ministry of Finance in Nassau on December 15 that received three bids.

The Hope Town District Council relocated freight deliveries from the main public dock, which is used by Albury's Ferry,

Please see **Contract**

Page 2



The Hon. Neko Grant, Minister of Public Works and Transport, was in Hope Town on January 15 to sign a contract for repairs to the dock at Sunshine Park. This picture shows Mr. Grant, third from left, handing the signed contract to Jonathan Higgs of Abaco Tug and Transport, the company that will be doing the work. They are at the park in Hope Town at the dock where freight is offloaded. Shown are Jeremy Sweeting, Chief Councillor of the Hope Town District Council; Nicole Campbell, Under Secretary in the Ministry; Mr. Grant; Mr. Higgs; Administrator Cephias Cooper; Lana Russell and Harold Malone, both members of the Council; and John Schaeffer, Ministry of Works engineer on Abaco.

Red Cross appeals for donations



The Red Cross branch on Abaco is very busy assembling supplies for relief efforts in Haiti. The supplies include clothing, baby items and non-perishable food. The supplies will be shipped to Nassau to be consolidated with supplies there. The men shown are Walter Lightbourne and Anthony Joseph.

By Navardo Saunders

The Bahamas Red Cross Abaco Center is appealing for donations for earthquake

victims in Haiti. Haiti, which was hit by a

Please see **Relief**

Page 6

Power plant will burn diesel

By Larry Smith

Environment Minister Earl Deveau has confirmed that the 48 megawatt power plant now under construction at Wilson City will burn diesel rather than heavy fuel oil when it is commissioned later this spring.

However, Michael Moss (the Freeport-based electrical engineer who replaced Ab-

aco lawyer Frederik Gottlieb as Chairman of the Bahamas Electricity Corporation on January 1) told me that a final determination on possible higher prices for Abaco consumers had not been made. He said the plant should be operational sometime in June.

Please see **Power Plant**

Page 5

Elbow Cay's White Sound dune is being restored



Minister Neko Grant toured the White Sound area on Elbow Cay to see the restoration of the dune. The road on top was undermined during recent hurricanes, threatening to cause the road to collapse. Shown are Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting, Mr. Grant and Kevin Albury, the person who had the contract and made the repairs. Mr. Albury put in quarry topped with sand. It will be planted with sea oats that have extensive, deep roots that will anchor the sand.

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Minister's visit included review of dune restoration

Contract From Page 1

to Sunshine Park two-and-a-half years ago in order to relieve congestion at that location. Jeremy Sweeting, Chief Councillor of the Hope Town District, said, "The Council made the right move, but with very limited resources patched up Sunshine Park to welcome the change in locations. The move proved successful, as many of you felt and still feel that it has freed up heavy congestion with your freight arrivals. Over at the Post Office dock, parents feel much safer with their arriving school kids coming off of the ferry, free from interacting with commercial activity."

Mr. Sweeting spoke of the Council's ongoing work to bring relief to some of the issues Hope Town has been facing including the decade old problem with the

rebuilding of the dune at White Sound and the more recent problems with the freight dock at Sunshine Park, saying, "Make no mistake, your Hope Town Council is working hard for you!"

He thanked the Prime Minister and his government along with Mr. Grant for addressing their problems. "I stand here today and applaud them. I wish to also thank my colleagues on Council for their hard work. All of our letters and constant follow-ups and phone calls paid off."

Central Abaco's Senior Administrator Cephas Cooper opened the ceremony for the contract signing. He stated that Hope Town should be "a model district" and gave high praise to Mr. Sweeting for his work on improving their townships.

The Hope Town Primary School students sang the national anthem.



The Minister of Works was pleased with the work to restore the dune in White Sound on Elbow Cay. The road along the top of the dune was undermined as the dune was washed out. The restored dune will be planted with sea oats that have roots that are extensive and will hold the sand and quarry in place.



Minister of Works Neko Grant and the official group listened as the Hope Town School students sang the national anthem. Mr. Grant was in Hope Town to sign the contract for repairs to the seawall at Sunshine Park.

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#4639 Lucayos Lot 6 - 5 minute walk to shared dock and beach. **\$99,000.** Jane Patterson
#4236 Marnie's Landing lot 3C NEW PRICE Dock slip and ocean view. **\$459,900.** Kerry Sullivan
#4313 New Settlement - Hillside lots w/ underground utilities. Starting at: **\$140,000.** Kerry Sullivan
New Settlement Lot #19 UNDER CONTRACT - Large lot with ocean view. Kerry Sullivan.
#4825 North End Lot 51 NEW LISTING Ocean View. **\$370,000.** Jane Patterson
#4826 North End Lot 66 Almost 1/2 acre lot. Underbrushed. **\$189,000.** Jane Patterson
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#4395 Shepherd Needle Hill 3.7 acres, 140' on deep water coastline. **US\$995,000.** Kerry Sullivan.
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#3824 Pink Sand - Best beachfront property on the island. **\$990,000.** Kerry Sullivan
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Power plant may be operational by June

Power Plant *From Page 1*

During a tour of the Wilson City construction site in December, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham indicated that diesel fuel would "most likely" be used instead of the more polluting heavy fuel oil (also known as bunker C fuel). But, he added, Abaco consumers may have to absorb the incremental cost of using the more expensive fuel.

"It is not appropriate at this time, when we are seeking to comply with world standards, for us to build a brand new plant using bunker C," Mr Ingraham acknowl-

edged at the time.

Currently, Nassau's main power plant at Clifton uses heavy fuel oil as does the privately owned Grand Bahama power plant, but all plants in the Family Islands use diesel. BEC's plan to burn heavy fuel oil at Wilson City has attracted much criticism from environmentalists and concerned residents on Abaco.

A new environmental activist group called Abaco Cares was formed in direct response to this prospect. It held a public meeting on January 20 at the New Vision Ministries conference hall in Marsh Har-

bour. Led by Pastor Clint Kemp, who operates a fly fishing business at Schooner Bay, the group invited U.S. experts to talk about the potential dangers of bunker C fuel.

Heavy fuel oil-based power plants produce higher smokestack emissions as well as vast quantities of oily wastes that require management and disposal. Waste oil demands frequent off-site disposal or incineration as well as an increased risk of leaks and spills and the associated burden of environmental cleanup.

All BEC customers are presently billed according to the same base tariff structure and a levelised fuel surcharge. It is not yet known whether BEC's billing systems can easily accommodate a fuel surcharge disaggregation. And the cost of diesel varies from one island to another because of differing freight rates.

According to Mr. Moss, if the cost differential between diesel and heavy fuel oil (HFO) for the Wilson City plant is restricted to Abaco, consumers here will face a surcharge increase between one and a half times and two times that incurred by BEC customers elsewhere in The Bahamas.

However, if the incremental fuel cost is spread among all BEC consumers throughout the country, customers will experience a fuel surcharge increase of around 0.30 c/kWh - a three percent increase. This is because Abaco's fuel consumption is relatively small compared with BEC's New Providence fuel consumption.

"While burning diesel at the Abaco plant would result in only a moderate increase in surcharge to the overall

BEC customer base, and while the introduction of HFO to the plant has not yet taken place, and while HFO is not used in any other Family Island plant, its introduction to Abaco could be avoided," Mr Moss said.

In response, Abaco Cares argues that the continued use of diesel in Abaco should, if anything, result in a decrease in consumer rates due to the operation of larger and more efficient engines at the new Wilson City plant. It said the introduction of higher rates for Abaco consumers would be "purely punitive."

The additional costs of using diesel fuel at Wilson City have been variously put at \$3.5 to \$10 million a year by BEC spokesmen. Both the Prime Minister and BEC Chairman Moss have said that the utility is working through the figures before a final determination on a possible rate increase is made.

But according to Clint Kemp, "The current plant uses diesel, so there is no reason why doing so at the new plant should cost more. And because of all the complications involved in using heavy fuel oil, a large portion of the savings from the lower cost of HFO - perhaps a third or more - will be soaked up by additional construction and operating costs."



This is an aerial of the new power plant under construction in the Wilson City area. It shows the proximity of the plant to the Bight of Old Robinson, an extensive mangrove fisheries nursery. The pipeline to the dock will be approximately three miles. No changes in the plans have been announced yet because of the switch to diesel fuel.

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Abaco is responding to Haitian disaster

Relief From Page 1

massive earthquake on January 12 measuring a whopping 7.0 on the Richter Scale, has suffered tremendous loss.

Chairman Barbara Johnson said, "There are many people who have lost everything. Their homes and livelihoods are gone. Many buildings which housed essential items, such as medicine and food, collapsed. Many people are injured; many of them in critical condition. It's just one big nightmare," she said. "The people are in dire need of assistance."

The Red Cross in New Providence and Abaco are appealing for donations from the public to send to the Red Cross in Haiti to distribute to the Haitian people. "The people are in desperate need of first aid supplies, diapers, formula for the babies and,

of course, food," said Ms. Johnson. "We are appealing to the public to come forward and assist. Today for Haiti, but tomorrow it could be The Bahamas. In fact, we could have had our share of devastation, too, because the same day Haiti was devastated by the earthquake The Bahamas was placed under a tsunami watch. And not to forget after hurricane Floyd Abaco was in bad shape and people helped us get back on our feet."

Ms. Johnson said the Red Cross is hoping to get the same response from the public as it did in the aftermath of the hurricane that left Inagua in a state of devastation. "When Hurricane Ike struck Inagua, the response [from Abaco] was really good," she said. "It was overwhelming. So I'm hoping because it's not Bahamians in need this time that the level of assistance would be any different."

Several days after the earthquake, Ms.

Johnson had received a \$1000 donation from a generous member of the public to go toward the relief fund. A number of people had stopped by the Red Cross office in Marsh Harbour to drop off donations. Those donations were flown to Haiti, courtesy of Sky Bahamas, on January 19.

Ms. Johnson urged members of the public to continually make donations to the Red Cross for the earthquake victims. "It's going to take at least a year for many people in Haiti to get back on their feet," she ex-

plained. "They are going to need on-going assistance. So we are appealing to the public to donate food, medical supplies or money. Clothes are not a top priority at this time. I just want to remind people that it could have been The Bahamas and so we should do unto others as we would want them to do unto us."

Donations can be dropped off at the Red Cross Center on Don MacKay Boulevard or to Ms. Johnson at Little Angels Academy in Marsh Harbour.



Many groups on Abaco are collecting money, food, clothing and other supplies to be sent to Haiti. Most of them will be sending these to Nassau for consolidation there. The Red Cross has been the most active. It is filling a 40-foot container donated by Tropical Shipping that will ship it gratis to Nassau.

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The Editor Says . . . The bunker C debate ends



The reasons for switching away from bunker C for BEC's new plant has been accepted and diesel fuel is now the choice. Left undecided is the cost difference to the consumer, if any, between diesel and the cheaper bunker C. It is interesting to note that most developing countries are phasing out their facilities that use heavy fuel oil primarily due to long term environmental and health issues.

Although the initial landed cost of bunker C is much cheaper than diesel, there are many other subtle and hidden factors which add to the final cost of using the cheaper fuel. Initial figures that we were given had BEC saving about \$8 million per year in fuel costs by switching to bunker C. This alone makes it worth considering.

However, as the opposition mounted to the dirty bunker C, it became apparent that there were many other issues to be considered. A recent government statement indicated that using diesel might be only a bit over \$3 million in additional costs annually although the language was vague indicating it might be higher. Studies are underway on the known and the unknown factors affecting the final cost for using diesel.

Many of the hidden costs related to the use of bunker C are difficult to measure such as long range health issues, increased equipment maintenance, the effects of increased pollution on our environment and ground water and other issues. Specifically, some of these follow.

- The use of bunker C fuel increases the maintenance costs substantially. How much more depends on whether routine maintenance is carried out.

- Heavy fuel oil exhaust emissions are full of toxic materials which generate health and environmental problems over time.

- Monitoring the emissions from the bunker C exhaust is expensive and time consuming, if it is done properly. Those opposed to the use of this fuel are not satisfied that the monitoring would have been done or that corrective action would have been undertaken.

It should be easier to monitor the exhaust emissions when the plant is diesel powered and to keep the emissions at minimal levels

as many of the harmful substances in bunker C exhaust are not present in the diesel exhaust.

- Bunker C requires a special tanker for shipping and the heavy fuel oil must be heated to allow it to be pumped.

- Eliminating the bunker C also eliminates the need for a centrifuge which removes water, heavy metals and other contaminants before the fuel is burned. Overlooked is the fact that these heavy metals and other substances in bunker C are either put into the atmosphere through the incinerator's smoke stack, or they remain as a sludge or ash to be disposed of on land somewhere.

- As with many issues at the plant, it has not been stated how the used engine oil will be disposed of no matter which fuel is used.

- Engines using heavy fuel oil require a dual fuel system along with a different start/stop protocol. Bunker C engines are started on diesel fuel and switched to the heavier fuel when the engines are warmed up. Shutting these engines down requires first switching to diesel to purge the pumps and injectors of the heavy fuel oil which must be heated to flow through the system.

- It has not been said but a three-mile pipeline for diesel from the shore to the plant should be simpler to install and maintain than the proposed twelve-inch pipe required for the heavy fuel oil.

- Government spokesmen did not seem

concerned about the need for a shallow draft tanker to bring the heavy fuel oil to the Wilson City terminal. Although we are sure that these ships exist, we are not aware that there are any now in The Bahamas. However, there are many shallow draft tankers that regularly deliver diesel fuel to the Family Islands.

Although the switch to diesel was confirmed to Larry Smith by Minister Earl Devaux, nothing has been said on the design changes needed for diesel or conversely, on the design elements not needed now as a result of the switch to diesel. The engineering changes required for diesel are easier to contend with than the speciality items needed to handle the thick heavy fuel oil.

The docking facility and pipeline for diesel deliveries will be much simpler than required for delivering bunker C. Engineers and industrial architects will be working overtime to plan the modifications required by the use of diesel. In general terms, everything is easier by using diesel. It is possible that the fuel transfer facility can be moved closer to shore rather the current plan of 800 feet from shore.

Although the new plant will not be moved, this change of fuel should make the facility more acceptable.

As a country's population becomes accustomed to a higher standard of living, expenses rise. Air conditioning, frozen foods, medical care, bigger cars and motorboats all contribute to a better standard of

living, but they come with a price tag that we have become accustomed to. As crude oil prices worldwide fluctuate, we have to adapt to changing electricity prices. These rates are apt to fluctuate higher. BEC and government are now deciding what our energy bill will be.

One thing that has emerged from the BEC fuel issue is that informed and concerned residents can come together and get government's attention. An offshoot of the current BEC controversy has been the formation of two new environmental groups, Abaco Cares and Responsible Development for Abaco. How these will interact with our established Friends' group and how they will collectively react to future issues remains to be seen. Abaco's environmentalists are finding their voice and are now comfortable in bringing these issues to the attention of government and the public.

The final chapter on our new BEC plant has not been written and, like a good mystery, we await the next chapter. We are also watching our environmental groups to see where they are headed.

We have taken liberties with Newton's First Law of Motion formulated in 1687 which seems to apply to governments. "A body in motion will not change its course until acted on by an outside force." Concerned people acting together in harmony can be an outside force to cause government to change its direction.

Letters to the Editor

A Letter to Matthew McCoy

Reference is made to your letter addressed to Fred Gottlieb, the former Chairman of BEC and which was published in The Abaconian.

It is most unfortunate that you attempt to discredit Mr. Gottlieb by taking his statements out of context. You should be aware that the sulphur emissions are directly related to the sulphur content of oil. Hence, by using oil with a lower sulphur content (percentage), the sulphur emissions (parts per million) would be reduced. Therefore, as stated by Mr. Gottlieb, the use of a lower sulphur oil will result in lower sulphur emissions. This is a fact. Further, the emissions will meet international standards.

With regards to monitoring of the emissions in Abaco, as previously stated, ambient air monitoring devices have been installed not only on the site, but also in surrounding areas. The data captured from the same will be collected by an independent environmental specialist firm and made accessible to various stakeholders. Additionally, an Environmental Officer will be stationed at the site to further re-

enforce the Corporation's commitment to the safety and sustainability of the environment.

We trust that this information provides clarity to the readers and correct your attempts to discredit Mr. Gottlieb by taking his statements out of context.

Management
Bahamas Electricity Corporation

Dogs should not run free

Dear Editor,

I feel compelled to write this letter to remind dog owners that the free enjoyment of public roads is a right of any resident whether pedestrians, bike riders or car drivers and that aggressive dogs have already attacked pedestrians and bike riders in various areas of Marsh Harbour and Murphy Town.

An outdoor person, I used to enjoy regular walks on the Great Cistern Road, putting up with the odd dog barking at me. Lately two more dogs have been added to that particular one roaming free, not only barking but following me threateningly with bare teeth. One dog can be controlled, three dogs become a pack and therefore dangerous.

Could dog owners become conscious of their responsibilities and keep their dogs secured or in a fenced yard at least during the day or when they are not home?

Concerned homeowner

Responding to "A Plea to Abaco Drivers"

Dear Editor,

I, too, share all the experiences that "Don't want to be the healthiest Dead Man on the side of the road" does. My runs turn into a game of chicken with the drivers of Abaco. Can you not see me running because you are driving too fast to see?

I have been ALMOST hit by taxi drivers heading to down the road as fast as they can to get to the next fare, Haitians with no drivers licenses a known fact, people texting or on their cell phones. PLEASE

pay attention, folks. I am merely trying to exercise, work off stress.

I cannot imagine what one of you would do if you hit a biker as in bicyclist, a walker or runner. How would you feel for the rest of your life? These people are husbands, fathers, mothers, wives, children, sisters and brothers. All because you were going too fast and or not paying attention or both. All any of us want to do is ride, walk, run on the road to stay healthy. Give us some room, wait for another car to pass before you try and squeeze between us because you have somewhere to go that is SO much more important than my life. It can wait three seconds!

By the way, where are the police when these people are speeding down the road or driving without a license? Most of you can answer that one on your own.

Running Scared in Abaco

Praise for a government employee

Dear Editor,

I ask that you publish this letter written to the Prime Minister.

To the Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham

To the Hon. Phenton O. Neymour

Dear Sirs,

It is not often, I am sure, that you receive letters of praise in government. It is likely a "thankless" job, and you have to obtain your own reward for your service. So, right away I would say "Thank you" to both of you for your ongoing work. I know very well that nothing is easy.

It is important to bring to your attention the hard work of another public servant - Mr. Henley Dawkins at the Water & Sewerage Corporation here in Marsh Harbour.

On Saturday, October 10, while a friend was mowing my lawn, he accidentally hit the water supply meters and severed one of them. The water was spraying everywhere and flowing out on to the street, disrupting the water supply of three neighbors.

I called the emergency number and the

Please see **Letters**

Page 9

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Letters to the Editor

regular number and got no answer. I called the emergency number in Nassau and did get an answer. But they said they had no telephone number for Keith Thompson, who was their emergency contact.

After contacting the Fire Chief here in Marsh Harbour, I obtained a number for Henley Dawkins, who came right away. During the time we were waiting, another Water & Sewerage person was seen leaving Abaco Hardware (which is next door to my home) and surely he could have noticed the water all over the road. But he made no attempt to come over. I did not see him myself or I would have approached him.

Mr. Dawkins came and repaired the leak quickly and we were struck by his pleasant personality.

To date, I have not received a call back from the messages I left on the answering machine at the Water & Sewerage office. When I visited the office to see the manager the following week, I was told he was "out" and there was "no way" to know when he would return and there was not a way to ever make an appointment to see him. You just had to "keep checking back."

I am sure there is nothing that can change the bad ways of many at that company, but perhaps you could just keep Mr. Dawkins in mind if you ever need someone to get something done.

Respectfully,
Annajeane Roberts

Upset with bikers' stunts

Dear Mr. Editor,

Thank you for allowing me to put a small piece in your paper concerning the young men who own street bikes, dirt bikes and four wheelers. The bikers here clearly think that everybody on Abaco loves them and enjoys their ridiculous and insanely stupid stunts they perform on their bikes. They especially love to perform these stunts in the middle of traffic on a very busy Friday afternoon and the best part about their "amazing" stunts as that they are not wearing any helmets or protection at all. They have street races over the weekend on Don MacKay Boulevard and they choose to do it in the wee hours of the morning.

My two-year-old son is now terrified of motorcycles because of their loud bikes that disturb him from sleep. I am 100 percent sure I am not the only person in Marsh Harbour that experiences their street racing. The bikes are so loud that you would literally think that they are racing right in your living room. Something needs to be done about these so called "street racers."

