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VOLUME 14, NUMBER 23, DECEMBER 1st, 2007

18 Compete in Box Car Derby

Funds raised will assist Long Island relief, sports and school

By Mirella Santillo

November 24th turned out to be a picture perfect day to the delight of the several participants who entered the Hope Town Box Car Derby and the hundreds of people, residents and visitors, who had come to watch the show.

The Derby, now in its 11th year, was the brain child of Cracker P's owner, Mr. Patrick Stewart, who sold his idea to some of his friends, among them Hope Town resident, Mr. Stafford Patterson. Since 1996, the two of them, together with a team of local volunteers, have been organizing the event, which originally took place on Boxing Day. Except for 1999 when Hurricane Floyd inflicted heavy damage on Hope Town and 2004 when Abaco was visited by two hurricanes, the Derby has taken place every year since. A few years ago the event was moved up to the Thanksgiving weekend which seems to be a date favored by organizers and the general public.

Please see **Box Car** Page 2



The annual Box Car Derby was held on the Big Hill in Hope Town on November 24. This fun event draws hundreds and brings carts from several towns to compete in speed and slalom races. Three categories, Men, Women and Juniors, allow the younger competitors to compete separately. The organizers have food and drink booths to satisfy the crowds who cheer on the competitors.

Government Revises Fisheries Regulations

Provided by Bahamas Information Services

New revised fishing regulations were tabled in Parliament on November 14, 2007, by the Hon. Larry Cartwright, Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources.

New catch limits have also been instituted for foreign persons fishing under the terms of a sports fishing permit. According to the Minister, these limits are still based on fishery products aboard a vessel, not based on personal limits.

• For demersal fish or bottom feeding fish such as groupers and snappers, the

catch limit is now 60 pounds or 20 fish per vessel.

• For the pelagic species or migratory fish such as wahoo, tuna, kingfish and dolphin, the catch limit is now 18 fish per vessel.

• For crawfish, the limit is now 10 per vessel,

• For conch, the catch limit is six per vessel.

• For turtles, foreigners are not allowed

Please see **Fishing** Page 30

Treasure Cay shows off its emergency vehicles



The Treasure Cay Emergency Services Organization held an Open House on November 18 to show the community the vehicles and equipment that their volunteer fire and rescue service has acquired. Volunteer fireman Ed Newell, in new turn-out gear, is explaining the operation to attendees. The service now has two ambulances and one fire truck. The event was planned as a fund raising appeal so the organization can purchase a \$75,000 tank truck with a 3,000 gallon tank. The Fire Chief is Colin Albury, who previously was operating in Marsh Harbour. He has recently moved to Treasure Cay to provide this service for the North Abaco communities. Mr. Albury and the other firemen are all volunteers with persons mostly from Treasure Cay but some from Blackwood and Fire Road. Funds are being raised for a community emergency services building for the fire engines, ambulances and an animal shelter. This will be built on a lot donated by Treasure Cay Ltd. The two persons spearheading this effort are Betsy Bracey and Jerry Roberts, both long time second homeowners.

Students learn about schools at College Fair



Eighteen colleges and technical schools were represented at the sixth annual College Fair organized by Abaco Central High School on November 13. Most of Abaco's high schools took their 12th grade students to learn about the schools. They were able to ask questions of the representatives and collect materials and information for their consideration. The fair was held at New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour. See story on page 6.

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Break-downs, crashes - all part of the fun

Box Car

From Page 1

This year 18 participants entered the race with the carts of their creation, ranging from copies of race cars to boxes on wheels to bare wooden frames on wheels. Material ranged from fiber glass to plastic to wood; some carts were decorated with the logos of their sponsors; some had a name: New Creation, Last Minute, Calypso Cruiser, Stafford Stream Liner. Some just bore the name of the sponsors: Froggies, Snappas, Scurvy Few. Most of the carts belonged to residents or business owners of Hope Town, such as overall winner Mr. Rick Sweeting, Mr. Stewart from Cracker P's, Mr. Patterson from Sea Horse Boat Rentals or Mr. Tom Hazel from the Hope Town Harbour Lodge, who came dressed as Elvis Presley in a black wig and pink outfit in a 1956 Dodge.

From Marsh Harbour, Every Child

Counts entered two cars built by Mrs. Liann Kaighin and her crew and driven by ten-year-old Marco Deubrus. In spite of a crash which demanded repairs upon reaching Hope Town, ECC won first prize in the Junior category (under 14 years old). The Scurvy Few showed up with one cart, but with a fleet of drivers, Mr. Bob Kilroe, Mr. Simon Bethel and Mr. Rex Albury supported by most of the Scurvy Few members. Snappas Bar and Grill participated after missing a couple of years. That cart was raced by a Snappas' employee, Mrs. Leigh Davis, who won the Lady's category, being the only woman to enter. Unfortunately, Snappas was disqualified from further winnings after she crashed the car in the fence during the slalom race! A five-year-old, Lucas Kaighin, had his first go at racing in the slalom; his attempt ended after the second obstacle when he crashed into the protective netting.

The road sides leading to the top of the

hill where the cars took off were lined with tables offering food and drinks galore. The hungry had choices between many delicious looking baked items: cakes, pastries, cookies, macaroni and cheese, the traditional

hamburgers and hot dogs, and the thirsty could quench their thirst with not only sodas and water but with mixed drinks, beer

