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VOLUME 18 NUMBER 7 APRIL 1st, 2010

Council members are honoured in ceremony

Hope Town District Council recognizes past local government representatives



The Hope Town District Council held a ceremony on March 20 to honour those who have served their communities in local government since it was inaugurated in 1996. Seated are Harcourt Thompson; Penny Albury representing her deceased husband, Brent; Suzanne Bethel; the Hon. Bryan Woodside, Minister of State for Lands and Local Government; Diane Bethel and Roy Cash. Standing are Administrator Maxine Duncombe; Administrator Cephas Cooper; Vernon Malone; Roscoe Thompson II; Walter Sweeting; Stafford Patterson representing Scott Patterson; Roy Russell; Clay Wilhoite; Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting; Glenn Laing; Joe Albury; Under Secretary Rene Clinton; and Administrator Whelma Colebrook. Several other representatives were not able to attend.

The Hope Town District Council, led by Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting, organized a ceremony to honour present and past Councillors from Guana Cay, Man-O-War and Hope Town, the three settlements composing the Council. Each was presented with a plaque acknowledging the contribution that they had made in their communities. The Hon. Bryan Woodside, Minister of State for Lands and Local Government, was the guest speaker at the ceremony held in Hope Town on March 19.

The ceremony recognized those persons who served since Local Government's inception in 1996. The Minister noted that this was the first occasion in The Bahamas where those who served in Local Government were recognized.

Mr. Woodside applauded the Hope Town District Council and said its organization and accomplishments are mentioned throughout the country as a model for other councils to emulate. He said their vision is legendary, and no other Council has shown the commitment and passion which these community volunteers have demonstrated in their ability to respond to their town's needs.

Chief Councillor Sweeting spoke on how the Council often partners with local persons or companies to accomplish more

Please see **Hope Town**

Page 2

Burial Society is now a multi-purpose building



The Town Committee of Dundas Town has recently completed major renovations to the Burial Society building that was extensively damaged by several hurricanes. It now serves the community in several capacities, as a meeting place for the Burial Society and other community meetings, as a local government office, as a classroom for offering remedial and adult classes and as a computer facility for students. Shown are Frankie Russell, Dundas Town Deputy Chairman Faron Newbold, Brandon Davis, Cubell Davis and Brintan Davis. See story on page 6.

Crawfish season ends March 31

NEMA holds emergency training in North Abaco



The National Emergency Management Agency held a seminar in Cooper's Town to prepare a team in North Abaco with the ability to handle emergencies. At the closing ceremony it organized a simulated emergency using school students as victims. Twenty completed the course successfully and are now qualified CERT members prepared to take care of emergencies immediately before outside help becomes available. These same people will work with First Responders and other emergency workers when they are mobilized and arrive in the area. Shown are the newly trained group during the emergency. They organized themselves well and located and cared for all the victims. They were complimented by the NEMA trainers as being an exemplary group. See story on page 6.

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Minister praised Hope Town Council as a model

Hope Town

From Page 1

for a given amount of funding. Council members frequently extend their service to their communities by working long hours on their own time to see projects completed.

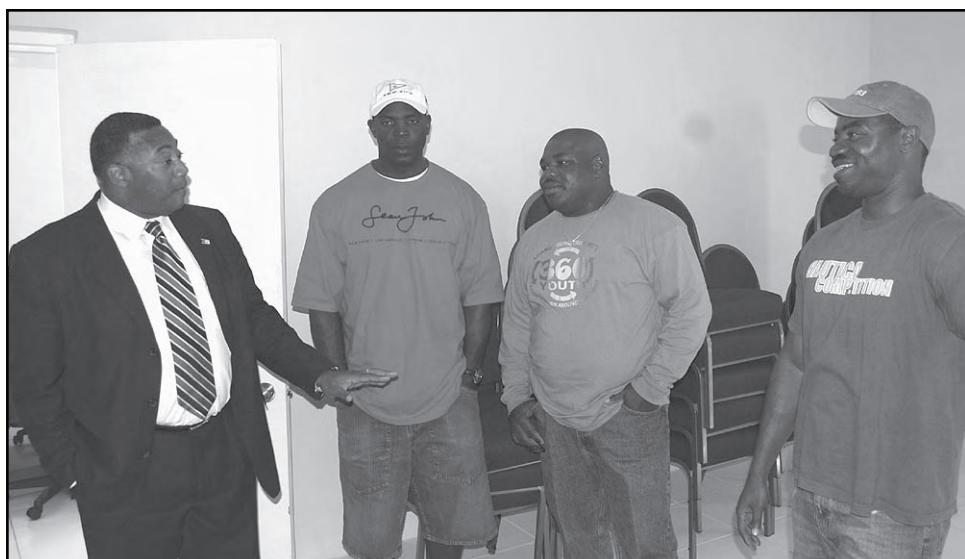
Several of those honoured spoke on their earlier service. Mrs. Suzanne Bethel spoke on the accomplishments when working as a team. Clay Wilhoite mentioned the need for Nassau to pay more attention to local voices. Walter Sweeting spoke of the necessary long hours and night boat trips into Marsh Harbour or to Hope Town. Roy Russell noted that when the Hope Town District was separated from Central

Abaco, they were shorted \$30,000 in funding, then hit with Hurricane Floyd which complicated their ability to function with a reduced budget. Roy Cash told the Minister how divisive the Guana Cay Bakers Bay issue was for Council to contend with. The logistics of commuting between the three separate islands was alluded to by many which has made it difficult to serve as expected as there is no commercial transportation service between these islands.

Other officials speaking during the ceremony were Administrator Cephas Cooper, Edison Key, M.P. for South Abaco, and Robert Sweeting, past M.P. for South Abaco.



On his recent trip to Abaco the Hon. Byran Woodside brought with him three Lenovo computers that were donated to local government on Abaco by the Chinese government. One will go to each of the three administrators on mainland Abaco, North, Central and South. Mr. Woodside is shown here with the Central Abaco District Council when he presented it. Shown are Councillors Danny Sawyer, Roger Delancy and Faron Newbold; Administrator Cephas Cooper; Councillor Lowell Albury; Under Secretary Rene Clinton; Administrator Whelma Colebrook; Mr. Woodside; Administrator Gary Knowles; Chief Councillor Cubell Davis; and Councillors Roscoe Thompson III, Renardo Curry and George Cornish.



The Hon. Byran Woodside, left, was shown the newly renovated Burial Society building in Dundas Town. He was pleased with the work that the Dundas Town Committee had accomplished. With him are Cecil Ingraham, Town Committee member George Cornish and Deputy Chairman of the Dundas Town Committee, Faron Newbold.

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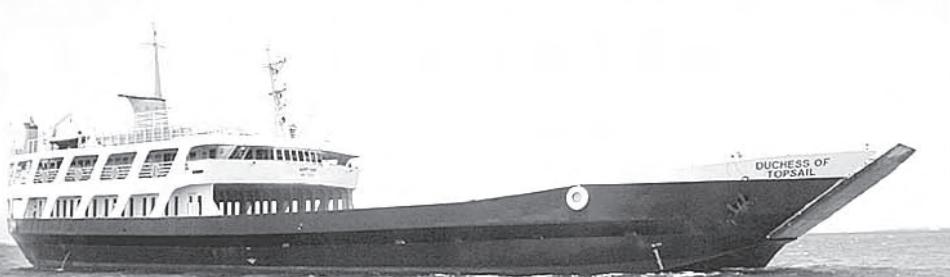
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HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3674
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HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #2911
SWEETING'S LANDING - WATERFRONT Immaculate harbourfront home with private dock. 3 bed 2 bath, bonus room, extra lot. Owner financing available. **US\$1,300,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4963
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HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4827
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HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4905
OCEAN BLUFF - DORROS COVE - OCEANFRONT Dock slip, 1/2 acre elevated building site: 95' on the water. **US\$650,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4624
HUMMINGBIRD COTTAGE - Charming historic 2 bed home, art studio attached, hw floors, a/c, in Hope Town Village. **US\$595,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4920
ALLAMANDA Historic Loyalist cottage with updated interior. 2 bed 2 bath plus upstairs apartment. Fruit and vegetable trees. **US\$595,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #5048
WATERFRONT - THE SPIT 0.9 acres with 100 ft on water, mature native trees, deep water for dock. **US\$250,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #5230
VALENTINE'S - Historic 3 bed 2 bath with lighthouse views. Steps to public dock, short walk to beach. Good rental history. **US\$500,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4270
SEA SALT - OCEAN VIEW Newly built, 1,600 sq.ft. 3 bed 2 bath. One block off the ocean, near Sea Spray Marina. **US\$499,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3330
FINDERS KEEPERS - OCEANVIEW Adorable 2 bed 1.5 bath island cottage. One block off the beach in White Sound. **Newly Renovated. US\$485,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4161
ATLANTIC DREAM - OCEAN FRONT in Dorros Cove. Includes designated boat slip at Tahiti Beach. **US\$450,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #2584
TOP OF THE WORLD - OCEAN VIEW - White Sound 2 bed, 1.5 bath, bonus room, retail space on main floor; short walk to beach. **US\$400,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4308
COCONUT DUNES - OCEANFRONT 92ft of beachfront at Big Point, in quiet residential neighbourhood. Partnership opportunity. **\$375,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #2291
HONEYMOON COTTAGE - Adorable 2/2 cottage in the heart of Hope Town 50 paces from beautiful sandy beach. **US\$370,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4825
NORTH END LOT 51A - OCEAN VIEW 3 minutes to a white sandy ocean beach with excellent snorkeling. **\$185,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4246
SURFER'S REST - LOT 8 - Oceans views, near White Sound, close to the ocean beach & public dock. **\$149,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



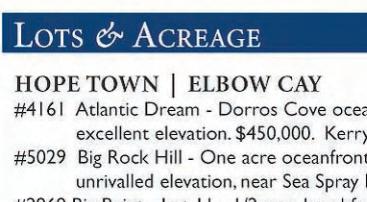
HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4826
NORTH END - LOT 66 - Almost 1/2 acre lot. Underbrushed. Spectacular views. 100 meters from oceanside beach. **US\$175,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



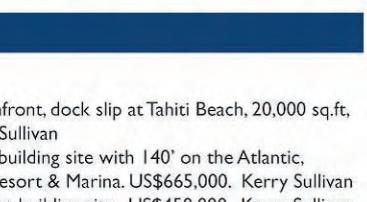
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HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4639
LUCAYOS - LOT 6 - Peaceful wooded residential area, 5 mins walk to shared dock, short ride to sandy beach & town amenities. **\$99,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4639
LOT 6 - 5 min walk to shared dock & beach. **\$99,000.** Jane Patterson #4313 New Settlement - Hillside lots w/ underground utilities and concrete roads in quiet residential community. Access to beach. Starting at: **\$140,000.** Kerry Sullivan #4825 North End - Lot 51a - Ocean View, 10,042 sq.ft. **\$185,000.** Jane Patterson #5236 North End - Lot 51b - Ocean View, 12,351 sq.ft. **\$195,000.** Jane Patterson #4826 North End - Lot 66 - Almost 1/2 acre lot. Underbrushed. **\$189,000.** Jane Patterson #3207 Seagrape - White Sound - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan #4395 Shepherd Needle Hill - 3.7 acres, 140' on deep water coastline, views of the Atlantic Ocean, Sea of Abaco, & Tahiti Beach. **US\$995,000.** Kerry Sullivan. #3824 Pink Sand - Best beachfront property on the island. **\$990,000.** Kerry Sullivan



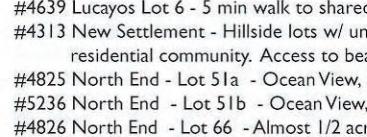
HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4820
SEAGRAPE - WHITE SOUND - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan



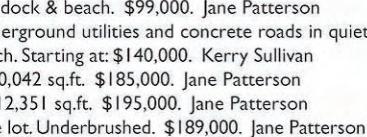
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SEAGRAPE - WHITE SOUND - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4822
SEAGRAPE - WHITE SOUND - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4823
SEAGRAPE - WHITE SOUND - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4824
SEAGRAPE - WHITE SOUND - Oceanfront building site, 101 ft. on the Atlantic, near public dock. Excellent surf area. **\$450,000.** Kerry Sullivan

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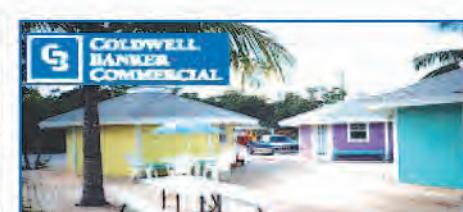
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Long Beach - 1/4 acre lots in quiet community From \$30,000

Green Turtle Cay - Elevated lots w/views. 13 available From \$120,000

Green Turtle Cay - 1/2 Acre beach front lot. \$475,000

Bahama Coral Island - 3 lots 9,000 sq. ft. each, 30+ ft. elevation-\$25,000

Sand Banks Creek - 1.2 acres. 64' of rocky shoreline. \$85,000

Treasure Cay - lot located one lot away from powder beach \$99,000

S.C Bootle Highway - 1.3 Acre lot minutes from T.Cay \$70,000

Lubbers Quarters - Waterfront lot, 100 x 200 \$199,500

Lubbers Quarters - 4.5 Acres Sea to Sea. Rocky Shoreline \$995,000

Turtle Rocks - Large beachfront lot. 15,000+ sqft \$185,000

Little Abaco - Waterfront lot 0.711 acres with power \$39,500

Tilloo Cay - 1.86 acre seafront lot. Amazing views \$ 350,000

Dundas Town - 9,000 sq. ft lot on Christie Street. \$40,000

Murphy Town - Residential lots many still available From \$45,000

Little Abaco - Waterfront lot. 8,150 sq. ft. -\$39,500

Sandy Point - Beachfront lot on main road. 70 x 108. - \$75,000

Hope Town - Harbourfront lot. Views of the lighthouse. \$850,000

Hope Town - Oceanfront lot 55" of ocean. \$950,000

Yellow Wood Creek - Hilltop lot approx. .75 acres -\$195,000

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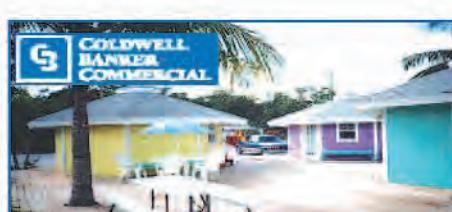
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Minister reviews budgets and hears appeals

The Minister of State for Lands and Local Government, the Hon. Byran Woodside, M.P., spent four days on Abaco meeting with the seven District Councils. His primary goal was to consult with each of the District Councils to review their proposed budgets for the coming fiscal year and to have a personal understanding of their problems and challenges.

It is his chore to defend their requests when their budgets are reviewed by Cabinet. In view of this process he works with the Council members to see that the budgets are submitted realistically with justifications that explain any deviations from historical patterns or for new or increased

requests.

Strangely, the budget review with the Minister is a closed session although the earlier process of arriving at these figures is open to the public.

Mr. Woodside met with all seven of the councils on Abaco. The districts he went to were Green Turtle Cay, North Abaco, Central Abaco, Hope Town which includes Man-O-War and Guana Cay. The Grand Cay Council traveled to Cooper's Town to meet with Mr. Woodside and the Moore's Island and South Abaco Councils traveled to Marsh Harbour.

While on Abaco the Minister heard appeals from three persons who felt they had

been unfairly treated on either licensing or building permit applications: one by Allan Smith in North Abaco and two in Hope Town by Andrew Prosa and Joe's Cay Investment. These final appeals with the Minister are closed sessions with the aggrieved party and the District Council each giving testimony to the Minister and his staff. Decisions on these three hearings will not be known for several weeks.

On March 19 Mr. Woodside spent much of his final day in Hope Town attending a celebration organized by Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting honouring past and present members of the District Council for their dedication and service to their communities. This was Mr. Woodside's only appearance at a public function.



Elbow Cay protesters met the Minister and his entourage on their arrival in Hope Town and later moved to where the representatives of Cavalier Construction could see their signs that all supported the decision of the Hope Town District Council. The Minister will relay his decision on the case sometime in the near future.



About 20 residents of Elbow Cay joined a peaceful protest demonstration on the arrival of Minister Byran Woodside at the Council office in Hope Town. Most residents of Elbow Cay are strongly against a proposed development of Joe's Cay, a small cay off Elbow Cay just north of White Sound. They feel that the cay is too small for the proposed development. After several Town Meetings, a revised development plan and much discussion, the Hope Town District Council voted against the developer. The developer then appealed to the Minister of Local Government as set up in the Local Government Act, hoping that the Minister will reverse the decision of the Council.

Minister Woodside arrived on March 17 accompanied by Nassau staff members Administrator Gary Knowles and Under Secretary Rene Glinton. The group left in the afternoon of March 20 following the Hope Town ceremony.

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North Abaco hosts NEMA's CERT program

By Timothy Roberts

Recognizing a need for greater disaster preparedness in North Abaco, Clayton McIntosh of Cooper's Town sought the assistance of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), holding workshops from March 8 to Thursday, March 11.

During the week NEMA conducted a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training seminar which is designed to equip residents to assist in emergencies, to be able to conduct quick response and recovery to the disaster and/or emergency and carry out damage assessments.

Mr. McIntosh sought people from the communities of North Abaco to be trained through the CERT program and got interested people from as far as Mount Hope, Cedar Harbour and Treasure Cay as well as from the surrounding communities such as Cooper's Town, Black Wood and Fire Road. Twenty persons in all came to par-

ticipate in the program.

The workshops taught the participants skills such as how to respond to a disaster, track storms, combat fires and how to treat minor injuries and bone fractures as well as basic CPR. Those who participated in the program received a backpack with first aid kits, reflective vests and other useful items.

The CERT Program educates residents of a community about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their areas while providing training in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, hazardous materials, team organization and disaster medical operations.

NEMA Training Coordinator, Gayle Moncur, organized a simulated disaster using 13 seventh grade students from S.C. Bootle High School for the group's final day of workshops in order for the partici-

pants to put their new knowledge into practice in a real life situation.

The group met at a basketball court and organized and coordinated teams, set up a treatment area and sent out search parties for those injured or in need of help. By the end of the staged exercise all of the "victims" had been found and accounted for. Mrs. Moncur was pleased with their progress saying that this group had been one of the best groups they had ever taught.

Mrs. Moncur said that CERT members can assist communities, neighborhoods and workplaces in the first 72 hours following a disaster until such time as professional

First Responders can arrive on the scene. The point of the CERT program is to ultimately "do the most amount of good for the most number of people" in the face of an emergency or disaster.

According to Mrs. Moncur, those who participate in CERT Training have a better understanding of the potential threats to their homes, workplaces and communities and can take the right steps to lessen the effects of those hazards on these areas. "It is our belief that the country, communities and workplaces can only benefit from this program," Mrs. Moncur added.



The residents of North Abaco responded to the opportunity to be trained in managing emergency situations. Twenty completed the Community Emergency Response Team course offered by NEMA. They are shown here with their instructors and students who participated in a mock disaster situation.



Seventh grade students from S.C. Bootle High School were the "victims" in a mock disaster that was staged by those completing the CERT course. The students did a great job acting out their parts and the adults were complimented on their well organized response to the disaster.



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The Editor Says . . .



and town committees.

This local review process is conducted in closed sessions. However, we had various opportunities during his visit to talk to Mr. Woodside and get his views on a variety of topics.

The Minister mentioned government's desire to improve the local government system and to encourage more people to participate. Worldwide, it is often persons who enter government service at the local level who move through the system and become involved at the higher levels. Persons who have served at the local level understand the system better than persons who attempt to start at the top. Various incentives are being considered to get more persons interested in serving locally.

A pilot program still in the planning stages is to initiate a junior local government program in the schools. This is intended to bring awareness of local government service to high school students in the hope that some will become involved after their school years.

In April or May of 2011 local government elections will be held again for the sixth time. Some persons will choose to run for re-election while others will call it quits. Choosing to nominate again does not guarantee a person's re-election. The voters will decide that. There will be newcomers who will feel that they can improve on

The Minister of State for Lands and Local Government, the Hon. Byron Woodside, was recently on Abaco conducting his annual budget review with Abaco's seven district councils. He is required to meet with every district council in the Family Islands and review their proposed budgets for the coming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010.

Mr. Woodside represents each council in Cabinet when it is decided what the actual budgets will be. Councils do not learn how their budget requests fare until early July.

Budgets begin with the town committees submitting their requests to their district council. Councils take these figures and combine them with their own requests. This two-step process is held with their respective island administrator who helps make the figures realistic. Increases over the previous year and new items must be accompanied by a statement justifying the request. Simply saying that more people require more money is not sufficient.

Councils are responsible for maintenance to larger facilities which serve the entire district, not just one town. Examples for Central Abaco are the government clinic, the airport terminal and the two public schools.

This local budget process provides only for recurring items related to township maintenance. Sometimes during the year government sends additional amounts for minor capital projects. This additional money can be used for specific small projects or perhaps major repairs.

It is tempting for our local government persons to ask for funding for park expansion, additional garbage collection, grants to local events such as Junkanoo and many other items. The administrator often tempers these increases or assists in making a realistic justification statement.

Since the Minister sits in the Cabinet where these budget decisions are made, he has intimate knowledge of how his colleagues are apt to respond to each council's requests. His personal interview with each council gives him a better knowledge of the needs, problems and wishes of councils

A local government update

either on Abaco or on other islands.

A constant irritant among our local government persons, politicians at the local level, is the apparent disregard by Nassau for local decisions as provided for in The Act. Local decisions are sometimes superceded by Nassau or perhaps a decision is pre-determined by Nassau.

Perhaps authorities in Nassau believe that Family Island persons lack the knowledge or maturity to make logical or well thought out decisions. We must remember that for the most part, local persons who have volunteered their time to look after their towns are generally not experts. However, they are definitely interested in the welfare of their towns and are often willing to put in long hours.

Our politicians in Nassau are not experts either, but they have the authority to make things happen when they snap their fingers. They do have a vast civil service at their disposal for technical help and to assist with obscure issues.

Local government in Central Abaco can be expected to advance farther when the new administrative complex takes shape in two years. Most government departments and agencies will be down the hall and close to the local government office. Getting professional advice should become easier. Not much has been said on this but we can expect changes for the better.

Letters to the Editor

Congratulates use of solar power

Dear Editor,

I visited Marsh Harbour last week and picked up a copy of "The Abaconian." I noticed an article by Jennifer Hudson relative to solar initiatives of the Little Harbour community.

Congratulations to all those residents. We are from the Midwest and remarked about the abundance of sunshine and why we did not see more solar and even wind harvest. Hopefully, the initiative in Little Harbour will spread to the rest of the island and The Bahamas, then the rest of the developed world.

Again, thanks, and congratulations to the Little Harbour residents. You should be proud of your efforts. Continue to promote what you have done.

Tom Taiber
Waverly, Iowa

Beware of Greeks bearing gifts

Now I realize that the people "bearing gifts" are Chinese and not "Greeks." However, I am curious about what is in it for them. We have all heard the expression that

you never get something for nothing. But all I have read so far in The Abaconian is how great it is going to be for us, and that is a good thing. It will all be very much appreciated when we actually see the results from this intercourse with the Chinese, but please let us know what the whole story is.

Also, it is my understanding that Abaco has the largest and sweetest fresh water aquifer in the Bahamas, and it needs to be protected. However, some pretty nasty things can happen when you mix cow and pig poop with water. Is it possible that some studies should be done before we go ahead with any sort of large scale raising of livestock?

Thanks very much for the time in your paper.

Sid Dawes

Concerned about Chinese proposals

Dear Editor,

I have some concerns after reading the last few articles and your editorial covering the Chinese farming investment. I would like to appeal at this time to the powers that be. They must not dive headfirst into this arrangement with the Chinese. I'm sure there are many benefits to our country with their investment and their expertise. However, if special consideration is not given to each and every Bahamian that currently falls under the agriculture umbrella, there could be dire consequences.

For instance, the last article I read stated they intended to do a chicken farm. What does this mean for our Bahamian chicken farms? Should they now be forced to compete with a foreign entity in their own country? Since this group seems keen towards packaging, what else would be next? Bottled water? Trust me when I tell you I wish the Minister of Agriculture was as vocal about Bahamian water on the shelves of our local stores! The irony of this is that the bottled water industry in The Bahamas falls under Agriculture.

Would it not be better to possibly have Bahamians finance this equipment from the Chinese? Would it not be more beneficial

to simply hire agriculture experts in the areas of mass production farming and packaging? Why are we giving a foreign country so much land and the rights to do this? Surely we can do this ourselves. I think that in the interest of The Bahamas any potential or proposed agreement should be presented to The Bahamian people. We should have the right to decide who if anyone comes into our country and competes with the locals.

I'm sure, like I stated earlier, that there are many great potentials to this deal. I simply want to make sure the pros out weigh the cons. As the saying goes: Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, he feeds himself forever!

Proud to be a Bahamian!

Open letter to Member of Parliament Cartwright

To the Hon. Lawrence Cartwright
Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources

Dear Minister Cartwright:

Friends of the Environment would like to thank the Department of Marine Resources and The Bahamas government for making the decision to prohibit the vessel *Pelagic I* to purse seine net tuna in Bahamian waters.

Additionally, FRIENDS would like to commend the government for its wise action in amending the legislation to ban future endeavors such as this in The Bahamas.

In recent weeks the amount of public concern regarding this matter has been overwhelming, and it is encouraging to know that your Ministry has taken those concerns into consideration. It is also encouraging to see the amount of environmental awareness that arose both locally and abroad.

The importance of our natural resources cannot be understated. The Bahamas has the opportunity to lead the way in sustainable fishing in the Caribbean, and this is a step in the right direction. Thank you again

The Abaconian

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Letters to the Editor

Letters

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Sincerely,
Kristin Williams
Executive Director,
FRIENDS

Ode to an old dry well

Dear Editor,

One hundred years ago the cistern was chopped out of limestone rock at the foot of the ridge, its smooth sides a century-old testimony to hours of hard manual labour.

One hundred years ago a Wilson City worker drew water from the cistern, perhaps stopping to gaze across the peaceful waters of Spencer's Bight before hauling his heavy burden back up the hill.

Last week the cistern was bulldozed into oblivion by BEC as it widened the pipeline route for the new power plant. So what? It was just an old well. But it was also yet another integral part of Bahamian history that is lost and gone forever.



An old cistern was hand carved in the rock at Wilson City over 100 years ago. However, it was situated in the path of the road that BEC is making to the location of the dock for the tankers supplying fuel to the new power station.



This is the site of the old cistern as it looks today. BEC is making a road to the dock to be built to accommodate the tankers bringing fuel to the new power plant. The cistern has been destroyed along with several blue holes being filled with boulders.

The Environmental Impact Assessment for the dock and pipeline route states, "With the proposed improvement to the Wilson City Road ... access to the ruins will be available ... at which point serious attempts at cultural preservation of the remains of the ruins can be made."

For this particular ruin, there will be no "cultural preservation." There are no longer any remains to preserve.

Rest in peace, little cistern.

Complaint about Water and Sewerage

Manager
Water & Sewerage Corporation
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Re: Corruption at Water & Sewerage Corp.