I say "Book them!" Give them a heavy fine or confiscate the motorbikes just because of the insanely stupid stunts they perform. They are riding around without protection which as far as I know is supposed to be illegal. I can guarantee that if it were me out there on a busy Friday afternoon doing wheelies in and out of traffic and not wearing protection, I would be fined or maybe even locked up for the night.

A bout two months ago I witnessed a young man on a white four wheeler try to do a wheelie on the corner by K&S Auto. He could barely hold the bike up so he started to wobble and almost toppled over into a line of oncoming traffic.

If something isn't done soon, these young men are going to end up dead. But I guess it's like the old saying goes, "A fool always dies before his time." So if they get booked and still continue to perform their stunts, then they only deserve what's coming.

Thank you for allowing me to put a piece in you paper.

Nicolette Russell

An alternative view of the power plant

Dear Sir,

It is very much in vogue to be recognized as an environmentalist these days. Too bad for me. Once again I am standing on the outside looking in on all the popular people. I am an environmentalist though, just not a committed one, at least not as it is described in the global community today. For instance, while I believe there is something to the worldwide call for attention to global warming, I do not believe that man is contributing to it as drastically as the far left "green" folks would have us believe, and I do not believe that man can slow it down. In other words, I'm one of those stupid people who believes that the earth is going through a natural warming cycle. And why do I believe such nonsense? Because there are many experts who say so. But, of course, we never hear from them because their interpretations of the future do not jibe with the very left wing interpretation. (That is why I watch the fair and balanced folks for my news.)

In any event, I wrote to offer my input on the new BEC plant at Wilson City. The first thing I'd like to say is that I am even more brilliant than I realize sometimes because I prophesied from the very beginning that no matter what they used for fuel in the new generators, electricity would not be any cheaper than it was before. In fact most likely it would be more expensive. The new BEC plant must be paid for, and we - the consuming public - are the owners of this new debt, necessary as it is, and how will we pay for it? Higher electricity bills, of course. I cannot remind you enough that the government does not give us anything. They are spending our money, and we Abaconians are paying for a lot more than we realize. Not everything paid for with Abaco's money comes back to Abaco.

I think it is a good thing that the government is going to revisit its decision to use Bunker-C fuel. It is nasty stuff. Quite frankly we cannot depend upon a government-run facility of any kind - anywhere in the world - to be run at its most efficient and therefore its safest level. So if the government should decide to actually burn diesel instead of Bunker-C, I think we should see that as a victory for the people of Abaco and move on. It is very hard for me to believe that my government moved so stealthily on this new BEC plant that the public was caught off guard. The fact that the environmentalists are just now getting geared up suggests to me that they may have been a bit disorganized. Governments are just not that well organized and certainly not my government.

Alternative means of generating electricity make for great discussion, and in fact might become reality one day. But in the meantime the existing plant has been run to death. It has long since been outgrown. We not only need a bigger and better electricity generating plant here on Abaco, but we need it NOW! And, we damn well deserve it. I for one am not prepared to delay the coming on line of the new BEC plant. The carbon footprints of the United States, China, India and others are very likely already poisoning me more than one new local power plant will. And we pay a premium for electricity. So at the very least, it should be a consistent supply.

Finally, I was asked recently why my government thought it necessary to spend so much money to attend the recent environmental seminar in Copenhagen. The answer is very easy. There has been proposed for the first time a world environmental government that will, among other

things, decide which developing nations of the world will benefit from the billions of dollars that will be made available to assist them in developing and/or implementing the use of more environmentally friendly sources of energy. And like any good third world leaders, our government had to make a good showing in Denmark so as to let the world know that the Bahamas will be a good little foot soldier in the drive to save the planet. Do we have a choice? The short answer is NO! If every Bahamian believed that this whole "save the planet" thing was a jolly good waste of time, we will still have to obey the wishes of those bigger dogs on the block who will chase us back under the porch if we don't tow the line.

Mr. Editor, thank you very kindly for publishing an "alternative" view on an often times unchallenged subject. I realize that challenging a wildly popular held belief is not always an easy thing to do. That's why you all have me, your Uncle Billy, to bail you out. (Oh, boy, what a most unfortunate choice of words. Bailout?)

Sincerely,
William (Billy) Roberts

A novel approach to the power problem

To the Editor,

If Minister Deveaux is so understandably concerned with the extent to which Abaconian power bills are subsidized by Nassau, as indicated in a recent issue, a solution is at hand: let Abaco form an electrical cooperative and purchase the power station and the grid from government. This could be accomplished using as models the small rural electrical co-ops of which there are over 800 in the United States and would result in a win-win situation for both Abaconians, who would gain control over their energy future, and the citizens of Nassau who would no longer bear the burden of an Abaco subsidy and would see their electric bills decrease.

Here is how it would work:

- An electrical co-op would be formed on Abaco (Abaco Electric Co-op or AEC) owned by the customers of AEC and its employees and governed by an elected board.
- AEC would purchase the Abaco assets of BEC, providing much needed cash for central government.

• The debt used to acquire the assets would be amortized and included on monthly power bills to the owners/customers of AEC.

The advantages are:

• AEC and its elected board, operating under guidelines for power plant emissions as established by central government, might see moderate rate increases but would gain the freedom to decide matters such as the type of fuel to be used, the siting of support facilities, such as fuel depots and pipelines, mandates for alternative energy usage, investment required to allow reverse metering and other forward-looking technologies, administrative structure and expense, connection charges and conditions for large scale developments proposed for Abaco, etc.

• The employees of AEC would hold a meaningful number of shares and would be completely accountable to their fellow owners and customers on Abaco, and not a minister in Nassau.

• Nassau would free itself of the burden of dealing with the wide array of concerns expressed by Abaconians regarding the numerous issues raised by the new plant which would become wholly the concern of AEC. This would no doubt be welcome, given the tenor of Minister Deveaux's comments. Under a power commission, central government would retain control over environmental and safety standards.

• AEC would represent a significant step forward in the Prime Minister's well established intent to continue to devolve power from the center to island communities.

The next step would be for a working group comprising Abaconians and government explore the financing options available to AEC. Fortunately, both the Prime Minister and the chairman of BEC are Abaconians and could greatly help drive the process forward.

Sincerely,
Jim Todd

What can I do? What difference will it make? Who cares?

Dear Editor,

I have heard these sentiments hundreds of times in the last few months as we have

Please see **Letters** Page 22

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News of the Cays

Art Workshop is held in Hope Town

By Jennifer Hudson

Ten local artists and some beginners joined with another 14 artists from throughout the United States for an art workshop in Hope Town which ran from January 4-14. Despite working outside in the very cold weather everyone said that they really enjoyed the experience. The workshop was led by renowned artist and teacher, Walter Bartman, who has been conducting exciting national and international workshops since 1976.

This is the eighth year he has brought the workshop to Hope Town and he finds the island so conducive to painting that he is already booked to come back again next year. "We had an excellent workshop and I was very impressed with the interest and energy from the locals," he stated. Last year only two local persons participated and Marlee Mason, who helps Mr. Bartman coordinate the workshop, expressed

how delighted she was to see how the community has begun to respond and that there was a wide age range of local students this year.

Last year Kayleigh Sands, who had just graduated from Forest Heights Academy, was the recipient of a scholarship to participate. She participated again this year and Mr. Bartman was extremely pleased with how well her painting had progressed. Kayleigh and her teacher were excited that two of her paintings sold at the culminating art show.

This year's scholarship recipient was Monique Thompson, a tenth grade student at Agape School. Mr. Bartman worked one on one with her and stated that he was very satisfied with the work of both Kayleigh and Monique, whom he described as "intense."

"I find it a real pleasure to work with the young ones; they are the future and worth our investment," he stated. "I want to encourage the youth and further their art talent and I will ask for businesses to sponsor some students in future workshops."

Monique was selected for the scholarship by Marlee Mason, who first "discovered" her while they were working on the mural at Standard Hardware. Ms. Mason and Mr. Bartman provided her supplies and Albury's Ferry service assisted with transportation. Monique is appreciative of her school principal being supportive in giving her the time

off to participate in the workshop. "My family was very excited that I was offered this great opportunity," stated Monique, who admits that she was "very scared" as it was the first time she had painted in water colours and acrylic. "I really enjoyed it and learned a lot. I look forward to going back next year as I have been invited to return by Mr. Bartman," she said.

Joli Feszt, a Hope Town resident who is a former art teacher and was participating for the first time this year, stated that she found

Mr. Bartman to be a very good and helpful instructor who taught them a lot. She was impressed by how diplomatic he was in helping those who were beginners.

Mr. Bartman began each day with lectures, then sent the artists off to find a subject to paint whether it be plants, sky, water, houses or portraits. On the final day of the workshop the paintings were displayed at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge. The showing was well attended by residents who were curious to see the results of all the work they had seen going on around town all week.



Walter Bartman is an artist who conducts an art workshop annually in Hope Town. This year the response from Abaco artists and students was great and Mr. Bartman was pleased with the progress they all made. He is shown here with Kayleigh Sands, a graduate of Forest Heights Academy who took the course last year as well.

Another sponsor of supplies for scholarship students was a visiting student, Bruce Steinhart.

More people are needed to get involved with donating money for art supplies for the scholarship students as the supplies are very expensive. Marlee Mason would like anyone who is willing to assist to contact her at 367-2790. She will purchase supplies which she will distribute to the scholarship recipients.

Please see **Cays**

Page 11



Mr. Walter Bartman's students displayed their art work at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge on completing a workshop with him. Several Abaco artists were pleased to sell some of their work.





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February 12th, 2010



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Curry Crab Soup





Salad

Tomato Basil Salad on Spinach



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More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 10*

Man-O-War residents want a community centre

On January 14 Mr. Eddie's Room at the Man-O-War School was filled to capacity as residents attended a town meeting called by Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting.

The meeting was called to look into the possibility of constructing a much needed community centre. Two recent events were threatened by weather, the Community Christmas Tree Lighting and the traditional Christmas morning celebration.

The meeting was co-hosted by Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting and Arthur Elden, Chairman of the Sojer Day committee. Mr. Sweeting spoke briefly of the need for the building and a plan to pay for it. He explained the need for several committees to be formed to ensure proper organization. A steering committee will direct the overall project. This steering committee will have three sub-committees: a contractors' committee, a fundraising committee, and a government relations committee.

The contractors committee will look into the particular kind of building, the size, etc. The fundraising committee will look into raising funds within the community to pay the costs. The government relations committee will consist of the two MOW council members, who would be in constant follow-up with central government to have some funds allocated to the project.

The floor was open and several ideas were exchanged on the project. During these exchanges, several contractors were accepting of the idea that if the government funded the purchase of materials, the resi-

dents would build it.

After the meeting the residents were encouraged to sign up on a committee. The organizers were pleased that the committees have a good number of members to take on this project.

MOW plans Flea Market

The 24th annual Flea Market will be held on February 13. This event promises to provide much entertainment as well as raising needed funds for the Man-O-War Primary School. The organizing committee will be offering all food and drinks and will have the traditional White Elephant Tables with lots of new and used items including a great used book stall.

There will be games for children and adults, crab races, an auction and a raffle, lots of activities to satisfy everyone.

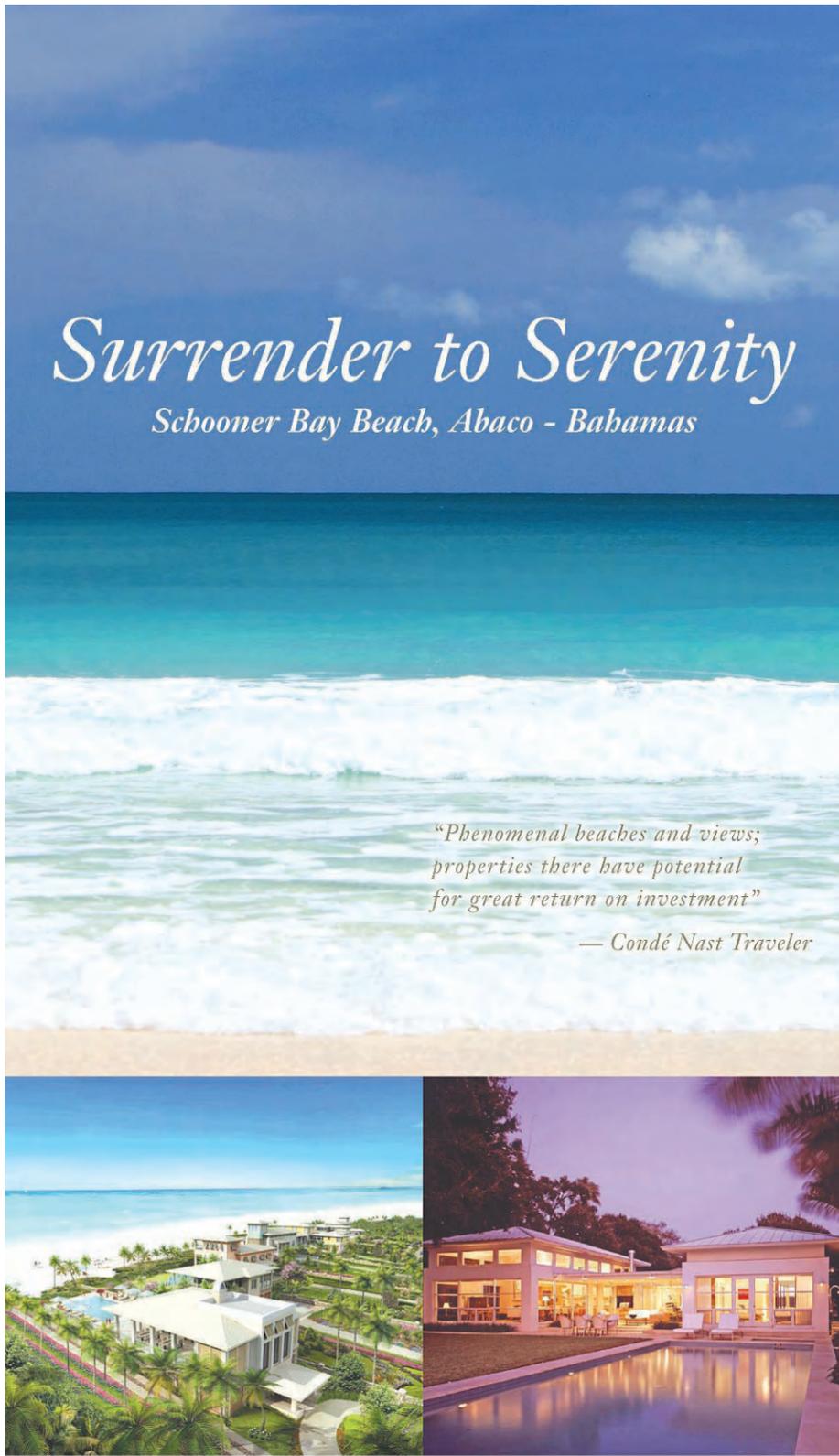
Albury's Ferry will be running special ferries with a discounted rate from Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War. Call the ferry office for the ferry schedule.

Family contributes to Hope Town

For the past 20 years the Megaloudis family has spent summers on Abaco and their children pretty much grew up there. However, tragedy struck in 2004 when their daughter Nicole was killed in an automobile accident. Her ashes are scattered in Hope Town. She was a soccer player and was attending college on a soccer scholarship.

After Nicole died, the family wanted to "give back" to the community that embraced them during their grief and they

Please see **Cays** *Page 12*



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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 11

knew that soccer was the way.

They have been holding the Remember Nicole soccer clinic in Hope Town every December since 2005 and have watched the local children and visitors hone their soccer skills. On December 28, 2009, 60 children participated in this year's clinic. They also donate used soccer equipment (uniforms, soccer cleats, etc.) to the Hope Town community.

Mrs. Megaloudis' sister and her husband, second homeowners Judi and Mitch Milesi, have donated much sporting equipment to the community, including bleachers.

The family also set up the Nicole Megaloudis Foundation, a non-profit organization that awards need-based scholarships

to deserving students to help them attend university. To date the foundation has awarded 24 scholarships, totaling \$60,000, ranging in award amounts from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each. Their mission is to help students realize their dreams and to allow Nicole's memory to live on. For more information about the foundation go to www.RememberNicole.org

Hope Town District Council meets

By Timothy Roberts

Representatives for Joe's Cay Limited met with the Hope Town Council during its meeting on January 14 to discuss and to answer questions concerning their proposed project which includes 19 villas, a new beach with breakwaters and a dock-

ing area. The project has been coming up against resistance from local residents who fear the project is too large for the cay and thinks dredging for the docking area will cause too much harm to the delicate mangroves in the area.

Vernon Wells, Deputy Director of Cavalier Construction, owner of Joe's Cay Limited and developers of the project, along with their lawyer, Adrian White, attended the meeting on the behalf of Joe's Cay. Mr. Wells asked the Council if the members had received a letter that was sent to them in December because he had not received a response yet. Jeremy Sweeting, Chief Councillor for the Hope Town District, apologized saying he thought a response had been sent.

Mr. Sweeting informed Mr. Wells that

the site plan had been posted locally and that they were waiting for public response to the project. They had received only one letter at the time of the meeting.

Mr. Wells said they are still waiting to move forward with the project and felt that response has been favorable. They have received the necessary approvals from the BEST Commission and have been going through all the proper channels but are waiting for Hope Town Council to give formal approval.

Mr. White added that BEST (Bahamas Environmental Science and Technology Commission) has given verbal approval for the site, and he feels they are pleased with all the environmental concerns which

Please see **Cays**

Page 13



Sixty children attended this year's one day soccer clinic held annually in Hope Town. The clinic is one way the Megaloudis family is remembering their daughter who was killed a few years ago in a tragic automobile accident. She was attending college on a soccer scholarship. The family has contributed sporting equipment to the town as well as holding this clinic.



The Hope Town District Council members did an on-site inspection of the Hope Town Inn and Marina, a project across the harbour from the community. The developer is dredging to allow a the construction of docks. The construction is being supervised by Ainsley Harrison shown in the picture facing the camera.




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More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 12*

Joe's Cay has addressed.

Erica Russell, a Hope Town resident, commented that the Minister of Environment, the Hon. Dr. Earl Deveaux, said there would be no approval given until another town meeting was held and the opportunity given for the plans to be

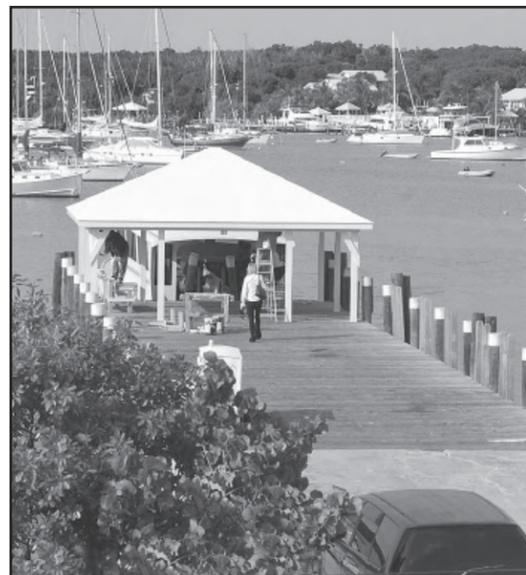
reviewed.

A bone of contention during this meeting involved the letter that was submitted by then owner, Morris Davies to the Hope Town Council in 2004 for several houses which was given approval in principal. Council member Walter Sweeting, who was on the board at that time, said there was no physical copy of that letter

on file. Another former member of that Council in attendance, Roscoe Thompson, said he had no copy anywhere in his files.

Mr. White presented them with an unsigned copy of the original letter which was read to the Council. The letter stated that Mr. Davies desired to build a bridge to connect Joe's Cay to the mainland and that he wanted to put in some boulders in order to create a sheltered bay and dredge on the inside to facilitate a dock and a few boats. It stated that he wanted to build a second home for himself and a limited number of cottages for friends and families.

Mr. Walter Sweeting said that approval was given at that time because it was thought, due to facts stated by Mr. Davies, that the intent was for three to four small homes or cottages. It was also noted that approval was given for the homes; however, no approval was given for the bridge and boulders or for dredging in that area.



Hope Town now requires that freight be offloaded at Sunshine Park rather than the Upper Public Dock. This view of the dock shows an attractive gazebo for the comfort of passengers who come and go on the ferry.

It was argued that the approval in principal had expired because no further con-

*Please see **Cays** Page 18*



The wall behind the Hope Town Post Office is dangerous. John Schaeffer recommends that it be demolished before it falls against the supports of the Post Office building.



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The highlights of 2009

By Jennifer Hudson

In January the Hon. Byron Woodside, Minister of Local Government, visited Hope Town, Guana Cay and Man-O-War Cay to get a first hand report of their problems. Also the Hon. Earl Deveaux, Minister of the Environment, visited Central Abaco to review operations at the recently opened sanitary landfill.