Please see **Box Car**

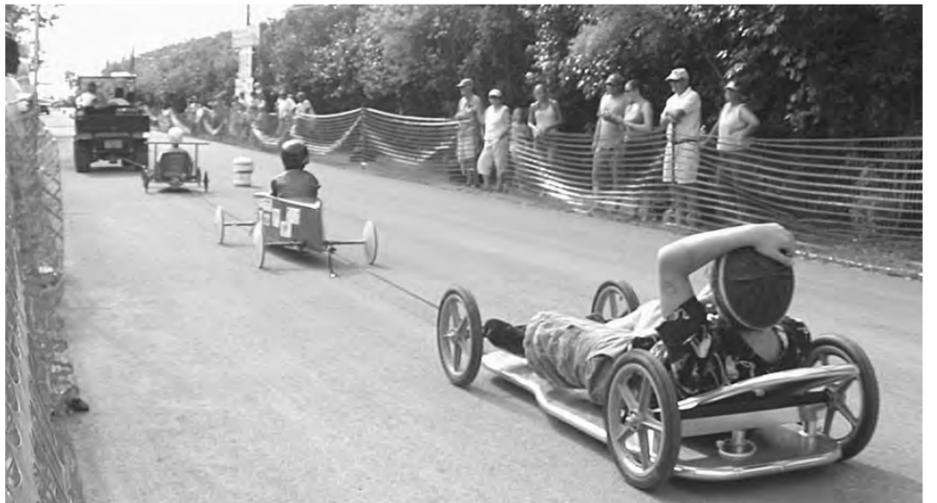
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This cart is at the finish line. His competitor can be seen behind him. This is one of the simply constructed carts but managed to win this heat. The carts ranged from four bare wheels with a minimal frame to rather elaborate models, fibreglassed and sportily painted. The hill is quite steep although the photograph does not show it.



Officials at the top of the hill organized the event in a golf cart. Timed races and slalom races tested various skills of the cart and the driver. Funds raised by this event will go to the Long Island Relief fund, sport activities in Hope Town and the Hope Town School.



A golf cart towed the carts back up the hill for further races. Only two carts raced down each time. For the slalom races, only one cart attempted the barrels at a time.

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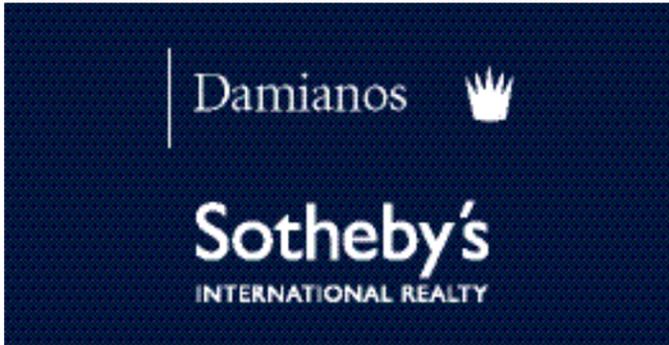
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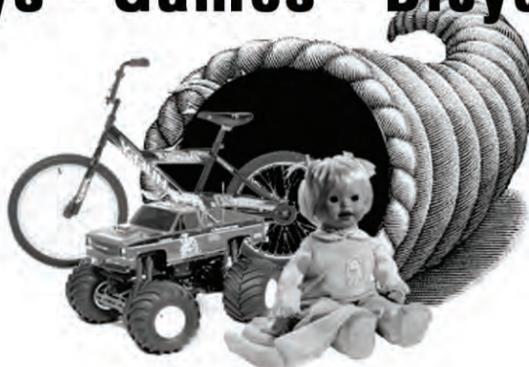
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Closed grouper season is announced

A message from the Hon. Lawrence Cartwright, Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources

I wish to advise the general public, particularly fishermen, seafood buyers and processors and those in food service related activities, that there will be a restriction on the harvesting, possession and selling of Nassau Grouper during the period from 15th December 2007 to 28th February 2008.

This closure is a continuation of efforts, started originally in 1998, to provide protection for the Nassau Grouper at the time of year when the Nassau Grouper forms large schools, or aggregations, in distinct locations of The Bahamas for the purpose of reproduction. This is a most critical period for the Nassau Grouper as it is then most vulnerable. It is the time when these fish are found in large quantities and swollen with eggs.

The Bahamas is one of the last areas where the Nassau Grouper may be found in any abundance. Elsewhere in their former range they are rare, and most of the commercial fisheries that once flourished have disappeared.

The Nassau Grouper stocks in The Bahamas, like all the other fisheries resources, are not unlimited. The long history this fish has enjoyed as the favorite food fish of Bahamians and its habit of forming seasonal aggregations where the numbers rose to the thousands has, unfortunately, led some persons to maintain that their strenuous fishing efforts could not possibly have any significant impact on such numbers. Unfortunately, this is not the case. One does not need to draw illustrations of other areas where unregulated

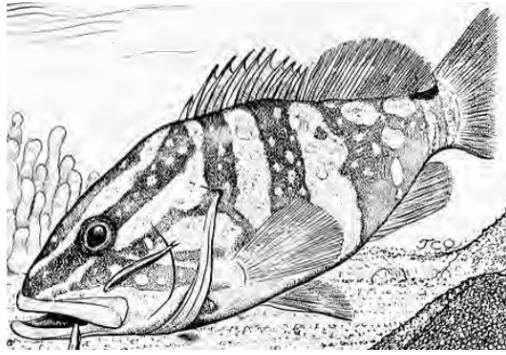
hunting, tree cutting or fishing has caused resources once thought to be limitless, to virtually disappear.

The result of unrestricted fishing of the Nassau Grouper is well known. There is simply no need for The Bahamas, having been enlightened, to repeat the mistakes of others.

Bahamian fishermen have generally supported the government's efforts to protect the Nassau Grouper stocks. I would like to thank them for their support and seek their continued cooperation. I am aware that these measures result in a loss of income as many fishermen rely upon fishing in the winter. Without these measures, the long term prospects are significantly worse.

The escalating activity of foreign fishing vessels during the time when Bahamian fishermen are not being allowed to target the Nassau Grouper is of concern to us all. This is a very real problem and the recent reports of gunfire being directed towards Bahamian fishermen by suspected poachers illustrates one aspect of the seriousness of the problem. Another is the damage being done to the Nassau Grouper stocks through the aggressive fishing activities these foreign vessels are known to engage in.

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force is the vanguard in combating this prob-



lem. They will be making every effort to ensure that extra attention is paid to the critical areas that these poachers target.

There are ways in which Bahamian fishermen can help in these enforcement efforts. I am asking

Bahamian fishermen to continue to provide information on their sightings of suspected poaching vessels. These reports

should be directed to either the Royal Bahamas Defence Force or to the Department of Marine Resources. What is most important is that these reports be timely and contain as much information as possible regarding the description of the vessels and their positions. This information is critical to the long term success of enforcement activities.