I have received an outrageously high W&SC bill this past quarter and write now to voice my complaint.

There are six employees in my office building. We have one toilet and one sink. Nothing else uses water in the building. I checked the meter and the meter reading is correct. There are no leaks. So how could my water bill go from an average of \$35 a quarter suddenly to \$800 a quarter? And I pay my bills on time and in full.

It appears that my account has been "estimated" for the past several years and now there is a "correct" reading. We all know how this works. And yes, the meter reading is correct. So what happened? W&SC bill is saying that I used 90,000 gallons of water in three months. Now this would mean that each of the employees in my building (six) would have to flush the toilet 50 times per day every day (and only during the working hours). That one toilet would have to be flushed over 300 times in eight hours. Is this even physically possible? And is it realistic?

Or did the following happen? Yes, I used the 90,000 gallons - BUT not all in the last quarter.

I know that there are different categories and different payment rates depending on how much water you use each quar-

ter. The more water you use in each quarter the higher rate you pay for that water. My 90,000 gallons was probably used over the past two years or more, but because my meter was only "read" the last quarter (instead of "estimated" as it was previously) the total usage of water was "pushed" onto one bill - making 65,000 of those gallons billable at the highest rate - almost twice the lower rate. Only 11,000 of the total gallons was billed at the lower rate.

What should have happened is that the total 90,000 gallons I used should have been billed over the usage period - and all would have then been billed at the lower rate. But because W&SC decided to "estimate" or perhaps simply "not read" my meter for the past two years, you somehow feel justified in sending me a bill at twice the rate I owe.

I met with your staff about this in January and they confirmed "my story." But last week I was told that my bill could not be adjusted correctly. Apparently "everyone" has been complaining recently - so the best W&SC could do was to make a payment plan for everyone. Some people have had \$100 taken off their bill - others \$500 - others nothing - no rhyme no reason. Now this is simply crazy. W&SC expects me to agree to a repayment plan when your employees (whose salaries we pay for) were too lazy to go around and do their job and read the meters. Incidentally, while your employees were driving around in a government car (that we pay for) goofing off, they just happened to "double" my bill?

I think we can all agree that W&SC bills are the lowest of all bills we receive from government but wrong is wrong. I want to pay for every gallon of water I use. But I should pay the correct amount - not double.

As a Bahamian citizen and taxpayer in this country, I have a right not to be bullied, victimized or taken advantage of by my own government. Give me a fair and proper bill and I will pay it. But don't slack off on the job and expect me to pay for it in full. Tings tuff now for e'rybody!

Yours faithfully,
Rhonda L. C. Hull
L. C. Hull & Co.

Violation of my rights

To the Editor:

We, the public, are well aware of the ongoing activity of stolen vessels in Abaco

and we understand the police have a job to do. Also there are procedures that they need to adhere to, whereas they are failing to do so according to the law.

Individual rights are being violated and I am a prime example. I was taken from my new job unaware of the reasons why I was placed into custody by the CDU officers without reading me my maranda rights. Then I was taken to my home with a search warrant stating that they were looking for illegal drugs and guns. This is how they invade your privacy without reasonable cause. These so called legit "search warrants" are being issued and approved by our own judicial system that is sadly misled. Instead of looking for the real criminals who are doing all these crimes presently, they continue to pick up anyone without even going through proper procedures just to make it seem to the public as though they are actually doing their job, so to speak.

After searching my home and my vehicles, they took some clothing items from my closet and took me down to the station for interrogation. I was never under arrest but I was still held for 48 hours, then was asked to sign a document stating that I was there for stealing and receiving stolen goods. I was dumbfounded by all of this as I had no clue about what they were talking about. Therefore, I refused to sign anything but my property receipt and my statement of my whereabouts on said dates. Apparently, the investigation did not begin until the near end of my 48 hours.

It is my belief that my criminal past is being held against me. Even though I do have a clean police record and am trying to better my life and put the past behind me, I still continue to be harassed by the same CDU personnel. It is my understanding that by law, fingerprints and mug shots should not be taken of an individual unless he or she is being charged. I was not charged with anything and still my fingerprints were taken and mug shots on the same day of my release.

I write this to make the public aware of what is going on in our society and to be the voice for those persons who face the same difficulties. It seems as though the police and the government do not believe

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Apr 2006

Central Abaco News

National Insurance meeting in Murphy Town

By Mirella Santillo

The Manager of the National Insurance Board's local office, Emma Dawkins, and another NIB representative, Angela Lowe, held a meeting in Murphy Town to inform the pensioners (retirees and invalids) about a new program concerning prescription drugs: the National Insurance Prescription Drug Plan which also applies to students up to 25 years of age affected with a chronic disease.

Approximately two dozen older residents congregated at the Burial Society during the evening of March 8th to hear the explanation the new plan and help them fill registration forms. People who have

registered will be issued a National Insurance Board prescription drug card which will enable them to obtain free prescription drugs at any chemist. The plan is to become operational by the end of April or beginning of May.

Qualified people who have not registered can do so at the local office. They will need either a valid passport, voter's card or driver's license and information on their doctor.

Ms. Dawkins mentioned that the awareness campaign started in Murphy Town because no one from that township had registered so far. Other meetings will be held to bring the new plan to people's attention.



The Marsh Harbour National Insurance staff held a meeting in Murphy Town to inform residents of the new National Insurance Prescription Drug Plan that will provide the elderly, invalids and children with prescription drugs for 11 common chronic diseases. The government is asking that those who qualify to register preparatory to the start of the plan later this spring. Shown is Angela Lowe, center, talking with one of the older women. On the right is Emma Dawkins, the manager of the Abaco National Insurance offices.

Murphy Town holds Town Meeting

By Mirella Santillo

The evening of March 8th was a busy one at the Burial Society in Murphy Town with three meetings planned at that location. The monthly meeting of the Town Committee, however, did not happen for lack of a quorum. But both a National Insurance Board meeting and the annual Township Meeting took place.

It was close to 8 p.m. when Chairman Renardo Curry called the audience to attention. The main focus for the evening was the construction of a Community Center on Forest Drive, followed by a review of the streets maintenance and garbage contracts and an explanation concerning the other

salaried personnel employed by the Town Committee.

Besides the Chairman only two other Committee members attended, Cubell Davis and Deputy Chairman, Ron Bootle, a fact that was noticed by the audience. Administrator Wilma Colebrook who had arrived early to attend the Town Committee meeting and Administrator Cephas Cooper were both present.

The Chairman informed the residents of the steps taken by the Committee towards the construction of the Community Center that will house not only a conference room, an open hall, but also a computer center, library, cafeteria and washrooms and would

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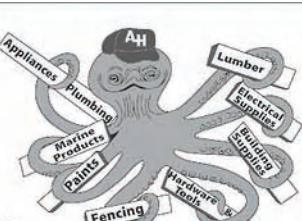


The Murphy Town Committee held a Town Meeting in Murphy Town to inform them about the projects the Committee is undertaking and to hear the concerns of the residents. The Committee discussed a proposed Community Center it is wanting to construct on Forest Drive beyond the Murphy Town Park. However, at this time no funding is available.

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also double as a hurricane shelter should the need arise. Plans had been submitted to the Ministry of Works which supplied an estimate of \$ 266,000 for the construction; additional quotes received from Murphy Town contractors were lower, but it is not expected that the government will assume the totality of the expense. Thus the plea by the Chairman for the community's financial support. Suggestions from members of the audience ranged from asking local contractors to donate free labor, involving the community in the building process such as was done in the past, to holding fund raising events or build-

ing by stages. The fund raising was turned over to the Beautification Committee that will meet on March 29th to discuss various possibilities. The Chairman mentioned that all the documents had been sent to Nassau and that he hoped to have answer in the near future.

A disgruntled resident expressed his feelings that Murphy Town was not being treated fairly by Central Government as far as capital funding was concerned. Having raised his point, he subsequently excused himself and left. By that time the room had filled to approximately 50 people

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Marsh Harbour airport road lacks drainage



Even a moderate rain causes the ramp and apron on the airside and the roads on the town side at the Marsh Harbour airport to become flooded. This makes it difficult for passengers who have to walk in the area to stay dry. The road at the round-about just beyond the terminal was recently paved. Quarry fill was put in low areas but this fill has not been graded.

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who actively took part in the discussions, conveying their concerns and giving their advice throughout the meeting. When the subject shifted to the street maintenance, many voiced their dissatisfaction that the side streets were not being cared for properly. Again the Beautification Committee was put on the spot. This time Administrator Cooper suggested that the committee check the state of the streets before a check was issued to the maintenance workers.

The garbage was another area of concern mostly about the loose garbage on the streets. Some residents wanted to know whether the maintenance men or

the garbage collector was responsible for collecting it. It was nearly unanimously recognized that the problem arose from non-secured garbage containers that free-roaming dogs pillage at will. These comments then provoked another heated discussion concerning dogs that people do not want to recognize as theirs but that hang around many non-fenced yards. The audience was divided between getting rid of the dogs or educating people about securing their garbage area and restraining their dogs.

Before ending the meeting, the Chairman, who was seconded throughout the meeting by the two committee members, announced that an informational seminar

addressing various topics would be held in the near future. Guest speakers from the Department of Environmental Health, the Labor Board, the Department of Social Services and the National Insurance Board would be asked to attend.

On a final note, Administrator Cooper reminded the audience that the Census will be taken in May and asked for everyone's cooperation.

New restaurant opens

By Navardo Saunders

A new Bahamian restaurant opened in the heart of Marsh Harbour and is serving unique dishes like coconut-cracked conch. Island Family Restaurant located in the Abaco Shopping Center, opened on

March 2, and manager Jessica Bethel said the restaurant's first priority is to please its customers. "If a customer comes in and suggests that we cook something that has never been on the menu, we will try it," she said. "The other day we cooked steamed whelks after a customer suggested we try it. We did and our customers loved it."

On the day of our interview, the menu consisted of cracked lobster, chicken linguine, buffalo burgers and steamed mutton. "We also have a daily special which consists of fish, beef or chicken," Ms. Bethel noted. "We will constantly change it so that it isn't the same thing regularly." For people who love souse, the Island Family Restaurant is the right place. "We have souse chicken and souse turkey around the clock," she said.

As an incentive to keep customers coming back, anyone who buys 10 daily specials gets the 11th one free, providing they present all 10 of the tickets they were issued when they purchased their specials.

The feeling inside the restaurant, which is owned by Madge Bethel and Roy Roberts, is warm and friendly and the decor is very pleasing.

Island Family Restaurant will deliver for orders of \$20 or more. The restaurant can be reached at 367-3778.

Abaco Safety and Security Council organized seminar

By Canishka Alexander

The Abaco Safety and Security Council held its first Human Resources Seminar

Please see Central

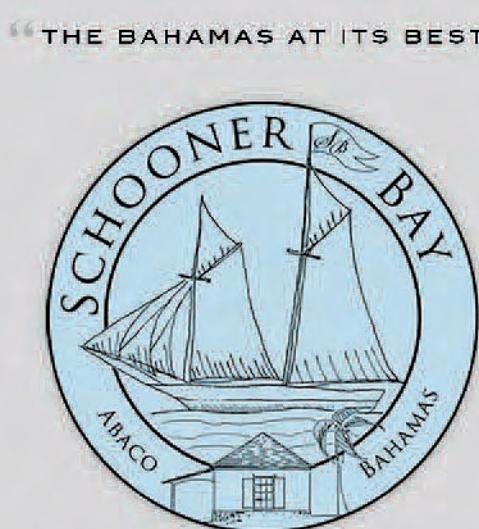
Page 14

Site for new administration building is being prepared



Work has begun at the site of the new Administration building in Dundas Town. Crews are working seven days a week to prepare the site for the 64,000-square-foot building. The principal contractor is Woslee Contractors Ltd from Nassau. The building is on the bypass road leading from the dock to S.C. Bootle Highway. The plan is to join this road to the old road from the airport round-about to make an alternate way into Marsh Harbour.

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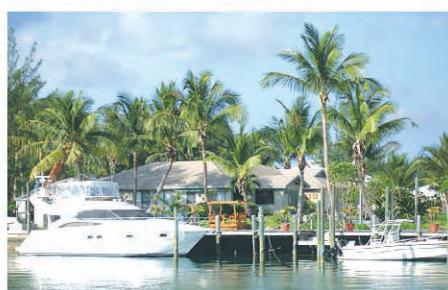
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**NEW LISTING**

TREASURE CAY #5290
CAMELOT - BEACHFRONT - Extraordinary estate home, 7,793 square feet of living space, 2 bed 2 bath guest cottage, and pool overlooking Treasure Cay beach. **US\$5,800,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY #2875
FINAL APPROACH - CANALFRONT - 5 bed 4 bath beautiful huge 5,500 sq.ft. family home with 100' dock on 5 lots. **US\$1,990,000.**
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TREASURE CAY #4969
TREASURED TIMES - BEST PRICED CANALFRONT HOME IN TREASURE CAY Fully furnished 3 bed 3 bath on 90 ft. of canal. Fully serviced dock. **US\$1,200,000.**
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TREASURE CAY #5057
CAROLINA DREAMIN' Best home value on TC Beach. Furnished New 3 bed 2 bath 2 storey home, full lower walkout. Pool. **\$595,000.**
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GUANA CAY #4964
BELLA VITA - BEACHFRONT 3 bed 3 bath home plus 5 extra lots. Snorkeling outside your door, short walk to amenities. **US\$2,250,000.**
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**GREEN TURTLE CAY, ABACO Large Estate Property – PRICED TO SELL AT \$5,900,000.**

The Sumner Estate consists of two continuous parcels of prime property that are being sold together for the lucky Developer. The first parcel is 8.66 acres with 1,014.63 feet of water frontage on Inner White Sound. The second parcel consists of 54.384 acres and 1.548 acres reserved for road reservations. Total water frontage on 3 different bodies of water: Pimlin Bay, Sea of Abaco and Inner White Sound is approximately 6,088 feet. Great elevations, 360 degree views, protected harbours and beautiful beaches. Call Stan Sawyer at 242.577.0298. Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY #5118
BAHAMA BEACH CLUB - BEACHFRONT Luxurious spacious 3 bed 2 bath condo with 100 sq.ft. screened-in lanai with beach views. Best Price in Complex. Reduced to **US\$799,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY #5116
TREASURE CAY BEACHFRONT HOME 3 bed 3 bath on private lot with 130ft' of beachfront, 5 mins from Treasure Cay Marina. Close to professional golf course. **US\$850,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY #2516
SEA VIEWS - CROSSWINDS Best price in neighbourhood, 2,800 sq.ft. 4 bed/3 bath home. Large lot. Backup generator. **\$710,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



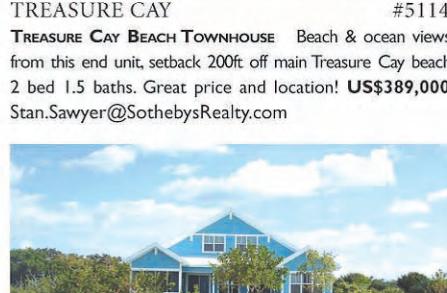
TREASURE CAY #5114
TREASURE CAY BEACH TOWNHOUSE Beach & ocean views, from this end unit, setback 200ft off main Treasure Cay beach. 2 bed 1.5 baths. Great price and location! **US\$389,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



GREEN TURTLE CAY #4936
GILLIAM BAY ESTATE - BEACHFRONT 1.7 acres. Best price on Green Turtle Cay Beach. Highly desirable neighbourhood. Existing 2 bed home. **US\$800,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com

**NEW LISTING**

GREEN TURTLE CAY #5352
TED'S PLACE - THE BLUFF HOUSE CLUB & MARINA Two storey comfortable home, 3 beds 3.5 baths, Excellent rental History. **\$550,000.**
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY #5351
BAREFOOT COTTAGE - WATERFRONT - ORCHID BAY 5 bed 3 bath home. Access to pool, tennis & beach. Fishing, snorkeling off private 65' dock. **US\$1,550,000.**
Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY #5337
YELLOWTAIL COTTAGE - WATERFRONT - ORCHID BAY Best value on the market; 1/4 acre with 50ft dock; Club amenities; excellent rental opportunity! **\$585,000.**
Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



LITTLE HARBOUR #5281
OCEANVIEWS from 3 bed 2 bath home perched high above sea level with beach access. Near Pete's Pub. **US\$450,000.** Also 2 bed 2 bath cottage available. **US\$250,000.**
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



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Broker, Owner
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Kerry Sullivan
Broker
t 242.366.0163



Laurie Schreiner
Estate Agent
t 242.367.5046



Jane Patterson
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Estate Agent
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More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 12

on March 18 at Abaco Beach Resort. Led by Chairman Joel Wildgoose, a number of speakers took part in the timely event. Simone Bowe, vice president of Human Resources at Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club, spoke about Recruitment Techniques. She warned participants that as gatekeepers they must be on the lookout and be alert at all times because sometimes people are not who they appear to be.

Jeritzan Edwards Outten, Senior Director of Tourism's Northern Bahama Islands, gave an in-depth look during her

presentation on Interviews and Questioning Strategies. She said that questions must go beyond yes and no answers and allow the interviewee to be frank about what they are sharing. Her questions ranged from the interviewee's work ethics to personal attributes and disposition to their problem solving skills.

Clyde Bain, Director of Security at Baker's Bay, talked about the importance of Pre-Employment Investigations. Although he admitted that extensive background checks can be costly, they are worth it in the long run. Areas targeted in the investigations included identity and address verifi-

cation, employment and character references, gaps in employment history, credit history and desired position. He said that networking is the most effective tool for pre-employment investigations.

Olivia Mortimer, Vice President of Human Resources at Abaco Beach Resort, explained Terminations and Labour Laws.

She questioned why they would even need to cover her topic if everyone is doing his job, but unfortunately some unsavoury characters do slip through the cracks. Ms. Mortimer reasoned that if the hiring process is done right the first time, it will save the company money in the future.



The Abaco Safety and Security Council held a seminar on March 18 to review good hiring practices and labour relations. Shown are ASP Bruce Arnett, Joel Wildgoose, Olivia Mortimer, Clyde Bain, Simone Bowe and Supt. Noel Curry.

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Trash on airport by-pass road



Some months ago members of the Keep Abaco Beautiful Committee and other concerned residents blocked the by-pass road leading from S.C. Bootle Highway to the airport round-about in Marsh Harbour because people were using the nearby bushes to dispose of their trash. At the beginning of the year the road was re-opened. Since then new trash has been deposited along its verges, marring the surrounding pristine pine forest and flowering morning glories. A few years ago when large garbage bins were scarce around Marsh Harbour, one could perhaps have justified such action; nowadays many bins have been placed around town as part of a campaign to prevent illegal dumping. However, it is obvious that people would rather deface our roadsides than use a bin and dispose of trash properly.

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Easter Brunch Buffet

Abaco Beach Resort at Boat Harbour invites you to join us for a heavenly Easter Sunday

- Baked Ham with Brown Sugar Glaze
- Roasted Leg of Lamb with Mint Sauce
 - Cream of Conch Chowder
- Greek Salad with Red Wine Vinaigrette
- Baked Chicken with Lime Guava Glaze
 - Gratin Potatoes
 - Macaroni & Cheese
 - Peas & Rice
 - Eggplant Parmesan
- Roasted Squash with Peppers and Onions
 - Omelet Station
 - Hot Cross Buns
- Apple Strudel with Chantilly Cream
 - Black Forest Cake
 - Pineapple Pie

\$32.95 per adult and \$15.95 per child

Gratuity not included

Advance reservations are recommended
Parties of 6 or more, special handling

Gospel Sunday Lunch

Join us for a great lunch with popular Gospel music performed by "Stephen Colebrook" every Sunday 1 pm - 3 pm in Anglers Restaurant

Karaoke

Come and show off your vocal talents every Tuesday night by the Pool Bar starting at 8 pm.

Country and Western

Come and enjoy our savory, mouth-watering Country & Western themed family-style dinner every Wednesday night from 6 pm - 10 pm Live music by "Stephen Colebrook"

For more information on any of the upcoming events, please call 367-2158

www.AbacoBeachResort.com

Talent Showcase

Join the staff of Abaco Beach Resort and Stephen Colebrook in showing off your entertaining talents every Thursday in Anglers Restaurant starting at 8 pm - Until...?

Japanese Friday Night Sushi Fever

Enjoy a variety of Sushi rolls every Friday night in Anglers Restaurant from 6 pm - 10 pm

Rake n' Scrape

Dance the night away at our Pool Bar every Friday night to the upbeat sounds of "Brown Tip" starting at 8:30 pm.

"Prime Time" Night

Enjoy a mouthwatering Prime Rib dinner with friends and family....every Saturday night Anglers Restaurant 6 pm - 10 pm Live music by "Stephen Colebrook."

Calypso Night

Join us every Saturday night by the Pool Bar for live Calypso music by "Clint Sawyer" starting at 8:30pm.

Stephen Colebrook

Enjoy the contemporary piano music and rich soulful vocals of the wonderful "Stephen Colebrook" performing in Anglers Restaurant Wednesday - Sunday 6:30pm until...?, at the Pool Bar Thursday - Saturday 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm and during our Gospel Sunday Lunch 1 pm to 3 pm

National Insurance is offering a Prescription Drug Plan

By Mirella Santillo

Effective later this spring, people afflicted with one of 11 non-communicable chronic diseases will be able to obtain free prescription drugs to control their ailments. To benefit from this program, one must register with the local National Insurance Board by filling an application form which will entitle him or her to participate in the new National Insurance Prescription Drug Plan. The diseases covered are diabetes, glaucoma, arthritis, hypertension (high blood pressure), prostate cancer, breast cancer, asthma, ischemic heart disease, high cholesterol, psychosis and ma-

jor depression.

Those qualifying for receiving free prescription drugs include everyone receiving a pension from National Insurance, those receiving disability payments from National Insurance, every Bahamian over 65 whether a pensioner or not, as well as children up to 18 years old and students up to 25 years as long as they are attending school.

To benefit from the plan as soon as it becomes operational, one must register now with the local National Insurance offices, as there is a processing delay to be expected.

To register, qualified people must apply

in person, present a valid passport, voter's card or driver's license and specific information from their doctor concerning their ailment.

Ms. Emma Dawkins, the Director of the local National Insurance offices on Abaco, would like all who qualify to benefit from the plan which will cover 170 prescription drugs. She is organizing awareness meetings in several locations of Central Abaco, including Man-O-War Cay, Great Guana Cay, Dundas Town and Murphy Town; a meeting in Hope Town is planned for the near future. In the meantime people should contact their closest National Insurance office as soon as possible to register.

When their registration has been processed, the applicants will receive a prescription card which will allow them to obtain their medicine at the chemist of their choice.

AA and Al Anon Meetings

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

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

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

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

Please call 357-6511 for additional information.



Sales Team of
Ed & Cindy Newell
James Moir - Broker

TREASURE CAY

Treasure Cay Canal Parcels

Brigantine Bay - # 1559 - 16,108 s/f level, cleared canal parcel with 164' of bulk headed & protected water frontage. Dock & dolphin pilings installed. **\$599,000.**

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

Brigantine Bay # 1598 - Cleared Lots 1 & 2A, 19,300 s/f 130' bulkheaded frontage, new dock. **\$499,999.**

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 # 1580 - Elevated & cleared parcel of 12,500 s/f +/- with 108' of bulk headed deep water canal frontage. All utilities available. Quick/easy access to Sea of Abaco. **\$349,950.**

Galleon Bay # 1473 - Approx. 10,000 s/f canal parcel, 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. 126' sea-walled deep water frontage. Great Views! **\$322,000.**

Brigantine Bay # 1173 & 1174 - 2 adjacent deep water canal parcels, each 11,200 s/f, 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 maid house, separate master suite, guest cottage, pool & dock situated on 1.74 elevated acres with 330' of shoreline. Superb panoramic water views. **\$2,390,000.**

Orchid Bay - Beachfront Parcel 25 - #1530 - 1.173 acre Atlantic Ocean lot, 130' sandy beach frontage. Excellent elevations, spectacular ocean views. Orchid Bay amenities include utilities, marina, restaurant, pool, tennis courts, beach pavillion, paved roads. **\$1,695,000.**

Dolphin Beach Estates # 1412 - Exceptional 20,000 s/f waterfront parcel on Sea of Abaco with 145' of elevated rocky shoreline. Utilities available. **\$549,000.**

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 **\$229,900.**



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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 CISTERNS 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 \$499,000.**

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.**

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.**

"Turtle's Rock" # 1062 - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath furnished home on 1.18 acre parcel with 190' sandy beach frontage. Built in 2000, Very private area. **\$795,000.**

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.**

Beachfront Parcel - # 426 - Prime 194 s/f parcel with 91' of pristine sandy beach frontage. Utilities available. **UNDER CONTRACT \$295,000.**

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.**



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Association

NORTH ABACO

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

Pelican Shores Harbourfront Home - # 1563 - 5 bed, 4.5 bath, 5,600 sq. ft. tastefully furnished home with pool & dock. Well maintained, superior quality construction, many extras. 1 acre +/- landscaped, 115' water frontage. **NEW LISTING \$3,995,000.**

"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.**

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. **\$391,000.**

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' laying 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 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.**

1593 - 10,590 s/f canal lot with 120' of bulkheaded seawall installed. All utilities available. **\$199,000.**
811 - 10,400 s/f canal corner lot with 194' of road frontage. Walk to beach. All utilities available. **\$99,950.**

998 - 13,459 s/f canal view corner lot, near beach **\$96,500.**
567 - 2.139 acres on highway near Leisure Lee. 50' elevated ridge. 119' highway frontage. **\$149,700.**

1571 - Inland Lot # 15 in Joe's Creek subdivision, 18,500 s/f, electricity available, near to beach. **\$49,900.**

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Please contact us for additional details on this sampling of our featured listings or for information on our other prime properties throughout Abaco

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APR. 1 2010(B)(R)



Sales Team of
Ed & Cindy Newell
James Moir - Broker

TREASURE CAY Houses

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. Furnished. **\$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 w/ 153' beachfront. **\$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.**

Brigantine Bay Canal Home # 1589 - Newly built 4 bed, 4 bath unfurnished home. 3,500 s/f under air, 4,850 s/f total. Many extras. 11,806 s/f parcel, 91' canal frontage, lay-along & finger docks, boat lift. **\$3,200,000.**

"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 beach home, pool, patio, garage on 1.2 landscaped acres. Superb rental income. **\$2,500,000.**

"Avalon" # 1516 - Exceptional 3 bed, 2 bath 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.**

"Sandpiper" # 1265 - Ocean Blvd. 3,000 s/f bi-level furnished home on 1.87 acres with 180' sandy beach frontage. **\$2,235,000.**

"Tranquility" # 1307 - 4 bed, 5 bath, furnished two storey 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.**

"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, pool, spa, dock & boat lift. 3,000 s/f balcony, pool & patio decks. **\$1,895,000.**

"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.**

"Dolphin Watch" - Galleon Bay - # 1534 - 3 bed, 3.5 bath furnished home (including 2 bed, 2 bath guest cottage). Total 2,800 s/f living space. 18,000 s/f parcel, 74' bulkheaded canal frontage with dock. **\$999,999.**

"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 typically landscaped parcel. 80' bulkheaded canal frontage with private dock. **\$995,000.**

"Laguna" Galleon Bay # 740 - 3 bed, 2 bath, single storey, 1,550 s/f canal home, furnished, landscaped lot, carport, garage, deep water dock, boat lift. **\$899,000.**



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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.**

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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.**

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Atlantis Condo # 2115 - #1602 - 2 bed, 2 bath 950 s/f ground level furnished condo overlooking Brigantine Bay canal. Includes boat slip & golf cart garage. **\$459,000.**

Royal Palm # 2311 # 1573 - 2 bed, 2 bath 950 s/f furnished ground level condo overlooking harbour & marina. Well maintained, excellent condition. Owner occupied (not a rental unit). Includes boat slip & storage unit. **\$425,000.**

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APR. 1, 2010

Changes in crawfish regulations will affect fishermen

By Timothy Roberts

Fishermen and local authorities were encouraged to work together in creating a more sustainable fishery while improving management and quality in the face of increasing global market regulations on crawfish exports.