Six new citizens, all of Haitian descent, were sworn in on January 30 by Chief Immigration Officer for Abaco, Hubert Ferguson. Also present for the ceremony were the Minister of Immigration, the Hon. Branville McCartney, and the Director of Immigration, Jack Thompson.

Glender Knowles, Peggy Thompson and Steve Dodge were this year's winners from Abaco of the prestigious Cacique Award. They were presented with their trophies at the 13th Annual Cacique Awards Ceremony held in Nassau on January 30.

On February 3 the Duke of Topsail, which hauls cargo between West Palm Beach and Abaco, docked at Marsh Harbour's port making it the 600th voyage for her captain, Capt. Michael Bethel.

Hundreds of potential farmers and interested persons turned out to meetings in North and Central Abaco at which BAIC Executive Chairman Edison Key announced that five and 10 acre plots are now available for leasing at reduced cost for farmers to grow crops for local consumption.

On February 28 the Bahamas Christian Network television station, owned by Silbert and Dolly Mills, was officially opened by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham. Many dignitaries were in attendance.

Vinceia Coackley, a twelfth grade stu-

dent at Forest Heights Academy, not only won the local Junior Achievement speech contest but went on to win the Rotary Speech Contest in Nassau.

A clean-up, sponsored by the South Abaco District Council, the Abaco Club at Winding Bay, the Ministry of Tourism and Keep Abaco Beautiful, began at Hole in the Wall Lighthouse in South Abaco to clear the lighthouse and its surrounding buildings of unsightly accumulated debris.

Housing Minister, the Hon. Kenneth Russell, presented keys to a new homeowner in Spring City. The three-bedroom, two-bath home was one of 100 low cost homes the government is constructing in that community.

Man-O-War Cay hosted its first heritage day, Sojer Day, on April 4. This first Sojer Day was intended as a ceremonial tribute to the ancestors and founding fathers and was officially opened by the Hon. Byron Woodside, Minister of State for Lands and Local Government.

His Excellency, Hu Dinxian, the Chinese Ambassador to The Bahamas, toured several farms during his day on Abaco on March 24.

Abaco's first contingent of Royal Bahamas Defence Force Rangers was inducted on April 4 in a formal ceremony at the Marsh Harbour freight dock. Forty-seven students were officially inducted.

Hope Town School placed first in the Primary School Division of the UNESCO Sandwatch programme's worldwide video competition.

May 15 marked the first Haitian Flag Day in Marsh Harbour. Hundreds of Haitians, with a handful of Bahamians, joined with thousands of other Haitians in New Providence and Grand Bahama in celebrat-

ing their history.

The First Annual Lionfish Derby was held on Green Turtle Cay on June 6. Twenty-five registered boats pulled 1,408 of these red and white striped predators from the waters by the end of the day. This first lionfish derby ever was deemed a great success.

A 271-foot barge loaded with close to 6,000 tons of scrap metal including junk cars, refrigerators, stoves, heavy equipment and other junk metal, which had been crushed by a crane, left Abaco for Tampa where the trash would be recycled.

Nine Abaconians were named in the Queen's Birthday Honours for service to their community. Those honored were Vernon Malone, Ritchie Albury, Bateman Sands, Walter Sweeting, Benjamin Pinder, Scott Weatherford, Capt. Lewis Key, Cecil Mills and Ann Parotti.

In a joint exercise between the Department of Immigration, the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and the Royal Bahamas Police Force, a surprise raid was simultaneously carried out upon three Haitian communities in Abaco - the Mud, Pigeon Peas and Sandbanks - resulting in the rounding up of 305 migrants.

On August 11 Abaco welcomed 19 Miss Universe contestants who spent the day sightseeing and enjoying a beach party in North Abaco.

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation hosted a Town Meeting on September 10 at New Vision Ministries to inform the people of Abaco about its plans for the new generating plant under construction at Wilson City. Between 700 and 800 people attended this orderly meeting to hear top personnel from BEC and government ministers giving an overview of the research

and options BEC had considered before deciding on generators burning Bunker C fuel and many voiced their concerns.

An early morning fire on October 5 destroyed nine houses in the Mud. There were no injuries but about 39 documented people were left homeless.

The new runway at the Marsh Harbour International Airport was opened for one day only. Bahamasair, Western Air, Sky Bahamas and several private planes took advantage of it. But since the runway had not been approved by Federal Aviation Authority officials, commercial flights from the U.S. could not use it.

During the month of October two protests took place. The first took place outside the S.C. Bootle High School, Cooper's Town, where parents and students expressed their concern that the school was short four teachers so far into the school year. The other took place in front of the post office in Marsh Harbour where a small group, mostly from Hope Town, gathered to express their concern about the pollution they felt would be caused by the use of Bunker C fuel in the new BEC power plant under construction at Wilson City.

Two teachers from Abaco were selected from teachers nationwide to receive the annual Fidelity Sir Gerald Cash National Distinguished Teachers' Awards. Candace Key from Hope Town School and Neulesa Lundy-Major of the Central Abaco Primary School were honored during a ceremony held at Government House in Nassau on October 23.

Four persons died and another was left badly injured on November 6 in a shocking

Please see **Highlights** Page 15

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Junkanoo groups are preparing for competition

By Navardo Saunders

Local Junkanoo groups are gearing up to take Don MacKay Boulevard by storm. Some groups are confident of victory while others are prepared to do just their best. Six groups will participate in the senior parade scheduled to take place on February 20. They include the defending

champs, the Treasure Cay Explorers, their arch-rivals Spring City Rockers, the Dundas Town Supreme Dancers, the Murphy Town Motown Shockers, the Sandy Point Earth Movers and the newcomers Lil Island Slammers from Green Turtle Cay. All of the groups are spending countless hours in their shacks preparing for their showdown.

Noel St. Claude of the Treasure Cay Explorers says his group wants nothing more than to make it two in a row. His group is focused and intends to wow the thousands of spectators who are expected to witness the parade. But Noel also knows that in order to take the crown again they'll have to be on their A game. He expects the other groups to leave everything on the parade route. And they will have to if they intend to keep the top prize out of the Spring City Rockers, which until last year reigned supreme.

Colin Curry, a representative of the

Rockers, said the group intends to bring all or nothing. "We're coming with blood in our eye," Curry said. "We are getting ready to put on spectacular performance. We want to win it all."

While most bets are on the Rockers and Explorers, the Murphy Town Motown Shockers and Dundas Town Supreme Dancers have their sights set on victory. Inside their respective shacks group members are working at fever pitch on costumes and dance choreography. Group members from both groups said they plan to come out on top. Inside the Shockers shack the song Ain't No Stopping Us Now, We're on the Move played in the background as the group members constructed costumes.

The two smaller groups, the Earthmovers and Lil Island Slammers, know that expectations of their winning are not that high, but they aren't paying any attention to the noise, except for inside their shacks where there is, to borrow the quote made

famous by President Barack Obama, a sense of Yes, We Can. These two groups did not have much to say. While they feel good about their chances, they believe "talk is cheap."

Chairman of the local Junkanoo committee, William "Tony" Davis, says the Junkanoo weekend should be a very exciting one. So far plans are going well and everything is being put in place for a well-organized parade.

He said the Ministry of Tourism has done even more this year to promote the parade, but other partners are needed.

"Right now we're trying to get the Chamber of Commerce to partner with us," he said. "We need all the help we can get so that the parade can go off without a hitch."

Davis announced that the junkanoo groups will reveal their themes for the parade during a promotion at Burns House on January 30.

Highlights

From Page 14

two-car head-on collision on the S.C. Boothe Highway near Andy's Service Station in Treasure Cay.

A delegation of investors from China visited Abaco on November 13 to look into the possibility of developing large scale farming on Abaco. They toured several farms in South Abaco and the abandoned citrus farm in North Abaco, taking soil samples for testing.

A fire, which occurred at approximately 6.30 p.m. under a switchboard at The Bahamas Electricity Corporation Power Station in Marsh Harbour, disrupted the power supply for all of Abaco for several hours. Approximately three hours later power was restored to over 50 percent of consumers and supply was restored to all areas by the following afternoon.

The Faith Walk Church of God Cathedral in Cooper's Town was completed after eight years of construction and dedicated on November 29, bringing to reality Bishop Archilus Cooper's dream.

Four engines and generators arrived at the Marsh Harbour port on December 10. On December 12 a special truck connected to a trailer with 16 axles began moving the equipment to the new BEC site about 18 miles away at Wilson City. It was anticipated that each trip with the biggest parts would take eight hours. BEC, BTC and Cable Bahamas worked together in lifting or disconnecting wires that were too low for the equipment to pass under. Prime Minister Ingraham toured the new BEC site on December 12. Concerned residents were invited to attend, and Mr. Ingraham told them that there is a "good chance" that diesel will be used instead of Bunker C but that it could result in an increase in electricity bills.



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<p style="text-align: center;">LONG BEACH</p> <p>Offering beachfront, oceanview & hill-top lots. #13756 Homesites starting at.....US\$ 30,000 Homes available starting at US\$275,000 #14119 Price: \$166,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DUNDAS TOWN</p> <p>DUPLEX - 2 bed, 1 bath on each side. Concrete block construction. Great investment property. #14119 Price: \$166,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MURPHY TOWN</p> <p>Multi-family unfinished duplex. Concrete block construction. 2,464 sq.ft. total. Solid structure. Good investment opportunity. #13935 Price: \$120,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GILPIN POINT</p> <p>2 beautiful beach lots with mature coconut trees. South Abaco, near Schooner Bay. Interior lots \$39,000 #13647 Price: \$175,000 ea.</p>										
<p>VACANT PROPERTIES</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Bahama Palm Shores Interior lot, Section 1.....\$33,000</td> <td style="width: 50%;">* Long Beach Interior lots.....Starting at: \$ 30,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bahama Palm Shores Interior lot, Section 2.....\$37,000</td> <td>* Turtle Rocks Acreage 148 ft. shoreline, 728 ft. deep.....\$495,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casuarina Point Interior Lot #85, Section 3.....\$60,500</td> <td>* Murphy Town Lot 100' x 100'.....\$ 35,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casuarina Point Water View Lot.....\$60,000</td> <td>* Leisure Lee Canal front homesite on Palm Dr.....\$249,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasure Cay Best priced waterfront lot in Treasure Cay.....\$249,000</td> <td>* Long Beach RENTAL 2 bedroom, long term.....month/\$1,500</td> </tr> </table>				Bahama Palm Shores Interior lot, Section 1.....\$33,000	* Long Beach Interior lots.....Starting at: \$ 30,000	Bahama Palm Shores Interior lot, Section 2.....\$37,000	* Turtle Rocks Acreage 148 ft. shoreline, 728 ft. deep.....\$495,000	Casuarina Point Interior Lot #85, Section 3.....\$60,500	* Murphy Town Lot 100' x 100'.....\$ 35,000	Casuarina Point Water View Lot.....\$60,000	* Leisure Lee Canal front homesite on Palm Dr.....\$249,000	Treasure Cay Best priced waterfront lot in Treasure Cay.....\$249,000	* Long Beach RENTAL 2 bedroom, long term.....month/\$1,500
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Obituaries of Family and Friends

Eugene Harrington Russell, 60, formerly of Sandy Point died in Nassau on January 7, 2010.



Eugene Harrington Russell

The funeral service for **Dorothy Bethel**, 65, formerly of Cedar Harbour was held on January 16 in. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her daughter Petty Officer Arlene Moss; sons Ben, Fredrick and Kirk Bethel, Bernard Robinson



Dorothy Bethel

and Christopher Brennen; grandsons Kirk Jr., Fredrico, Fredrick, Benjamin, Keith and Christopher; granddaughters Shekera, Lakeitra, Christamarah, Shaveka, Shavonne, Simone, Kandia, Brittany, Megan, Shantie, Fredshika, Antania and Ashanti McPhee; great-grandson Tameko Jr.; son-in-law Keith Moss; daughters-in-law Melissa and Jasmine; sisters Dorcas, Paula and Mellie; brother Osbound; nieces; nephews; grand nieces; sisters-in-law Pastor Mildred Kemp-Ferguson, Heather Young, Esther Davis and Alfreda Johnson; nieces-in-law; nephews-in-law; cousins Dorcas and Lovely Mills, Silla Saunders, Catherine, Magaretta, Alean, Mills, Rev. Allen, John, Charlie and Elijah Mills and

the entire Cedar Harbour community; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Hilton Edward Bain**, affectionately called Hilly Billy Bain, 59, of Sandy Point was held on January 16th at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Sandy Point. Rev. Dr. Carrington Pinder and Rev. Napoleon Roberts officiated assisted by other ministers of the gospel. Interment followed in Sandy Point Public Cemetery.



Hilton Edward Bain

He is survived by his wife Elizamae Bain; sisters Aladice Culmer, Victoria Butler and Roselda Clarke; brothers Deacon Edward Bain, Anthony and Leon Bain; father-in-law Wilba Roberts; step-mother-in-law Lillian Roberts; aunts and uncles Berline Johnson, Dorothy and Jonathan Dean, James and Beatrice Davis, Ismae and David Seymour and Harrison Gaitor; sisters and brothers-in-law Lenora and Yvonne Bain, Derek Butler, Hercules Clarke, Marinette and Richard Walker, Angelo, Peter, Violet, Patrick and Rose, Wilba, Stephanie, Marsha Roberts and Steven Pinder; nieces and nephews Ralph Dames, Eleanor, Rochelle, Bradley and Carrington Stuart, Sherwanda and Shermona Culmer, Prescott, Nicole and Essence Bain, Crisel Clarke, Mutazz and Ridvan Butler, Lisa and Stanley Bowe, Lovie and Larry McIntosh, Hope and Curtis Major, Dania Whyte, Rashad Burrows, Valentino Adderley Jr., Aaron and Algerno Huyler, Shawn, Valencia,

Shantell, John Jr., Angelo Jr., Schavolo, Melisha, Jada, K.K, Bashaina, BJ, Soniva and Socoya, Patrick Jr., Patrico Robert and Rosetta Pinder; god-parents Deaconess Isadora Pinder and Ismae Stuart; godchildren Lowell Burrows, Lottie Rolle, Alvin Green, Celia Johnson; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Lottie Advilda Curry**, 92, formerly of Fire Road who died on January 2nd, was in Nassau on January 16. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her sons O'Donald McIntosh, Barry Lightbourn, Drexel Curry and Philip Curry; daughters Isabella Curry; Beatrice Curry-Gilbert, Justina Curry and Remina Curry; stepchildren,



Lottie Advilda Curry

Donalee Curry, Rosevelt and Livingston Curry; grandchildren Irgentina Sargent, Doral, Abigayle, Oscar, Dwayne, Kirklyn and Drexel McIntosh, Touma Knowles, Troy McIntosh, Brendamae Gedeon, Judy Capron, Samuel and Jayson Johnson, Antriniece and Drexel Curry, Regina Green, Shanto, Alvarado, D'vano and Bijon Curry, Edward Burnside, Chenardo Adderley, Nicknell Genor, Rodnique, Rodney and Precious Curry, Cardinal, Robert, Navado and Nacara Gilbert, Marvin and Mario BENEBY, Kevin Lowe, Dremeca Dean, Tovano Johnson, Terranique and Terrence Poitier, Twyla Pratt, Philip Jr. And Quintin Curry; great-grandchildren;

great- great-grandchildren; sister Mable Burrows; daughters-in-law Rosamae McIntosh, Stephanie Lightbourne, Geraldine, Sandramae and Judymae Curry; son-in-law Robert Gilbert; sister-in-law Maud Pinder; nieces and nephews including, Vianna and Lionel Pinder; grandnieces and grandnephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Kathleen Agatha Bethel**, 86, formerly of Hope Town was held in Freeport, Grand Bahama on 23rd January.

Mrs. Bethel was predeceased by her husband Harcourt (Rusty) Bethel; son Randolph Bethel and brother Ray Albury.

She is survived by her daughter Sheila Ashton; son-in-law Peter Ashton and daughter-in-law Angelita Bethel;



Kathleen Agatha Bethel

grandchildren Chris Ashton, Cameron Bethel and Liza Nash; sisters Viola Bethel and Peggy Gates and brother Winer Malone; nieces Jennie Seymour, Mary Parks, Karen Sands, Debbie Gates and Kara-Lee Senn; nephews Thomas and Gregory Albury, Bill Gates and Roddie Malone; and many other relatives and friends.

A memorial service for **Hank Williams**, called "Giant," 43, of Marsh Harbour and formerly of Cooper's Town, was held on January 26th in Nassau.

He is survived by his mothers Sylvia

Please see **Obituaries** Page 17



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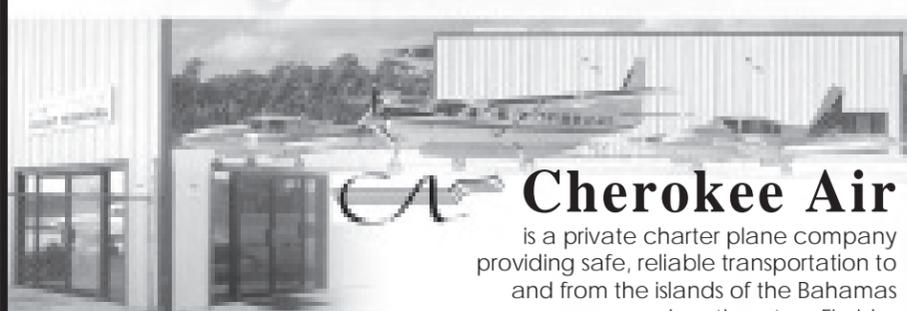



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More Obituaries of Family and Friends

Obituaries

From Page 16

Williams and Lucy Davis; father Robert Williams; wife Trineka Williams; children Ryan McCurdy Williams, Henswhyte Williams and Hananad Williams; step-father Carl Davis; mother-in-law Betty Edwards; siblings Anna Ruth Williams, Sandra Smith, Clyde Frazier, Mackey Parks, Maria Morley, Vangilee Idehon, Ufeima Parks, Justin Moss, Neil Maynard and Scott Moss; aunts Sevanita Reckley, Evelyn Russell, Annie McIntosh, Mildred Russell, Melveas Williams, Wendy Williams and Edith Morgan; uncles Burnell "Chubby" Williams, Hasten Russell; brothers-in-law; sisters-in-law; nieces; nephews; cousins; and many other relatives and friends.



Hank Williams

The funeral service for Millet Kemp, 57, of Cooper's Town was held on January 23rd at the Church of God Cathedral in Cooper's Town. Bishop Archilaus Cooper officiated assisted by other ministers of the gospel. His remains will be sprinkled at sea.

He survived by daughters Raquel Clement, Kenra Gibbs, Almeta Curry, Cindy Huyler, Hilary Stephanna, Dashna, Tina, Lovita and Malinda Kemp; sons Christopher, Michael (Papa), Justin, Michael and Kinsley Kemp; adopted children Jason and Karen Kemp; sons-in-law Anthony Clement, Derek Gibbs, Austin Huvler, Theodore Curry Sr. and Wesley Joseph; grandchildren Raton, Ashton and Antwanva Clem-

ent, Keano Williams, M a t a o Gibbs, Kirkland, Theodore Jr., Quadray and Tayshawn Curry, Austineka Huyler, Peter Taylor Jr., Allintino and Jimmy Laurent, Amanda and Skylar Joseph; sisters Udean Rolle, Norma Williams, Melanie Pedican and Yolanda Thurston; stepsister UnaMae Sawyer; brothers Mosell, Gary and Ashley Smith Sr.; adopted brothers Audrick McKenzie and Desmond Bootle; adopted sister Florina Cornish; aunts Vivian Cornish, Winifred McDonald, Orleanie Rolle, Louise Wright, Shirley Kemp, Chriscola and Vernita Rolle; uncles Edward, Alaxender, Ronald and George Rolle, Joseph Wright and Neville Kemp; sisters-in-law Sophia, Kendra and Amanda Smith; brothers-in-law Maxwell Rolle, John Williams, Steve Pedican, Pedro Thurston and Joe Sawyer; nieces Unidellangie, Inga, Anita and Beverly Rolle, Amanda Newbain-Leathan, Shanel and Simone Pedican, Jerusha Williams, Antwanne, Ashmarie, Clifina, Corneka Smith and Pedra Thurston; nephews Sterling Newbold, Robert Russell, Latoy Williams, Michael, Stephen and Severiano Pedican, Christoph and Christian Nesmith, Orlando, Ashley Jr., Asheen and Andrea, Mosell Jr. Clifford, William and Shemeko Smith; and many other relatives and friends.