If we want to have a sustainable commercial fishery for the Nassau Grouper, restrictions of this nature are very necessary. I seek the cooperation of those in the industry and that of the general public to make this undertaking successful.

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College Fair encourages further education

By Jennifer Hudson

Students of the 2008 graduating class from most of the Abaco high schools attended a College Fair organized by Abaco Central High School at New Vision Ministries on November 13. This is the sixth such fair which has been held on Abaco to assist students in making the important choice of where to continue their education after graduation from high school. The students were enthusiastic in speaking with the various representatives, asking questions and discussing their options.

Approximately 20 colleges and universities from Nassau, the United States and Canada took part. The largest number of institutions represented were from Florida

while some were from Pennsylvania, New York, Georgia, North Carolina and Canada. From Nassau were Success College, Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute, Bahamas Baptist College and the College of The Bahamas. Some of these colleges had been attending the College Fair on Abaco for several years while for many this year was their first time. The majority of the foreign colleges stated that, though they have several students from Nassau studying there, they have not yet received any students from Abaco but are hoping to get some Abaco students this year. The representative from Methodist College in Fayette, North Carolina, was pleased to have had a student from Abaco graduate from that col-

lege. "We will continue to come here until we find someone else," she said.

The Admissions Officer from Munroe College in New York explained that in previous years his college had always held an open house in one of the hotels in Nassau, but this year they wanted to expand into Abaco. "We have one of the lowest tuition rates, averaging about \$17,000 per year," he stated.

The representative from Savannah College of Art and Design stated that the Bahamas is one of the top ten countries from which they recruit students.

Johnson and Wales was a very popular choice for students seeking information and application forms. Apparently, their North Miami and Rhode Island campuses are very popular with Bahamians though they do have colleges in other locations and their new Charlotte campus is gaining in popularity.

The most popular choice for students is the College of the Bahamas due to its proximity to home and also its wide range of financial assistance to qualified deserving students and its endowment scholarship awards to those who demonstrate strong academic skills and significant financial need. The representatives at that booth

were kept very busy answering questions and handing out information.

The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute not only offers courses in Nassau and Grand Bahama but also on Abaco. Presently 45 students are enrolled in the evening classes held at the Abaco Central High School and 21 in the classes in Cooper's Town. "There are almost 30 different courses offered in Nassau and 10 on Grand Bahama but presently only a Business Administration course is offered on Abaco. Interest is growing fast here," stated the representative.

Mrs. Leazona Richard was on hand to inform students about the Pathfinder's Scholarship Fund which assists worthy students, and she was also liaising with the colleges and universities to work out further scholarship schemes with them.

A lot of material was available for the students to take home and study to assist them in making their choices. Whether they prefer to stay nearer home or spread their wings further afield, there was a wide variety of colleges and courses for them to choose from. "We found it very helpful," was the general consensus of the students after they had visited the various booths.



New Vision Ministries was buzzing with high school students on November 13 when representatives from colleges and technical schools in Nassau, the States and Canada had representatives there to counsel young people and describe what their school offered. Shown here is Mrs. Barbara Williams from the Social Services office in Marsh Harbour who was representing Success Training College in Nassau.



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The Editor Says . . . New dump is almost complete



Abaco's garbage and trash handling systems are getting closer to a modern landfill system. Tender requests are now being advertised for the management of this facility. We have not seen the specifications which interested companies must consider in their management of this facility but can make some presumptions based on recent comments from Environmental Health.

It has been said that this facility is quite modern and incorporates current sanitary landfill practices used in Canada and other developed countries. The fact that it is a modern facility does not mean that all current environmental practices concerning recycling, product separation and other environmentally friendly issues will be instantly addressed.

Although the facility is prepared to handle a degree of product separation for recycling, The Bahamas has not reached the point of effectively making use of this practice. For example, our Abaco garbage trucks have one large bin for refuse collection. They are not presently equipped to accept two, three or more separate types of refuse.

Large appliances will probably be separated and not be put in the actual landfill. These would probably be separated by hand from the large containers or perhaps be brought by the truck load by the appliance dealers disposing of their customers' old appliances.

Batteries and tires are other items lending themselves to separation. Most discarded batteries and tires come from a dozen or more garages and car parts stores. As their collection of these two items accumulates, they can take a batch to the site.

It is likely that an area will be designated for automobiles and other vehicles for eventually crushing and subsequent removal to be recycled. This might be somewhere different from the Snake Cay site.

There are several recycling programs now on Abaco. Beer bottles are presently collected for sale to a brewery in Nassau. Several enterprising individuals in the Haitian communities collect these, then ship them to Nassau when they get a container load.

Aluminum cans are collected in several towns and periodically sent to Nassau. We have no statistics on this but would guess that far less than half of the empty aluminum cans are collected. Although bottles and cans collected are a small part of the total, it is a commendable effort.

Besides accommodating these changes within the central and busy part of Abaco, there are the challenges of handling these same items generated by Guana Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Elbow Cay which require a boat trip before they are taken by truck.

At the present, Green Turtle Cay burns its garbage on the island as no other system has been adopted.

Then we have the smaller communities linked by road to the North and South ends of Abaco. Depending on how a truck driver interprets the speed limit, it can take as long as an hour or more to get to the site. Whether one truck makes the entire trip or the trip is split with an intermediate transfer site, the total distance ends up the same.

Our communities are getting various benefits to their infrastructure but not necessarily at a uniform pace. Green Turtle Cay seems to be slated for a water delivery system judging from well placed political comments made during the past year. However, we are not aware of any serious suggestions that their trash will be taken to the new sanitary landfill. That island does not enjoy the daily freight service that the

three islands off Marsh Harbour receive.

In all likelihood, tipping fees will be charged at the landfill site to make the operation financially self-sufficient. (Tipping is the accepted word used to describe the trucks as they empty or tip their load. Dump trucks dump, but garbage trucks tip.) It was stated a year or two ago that residential trash under 250 pounds would be exempt from tipping fees. To our knowledge, all businesses and small shop keepers would pay the tipping fee. A drive-on scale is located at the entrance so vehicles can be weighed coming in and when leaving with the difference being the trash left at the landfill.