At a meeting hosted by Friends of the Environment under the campaign of Size Matters, guest speakers Glen Pritchard of Tropic Seafood in Nassau and Michael Brennan, Director of the Department of Marine Resources, both spoke to local fisherman outlining the details of new regulations and discussing programs and issues for meeting these new challenges.

Mr. Pritchard, the Bahamas' largest exporter of seafood, spoke of the benefits of not catching undersized crawfish

and about the new regulations bearing down on the industry and in particular on crawfish.

According to a new law passed in the United States, there are now two criteria that all crawfish must meet. In the past the crawfish had only to meet a length criteria of 5.5 inches. However, now they must also weigh at least 4.2 ounces. The U.S. has also passed a law that all crawfish must be shipped in their shell. They will no longer accept just the meat.

In response to this, a number of exporters came up with a no tolerance plan to effectively not accept any undersized crawfish from fishermen, implementing a tracking system in which each fisherman must identify the catch he brings in. During processing, if any undersized

crawfish are found, it will be returned and the fisherman warned. A record is also kept of fishermen that bring in undersized crawfish.

Also the European Union (EU) has introduced a new Catch Certificate that must be filled out by the exporters for every pound of crawfish. This certificate must be authenticated and verified by The Bahamas government ensuring that the crawfish sold was legally caught in The Bahamas by a licensed Bahamian fisherman. The Bahamas will be unable to sell crawfish to the EU if no license accompanies the shipment.

There is a voluntary program underway called the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) which is a global organization working with fisheries, seafood companies, scientists, conservation groups and the public to promote the best environmental choice in seafood. They will use an eco-label reward to promote sustainable fishing practices. Major seafood buyers from around the world have made commitments to buy only from MSC certified fisheries, and MSC certifications may be required by The Bahamas to maintain market access in the future.

If The Bahamas can get the MSC certification, we would be the only one in our region to qualify. That would help us maintain and possibly increase our

market access around the world. The Bahamas government and the fishing industry are working feverishly to maintain market access and to promote sustainable fishing practices.

Coordinator for the Size Matters campaign at Friends of the Environment, d'Shan Maycock, is encouraging Abaco fishermen to be the forerunners of sustainable practices in The Bahamas. The campaign focuses on promoting good practices such as ensuring that all crawfish caught are at least 5.5 inches, that they are placed on ice on the boat, that proper records are kept of fishing efforts and that they fish only during season.

The program seeks the public to participate by not buying, eating or receiving any crawfish that is undersized. They want the public to buy lobster only during the season from licensed processors or certified fisherman and only eat at restaurants that have a sustainable menu program.

During the meeting the attending fishermen discussed their views on the problems facing their trade. Consistently, lack of enforcement was cited as the most pressing problem facing the industry as it concerned people catching out of season as well as selling undersized and spawning crawfish without consequences.



A meeting was held in Marsh Harbour on March 12 for fishermen to understand new regulations both within The Bahamas and internationally. Speaking is Michael Brennan Director of the Department of Marine Resources, who outlined the new guidelines that The Bahamas will have to comply with. Also speaking was Glen Pritchard of Tropic Seafood in Nassau, The Bahamas' largest exporter of seafood. The seminar was organized By d'Shan Maycock of Friends of the Environment.

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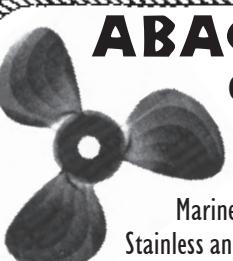
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Stricter guidelines will force better management of fisheries

By Timothy Roberts

The Marine Stewardship Council is an independent international group that is developing a program to protect fisheries around the world. It has a number of performance studies that it uses to evaluate a fishery and assess the long-term sustainability of the resources based on three criteria.

- Stock status and harvest strategies
- Ecological and environmental impacts
- Management and governance

In 2008 The Bahamas completed a pre-assessment which compares the current status of The Bahamas' fishery against the MSC standard for sustainable fisheries. This pre-assessment identified important issues that need to be addressed before The Bahamas can meet the MSC standard. A full certification would take four to five years to complete for a fishery the size of The Bahamas.

Some of these importing countries have targeted 2011 as the cut-off date for certification, and The Bahamas is nowhere near the goal of being certified. The Department of Marine Resources, along with the World Wildlife Fund and the Marine Resources and Fisheries Consultants, is putting to-

gether a Fisheries Improvement Project to prove to the MSC that The Bahamas is serious about sustainable fishing practices and meeting MSC standards for certification.

Before any of the markets across the world put our crawfish for sale, they want to know that we are not exploiting our marine resources, that we are using safe practices and are not exploiting fishermen or causing harm to our environment.

People making purchasing decisions for seafood are considering all kinds of things they did not consider before, said Mr. Michael Brennan, Director of the Department of Marine Resources. Where previously the decisions were made on price and quality, now consumers are increasingly interested in where the food comes from, whether or not the fishery is sustainable, whether the people doing the harvesting are being well paid or if they are exploited or suffering from health problems as a result of their careers as fishermen.

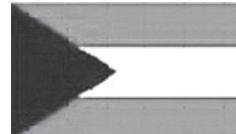
There are organizations, such as the Monterrey Bay Aquarium in California, that have a seafood watch program and that give consumers a list of items with their recommendations whether or not to purchase them.

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Couple celebrates 50th wedding anniversary

Thomas and Carol Phelps of Connecticut and second homeowners at Casuarina Point celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 26th among family and friends here on Abaco. The couple has been coming to Abaco for the past 30 years. They eventually built their second home here.

They met while both were serving in the United States Air Force where they were wed in a military ceremony at Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts.

Thomas is a retired Prudential Insurance agent and Carol is a retired photo-journalist from the Norwich (CT) Bulletin. They are both General Aviation pilots, and Carol is also a Flight Instructor.

They have one son, Brian, of Nashua,



Thomas and Carol Phelps

NH, who is a Principal Program Analyst with a New Hampshire company.

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Generally Speaking . . . *Taking hold of the vision*

By Timothy Roberts

One needs only to look around to see it. We are virtually surrounded by a paradise that few other countries could dream of. We live on an island utopia that people from all around the world would pay to see and experience.

I know, sadly, it is not always obvious to those of us who live here. As we commute to and from work, or as we drop the kids to school and do the shopping we see nothing but the business of daily living.

It is worth our time, however, to take a break and really take a look at what we have here on Abaco. To take in the beauty of the nature around us, hear the birds sing and see the richness and diversity of our history and culture.

I had the privilege to visit one of my favorite places on Abaco recently; Hole-in-the-Wall. It is absolutely stunning. The natural landmark, a bridge of limestone created by the natural erosion of the ocean over many hundreds of years, is always a picturesque pleasure to see.

The oldest lighthouse on the island, our silent sentinel, stands majestically watching over the southernmost point of Abaco and the Atlantic Ocean, guiding ships through one of the busiest shipping passages in the region.

Surrounding these landmarks is a great diversity of nature, lush vegetation, caves and beaches. As it is with much of Abaco,

you can find blue holes, wetlands, coppice and pine forest in the surrounding area. Words are inadequate in describing it; however, all who have visited Hole-in-the-Wall and the lighthouse agree that it is absolutely beautiful.

This is just one such spot on Abaco. We have many other places throughout Abaco including her cays that are equally beautiful and captivating. We just need a break from our busy schedules to see it and enjoy it for ourselves.

This paradise in which we live draws many visitors to our islands, most of whom come more than once. In fact, many people who visit Abaco come back year after year after year. Some even invest in a second home here and "drop anchor" when they get some Abaco sand between their toes.

But on this same trip I made to Hole-in-the-Wall, I saw something that was rather alarming. I noticed too often along the way garbage littering the sides of the road. Some areas were worse than others, including in one place a mattress draped over a small tree next to the road. Derelict vehicles sat abandoned within a couple hundred feet of the lighthouse. Empty cans and plastic bags were scattered around the area of the old lighthouse keeper's buildings. Inside, the visitors to the lighthouse had carved names or initials into the underside of the lantern.

The buildings themselves, victims of

vandalism and neglect, paint a shameful picture of how unconcerned we are with what we have. Unfortunately, this is not uncommon throughout our island.

What are we doing to preserve our natural and historical heritage? Do we need something drastic to happen in order for us to wake up and realize we need to take care of Abaco? Do we need visitors to stop

coming because there is nothing left to see, or what's left is too dirty or dilapidated to be worth seeing?

We need to get our act together and take some pride in what we have right here in our backyard, and we can start by simply cleaning it up. If we don't get the vision and take ownership and pride in what we have, we will lose it.

Yacht Club holds Hoe Down



The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club put on a country western-themed hoedown at the Pavilion at Abaco Beach Resort on March 16 which will be the last official major event of the year. The hoedown featured some lively and classic country western music and good old-fashioned country food. The group of over 170 guests enjoyed the good food and camaraderie and finished the evening off with some festive dancing. The event is the third of the large socials put on while the boaters are on Abaco and is a nice sendoff for the members of the club. During the next few weeks the boaters and sailors will be moving on to other ports as the local marinas make way for the sportfishing crowd to come. These boaters usually begin returning in November, spending most of their winter months on Abaco.



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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 9

in rehabilitation. The mind set is "once a criminal, always a criminal." This way of thinking is quite disturbing and rather insulting for those trying to make an honest living. Instead of picking persons up from home, they pick them up on their job site which is inappropriate. I say this because this is the second time that the same officers have picked me up from my workplace and the first time it cost me my job. It is almost as if they want us to be led down that same road of a so called "street life."

How can I continue to make an honest living if I continue to be harassed at my work? How can I possibly maintain a job like this? On top of all of this, these officers have no respect for anyone and are ridiculously unprofessional. A person is suppose to be innocent until proven guilty. Yet we are treated quite the opposite! We are treated as though we are guilty from the moment we are approached by the officers. I understand they are taught to be stern. But there is a thin line between sternness and unprofessionalism.

How would they like for someone to continue to harass them on their job. Would they be able to keep it? No! I think not. This is utter nonsense and needs to be addressed by their superiors and by the government. Police need to be educated in how to be more professional and have a better approach to people skills while maintaining their stature as authority figures because obviously they need to be re-trained in this area of expertise. How can the citizens of this country respect our po-

lice or our government when we continue to be treated like animals and not human beings? It is savage and needs to come to an end as of now!

Sincerely yours,
A. Omar Penn (Mr.)

Police harassment

To the Editor:

I'm pleading as a concerned citizen in opposition to harassment from officers on The Royal Bahamas Police Force officers posted in Cooper's Town. I'm weary of being wrongly accused for a crime I didn't commit, and also of my family being harassed by officers. On Sunday morning, March 14, 2010, a friend of mine who had come down to visit for a few days and was residing at a hotel telephoned me and told me that he saw someone outside the hotel with a gun. So I drove to the hotel to check on my friend. Upon arrival, I knocked on his room door which was opened by a police officer who then asked me who I was and what my business was there. I informed him of my name and that my friend had called me distressed so I came down to see what the problem was.

One of the officers in the room named Officer Scott pushed me in my chest, practically knocking me to the ground and told me that the situation was none of my business, then cuffed me, took me outside and placed me in the rear of the police vehicle. The officer and others then drove from the hotel and took me from that settlement to the next. They threatened my life that if I was to say anything about this what they would do to me and then stopped on the side of the road, took the cuffs off and released me. One Officer Delancy started to

call me dreadful names and told me to get out of the vehicle on the side of the road. I asked them to take me back to my car since they were passing the area where my car was. Officer Bridgewater stated that he was not the one driving, that the driver was Officer Lewis. They all then told me to get out of their vehicle and to get to my car the best way that I could and left me on side of the road.

To this point I'd like to state I felt like I'd been kidnaped and left on the side of the road to die by police officers in my own hometown. Therefore, to the people in authority and to The Commissioner of Police, if what these officers of Cooper's Town Police Station, Abaco, did to me is right and lawful, I seriously would like to know what is wrong and immoral. Please advise your officers to refrain from any further harassment against me and my

family, or I will have no other alternative but to take legal action against them.

Harassed Citizen

The raping of our environment

Dear Editor,

I recently went to see the block buster movie Avatar, an amazing film that left me wondering if I was not, in fact, living the reality of this battle between protecting the environment and the forces of greed, corruption and lack of vision and leadership being played out in our country today.

I spent the first 20 years of my vocational life as a minister of religion, most recently for 15 years as the Senior Pastor of New Providence Community Church

Please see Letters

Page 22

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 21

where environmental justice was a core value. As a Christian community we were involved with numerous projects of practical faith that ranged from beach restorations and reef clean ups to environmental art. This faith value was transformational in my life and was instrumental in helping me make a life changing decision.

Four years ago I began a new season of life that would allow me to pursue my passion for fly fishing and take me back to the ocean where my family has made their living for some 320 years in The Bahamas. I thought that becoming a fly fishing guide would give me a quiet life sharing the beauty and tranquility of the flats with visitors from around the world. I never imagined that I would find myself at the center of a national environmental meltdown and a movement to make a difference.

Four years ago I did not know what an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) was. I had no idea what Bunker C fuel was or how important mangroves and blue holes are to the integrated marine environment. I had heard the voice of people like Sam Duncombe and others who were making noise about long line fishing and LNG. But like most Bahamians I never took the time to understand the issues. Today I find myself partnered with Sam and others who are still a "small group of people" trying to expose the environmental terroristic activities of unscrupulous developers, opportunistic attorneys and government officials that are systematically selling the birth right of the Bahamian people.

I have come to understand firsthand that any idea of environmental protection and best practices for the treatment of the environment in our country is simply an illusion. The government will tout the BEST Commission as the agency that is charged with environmental oversight. But the truth is BEST has no legal authority to enforce

any environmental laws and the fact is that the legislation we do have regarding the environment is totally inadequate. The EIA process is laughable when developers can clear cut land and dig marinas without even submitting an EIA, or, like in the instance of Wilson City, have one produced that can't stand up to critical review.

In 2005 a comprehensive environmental legislation was tabled and has become lost in the dust of a bureaucratic graveyard. We have seen our government taking part in environmental summits and talking about all the great initiatives we are pursuing in The Bahamas. But under the light of questions, accountability and comparisons to other countries like the Maldives, the government's claims are weak and even vacuous.

Over the past three years I have witnessed such an aggressive destruction of our country that I had no choice but to join the "small group of people" who have been crying in the wilderness for years now.

This voice is growing louder as awareness builds and more and more Bahamians begin to understand the depth of destruction that is happening in our country. The involvement of thousands in the latest cases of Wilson City in Abaco, the tuna netting and toxic fuel emissions in Freeport and Saunders Beach in Nassau is evidence to this growing choir.

I have experienced that the government has little respect for the public's input or intelligence when it comes to environmental issues and it projects an arrogance that is insulting to anyone who is informed and chooses to raise concerns. It should not surprise us that the government is more concerned about rhetoric than reality. When it comes to the destruction of the environment the government is always about deflecting.

The Minister of the Environment, Dr. Earl Deveaux, would rather challenge my credibility and use of the term ?environmental terrorism? than address the reality

of the unchecked destruction of wetlands and fragile marine systems on the south side of Nassau and throughout the Bahamas. He would also rather challenge my awareness of the Conventions that The Bahamas has signed such as the RAMSAR Convention. The RAMSAR Convention is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources, www.ramsar.org. It also appears that it is more important to the government that the rhetoric "not get out of hand" while the destruction of the environment goes unabated.

As I stood on the pipeline road at Wilson City on Abaco this week and looked into the blue holes that had been filled in with boulders and the quarry fill road that had been made through the mangrove wetlands, I considered the Minister's criticism and thought my terminology was indeed too weak to describe what is happening to the environment in The Bahamas. The violation that is being experienced at Wil-

son City, Bimini, Nassau, Grand Bahama and throughout the country could be more accurately described as Environmental RAPE.

The sadder reality is that as a culture we are watching this terrible act and not lifting a finger to stop it. Jesus said, What you do to the least of these, you do unto me. I can imagine that Jesus would be weeping over the destruction of our water, land and air. If we listen carefully, I am sure we would hear the cries of future generations of Bahamians.

For God's sake, Bahamas, wake up to what is going on around us. Become informed and make your voice heard for truly it is not the level of rhetoric we need to be worried about but the level of destruction that is out of hand. There is no replacing those blue holes at Wilson City, no replacing the habitat destroyed by marinas on Nassau's south side. It's all gone and we as people have been violated.

Capt. Clint Kemp
President Abaco Cares

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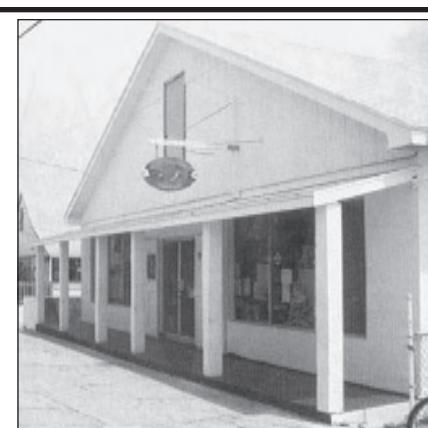
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Island-wide Abaco Listings

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Abaco Vacation Planner +	25 hse	Man-O-War	8 hse	365-6048
Bahamas Vacations +	800-462-2426	Island Home Rentals +	5 condos	365-6072
		Schooner's Landing		
		Cherokee		
Lee Pinder +	3 hse	Abaco Beach Resort	82 rms	367-2158
Marina Albury Cottages	5 cottages	Abaco Real Estate +	6 rms	367-2719
		Alesia's	3 rms	367-4460
		Grand Cay		
Rosie's Place	352-5458	Ambassador Inn	6 rms	367-2022
		Bustick Bight Resort	8 rms	367-3980
		Conch Inn	9 rms	367-4000
		D's Guest House	6 rms	367-3980
		Living Easy	16 hse	367-2202
		Island Breezes Motel	8 rms	367-3776
		Lofty Fig Villas	6 eff	367-2681
		Pelican Beach Villas	6 cott	367-3600
		Regattas (Prev. Abaco Towns)	32 effic	367-0148
		HG Christie	11 hse	367-4151
		Moore's Island		
Dive Guana	11 hse	Moore's Is Bonefish Camp	8 rm	366-6334
Dolphin Bch Resort	4 rm 10 cott.	Sandy Point		
Donna Sands +	12 hse	Oeisha's Resort		
Guana Beach Resort	6 units	Pete & Gay's Resort	14 rm	366-4119
Guana Seaside	8 rm 7 cott	Rickmon's Bonefishing	10 rm	366-4477
Ocean Frontier	519-389-4846	Spanish Cay		
Ward's Landing	4 units	Spanish Cay Resort	18 rm 6 hse	365-0083
Ruth SAnds	9 hse	Bahama Beach Club	88 units	365-8500
		Island Dreams +	45 hse	365-8507
		Treasure Cay Resort	95 rms	365-8801
		Mark's Bungalows	4 units	365-8506
		Wood Cay		
		Tangelo Hotel	19 rm 3 villa	365-2222
		Web Sites with Abaco Information		
		http://www.abaconian.com		
		http://www.abacoinet.com		
		http://www.abacoinfo.com		
		http://www.abacos.com		
		http://www.go-abacos.com		
		http://www.oi.net		
		http://www.bahamas.com		



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Emergency Services

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

Medical Services

Abaco Family Medicine Marsh Harbour	...367-2295
Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic367-0020
Marsh Harbour Medical Centre367-0049
Government Clinic Marsh Harbour367-2510
Corbett Clinic Treasure Cay365-8288
Government Clinic Cooper's Town365-0300
Government Clinic Green Turtle Cay365-4028
Government Clinic Hope Town366-0108
Government Clinic Sandy Point366-4010
Government Clinic Fox Town365-2172

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American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
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Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
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Local air charters serving Bahamas & S.Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-3450

Dive Shops

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

Taxi Cab Fares one or two passengers

Extra \$3 for each passenger above two	
• Marsh Harbour Airport to:	(effective Dec 08)
Clinic, downtown, Regattas,	\$10
Ab Bch Resort, Eastern Shore close, Ferry	\$15
Spring City	\$15
Dundas Town, Nat Ins bldg, C Abaco Primary Sch	\$15
Murphy Town & Great. Cistern	\$20
Snake Cay	\$35
Casuarina Point	\$60
Cherokee, Winding Bay, Little Harbour	\$80
Bahama Palm Shore	\$90
Crossing Rocks	\$105
Sandy Point	\$150
Leisure Lee	\$50
Treasure Cay Airport, G Turtle ferry	\$80
Treasure Cay Resort	\$85
Fox Town	\$185
• Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Clinic, downtown, Ab Beach Hotel	\$10
Nat. Ins. Bldg, Murphy Town, Gr. Cistern	\$10
Wait time \$0.40 per minute, Hourly rate \$40 per hour	
Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people	
Luggage \$0.75 each over two, large bags \$1 ea.	

• Treasure Cay Airport to:	Effective Dec 085
Green Turtle Cay ferry dock	\$10
Madeira Park	\$20
Sand Banks	\$25
Treasure Cay Resort	\$30
Leisure Lee	\$45
Black Wood	\$20
Fire Road & Cooper's Town	\$40
Cedar Harbour	\$60
Wood Cay	\$70
Mount Hope	\$80
Fox Town	\$85
Crown Haven	\$90
Marsh Harbour airport	\$80
Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport	\$80
T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour	X\$65 + \$10
T C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry (Blue Hole \$24)	X\$18 + \$5
T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles	X\$22 + \$5
T C Hotel to Joe's Creek	X\$35 + \$5
T C Hotel to Moxey	X\$16 + \$5

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Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Bonefish Guides**Sandy Point**

Patrick Roberts .. 366-4286

Nicholas Roberts

Derrick Gaitor

Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133

Vernal Burrows

Kendall White

Anthony Bain 366-4107

Floyd Burrows 366-4175

Links Adderly 366-4335

Valentino Lightbourne

Ricky Burrows 366-4233

Marsh Harbour

Jody Albury 375-8068

Terrance Davis 367-4464

Buddy Pinder 366-2163

Justin Sands 367-3526

Danny Sawyer.... 367-3577

Jay Sawyer 367-3941

Man-O-War

David Albury 365-6059

Crossing Rocks

Tony Russell 366-3259

Cherokee

Will Sawyer..... 366-2177

Marty Sawyer..... 366-2115

Noel Lowe 366-2107

Randy Sawyer 366-2284

Casuarina Point

Junior Albury 366-3058

Hope Town

Maitland Lowe 366-0234

North Abaco

O'Donald McIntosh.. 477-5037

Pope McKenzie 477-5894

Orthnell Russell 365-0125

Alexander Rolle 365-0120

Edward Rolle 365-0024

Green Turtle Cay

Rick Sawyer..... 365-4261

Ronnie Sawyer 365-4070

Jeff Survance 365-4040

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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

Mandarin Chinese 367-0544

Mangos \$\$\$ 367-2366

Pinacle \$

Pop's Place \$ + 367-3796

Sea Shells \$ 367-4460

Snack Shack \$ + 367-4005

Snappas \$ 367-2278

Signature Sandwiches \$ \$ \$ 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

OnDa Beach 366-0558

Sea Spray \$ \$ 366-0065

Little Harbour

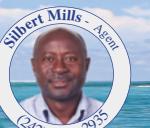
Pete's Pub 366-3503

<b



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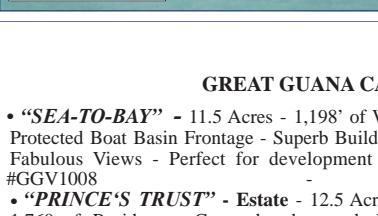
NEW
Yellow Wood - Cherokee Sound
- 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath
- 1062 s.f. Residence.
- 0.565 Acre - 24,621 s.f.
- Hillside Lot
- Excellent Rental History
- Fully Furnished & Equipped.
#CSH1145 - **\$259,000.**



NEW LISTING
Hope Town - Elbow Cay
- 0.049 Acre - 2,140 s.f.
- 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 1,700 s.f. Residence
- Views of Lighthouse from upstairs loft
- Private Yard
- Central Town location
#HTH1146 - **\$630,000.**



NEW PRICE
Great Guana Cay
- ± 1.5 Acres
- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bath
- 1,760 s.f. Residence
- Covered & Open Decks
- 160' of Ocean Beach
- Fabulous Ocean Views
- Additional Land Available
- Boat Slip Available
#GGH1129 - **\$1,975,000.**

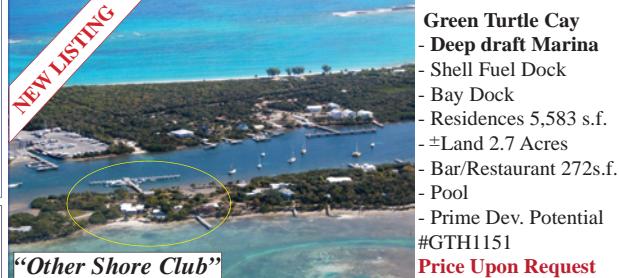


GREAT GUANA CAY
• "SEA-TO-BAY" - 11.5 Acres - 1,198' of Waterfrontage - Over 500' of Protected Boat Basin Frontage - Superb Building Sites - Good elevation - Fabulous Views - Perfect for development or Elegant Private Estate. #GGV1008 - **\$9,995,000.**
• "PRINCE'S TRUST" - Estate - 12.5 Acres - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths - 1,760 s.f. Residence - Covered and open decks - 593' of Ocean Beach - 664' on Sea of Abaco - Fabulous Views - Private Boat Basin. #GGH1096 - **\$4,950,000.**
• "PRINCE'S TRUST RESIDENCE" - 1.5 Acres - 160' of Atlantic beachfront - 1,760 s.f. Residence - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath - 1,026 s.f. of covered verandah on north and east sides - 84 s.f. covered porch in the sw corner - 1,012 s.f. of open decks on nw corner. #GGH1129 - **\$1,975,000.**



NEW PRICE
Great Guana Cay
- 5,000 s.f. - 0.114 Acre
- 960 s.f. Cottage
- 2 Bedroom, 2.5 Baths
- Guana Seaside Village
- Near Atlantic Beach
- Ocean Views
- Rental History
#GGH1011 - **\$340,000.**