Millet Kemp

Melitta (Litty) Bacon, March 10, 1923 - January 6, 2010, died peacefully in Kingston, Ontario, after a brief illness. Predeceased by her husband Jim (2000), she is survived by her children Carol For-

Locair is assisting in Haitian disaster

Over the past days the media has flooded the public with horrifying images of the earthquake in Haiti. Haiti, the most under-developed and poorest country in this hemisphere, has been devastated by these quakes.

Locair is now making many flights to move supplies, people, rescue teams and infrastructure to Haiti. The Fairchild Metro III that the company flies is appropriate for these trips because of their size and speed with a capacity of 4,400 pounds. The company is flying for the US Embassy, United Nations and public and

civic groups.

Because of these extra flights, Locair is having to juggle its flights to Abaco. The staff is asking all passengers to call them 24 hours in advance of any international flight to reconfirm the flight time. The United States phone number 877-359 4160 or 954-359-3001. From a Bahamas Batelco phone 800-205-0730. Local numbers are Marsh Harbour 367-3522 and Treasure Cay 365-8945. The company expects to have an additional plane in its fleet in February to provide Abaco with even better service.

rester (Gary Byers), Monica and Peter (Beverly); grandchildren Deanna Forrester, Rob (Shannon) Forrester, Jeff Bacon (Dawn) and



Litty Bacon

Michelle Bacon; great-grandsons Josh and Nate Forrester. Litty lived a life full. Born and raised in Austria, she emigrated to England prior to World War II. After marrying Jim, they emigrated with their children to Canada in 1954. When their working years in Ottawa were completed, Litty and Jim enjoyed spending many happy winters on Abaco, a total of 30 years for Litty. Donations in Litty's memory may be made directly to the charity of your choice.



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More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 13*

tact was made for more than a year after the approval had been given. It was countered that once no changes had been made that the approval was still in effect and does not expire.

Mr. Jeremy Sweeting brought the discussion to a close, stating that the Council had met earlier to discuss Joe's Cay and had made a decision. The Council unanimously rejected the project stating that they could not accept the plan as presented.



The cays have problems that the mainland does not face. This road in Hope Town causes even pedestrians to squeeze out of the way when a golf cart passes.

He said the density of the homes and environmental damage to the marine life and mangroves by the proposed dredging were the determining factors.

The Council took a short recess to do an onsite inspection at the new Hope Town Inn and Marina now under construction due to some claims that the developers were reclaiming land. It was found that, after speaking to the manager of the property, it was a temporary measure in order for the dredging equipment to be able to reach the middle of the cove and that it would be returned to the shoreline as proposed on the plans.

The meeting resumed after that recess with Chris Thompson introducing the new owner of Ekali, Jim Irvin. The present five-acre property houses four cottages. Mr. Irvin has proposed to expand the number of cottages in keeping with a small resort. His proposal includes a total of eight small rental cottages, a bar and grill, a club house and includes three pools. It will be lushly landscaped and family friendly. It was also noted that the property is already active with the Bahamas Hotel Association and the Out

Island Promotion Board, and that it has already met approval from the Foreign Investment Board. The Council gave a positive response to the project and was scheduled to do a site inspection on January 16.

The Council went over several plans and permit requests which included proposals for docks, anchorages and more.

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GUANA CAY

Atlantic Oceanfront Parcel #746 - Approx. 1 acre residential parcel, 154' elevated shoreline near Orchid Bay community, great ocean views. **\$395,000.**

"Secret Beach" # 1267/1268 - Ocean Front Elevated Parcels 9A (19,190 s/f) & 9B (16,144 s/f) lots, each with 100' +/- of Atlantic Ocean rocky shoreline & sand beach frontage. Prime building sites. **EACH \$249,000.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Beach Front Parcel # 714 - 45,343 s/f parcel, 100' ocean beach frontage. Electricity available. Ideal site for permanent residence or vacation home. **\$349,000.**

Ocean View Parcel - Near Beach - # 1502 - Elevated 17,650 s/f lot with 135' of road frontage offering superb ocean views. Just a 1 minute walk to sandy Atlantic Ocean Beach. **\$148,950.**

Inland Lot - Near Beach - # 1176 - Large 21,450 s/f level lot on main street, electricity & telephone available. **\$59,500.**

GREAT CISTERN CAY

"Paradise Point" # 659 - Furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2,400 s/f waterfront home with porches & balconies on 1/2 acre. 193' elevated Sea of Abaco frontage, Fantastic views. **REDUCED TO \$595,000.**

Beachfront Lot #9A # 1379 - 21,565 s/f private & serene beach parcel with 190' frontage on Sea of Abaco. Utilities available. Spectacular sea views. **\$239,000.**

Beachfront Lot # 7 # 1197 - 24,710 s/f private & serene beach parcel with 126' frontage on Sea of Abaco. Utilities available. Spectacular sea views. **\$239,000.**



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TURTLE ROCKS

"seaGlas Cottage" # 1237 - Charming 2 bed, 2.5 bath, 3 level furnished beach home on private 1.20 acres. 1,800 s/f under roof, 900 s/f decks/patios. 100' shoreline. New windows & central A/C. **\$799,000.**

Beach Home - 1532 - 2 bed, 2.5 bath elevated 2 level unfurnished home on 0.89 acres, 93' sandy beach frontage. Panoramic sea views. **\$699,995.**

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.**

Blackwood Waterfront Parcel # 1521 - 38,514 s/f parcel with 167' of deep water Sea of Abaco frontage and highway frontage. Topography well suited for a marina site. Utilities available **\$98,500.**

Boiling Hole Lots # 1030 - 2 Sea of Abaco waterfront parcels on Highway with 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.**

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. **\$769,000.**



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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.**

Waterfront House (Under Construction) # 1374 - 18,600 s/f sea front parcel, 108' deep water frontage, plus 50' long boat slip. 3 bed, 3.5 bath, 2,284 s/f home under construction. Great sea views. **\$322,000.**

Residential Parcels

823 - 10,150 +/- s/f canal lot w/130' frontage & 105' deep water dock w/ water & electricity. **\$345,000.**

1258 - 9,000 s/f canal lot, 87' water frontage, 160' lay-along docks & shared recessed boat basin. **\$335,000.**

602 - 15,334 s/f canal corner lot w/197' seawall. **\$299,500.**

704 - 10,400 s/f elevated canal lot w/104' deep water canal frontage. Sea views, walk to beach. **\$239,500.**

1080 - 12,100 s/f canal parcel with 110' sea walled canal frontage. Boat davits installed. **\$223,000.**

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.**

1501 - 20,741 s/f elevated lot adjacent to Leisure Lee community. 5 minute walk to beach. **\$80,000.**

567 - 2.139 acres on highway near Leisure Lee. 50' elevated ridge. 119' highway frontage. **\$149,700.**

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TREASURE CAY

"Camelot" # 1234 - Beachfront Estate. New custom designed, elegantly furnished 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, pool, numerous enhancement **REDUCED PRICE!** **\$6,450,000.**

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.**

"Girasole" # 1551 - Delightful 4 bed, 4.5 bath elevated Italian villa style beach home, plus 2 bed, 2 bath separate guest accommodations. Elegantly furnished, many upgrades/extras. 45,000 s/f landscaped grounds, 100' + beach frontage. **\$4,950,000.**

"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 lots. **REDUCED TO \$3,995,000.**

"Summertime" # Ocean Blvd. Superb 3 bed, 2 bath beach home plus 2 bed, 2 bath guest house. 3,600 s/f under air. Tastefully furnished. 1.37 acres, 133' beach frontage. **\$3,995,000.**

"Casuarina Beach House" - # 1512 - Ocean Blvd, furnished 6 bed, 5.5 bath 2 level beach home & efficiency apt. 6,600 s/f living space, pool, 27,600 s/f parcel, 80' beach frontage. Excellent rental income. **\$2,950,000.**

"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/f bi-level furnished home on 1.87 acres with 180' sandy beach frontage. **\$2,235,000.**

"Avalon" # 1516 - Exceptional 3 bed, 2 bath Windward Beach home. Immaculately maintained, well appointed, 2,500 s/f under roof, 2,200 s/f open & covered patios. 24,440 s/f parcel with 175' sandy beach. **\$2,321,000.**

"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/f beach front home. Breath-taking beach & sea views. Good rental income. **NOW \$1,999,000.**

Cutwater Way Canal Home - # 1524 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 3,600 s/f home on Brigantine Bay. Newly built in 2008, elegantly furnished, many upgraded features. 144' bulkhead, 70' dock, boat lift. **\$1,995,000.**

"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.**

"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.**

"Kokomo", **Brigantine Bay** # 1509 - Charming 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 level, 3,000 s/f tastefully furnished canal home. Recently renovated and upgraded. 10,915 s/f parcel with 102' canal frontage, dock & boat lift. **\$1,895,000.**

"Windover", **Brigantine Bay** # 1507 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,750 s/f bi-level elegantly furnished canal home, plus garage on 10,400 s/f topically landscaped parcel. 80' bulkheaded canal frontage with private dock. **\$995,000.**

"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.**



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TREASURE CAY

St. Andrews Estates # 1500 - 2,387 s/f 3 bed, 2 bath furnished home on 13,000 s/f parcel adjacent to golf course. **\$299,000.**

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.**

Bahama Beach Club 2032 - # 1525 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 2nd level, 1,650 s/f furnished beach condo, excellent sea & beach views. Club amenities. **\$865,000.**

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.**

Bahama Beach Club # 2031 - # 1485 - 3 bed, 2 bath 1,645 s/f furnished ground level condo plus private garage. Fantastic sea & beach views. Community pool, well maintained grounds. Excellent vacation rental or personal get-away retreat. **\$862,000.**

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.**

Bahama Beach Club # 2014 - # 1478 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,645 s/f 2nd level furnished beachfront condo. Great sea & beach views. Well manicured grounds, club amenities. Exceptionally priced at **\$805,000.**

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. **\$549,000.**

Royal Palm Condo # 2420 - # 1546 - 3 bed, 3 bath, (including loft) 2nd level, 1,264 s/f furnished condo. Great harbour & marina views. Well maintained, near beach, excellent rental income potential. **\$549,000.**

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 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.**



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TREASURE CAY

Royal Palm # 2304 - # 1472 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 950 s/f furnished ground floor level condo overlooking marina. Includes boat slip. Rental history. **\$403,000.**

Mariner's Cove Condominiums:
1181 - 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 level, 1,650 s/f furnished harbour front condo. tastefully refurbished. **\$649,000.**
985 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level harbour front end unit, Refurbished in 2000 **REDUCED TO \$271,500.**
655 - 2 bed, 1 bath condo with marina view **\$249,000.**

Superb Beachfront Parcel # 1362 - Ocean Blvd. level & cleared beach lot, 12,600 s/f, 90' fabulous sandy beach frontage. Breath-taking sea views. **\$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 (1.2 acres) with 115' sandy beach frontage & 40' depth. Superior building lot. All utilities available. Fantastic sea views. **\$1,386,000.**

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.**

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. **REDUCED TO \$1,295,000.**

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 # 817 - 1/2 acre waterfront parcel directly on Sea of Abaco, 124' beach frontage. Newly installed sea wall. All utilities available. **\$399,000.**

Rock Point # 1543 - 12,000 s/f landscaped level lot. 80' Sea of Abaco frontage. All utilities available **\$262,000.**

Treasure Cay Canal Parcels

Galleon Bay - # 1441 - 28,072 s/f cleared parcel, 64' of bulkhead with dock & dock house. **\$550,000.**

Galleon Bay # 744 - 19,256 s/f cleared canal parcel with 68' bulkheaded deep water frontage. Bay. **\$434,000.**

Galleon Bay # 1356 - 24,732 s/f large canal front parcel with 158' of bulkhead & sandy waterfront. **\$399,950.**

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 # 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 # 1498 - 20,310 s/f canal lot with 126' of sea-walled deep water frontage. Great Views! **\$322,000.**

Brigantine Bay # 1173 & 1174 - 2 adjacent deep water canal parcels, each 11,200 s/f with 80' bulk head & 140' depth. Cleared, all utilities available. **EACH \$299,950.**

Brigantine Bay # 1494 - 18,807 s/f cleared canal parcel 120' deep water bulk-headed frontage. **\$290,000.**

GUANA CAY

"Ridge Runner" # 1185 - 6 bed, 4 bath, 3,100 sq. ft. furnished home includes main house, separate master suite, guest cottage, pool & dock situated on 1.74 elevated acres with 330' of shoreline. Superb panoramic water views. **\$2,599,000.**

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FEB. 1, 2010

BEC states its position on the Wilson City Power Plant

Press Release December 30, 2009

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC) takes exception to the erroneous and inaccurate statements contained in a paid ad issued by Responsible Development for Abaco (RDA) that was published in a number of newspapers. The corporation reiterates the fact that the Wilson City site on Abaco was chosen after careful and extensive review. Further, all of the Bahamas borders on ecologically important locations.

The following amongst other things should also be noted:

- The corporation and the government are concerned about the health and welfare of all residents and visitors to the Bahamas in general and Abaco in particular, and for the health and welfare (sustainability) of the environment.

- The Wilson City Power Station will not cause any undue health risks to employees or residents of Abaco. The emissions from the plant are in accordance with international standards and would not cause the problems as alluded to in the ad.

- The statement suggesting that there is no transparency or that the people of Abaco were not involved is erroneous and irresponsible as is the claim that the process was done in secret.

- Interested persons have been invited and we reaffirm the invitation for Renewable Energy Technology.

- Stakeholders have been invited to partner with BEC as it relates to environmental issues.

- The Power Station at Wilson City is being built to the highest standard for fossil fuel burning plant.

- Government is determined to investigate all sources of fuel and the Wilson City Plant is capable of burning automotive diesel oil (ADO) as well as Bunker C. This has been explained ad nauseam to those opposed to the Wilson City Power Station.

- The Wilson City Plant is not "yards from the shore" as stated but a couple of miles inland.

- It is our confirmed view that Norman's Castle, Snake Cay, Sandy Point, Dundas Town, Treasure Cay, Sandy Point, Wilson City and anywhere else in Abaco would face the same environmental challenges.

- The corporation confirms that the construction of the Wilson City Power Station was properly planned and is in the best interest of residents of and visitors to Abaco. Contrary to statements made, it will enhance the opportunities for development and growth.

It should also be noted that the Prime Minister, the Minister of the Environment, the Minister of State in the Ministry of the Environment, the Chairman, the General Manager together with Friends of the Environment, the press and other members of the Abaco community visited the Wilson City Site on December 12, 2009, at which time the government exhaustively outlined its position and again addressed the concerns raised by some residents of Abaco who are opposed to the Wilson City Power Station.

Abaco heads back to the Privy Council again!

Press Release

Responsible Development for Abaco

"Set an example in your own backyard before preaching to the rest of the world!"

Development on Abaco will once again be the focus of proceedings before the Privy Council in London as soon as the Responsible Development on Abaco group can get a hearing to continue the efforts of Abaco residents in trying to stop the controversial BEC power plant.

Although the Court of Appeal refused to give the injunction to stop the plant, Justice of Appeal Newman ordered a speedy trial and RDA has written to the Registrar of the Supreme Court to get as early a date as possible.

One of the central complaints in this case is denial of due process and the inability to get urgent matters heard in time in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Smith, counsel for RDA, said, "I am happy to hear the Attorney General and Chief Justice reforming the Court system; first thing that needs to be done is making sure that critical and urgent hearings for injunctions in public interest and constitutional cases get the normal priority that they get in other jurisdictions." BEC continues to try and flam the public in their recent press release on December 30 suggesting that RDA has posted 'erroneous and inaccurate statements' in their ad."

Mr. Smith said, "It is specifically because, as BEC says, 'the Bahamas borders on ecologically important locations' that we do need public consultation, a Freedom

of Information Act (which the FNM consistently fails to deliver on), and proper EIA's."

Mr. Smith continued, "I applaud Mr. Ingraham for his comments in Copenhagen and the lead he is taking for small island states, but I call upon Mr. Ingraham to set an example in his own backyard before he preaches to the rest of the world!"

Mr. Smith continued, "The Bahamas should lead by example. I call on Mr. Ingraham to stop the nonsense going on at the BEC power plant; engage in legitimate and accountable consultation, make the process transparent and open; conform with international emission standards; invite the real stakeholders to participate in the process and to demonstrate a sincere and bona fide engagement with the citizenry of Abaco in finding reasonable measures to providing employment, power, protecting the environment and promoting local rights!"

"I repeat that it is the FNM government that passed the Local Government Act! It is the FNM government which created the BEST Commission! It is the FNM government which has promised environmental legislation!"

"BEC is paternalistic and self-serving in its press release saying that the Wilson City Plant was 'Properly planned and is in the best interests of residents and visitors to Abaco.'

"Instead of BEC slapping itself on the back and saying what a good job it has done, it should open its ears and eyes to the people of Abaco."

Abaco Cares responds to BEC

Top 10 reasons Abaco Cares continues to oppose the Wilson City bunker C plan: Straight from the horse's mouth:

1. "The corporation reiterates the fact that the Wilson City site on Abaco was chosen after careful and extensive review."

- Expansion of the Marsh Harbour plant was not plausible because subdivisions were built next to the plant while it was in operation. Snake Cay was eliminated due to environmental sensitivity and to allow for a development. However, Wilson City is just as ecologically important, if not more important, than Snake Cay. Snake Cay had some advantages, including a greater distance from the national park and safer docking facilities and would have cost less and been built sooner than Wilson City. It is apparent that the site was moved to Wilson City solely to benefit the Snake Cay developer. Furthermore, the additional costs to move the plant to Wilson City will be born by Bahamians solely to benefit this developer.

- There are communities closer than the stated seven miles from the plant. These include Little Harbour, Cherokee Sound and Casuarina Point along with the Wind-ing Bay Development and the proposed Lynyard Cay development.

- Fuel transfer at Wilson City will require expensive dredging.

1. The Wilson City site sits on a fresh

water aquifer that supplies all of Marsh Harbour as well as in proximity to a dense network of blue holes and undersea caverns. A fuel spill, in the words of the EIA, "could, in the worst case scenario, be catastrophic and permanent."

2. In the end, there are other potential locations on Abaco that should have been considered, with local input during any "careful and extensive review." If Wilson City was the best site, it would have been proposed during the "careful and extensive review." Abaco Cares challenges BEC to publish the site selection process.

2. "Further, all of The Bahamas borders on ecologically important locations."

This is absolutely true. There is no place in the Bahamas where bunker C would be an acceptable fuel. More importantly, the areas adjacent to the Wilson City location are considered by the Bahamas National Trust to be some of the most environmentally important locations on Abaco.

3. "The corporation and the government are concerned about the health and welfare of all residents and visitors to the Bahamas in general and Abaco in particular, and for the health and welfare (sustainability) of the environment."

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Please see **Response** Page 21

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Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
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**National Geographic program
on The Bahamas Blue Holes
February 9 • PBS/ Nova • 8 pm**

Protesters state their position

Response

From Page 20

farms downwind of the site, any government that would consider using bunker C does not appear to be "concerned" with the health and welfare of the environment and people. A simple internet search, beginning with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website, provides ample scientific data on this subject.

4. "The Wilson City Power Station will not cause any undue health risks to employees or residents of Abaco. The emissions from the plant are in accordance with international standards and would not cause the problems as alluded to in the ad [sic]."

Emissions from bunker C contain NOx and SO2. According to the National Toxics Network, these can trigger serious respiratory problems, lead to emphysema, bronchitis, aggravate existing heart disease and contribute to the formation of acid rain. Also, bunker C contains 73 times as much Benzo(a)pyrene as No. 2 fuel oil. This is a Class A carcinogen.

5. "The statement suggesting that there is no transparency or that the people of Abaco were not involved is erroneous and irresponsible as is the claim that the process was done in secret."

The government was not forthcoming in involving the citizens of Abaco until the site had been selected and construction had begun. FRIENDS made repeated requests for public meetings with the government beginning in November 2008. A meeting was finally held on September 10, 2009. This was over a year and a half after ground was cleared for construction of the power plant and over a month after construction began.

The EIA report was not made available

to the public for review until November 2009, over three months after construction began in earnest, without permits.

6. "Interested persons have been invited and we reaffirm the invitation for Renewable Energy Technology."

Abaco Cares' position is that renewables are viable now as a partial solution, at minimum, that will reduce the Bahamas' dependency on fossil fuels.

A feed-in tariff system that would allow solar electricity to be sold back into the grid is viable and proven to work in other countries. There is at least one entire community on Abaco that is 100 percent solar-powered, which demonstrates that renewables will work on Abaco. These laws should already be in place. Without putting the laws in place first, there is a disincentive to propose renewable energy projects so Abaco CARES will continue to advocate for renewable energy legislation, ad nauseam.

7. "Stakeholders have been invited to partner with BEC as it relates to environmental issues. The Power Station at Wilson City is being built to the highest standard for fossil fuel burning plant."