The fact that they are looking for a private organization to manage the site is taken to be a good omen.

A public meeting is scheduled for December 5 at Central Abaco Primary School at 7 p.m. where the landfill operation will be explained. Commercial operators in the trash hauling business should attend as well as businesses which remove their own trash. Environmentalists and residents who make use of the dump or who are interested in the technology are invited to attend.

Christmas traffic congestion

The Marsh Harbour roads were not designed for the amount of traffic they must now accommodate. Friday afternoons are now resembling the annual pre-Christmas

traffic jams. During the pre-holiday weeks, it seems that every car on the island has important business in Marsh Harbour.

The rights-of-way are narrow, and there are few options for an alternate route. Congestion is compounded with marginal parking at most businesses. A few businesses may expand their merchandise and floor space but are rarely able to offer more parking.

Our one stop light should be fitted with a new timer giving more options or perhaps traffic coming from the port should not be allowed a right turn, South, onto Don MacKay Boulevard. Heavy traffic at this intersect The Marsh Harbour Town Committee has begun the process of opening the original logging road connecting the airport roundabout to the S.C. Bootle Highway, passing behind St. Francis de Sales and Forest Heights schools. This would give some traffic an alternate route and avoid coming into Marsh Harbour.

Traffic and parking problems at the ferry landing at Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour will continue to get worse. Christmas school holidays will provide minimal relief as the loss of student traffic and school busses there will be offset by the increased Christmas visitor traffic.

We welcome any ideas residents of visitors may have which would lead to improved traffic flow. We suspect other traffic schemes may come forward during the coming year. We are willing to act as a

Letters to the Editor

Upset with BEC

Dear Editor,

I totally agree with John McDonald's letter. Something is terribly wrong with BEC. As a second homeowner for over 30 years, I have observed much strides over getting their utilities to function. Some have risen to efficiency. i.e. Batelco and Water and Sewerage, not perfect, but acceptable to getting there. What about the Bahamian citizens? Seems to me Bahamians and expats have the same gripe!

BEC lags so behind. I have read that a new CEO for this entity is from ABACO, but I do not know this is fact. If it is, I hope he can do a turn around and make BEC proud of itself or competition may rise.

Every consumer is aware of fuel charges, etc. and that struggle. But it appears the BEC response is always like they are programed (you must have left something on or it's the fuel charge or your caretaker didn't turn of the air conditioner off.)

Any may be the case, but when you know you are just getting a company brush off (trained) I question.

I pay my various Bahamas utility bills by automatic credit card draft - never late. You can't even check you bills online with

BEC even if you want to send a check for payment. Batelco is currently online. BEC is lacking big time / corporate-wise. Employees/consumers seem to be beholden to their arrogance! Ignorance? Which is it?

Will the new government, nationally or locally, check out BEC?

Sometimes I pine for the time before BEC, Batelco, Water and Sewerage and internet and look back on the VHF as the only communication.

But, I guess times are changing, as always. Hopefully, BEC will change!

Barbara Brehaut

Local Government is just for show

Administrator Cephias Cooper
Local Government

Dear Mr. Cooper:

This letter is written on behalf of petitioners against the development in Marsh Harbour near the Crossing Beach, High Rocks. It is comprised of three three-story buildings totaling 12 condominiums situated on three-quarters acres of land, adjacent to Herbert Keys' parking lot.

At 9:15 a.m. Monday, November 26, 2007, I was told by a member of Town Planning that the petitioners would NOT be invited to the meeting scheduled for tonight. For the record, eight hours is not sufficient notice for a public forum or meeting. In addition to this fact, Mrs. Levon Albury was visited by Mrs. Yvonne Key at her home this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. and told that petitioners should attend the meeting tonight.

It is an absolute sham that the Council would insult our intellect by giving less than two hours notice for a public meeting. A minimum of seven days would be acceptable. This is the length of notice which was given to local residents on the meeting which was held concerning the objections made to the Pascoe property on Pelican Shores.

Until the day comes when Local Government rises above smoke and mirrors, it

is really only for show. Until Local Government realizes that they have the power to enforce the Town Planning laws and demand that property owners follow the letter of those laws, projects will continue to be built that are questionable. I trust that Council and the Town Planning Board will give the due notice to objectioners prior to making any hasty decisions tonight. An open public meeting that has been properly publicized is the only correct course of action.

Sincerely,
Liann Key Kaighin
High Rocks Property owner
Representative of
High Rocks Petitioners

Cc: Hon. Mr. Sidney Collie
Minister of Lands & Surveys and Local Government

M.P. Edison M. Key, South Abaco

Fumed In Abaco's Blatant Lies and Wild Assertions

Dear Editor,

I represent the developers of The Crossing Waterfront Condominiums and wish to respond to the letter addressed to the editor which was published in the Letters to the Editor section of the Abaconian on the 15th November 2007. The letter was not signed by the author who used an alias "Fumed in Abaco." An article also appeared in the Nassau Tribune on the same date containing the same misrepresentations and distortions, and one can only assume that this article was written by the same person. The article and the letter are riddled with lies and unfounded assertions.

For those who are not aware, Crossing Beach is now an important gateway to the city of Marsh Harbour with hundreds of locals and visitors passing through the area every day. It is also one of the most beautiful areas of the city and the only public beach for miles around. The buildings at The Crossing are tastefully designed in the

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters From Page 8

local architectural style, and the entire finished development will be attractive and a definite asset to the area. We are adding 24 parking spaces which do not exist at the moment, lush tropical landscaping, brand new dockage, not to mention the additional accommodation which Marsh Harbour so badly needs.