★ FEATURED LISTING ★



NEW LISTING
"Other Shore Club"
Green Turtle Cay
- Deep draft Marina
- Shell Fuel Dock
- Bay Dock
- Residences 5,583 s.f.
- ±Land 2.7 Acres
- Bar/Restaurant 272s.f.
- Pool
- Prime Dev. Potential #GTH1151
Price Upon Request

★ FEATURED LISTING ★



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



NEW PRICE
"Marina Villa #4"
Green Turtle Cay
- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
Bunkroom
- 1,455 s.f. Luxury Villa
- 0.173 Acre
- Covered Screen Porch
- Golf Cart Garage
- Deeded Dock - Boat Lift
- Auxiliary Generator
- Complete Renovation 07'
#GTH1098 - **\$750,000.**



NEW LISTING
"Hilltop House"
Green Turtle Cay
- Land 10,890 s.f. - 0.25 Acre
- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 1,600 s.f. of Residence
- 500 s.f. Screened Porch
- Tile Floors throughout
- Open Floorplan
- Panoramic Water Views
- 35,000 gallon cistern
- Fully Furnished
- Impact Doors & Windows
GTH1150 - **\$699,000.**



Green Turtle Cay
- Land 17,191 s.f. - 0.394 Acre
- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 1,152 s.f. of Residence
- Covered Screened Porch
- Hand Scraped wood floors
- Travertine Tiles
- Fabulous Coco Bay Views
- 15,000 gallon cistern
- Tool shed
- Impact Doors & Windows
GTH1149 - **\$665,000.**

★ V A C A N T L A N D ★

ELBOW CAY

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

GREAT GUANA CAY



NEW OFFERING
Great Guana Cay
- ± 2.2 Acres - 95,832 s.f.
- 100' Atlantic Beach
- 100' Sea of Abaco
- frontage to build dock
- Fabulous Ocean Views
- Additional Land Available
#GGV1143 - **\$895,000.**

• "Crawl Bight" - Sea to Sea building site - Two offerings - 1. 95,832 s.f.-2.2 Acre, 100' Atlantic, 100' Sea of Abaco. 2. 321,690 s.f. - 7.385 Acre 300' of Atlantic beachfrontage, 300' of Sea of Abaco frontage-Newly built dock - great family estate - #GGV1143 - **\$895,000. - 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.**

• 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.**

• "BLACK JACK'S REST" - 32,750 s.f. - 0.751 Acre Lot #33 in Orchid Bay with amenities, 120.41' Sea of Abaco Frontage, available to build dock -Private community -GGV1147 - **NEW - \$667,000.**

GREAT GUANA CAY

• "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 \$545,000.**

• "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 PRICE \$485,000.**

• "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.**

• "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. - 0.278 Acre lot with views of Atlantic ocean. One lot from beach - great value- 15' elevation - easement to beach. #GGV1138 - **NEW \$199,000.**

GREEN TURTLE CAY

• "CONCHED OUT" - 30,361 s.f. - 0.697 Acre - 125' of Atlantic Beach frontage - 12' Elevations - Beautiful Ocean Views - Very Private Area - Additional Acreage available. #GTV1008 - **\$379,000.**

• "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.**

• "MADEIRA HILL" - 65,208 s.f. - 1.497 Acre - Dock Access - Beach Access - Good Elevation. #GTV1009 - **\$395,000.**

• "COCO BAY BREEZE" - Two Prime Building Sites -.2699 Acre - .2255 Acre - Dock Access - Beach Access. #GTV1007 - **\$47,500. - Lot \$59,000.**

• "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 - **\$59,000.**

MAN-O-WAR CAY

• "SUNSPASH" - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths - 1,921 s.f. Residence. - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath - 400 s.f. Guest Cabin - 172' Ocean Beach Front - 1.189 Acres - Semi-Private Dock. #MWH1019 - **\$840,000.**



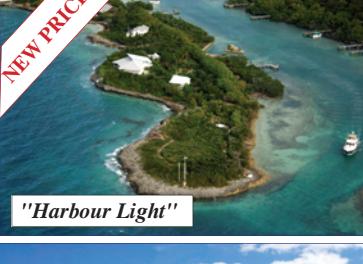
NEW PRICE
"Buttonwood"
Man-O-War Cay - Settlement
- 4 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths.
- 1,240 s.f. Residence.
- 0.3213 Acre - 14,000 s.f.
- Hillside for great Ocean Views.
- Beautifully Landscaped
- Fully Furnished & Equipped.
#MWH1020 - **\$525,000.**



"Dickie's Cay"
- Residence 1,052 s.f.
- 4 bedroom, 1 bath
- Guest Cottage 230 s.f.
- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Land 15,899s.f. - 365 Acre
- 260' Sea to Sea frontage
- Built by William H. Albury
#MWH1144 - **\$775,000.**



"Sailor's Rest"
Man-O-War Cay Eastern Harbour
- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,030 s.f. Residence -
- 1,290 s.f. Covered Deck
- 0.877 Acres
- 82' Ocean Frontage
- Semi-Private Dock.,
- Superb Ocean Views
#MWH1076 - **\$1,270,000.**



"Coconut Grove Cottage"
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
#MWH1099 - **\$1,850,000.**



"Harbour Light"
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
#MWH1134 - **\$2,100,000.**



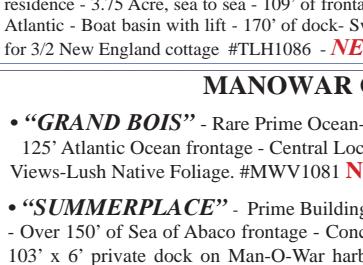
"Lovely Hill"
Man-O-War Cay
- ± 0.975 Acres -
- 100' Ocean Beachfront
- 127' Creek front
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,336 s.f. Residence
- 88' dock, 35' T
- Auxiliary Generator
#MWH1139 - **\$2,150,000.**



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



"Entre Deux Mers"
Scotland Cay
- ± 0.874 Acres
- 1,900 s.f. of Residence
- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- Open floor plan
- dock slip in marina
- 145.70' Sea of Abaco
- Fabulous Views
#SCH1148 - **\$2,250,000.**



"Simcha II"
TILOO CAY
• "BOUNTIFULLY BLESSED" - 2 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath - 800 s.f. residence - 3.75 Acre, sea to sea - 109' of frontage - on Sea of Abaco - 106' on Atlantic - Boat basin with lift - 170' of dock - Swimming Pool - Approved plans for 3/2 New England cottage #TLH1086 - **NEW PRICE \$1,350,000.**

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• "GRAND BOIS" - Rare Prime Ocean-front building site - 0.51 Acre 125' Atlantic Ocean frontage - Central Location - Fabulous Ocean Views-Lush Native Foliage. #MWV1081 **NEW PRICE \$459,000.**

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• "SUMMERPLACE" - Prime Building Site - 10,719 s.f. - 0.246 Acre

- Over 150' of Sea of Abaco frontage - Concrete Sewall on Sea of Abaco

- 103' x 6' private dock on Man-O-War harbour - Fabulous Sea of Abaco views. #MWV1082 - **NEW PRICE \$325,000.**

SCOTLAND CAY



The Abaconian

SECTION B

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 7 APRIL 1st, 2010



9-year-old Yelena of St. Francis wins National Spelling Bee

St. Francis student came in first; S.C. Bootle student came in fourth



Two outstanding students returned back on Abaco having excelled at the National Spelling Bee held on March 20 in Nassau. A crowd was at the airport to welcome them. Yelena Persaud of St. Francis de Sales School, fourth from left, was named the Champion while Jasmine Taylor of S.C. Bootle High School, third from left, came in fourth, a fantastic accomplishment. The two students are shown with Administrator Cephas Cooper and Abaco's Education Superintendent Lenora Black on their left and Ms. Frederick, spelling coach at St. Francis; Josephine Kumar, Principal of St. Francis; Administrator Maxine Duncombe; Ms. Shannal Johnson, teacher at St. Francis; and Haneefa Persaud, Yelena's mother holding her trophy.

By Timothy Roberts

Obelisk. This is the word that nine-year-old Yelena Persaud spelled correctly to win first place and become the nation's newest and youngest spelling bee champion.

On her way to winning the 13th Annual Bahamas National Spelling Bee competition young Yelena outdid 19 others including both 12-year-old Malik Stuart, an eighth grade student of St. John's College, and 12-year-old Alexis Knowles, a seventh grade student of San Salvador High who tied for second place. Coming in fourth was Jasmine Taylor, an eighth grade student from S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town.

Yelena, a sixth grade student at St. Francis de Sales Catholic School, was excited and very happy at her victory. She said she was confident and relaxed as she was attending the national competition for the second time.

David and Haneefa Persaud, Yelena's parents are very proud of their daughter and said she was very relaxed and focused. The winner of the national competition goes on to compete for The Bahamas at the Howard Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., on May 28 and the Persauds have every confidence that she will do well.

Mrs. Persaud and teacher Miriam Fredericks, who coached her in preparation

Please see Spelling Bee Page 2

Catholics celebrate 50 years as a Bahamian Diocese



Catholic Archbishop Patrick Pinder celebrated mass at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Marsh Harbour on March 14. The service included the confirmation of 12 children and a communion service. The Arch Bishop was accompanied by ten Knights of Columbus members.

By Samantha V. Evans

March 14th was a day of great celebration for the Catholic churches on Abaco as Archbishop Patrick Pinder was on Abaco to celebrate with them and to officiate at communion and confirmation. The Archbishop was also here as a part of the Pilgrimage visit with the Knights of Columbus. The Pilgrimage is made up of various organizations in the Catholic churches.

This 50th anniversary celebration began at the church on the fourth Sunday in

Lent with a procession of the first communion and confirmation candidates. The church was packed to capacity as members, family and friends came to celebrate with them. The Archbishop asked the congregation to be thankful for all that God has done for them. As a part of this 50th anniversary, the pilgrimage is a part of this celebration.

The twelve children who were con-

Please see Archbishop Page 24

Abaco's Teacher of the Year is named



Robertha Lindsey, center, a teacher at Central Abaco Primary School was named Teacher of the Year for the Abaco District. She will now compete nationally for Teacher of the Year honour. Other finalists were Enrique Brown from Treasure Cay Primary School and Monique Miller from Abaco Central High School.

By Timothy Roberts

Abaco's Ministry of Education awarded the district's Teacher of the Year award to Robertha Lindsey of Central Abaco Primary School on March 12. Ms. Lindsey, who was overwhelmed with emotion at receiving the award, will go on to New Providence to represent Abaco in the National Teacher of the Year program.

Ms. Lindsey, who has been teaching since 1998, thanked them for choosing

her to be Abaco's representative, and said, "I wanted to be excellent in whatever I was called on to do." She has always taught her students that "excellence is the key to a brighter future" for each student and for the Bahamas.

Ms. Lindsey was chosen from three finalists who included Enrique Brown from Treasure Cay Primary School and

Please see Teacher Page 2

Abaco won second championship in three years

Spelling Bee

From Page 2

for the competition, were confident that Yelena would win. "I never had any doubt that she would win because she has been participating in competitions from the first grade," said Ms. Fredericks.

Mrs. Persaud said her daughter worked hard for the win and did not mind having to dedicate more time on the weekend in preparation for the spelling bee.

Mrs. Josephine Giraud-Kumar, principal of St. Francis, was "absolutely delighted and elated" at Yelena's victory. "This is a victory for Abaco," said Mrs. Giraud-Kumar and added "We are going to Washington to win!"

Mrs. Lenora Black, District Superintendent for Abaco, was ecstatic at the results and said that our success nationally was because of our teachers, students, parents and communities coming together in support of

education. She proudly noted that this is Abaco's second winner in three years.

Jasmine Taylor, the 13-year-old daughter of S.C. Bootle High School's Senior Mistress and Physical Education teacher, placed fourth in the nation. She also felt more relaxed and confident on her second trip to the national competition which was held on March 21 in Nassau.

The National Spelling Bee puts students of grades five through eight in an open competition against each other. The winner goes on to represent the Bahamas at the Scripps National Spelling Bee which is the United States' largest and longest-running educational promotion administered on a not-for-profit basis by the E.W. Scripps Company and local spelling bee sponsors in the United States, The Bahamas, Canada, China, Ghana, Jamaica, New Zealand and South Korea.



A crowd of teachers, principals, students and friends greeted Yelena Persaud and Jasmine Taylor on their return to Abaco from their participation in the National Spelling Bee where they made Abaco proud. A motorcade formed to escort them into town.

Teacher

From Page 1

Monique Miller from Abaco Central High School. This is the sixth winner from Central Abaco Primary School of the district's Teacher of the Year award.

Ms. Black, Ministry of Education's Abaco Director, said the ninth annual Teacher of the Year activity, under the theme *Transforming Lives, Actualizing Potential*, celebrates excellence in the profession while seeking to highlight the significant role of teachers in nation-building and to honor and award teachers for their outstanding contributions in the field of education.

All teachers involved underwent vigorous scrutiny, were first identified and

brought to the Ministry's attention by their individual school's administration, teacher, parents and students as teachers of excellence. Once chosen each teacher was observed unannounced and was graded on teaching proficiency, involvement in extracurricular activity, professional development activity, outstanding contributions made to the field of education, and their personal philosophy on education.

The committee that chooses the Teacher of the Year is made up of Mrs. Felamese Sawyer, Mr. Leslie Rolle, Mrs. Black and Mrs. Josephine Kumar. Mr. Rolle said it was not an easy task to choose who would represent the district of Abaco. "They all performed exceptionally well," he said.

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Lot 97 30,606 sq. ft. 155' waterfront US\$579,000



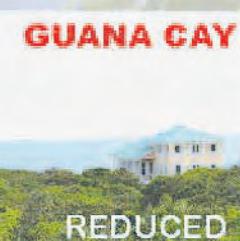
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Casuarina Point 2/2 home across from beach
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Lot 93A/92B \$129,000



REduced
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Turn Key 3/3.5 home, fabulous views, shared dock
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GREEN TURTLE CAY
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Joyless Point 1.676 acre peninsula 1,000' waterfront
\$499,000



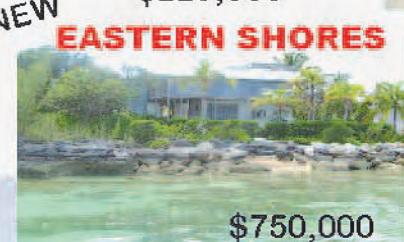
Guana Cay Waterfront
Lot# 28 \$259,900



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MAN-O-WAR CAY #4336
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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.**
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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.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #5159
SKY VIEW - BEST VIEWS IN ABACO 4 bed, 360 degree views, swimming pool, recreation room, wrap around covered porches. **\$1,750,000.**
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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
SEAGRAPES - WATERFRONT 3 bed 3 bath on Eastern Shores with 2 docks, boat lifts, swimming pool. **US\$985,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4736
SUNRISE BAY #7 Beautiful 3 bed 3.5 bath home with pool, dock slip, beach access. **Very desirable family neighbourhood.** Gated community. **\$950,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4989
R FANTASY - WATERFRONT - GREAT CISTERNS New 4b/3b home with dockage. Gorgeous pool with sea views. Guest Cottage. **US\$995,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #5162
WATERFRONT - SUR LA MER - EASTERN SHORES 2 bed 2 bath plus bonus room & decks. Desirable neighbourhood. Steps to beach. **US\$950,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #4658
WATERFRONT - GRANDER - GREAT ABACO CLUB 3 bed 2 bath, add your own finishing touches. Prime area with 55ft dock. **US\$585,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #5283
THOMPSON HOUSE - BARRACUDA LANE 3 bed 3 bath newly built with modern kitchen, high end appliances. **\$492,000.**
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TILLOO CAY #3657
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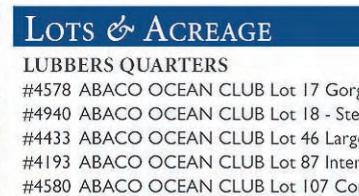
TILLOO CAY #4464
A WENCH'S VIEW - WATERFRONT 4 bed 4 bath immaculate retreat with 97' dock. 360 degree ocean views. **US\$3,500,000.**
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TILLOO CAY #4921
REEL DRAG - WATERFRONT FISHERMAN'S PARADISE Extensive docks & boat lifts. Fabulous newly built 4 bed 3 bath. **US\$1,200,000.**
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TILLOO CAY #4317
WATERFRONT BEACHWOOD COTTAGE - Enjoy picturesque sunsets from this cozy waterfront cottage. **AND the boat's included!** **\$339,000.**
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MARSH HARBOUR #5283
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

#5049 LOT 4 EASTVIEW - 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

TILLOO CAY

#4482 Fabulous Beachfront Lot. Best Beach Location. NEW PRICE \$375,000. Stan Sawyer

#4671 SeaViews, high elevation, 1/2 acre. FURTHER REDUCED \$135,000. Stan Sawyer

#1836 Tilloo Beach Subdivision Hillside lots, shared dock. From \$150,000. Laurie Schreiner

#3738 Tilloo Beach Subdivision Lot 10 Beachfront lot. NEW PRICE \$270,000. Laurie Schreiner

#4558 Tilloo Beach Subdivision Lot 22 Waterfront. \$335,000. Laurie Schreiner

#5128 Tilloo Beach Subdivision Lot 27 Superior elevation, shared dock. \$125,000. Kerry Sullivan

#3792 One Waterfront Acre Great elevation, room for dock. \$290,000. 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

#5121 GUANA CAY Lot 32/32A Two elevated lots total 23,000 sq.ft. 90 ft of waterfront with a dock. \$500,000. Jane Patterson

#5237 GUANA CAY Paradise Cove - Waterfront, dock plans included. \$165,000. Kerry Sullivan

MAINLAND

#4071 BAHAMA PALM SHORES Lot 43 Good residential area. \$30,000. Bill Albury

#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 - Hill top with View access 16,969 sq. ft. \$74,500. Lydia Bodamer

#4803 TREASURE CAY - Choice Canalfront Lot. \$280,000. Stan Sawyer

FOR LEASE

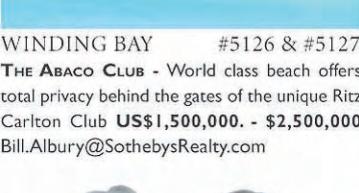
#5053 GREAT CISTERN 3B/2.5B Sea of Abaco Waterfront. \$1,500/mo.

#4858 PELICAN SHORES - 3B/2B with pool, sea & harbour views. \$2,500/mo.

#5055 EASTERN SHORES - 4B/4B with pool & shared dock. \$4,000/mo.



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SEE SECTION A, PAGE 3 FOR HOPE TOWN, ELBOW CAY & SEE SECTION A CENTREFOLD FOR TREASURE CAY, GREEN TURTLE CAY & GUANA CAY

News of the Cays

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

It's the beginning of Spring and we are looking forward to warmer weather and outdoor activities. It's time to pack away the jackets and blankets and hope Mother Nature cooperates. Schools will be closing for Spring Break, and the children are looking forward to picnics and swimming. Amy Roberts Primary School will have its annual Spring Fair and Grand Raffle on March 27th. The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee is finalizing plans for the 7th annual festival to be held April 30 - May 2nd. Expect an exciting, fun filled weekend as we "Discover the Treasure of Our Heritage."

Our community was saddened by the devastation and loss of life after the earthquake in Haiti. The Haitian nationals in our community waited days to hear if their relatives were safe. A community meeting was held to discuss how we could assist the people of Haiti and representatives of the Abaco branch of the Bahamas Red Cross were in attendance. It was decided that monetary donations would purchase much needed medical and food supplies. Volunteers agreed to go on a walkabout through town to collect donations. The people of Green Turtle Cay were very generous and \$6400 was donated to the Red Cross for the people of Haiti.

After decades of promises the infrastructure is almost all in place to bring water to Green Turtle Cay. It will be brought underwater from the Abaco mainland. The pipeline is now in place to deliver the water to the storage area across from BTC. The construction crews responsible for install-

ing the underground pipe are to be commended for doing an excellent job. They worked quickly to avoid having the road closed for an extended length of time and left no patched areas in the road.

Community meeting

A community Town Meeting was held to discuss a proposed subdivision for Green Turtle Cay. This subdivision will be located on vacant, undeveloped community property north of Bethell Estates. Administrator Maxine Duncombe spoke on behalf of the Department of Lands and Surveys and the Member of Parliament for North Abaco, the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham. A drawing of the proposed subdivision has been posted, and the Prime Minister is interested in feedback from the residents of Green Turtle Cay before the final draft. As proposed there are 186 residential lots 70 feet by 170 feet. Areas have been reserved for green spaces and a sports field. The proposed commercial area is small because it should not be a detriment to the historic town of New Plymouth. No price range for the lots has been decided.

Ms. Duncombe opened the floor for comments. The meeting was well attended and the discussion lively. Ms. Duncombe was an excellent moderator, and everyone who made a comment was heard. The view of most in attendance is that the lots should be offered first to current residents of Green Turtle Cay who are NOT property owners. It is felt that parents should be able to purchase property for their children, but there has to be a limit to how many lots a person can own. Some persons felt that some lots should be reserved for a future generation.

The question was raised as to how the lots would be assigned as there are lots on the water as well as in less desirable areas. It was suggested that persons should not be allowed to buy lots and resell them. Lots should be sold back to the government if not developed. Mortgage assistance should be offered by the Mortgage Corporation of The Bahamas. Infrastructure should be put in place and a fire house should be included. A community center was also suggested. The meeting was productive and Administrator Duncombe has forwarded the concerns and suggestions to the Department of Lands and Surveys.

School News

The academic year is passing quickly and Green Turtle Cay students are making the grade. Rebecca Roberts received awards for her outstanding performance in the 2009 Grade Level Assessment Tests. She received the highest score on Abaco in Mathematics and was Abaco's top 6th grade



Rebecca Roberts



Quitel Charlton won Abaco's Junior Achievers Speech Competition.

GLAT achiever. Rebecca was a student at Amy Roberts Primary and is the great-granddaughter of the late Amy Roberts. Rebecca is now an honor roll student at Forest Heights Academy.

Quitel Charlton was the winner of the Abaco Junior Achievers Speech Competition. She is now eligible to enter the National Junior Achievers Speech Competition and the Texaco Speech Competition. Quitel has been entering and winning speech competitions since primary school. She is currently a student at St. Francis de Sales.

Please see Cays

Page 6

JOHN CASH REALTY



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Orchid Bay Yacht Club & Marina

Lot 6 Great Guana Cay, Elevated 34,000 sq. ft. beach parcel with 135 ft. frontage, spectacular Atlantic Ocean views. Amenities include full service marina, restaurant, beach pavilion, tennis courts, pool, paved roads and utilities. \$1,675,000

The Love Shack 3 Bed, 3.5 Bath 4700 sq. ft. ocean front estate situated on two 100' wide lots. Stunning views from every room. The best value in beachfront homes in Treasure Cay! \$1,600,000

Sunny Side 2 Bed, 2 Bath modern home across from our world famous Treasure Cay beach, next to green way access. \$799,000

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Palm Bay 6 Newly completed, fully furnished 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 2 level waterfront home featuring spectacular views along Treasure Cay Marina, 20' beam boat slip with elec. Great rental history \$809,000.00

Royal Poinciana 2513 Oceanfront 2 Bed, 2 Bath fully furnished condo with water views from every room! \$645,000

Royal Poinciana 2615 3 Bed 3 Bath Oceanfront condo. Fully furnished upper end unit with great rental potential. \$680,000 NEW LISTING

Royal Palm 2301 2 Bed, 2 Bath newly renovated condo with boat slip and storage locker. \$579,000

Royal Palm 2338 2 Bed, 2 Bath Condo with boat slip on Treasure Cay World Class Marina. \$575,000

Royal Palm 2337 2 Bed, 2 Bath Downstairs condo with view of Marina. Boat slip with bonus of boat lift! \$550,000

Royal Palm 2314 2 bed, 2 bath furnished condo overlooking Treasure Cay Marina. Boat slip and storage unit included. \$416,500

Royal Palm 2426 3 Bed, 3 Bath upper level condo with lovely marina views and large 16' wide boatslip \$559,000

Royal Palm 2317 Downstairs 2 Bed, 2 Bath Marina condo with boatslip. Good rental history. \$470,000

Royal Palm 2380 2 Bed, 2 Bath lower unit on Brigantine Bay canal with large 16' wide boatslip. \$350,000 NEW PRICE

Mariner's Cove 1510 Town House, 2 Bed, 1.5 Bath, professionally decorated with beautiful marina view. \$279,500

Mariner's Cove 1509 Town House, 2 Bed, 1.5 Bath, direct harbor view in desirable 1500 building. Fully furnished, includes garage. \$269,000

Mariner's Cove 1106 Townhouse, 2 Bed, 1 Bath, end unit with marina views. \$249,500

Beach Villa 648 Recently renovated 2 Bed, 2 Bath with newly enlarged living/dining area. \$369,000

Beach Villa 685 2 Bed 2 Bath Fully furnished villa within steps of beach and pool. Good rental history. \$393,500

Paradise Found 2 Story, 6 Bed, 3 Bath Canal-front home on Galleon Bay with dock and tiki hut. \$578,000 UNDER CONTRACT

Lot 8 Block 198 Brigantine canal homesite with 90 ft. of seawall in Treasure Cay's most protected canal. Choice water views. \$287,000

Lot 21, Block 200 Waterfront homesite on Galleon Bay Rd. in Treasure Cay. Panoramic views of Sea of Abaco. Already cleared with newly installed sea wall. \$490,000

Lot 94 Block 199 19,450 sq. ft. canalfront homesite already cleared on Galleon Bay Rd with 94' of new seawall. Sea of Abaco views. \$320,000

Lot 1 Blk 184 Windward Beach Excellent sandy beachfront homesite with 90 feet of width and 180 feet of depth. Ready to build on. \$545,000.00 NEW LISTING

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Exclusive Listings

Bahama Palm Shores: Pinehurst, B33, L53, incredible value vacant lot US\$12,000.
 Bahama Palm Shores: Pinehurst, B32, L29, road access property US\$15,000.
 Bahama Palm Shores: Pinehurst, B45, L240, road and beach access US\$15,000.
 Bahama Palm Shores: 340' of pristine private beachfront US\$139,000.
 Bahama Coral Island: Cleared hillside property with well B\$30,000.
 Bahama Coral Island: Adjacent properties, sea views, near beach US\$20,000@
 Bahama Coral Island: Elevated property with power and Marls views US\$25,000.
 Eastern Shores: Deluxe property with dockage on "The Cut" US\$525,000.
 Great Abaco Club: Elevation, views, accommodates 65' boat US\$295,000.
 Great Abaco Club: Oversize property, sea views, dockage US\$295,000.
 Great Abaco Club: Spectacular home, pool dock for 65' boat BS\$1.45m
 Great Abaco Club: Direct Sea of Abaco home plus dockage. US\$1.175m
 Guana Cay: Hillside lot with 360 views and proposed dockage US\$109,000.
 Leisure Lee: Best priced waterfront home, deepwater dock, beach access US\$449,000.
 Leisure Lee: Bulkheaded deepwater property, near beach access US\$199,000.
 Pelican Shores: Total luxury 4 bed/ 4 bath waterfront home BS\$1.5m
 Three Beaches: Adjacent properties near beach access, private and secure US\$34,900@
 Three Beaches: Hilltop lot, view, beach access US\$49,000
 Treasure Cay: Awesome luxury beachfront parcel with sea to sea views US\$599,000.
 Turtle Rocks: Unspoiled 3/4 acre property, area developing nicely US\$208,500.

info@AbacoWaterfrontProperties.com

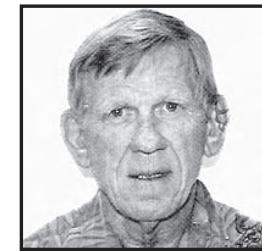
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CONDOMIUM DEVELOPMENTS

1. CARLETON LANDING

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

Prices start at \$680,000 + 14%

2. NEW LUXURY WATERFRONT CONDOS WITH DOCKS!

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

3. THE COTTAGES

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

Starting at \$595,000 + 12% closing

4. BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

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

Starting at \$907,500 Plus 14% closing

5. ROYAL POINCIANA TOWNHOUSES

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

Ground floor - garage, 2 bed/ 2 bath with ocean front patio
First floor - open concept living / dining/ kitchen plus master bedroom suite, all ocean views with patio/ balcony
Loft - bedroom/ den with ocean view
MLS \$2,075,000 + 7.5% Closing

6. PALM BAY DEVELOPMENT

"Palm Bay" Unit #3 4 bed/ 3 1/2 bath fully furnished Town House with garage and boat slip with 20' beam. Located at Palm Bay Development 2,000 +/- sq. ft.