What exactly BEC's ideas of the "highest" standards are for the construction of fossil fuel plants only it can be sure. The main reason to doubt the veracity of their standards is the lack of the full set of environmental controls required to protect public health, as would be necessary to meet emissions standards in developed countries.

8. "Government [sic] is determined to investigate all sources of fuel and the Wilson City Plant is capable of burning automotive diesel oil (ADO) as well as Bunker

C. This has been explained ad nauseam [sic] to those opposed to the Wilson City Power Station."

Until diesel fuel is officially chosen as the fuel for the proposed Abaco power station, Abaco Cares will continue to educate the public--and BEC--on the dangers of bunker C "ad nauseam."

Furthermore, the government claims diesel generators would result in a consumer rate increase per kilowatt-hour of electricity. Use of diesel should, if anything, result in a decrease in consumer rates due to the use of larger, more efficient engines. We consider these rate increases to be purely punitive on the following grounds:

- The current plant uses diesel so there is no reason why doing so at the new plant should cost more.

- "Because of all the complications of heavy fuel, a large portion of the savings from the lower cost of HFO, perhaps a third or more, will be soaked up by construction and operating costs." - National Mariner

- When costs to the Bahamian economy from reduction of income from sources like taxes and tourism are factored in, the true cost of bunker C is higher than diesel.

9. "The Wilson City Plant is not 'yards from the shore' as stated but a couple of miles inland. It is our confirmed view that Norman's Castle, Snake Cay, Sandy Point, Dundas Town, Treasure Cay, Sandy Point, Wilson City and anywhere else in Abaco would face the same environmental challenges."

Driving down the road from the plant, it is 0.9 miles to tidal mangroves. From the SE corner of the fenced-in plant area, it is 2050 feet to tidal mangroves. From the SE corner of the 100 acre BEC property, it is

690 feet to tidal mangroves. These distances were measured by GPS on the ground.

10. "The corporation confirms that the construction of the Wilson City Power Station was properly planned and is in the best interest of residents of and visitors to Abaco. Contrary to statements made, it will enhance the opportunities for development and growth."

Everyone can agree that providing reliable power is in the best interest of residents of and visitors to Abaco and will enhance the opportunities for development and growth. Unfortunately, BEC's site selection and fuel choice to provide this reliable power is more likely to reduce development and growth than enhance it. The Sea of Abaco is the economic engine of Abaco and reintroducing tar balls on beaches, reducing fish stocks and locating an industrial site next to a pristine tourist area can only deplete the economic potential of Abaco. This cost to The Bahamas economy is just one of the reasons that a switch to diesel fuel is in the best interests of and less costly for Bahamians.

About Abaco Cares

Abaco Cares was formed to fill the need for an organization that will provide a common voice about local issues important to all Abaco residents including Bahamians, foreign residents, second homeowners and property owners. The organization cares about the interests of Abaco's people, economy and environment, and we have a vision for Abaco's future. The mission includes protecting human health and the environment, promoting sustainable development and economic growth and ensuring local participation in decisions that affect Abaco residents. Visit <http://abacocares.com> to learn more or join our cause.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 9

mounted a grass roots campaign against the government's plan to build the new Bunker C power plant at Wilson City. It is tragic to me that so many in our country feel such a sense of powerlessness or apathy over our national affairs. We seem to have become a nation of big talkers and small doers. Everyone has an opinion, but very few are willing to step up and invest their time, energy or money to make a difference.

This is not a new phenomenon in our culture as we suffer from the hangover of our colonial past. We are not a culture that encourages free thinking and personal responsibility in managing our lives. We have been cultured in the matrix of dependence, where the government, the church and any other authority knows best. We are still a plantation culture waiting for the master to provide for us. We do not have the confidence in ourselves as a people to take a stand against misappropriated authority. We are afraid to lose favour with whoever the authority may be for fear that we may lose a contract or not get a turkey for Christmas. We have been reduced to a people who wash about on the waves of radio talk and blow around in the winds of political rhetoric.

This is not us. These are not the people I know. We Bahamians are strong-willed, big-hearted people with indomitable spirit. Where are these Bahamians now? Where are the people that will stand for what is right simply because it is right? Where are the people who will think for themselves, not just of themselves. Where are the people who will follow their hearts towards salvation and their minds towards resolution, instead of blindly following the establishment toward ruin and despair? Who will be the one that stands and declares that the emperor has no clothes.

Bahamas, we are better than this! We deserve better than this. We heard from the government that Wilson City was a "done deal," that it was "not up for discussion." The last time I checked, the people were still the government, and there is nothing in our constitution about "done deals." There can never be "done deals" when the deals are duplicitous, destructive, irresponsible and yes, illegal. The government cannot be allowed to secretly cut deals (however well meaning or well intentioned) that endanger the human and environmental rights of the people. These are deals with the devil, and that's the soul of our nation on the auction block.

A few months ago a small group of people formed a new activist group called Abaco Cares (Abacocares.com) to pro-

mote respect for local rights, advocate against irresponsible development and to hold decision-makers accountable for their decisions. During a recent protest in Marsh Harbour against the Wilson City plant, I was approached by a government representative who asked me, "What difference do you think this small group of people is going to make?" I responded that we were protesting because it was the right thing to do, and we hoped that others would become aware of the issues and the government would listen. It turns out that the government is now considering changing the fuel source at Wilson City from the destructive bunker C to a cleaner burning fuel. I doubt the government would have ever considered this change if not for the voice of a small group of people.

There has been a great deal of local criticism against the efforts of our group with claims of foreign involvement, fringe fanatics, and so on. This is not surprising to me given the nature of our culture, and I say "our" culture as my family has been in the Bahamas for 320 years and the majority of our group is Bahamian. Ours is increasingly a culture of rumour and innuendo, of entitlement to opinion without the inconvenient burden of fact. The criticism of our efforts is largely based on the unwillingness of the public to do the research themselves and engage in any substantive debate.

After the September 10th public meeting in Marsh Harbour, hours of government presentation was taken by many as the gospel truth. The health risk of bunker C to our children and grandchildren, the potential for environmental disaster and the simple untruths of prevailing wind information presented by BEC were not enough to make some people stop and think. The government presented an Environmental Impact Study that subsequent independent scientific review has proven laughable.

Abaco Cares is not against development for Abaco. We realize the need for more power and the fact that development is inevitable. But if we set out to do something, let's do it right. There is good development and clean power generation. So why do we settle for carelessness and mediocrity? We cannot stand by in silence as the government devises "done deals" that will destroy the very reasons we love this island and why visitors from around the world come to enjoy Abaco.

The reality of the Wilson City Power Station is that it was simply a very poor decision based on even poorer information and lack of vision. There was no local consultation, no thought of approaching Abaco's need for additional power as an

opportunity to unfold a new vision of alternative energy. History will be a harsh judge of this administration's decision to site this plant at Wilson City, and we can only pray that in time this wrong can be corrected.

I am a great believer in the Bahamian spirit, and I am confident that many of the answers to our current struggles lie in the hearts of our people. It is this spirit that must be unleashed and encouraged to thrive. I encourage all Bahamians to engage this debate and be vigilant protectors of this most fragile country we have been blessed to live in.

My hope is that Wilson City becomes a catalyst for an environmental movement in our country that holds the government accountable to the highest standards in all development. We are better than this, and my hope is that in the years to come we will be able to say to our children and grandchildren that we were the generation that made a difference.

Remember the words of Margaret Mead. "Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world, in fact, it is the only thing that has."

Your voice matters. Come, join our small group and let it be heard.

Capt. Clint Kemp, President
Responsible Development for Abaco

Diesel surcharge would be unfair

While diesel emissions are bad for our health unless cleaned up by Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR), Bunker C emissions are far worse and need much more costly emission controls to protect our health. This fact makes diesel a cheaper alternative.

If BEC's efficiency claims for the new plant

are to be believed, Abaco will save \$6.5 million per year in diesel fuel costs versus the existing Marsh Harbour plant. This will go a long way to reducing the corporation's losses since it is unlikely BEC will give us a price break. Unfortunately, these savings will only last a year or two if the plant is not maintained, causing electricity to be just as unreliable as it currently is. The increased maintenance requirements when using Bunker C would make preventive maintenance even more important. A comprehensive management and maintenance plan with independent oversight will give the hard working BEC employees the resources and mandate to maintain the plant. Doing this will protect our health and drinking water and lower our electricity bills long term, a win-win situation.

BEC is likely now starting to realize that while it is relatively easy to pump Bunker C through a short pipeline like at Clifton Pier, the 2.7 to 3 mile pipeline required for Wilson City will be very expensive and difficult to implement and maintain. According to the power plant experts at the Abaco Cares Community meeting January 20th, there are a number of ways to heat the pipeline sufficiently for Bunker C to be pumped; however, a steam pipe with an inner oil pipe is probably the cheapest way for this application. In order to do this, steam generating plants will need to be located at each end of the pipeline along with powerful pumps to move the oil. Then, after each fueling, the pipeline has to be completely emptied of oil, which will be very difficult for such a long pipe. This is just one example of why switching Abaco to Bunker C will not save BEC any money and represents one of the many overlooked issues concerning the Wilson City plant location and fuel type.

David Pitcairn

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Marsh Harbour > White Sound Contractor's special - Mon - Fri 7 am Return 5 pm
Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War 10:30 am 12:15 pm 4 5:45
 Return 8 am 11:30 1:30 pm 5
Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) from Conch Inn
 (6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30
 Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45
 Fare • Adult prepaid oneway \$15 / open return \$25, • Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free (Phone after hours 359-6861)

* Not on Sundays or holidays

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 StationHope 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

Tours & Excursions

Abaco Eco Tours & Kayak rental 475--9616
 Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour 367-2936
 Above & Below • Marsh Harbour 367-0350
 Adventure on Prozac - T Cay 365-8749
 Brendals Dive • Green Turtle Cay 365-4411
 C & C Charters - Treasure Cay 365-8506
 Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour 367-2787
 Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope T 366-0024

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone

Walker's Cay
 Walker's Cay Closed
Green Turtle Cay
 Bluff House45..... F..... 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club32..... F..... 365-4271
 Black Sound Marina15..... 365-4531
 Other Shore Club12..... F..... 365-4195
 Abaco Yacht Service ..10..... F..... 365-4033
Treasure Cay
 Treasure Cay Marina150 F..... 365-8250
Man-O-War
 Man-O-War Marina26..... F..... 365-6008
Marsh Harbour
 Boat Harbour Marina183..... F..... 367-2736
 Conch Inn.....75..... F 367-4000
 Harbour View Marina .36..... F 367-2182
 Mangoes Marina29..... 367-2366
 Marsh Harbour Marina52 F 367 2700
Hope Town
 Hope Town Marina16..... 366-0003
 Hope Town Hideaways..... 366-0224
 Lighthouse Marina6..... F..... 366-0154
 Sea Spray60..... F..... 366-0065
Spanish Cay
 Spanish Cay Marina...75..... F..... 365-0083
Guana Cay
 Orchid Bay64 F..... 365-5175
 Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour

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

A & P Car Rentals 367-2655
 B & B Boat Rentals 367-7368
 Bargain Car Rentals..... 367-0500
 Blue Wave Boat Rentals 367-3910
 Concept Boat Rentals 367-5570
 Power Cat Boat Rentals
 Quality Star Car Rentals (Texaco) 367-2979
 Rainbow Boat Rentals 367-4602
 Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars 367-4643
 Rich's Boat Rentals 367-2742
 Sea Horse Boat Rentals 367-2513
 Sea Star Car Rentals 367-4887

Green Turtle Cay

Bay Street Rentals + 477-5300 365-4070
 Brendals Dive Bikes & Kayak rental ...365-4411
 C & D Cart Rental 365-4084
 D & P Cart Rental 365-4655
 Donnie's Boat Rentals.....365-4119
 New Plymouth Cart Rentals.. 365-4188 or 4149
 Reef Boat Rentals 365-4145
 Sea Side Carts & Bikes..... 365-4147
 T & A Cart Rentals..... 375-8055

Guana Cay

Donna Sands Cart Rentals 365-5195
 Dive Guana Boats & Bikes..... 365-5178
 Orchid Bay Cart rentals..... 354-5175

Man-O-War

Conch Pearl Boat Rentals..... 365-6502
 Island Treasures Cart Rentals 365-6072
 Ria-Mar Golf Cart Rentals..... 365-6024
 Waterways Boat Rental ..357-6540 & 365-6143

Hope Town

Cat's Paw Boat Rentals 366-0380
 Hope Town Cart Rentals 366-0064
 Island Cart Rentals 366-0448
 Island Marine Boat Rentals 366-0282
 J R's Cart Rental..... 366-0361
 Sea Horse Boat Rentals 366-0023
 T & N Cart Rentals..... 366-0069

Treasure Cay

Adventure on Prozac - Kayak 365-8749
 Alison Car Rent 365-8193
 Cash's Carts..... 365-8771
 Claridge's Cart Rentals 365-8248
 Cornish Car Rentals..... 365-8623
 JIC Boat Rentals 365-8465
 Triple J Car Rentals 365-8761
 Abaco Adventures - Kayaks 365-8749

To Abaco by land and sea from Florida • Take Discovery Cruise Line (954-971-7347) from Ft. Lauderdale to Freeport • Bus to McLeans Town • Ferry to Crown Haven • Bus, taxi or rental car to Green Turtle Ferry or Marsh Harbour • Taxi to Marsh Harbour ferry dock • Ferry to Hope Town, Man-O-War or Guana Cay • Its an adventure

Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper
 (Based on dinner entree range)

+ Picnic tables & restroom only † Provides ride from town

Marsh Harbour

Anglers..... \$\$\$ 367-2158
 Blue Marlin \$ 367-2002
 Curly Tails \$\$\$ 367-4444
 Gino's..... \$ 367-7272
 Golden Grouper \$ 367-2301
 Island Cafe \$ 367-6444
 Jamie's Place..... \$ 367-2880
 Jib Room \$\$ 367-2700
 Kentucky Fried Chicken 367-2615
 Mangoes \$\$\$ 367-2366
 Pinacle \$
 Pop's Place..... \$ + 367-3796
 Sea Shells \$ 367-4460
 Snack Shack \$ + 367-4005
 Snappas \$ 367-2278
 Wallys \$\$\$ 367-2074

Hope Town

Abaco Inn \$\$\$ 366-0133
 Cap'n Jacks \$ 366-0247
 Harbour's Edge..... \$ 366-0087
 H T Harbour Lodge \$\$\$ 366-0095
 Munchies \$ + 366-0423
 Sea Spray \$ † 366-0065

Little Harbour

Pete's Pub

Lubber's Quarter

Cracker P's..... 366-3139

Man-O-War

Hibiscus 365-6380
 Island Treats Snack Bar 365-6501

Guana Cay

Docksiders \$\$\$ 365-5230
 Grabbers \$\$\$ 365-5133
 Nippers \$\$\$ 365-5143
 Orchid Bay \$\$\$ 265-5175

Treasure Cay

Florence's Cafe \$
 Coconuts.....
 Harbour Cafe \$ 365-8635
 Hudson's Delight \$ 365-8648
 Spinnaker Restaurant ... \$\$\$ 365-8469
 Touch of Class \$\$\$ 365-8195

Green Turtle Cay

Bluff House..... \$\$\$ 365-4200
 Jolly Roger Bistro \$ 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club \$ 365-4271
 Harvey's Island Grill \$ 365-4389
 Laura's Kitchen \$ 365-4287
 McIntosh's Restaurant ... \$ 365-4625
 Pineapples 365-4226
 Plymouth Rock Cafe 365-4234
 Rooster's Rest \$ 365-4066
 Sundowners 365-4060
 Wrecking Tree Restaurant

Sandy Point

Nancy's
 Pete & Gays \$\$\$ 366-4119



Abaco Cays Realty, Ltd.

Great Guana Cay - Green Turtle Cay - Man-O-War Cay
Hope Town - Marsh Harbour - Treasure Cay
info@abacocaysrealty.com • www.AbacoCaysRealty.com



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Faton Sawyer - Broker
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(242) 357-6674



Silbert Mills - Agent
(242) 367-2935



Iara Claridge - Agent
(242) 359-6001



Chris Claridge - Agent
(242) 375-8538



Sarah Sams - Agent
(242) 365-4726

Abaco Cays Realty extends their warmest wishes for a wonderful Christmas and the happiest and most prosperous of new years.

<p>NEW OFFERING</p>  <p>"Prince's Trust"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#GGH1129 - \$2,495,000.</p>	<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Split Coconut"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#GGH1123- \$1,160,000.</p>	<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Entre Deux Mers"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#MWH1116 - \$3,750,000.</p>
<p>GREAT GUANA CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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'x84' - 8,064 s.f. - Great Restaurant or Retail #GHH1109 - \$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. <p>GREEN TURTLE CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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 SOUTHARD" - 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. 	<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Angel Bay House"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#MWH1139 - \$2,150,000.</p>	<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Lovely Hill"</p> <p>Man-O-War Cay - 2 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths. - 1,220 s.f. Residence. - 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath. - 532 s.f. Guest House - Land - Sea-to-Sea - 32,571 s.f. - 0.74 Acre - 165' Ocean Beach Front - Private Dock - Fabulous Views</p> <p>#MWH1134 - \$2,100,000.</p>
<p>GREEN TURTLE CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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 SOUTHARD" - 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. 	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"John Lowe House - circa 1866"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#GTH1119 - \$450,000.</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"Harbour Light"</p> <p>Man-O-War Cay - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths - 1,560 s.f. Residence. - 1,040 s.f. Verandahs - Land - ± 1.824 Acres - Entire S.E. Point of Dickie's Cay - Private Dock - Auxiliary Generator - Fabulous Views</p> <p>#MWH1099 - \$1,850,000.</p>
<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Casa Cielo"</p> <p>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</p> <p>GTH1137 - \$625,000.</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"Coconut Grove Cottage"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#MWH1076 - \$1,270,000.</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"Sonn Light"</p> <p>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</p>
<p>NEW</p>  <p>"St. Charles Place"</p> <p>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.</p> <p>#MHH1084 - \$2,700,000.</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"Buttonwood"</p> <p>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.</p> <p>#MWH1020 - \$525,000.</p>	<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Summer Camp"</p> <p>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</p> <p>#SCH1094 - \$1,950,000.</p>

★ VACANT LAND ★

<p>ELBOW CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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 	<p>GREAT GUANA CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Crawl Bight" - Sea to Sea building site - 321,690 s.f. - 7.385 Acre 300' of Atlantic beach frontage, 300' of Sea of Abaco frontage - Newly built dock - great family estate - #GGV1143 - \$2,250,000. • "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 - \$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 - \$545,500. 	<p>GREAT GUANA CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "ATLANTIS" - 19,239 s.f. - 0.4417 Acre - 95' of North Atlantic Beach-frontage - 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 a 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. <p>GREEN TURTLE CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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 - 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 - 2699 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.
<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Panoramic"</p> <p>Great Guana Cay Orchid Bay - 4 Acres - ± 70 ft. Elevations - 6 Bedrooms, 4.5 Baths - ± 3000 s.f. Residence - Swimming Pool - 1200 gal. Watermaker - Auxiliary Generator</p> <p>#GGH1142 - \$2,300,000.</p>	<p>MAN-O-WAR CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "GRAND BOIS" - Rare Prime Ocean-front building site - 0.51 Acre - 125' Atlantic Ocean frontage - Central Location - Fabulous Ocean Views-Lush Native Foliage. #MWH1081 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 - 103' x 6' private dock on Man-O-War harbour - Fabulous Sea of Abaco views. #MWH1082 - NEW PRICE \$325,000. 	<p>MARSH HARBOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. #6A & #7A - \$2,182,000. • 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.
<p>SCOTLAND CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "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 18 NUMBER 3 FEBRUARY 1st, 2010

Every Child Counts holds successful fund raiser Treasure Cay event drew school supporters from many communities

By Canishka Alexander

Principal Lynn Major could not be more pleased about the turnout at the Every Child Counts fund raiser and silent auction event. More than 200 people attended the fund raiser on January 16 at the Spinnaker Restaurant in Treasure Cay.

ECC students prepared a lighthearted presentation entitled *Who We Are* at the beginning of the evening. They shared how the school has afforded them many opportunities to become productive citizens. ECC students have participated in many activities on the school grounds and have assisted at local businesses throughout Abaco.