From the beginning of this project almost two years ago, we have acted through all the proper channels and have obtained all necessary approvals and permits required by Town Planning Regulations and Bahamian law. Nothing we are doing is in any way contradictory to those Regulations or laws. The plans currently under construction received full approval by the local Town Planning Board Committee in October of this year. In fact, the developers were requested on a number of separate issues to provide further clarification of certain aspects of the project, and the Town Planning Committee did an excellent job in their thorough review and analysis of the project before recommending it for approval. Yet Fumed In Abaco seeks to undermine the credibility of our elected Town Planning Committee, accusing them of "greed, cronyism, and conflict of interest."

For the record, the Crossing Development Ltd. obtained "Approval in Principle" from the Town Planning Committee on 10th April 2007. During the next few months, we assembled the necessary drawings that pertain to the structural engineering, architectural, electric, plumbing, waste treatment and other aspects of the project. The finished plans were submitted

for approval during at the end of June 2007 and were on public display in Marsh Harbour during the months of July, August and September 2007. At a meeting of the Town Planning Committee on 10th September, the developers were asked to furnish further details, specifically about the proposed waste treatment facility on site, which they did, and the project obtained full and final approval for the project from Town Planning at the meeting on the 8th October 2007. Despite Fumed In Abaco's assertions to the contrary, at no time up to and including that meeting was a petition against the development formally presented to the committee. However, I am certain members were aware of it. Furthermore, many of the persons who had signed the Petition withdrew their consent.

I now wish to correct certain additional fallacies in Fumed In Abaco's letter so that the public should not be misled.

Fallacy #1: "This is a residential area." NOT TRUE.

In fact, all of the property in the area is "Open Zoning." There is a car park (commercial use) on the adjacent property to the east and two ferry terminals (commercial use) a mere 120 feet away at the bottom of the hill. In fact, Crossing Beach is now a major commercial gateway to the city of Marsh Harbour, with hundreds of people passing through the area every day. The plans for the Crossing Waterfront Condominiums are in complete accordance with all applicable zoning regulations.

Fallacy #2: "The third building . . . is actually built in the sea on reclaimed land." TOTALLY FALSE COMPLETELY UNTRUE. All three buildings at the Crossing are built on solid rock that is part of the island of Great Abaco, and they are all

within the legal setbacks as defined in the Town Planning regulations. There are NO plans to build on any reclaimed land. Perhaps Fuming in Abaco could have checked the facts before lashing out with such falsehoods.

Fallacy #3: "Workers were ordered by Ministry of Works during November 4, 2007, to halt all further construction on the site. This order was ignored."

This is a BLATANT AND APPALLING LIE as no such order was given. The developers were requested not to begin work on the foundations for the waterfront building until the exact location of the building was re-surveyed by Riviere and Associates, and representatives from City Council and Town Planning came on site on 19th November, 2007, to verify that the buildings are all in accordance with all applicable Regulations and are according to the approved plans on 19th November, 2007.

In fact, I think it is Fumed In Abaco who is being short-sighted, selfish and clearly has his own personal mischievous agenda as property owner in the area to discredit the project by any means necessary, including trying to spread lies and incorrect distorted information about the development.

Throughout The Bahamas, Abaco has always been recognized as having a progressive attitude, and as we all know, Abaco, Marsh Harbour in particular, is continuing

to grow at a very healthy pace. There is high demand for both short and long-term rentals for Bahamians and visitors alike. The Crossing Waterfront Condominiums will help to add to our inventory of quality accommodations in the city and will be an extremely visually attractive "landmark" development overlooking Crossing Beach.

If anyone has any questions about any aspect of the Crossing Waterfront Condominiums, I shall be more than happy to answer them. Additional information can also be found on the website www.thecrossingabaco.com

Yours truly,
Neil Aberle

P.S. Especially amusing was the claim that "persons were observed ... in water up to their necks with tape measures and string staking out the third building's on the sea floor"(!) Perhaps Fumed in Abaco has a further suggestion for how this might in practice be achieved, as I am unable to see how such a feat could be accomplished, and certainly have never heard of anything like this ever being done before!

Upset with rental homes

Dear Editor,

Thank you for allowing me space in this valuable column. I would like to bring up

Please see **Letters** Page 29



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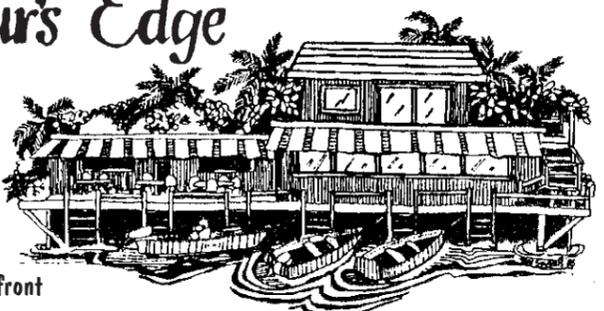
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Central Abaco News

Christian Counseling Centre Opens

By Jennifer Hudson

The Christian Counseling Centre officially opened in Marsh Harbour on November 12 to serve the needs of hurting Abaconians. This centre is an offshoot of the Christian Counseling Centre in Nassau which first opened in 1986 and has since helped thousands of people with substance abuse issues and family and personal problems.

A year ago the Christian Counseling Centre in Nassau explored the possibilities of beginning an outreach programme. Ministry of Education officials, pastors and government ministers highlighted the need for the establishment of a centre on Abaco. Community stakeholders expressed the view that family issues were at the root of many of the social problems on Abaco. Following this, Dr Richard Marks of Marriage for Life Inc of Jacksonville, Florida, and Pastor Frederick Arnett, Executive Director of the Christian Counseling Centre in Nassau, conducted training seminars for teachers and parents in several schools in Marsh Harbour, neighbouring settlements and on Moore's Island.

The Christian Counseling Centre in Nassau stated, "The significant strides made in the establishment of a branch of the Christian Counseling Centre on Abaco were enhanced by the ground work of the Abaco community, three of whom must be recognized for the time and energy they have invested over the past year: Ms. Gina Guttuso, Ms. Felamease Sawyer (Ministry of Education, Abaco district) and Mrs.

Ruth Pinder."