\$655,125 EXC + 7.5%

"Palm Bay" Unit #5 Waterfront Townhouse unit fully furnished. Lower/entry level 2 bed/ 1 bath with garage. Upper level master bed with ensuite bath/living/dining/kitchen/lanai. Unit has own dock, extras GEO tracker & golf cart, 25' Carolina skiff, 250 HP Evinrude engine
\$1,350,000 + 7.5%

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

ABBREVIATION CODE

EXC - Exclusive listing

FGS - Full gross or all-inclusive price

MLS - Multiple Listing, list price plus buyer's closing

Treasure Cay has one of the world's best Beaches, Golf Course, Tennis, full service Marina, just naming a few amenities.
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Mailing address: P.O. Box AB22183, Treasure Cay, Abaco, Bahamas E-mail: info@treasurecayrealestate.com

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Just Listed by Original Owner

2 bed/ 2 bath villa facing garden and pool area. Tropical privacy hedge offers real home atmosphere. Steps from the beach. Fully furnished. Many special features
EXC \$368,875 + 7.5%

Second row beach ~~with~~ ocean access. Great view. **UNDER CONTRACT** any special features. MLS \$460,000 FGS

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

POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY

6.667 acres on the highway between Treasure Cay Resort and Treasure Cay airport. Running from highway north to the sea of Abaco. 180' on water front and 165' roadside, 1500' road to water. Prime property that can be subdivided, commercial and housing/condos or subdivided into lots, commercial and residential
\$833,375 FGS, EXC

VACANT LOTS AVAILABLE

- Ocean front properties
Casuarina Beach/Ocean Blvd.
Sand Piper Beach
Sunrise Point Beginning at \$1,250,000 FGS
- Canal Front Beginning at \$350,000 FGS
- Rock Point Waterfront, bulkheaded Beginning at \$430,000 FGS
- Golf Course / Interior Beginning at \$60,000 FGS



More News of the Cays

Cays

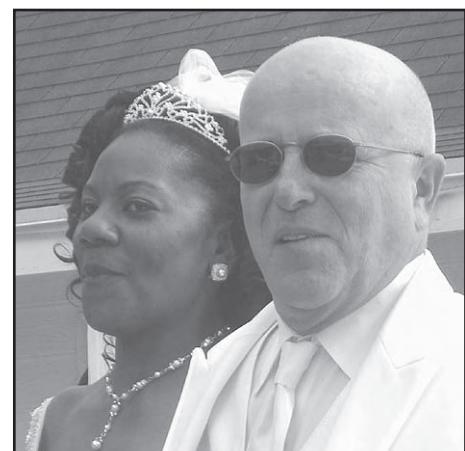
From Page 4

Abaco's high school students were honored by the Bahamas Outstanding Students Foundation on March 18th. Twenty-three Green Turtle students were among the group of 10th - 12th grade students whose GPA was above 3.0. Congratulations to Melissa Albury, Alicia Bodie, Quitel Charlton, Symone Cooper, Kardera Curry, Karen Curry, Sean Heystek, Blair Johnson, Shanae Knowles, Crystal Levarity, Alexis McIntosh, Chamon McIntosh, Jasmine McIntosh, Kevanna McIntosh, Tyce McIntosh, Denton Sawyer, Heather Sawyer, Lori Sawyer, Tyler Sawyer, Nicolas Schrack, Shannon Steele, Felicia Survance and Tyler Survance on their academic achievements.

People making news

Congratulations to Genevieve Curry and Gary Hood, who were married on February 13th in a celebration of the sacrament of Holy Matrimony at St. Peter's Anglican Church. It was the day before Valentine's Day, and the bridal party wore red and the church was decorated with red roses and hearts. A reception was held at the Green Turtle Club where family and friends of the bride and groom enjoyed a Bahamian buffet. After the traditional speeches, cutting of the cake and tossing of the bouquet and garter, guests were entertained by the Gully Roosters. Mr. and Mrs. Hood will reside on Green Turtle Cay. Genevieve is the daughter of the late Robert Curry and Mrs. Berline Curry.

Three families have welcomed new babies. Dawn Survance and Cameron Sawyer welcomed their daughter Emmalene RyLee on February 12th. Baby Emma has two big



Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hood

brothers and a sister to help love and spoil her as all babies deserve to be!

Wesley and Nylah McIntosh are proud first time parents. They welcomed their first son Rory Antonio on March 9th. Rory is the first grandchild for Earklin and Vernika McIntosh.

Jason and Jennie Bethell's daughter Hailey Amber arrived on March 19th. Hailey has a big sister and brother who are anxious to bring her home. Congratulations to all the proud parents, siblings and grandparents.

Eileen Russell passed away on February 11 after a courageous battle with cancer. She spent her last days in a Florida hospice and was surrounded by her family and close friends. A memorial service was held on February 27 at the New Plymouth Gospel Chapel. Eileen was predeceased by her son Colin and is survived by her husband Earl; children Steven, Craig, Marsha, Randy, Sherry and Lynn; daughters-in-law Bonnie and Annabel; sons-in-law Randy Burleigh and Zed Bennett; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brothers Hubert and Everette Pinder; sister-in-law Ella Pinder and many other relatives and friends.

Escalation of crime

Our community has seen a lot of progress over the last three decades. With progress we expect change. Some changes have benefited our community, while others have not been positive. We used to live in a community where locks were not necessary and a person's property was safe. This has changed over time and crime has increased. In the past two months two boats have been stolen from docks on Green Turtle Cay.

One boat was found on Grand Bahama, stripped of all electronics and extensively damaged. The other boat, a 29-foot Regulator with twin Yamahas, has not been recovered. We are all aware that crime can destroy our community, and efforts are being made to make the marinas and harbours safe. Residents are working with the Abaco Police Department to prevent crimes as well as assist with bringing those responsible before the courts. Hopefully, if we all work together, we can restore the good name of our community and its residents.

Green Turtle Cay gets water supply

By Jennifer Hudson

The government of The Bahamas has always wanted to ensure that all residents have access to potable (drinking) water. Up to this time Green Turtle Cay has been deficient in this regard, having to rely on water from rainwater tanks under homes or water barged from the mainland.

On June 23, 2009, the Water and Sewage Corporation signed a contract in the amount of \$2,518,992.50 with Bahamas Hot Mix Company Limited for water improvements to Green Turtle Cay. Construction began on August 26, 2009, and is expected to be completed shortly.

Water supply to Green Turtle Cay will be pumped from the existing well fields and pumping station at Treasure Cay to the Treasure Cay ferry dock area and connected to the new transmission main. Starting from the ferry dock, approximately 14,000 linear feet of high density polyethylene six-inch pipeline laid on the sea bottom to the settlement of New Plymouth is presently installed. Another 2,000 linear feet of pipeline is installed overland routed to the recently constructed building which will be used for a water pumping station and office. A 100,000 gallon water storage tank was installed on Green Turtle Cay for storage of water pumped from the Treasure Cay station.

During the design stage of the project, the Water and Sewage Corporation engaged the services of a consulting engineering firm to ensure that the design of the pipeline complied with both local and international design regulations and specifi-

cations. Concerns cited by local residents, which included damage from passing boaters and damage from dropped anchors, were addressed by burying the pipe at a depth of approximately 18-24 inches. As an additional safety precaution, the pipe is secured at the sea bottom with concrete anchors to ensure that it would not float back up to the surface.

One of the highest quality materials on the market has been used for the underwater pipeline. This product has a useful life of 30 to 40 years which will ensure that residents of Green Turtle Cay continually receive good potable water.

The commissioning of the pipeline before consumers are connected to the system and begin receiving water will involve an under water inspection of the pipe in its final resting position and hydrostatic testing to ensure that the pipeline is not leaking or being compromised by salt water intrusion which would affect its quality.

The pumping station, which is now under construction, will be equipped with two 15 HP distribution pumps equipped with automated pump controls to ensure the efficient operation of the station. It will be equipped with a 75 KVA generator which will ensure uninterrupted water service during power interruptions. The pumping station building will also house the Water and Sewage Corporation's office where customers on Green Turtle Cay will be able to pay their water bills.

Please see Cays

Page 7

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ON GREEN TURTLE CAY:

- UNDER CONTRACT! Waterfront lot with dock on Coco Bay.
- "Beau Soleil" Immaculate waterfront furnished home with guest apartment and separate guest cottage. Total four bedrooms five baths. 1/2 acre. Large swimming pool. Dock. Beach. Many amenities. Commanding views of White Sound Harbour. Asking price \$1,799,500
- Unique spacious one story, two bedroom one bath furnished home with loft set on lushly landscaped one acre parcel on the bonefish flats on the Sea of Abaco. Home is converted airplane hangar with special touches by the artist/owner. Featured in Volvo commercial in conjunction with "Pirates of the Caribbean." Many amenities. Asking price \$1.5 m
- SOLD! New 4 bed 3½ bath home on bluff overlooking Sea of Abaco. Swimming pool.
- NEW PRICE!!! House overlooking Settlement Creek Two air conditioned master bedroom suites. Kit/liv/din. Short walk to town. Dock. \$415,000
- New Price!!! Roberts' House in historic settlement of New Plymouth. Waterview. Furnished. 3 beds 3 baths. Immaculate. Owner moving. \$450,000
- 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 2½ acres sea to sea from Coco Bay to the Atlantic Ocean. Gorgeous beach and dock. Furnished cottage with workshop and garage. Very private. \$1.2 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
- Summer Breeze: Recently remodeled furnished two story three bed 2½ bath home located on waterfront in the heart of New Plymouth. A/C. Satellite TV. W/D. Golf cart garage. Established rental history. New Price \$550,000
- 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
- Beachfront; waterfront; and inland lots on Green Turtle Cay and Munjack Cay.

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Listing # 3324 - Located in the heart of commercial activity in Marsh Harbour, this 6000 s.f. building is complemented by 2 vacant lots totaling 18,000 s.f. \$799,000

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Houses

Casuarina Point Canal Front Listing #1873 - 2 bed 1 bath cottage situated on a large lot. \$199,000

Lots

Bahama Palm Shores Listing #1975 - 2 lots side by side. 10,000 sq.ft. each \$22,900 each

Gilpin Point, South Abaco beach front lots Listing #1613 - 14,000 sq. ft. \$225,000 each

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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 6

Hope Town Playground

By Erika Russell

A Jarrett Park Playground Committee has been formed, whose single task is to

renovate the existing playground at Jarrett Park. Our aim is to replace the existing structures and add new ones, making the playground safer and more fun for our children.

The plan is to complete the project in three phases. Phase One will be the construction of a lighthouse-themed play

structure to replace the existing slide structure and the dilapidated structure next to it. Decking will be built under and around the cork tree to make it a safer play area.

Phase Two will be a pirate ship structure designed for children under 5 years. Phase Three will include safe ground and shade covering and new benches.

We are planning a work weekend at the park on March 27th and 28th from 2-6 p.m. each day to get the fence in good shape. We hope the community will come out to assist.

When the fence is in good shape, we

Please see Cays

Page 8



Capt. Perry Thomas
Realtor, Office Manager



Janet Harding
Realtor®

Endless Summer #508, Eastern Shores, 2 story, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 210' water frontage, 80' dock, 6' low water, 9,000 lb. boat lift. Cypress ceiling and interior walls, laundry room, single car garage, carport, 15 KW back-up



generator. Reduced from \$1,675,000 to \$1,412,500.00 gross

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



REDUCED \$424,000.

Triplex in Great Cistern #902 Two 2 bedroom 1 bath and one 1 bedroom 1 bath, beautifully landscaped and furnished. Lot size 17,250 sq. ft. Reduced Price \$315,000 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. Reduced Price \$395,000



Forest Drive Murphy Town Duplex #810 two 2 bd rm, 2 bth fully furnished. New price \$268,800 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



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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 & dinning 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



Tina Wells
Sales Agent



Annstacia Storr
Sales Agent, 458-2949

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

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

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

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

Lot #44 13,307 sf \$98,000 gross Lot #112 20,485 sf. \$175,000 gross

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

Best prices in Yellowwood big lots on hillside with views near Winding Bay and the Abaco Club

Lot# 7 G3 size 12,600 s.f. \$57,200 gross

Lot # 7 G4 size 12,600 s.f. \$57,200 gross

Best prices on vacant lots in Marsh Harbour.

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

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

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 13,330 sq ft with foundation that is 80% finished. \$34,200 UNDER CONTRACT

Hillside lot with waterviews in Dundas Town #502 \$18,600 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

Bahama Coral Island four lots priced at \$22,800, \$25,080, \$26,220, \$28,800

New Listing Two Lots in Dundas Town Front Street one 13,999 sq ft. Price \$43,096 gross; one 13911 sq ft Price \$42,845 gross

One Lot in Central Pines 11,200 sq ft Price \$30,800 gross

One corner lot in Bahama Coral Island Price \$26,220

New Listing Lot in Great Cistern on main road 11,237 sq ft, perfect for a home site 81.38 feet on road and 136.53 depth \$75,000 gross

Eleuthera northeast near Savannah Sound 20 acres of waterfront and beachfront land with high elevation \$1,650,000 gross

New Listing One half of a Duplex #1075 2br 2bth unit in Freeport on Kitchener Avenue, furnished. Asking Price \$88,800 gross

New Listing Duplex in Cooper's Town #1076 on main street, 2br 1bth. Asking price \$168,000 gross.

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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 8

will be selling sponsorship of the playground's fence pickets to raise money. For \$50 your name or your family name can be painted on; \$100 for business sponsorship.

On April 6th we will be hosting an Italian night to raise money.

For further information, contact: Erika Russell, phone 366-0440, email: <arc.abaco@gmail.com> or on Facebook at The New Hope Town Playground.

Pathfinders held Appreciation Dinner

By Timothy Roberts

The Abaco Pathfinders, a group whose

purpose is to raise funds to provide academic and vocational scholarships for deserving young people on Abaco, held an appreciation dinner in honor of the founder, Jim Blumberg, and original board members, John Head and Ray Ketay.

The event, which was held on March 13 at Hope Town Harbour Lodge, featured speeches about the original founder and members as well as both a silent and live auction in support of the 2010 scholarship fund. The dinner was well supported with people attending from Marsh Harbour, Man-O-War, Lubbers Quarters and Hope Town.

The speakers all spoke of the care and concern that Mr. Blumberg, Mr. Head and



Abaco Pathfinders held an Appreciation Dinner at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge on March 13 to honour the founder of the scholarship fund, Jim Blumberg, and two board members, John Head and Ray Ketay. The silent and live auctions held that night raised money for students who will be going away to school in the fall.



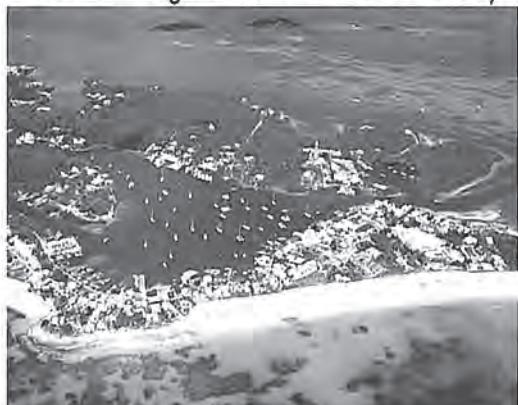
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Mr. Ketay had and of their big hearts and desire to see Abaco students further their education.

The items for the silent and live auctions were all donated and the dinner tickets helped to raise \$50,000 toward this year's fund.

The Abaco Pathfinders, which began in 2001, has helped many students over the past nine years and will be assisting its 111th student to college this fall.

Lubbers Quarters held Flea Market

The second Lubbers Quarters Community Flea Market was held on March 13 and was attended by people from several cays. The group is using the proceeds to put in roads and finish their marina. Contributions were also made to Hopetown Fire and Rescue, the Haitian Earthquake Relief and the American Red Cross.

The flag now flies at the lighthouse

For several years a flag was not flown from the flag pole at the Elbow Cay Lighthouse due to the fact that both halyard lines were let go. This was corrected on March 9th, thanks to a courageous man, Dave Pahl and with the support of Steve Schrimsher, Will Heyar and Ben Doliber, all boaters, and a helping hand from Harold Malone, a Council member with Local Government. Three 20-ladders were lashed together and fastened to the flagpole. Dave went up the pole, freed the jammed pulley, did a little repair and threaded a new line through. Many thanks to all these men. Well done!

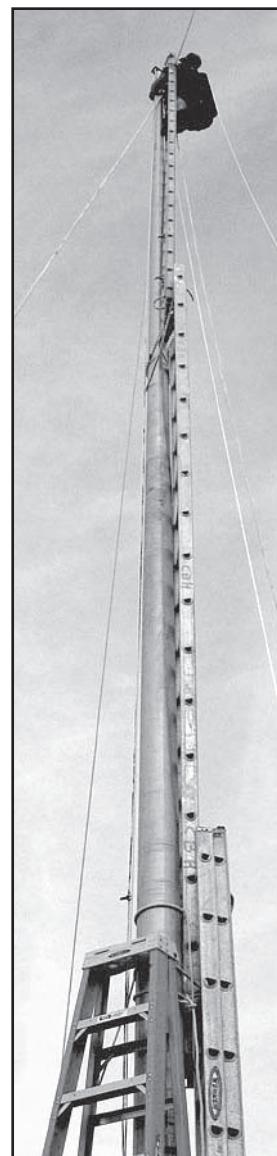


Dave Pahl is shown at the top of the flagpole repairing the hardware so the flag can now be flown.

Clarification

Ms. Maxine Duncombe would like it known that the leaders of the Celebrate Recovery Center on Eleuthera were Rev. and Elmena Bethel and Ms. Duncombe advocated on behalf of the Center. Additionally she wants it known that trained professionals from Nassau assisted with technical support.

[We apologize to Administrator Duncombe for these oversights and are confident that the corrections will put the public at ease on these issues.]



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Driftwood.....

By John Hedden

Chinese vegetables in Abaco; what a thought! Pakchoi and ginseng. Iron and energy; all in one shot. Maybe us non-salad persons will change our minds. The thought makes me feel positively green.

The interest of the Chinese government in agricultural enterprise here on Abaco gives much room for thought, but not much for time. The media stated intention to have vegetables for the table by September is actually mind numbing, and at lower prices, too. From the spiel in the article and editorial of the late Abaconian publication, we are to expect wondrous things in short order, and a move towards food security at the same time.

I know I tend to be "a little slow" when it comes to these things, but I fail to see how our Public Service (government) is going to be able to process the finer details of such an agreement to allow our consumption of anything more than an idea come September of this year. Of course, we all need an improved diet of ideas to allow growth of our entrepreneurial spirit so that we can move away from the Plantation Mentality so aptly described by Nicky Kelly in one of her articles. This pre-proposal-investigation by the BAIC and Chinese team does not seem to promote any motivation on our part. But we will take a job as long as we don't have to learn the lingo, so to speak; and it must pay in dollars at the week's end. And after it's all over, we think to quote that old Bahamian saying.....

"I've seen em come, and
I've seen em go."

But somehow I don't think so this time. "I got a feeling" to quote the Black Eye Peas. There is too much at stake in this... Freeport container port, Grand Bahama tourism, Bahamas' sport complex, Cable Beach, New Providence resort complex, Abaco agricultural investments. Billions of dollars committed by a country whose government is not democratically elected and in essence owns and controls all business. Our little country is being bought out by the Chinese government. Why are we so short-sighted to prefer to be employed

rather than be genuinely enterprising and so, employ?

Talking of employment, how many jobs in all of these enterprises are going to be taken by Bahamians and how many by import labour? We need 5,000 new jobs created every year just to accommodate the year's graduating students.

An agricultural project should employ roughly one person for every 10 acres intensively farmed land. How many acres and how many jobs? 10,000 acres means 1,000 jobs. Any ideas?

We need to examine this project in detail, and Bahamian farmers need to be involved in the discussion from the very beginning. The Bahamian consumer and public also need to consider all natural resources including water.

The Northern Bahamas holds the total potable water reserves for the whole of the country; and this reserve is non-renewable. In other words, when it is destroyed, it is lost for ever. This also applies to our wetlands, our marls and our creek systems. These are all extensions of this one fresh water system and serve to nurture our fisheries replenishment areas, mangrove forests, buffer regions, haloclines and terrestrial protective mechanisms.

At the present time this country does not have an environmental protection act. Even if there was one in place, how would enforcement be achieved? We don't even know the difference between fossil fuels and diesel.

"Oh, is it one? I didn't know."

How can we monitor and oversee a foreign operation that will be importing multiples of synthetic pesticides and chemicals when we have a government-operated electrical utility that is historically incapable of even monitoring its own fuel supplies, much less its maintenance programme. How can we then oversee and protect our fresh water which should become more and more valuable as time goes on.

Another major question that comes to mind is that of national food security. A subject that politicians and armchair pundits have bantered around for many years. My thinking is that any kind of food se-

Just washed up

curity is only realized when the production arises from totally native resources. Therefore, any imported necessary component of the grow out immediately negates the security part of the phrase, including labour.

Case in point chicken. Young chicks, all feed, equipment, medication, infrastructure, storage, energy are all imported including most of the labour. The only truly native component is water.

Also to continue with the abuse of an often misused word, I will ask the question: Is this project going to prove to be sustainable? We all know that as the world population approaches nine billion by mid century the demand for more food and consequently the demand for larger acreages of arable land to be put under the plough will skyrocket. With such a large area going into food production, the environment, the land, the fresh water aquifer, the native ecosystems and our unique biodiversity will be threatened. Systems and controls must be put in place if their health is to remain unthreatened and the welfare of the island is to be maintained. We already have a failed landfill, now a garbage dump that is threatening to pollute and contaminate the valuable creek systems around Snake Cay as well as the fresh water lens underneath the pine. Are we going to allow an unmonitored agricultural enterprise because it will provide a few menial jobs? So threatening the largest fresh water lens of the island underneath?

Now, if this project is set up to educate and promote truly Bahamian-owned enterprise and investment at all stages of the food production and marketing chain,

where farmers are intimately involved and stand to profit from all aspects of the venture, where Bahamians at the end of it all are the owners and operators of a truly sustainable enterprise, then I do not have a concern.

However, what we do not need is another grandiose Mega Project that will give a limited number of Bahamians a job. Think about the hospitality industry to date.

We need the training, we need the extension services, we need the experience, we need the food security, we need the lower prices, we need the investment, we need the grading and processing. But most of all we need the motivation of the Bahamian agricultural entrepreneur.

The face of Abaco is rapidly changing. Here we have maintained economic growth while the rest of the country languishes. In a few years none of us will be able to recognise the new Abaco. But we still need an economy that fits our needs and goals. What we do not need is another foreign enterprise where the Bahamian goes along for the ride and our environment is the bicycle ridden until it breaks.

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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Town Meeting

A town meeting was held in the W.W. Sands Community Center in Cherokee Sound for the benefit of its residents to give them a chance to have an input into how the government monies allocated to us will be spent.

Administrator Benjamin Pinder outlined the reason why the meeting was being held by asking Cherokee residents, "What do we want?" and "What do we need?"

Mr. Pinder will check into the cost of having a large dumpster put somewhere in the settlement that would be emptied once or twice a week. This would not change our local trash collection on Tuesdays and Fridays as the dumpster would be emptied by a company in Marsh Harbour. It would mean that regular dumping of trash would no longer be allowed at our present dump site.

Mr. Pinder said that when a road has been pushed around the old graveyard on the western side of the settlement, that area will be closed off to all traffic. He announced that notices will be sent to the owners of all the vehicles, boats, trailers and other items now parked there that they will have to be moved permanently.

Mr. Pinder reported that an island-wide clean-up is planned for April 17 and the Cherokee's cooperation would be greatly appreciated. He reminded us of the hurricane season approaching and told us there is a new threat to our shores, that is a possible tsunami from earthquakes. So, if you notice extremely high tides or exceptionally low tides, we should immediately seek high ground. He noted that our land is rather low and flat, that a tsunami could have waves from 30 to 50 feet in height and reminded us that there would be very little time to reach high ground.

Mr. Pinder said that arrangements were being made for the government doctor or nurse to visit Cherokee on a more regular

basis.

Chief Councillor for the South Abaco District, Preston Roberts, spoke on the bad economy, giving reasons for the Council's limited effectiveness due to tight funding. He brought up the need to tear down the old clinic building and commented that they are working to close the town dump except for compostable yard trimmings.

He said that permanent access roads to various beaches would be made available to bathers at all new developments being built in South Abaco. He announced that a Little League program was in the works for the youth of South Abaco. Anyone interested should contact him.

Committee Chairman Rex Albury stated that the first order of business was to finish the creek-side cementing job on the road to Ms. Doris' corner by the Hut. And second was the beautification around the perimeter of the settlement with plants and trees.

Ricky Sawyer thanked Rich Curry for removing some trees and providing holes for new ones in the settlement's beautification program. Mr. Albury thanked Ricky for the work he had done on his own to help beautify Cherokee. This, of course, is an on-going project, and anyone who would like to donate trees or plants for the new planters or verges would be appreciated. Just give Ricky a call as he is in charge of their planting and maintenance.

Board member Kenneth Albury thanked second homeowner, Simon Rodehn, for his efforts to keep the present dump pushed back whenever it was needed.

Police and animal rights activist talk to students

By Jennifer Hudson

The Police Department on Abaco under the new leadership of Supt. Noel Curry is taking a stand against cruelty to animals which has been greatly welcomed by the Animal Humane Societies here. On March 11 Chris Roberts, an activist for the proper and humane treatment of animals, joined Sgt. Rachel Metelus, Community Relations Officer with the Marsh Harbour Po-

lice Department, to give a talk to the students of Cherokee Primary School.