As guests browsed the silent auction tables to view the items on display and write down their bids, the upbeat, familiar sounds of the Impact Band played in the background. Among the silent auction items were art pieces, blue hole and cave tours, boat rentals and fishing charters, plane tickets, a Lance Armstrong autographed *Live Strong* T-shirt, jewelry, gift certificates, cellular phones and electron-

Please see **ECC** Page 2



The Spinnaker Restaurant in Treasure Cay was the scene of a very successful fund raising dinner and silent auction for Every Child Counts, a school for students with special needs. A raffle gave many more people a chance to win a gift. The school in Marsh Harbour has 107 students and depends entirely on donations. These students are not able to attend normal classrooms. Although the school has several teachers trained in working with special students, it is dependent on volunteers to fill out the staff. Shown here are Volunteer Mary Gottlieb, students Latonya Moss and Deangela Murray, founder of ECC and principal of the school Lyn Major, and students Vincent Major, Ashwell Murray and Michael Humes.

Airport terminal construction will begin by year's end

By Timothy Roberts

While visiting Hope Town on January 13 to sign a contract for the rebuilding of the freight dock seawall at Sunshine Park, Minister of Public Works and Transport, the Hon. Neko Grant, revealed recent developments concerning the upgrading of the terminal facilities at Marsh Harbour International Airport.

Mr. Grant said on May 21, 2009, he signed a contract agreement with Vancouver Airport Services for the Marsh Harbour airport terminal design concept consultancy. This is the same company that is responsible for the ongoing developments and upgrades at the Lynden Pindling International Airport in Nassau and is a part of

the current management through the Nassau Airport Development Company. The company signed a 30-year lease with the government in April 2007 to manage daily operations at the Nassau airport.

He revealed that the Vancouver company has submitted its Design Brief to the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, showing a 38,500-square-foot terminal building to accommodate projected traffic growth for the next 15 years. It includes a single story terminal building, control tower and landside roadways and parking facilities. The scope of the design reflects all

Please see **Airport** Page 2

Art show draws crowds to Winding Bay



A home at the Abaco Club at Winding Bay was the site of an art show that was raising funds for Abaco's Cancer Society. Eight artists displayed their work in a diverse media and drew a very large crowd. The Club provided wine and cheese for the patrons to enjoy while they examined the art and socialized. On the right is Bob Zwickel, a favorite artist as he entertains during the show by playing lively jazz.

By Mirella Santillo

The Winding Bay Art Show, organized by the Abaco Island Artists in partnership with the Abaco Cancer Society, was held in one of the Destination Units of the

Ritz-Carleton Club on January 16th.

There was art for every collector as eight artists participated, each prominent

Please see **Art Show** Page 4

Abaco Cares brings experts to talk about bunker C



Abaco Cares, an newly-formed environmental group, held a meeting on January 20 to inform the audience on the dangers of burning bunker C in the power plant under construction at Wilson City. About 100 people listened as experts from the States outlined some of the dangers. Other presenters spoke about renewable sources of power and the need for government to communicate better with the public. See story on page 13.

MOW plans annual Flea Market

The 24th annual Flea Market will be held on February 13. This event promises to provide much entertainment as well as raising needed funds for the Man-O-War Primary School. The organizing committee will be offering all food and drinks and will have the traditional White Elephant Tables with lots of new and used items in-

cluding a great used-book stall.

There will be games for children and adults, crab races, an auction and a raffle, lots of activities to satisfy everyone.

Albury's Ferry will be running special ferries with a discounted rate from Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War. Call the ferry office for the ferry schedule.

ECC guests bid generously on auctioned items

ECC *From Page 1*

ics and a great display of paintings. The original acrylic portrait by Ray Adams of PE teacher Gary Lewis, seemed to steal the show. Many were rewarded for participating in the raffle as well.

Two buffet tables were set up to appease the appetite of the large crowd, and thank you cards were autographed by the students of Every Child Counts on each table.

Chad Sawyer was involved in most of the activities that evening and talked about

his involvement in the school. He said every island has a Mother Theresa, bestowing the title on Miss Lynn.

The school received a donation of \$1,000 from Steve Pedican on behalf of the North Abaco Powerboat Race Committee. There was another donation by Cindy Newell of \$1,500. Winners of the silent auction were announced, and the winner of the laptop, John Haestad, gave it back to the school to the teachers' and students' delight.

Ms. Lynn said that she was quite pleased with the donations that evening. The event raised more than \$50,000 which will greatly assist the school.

She explained that they need approximately \$370,000 each year to run ECC. The school falls under the Catholic Board of Education and is considered as an alternative school. ECC is allowed to use the main building free of charge but receives no government or church funding. All funding is from private donors. Money collected over the years has been used to build the additional buildings that are now on the school grounds.



The fund raising for Every Child Counts school included a raffle and silent auction. Chad Sawyer kept the evening moving along. As the enrollment increases, the need for a larger facility is required. The school is hoping to develop options for the students to have productive lives in a supervised environment as they progress past school age. Shown here are Mr. Sawyer assisted by volunteer Mary Gottlieb along with three students, Valencia Duvra, Latonya Moss and Deangela Murray, and Principal Lyn Major.

Airport *From Page 1*

requirements identified by the stakeholder interviews on Abaco and discussions with the Ministry of Works and other relevant government ministries and agencies.

Mr. Grant said that the Ministry is currently in discussions with the Vancouver group to finish the design drawings including a detailed cost estimate for government's consideration. This would allow tenders to go out for construction. Government hopes to have these drawings completed by the middle of this year and is looking forward to having the project underway before the end of 2010.

In May 2009 Mr. Grant announced change orders in the amount of \$2.2 million to an existing contract between the Ministry of Works and Bahamas Hot Mix for the completion of civil and lighting works at the Marsh Harbour International Airport along with an additional \$566,000 for the runway and taxiway lighting.

The runway was opened for use on November 16, 2009, and the remaining airside works will be completed during the first quarter of this year.

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Guana Cay Waterfront Lot# 28

GUANA CAY

REDUCED

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Lot 31 - 12,600 sq.ft

SOUTH ABACO

REDUCED

Yellow Wood 2/1 Cottage on 1/2 acre

SOUTH ABACO	Long Beach Lots 412, 413 & 414 (each) \$79,000	Treasure Cay Galleon Bay \$95,000	
Casuarina Point Lots 90 & 91 \$45,000 each	Long Beach Lots 373 & 374 (each) \$90,000	MARSH HARBOUR	
Casuarina Point Home \$230,000	Dorros Cove - Elbow Cay \$457,000	Outrigger 2 Bed 1 Bath house \$175,000	
B.P. Shores lots 5&6 section 4 \$30,000 each	Guana Cay Residential Lot \$90,000	Sunrise Bay lots from \$250,000	
B.P. Shores lot 15 section 4 \$16,000	Guana Cay "Coconut Grove" \$239,000	Sweetings Village lot (REDUCED) \$51,900	
B.P. Shores Beachfront acre section 1 \$365,000	NORTH ABACO	Royal Harbour Lot 26 \$279,000	
Rolling Harbour (2) 5.5 acre beachfront parcels - CALL FOR PRICE	Bahama Coral Island Lot (REDUCED) \$16,000	Pelican Shores Harbour Front \$1,225,000	
Long Beach Lots 316 & 418 (each) \$50,000	Leisure Lee 4 lots (each) \$43,900	4 Residential Lots - starting @ \$51,000	
	Joe's Creek Lot 12 UNDER CONTRACT \$49,500		

February 1st, 2010

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LOT 4 - EAST VIEW 11,181 sqft wooded lot 4 lots from east side of Lubbers on the Sea of Abaco. Designated dock slip to tie up to 30 ft. boat. **\$165,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



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



MARSH HARBOUR #5116
WATERFRONT - ST.CHARLES PLACE - SUNRISE BAY Stunning 4 bed 4 bath home with direct beach access and private dock slip. **US\$2,800,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



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



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



MARSH HARBOUR #5155
WATERFRONT - HIDEAWAY - EASTERN SHORES Sea to sea, 150' dock & boat lift. Main house with 1 1/2 bed 1 1/2 bath, guest quarters with 2 bed 2 bath. **US\$1,795,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



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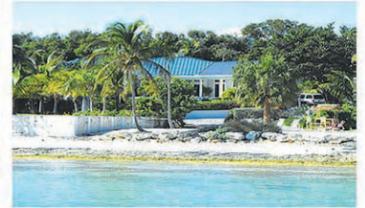
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MARSH HARBOUR #5151
WATERFRONT - THE RESIDENCES 5 star high end 3 bed 3.5 bath at the Abaco Beach Resort and the largest marina in the Bahamas. **\$1,415,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MARSH HARBOUR #5232
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MARSH HARBOUR #4736
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LOTS & ACREAGE

LUBBERS QUARTERS
#4578 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 17 Gorgeous Water View. \$225,000. Laurie Schreiner
#4940 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 18 - 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, high elevation. \$125,000. Laurie Schreiner
#4580 ABACO OCEAN CLUB Lot 107 Community dockage. \$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 PRICE - dockage. \$119,900. Laurie Schreiner
#5231 LOT 4 EAST VIEW - 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

OTHER CAYS
#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

MAINLAND
#4071 BAHAMA PALM SHORES Lot 43 Good residential area. \$30,000. Bill Albury
#4572 LITTLE HARBOUR - NEW PRICE - .97 acre, 150 ft. harbourfront. \$198,000. Laurie Schreiner
#4689 CEDAR HARBOUR - NEW PRICE 2 acres, deeded water access. \$55k. Lydia Bodamer
#4632 MARSH HARBOUR High Rocks waterfront lot. High elevation, views. \$599k. B. Albury
#4888 TURTLE ROCKS - 10 Acres Water access, good elevations. \$349,000. Lydia Bodamer
#5157 TURTLE ROCKS - NEW LISTING - Hill top with View access 16,969 sq. ft. and 3,000 feet from the beach. \$74,500. Lydia Bodamer
#4803 TREASURE CAY - Choice Canalfront Lot. \$280,000. Stan Sawyer

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Winding Bay hosts fund raising art show

Art Show

From Page 1

in a distinctive art sector. Marjolein Scott, one of the organizers, displayed her creations on silk and tiles; Bob Zwickel offered his paintings of local seascapes and tropical birds; and Tim Higgs, an underwater photographer, had enlarged photographs of fish and reefs framed in drift wood. Raymond Adams had a display of local scenes in various mediae from acrylic to oil paint. A coffee table was covered with Linda Wiltfang's jewelry. The outside veranda was the perfect setting for Brigitte Bower-Carey's work displayed on easels. Two newcomers to the group, Lou Schneider, who transfers photographs on tiles, Lilian Cash with a large array of

hand-made straw bags also participated.

Four private art shows were held at the Abaco Club at Winding Bay last year for the guests of the resort, but this was the first art show open to the public by invitation from the artists. The response was amazing. Marjolein Scott estimated that more than 300 people attended the show that afternoon, contributing to at least one sale for every artist.

Guests were greeted at the entrance of the home by Club representative, Luzena Dumercy, who offered each person a glass of wine and by Mrs. Scott, who familiarized them with the artists and invited them to partake of the delicious cheeses to accompany the wine. Artist Bob Zwickel occasionally left his art display to play light

jazz on the keyboard, putting the visitors in a swinging mood. Every half an hour a raffle took place for a chance to win a prize ranging from canvas bags with the Ritz-Carleton logo to parasols, stuff toys and more.

Besides giving exposure to the artists, the event was aimed not only at promoting

the Cancer Society's walk and seminar on January 23 but also at raising money, as each participating artist usually donates a portion of his or her sales to the organization. The goals of the Society over the years has been to assist cancer patients with traveling expenses and bring cancer awareness in the community.



Eight artists displayed their work at the show held in one of the hosues at the Abaco Club at Winding Bay. The event was a fund-raising event for the Cancer Society of Abaco. The society assists cancer victims with travel expenses to get treaments and carries out an educational program. Shown are Lou Schneider, Marjolein Scott, Bob Zwickel, Brigitte Bower-Carey, Lilian Cash, Tim Higgs, Linda Wiltfang and Raymond Adams.



About 300 people attended the art show, browsing through the displayed art in various media while socializing with friends. Many enjoyed the hospitality of The Abaco Club at Winding Bay combined with lunch at the Club house.

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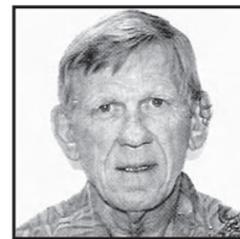
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TREASURE LANDING

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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

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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

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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

"Dolphin House" comfortable, well designed, fully furnished CBS home has 2 bed / 2 baths with large kitchen/ living/ dining facing the deep water canal. \$895,000 + 7.5%

Bldg. #2, 2 bed/ 2 bath upper unit with boat slip and golf cart garage. Never rented, in excellent condition. \$475,565 EXC

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Second row beach with direct ocean access.

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GALLEON BAY ESTATES

"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

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 bedrooms 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 overlooking the garden. Ground level has an extra large garage/ workshop with lots of storage. EXC. \$996,300 FGS

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- Canal Front Beginning at \$350,000 FGS
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ABBREVIATION CODE

EXC - Exclusive listing
FGS - Full gross or all-inclusive price
MLS - Multiple Listing, list price plus buyer's closing



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Tough Call . . . Fossil fuel and renewable energy

By Larry Smith

Within sight of the smokestacks rising from BEC's heavy fuel oil power plant under construction at Wilson City just across the Bight of Old Robinson lies a solar-powered community of some 40 homes encircling a picturesque cove.

This unique settlement was founded by a Canadian art professor named Randolph Johnston, who sailed his family to The Bahamas in 1952 and initially housed them in a cave - like a modern-day William Sayle, (who sought refuge in Preacher's Cave on North Eleuthera more than three centuries ago).

Johnston set himself up as a charter captain and sculptor, becoming a local celebrity within a few years. His bronze statue of a Bahamian woman was installed on Prince George Wharf in 1975, while his autobiography, *Artist on his Island*, was published the following year.

When it was virtually worthless, Johnston acquired land at Little Harbour and over time sold bits and pieces to other vagabonds from varied backgrounds, creating the eclectic community that exists today anchored around Pete's Pub, a famous watering hole run by the sculptor's son. Little Harbour is now an attraction in its own right - drawing some 30,000 visitors a year.

Among the homeowners are artists, doctors, lawyers, engineers, airline pilots and boat bums. One of the more recent settlers is Gordon Pierce, whose Cape Cod-based firm builds high-tech tennis courts and running tracks in Massachusetts. His comfortable 2,200 square foot home sits on a hill overlooking Little Harbour and - like all the houses here - it's powered entirely by solar panels.

"We collect rainwater, use energy-effi-

cient appliances, compact fluorescent light bulbs and have an insulated roof," he told me last week. "And we've had as many as 11 people living here with no problem at all. We have everything except air conditioning. We just use them more carefully."

Pierce has 16 190-watt photovoltaic panels installed on a wooden frame in his front yard. They supply power to 16 standard 6-volt golf cart batteries. Inverters convert the power from the batteries to household current, and everything is metered to monitor usage. A 10-hp diesel generator kicks in if the batteries get too low, but Pearce says that rarely if ever happens. The whole system cost \$35,000.

Expensive, you say? Well, right next door to Pierce live Bob and Allison Ball - two globetrotting hydrographic surveyors who arrived in 1992 and live here year-round. Their bungalow is powered by five panels and six batteries, with no generator. The batteries have a 12-year life span while the panels will last for 25 years. And their system cost less than \$10,000.

"The batteries are the only thing that need a little maintenance," Allison told me. "But we went through Hurricanes Frances and Jean and never lost power."

All of the homeowners at Little Harbour - which has no government services - are concerned about the \$105 million power plant that BEC is building just across the water at Wilson City. Mostly, they are upset at the prospect that the plant was to have been the first on any Out Island to use heavy fuel oil - the most polluting of all fossil fuels.

Heavy fuel oil (also known as bunker C) is the carcinogenic residue that is left after crude oil has been refined into lighter products like gasoline or diesel. And it is a fact that HFO-based power plants produce

higher and more dangerous smokestack emissions as well as vast quantities of oily wastes that require off-site disposal or incineration.

The difficulties of managing waste oil increases the risk of leaks and spills and the burden of cleanup. In fact, the environmental costs and health risks of HFO-based power plants have made them prohibitively expensive in developed countries. But the fuel is still used by some utilities in less developed countries - like BEC's Clifton plant in Nassau - because its initial cost is cheaper than diesel.

BEC's plan to burn heavy fuel oil at Wilson City has attracted much criticism on Abaco. It even stimulated the formation of a new activist group called Abaco Cares., which held a public meeting on January 20 in Marsh Harbour to draw attention to the negative environmental impacts of the Wilson City plant. Led by Pastor Clint Kemp, who operates a fly fishing business at Schooner Bay, the group invited local and US experts to talk about the potential hazards of bunker C fuel.

Brad Venman, a senior vice president and toxicologist at NTH Consultants in Michigan told an audience of about 100

residents that plans for the Wilson City plant were generic and offered no details on pollution controls, biological impacts or measures to deal with catastrophic spills from fuel tankers navigating the shallow waters near the Bight of Old Robinson. In addition to these hazards, fuel handling and equipment maintenance costs were said to be higher in HFO-based plants.

The BEC plant - which will be operational by June - lies some 14 miles south of Marsh Harbour, five miles east of the Abaco Highway and about two miles from the coastal ruins of Wilson City, the fabulous lumber town that operated for about 10 years in the early 1900s. The BEC site consists of a 25-acre fenced clearing, with another 75 acres of forested land assigned for future expansion. And the southeastern corner of the cleared site is less than 2100 feet from unspoiled tidal mangroves.

Access to the plant is via the old tramway that once hauled logs to the Wilson City sawmill. This has been widened from the highway to the plant for vehicles and transmission lines, but before the road gets to Wilson City proper, it cuts to the right,

Please see **Tough Call** Page 7

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Great Abaco Club: Oversize property, sea views, dockage US\$295,000.
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Treasure Cay: Awesome luxury beachfront parcel with sea to sea views US\$479,000.
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No Bunker C will be burned at Wilson City

Tough Call

From Page 6

crossing over to the Bight of Old Robinson where a terminal will be built for tankers to offload fuel via a submarine pipeline. BEC plans to bury a 12-inch pipeline under the road to pump fuel from the terminal to the power plant.

Unfortunately, the entire coastline around Wilson City is a relatively untouched wilderness of mangroves, tidal creeks and shallow bights, all connected by a network of blue holes. In fact, the area is so ecologically sensitive that the Bahamas National Trust and Abaco Friends of the Environment want to have it designated as

a national park.

"The East Abaco Creeks park proposal is essential to sustainable development on this island," said Kristin Williams of Friends. "This area has the highest density of blue holes anywhere except for Andros and the creeks provide important nursery habitat. The health of these wetlands is vi-

tal to the entire marine ecosystem."

Sam Duncombe of the Nassau activist group, ReEarth, focused on the other issue that has spurred many Abaconians to criticise the Wilson City plant - the lack of

Please see **Tough Call** Page 8



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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 \$1,412,500.00 gross



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Triplex in Great Cistern # 902 Two 2 bedroom 1 bath and one 1 bedroom 1 bath, beautifully landscape 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

New Listing Duplex in Marsh Harbour #1028 two 2 bedroom one bath on huge lot over 18,000 sq ft, covered front entrances and covered back porches, Central a/c on both sides, fully furnished, fenced-in back yard, whole property landscaped. Sale Price \$436,000

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, 2 1/2 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

Murphy Town #002 three bedroom two bathroom home \$172,250



Murphy Town Triplex #012 three one bedroom one bathroom apts \$160,000



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

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 Central Pines #914 two 2 br, 1br brand new never lived in \$254,250.00 gross

Murphy Town #0387, a 2 bed, 2 bath home with an attached 1 bed 1 bath apt, with central a/c and a huge fenced-in yard 200 ft length and 70 ft in depth. \$258,272 gross

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

Murphy Town Apartment #004 two 2 bedroom one bathroom apts. \$160,500



Murphy Town Triplex #009 three two bedroom one bathroom apts. \$295,000



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

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

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

Triplex for sale in Dundas Town #502 2 one-bedroom, one-bath and 1 two-bedroom \$145,000



Reduced oceanfront lot on Tilloo Cay with beach access and shared dock. Lot size sq ft 0.73 acres 103ft on water and 315 ft. Best price on Tilloo 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

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



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

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

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

Treasure Cay Rock Point vacant waterfront lots \$406,000 gross

Treasure Cay Golf Course lot \$63,250

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Diesel is scheduled for BEC plant

Tough Call

From Page 7

public consultation. She said it was "unacceptable" for local communities to be kept in the dark about such projects. "There should have been full disclosure, and we need to demand laws that guarantee public process."

In the past BEC has dismissed such statements as "erroneous and irresponsible," but Pastor Kemp pointed to repeated requests for public meetings on the Wilson City project from as early as November 2008. It was almost a year before BEC responded to criticism by holding a standing room-only town meeting in Marsh Harbour. And the EIA for the project was not released until last November - months after construction had begun.