An intensive course in the basic skills of counseling was commenced in Marsh Harbour early in 2007 and approximately 15 Ministry of Education personnel, pastors and community leaders completed the three-week course which included an overview of counseling and training in individual and family counseling. Of those receiving certificates for the completion of the course, five will be available part time for counseling at the Christian Counseling Centre in Marsh Harbour. They are Erika Lowe, Ruth Pinder, Coral Johnson and Tim and April Higgs.

Ms. Lowe has recently completed a further three-month training period with "hands on" experience in Nassau. She has now begun work as a full-time paid counselor who will be stationed in the Counseling Centre office in Marsh Harbour during

business hours. In Nassau her two main supervisors were Dr. Susan Newbold of the College of the Bahamas and Mrs. Helen Arnett, Director of Counseling at the Christian Counseling Centre in Nassau. As part of her course, Erika gained experience in the counseling of persons experiencing depression, grief, drug and substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and marital problems and also visited the Boys Industrial School and the adolescent ward of the Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre.

Ms. Lowe's recent course of training in Nassau builds on her previous background which is a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in psychology. "Counseling for me was a passion since I was 16 years old," says Erika, who would like to go on eventually and study for her master's degree.

The Christian Counseling office, with

two private counseling rooms, is located in the premises previously used by the Friend's of the Environment, upstairs in the D and S Plaza on Don MacKay Boulevard and will be open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To make an appointment with a counselor, call 367 6215. All consultations will be completely confidential and volunteers are available to suit different ages and genders. Eventually, it is hoped that group counseling sessions will be added as needed.

There will be a basic fee of \$55 during normal working hours and \$70 after hours or on weekends. However, if applicants are unable to meet this fee their financial means will be taken into consideration and no one will be turned away.

Please see **Central**

Page 11



The solid waste landfill has been under construction for several years. It is located south of Spring City on the road to Snake Cay and will eventually be the final dump for garbage from the entire island of Abaco. Each section will be lined and when filled will be covered with quarry. Two cells are lined and a third cell is unlined at this time. The site is waiting for electricity to hook up pumps. However, the rain from Tropical Storm Noel filled up one of the lined cells being prepared for garbage.



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More Central Abaco News

Central From Page 10

New Med Spa Opens at Auskell Clinic

By J nifer Hudson

The Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic has now added a spa to its expanding list of services and on November 18 and 19 an Open House was held to introduce this new Med Spa to the public. On hand to show people around, answer questions and offer free massages were Massage Therapists Emily Ferguson and Judy Gibson. The spa has

been named Wings of a Dove which is a very apt name as their gentle treatments leave one feeling as if floating on the wings of a dove. I speak from first-hand experience having received a delightful massage from Emily Ferguson during the spa's opening.

Both Ms. Gibson and Ms. Ferguson have relocated to Marsh Harbour from Nassau where they worked as massage therapists for the past two years. "We love this island and are eager to offer this spa to Abaconians," they enthused. Both are certified therapists having trained in Nassau at the Bahamas Technical and Vocational

Institute and in Orlando at the Wood Hygienic Institute.

The spa utilizes two rooms in the southern section of the clinic which are used during the remainder of the week by the physiotherapists. The spa will be open on Sundays and Mondays and appointments can be made through the Auskell Clinic. On the remaining days both of the therapists are available to make house calls and will be happy to carry their massage table to the cays.

Several different treatments are offered to suit a person's needs.

- Swedish massage which promotes relaxation and good health.
- Deep tissue massage, a massage that targets the deeper parts of the muscles and surrounding tissue and is used especially for people who work out a lot.
- Stress reliever (mini massage) which relieves tension in the back, shoulder and neck
- Hydrotherapy, massage plus the use of hot packs
- Aquadetox where the feet are placed in water and detoxification takes place

through the 400 pores in the feet

• Body scrubs, papaya, milk, herbal honey glow and salt scrubs are offered on Sundays only.

• Colonic irrigation will begin in January or early February.

Ms. Ferguson stressed that the salt body scrub is not for people with high blood pressure. Since all massages increases blood flow, any persons with high blood pressure should obtain an okay from their doctor first.

The therapists stated that "The many benefits of massage include relaxation and healing, easement of tension, stiffness and pain, improvement in breathing and circulation and the enhancement of well-being. It is a detoxification and purification process. Gift certificates are available and a soothing massage makes a wonderful gift."

"Anyone who comes to this spa will have the best care and we will suit each client's need," assured Ms. Ferguson.

Ms. Gibson may be contacted at 468-4238 and Ms. Ferguson may be contacted at 426-9169.



A new airport terminal at the Marsh Harbour airport appears to be 18 to 24 months away and the present terminal is shabby. So a group of concerned citizens have formed a committee to raise money and make improvements to the existing building. They have already extended the roof overhang at the exit door from Customs. The main part of the terminal is being tiled and the porch outside will be tiled. The bathrooms will be getting new toilets and other improvements. The building will be painted inside and outside. Hopefully, this will spruce up the building to make it presentable for the next couple of years.

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Baker's Bay contributes to our economy

Abaco has one of the strongest economies among the islands of The Bahamas at a time when the US economy is slowing down. Apart from the natural charms and variety of Abaco, this may be due in some measure to the presence of Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club on Great Guana Cay.

The \$500 million project, located on the northern end of Great Guana Cay, will comprise a residential community of 585 beachfront and ocean view acres with approximately 400 residences. Plans for the development include a villa-styled hotel (75 - 100 beds), private golf club, 18-hole Tom Fazio-designed private golf course and a 33-acre marina village with a 165-slip "Blue Flag" marina.

Discovery Land Company, the developers of Baker's Bay, has already invested more than \$200 million in The Bahamas and Baker's Bay currently employs 140 permanent staff. An additional 150 persons

are employed in construction work with Baker's Bay's contractors and subcontractors.

Bahamas Hot Mix Co. Ltd., the contractor for earthworks and road paving at Baker's Bay, has been involved with the project for approximately one year. According to Ebrahim Saidi, General Manager, Bahamas Hot Mix, the project has provided continuous employment for 25 staff, the majority of whom are Abaconians, working directly on-site.