Sgt. Metelus stated that police officers are trying to organize a low crime society and in this regard she, as the person responsible for the community from the police perspective, has already spoken at the All Age School on Moore's Island, Treasure Cay Primary, Fox Town School and most of the schools in Marsh Harbour.

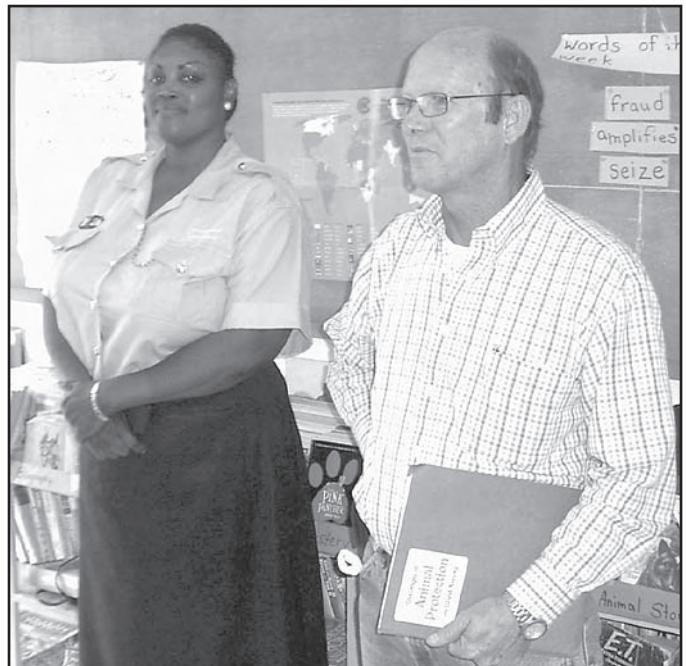
She stated that although she is aware that the settlement of Cherokee is a low crime community, she wants to get her message across to the young people. "Children play a major role in decreasing the crime rate throughout The Bahamas," she told them, and described a very bleak picture of life

in Fox Hill prison. She then focused on how they can keep themselves safe. "Being safe includes reporting anything you think will put you at risk for any type of harm and also not playing with matches. You can report to your teachers, parents, police or any other responsible adult. Love your neighbour; if everyone loved one another, what a wonderful place this would be with no stealing or fighting," she continued.

This was the first time Sgt. Metelus had teamed with Mr. Roberts to additionally address the issue of

animal cruelty and in future this will be a feature of all her talks to schools. "Children who abuse animals grow up to abuse people," stated Mr. Roberts. "At first people who abuse animals do it because they think it is fun; then they get callous. A study in the United States found that every serial killer in jail in the United States had abused animals in the past, though that is not to say that everyone who abuses animals will become a serial killer. People who abuse animals end up being a problem to the community; we must give animals love," he stressed.

Sgt. Metelus and Mr. Roberts then proceeded to Sandy Point to speak at the J.A. Pinder Primary School.



Sgt. Rachel Metelus and Chris Roberts, an animal rights activist, are visiting schools to talk to the students about preventing crime, safety and the humane treatment of animals. They visited the Cherokee Sound Primary School on March 11.

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National Arts Festival judges hear Abaco students

By Jennifer Hudson

Adjudicators for the National Arts Festival were on Abaco from March 5 to 11 traveling to various schools judging entrants in the categories of Music, Dance, Drama and Arts and Crafts. Audrey Dean Wright, lecturer at the College of The Bahamas, was music adjudicator assisted by Alfred Dean; dancers Lawrence Carroll and Lekeisha Bostwick judged in the dance category; James Catalyn, well known actor and playwright, judged the drama; and Heino Schmidt and Ellery Deveaux were judges for the arts and crafts. Senior Cultural Affairs officer in the Ministry of Culture, Keva Cartwright, was Organizing Secretary.

Adjudications began on the first day with instrumental and gospel selections at the Abaco Central High School followed by more instrumental and gospel by students of Agape Christian School and Wesley

College. One of Wesley College's entries was an interesting performance by their marching band in which they incorporated some junkanoo headpieces. The following day instrumental and a capella singing took place at the Central Abaco Primary School in which students from Treasure Cay and Man-O-War schools participated. This was followed in the afternoon by some lively drama and verse speaking performances and a presentation on keyboard at St. Francis de Sales School.

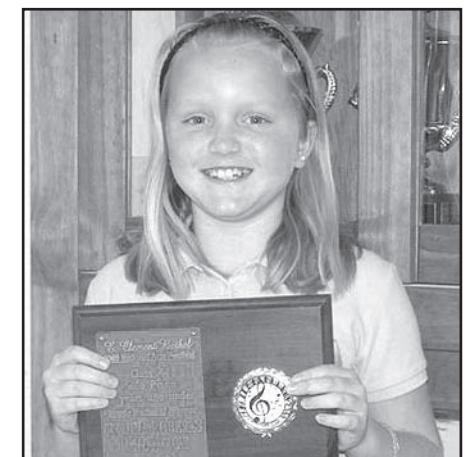
The remainder of the time the judges traveled to schools at Fox Town, Moore's Island, Cooper's Town, Green Turtle Cay, Hope Town, Sandy Point, Cherokee and Crossing Rocks. A community segment was held on the first evening, but the low participation this year was disappointing to the judges.

Mrs. Wright is always very keen to assist the young musicians in bettering their

performances. After listening to their presentations and critiquing them, she gave each of the students a short lesson with some very helpful advice. The piece for one of the classes was composed by Mrs. Wright herself, and she praised Brandysha Russell of St. Francis de Sale School, saying that hers was the best performance she had heard of that piece so far in the festival.

James Catalyn also gave helpful advice to each of the entrants, demonstrating his interpretation of how the drama could be improved. The dance judges were very disappointed to find that there were almost no dance entries this year for them to judge whereas in previous years Abaco had presented many dancers.

Prior to adjudicating on Abaco, judging had taken place on Eleuthera. The judges will now visit all of the remaining islands before judging begins in Nassau. This is truly a nationwide competition meaning that all of the entrants from the Family Islands and Nassau are judged against each other so that all of the winners who will be announced at the end of the festival will truly be national winners. Any winners from the Family Islands will travel



A student from Man-O-War Primary, Felicia Roberts, took first place last year in the nation in Piano Solo in the 8 and under category in the 2009 National Arts Festival. She worked tirelessly for the month of February to prepare for this year's competition. She, along with her piano teacher, Deanna Stecker, and her parents, Pete and Rebekah Roberts, traveled to Marsh Harbour Primary School on 9th March to compete in this year's 9 - 12 year old category.

into Nassau to perform in a prizewinners' concert.

Little League is active again



The Murphy Town Park was a buzz of activity on March 20th as a group of children training for the Softball Little League practiced their pitch and throw. Several parents, members of the newly re-formed Softball Little League Abaco Association, acted as coaches. The new President, George Mills, physical education teacher at Abaco Central High School was one of them. Elvis Curry, a parent, was assisting along with his wife, Charmica Curry, who is the league's Secretary. Training takes place every Saturday morning. There are not enough volunteers, so, according to Mrs. Curry, more parental involvement is desperately needed.

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School News

High school students learn about scholarships

By Samantha V. Evans

On March 11th and 12th Kareem Bowe and Chilean Burrows, both representatives of the scholarship division of the Ministry of Education, toured the island along with Nassau's Monique Hinsey of the Lyford Cay Foundation, informing grade 11 and 12 students island-wide of the scholarships available for college studies.

Forest Heights Academy, Agape Christian School, Cyber Learning, Moore's Island All Age, St. Francis de Sales School, Wesley College, Abaco Central High School and S.C. Bootle High School were all addressed in these talks. Each school was given packages including scholarship and grant forms to distribute to interested students.

Ms. Hensey focused on the importance of education and tertiary education. She explained that a bachelor's degree can provide a 70 percent increase in salary over those with no degree and that graduates can generally gain a better quality of life and scope of opportunity than non-graduates.

The College Planning Calendar is one idea proposed by Ms. Hensey. This is a step-by-step plan starting from grade 9 when students should begin meeting with their counselor and picking out activities that interest them. According to the plan, students should be researching colleges and universities and preparing for the SAT

exam during grade 10. In grade 11 students should begin taking SAT and BGCSE exams, organize their college information and get involved in summer programs and youth conferences. In grade 12 they should fill out college application forms, write essays and select their college of interest.

Ms. Hensey told the students that whether they go to college or not is their decision. Having unemployed parents or being brought up in a single parent home is no excuse for not excelling. She stated that students must start thinking globally, viewing competition internationally rather than simply at their respective schools or islands.

Following this talk, Ms. Hensey told the students the things to look for when selecting a college and how to conduct themselves on interviews. She stated that it is most important to ensure that the college they select is accredited and offers the major that they are interested in, and to pay close attention to what the colleges ask for. Hinsey ended the session with discussing scholarships with the students.

Moore's Island School celebrates Parents' Day

By Ruthamae Rolle

February 26th was celebrated as Parents' Day at Moore's Island All-Age School. This was in conjunction with the month of February being declared Parent's Month by the Department of Education. The District Superintendent encouraged each school to

hold special activities to highlight the importance of parents in life of the school and to show appreciation for the efforts that parents make toward the success of the schools.

Our day began with a special assembly. Teach-



The staff of the Moore's Island All Age School dressed in school uniforms as part of their celebration of Parents' Day. They treated the students and their parents to a lunch after an awards' program.

ers and students all dressed in the school uniform, conducted the assembly. Parents were presented with certificates in appreciation of their contribution to the school - time, talent and tangible donations. These were in areas such as most helpful, perfect attendance at PTA meetings, culinary skills, organizing special events, sports, having the best behaved child in the various classes and the coveted Most Outstanding Parent which was given at each grade level - grades 1-12.

Parents then had a sit-down lunch with their children. The staff prepared and served lunch to the 179 students and their parents (hot dogs and hamburgers, cake and punch).

After lunch the entire school congregated on the playing field where parents

competed against each other in races - balloon, egg and spoon, three-legged, threading the needle, 100m dash and 4x100m relay. They earned points for their children's houses. Marlins emerged the winner, the same as in school sports. The faces of the children beamed as they brought their parents, dads especially, to collect their first, second and third place ribbons.

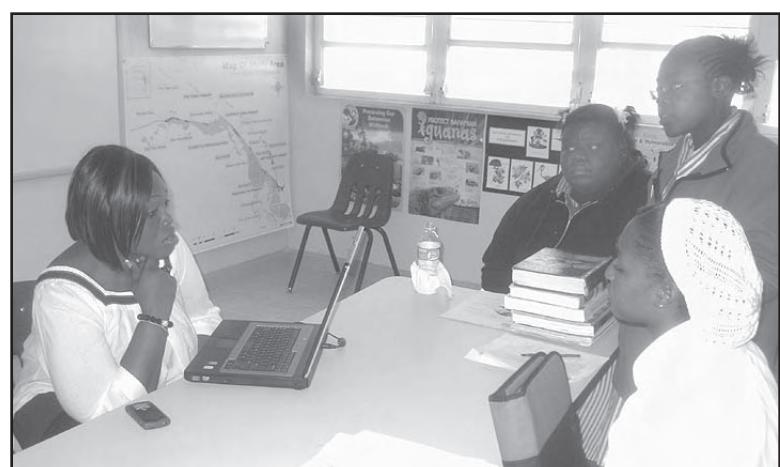
Wesley College news

By Rev. Charles Carey

Mrs. Jane Adderley, a resident of New Providence, has been holding an annual Tea Party as a fund raiser for Wesley College for 20 years. She hosted it this year on March 21, correlating it with her 80th

Please see School

Page 13



Monique Hinsey spoke with students in small groups telling them about scholarships that are available to assist with college expenses.



The students, staff and parents had a great day on February 26 when they celebrated Parents' Day. The day included an assembly to present parents with certificates and a lunch including an afternoon of games and races. The students' mothers are shown here.

REFOCUS

A TWO DAY EVENT - FEATURING

Speaker & Author

Francis Chan & Aaron Keyes

Worship Pastor



Francis is the pastor of Cornerstone Church, where he has been serving for the past 15 years. He is also the Founder of Eternity Bible College and serves on the board of directors for Children's Hunger Fund and World Impact. Francis spends much of his time speaking to high school and college students and is the author of "Crazy Love" and "Forgotten God." His commitment is to teach directly from the words of Scripture. It is his passion to see the next generation of American Christians display a much deeper love for Jesus and their neighbors.



Aaron is the worship pastor at Grace Fellowship Church.

His heart is to restore the Word of God to the foundation of corporate worship, and to see a shift in the next generation of worship leaders to becoming more biblically empowered worship pastors. Aaron's band travels internationally, leading worship and coaching worship leaders as the Lord gives opportunity. Aaron and his wife Megan, have four sons - Cooper, Judah, Nyle, and Linen. Between church life, traveling, song-writing, and parenting, Aaron and Megan are loving their lives and excited about their next season of life, love, and music.

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Sunday, April 11, 2010 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

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More School News

School

From Page 12

birthday. The Principal, Vice-Principal and four students travelled to Nassau for the function with the students providing musical selections. Wesley College expresses appreciation to Mrs Adderley for her stalwart support over the years.

Our school participated in the National Arts Festival on March 15. The Concert Band and Brigade Marching Band with Charles Carey as a soloist performed for the adjudicators from Nassau. Although two band members were not feeling well, they put on a splendid performance and were commended by the judges.

On March 12 senior students participated in a workshop that provided them with college and

scholarship information.

On March 18 the Abaco presentation of Outstanding Students in Bahamian Schools was held at Abaco Beach Resort in Marsh Harbour. O'Ryan Johnson-Bethel, Paige Archer and Charles Carey from Wesley College were honoured.



Forest Heights Academy held an inter-house sports day on March 19. All students participated in the various games and races. These four make up the winning 4x400m relay team. They are Sean Aeystek, Cameron Archer, Carlito Pinder and Rerry Thomas.



The winning girls' 4x400m team was comprised of Faenisha Archer, Blair Johnson, Ivanna Gaitor and Sinclair King.

On March 19 the Annual Modern Language Arts Festival was held at Wesley College. Students provided information in four Spanish-speaking areas, songs, skits and dance. Afterwards guests were invited to sample Spanish cuisine.

The band will perform at the Abaco Agricultural Expo on April 17th. Students will also be participating in the Craft Show. Please give them your support.

Forest Heights Academy Sports Day

By Mirella Santillo

Forest Heights Academy dedicated March 19 to the school's inter-house sports day, beginning with an opening ceremony and closing with an award ceremony.

All 155 students participated in various Field and Tracks events ranging from Dis-

cus Throw, 4x100m relay, 4x400, relay to a 100m dash, 200m, 400m, 800m all the way to a 1500m race. Boys and girls participated in the events separately, each athlete representing one of the three houses, red, blue and green; and each student trying his best to win points for his or her house. A record was broken that day by 11th grader Carlos Alvarez, who threw the discus 110 feet, farther than the 100-foot measuring tape that the teacher had.

Among the girls Trevon McKenzie attracted the attention of her teachers by throwing the discus 53.9 feet and the shot put 21.6 feet. Another 8th grader, Godfrey Rolle, won the 400m and the 1500m. Blair Johnson, an accomplished athlete in swim-

Please see School

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Angels Academy in Marsh Harbour invited family and friends to a program entirely in Spanish. The program included dancing, acting, reading and reciting. The program was followed with a sampling of Spanish foods.



4th Annual Abaco Cancer Society Art Show and Auction hosted by The Green Turtle Club.

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Tiloo Pond

More School News

School From Page 13

ming and Track and Field, lived up to her expectations by winning the 400m and the 1500m.

At the end of the day when the points were tallied, it was the Blue House that placed first with 501 points; the Green House followed with 415 points, ahead of the Red House with 385 points.

Angels Academy commemorates Modern Languages Week

By Samantha V. Evans

Students of Angels Academy got their first taste of Modern Languages Week with a day of celebrations on March 18th. The theme chosen was *Encourage Awareness of Spanish Language and Culture*. According to school principal Barbara Johnson, culture was added to the school curriculum this year and since January plans have been

underway for this event. The Moderator and organizer of the event, Mahalia Levarity, stated that the children worked hard in preparation for this event. Mrs. Levarity teaches the children Spanish two days out of the week. All of the students took part in this program by dancing, acting, reading and reciting pieces in Spanish and telling the guests about themselves in Spanish. The kids did a fantastic job showing off their Spanish skills and their parents and special guests were very impressed. At the end of the program, the guests sampled different Spanish food. The program was held outside under a tent that was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

Outstanding students receive awards

By Samantha V. Evans

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize was the theme chosen for this year's Outstanding Students of the Year awards ceremony held at Abaco Beach Resort on March

18th. Each primary school was asked to submit the top boy and girl from grade six and the high schools were asked to submit the names of all of the honor students that made 3.0 and above during the first term. In total 156 students were awarded during this evening's ceremony.

On Abaco for the celebrations were T. Trevor Whylly, or-

ganizer of this event, and Philip Simon, Executive Director of the Nassau Chamber of Commerce, who was the guest speaker. The hall was packed to capacity as students, family and friends showed their support for their loved ones. Many well wishers were on the outside as they could not find seating on the inside due to the large number of persons present.

Mr. Whylly gave a motivational talk to the students. He told the students that education continues to remain the number one focus for The Bahamas. He challenged students to embrace teaching as a profession so they can better relate to the culture of the Bahamian children. He encouraged more males to consider entering the teaching profession. More community leaders are needed, Mr. Whylly added, and he told the youth that they are not too young to

make a difference in their community. He stated that this program is fully endorsed by the Ministry of Education and was launched by the Minister of Education.

The keynote speaker Mr. Simon gave them five things to remember as they keep their eyes on the prize. Firstly, the world is changing but education is the best way for them to achieve their dreams. The foundation of their character is learned in kindergarten. Secondly, as the move to the next level, they must remember that the rules they learn in kindergarten never changes. He stated that the foundation is important as it holds the rest of the building in place; therefore, it must be strong.

Thirdly, he told them that they must

Please see School

Page 15



Guests enjoyed a variety of Spanish foods after the Modern Languages Week program at Angels Academy.



The ceremony to award outstanding students from all schools on Abaco was held on March 18 at Abaco Beach Resort. The packed room could not hold all the family members and friends who took pride in the students' achievements. Guest speaker was Philip Simon, Executive Director of the Nassau Chamber of Commerce.



Pipeline Road
Blue Holes being filled

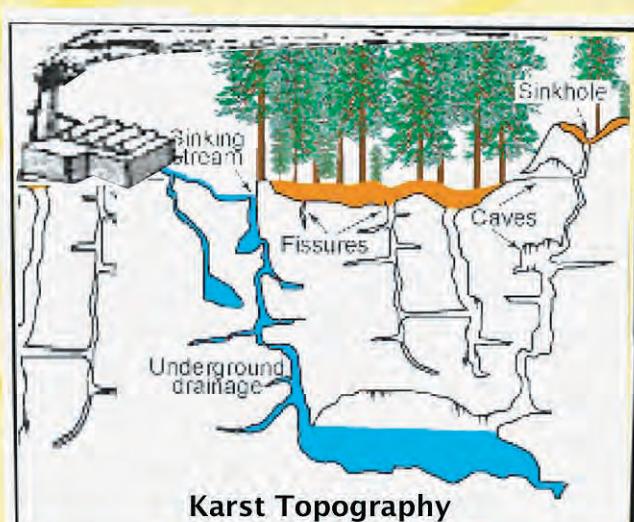


WANTED

B.E.S.T. Environmental Management Plan

Abaco Cares is concerned about the water table and the Bights surrounding the Wilson City plant and pipeline route. BEC has uncovered - then bulldozed and filled or are filling - over a dozen blue holes, sink holes and dry caves already.

Any fuel spill in this area will penetrate deep into our karst system and pollute our waters, both fresh and salt.

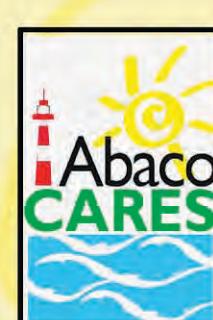


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protection for our Health and Environment.**

FACTS

- * Well water and cisterns may be contaminated
- * Underground piping could leak
- * Many of the blue holes are connected and will get contaminated and destroyed.



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More School News

School
From Page 14

build their house upon the rock. Some of these solid foundations include love, discipline, faith, hope, and responsibility. When they build upon the rock, even though the floods will come, the building will continue to stand. He further told the young people to be careful where they build as bad company, drugs and the like can beat them down and ruin their finish. Fourthly, he told them to read, understand and do. He told them that the words they use will eventually become habits and affect their destiny. He told them to make sure that the things they chose to do will lead them to the desired end results. Finally, he told them that there is power in

the picture they are looking at. They must create a picture that is different from everyone else's; one that has never been seen before. Before the students received their awards, Mageon Cartwright and the grade one dancers of Central Abaco Primary School performed for the crowd.

Trophies were given in honor of Rosie Archer Davis, the late mother of William "Tony" Davis.

Students compete in Track and Field in Nassau

By Mirella Santillo

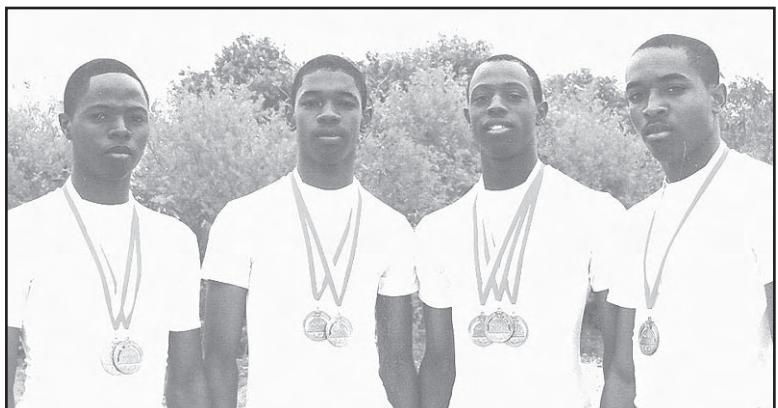
Several local schools entered the National High School Track and Field Championships that were held in Nassau March 11th to the 13th. It was an occasion once

more for students from Abaco Central High School, S.C. Bootle High School, Moore's Island All-Age School, Forest Heights Academy and Agape Christian School to demonstrate their potential as accomplished athletes, and many came back with at least one medal.

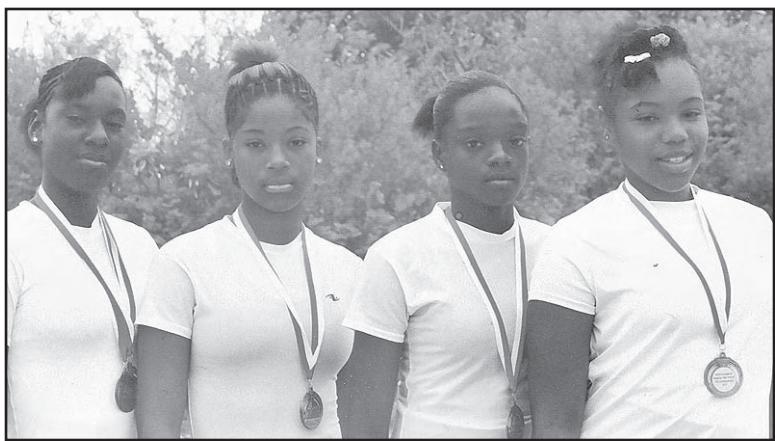
Some even made history for Abaco, such as Cordero Cooper from S.C. Bootle who brought back a gold medal in the decathlon and the 4x100m relay team from Moore's Island that placed first in that event. Because of that victory, Elroy McBride, Faron Hield, Trevor Green and Peron Davis will participate in the Penn Relay Championships to be held in Philadelphia on April 20th. They will travel there

with their head coach, Pastor Anthony Williams.

Abaco Central High School was noted

Please see School
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The Moore's Island team of Peron Davis, Elroy McBride, Jaron Hield and Trevon Green won first place in the Track and Field Championship held in Nassau. Laron Hield also won second place in the 100m finals in the under 20 category.



The Moore's Island girls relay team won third place in the 4x100m relay. They are Jermika McBride, Rakeisha Knowles, Vanessa McBride and Alicia Ronard. Jermika McBride also won third in the under 17 girls 200m finals.



William "Tony" Davis at the podium assisted in organizing the awards ceremony on Abaco. Seated are Abaco's Education Superintendent Lenora Black, Administrator Theophilus Cox and his wife and keynote speaker Philip Simon, Executive Director of the Nassau Chamber of Commerce.



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More School News

School From Page 15

for two bronze medals, one earned by Shane Jones in the long jump and one obtained by the 4x100m relay team. All these performances were in the under 20 category.

The local students participated in all three age categories: under 15, under 17 and under 20. In the under 20 boys division Moore's Island placed sixth in the overall results; Abaco Central High School came in eighth position and S.C. Bootle took the eleventh place out of 27 participating schools from all over The Bahamas. S.C. Bootle placed seventh out of 22 schools in the under 15 girls' category and Moore's Island took the seventh place in the under 17 girls out of 27 schools.

Moore's Island's other feat was the silver medal their under 20 boys received for a second place in the 4x400 relay.

Individuals receiving silver medals were Frandieu Josue from

S.C. Bootle for his second place in 5000m in the under 20 category, Laron Hield from Moore's Island who came second in the 100m dash, also in the under 20 category and Terranise Taylor from S.C. Bootle who placed second in the Discus Throw in the under 15 category. Jermeka McBride from Moore's Island was awarded a bronze medal for her third place in the 200m.

Other notable athletes in the under 17 age group were Blair Johnson representing Forest Heights Academy, who made the finals in the 100m, 400m and the 800m, James Williams from Abaco Central High



S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town held a special assembly to display the students' knowledge of Spanish. Some dressed in Latin American clothes and the Cuban teachers showed the students the salsa dance.

School, who made the finals in the 200m and 400m, and Roverna Smith, also from Abaco Central, who placed fourth in the Triple Jump, earning her a trip back to Nassau for the Carifta trials.

All coaches spoke proudly of their students and were pleased with their performances. According to one of the coaches, the students who did not quite make it to the top still benefitted from the experience and the exposure.

S.C. Bootle celebrated Modern Language Week

By Canishka Alexander

Throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Modern Language Week was celebrated in the primary and high schools

during the week of March 15-19. In acknowledgement of the event S.C. Bootle High School held a special assembly on March 15 organized by Grade 9.

The special assembly featured students speaking Spanish and experiencing the Hispanic culture in an interesting number of ways. Some students dressed in Costa Rican attire while showcasing a main attraction of the country. Cuban teachers from S.C. Bootle and Cooper's Town Primary demonstrated the salsa dance, which is one of Cuba's traditional dances.

Students were excited to see and experience the cultures of the Spanish-speaking countries. They were also given the opportunity to celebrate Cooper's Town's culture through speech and dance.



Students of S.C. Bootle High School did very well at the National Track and Field Championship bringing home several medals. Shown are several members of the team with medals they won at the Nationals. They are Coach Lyndon Scott, Mario Bootle (triple jump finalist), Frandieu Josue (silver in 5,000m), Rochara Russell (silver in shot put and bronze in discus), Cordero Cooper (decathlon gold) and Coach Torres.