There is great skepticism among environmentalists about BECs claims that it will install and monitor pollution controls at the plant: "We are not confident that they will do anything they say they will do," Pastor Kemp said. "No one will monitor anything, and there will be no consequences for anyone at BEC when they screw up. I don't trust government's best

intentions to monitor this."

In fact, BEC paid scant attention to such matters until the mid 1990s when it belatedly introduced an environmental management policy. And independent audits of that policy have documented chronic failures over the years. For example, the discharge of oily water into the ground for years at Clifton created a huge hydrocarbon plume in the freshwater lens as well as discharges into the sea from caves below the cliffs. More than a million gallons of oil was recovered from these caves in recent times, at great cost to BEC.

According to the Wilson City EIA, "Clifton has suffered significant impacts requiring ongoing assessment and corrective action. Poor handling of materials at Clifton and Marsh Harbour has required the need for extensive ground clean-up and plant upgrading to remedy historical oil pollution problems." And added to this history of incompetence is the risk of a shipping disaster in pristine waters, which is not as rare as you might think.

There is talk of an informal agreement between BEC and the Bahamas National Trust/Friends of the Environment to set up

a joint monitoring committee that would check pollution levels at the site and ensure a proper response when necessary. But BNT chief Eric Carey told me he has not seen the plant's environmental management plan and does not know if one exists.

Pastor Clint Kemp commented, "I don't believe there would have been any chance for the fuel to be changed if we had not raised our voices," he added. "I hope that Abaco becomes a centre of environmental activism to call government to account. Wilson City is just one item on the list. We need everyone to join in so there is a bigger voice. We all have to become evangelists."

Meanwhile, the venerable 25.6 megawatt plant at Marsh Harbour is barely keeping up with the demand from Abaco's 15,000 residents, 1500 second homeowners and 100,000 visitors. They suffer through endless outages and load shedding, some of which are reportedly due to poor maintenance and others to lack of fuel.

Sam Duncombe expressed the view of many at last week's meeting. "The government needs to stop fossil fuel projects, launch a national energy conservation programme, change the law and pursue renewable energy projects."

All these initiatives are currently in the

works, but as we all know, the wheels of government grind slowly.

What do you think? Send comments to larry@tribunemedia.net

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- Leeward Yacht Club: "Yellow House" Newly built 3 bed 2 1/2 bath completed home in high end neighborhood. Access to dock. \$1.05 million
- Boch Property: Secluded Bahamian estate. Over two acres with 1,000 ft. of waterfront on Bluff Harbour and the Sea of Abaco. Three bed three bath home. Dock with lift. Beautiful sunsets. \$2.1 million
- On north end: "The Pink Cottage" Approximately 2 1/2 acres sea to sea from Coco Bay to the Atlantic Ocean. Gorgeous beach and dock. Furnished cottage with work shop and garage. Very private. \$1.395 million
- Coco Bay: Smith Property. Immaculate two bed one bath furnished home on 1/3 acre just steps away from Coco Bay Beach. Large garage is ready to convert to guest house. \$399,000
- Turtle Landing: Two bed two bath furnished home on waterfront at White Sound. Dock possible. Large screened in porch and deck. Only home on cay with 3 bay garage easily converted to guest house. \$995,000
- Summer Breeze: Recently remodeled furnished two story three bed 2 1/2 bath home located on waterfront in the heart of New Plymouth. A/C. Satellite TV. W/D. Golf cart garage. Established rental history. \$650,000
- Tranquility: Two bed two bath furnished contemporary home sitting on Atlantic Ocean Beach. Excellent rental even in these tough times. 90' on beach. \$995,000
- Green Turtle Estates: Newly built 4 bed 3 bath house near beach and public dock. Closed in with electric already in. Large standing shed. Firm B\$247,800
- Beachfront; waterfront; and inland lots on Green Turtle Cay and Munjack Cay.

Abaco records first traffic fatality

By Canishka Alexander

Hank Williams and two others were traveling south on Forest Drive in Dundas Town when one of the vehicle's tires had a blow out.

According to an eyewitness on the scene, the vehicle sped off from Jones

Restaurant when the tire burst. He said the vehicle ran straight into a low boy trailer that was parked on the side of the road.

The eyewitness said that Williams and his basketball teammates were traveling with their coach at the time. He went to see if the occupants of the vehicle were okay. Although one was injured, all were alive

at the time.

The EMS team quickly arrived on the scene and Williams was rushed to the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic where his wife, Nurse Trineka Williams, was on call. Nurse Williams was at her husband's side when he passed away.

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Grilled Mahi Mahi Fillet and Béarnaise Sauce

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with friends and family....every Saturday night

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Live music by Stephen Colebrook

"Sounds of the Islands"

Live Calypso Music by Clint Sawyer

every Saturday at the Pool Bar

8:30 pm until closing

Stephen Colebrook

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soulful vocals of the wonderful

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Gospel Sunday Lunch 1 pm to 3 pm

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Central Abaco News

Foreign language classes began in January

By Canishka Alexander

The Administrator's office offered Creole and Spanish classes in January to interested persons in the community. The cost was \$125 for each 10-week course, and courses were offered on various days throughout the week.

J.S. Joseph's School of Creole initially began offering Creole classes at Abaco Central High School on January 18. According to Rev. Jean Seme Joseph, the Creole instructor, the objective of the course is to help the Bahamian community to interact more with the Haitian culture by learning the language.

Rev. Joseph assured the class that it is quite possible to learn Creole within three

months' time. The first part of the course focused on the Creole alphabet, diction, the use of syllables to compose words, vocabulary and Creole expressions. The second section was geared toward the formulation of sentences and analyzing the similarities and differences between English and French words. The final portion of the class covered extensive conversation in Creole, an analysis of text and photos in Haitian culture, and the reading of Biblical scriptures and songs in Creole.

As for the Spanish course, Eva Adderley, was the instructor. The first conversational Spanish course began on January 19 and also took place at Abaco Central High School. Mrs. Adderley taught the Spanish alphabet and introduced Spanish phrases during the first class. The Creole and Spanish courses both addressed termi-

nology common to the students' professional field.

Consumer Affairs Monitors Abaco Prices

By Samantha V. Evans

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development Consumer Welfare Unit located in Dove Plaza has been on Abaco since 2007 but moved into this office in February of 2009. Consumer rights and protection could both be linked to consumer welfare which is a form of the government regulations that protects the interest of consumers of the Bahamas.

This department engages in policies such as consumer protection and complaints, investigates unsafe consumer products, provides accessible information education and advises both the suppliers and consumers. There is a price control and rent services section in this office. The staff constantly monitors gas and diesel pumps at the service stations. Presently, there are three inspectors who are responsible for the entire island.

Since this office has been open, it has had some rent control challenges but grocers have been very standard in the pricing of goods. When the staff goes out on inspections at stores, the officers look for damaged, expired, double priced and overpriced items. They inform the owner if any are discovered. Businesses are being advised that all amendments to prices come from Nassau on a weekly and sometimes daily basis so they are being encouraged to purchase copies of them from the administrator's office for \$3. The phone contact for this office is 367-5072 and the fax number is 367-5074. The office is open from Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Murphy Town holds crime watch meeting

By Mirella Santillo

Members of the Murphy Town Crime Watch Committee, founded in October last year on the recommendation of Police Supt. Sean Norville Smith, convened on the evening of January 18th for the first meeting of 2010. The crime watch committee's intents are to make the residents feel more secure and to insure that Murphy Town remains a safe, peaceful settlement.

The members are planning two walkabouts in the settlement and the extended areas of Great Cistern and Bahamas Coral Island to inform the residents of their intentions and distribute material provided by the police.

Sgt. Metelus, the committee president, requested booklets from the police, a street map of the areas to be covered and statistics related to crime in the areas.

Supt. Smith proposed to have a fund raising event to obtain money to buy badges, signs for the cars, radios, search lights and gas. He promised the support of several police officers to accompany the crime watch committee members in the door-to-door walks through town.

According to the police, most crimes in Murphy Town consist of house and shop break-ins. A committee member asked to also address the problem of loitering, loud music and motorcycles going through town at all times of the night, disturbing the peace.

Housing official upset over illegal dumping

By Canishka Alexander

Kevin McIntosh of the Department of Housing was upset when he stumbled upon an illegal dumping site that has been creat-

Please see **Central** Page 12

Poppy's Road is paved



Poppy's Road, the road to the old Sawyer's Market, was recently resurfaced. It was in very bad shape and is used by many as it is the main road to the Mud and Pigeon Pea communities.

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Infrastructure Projects for Abaco – Past, Present and Future

By Timothy Roberts

The Hon. Neko Grant, Minister of Public Works, took some time to highlight some past and future infrastructure improvements for Abaco. He spoke of the \$2.2 million runway and lighting project at Marsh Harbour International Airport which was awarded to Bahamas Hot Mix, along with an additional \$566,000 to complete the runway and taxiway lighting which is expected to be completed by the first quarter of this year. He revealed that preliminary designs are in for a new

terminal at the Marsh Harbour airport that he hopes will begin construction before the end of this year.

He said that in May 2009 a contract was signed with Bahamas Hot Mix for the rehabilitation and paving of North Abaco settlement roads and portions of the main highway totaling \$3,667,040. Government also signed contracts with Robert Edgecombe for the reconstruction of Cornish Avenue worth \$81,600 and various contractors for the construction of sidewalks in North Abaco totaling \$330,930 all of which are completed or nearing completion.

Mr. Grant revealed that they are reviving the project for the replacement of the Little Abaco causeway with a bridge, and are in the process of putting out a request for proposals for the design of the bridge and approach road.

The Little Abaco causeway was built in the 1960s and connected Little Abaco to Great Abaco. However, the road effectively cut off the migration route for marine life to the south side of the islands which have shallow waters and vast mangroves ideal for spawning marine life. It also cut off access for small boat traffic through the channel.

In 2002 a design and proposal was submitted for the building of a bridge to replace the causeway. However, the design had several flaws such as insufficient opening for tidal flow passage, a span that would not accommodate all boats that would typically use the passage and an im-

practical design.

He said even though a new port was opened in Marsh Harbour in 2003, the government recognizes the need for a new port with marina facilities as a key element in “providing an economic stimulus” for North Abaco. The present port is becoming increasingly overcrowded and the new port will benefit development “from Treasure Cay to Little Abaco” while helping to reduce congestion in Marsh Harbour.

The government, in order to facilitate this new port, has identified a site for it and has already commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment for the area and entered into an agreement with Cox & SHAL (a joint venture between George V. Cox & Company and SHAL Consulting Engineers of Toronto, Canada, which provides specialist technical services in planning, project management and design of marine structures for ports and marinas) to carry

out a feasibility study to evaluate the technical and economic viability of a new port in North Abaco.

The government is presently evaluating bids that have been tendered for the construction of a new 48,000 square foot government administration building in Marsh Harbour which will be funded by the National Insurance Board and is expected to begin construction in the first quarter of this year.

Mr. Grant noted the work that had been done on repairing and stabilizing the dune in White Sound, Elbow Cay, that was washed out by Hurricane Floyd and then further damaged by Hurricanes Frances and Jean a few years later, congratulating the residents and council for their initiatives. He said that the previously proposed design for the dune by W. F. Baird & Associates for \$1.2 million that was issued in 2005 is being actively considered at this time.



The Minister of Works, the Hon. Neko Grant, reviewed the infrastructure projects on Abaco.



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ABACO'S NEWEST SOD FARM

More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 10

ed in the heart of Central Pines Estates Phase II. While illegal dumping is not anything new to the community, people have seemingly become bolder when disposing of their trash.

Mr. McIntosh said during one of his routine patrols of the area, he came across the disgraceful sight of trash thrown throughout the bushes and even on the road. Bags of trash, Christmas decorations, food items, a stove, water heater and countless household items were everywhere. He said it is hard to believe how quickly the area was filled with trash since the last time he visited it.

He reminded Abaco residents that Central Pines Phase II is designated as a residential area. Those who are responsible for such actions need to take their trash to the landfill and dump site at Snake Cay or pay someone

to take their trash to the site for them.

Worried that the piles of trash will only serve to devalue the property, he said the area will have to be cleaned and restored to better conditions.

Presentation is made on new business opportunity

By Mirella Santillo

On January 23rd the Church of God of Prophecy in Dundas Town rapidly filled to capacity, mostly by women who had come to a presentation on Ardyss International, a work-from-home business opportunity. The presenter, Paulette Zonicle, traveled from Nassau and was assisted by Anastasia Lewis from Freeport.

The presentation was aimed at introducing a line of products offered by the company, an undergarment body-shaping line, a

skin care line and a nutritional supplement line as well as recruiting possible associates to distribute the products on Abaco.

Mrs. Zonicle, President of the company recently introduced in The Bahamas, outlined the advantages one could benefit from when joining the company. She described the various levels one can reach not only by selling the products but also by enrolling more people to join.

The presentation ended with an invitation to people to join by investing an initial sum of \$450, an invitation accepted by a few persons.

Success Training College will begin classes

By Samantha V. Evans

About four years ago, Success Training College began its first Associates Degree

Program on Abaco and since then they have graduated their first group of college students. On January 23rd orientation was held at Abaco Central High School for returning and new students. Present for this event was Mrs. Sharon Rolle, Coordinator of the Extended Learning Program who addressed them. Classes are scheduled to begin on January 30th at Abaco Central High School. In spite of the recession, all of the students who applied were present and ready to take on another very intense semester. The students from the second group plan to work hard so that they can graduate within the next year. After meeting with the students in Central Abaco, Mrs. Rolle visited north Abaco to speak with the residents there who are interested in programs offered by the college. The college hopes to begin classes in that area soon as well.



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Community meeting discusses new power plant

By Canishkaander

There was yet another Wilson City power plant meeting staged on January 20, this time with Clint Kemp, president of Abaco Cares, at the helm. The location of the plant was addressed, but the main focus of the meeting was on the type of fuel being proposed.

Katie Feeny of the Clean Air Council stated frankly that there are better, cleaner and more cost-effective energy sources than Bunker C that can be used at the plant like renewables or diesel. She pointed out that no emission controls are being planned for the power plant which would assist in improving air quality and protect residents from harmful emissions. To add weight to Feeny's mention of renewables as an alternative source, Graham Siener of the

Cape Eleuthera Institute said they have 10 years of experience with the use of renewable energy.

During his slide presentation, Siener pointed out how the campus buildings were constructed to keep the interior cooler even through the summer months; the use of solar panels was prominent; and they have converted cooking oil into biodiesel for their vehicles to use.

Brad Venman, senior vice president and toxicologist at NTH consultants, and Jeff Jaros, vice president of the Air Quality Leader Group at NTH, carried out an analysis based on information received from MAN Diesel, the German company supplying the generators for the Wilson City plant, to assess the cost and impact on air and water quality in relation to Bunker C.

Their findings were not favourable.

Perhaps Sam Duncombe of reEarth was most disturbed among the experts that evening. She is disappointed with the government for not consulting with the Bahamian people about the Wilson City power plant from the beginning. She finds it unbelievable that our government was among many

nations meeting last year on the issue of climate change, yet government is not incorporating cleaner fuels or considering renewable energy for Abaco because of the costs associated.

According to Ms. Duncombe, The Bahamas is addicted to fossil fuels.

Port Department has a new chief

By Samantha V. Evans

Late in 2009 Leeland Russell was transferred to Abaco to be the officer in charge of the Port Department. Mr. Russell has been a police officer for the past 35 years and when he left the police force to begin this position, he was a superintendent. He has had a great career on the police force and has worked with a number of persons who taught him a lot of great things.

When Mr. Russell came to Abaco for this new posting, he had a lot of plans for the port and believes that his background in policing will help him a great deal. The port is not functioning as it should so he will work towards ensuring that it operates at its fullest potential.

The first major repairs will be adding adequate lighting to the perimeter, fixing the fencing and securing the gates. Security at the port after hours will be strengthened. He stated that the boats that once loaded in the night now have to do so in the day so port officials can know what is being loaded and leaving the country. He has plans to bring the employees up to global standards. He stated that this is

extremely important because it would be a security risk if boats leave this port and proper security measures have not been performed.

He looks forward to the day that the port will be expanded to utilize the area where the Ministry of Works once occupied. He stated that he is not sure when that will happen but when it does, he assumes that it will be used for storage. He added that they have already outgrown the port as it is now. Presently five freight boats coming from Florida use this port weekly, and they have to maneuver around each other to allow all to off load and receive cargo.

Mr. Russell is happy with the support he has gotten from his staff since he came to the island. He believes in communicating concerns and brainstorming solutions with his staff. He welcomes their suggestions and input as well as their solutions. He is serious about his assignment and plans to execute his mandate effectively and efficiently and hopes that he will continue to have the support of those who utilize the port.



A community meeting was held on January 20 to educate the audience on the serious polluting that would result from burning bunker C in the new power plant under construction at Wilson City. The presenters are shown above: Jeff Jaros and Brad Venman of the NTH Consultants; Kristin Williams of Friends of the Environment; Katie Feeny of Clean Air Council; Sam Duncombe of reEarth; Clint Kemp, President of Abaco CARES; and Graham Siener of the Cape Eleuthera Institute.

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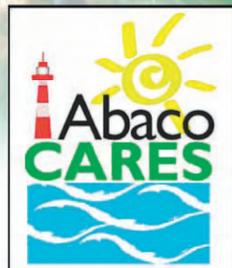
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Club News

Yacht club holds Chili Cook-off

By Timothy Roberts

The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club (RMHYC) held its annual Chili Cook-off at Abaco Beach Resort on January 12 to kick off its first monthly social gathering of the year.

Rear Commodore Ray Vallerie won Best Medium Chili and also took home the top honors for his recipe. Other winners were Fred Reed for Best Mild Chili, Past Commodore Dave Bluto for the Best Hot Chili and Rear Commodore David Bauereis for Best Unusual Chili.

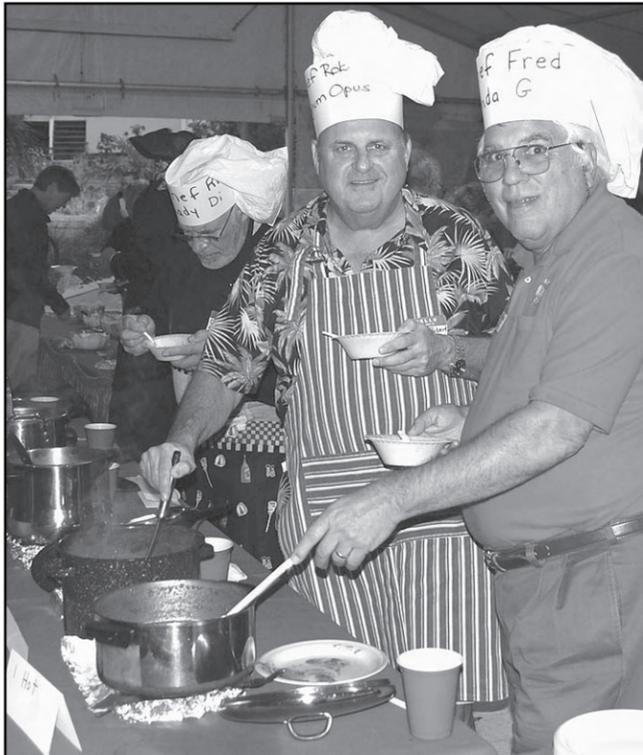
Judging the cook-off, the men with "Iron Stomachs," were Peter Sweeting and Andrew Sweeting, part owners of Abaco Beach Resort, as well as Chris Higgs, Dock Master at Boat Harbour, and Milt Sales, member of RMHYC and Head Judge.

The event, usually the best attended of the RMHYC socials, hosted over 70 members who enjoyed the company of fellow yachtsmen while sampling a variety of over 30 different chili dishes and catching up with friendships that have

been made while visiting Abaco.

The RMHYC, with a membership of over 1500 from a variety of countries, but mainly from the United States and Canada, brings a significant number of "cruisers" to Abaco year round, but predominantly between the months of November and March.

The club's next event, the Commodore's Ball, is being held on February 19 and will be followed on March 16 with a Western Hoedown.



Two of the competitors of the Chili Cook-off held by the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club are shown here cooking up their entries at this annual event. They are Robert Wieczorek and Fred Gassman.

Rotary Club of Abaco Collects for Haiti

By Mirella Santillo

As soon as the news of the devastating earth quake that shook Haiti on January 12th became public, local non-profit organizations such as the Red Cross and the Rotary Club immediately mobilized forces to organize island-wide fund raising campaigns.

The Rotary Club's Disaster Preparedness Committee, headed by Peter Bradley, held an emergency meeting on January 16th to devise fund raising means and discussed how the funds would be used. It was decided the club would purchase shelter boxes, 200 of which were already on their way to Haiti from a club in London. The versatile shelter boxes which cost \$800 each, contain a ten-person tent, sleeping mats, thermal blankets, water purification tablets, collapsible water carriers, trenching shovel, rope, tools and eating utensils and can be used as a water tank, a cot or a table when emptied.