"It's kept us busy for the past year and hopefully into next year as well. The developers are very professional. They have all their permits in place. Everything we're doing is permitted by the Ministry of Works. It's all been in compliance with the rules and regulations, and we execute in accordance with them. Baker's Bay has already generated a large income for the people of Abaco; and as it builds out, it will provide continuous benefits and increased income

revenue to Abaco" Mr. Saidi said.

Also working on the project is Bahamas Marine Construction, a subcontractor to American Bridge. This 100 percent Bahamian-owned company is responsible for a number of aspects of the project including building revetments and breakwaters, internal dredging and construction of the docks.

James Mosko, president of Bahamas Marine Construction says his company has been growing since working with the Kerzner Development and is now able to do jobs that would have previously been done by companies from the United States. With regard to Baker's Bay he said it feels good to step into another large project. "They're high-end. They're doing everything right. They're not skimping anywhere. We have about 15 to 18 people up there and we'll be there for the better part of a year and half. We've still got three to four months to finish the first phase, and then we start the docks which will take us another eight

months," Mr. Mosko said.

He added that maintaining a presence on Abaco means spending money locally and expressed confidence that the developers would see the project through. "In Marsh Harbour we've got I don't know how many homes and rooms rented. All our food comes from the food store; we travel on Abaco Air and Bahamasair. We've seen a lot of projects that are half-baked. They are under-funded and they go to hell in a hand basket. But this isn't going to happen with this project," Mr. Mosko said.

In August construction began on Baker's Bay's 33-acre Marina Village which consists of high end residential units, town homes and some retail stores. This work is being carried out by Woslee Dominion, another all Bahamian company. Prior to Baker's Bay, Woslee Dominion completed the \$7 million dollar Mandara Spa Expan-

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 13



Construction has now begun on buildings at Baker's Bay. Until now most of the construction was of the infrastructure. This picture shows Woslee Dominion Construction, a company from Nassau, building a high-end house in the Marina Village.



Baker's Bay is contracting out much of the construction work. This picture shows Bahamas Marine Construction company excavating the interior of the marina.

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Baker's employment contributes heavily

Baker's Bay From Page 12

sion for Kerzner International Phase III, the \$38 million Harbourside Atlantis for Kerzner's Second Phase and a number of luxury high-end homes at Ocean Club Estates. Ashley Ginton, President and owner of Woslee Dominion says he expects the work will last for about two and a half to three years. At its peak he will employ at least 200 construction workers from Abaco, Nassau and other Bahamian islands.

"I think it's a wonderful project. It's a very exciting project. I've been involved in other developments and from what I can tell and who I've communicated with these guys are genuine. They're sincere in what they're going to do. They say what they're going to do so far and as far as their commitment to Abaco and the people and the environment I have seen nothing less than what they say they're going to do. I think it's a model for other developments in terms of the environment and the way developments really should be carried out," Mr. Ginton said.

But big name contractors are not the only persons benefiting from development at Baker's Bay. The developers also pa-

tronize a wide range of small local businesses on Abaco from hardware stores to florists. On Guana Cay Donna's Golf Cart and Cottage Rentals rents golf carts to Baker's Bay on a monthly basis and cottages to the developers and their contractors as needed. Guana Cay's Orchard Bay Marina benefits from cottage rentals by Baker's Bay. Jimmy Albury, manager of Orchard Bay, says he believes the development will be good for Guana Cay and Abaco as long as it is "controlled and doesn't grow too fast. Discovery Land Company has deep pockets and overall they're a good company," Mr. Albury said.

Donna Sands, proprietor of Donna's Golf Carts and Cottage Rentals pointed out that Baker's Bay has not only been good for business but is helping people in the community as well. "They formed the Fig Tree Foundation. It's helped a guy with cancer, paid some of his medical expenses and we've got a young guy in Florida in rehab and the Foundation's paying for that. Then they just donated five computers to the school, brand new desks, everything. So they are willing to help the community," Mrs. Sands said.

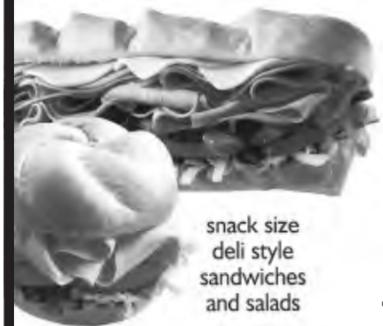
The economic impact of Baker's Bay

has not been limited to Guana Cay, however. In Marsh Harbour a number of local businesses supply products and services to the Baker's Bay development. One such business is the Harbour View Marina in Marsh Harbour that supplies Baker's Bay with fuel products. "We provide them with fuel, gasoline and diesel on a weekly or daily basis depending on their activity," says Troy Cornea, Manager of the marina. "It certainly moves product for us, which is very beneficial and this has been going on for five or six months now since we've had their account. As far as what they're doing, the scope seems to be in very good taste. I understand the company is an extremely reputable company so if we're go-

ing to have development on Guana Cay or in that area it seems like these guys are the ideal candidates to develop it," Mr. Cornea said.

Sherell Fox, the proprietor of Island Petal florists has been producing floral arrangements for Baker's Bay for the past two years and is very upbeat about the developers. She says she feels the developers are genuinely interested in helping the community. "I think they are very community-oriented, and they pay close attention to the small businesses and want to help out wherever they can. They are very support-