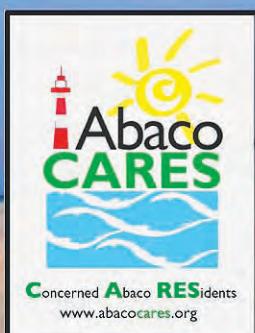
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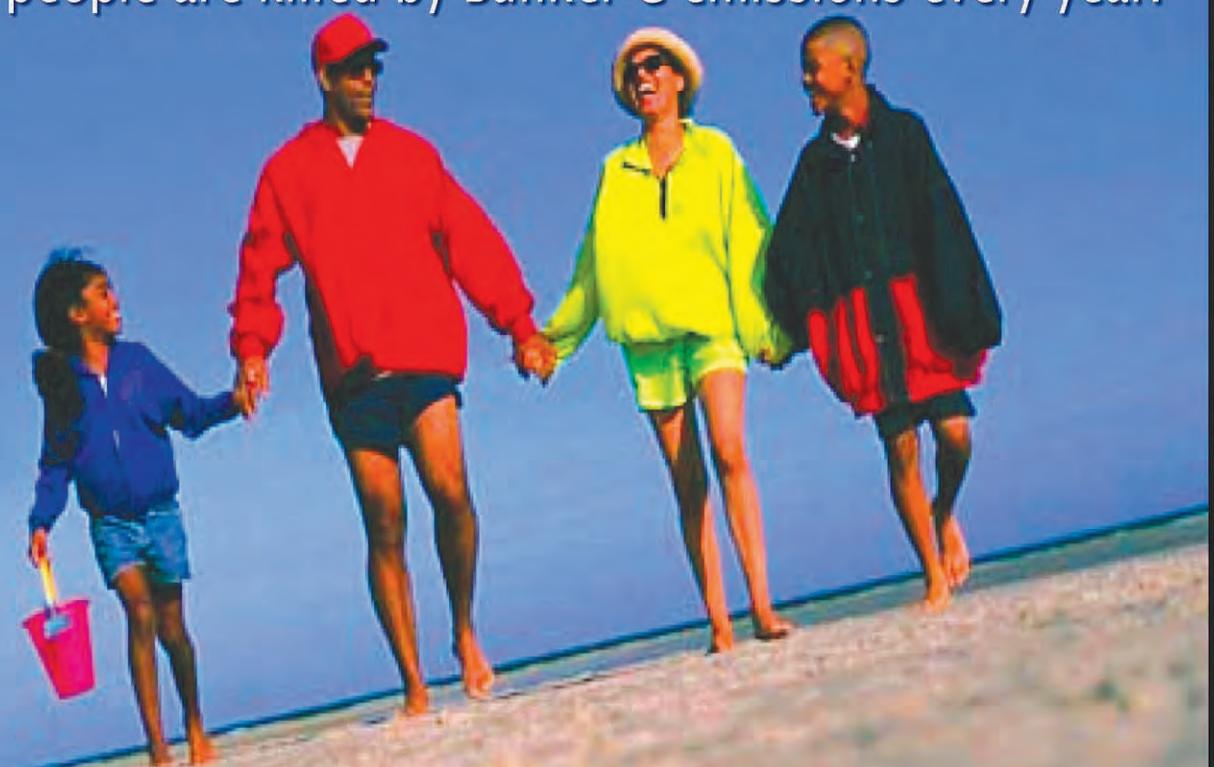
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Leatherback turtle lays eggs on Abaco beach

By Timothy Roberts

Residents of Treasure Cay awoke to witness a wonder of nature as a four-foot leatherback turtle dug a nest and laid eggs on a nearby beach on a quiet Saturday morning in late March.

Leatherbacks are not very common in our area, and it is even less common for a turtle to lay a clutch of eggs on the mainland of Abaco. They are the largest turtles on earth, growing up to seven feet long and exceeding 2,000 pounds.

David Knowles, the Bahamas National Trust's Chief Park Warden for Abaco, said they are hoping to be able to monitor and record the hatching of the eggs, which usually incubate for approximately 60 days before they hatch.

The leatherbacks' nesting ritual involves excavating a hole in the sand, depositing around 80 eggs, filling the nest, leaving a large, disturbed area of sand that makes detection by predators difficult, and finally returning to the sea. It is estimated that only about one in a thousand leatherback hatchlings survive to adulthood.

Mr. Knowles said they would monitor the area and watch



This leatherback turtle was about four feet long. But they can weigh up to 2,000 pounds.

for any illegal activities or predation to make sure that we have a good hatching at the end of the day. Aside from humans, raccoons pose a serious threat to turtle eggs; however, their presence in Treasure Cay has been minimal.

While all other sea turtles have hard, bony shells, the inky-blue carapace of the leatherback is somewhat flexible and almost rubbery to the touch. Ridges along the carapace help give it a more hydrodynamic structure. Leatherbacks can dive to depths of 4,200 feet—deeper than any other turtle—and can stay down for up to 85 minutes.

Leatherbacks are currently designated as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.



This leatherback turtle made her way up on the Treasure Cay beach where she dug a nest and deposited eggs. Leatherbacks are not common in the waters here and it is even more rare that she came to an inside beach to deposit her eggs. Our resident Chief Park Warden with the Bahamas National Trust will monitor the nest until the incubation time is over, about 60 days.



"The Future of Abaco Lobsters is in Your Hands"



****New Deadline**
April 16, 2010**

**Open to all Abaco Youth
age 14-19**

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All entries must be submitted in digital format to Friends of the Environment's Office located at Conservation Lane in Marsh Harbour or by email to:

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Photo Essay Competition

*****Exciting opportunity! New Deadline: April 16, 2010*****



Theme: The Future of Abaco Lobsters is in Your Hands

Winners will be announced on April 23rd at Earth Day Science Fair

Entry Form

Please complete this form and submit it to Friends of the Environment's office in Marsh Harbour along with your photo essay by April 16, 2010.

Format: Photos must be original photography taken by the entrant. Must be submitted in digital format as well as printed format. Can be a slide show, PDF document or Word document. Pictures can be emailed to dmaycock@friendsoftheenvironment.org or dropped off at FRIENDS office in Marsh Harbour in a sealed envelope addressed "Photo Essay Competition". Image can be a single image or a collage of images, but all images that led to the creation of a single image should be submitted.

Judging criteria will be based on originality, relevance to theme, story telling ability and technical quality. All pictures become the property of Friends of the Environment and will not be returned after the competition.

Categories:

Junior: Ages 14-16

Senior: Ages 17-19

Prizes:

Junior Category:

1st Place: Gold Crawfish Charm
2nd Place: Gold Jewellery
3rd Place: Digital Camera

Senior Category:

1st Place: Gold Crawfish Charm
2nd Place: Gold Jewellery
3rd Place: Digital Camera

(Please Print)

Name: _____ Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (Fax) _____

Email: _____

Entry Category/ Age level:

School Name: _____ School Address: _____



A bonefish trip with Maitland

By John Gearen, Hope Town

I had fished up North, but I wanted to bonefish and I asked people in Hope Town where to find a guide. "Ask at the bar at the Edge for Maitland Lowe," they said. At Harbour's Edge, the bartender pointed me to a barefoot man at the end of the bar with clear blue eyes and one day's growth of beard. I asked him if he was Maitland Lowe, and he said, "S'posed to be."

So I met him at the dock at 8 the next morning, and we went to the mangrove tidal flats with spinning rods in his flat bottomed boat.

When we arrived, he hoisted the motor, mounted a raised platform on the boat in his bare feet and poled the boat forward using a long wooden pole with a trident at the end for purchase on the sand bottom. His blue eyes scanned the water stalking the fish, and where he pointed, I cast the shrimp bait.

The iridescent scales of the bonefish make them practically invisible. Maitland could see the thin black lines of their backs from 50 feet away, but I could see them only at 25 feet, so he would point at them. But I was often casting to what I couldn't see. When I didn't cast the shrimp the ideal six feet in front of the lead bonefish, Maitland would call me "sir," as in "don't yuk it, sir."

He decided we should hunt the fish in water too shallow for the boat, so he asked, "Mind walkin?" And when I said no, he anchored the boat and dropped barefoot over the side. I followed him, my tennis shoes sinking in the sand and muck. Schools of bonefish appeared, but often disappeared before I could cast. Sometimes I cast perfectly but no bonefish struck; sometimes



Maitland
by Beverly Simmons

directions, one close enough that I could see the fish, and I cast in front of that school. In a split second, I felt the strike.

The instant I felt it, Maitland said, "Shit, the small one," and I cursed him mentally, but then I forgot about everything else,

Maitland was calling me "sir." Finally, Maitland pointed me to three small schools converging toward us from different directions,

astonished at the fish. It stripped 200 feet of line from my reel, peeling away from me to the northeast. I was planted in the muck with my legs spread like the Colossus of Rhodes, or I would have lost my balance. The fish turned west briefly, and then headed toward me. I reeled as fast as I could, running the line through my fingers to keep it from snarling, but I could not keep tension on the line. The fish kept coming straight for me, and I kept reeling, but I could not match its speed and a growing length of slack line lay on the water in front of me. I started laughing as I realized what was about to happen and it did: the bonefish swam right through my legs.

At my left side, Maitland said, "You're gonna LOSE 'im," and I said, "I know I'm

going to LOSE him," but I was determined not to. So I hoisted my left shoe out of the muck, swung my left leg over the line, and whipped the rod around behind me to keep the rod tip pointed at the fish. I whipped the rod at shoulder level and would have slashed Maitland's neck with it, but he saw it coming and ducked. Somehow, the bonefish stayed on the hook and did not snap the line when he pulled it taut again. The fish ran to the southwest, stripping 50 more feet of line, but finally, I reeled it to our feet. Maitland took the fish in his bare hand under its belly. As he cradled it to release the hook, I was astonished at the size of it. It could not have weighed more than two pounds. It WAS the small one. How could a fish that size fight that hard!

Assessment of Fishing Co-op program was good

By Timothy Roberts

Representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Inter-American Institute Corporation for Agriculture in The Bahamas (IICA) visited with the North Abaco Fisherman's Cooperative in order to assess the progress of their investment, a \$150,000 grant, in the technical support program initiated in November of 2009.

Operations officer of the IDB, Ms. Sharon Miller, said that this visit, their first since the signing of the project, was to find out the status of the project and match that with the initial investment to see if the progress is commensurate with the level of disbursement. She said, "Based on the discussions we have and the reports we've had from the project management team and the technical advisor, the progress is definitely beyond the 25 percent (\$37,500) which is

the amount of the initial disbursement."

The group also wanted to provide guidance going forward in terms of some technical and management aspects of the program. The IDB also wanted to discuss with the project partner, the IICA, concerning the next steps for the program. Since the strategic plan is to be prepared, she said, "We wanted to look at that process and outline an implementation schedule and determine what some of the key milestones are for that process."

The second 25 percent disbursement, she said, will be made commensurate with deliverables and when the Cooperative is ready for and will be preparing the next round of disbursement "to carry out the next step of action," she said.

Dr. Marikis Alvarez, the representative of IICA in The Bahamas, said they are very pleased with the progress made

in this ground-breaking project for the Cooperative. He said, "We have seen the congealing of the group, and we are satisfied that conceptually things are getting clearer about the way forward with this project. We are pleased with the Cooperative's start, and we have seen some areas that need tweaking, which is what we did during our visit. We are also speaking with our regional consultants to discuss the plan for the training program and to clarify what the Cooperative needs to do in preparation for that training."

He hopes that through this project that the Co-op and its members can attain greater legitimacy and respect, playing a greater role in their activity in the community. "It's an important economic role they are playing because they are contributing

Please see Co-op

Page 19



Earth Day Science Fair

April 23, 2010

Conserving Abaco's Lobster Populations now and for the future.

Entry Deadline: April 16, 2010

Entry Categories:

- Lower Primary- Grades 1-3**
- Upper Primary- Grades 4-6**
- Junior High- Grades 7-9**
- Senior High- Grades 10-12**

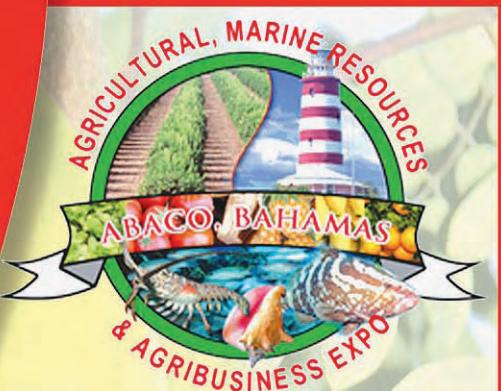
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Calling All Wedding Coordinators and Vendors

By Jennifer Hudson

A meeting, chaired by Michele Mikula of the Weddings and Honeymoons Department of the Ministry of Tourism was held on March 8. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together persons involved in the business of weddings and honeymoons on Abaco to encourage them to join the Bahamas Bridal Association and subsequently form an Abaco chapter.

Failure to become a member of the association, it was explained, will result in non members being bypassed with weddings and events being given to members. This ruling has come from the Bahamas Bridal Association. The Ministry of Tourism is fully in compliance since the Bahamas Bridal Association works closely with the Weddings and Honeymoon Department of the Ministry of Tourism in maintaining wedding industry standards which is extremely important.

Therefore, Ms. Mikula urges anyone involved in the wedding industry to become a member as soon as possible. There is a six month grace period after which non members will be at a great disadvantage as they will be passed over. "If we are to be the best in the Destination Wedding Industry then we must set high standards and provide quality service at the highest level," stated Ms. Mikula. Consultants are licensed and accredited through internationally acclaimed organizations in the bridal industry.

Membership in the Bahamas Bridal Association holds many benefits, some of which are networking opportunities, referrals, advertising and media coverage both locally and internationally and inclusion on the Ministry of Tourism's bride referral roster list.

The Bahamas Bridal Association aims to:

- uphold industry standards
- have chapters in the Family Islands
- have major properties and resorts partner with them so that they will be the recognized body in The Bahamas for Destination Weddings.
- make the wedding and honeymoon industry the cream of the tourism product in The

Bahamas and the envy of the region.

Ms. Mikula thanked those who attended saying that it shows they are passionate in what they do and shows their eagerness to become members of the Bahamas Bridal Association and to form an Abaco Chapter. She encouraged persons to begin the application procedure as soon as possible. Once the application has been approved it will be endorsed by the Ministry of Tourism and members will gain in the areas of networking opportunities, gain international exposure on websites and in bridal magazines and stay current with the latest wedding trends and more.

Membership application forms can be obtained from Ms. Mikula at the Ministry of Tourism. There are two categories, one for coordinators and one for vendors. Vendors include: ministers, photographers, florists, beauty salons, bakers, videographers, limo and bus transportation, rental vendors, decorators, bridal stores, caterers, make-up artists, hair stylists and musicians.

"In order to form an Abaco Chapter, which would be a great advantage, it is necessary to have at least four wedding planners certified with the Bahamas Bridal Association," stated Ms. Mikula. Presently there is only one fully certified wedding planner here and another who has almost completed the course. Several others began the course but did not finish and they are being urged to complete their courses. There are various courses available for those who would like to become certified and information may be obtained from Ms. Mikula.

Co-op

From Page 18

to food security," he said. "Also, they will have a clearer business plan so they can be in a better negotiating position and play their proper role in the value chain of the fishing industry in the Bahamas."

Other fishing communities and groups already want to be a part of this program, which is designed to be a model to be du-

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Tourism hosts meeting concerning boat thefts

By Timothy Roberts

The police sought to strengthen community relations and partnership during a meeting hosted by the Ministry of Tourism on March 16 with a few key members of the community.

The new Superintendent of Police for the Abaco and Bimini district, Noel Curry, along with ASP Bruce Arnett spoke of restoring the confidence and trust with the public while working together to curb crime, including boat theft, on Abaco.

Supt. Curry reiterated his commitment to accountability and said that the police need the support of the community in helping to combat crimes such as these, noting that there are people in the community who know who are committing

these crimes but are not coming forward.

The seriousness of the effects of crime, and the boat thefts in particular, was highlighted by the news that a resort and marina is considering not reopening when it closes after the Labor Day holiday. This would result in the loss of employment for about 50 people, the loss of rooms and boat slips available to tourists and have a significant impact on the economy of Abaco.

The police department is seeking more interaction with the public as they look to build a partnership of trust with the people, creating a better and safer environment for Abaco and our visitors. They will be doing this through ongoing public meetings, forums and other venues.



Abaco's Supt. of Police, Noel Curry, and ASP Bruce Arnett at the head table, along with Tourism Director Jeritan Outten are asking public assistance in resolving the boat theft incidents that are once again occurring on Abaco. They held a meeting with fishermen and other key people from the Central Abaco to discuss the problem. The police feel that community members know who is responsible for the thefts and are wanting tips.

plicated in other areas of The Bahamas and the Caribbean.

The IICA has 33 offices throughout the region. Their office in Nassau has access to a wide range of technology, giving us the advantage of their knowledge.

Leon Pinder, Chairman of the Co-op, said the project is about strengthening the organization and the fishermen in terms of training them to become better business-

men as they face a very competitive environment.

This training is scheduled to start before the end of March and will cover business, safety at sea, quality value for the product, fishermen's certification and hazard training so that the product exported is a quality product.



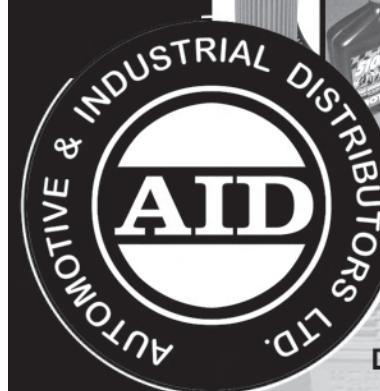
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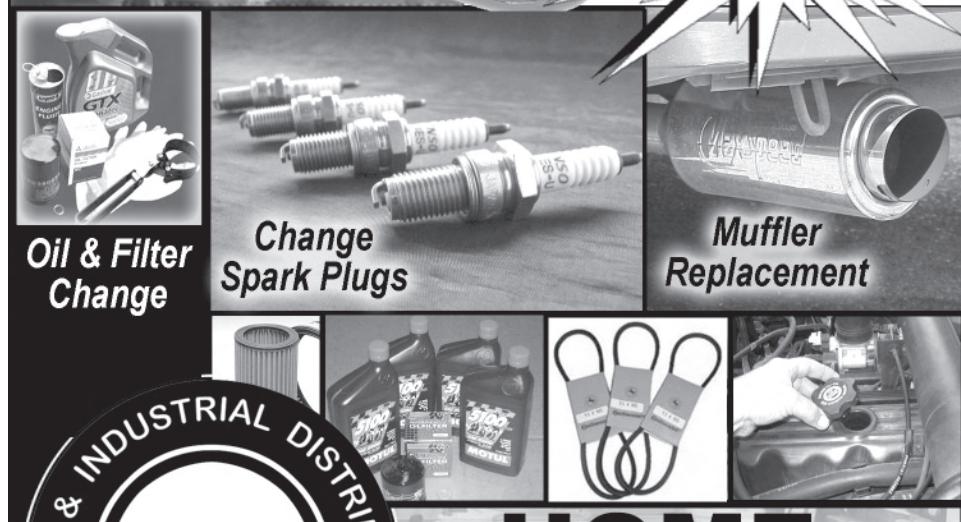
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Tufts University will begin water testing program

By Timothy Roberts

A group of post-graduate students from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, in conjunction with Friends of the Environment, visited Abaco during the last week of March in order to conduct and equip volunteers with the means to carry out ongoing water quality tests.

Last year a group from Tufts University conducted a number of tests over the course of one week and found a significant level of fecal coliforms in the harbour of Hope Town. Fecal coliforms are generally harmless bacteria which are commonly found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals and are often used as an indicator of fecal contamination.

The tests, though based on a short period of time, indicate a level of contamination deemed by Florida's Department of Environmental Protection as unfit for recreational use or for catching shellfish.



Eight post graduate students are on Elbow Cay for a week to continue a water testing program in Hope Town harbour. They are working with Friends of the Environment. Friends is hoping to expand the program to cover other areas of Abaco. They are shown here on their arrival discussing their plans with Friends' staff.

While last year's group conducted a short series of tests that had a definitive end, this year's students hope to establish a framework to conduct ongoing tests and to eventually give Friends and Abaco the tools to set up a management program of our coastal waters.

The students, who specialize in different sciences, will be looking at the social, biological, medical and engineering aspects of the management of our water resources and will assist with recommendations and information in order to for us to create and implement plans, programs, and projects to sustain and enhance waters and the effects on plant, animal and human communities within our coastal areas.

In general, increased levels of fecal coliforms provide a warning of failure in water treatment, a break in the integrity of the distribution system or possible contamination with pathogens. When levels are high

there may be an elevated risk of water-borne gastroenteritis (otherwise known as the stomach bug or flu).

The program is intended to preserve our marine resources which are an important part of our tourism and fishing industry. Friends hope to build awareness and understanding of the potential problems we face with the threat of further contamina-

tion of our waters as our population grows and more and more people visit our islands.

Friends, while initially starting the testing in Hope Town, will eventually seek to acquire volunteers from other areas across Abaco to continue and expand the program and come up with proactive solutions to curtail future problems with our water resources.

Big Dog Day for Cooper's Town Primary

February 26th was a special day at Cooper's Town Primary School for 117 children and staff as lunch was served and titled Big Dog Day. Ellen Rees, representing David and Becky Rees, second homeowners of Morgantown, West Virginia, and Richard Rees, representing the Knights of Columbus in Marion, Ohio, arranged the meal as a ges-

ture of community involvement and a display of good citizenship to the students.

Also offering contributions were employees of Diamond Seven and WPC Cox of the Royal Bahamian Police Staff.

Photographs were provided courtesy of Jack Slack, second homeowner of Orlando, Florida.



A few of the children and staff members are shown here with the second homeowners who treated them to a Big Dog Day lunch.



The owners of Diamond Seven in Cooper's Town along with a police officer assisted the homeowners to provide a special lunch for the students of school. Their gesture was appreciated by the community.

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Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral service for **Doris Calma**, 81, of Murphy Town was held on March 13 in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her children Charles and Sheila Calma; step-children Nicole, Herbert and Thelma; adopted daughters Vangy and Mae; grandchildren Charles Jr. and Latoro Calma; step-grandson Oral Calma; daughter-in-law Pauline Calma; sister Louise Moxey; sister-in-law Muriel Fox; nieces Briniza Cooper and Veronica Moxey; nephews Jayson, Cecil and Dudley Moxey; grandnieces Sherise Dean, Simone Rolle, Jasmine Martin, Dr. Jayde Moxey and Portia Moxey; grand-nephews Kevin and Dion Dean, Brian Cooper and Jeffrey Moxey; great-grandnieces Jessica Thomas and Ashley Dean; great-grandnephews Kristofor Cooper, Kirishnia Cooper, Jason Robinson, Brendan and



Doris Calma

Kayden Dean and Vincent Dean; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Elizabeth Shirlene McBride**, 49, of Moore's Island, was held March 13 at St. Matthew Baptist Church on Moore's Island. Pastor Geneva Williams, Min. Ishmael Williams, and Rev. Samuel Davis officiated assisted by Pastor Nixon Simms, Pastor Preston Knowles and Pastor Anthony Williams. Interment was in Moore's Island cemetery.

She is survived by her mother Marine Gaitor; stepfather Harrison Gaitor; grandmother Miriam Davis; brothers Salathiel and Ronnie McBride and Brian Fox; stepbrother Harold Gaitor; sisters Betty Johnson, Kathy McBride and Sharmaine Greene; stepsisters Marion and Christine Gaitor and Judy Davis; aunts Rosebud Greene, Sheila Davis, Issie Mitchell, Rosenell Lightbourne, Emily and Althea



Elizabeth McBride

McBride, Denise Mitchell; uncles Solomon McBride, Rudolph and Andrew Davis, Godfrey and Stevenson Mitchell, Norman Stuart, Llewelyne Lightbourne; nieces Anadescha Johnson, Shlasha McBride and Gwendolyn Saunders; step-niece Ivy, Lethera, Jacklyn and Julianna Davis, Samantha Jones, Valincia Currv and Shekera; nephews Clement Stuart, Ansel and Anivar Johnson, Isaiah McBride, Brian-tino and Breon Fox, Stephon Greene and Deandre Ferguson; step-nephews Lindy and Jackson Davis Jr., Errol and Wayne Gaitor and Nolan Stuart; sisters-in-law Melvina McBride, Charnale Fox and Carolyn Gaitor; brother-in-law Andy Johnson; step-brother-in-law Jackson Davis Sr; grandnephews Ansel Jr. and Shavanno Johnson; godmother Doris Swain; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Dorcas Roberts-Swain**, 67, formerly of Abaco was held on March 20th in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her children Juliette Patterson, Rev. Ranford Patterson, Sean Swain and Leotha Edgecombe; adopted daughters Linda and Tina Munroe and

Christine Bain; adopted son Julian White; grandchildren Shacara, Ranford Jr., Andrew, Ramon and Skyla; sisters Angela and Sybilene Beckles, Brenetta Andrews and Eulease McDonald; brothers Cyril, George Sr., Leslie and Delvin; sons-in-laws and daughters-in-law Patrick McDonald, Katie Beckles, Cardison Andrews, Annie Beckles and Althea Roberts; nieces and nephews Anastacia, Audra, Sherine, Denise, Delvona, Shamara and Leslyn Beckles, Phalia, Brittney and Brianca McDonald, Melinda Swain, Denetra Fowler, Brakell Martin, Terri and Tanya Roberts, Baltron, Dwayne, Orian, Delvin, Edwin, Conelle, Zhivargo and George Beckles Jr., Roberto and Dexter Davis, Kendrick Smith, Atrol Christie, Trevor, Dwayne, James II and Calvin Roberts; and many other relatives and friends.



Dorcas Roberts-Swain



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Police Crime Report

Stealing A Vessel - On 11th March it was reported that a blue and white 29-foot Regulator with a hard top was stolen from the Green Turtle Club. The boat had two 250 HP Yamaha engines and was valued at \$160,000.

Missing Person Report - On 11th March a surveyor was reported missing by his girlfriend when he did not return home from work. His employer and others searched for the surveyor until late at night without success. He was found the next morning.

Stealing - Sometime between March 6 and March 12 someone stole \$1,367.65 in cash from the Burns House Liquor Store in Marsh Harbour. The theft was reported on March 15. On that same day a resident of Dundas Town, a resident of Crossing Rocks and a resident of Central Pines were arrested, interviewed, then released.



Four persons from Sandy Point were arraigned in court on March 11 on charges of cultivating dangerous drugs (marijuana). Shown are Rodaniel Brennen, the accompanying officer, Carlos Bain and Jarrod Brennen. Three were released on bail while Jarrod Brennen is in custody on other charges.

Causing damage to a Police Vehicle - On March 12 someone threw an object in the windshield of a police vehicle that was parked in the Abaco Shopping Plaza in Marsh Harbour.

Causing damage - On March 12 someone threw two large rocks at a house under construction in Central Pines causing damage to the house.