The Rotary members immediately started bell ringing in front of food stores and

hardware stores and to target vehicles with buckets at the airport round-about and at the traffic light with its Highway Robbery program. The goal for the week long effort was to collect \$10,000 which would allow the Rotary Club of Abaco to purchase 12 shelter boxes. The bell ringing was initiated on January 18th and the Highway Robbery program was conducted on January 22-23.

The fund raising became a community effort. Rotarians and non-club members stood in front of the Neem Shop and at the traffic light. The Interact Clubs also participated in the fund raising efforts. The St Francis de Sales Interact Club organized a bake sale and Forest Heights Interact Club also baked sweets and held a raffle. Their goal is to collect \$800 to buy an additional shelter box.

The response was overwhelming with people not hesitating to put \$50 or even \$100 in the buckets on several occasions. Drivers honked their horns in support and some Haitians went out of their way to thank the bell ringers.

Please see **Clubs**

Page 15

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More Club News

Clubs From Page 14

Two local club members individually donated money to purchase two boxes and a second homeowner couple from Treasure Cay, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, made a donation for a shelter box. At the January 26th Rotary meeting, it was announced that altogether, enough money had been collected to buy 11 boxes. It seems that the goal of raising \$10,000 was very close to be accomplished as more donations keep coming in.

Rainbow Pilot Club Forms with new President

By Samantha V. Evans

Charlmae Fernander has been elected as the president of the newly formed Rainbow Pilot Club of Abaco. Ms. Fernander comes from a family of Pilots and recalls attending conventions with her mom. Her interest in becoming a Pilot did not develop until December 1996 when she became a first time member and the president of the new club at the same time. In 1998 the club was chartered at which time many dignitaries from the Bahamas and Pilot Club International attended.

Under the motto Friendship and Service, the club engaged in numerous projects and raised money to assist families of disabled children. They plan to do a flea

market and free give-aways in the Mudd and Peas in the near future. Soon after the Central Club was formed, the Pilot Club of South Abaco was formed.

This new Rainbow Pilot Club is the joining of these two clubs and includes new members who will be installed on February 12th. This club is made up of persons from all sectors: lawyers, civil servants and business people.

A share, or meet and greet, meeting was held in December at which time interested persons signed up. Today the club has many male members, two of whom are a part of the executive team of the club. The executives of the new Rainbow Club are president elect Paul Pinder, secretary Sindy Charles and Treasurer Cecil Simon. The first meeting of this new club was held on October 21st of last year.

The Abaco Club plans to initiate a project monthly. In fact, each member was asked to bring a project that interests them to keep the club vibrant. Some of the projects they have planned for this year include a free fair during the month of January, continuing meals on wheels, assisting parents of disabled children by giving them a free day of pampering, and making a donation to Every Child Counts.

The Pilot Club meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month. For the first

hour they handle club business and for the last 30 minutes, they learn from the guest speaker for the night. They do believe in socializing but in learning as they do. Ms. Fernander is a stickler for time and will ensure that meetings are effective and honor the time set. Interested persons are welcomed at their monthly meetings.

Garden club members learn about bromeliads

By Mirella Santillo

The first meeting of the year of Abaco's branch of the Bahamas Horticultural Society was held on January 9th at the home of the Society's President, Shirley Higgs for a presentation on bromeliads. The presenter, Beryl Sheasby from Nassau, brought with her a large collection of mature plants and "pups" for sale.

Mrs. Sheasby, a member of the Bahamas Horticultural Society in Nassau since 1983, became a bromeliad collector after winning a plant at one of the Society's raffles. She gave a brief history on how bromeliads, which are almost all native to

the Americas, became popular starting at the time of Columbus, who took the pineapple back to Europe upon returning from his second voyage.

Mrs. Sheasby went over a few of the most collected species describing their particularities and outlining the way they can be used in decorating or landscaping. Her presentation was supported by colored photographs. She concluded her presentation with tips on potting, watering and fertilizing.

On another gardening note, it is to be mentioned that the winners of the Best Kept Yard Competition were presented with their prizes at the Christmas Festival in Marsh Harbour. The first prize winner, Rhonda Hull received a check for \$350, compliments of the Marsh Harbour Town Committee. The second prize for \$250, donated by Scotia Bank, was awarded to Troy Cornea. Michael Johnson, who came in third position, received two tickets to Fort Lauderdale from Yellow Air Taxi and a plant.



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School News

Fox Town School's Experimental Programme

By Jennifer Hudson

The Fox Town Primary School is one of five schools in The Bahamas which has been selected to participate in an experimental programme sponsored by the International Development Bank. Austin Mills, Principal of the school, stated, "The idea is to work towards schools becoming all inclusive so that teachers will be able to deal with students with learning difficulties in their own school instead of having to send them to special schools."

At the beginning of the school year two specialist teachers from the Special Services Division of the Ministry of Education in Nassau went to the Fox Town school to test students in Grades 1 and 2 to ascertain any students having difficulty with learning. Then recently two persons from Ministry Headquarters in Nassau came to

teach staff how to identify and deal with such students. The teachers are now working with students with learning difficulties on an individual basis.

"We are already seeing results," stated Mr. Mills. "A student in grade one who was progressing very slowly has made remarkable improvement since last term."

The training of the teachers will be ongoing and the trainers are expected back on Abaco soon.

St. Francis donates to Haiti Relief Funds

By Samantha V. Evans

When the massive earthquake rocked Haiti a couple of weeks ago, it moved many to action. At St. Francis de Sales School the teachers and students raised funds to donate to the relief fund of the Department of Education so that one donation could be given to the Red Cross on behalf

of the schools. Principal Kumar stated that they also held a PE T-shirt and jeans day on January 22nd to raise funds to donate to the Catholic Arch Diocesan Haiti Relief Fund. As usual, the students did their part to help the school's efforts.

The Interact Club is active in service projects

By Samantha V. Evans

The Interact Club at St. Francis de Sales is very active and so far this school year the 17 members have taken part in many service projects. They took part in the clean up at the airport road-about and will be assisting with paving the holes on the road near Every Child Counts. On January 23rd they held a cake sale at Save-A-Lot to raise funds for the relief fund for Haiti. Thanks to the support and dedication of

Rotarians Jo-ann Bradley and George Riviere, the students are ready to live up to the Interact goal of being service-minded and engaging in positive activities.

Read Bahamas donates books to Central Abaco Primary School

By Samantha V. Evans

In November 2009 and January 2010 Read Bahamas donated four boxes of books to Central Abaco Primary School. This was not the first time the school received such a generous donation from Nancy McDonald and this organization but she has placed this school on her list of schools to assist with reading materials.

Please see **School**

Page 17

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More School News

School *From Page 16*

She hopes to spread the joy of reading to every child in the Bahamas through her donations. The books she has donated appeal to all different level readers and included poetry, fairy tales, Bible story books and series books that students like.

Since the school's Reading Challenges now require the students to read chapter books, she donated some of those as well which have been a great addition to the school library. It is expected that with these additional books the students will develop a new love for reading and improve their reading scores.

Girls Reading Challenge is launched

For the fifth year in a row, the girls of grades 4-6 of Central Abaco Primary

School will have an opportunity to improve their reading and writing skills. The month of February is set aside every year for them to take part in the Girls Reading Challenge. According to the coordinator of the program, Samantha Evans, the students look forward to these challenges every year. Not only do they get a chance to read exciting books and write their book reports, but they receive great prizes purchased by her and donated by businesses within the community.

Students are engaged in critical and logical thinking and improve their comprehension skills. With the new rules being implemented in September of last year, students are now challenged to read chapter books. The theme chosen for this challenge is Heroes Teach Courage. The focus is to get students thinking about those persons who make a difference and the many ways they

teach them to be brave and remain strong.

School Health Program is underway

By Samantha V. Evans

The Public Health system has consistently visited government schools annually as a part of its school health program and this January they began school visits. Presently, the nurses attend to various healthcare needs of the students at Central Abaco Primary School and ensure that the grade six students receive appropriate vaccination for graduation and entry into high school. They screen all grade one students by giving them eye and hearing exams and general physical fitness checkups. As a part of this program, they ensure that students are in good health for school. If their shots are not up to date, they administer them. Students who are diagnosed as

being sick are given medication along with instructions. The healthcare team will visit the school twice weekly or as deemed necessary.

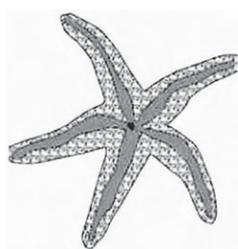
Teacher Assistants receive certificates

By Canishka Alexander

Adhering to their goal of "excellence for each student in each classroom in each school," the Department of Education, Abaco District was pleased to present certificates on January 5 to 17 young people who have decided to enter the teaching profession. Although the assignment comes as a temporary job placement by the government, they were encouraged to do their best.

District Superintendent Lenora Black

Please see **School** Page 18



Thank You

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Every Child Counts would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to the ECC Fund Raiser in Treasure Cay on January 16th. It was a spectacular and successful night only due to the generosity and support of those who see the need for alternative education on Abaco.

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More School News

School *From Page 17*

said the program is one of many spearheaded by the government to temporarily assist those who are among the unemployed. The teacher assistants fall under the guidance of the Ministry and are assigned to a number

of primary schools throughout the island over the next several months. Mrs. Black said that Ruthamae Rolle, principal of Moore's Island All-Age School, executed a similar program with two assistants there.

Mrs. Black was delighted to see the interested persons who had come forward as

teacher assistants when the invitation was extended by the government. Based on the comments she overheard among the assistants, there is a definitely a deep passion to serve God and The Bahamas.

Three assistants reflected on their training in the program and on how they could utilize the skills and knowledge they had acquired. Education officers Leslie Rolle, Ruth Smith, Sandy Edwards and Felamase Sawyer all assisted with the training program. The training addressed the public service and performance expectations and understanding the primary school child. They learned the effectiveness of training in literacy and numeracy, which focuses on understanding how children learn. Their training on classroom management introduced alternative methods of discipline.

Toward the end of the ceremony, Senior Administrator Cephias Cooper gave the charge to the assistants. He advised them to go into the classroom with open minds and good work ethics. He described

the opportunity as an investment, which approximately 2,500 outstanding young Bahamians are currently benefitting from. However, he readily admitted that Abaco and The Bahamas will be richer because of the meaningful contributions being made by each teacher assistant.

Although the program comes to an end in June, Mr. Cooper told the assistants that they would have the satisfaction of knowing that they have sown positive seeds into the lives of our children.

Agape Christian School Wins Grade 5 Spelling Bee

By Samantha V. Evans

It was a joyous day for Priscilla Bain of Agape Christian School as she reigned victorious as the winner of the grade 5 Spelling Bee held on January 15th at St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town. Twenty-three students participated and at

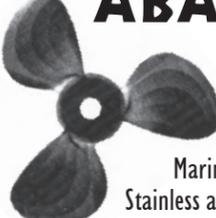
Please see **School** *Page 20*



A group of 17 teacher assistants received certificates for receiving training to assist in schools with a shortage of fully trained teachers. This is a temporary job that will end in June. It is hoped that many will decide to get further training in education. Some of the students are shown here with staff of the Department of Education who trained them.

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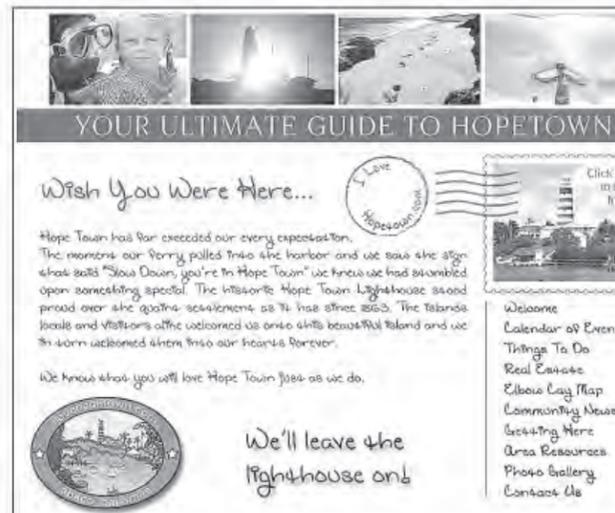
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More School News

School *From Page 18*

the end of the day three students successfully took home the top three trophies. The second place finisher was Shania Roberts of Cyber Learning Center and in third place was Destiny Seymour of Central Abaco Primary School. Seven males were a part of this competition and did an excellent job. Mrs. Lenora Black commended the parents of Anna Albury, the blind student who has taken part in the Spelling Bees since grade one. She excelled in the competition up to round ten. Mrs. Black added that in the absence of her Braille teacher who had an accident in Canada, Anna's parents stepped up and taught her class. All of the participants received a certificate.



First place winner of the Grade 5 Spelling Bee was Priscilla Bain, left, of Agape Christian School, Shania Roberts, center, of Cyber Learning came in second and Destiny Seymour of Central Abaco Primary School came in third.

Yelena Persaud won Catholic Spelling Bee

By Samantha V. Evans

On January 15th the 43rd Annual Catholic Arch Diocesan Spelling Bee was held in Nassau at which time students from all Catholic schools in The Bahamas competed. Out of the 43 participants Yelena Persaud, a grade six student from St. Francis de Sales School in Marsh Harbour, brought the winning trophy home to Abaco. As a result of this win, she will represent the Arch Diocese in the National Spelling Bee Competition slated for March 21st in Nassau. She will

once again participate in the Florida Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee Competition later this year in Florida. She won this competition out of all of the American students last year. St. Francis de Sales is extremely proud of her parents and coaches who all worked hard to prepare her for the competition. They are excited that there will now be two Abaco students represented in the National Spelling Bee. Jonnajah Bootle, the second participant, did exceptionally well in the competition placing 9th.

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North Abaco News

S.C. Bootle High recognized high achievers

Recently, honour roll students were acknowledged at S.C. Bootle High School for their high academic marks. Many of the students are committed to excelling in their work and have walked this road to success many times before. According to Principal Huel Moss, these students are raising the bar and setting new standards at the school.

Making the honour roll this semester are Ashvonn Russell, Lennise Merlien,

Dearsharay Brown, Chelsea Ramotar, Keeon Daziel, Tamia Wells, Johnalee McIntosh, Kirsten Moss, Kenelle Woods, Toni Knowles, Brianna Sawyer, Leann Russell, Jasmine Taylor, Brittany Clarke, Terranise Taylor, Sherrie Romer, Rosemika Charles, Andquone Burrows, Ashley Murray, John Henderson, Hope Ramotar, Terry Hillairre, Kyvonne Lopez, Darian Lightbourne, Charo Williams, Anya Mills, Fredricka McIntosh, Timmesha Russell,

and Shavantae Pedican.

Most outstanding was Kyvonne Lopez, an 11th grade student who earned a 3.74 grade point average. It was recorded as the highest GPA for the school last term.

Because of the students' noteworthy accomplishment, some pastors from North Abaco sought to honour the students. As a result, Pastor Ronald McIntosh treated all of the honour roll students to a luncheon.

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More North Abaco News

Lovely Reckley teaches shell craft course



Lovely Reckley is teaching a class in shell craft in Cooper's Town to students and teachers of S.C. Bootle High School. She is shown here demonstrating a gluing technique.

By Canishka Alexander

Those who know Lovely Reckley know that she has a passion for God and a creative knack for making beautiful handmade crafts. As of January 11, she is now sharing her creativity and knowledge with staff and students enrolled in a shell craft program at S.C. Bootle High School.

Mrs. Reckley has an aptitude for fashioning remarkable crafts out of shells, coconut, straw, beads and crystal. She refers to the beads and crystals as her masterpiece. She even incorporates the use of needle and thread in a technique called machine embroidery that she learned while in China. As a member of the All Abaco Handicraft Association, she is committed to her work. Ever evolving, when she completes one craft, she quickly moves on to create something even more stunning and breathtaking.

Mrs. Reckley has invested time, money and effort on enhancing her abilities and enriching her knowledge of the exquisite work of handicraft. She is intent on encouraging the youth to develop the handicraft market, particularly in the area of shell craft.

In an effort to broaden the scope of the

shell craft and take it to another level, Mrs. Reckley instructed teachers and students to bring their own sense of creativity to the classroom. The shell craft classes take place every Monday. There are approxi-

Honour students are treated to lunch



Pastor Roland McIntosh and his team gave the students of S.C. Bootle High School words of encouragement. He promised a \$500 prize for the student who achieved a GPA of 3.90 or higher during the next term. This picture shows the honour students being treated to lunch by the pastor.

mately eight teachers and 12 students enrolled in the class.

According to Principal Huel Moss, everyone arrived for class on time, enthusiastic and ready with their glue guns and shells in hand. "The first class was basically orientation for the enrollees. Mrs.

Reckley handed out booklets just to inspire them and to get their creative juices flowing for the work ahead," Mr. Moss said. "This initiative taken by Mrs. Reckley is a promising prospective for upcoming Bahamian artisans, and it is my hope that the students take it and run with it."

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Reporter's Notebook . . . Where is the love

By Navardo Saunders

Following the devastating earthquake in Haiti, hundreds of Bahamians including many here on Abaco have come to the aid of the Haitian people, donating food, clothes, money, water and so much more. That is commendable.

But there are far too many who are in a position to give who haven't. Many of them are upset that Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham has ordered the release of about 120 Haitians from the detention center in New Providence and has given them temporary status for the next six months. Many Bahamians took to the airwaves and sharply criticized Mr. Ingraham's decision, some spewing hate toward Haitians in the process.

Their comments prompted this response from the nation's chief, "In this Christian society of ours where most households have televisions, everyone should be able to see what is happening in Haiti. I can't

imagine hypocrites going to church on Sunday morning and then saying on the radio, in the newspapers and in their hearts that we are to detain and keep these people and send them back to Haiti."

It got me thinking about the fact that the southern Bahamas was under a tsunami watch the same day as the earthquake in Haiti. What if we had suffered a similar fate? And some other country in a position to help like America decided not to allow Bahamians on vacation or who are detained in the U.S for entering illegally or overstaying their time to remain there while the country recovers. That would be cruel and inhuman. The international community would come down hard on the United States, which like The Bahamas, boasts of maintaining an admirable record on human rights.

What if the earthquake had devastated America, our close ally and friend, and Mr. Ingraham had given temporary status

to Americans at the detention center while their country put the pieces back together again. Would people have taken to the airwaves and sharply criticized the Prime Minister's decision. The truth of the matter is no. And there are reasons for that.

Bahamians know that Americans aren't interested in staying in The Bahamas, so they wouldn't be a burden on the health-care system, and they won't be in competition for jobs. In short, it won't seem like they come to "take over" the way many Bahamians feel like Haitians do.

But Bahamians must understand this is an extraordinary situation. And the Prime Minister has done the right thing. He did what Jesus would do, according to the Bible.

How can we call ourselves a Christian nation when we don't follow Christian principles.

How can we call ourselves a Christian nation when there is no love.

Three men charged with theft of shotguns

By Canishka Alexander

On January 6 three men were charged with shop breaking and stealing in the theft of eight shotguns from the Bahamas Customs Department's storage room at the Treasure Cay airport on January 3. The men were Hindle Alce, Michael Forbes and Wesley Renel - all residents of the Haitian community known as The Farm.

According to Prosecutor Perkins Collie, the three men entered the Treasure Cay International Airport on January 3 with the intent to commit a felony. During their investigation six of the eight shotguns were recovered. Each shotgun was valued at \$500.

Alce pleaded guilty to all charges. Collie noted that Alce did not have any prior convictions, but Renel and Forbes both had a matter pending at the Magistrate's Court in Cooper's Town.

Renel and Forbes were refused bail and were remanded to Fox Hill until March. Magistrate Crawford McGee sentenced Alce to four years at Her Majesty's prison.

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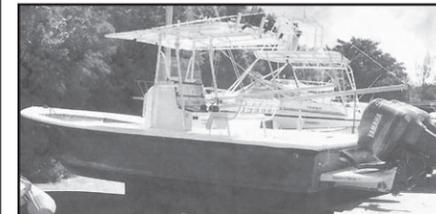
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LOTS

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Enjoy stunning sunsets from this beautiful waterfront home. 4 bedrooms and 4 ensuite baths, dock house, terraces, lush gardens with panoramic ocean views. **\$1,850,000. AS11277**



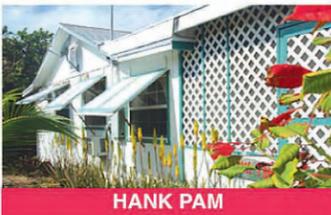
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