Possession of dangerous drugs - On March 13 a resident of Dundas Town was arrested for possession of dangerous drugs.

Armed robbery - On March 13 a police officer and a resident of Dundas Town here held up by two armed robbers who stole the police officer's Blackberry and \$2,000, pre-paid cell phone cards and Blackberry from the other man. The two fled into the bushes.

Possession of dangerous drugs - On March 14 a resident of Murphy Town was found to have what is believed to be marijuana in a bag in his pocket.

Attempted Burglary - On March 13 a young man forced open a window to break into a house in Hope Town but was disturbed and fled. Later that day a minor of White Sound, Elbow Cay was arrested and admitted to the crime. He was charged.

Obscene Language - On March 15 a prisoner at the Marsh

Harbour Police Station was shouting and using obscene language. He was told to stop.

Threats of death and disorderly behavior - On March 15 another prisoner began making threats against the officer on duty. The officer informed him that he would be prosecuted further for threats of death, obscene language and disorderly conduct. At magistrate's Court he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one month at Her Majesty's Prison in Foxhill.

Stealing - On March 15 an officer, who was at the Green Turtle Club on Green Turtle Cay arrested a resident of Mount Hope for stealing.

Stealing by reason of employment - On March 15 it was reported that sometime between March 6 and March 12 someone stole \$1,367.65 in cash from a liquor store in Marsh Harbour. On the same date three persons were interviewed under caution. They were from Dundas Town, Crossing Rocks and Central Pines Estates. They were interviewed under caution and released pending further investigations.

Stealing - On March 16 a resident of Murphy Town reported that someone stole a digital camera, a gold bracelet and a gold chain from her residence. Total value was \$1550.

Causing harm - On March 16 a resi-

dent of Marsh Harbour was chopped on his shoulder with a cutlass by someone while he was near the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Marsh Harbour. He was seen by a doctor who described his injuries as not serious.

Stealing and causing damages - On March 16 someone stole gas from a number of vehicles that were parked at the Union Jack Dock in Marsh Harbour. On March 16 a woman from Dundas Town and a man from Central Pines Estates were arrested in connection with the theft of gas.

Sudden death - On 17th March Ver nal Burrows of Sandy Point collapsed complaining about chest pains and that he could not breathe while walking with his

Please see **Crime Report** Page 23

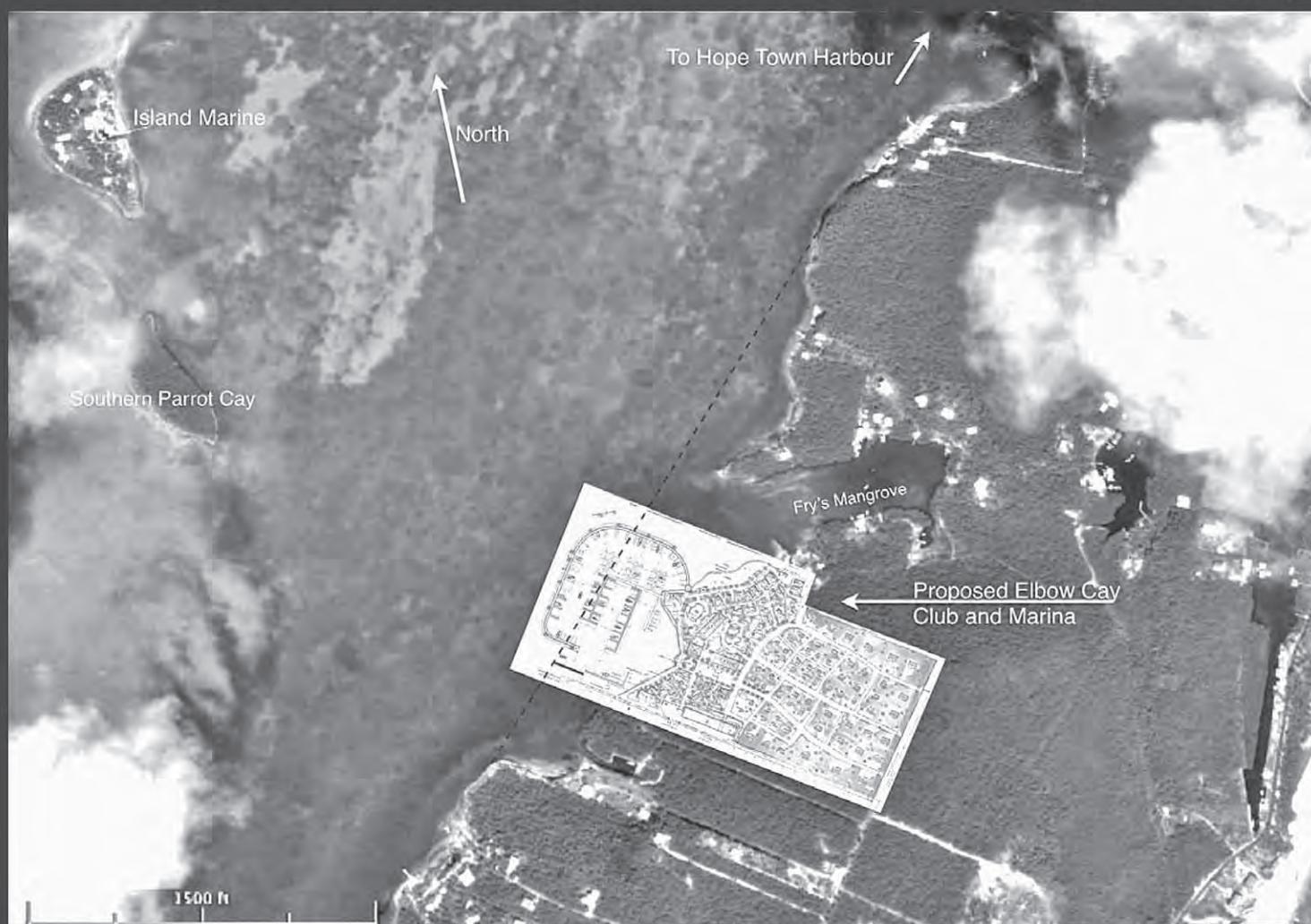


Shown are Jarrod Brennan, center, and Kimberly Cornish as they left the court where they were arraigned on cultivating a dangerous substance.

NOTICE

THE PROPOSED ELBOW CAY CLUB AND MARINA HAS BEEN RESUBMITTED TO THE HOPE TOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL

The developers have made NO changes to the plan



Protect our waters for the people

Protect our island from over-development

Protect our local businesses

We cannot allow this marina to destroy our waters. It is not too late. Your voice can make a change!

Please send your letters and comments to the Hope Town District Council no later than the 12th of April.

The meeting is scheduled for the 14th of April.

Review the proposed plan at Hope Town District Council Office-Hope Town Monday-Friday 9 am- 5 pm or at <http://gallery.me.com/cocomotion/100001>

Council FAX number
1-242-366-0138

More Police Crime Report

Crime Report From Page 22

son. He was taken to the Sandy Point Clinic immediately where he was unresponsive when checked by Nurse Stuart. Later that day Dr. Swarna pronounced Mr. Burrows dead. He had been suffering from prostate cancer, high blood pressure and diabetes since February, 2008.

Possession of Dangerous Drugs with Intent to Supply - On 21st March a resident of Dundas Town was searched on his arrival from Freeport at the Marsh Harbour International Airport. The officers discovered at about two ounces of suspected dangerous drugs, namely marijuana, in one of his carry on bags. He was arrested and subsequently charged.

Causing Harm - On 21st March a resident of Murphy Town got into an altercation with an unknown male at a soccer game at Abaco Central High School Park. The man knocked him on the side of his head with a bottle and he had to seek medical attention.

Possession of an Imitation Firearm - On 22nd March two officers saw three persons in dark clothing walking in Murphy Town. One was armed with what

appeared to be a semi-automatic rifle. As a result several officers executed a search warrant at the residence of a Murphy Town man where they discovered an imitation semi-automatic rifle. The man stated that he was walking home with two others. Although he was carrying the weapon, it belonged to one of the other persons. The three were arrested and cautioned.

Assault - On March 22nd a resident of Dundas Town reported that her baby's father, also of Dundas Town, assaulted her by choking her, punching her in the face and knocking her head against the wall.

Stolen vessel - On March 22 someone stole a 26-foot Boston Whaler valued at \$75,000 with two 225 HP 4-stroke Yamaha engines and one 19-foot Boston Whaler with one 200 HP Yamaha engine while they were moored unattended at Foot's Cay.

On the same date as a result of information received, the 19-foot Boston Whaler was found up on the rocks with extensive damage in the Sandy Cay area near Little Harbour. Estimated cost of repairs \$7,000.

Arrest - stealing - On March 22 a resident of Wood Cay was arrested in reference to a stealing matter.

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Coldwell Banker agent receives top award

Abaco real estate agent Mailin Sands has captured the Coldwell Banker Island Affiliates Above and Beyond Award in recognition of outstanding service and customer commitment. Mrs. Sands was selected over nominees from the 16-member Island Affiliate group in the Atlantic Islands and Caribbean. She was honoured for her work as a hurricane relief and fire department volunteer and for community service on behalf of the elderly and needy.



Mailin Sands

The eight-year real estate veteran's job is more challenging than most as she has to travel from her home on Man-O-War Cay to Marsh Harbour by boat. However, she doesn't let bad weather stop her from meeting client commitments and has run through many a storm at sea to do just that.

"Mailin exemplifies the high standards, trust, loyalty and a commitment to her customers and community that is valued in both her local communities and worldwide through the Coldwell Banker system," said Jim Reed, managing director of Island Affiliates.

Mike Lightbourn, president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty added, "Mailin's public service is something that we at Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty are all proud of. We're thrilled that she's won this prestigious award."



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Would like to express its gratitude to all of those who helped with our
12th Annual 'Toys-for-Tots' Rally
on December 12th, 2009

Contributions from the following were essential in making this event successful.

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Shell 24/7
Cathy Jones
Edward Roberts
Abaco Groceries
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Ron & Cindy Marowitz

We would like to thank the Marsh Harbour Social Services office for assisting with the distribution of the toys this year. We would also like to extend our deep appreciation to all of the stores that allowed us to put our "Donation Cans" in their stores. Without their cooperation Toys-For-Tots might not be possible.

We have made every effort to recognize the many individuals and organizations who have helped us by supporting this endeavor. However, If we have inadvertently omitted a name, we sincerely apologize.

Archbishop

From Page 1

firmed on this day came from St. Francis and St. Mary and Andrew Churches. This confirmation was a celebration of a landmark in the formation of their faith as they begin to mature as Catholics. The Archbishop told them to seek to always know faith and accompany it with love and to share both with others. They must be prepared to defend their faith when necessary with confidence as the Catholic tradition is rich and should be appreciated more. Finally, he told them to ensure that their life reflects

the goodness of Christ at all times. Sixteen youth took part in the first communion celebration which now enables them to partake of the bread and wine.

In preparation for this day, they received instruction by the local priest on the importance of this sacrament and what it represents. They attended numerous activities, retreats, and religious classes. Their lives had to reflect the Christian faith. They were blessed by the Archbishop and later received their first communion. Many prayers, songs and blessings were a part of this celebration which ended with a reception outside

the church.

Ten Knights of Columbus from Grand Bahamas visited Abaco while the Archbishop was here as a part of their Pilgrimage tour. Their role is to assist the Archbishop wherever he goes. This tour began in June of last year with their traveling to all Family Islands in The Bahamas and will end in June 2010.

While on Abaco they visited Green Turtle Cay and had a tour of Abaco that was organized by St. Francis de Sales Church and the Ministry of Tourism. The group was here for two days. The Knights of Co-

lumbus group is interested in establishing an organization on Abaco with the Catholic church family so they came to see the possibilities of that taking place. The organization is open to Catholic men who have been involved in the church for a while. The district deputy for the Bahamas District, Mr. Gregory Christie, which is a part of the State of Florida, is the leader of the group. There are four Knights of Columbus Councils in the Bahamas - two in Nassau, one on Grand Bahamas, and one on Eleuthera. They are hopeful that the Abaco council will begin soon.

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24th April, 2010 at the Anglican Church Grounds
Marsh Harbour @ 11:00am - 7:00pm

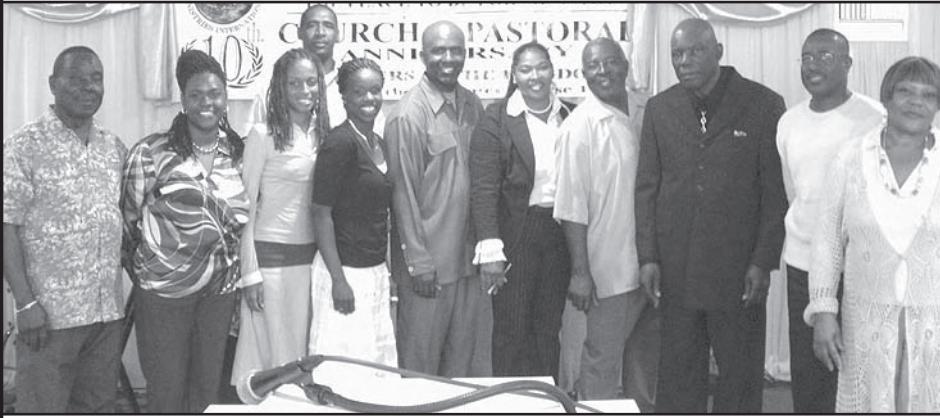
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Farmers Association holds Prayer and Thanksgiving Service



The South Abaco Farmers Association met for a Prayer and Thanksgiving Service on February 20 at Strong Tower Community Church in Dundas Town. The theme for the service was Preparing for the Harvest. The Charge to farmers was made by Pastor Stephen Knowles, President of the Association and remarks were brought by Pastor Lernis Cornish, Chief Councillor Cubell Davis and Pastor Ed Laroda. Shown here are Errol Thurston, Assistant Sergeant at Arms; Bekera Taylor, Secretary; Shanishka Bain, Public Relations; Mr. Davis; Taryn Russell, Assistant Treasurer; Pastor Knowles; Vashiti Johnson, Vice-President; Pastor Cornish; Pastor Laroda, President of the Christian Council; George Martin, Chaplin; and Eulamae Pinder, Director Marketing.

Support the Cancer Society

Donate Used Items to Be Sold in Their Thrift Shop • Call 367-3744 for info

Corrections and explanations

- We regret that we did not use the correct name for the new development in the Treasure Cay area. It is the Sandbank Landing & Sea Biscuit Marina and is located between the S.C. Bootle Highway and the Treasure Cay gate.

- Little Harbour actually has 57 residences, all with solar power and most also have a generator. Some proponents of solar power feel that while the initial cost is high, they do not have to pay a BEC

power bill monthly. So the higher initial cost is offset over the 20-year life of the panels. Batteries must be replaced in five to 10 years.

- Tropical Shipping originally donated the container equipped with computers for the Treasure Cay Primary School. Since then the second homeowners of Treasure Cay have completely renovated it, upgrading the computers.



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E-Mail Lydia.Bodamer@SothebysRealty.com

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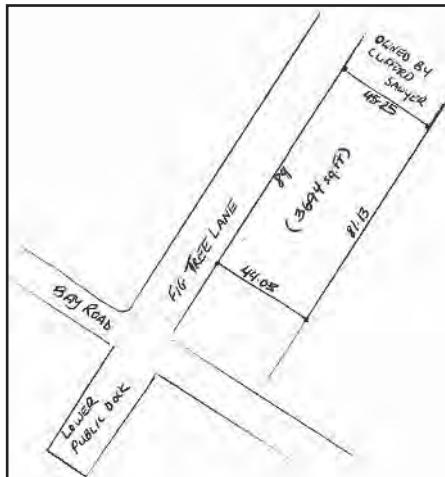
Treasure Cay charming 2 bed/1 bath beach cottage for rent. Fully furnished. A/C, washer/dryer. Reasonably priced. Call 365-4105

Treasure Cay 2 bed/2 bath, unfurnished villa for rent. Call 365-4105

2 bed/ 1.5 bath cottage, partly furnished. A/C, washer, dryer, very secluded with ocean views. \$1150 monthly & utilities. Contact 367-0124 or 475-1279

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Hope Town Approx. 50' from lower public dock with view of lighthouse. Valued @ B\$260,000. email malavon58@yahoo.com or call 242-362-1575

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Treasure Cay Animal Clinic and Humane Society holds open house

By Timothy Roberts

An open house, heralding the opening of a new facility for the Treasure Cay Animal Clinic and Humane Society was held March 10 at the back of Treasure Cay's fire station.

The animal clinic was a project originally started years ago by Jerry Roberts (a former Treasure Cay homeowner) and Barb Hadley, and picked up by animal lovers, Angie Lowe and Kathleen Pinder. They saw a need to help potcakes who were wandering the streets to find homes, so, continuing the effort, Angie and Kathleen held numerous fundraisers and finally



Willis "Pops" Weatherford is arranging to open a dog shelter in Central Abaco. The Treasure Cay Humane Society presented a check to him. Angie Lowe is presenting the check.

Road Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

were able to complete the clinic.

The facility houses a nicely laid out clinic which includes a bath which can be converted into an examination table, a digital scale, an operation table and holding cages. Veterinary care will be provided once a month by both Dr. Derrick Bailey of Island Veterinary Clinic and Dr. Owen Hanna of Caribbean Veterinary Health and Healing Centre.

The facility also has a small pen where stray potcakes can be housed while in-between fostering and finding a new home.

They rely on and welcome volunteers, and are currently planning an educational campaign to ensure that the public is well informed on how to care for dogs, to tell them about spaying and neutering, and to make them aware of the laws which pertain to dogs. The local police have already started to crack down on animal law infractions here, recently confiscating dogs from an owner who was keeping his dogs in an inhumane environment.

They are also running a fostering program where strays can be properly taken care of while they wait for adoption into a new home. Presently their focus is on dogs, however, they will eventually expand to include cats as the need arises and more volunteers step forward.

During the open house the Humane Society presented Willis 'Pops' Weatherford with a check for \$500 to assist with the animal shelter he is setting up off S.C. Bootle Highway by the old dump site. Mr. Weather was given a 20,000 square foot plot by local government which will be enclosed and provide shelter for stray dogs.

Pop's Animal Shelter will be capturing strays, having them neutered or spayed, then housing and feeding them at the shelter where they will be available for adoption. Mr. Weatherford has been dealing with strays for about 15 years and has watched as packs of them harass tourists and walkers and make a general nuisance.

Feeling that they deserve a better life

than being left on the streets, he decided he would do something about it. So far Mr. Weatherford has had fifteen dogs spayed or neutered and of those, nine have been adopted.

Both Mr. Weatherford and the Treasure Cay Humane Society are looking for volunteers from the community to assist with helping to care for and foster some of these potcakes or finances to meet various needs.



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April 30th - May 2nd
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Green Turtle Cay, Abaco, The Bahamas

April 30th - May 2nd, 2010

Festival Opens Friday - 12 & Sat - 11 am
Festival Entrance Fee: Children \$1 Adults \$3 Adult 2 day pass \$5
School Children in uniform on Friday - FREE



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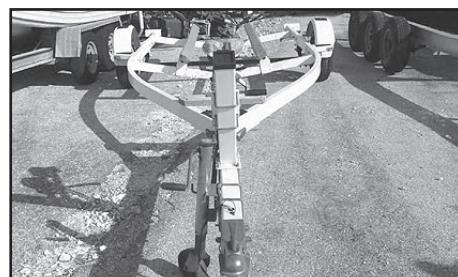
Maytag Microwave model mmv4205, black. 1150 watts \$200. Frigidaire Freezer model LFFCO924DWI \$300. GE Gas Clothes Dryer DBXR463GDICC \$400. Eureka Vac, The Boss Smart Vac, \$150 Call 458-0560

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Yamaha YBR 125 motorbike, modified, electric starter, excellent condition, with helmet and cover. Asking \$2000. Call or text 242-425-4342

BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



19' Boat Trailer, lights. Can be seen at Abaco Outboards. \$1700. Call Buddy at 365-6152

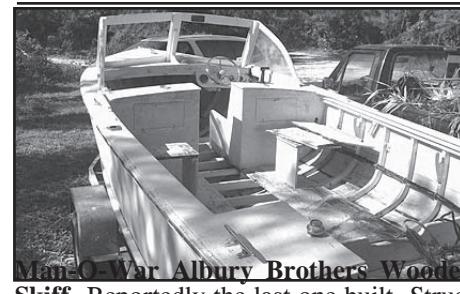
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Maxxon inflatable boat, 7mm \$250.00
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2007 115 Evinrude Etec 25' shaft 600hrs. Asking 3,000 ph. 365-6143 or 357-6540



Man-O-War Albury Brothers Wooden Skiff. Reportedly the last one built. Structurally sound, but extensive restoration required. \$2,500. E-mail billyd4558@yahoo.com or call 365-8117 for more information.



19' Keel sail boat- Rhodes 19, 3 mains, 1 jib, 1 spinnaker, anchor, other gear, structurally sound, Hope Town, DUTY PAID, \$1800 w/o engine, 242-366-0706 Rocky-Keith@comcast.com

BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



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Luxurious waterfront island escape. 2.64 acres on a stunning peninsula, completely private and 'off the grid'. \$2,750,000. Ref. AS11366



WALKER'S CAY, ABACO

A premier deep-sea fishing destination. 58 acres makes this island ideal for a luxury resort and marina. \$26,000,000. Ref. AS11252



SCOTLAND CAY

On a quiet island paradise, this ocean view home has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and garage. \$649,000. Ref. AS11241



MARSH HARBOUR

Sea view 2 bedroom condos and 3 bedroom penthouses in a gated development with pool and dock. Starting at \$595,000. Ref. AS10890



LONG BEACH

Brand new beach home has 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, high ceilings, verandah, rec room, and garage/workshop. \$795,000. Ref. AS10905



TILLOO CAY

A stunning parcel of elevated land with 75 ft. of shoreline and 180 degree views of the Sea of Abaco. \$175,000. Ref. AS11309



ELBOW CAY

3 bedroom, 2 bath home, just across from the beach, offering a large pool and deck space for entertaining. \$795,000. Ref. PS10665



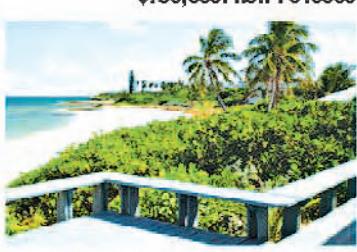
MARSH HARBOUR

Situated on a double lot this canal-front home has a spacious floorplan with 4 bedrooms and 4 baths. \$1,350,000. Ref. AS11270



CORNISH CAY, ABACO

34 acres in the heart of Abaco's idyllic fishing and boating waters. This private island is a perfect investment. \$9,000,000. Ref. AS11258



ELBOW CAY

Serene 3 bedroom, 3 bath home on the beach, comprised of 2 buildings connected by a wrap-around deck. \$1,390,000. Ref. PS10616



MARSH HARBOUR

Spacious turn-key 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo is fully equipped and centrally located. \$286,500. Ref. AS10622



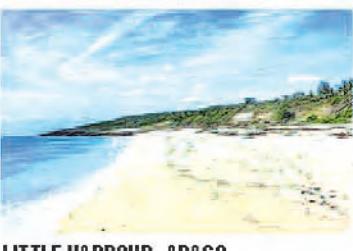
THE ABACO CLUB, WINDING BAY

A unique beauty, this 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home has exquisite finishes and exclusive Club amenities. \$3,995,000. Ref. AS10701



ISLAND BREEZES MOTEL

This recently renovated motel is located in Marsh Harbour and is a great small business investment. \$580,000. Ref. AS11282



LITTLE HARBOUR, ABACO

A quaint cottage with 150 feet of pristine beachfront. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on 1.4 acres of elevated land. \$678,000. Ref. AS11353



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A unique parcel of land with dramatic views comprising 17,000 sq. ft. near the club house. \$500,000. Ref. AS11263



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LOTS

WHITE SOUND, ELBOW CAY: 13,770 sq. ft. lot near beach. \$215,000. AS11205
NORTH END, ELBOW CAY: 19,974 sq. ft. oceanfront lot with 120 ft. of beach and foundation for a 2,600 sq. ft., 4 bedroom home. \$695,000. Ref. AS11144

BREEZY HILL, ELBOW CAY: 10,494 sq. ft. elevated lot. \$132,000. PS10603

TREASURE CAY: 22,574 sq. ft. lot with 10 ft. elevations, 100 ft. of waterfront, and easy access to all amenities. \$120,000. AS11061

AUNT PAT'S BAY, ELBOW CAY: 14,914 sq. ft. corner lot with 35 ft. elevations. Community dockage. Nearby Tahiti Beach and Hope Town. \$364,000. PS10661

TILLOO CAY: 16,000 sq. ft. homesite on a private island community. Near the community dock. Electricity available. \$150,000. PS10630

CENTRAL ABACO: 5 acre beachfront tract between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay. Good elevations and utilities. \$650,000. AS10756

MARNIE'S LANDING, ELBOW CAY: Half acre building sites in a private waterfront community with electricity, dock slip, and beach access. \$595,000. PS10659

MARSH HARBOUR: 9,750 sq. ft. sea view lot in gated Sunrise Bay. All amenities nearby. \$249,900. AS11026

LUBBERS QUARTERS: 10,489 sq. ft. homesite in the Abaco Ocean Club. Near the community dock. \$77,000. AS10969

BAKER'S HEIGHTS: 41.6 acre sea view tract. \$1,040,000. AB5178

THE ABACO CLUB, WINDING BAY: Superb 1+ acre beachfront, oceanfront, and golf course estate lots. Starting at \$1,900,000

GUANA CAY: 6,811 sq. ft. sea and oceanview lot within the Shipwreck Subdivision. Nearby the new community dock and beaches. \$125,000. AS10891

TREASURE CAY: 15 acre estate with elevations to 70 ft. and 630 ft. on the Sea of Abaco. \$1,400,000. AS10886

DOLPHIN BEACH ESTATES: Collection of homesites within a beach front community. Hilltop lots starting at \$150,000. Waterfront lots starting at \$395,000. Beachfront lots starting at \$595,000.

GREAT ABACO CLUB: 7,630 sq. ft. canalfront lot in a gated community. Nearby amenities include pool, tennis courts, and beach. \$225,000. AS10731

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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



WINDING BAY

An immaculate, turn-key 3 bedroom and 3 bath cottage. Sitting on a bluff overlooking the turquoise waters of Winding Bay with sunset and sunrise views. Enjoy all Ritz-Carlton amenities. \$1,495,000. AS11259



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A great opportunity to build your own paradise. Just walking distance from one of the world's most beautiful beaches. 10,000 sq. ft. in a gated community next to golf and marina. \$98,160. AS11257



GREEN TURTLE CAY

Enchanting 2 bedroom, 2 bath cottage with 140 ft. of beach in Long Bay near New Plymouth settlement. \$1,095,000. Ref. AS11322



MARSH HARBOUR - COMMERCIAL

Rare opportunity to purchase this 6,575 sq. ft. commercial building on 1.5 acres. Great investment. \$795,000. Ref. AS11118

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RUM RUNNERS MARSH HARBOUR

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