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 30



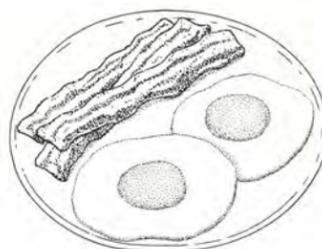
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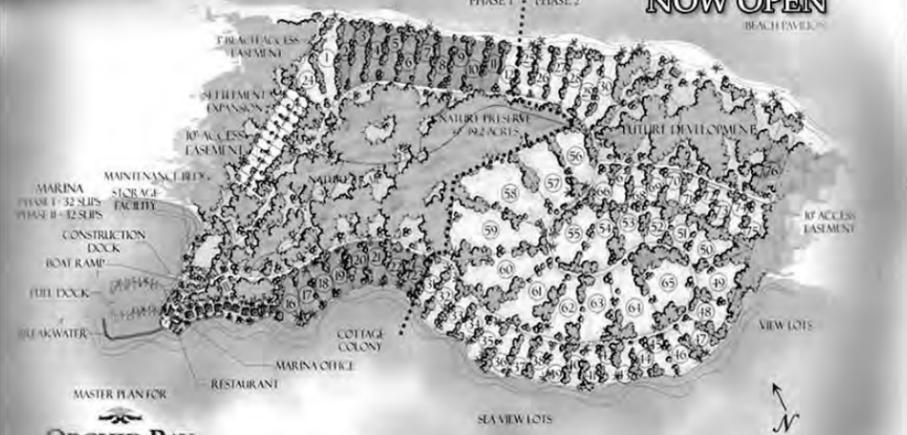
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People in the News

Basil Been Receives Music Awards

By Jennifer Hudson

Mr. Basil Been's amazing voice and talent have once again been recognized and rewarded. On October 29 he traveled to Nassau to receive two National Arts Festival awards. He was the national winner for Gospel Solo 18 years and over and received the E. Clement Bethel National Arts Festival 2007 trophy for the most outstanding individual in music. The first award was presented to him by the Hon. Carl Bethel, Minister of Education, and the second by the Governor General of The Bahamas.

The competition is held nationwide and the singing classes were adjudicated on Abaco in April by Mr. Cleophas Adderley, well known conductor of the National Youth Choir from Nassau. Mr. Been was judged on the singing of two songs Wade in the Water, a Negro spiritual, and You Raise Me Up. He was showcased in the finals in Nassau singing Every Time I Feel the Spirit. "I am very impressed," stated Mr. Cleophas Adderley. "This voice needs to be heard."

The winners' showcase and awards programme is being aired on ZNS and Jones Network television. Mr. Been was selected to sing in Barbados along with some of the other national winners.

Mr. Been accepted trophies on behalf of three other winners from Abaco who were unable to make the trip to Nassau. They are Albert Russell from Abaco Central High School, who won in the 12-15 years instrumental solo class; Sontonya Stuart, a drummer from Abaco Central High School, who won in the 12-15 year age group; and Enzel Cooper, a teacher from S.C. Bootle High School, who was the national drama winner for individual verse speaking.

Mr. Been is keen to encourage young people to get involved in the National Arts Festival.

Alex Forbes studied marine biology

By Mirella Santillo

Alex Forbes, who graduated from high school in June, was chosen by the Rotary Club of Abaco to be the recipient of a scholarship for a summer session at the Marine Mammal Research Organization

in Sandy Point. He wants to study marine biology and his wish was answered this summer when he joined the Sandy Point's research center. During his stay there Alex was lucky to sight more than 15 whales, humpback and beaked whales, and as many dolphins off Sandy Point shores.

In a presentation at the Rotary Club meeting, he described his experiences. He talked about the sightings of various species of whales and dolphins and explained how each boat outing was followed the next day by documenting and recording on computers the information gathered during the trip. Such information as latitude and longitude of the sighting, whether cloudy or clear skies and how many miles from shore were entered in a data bank, he mentioned.

Alex's most memorable experience while at the camp was seeing the whales very close to the boat and observing their behavior. He told of one occasion when a calf came within 10 feet of the boat. It appeared that the mother whale which was a distance away called another whale which approached the calf. As soon as the "baby

sitter" whale arrived, the mother dove away.

A young man with a lot of goals, Alex's immediate plans are to go to Andros for a nine-week environmental and marine diving certification course. Long term he hopes to go to Ohio to study Marine Biology. While hoping to be a life guard and skin diving instructor upon returning to The Bahamas, he thought that working in an environment such as the Marine Mammal Research Organization would be great encouragement.

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Sports News

Darts Review 2007-2008

By Malcolm Spicer

President, Bahamas Darts Federation

The annual Abaco Darts Association began its 21st consecutive league in September, 2007 - twenty-one years and counting. The season will go through to May, 2008. Seven teams make up the league this year: the D n R Dragons, the 4th Quarter Casuarina Stars, the Foundation, the D n R Gophers, the Hummingbird Hummers, the Spring City Sixers and the Snappers Snipers. Games take place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at the various venues. Abaco will host the Bahamas Darts Federation's National Gold Cup in February, 2008.

The Gold Cup is The Bahamas' oldest National Tournament and has been held every year since 1985. Abaco has been the winner on only one occasion, in 1993, when the venue was the old Airport Lounge. The Gold Cup is an island vs island tournament where each island

association chooses its own best team of nine men and five women from its own local tournaments and league statistics.

It is a round robin tournament between the islands made up of individual and team events. Points are awarded for the various stages, and the island with the most points is declared the Gold Cup Champions for that year.

On 30th November - 1st December Abaco will be holding its final trials for the Abaco squad at the Hummingbird Restaurant in Marsh Harbour. Around 25 men and 12 women will be playing one another to determine the Abaco squad.

The Gold Cup is the first of three annual national tournaments which make up the national schedule for 2007-2008 and also determines our national team, which in 2007 participated in the World Cup in the Netherlands, placing 23rd out of 43 countries, a remarkable achievement for our small country. In 2008 the national team will travel to Trinidad and Tobago to defend its title as Caribbean Champions in the bi-annual Caribbean Cup, which is followed by the Americas' Cup.

Cup.

The second national tournament is the National Masters tournament which this year is being held in April in Nassau. This tournament is an individual's tournament and via Local Masters tournaments we generate the top 16 men and top eight women in the islands to play off for a place on the national team. Eight men and four women make the national team this year for the Caribbean and Americas Cups.

The third national tournament is the Champions Cup which pits the League winners from Grand Bahama, Abaco and New Providence against each other to find the best local team in the country.

Darts is recognised by the government of The Bahamas as a sport and the BDF is registered as the Darts National sports

body with the Ministry of Youth and Sport. The Ministry assists the BDF with travel to our international tournaments. Darts has, this year, been accepted as a sport by GAIS, the International Sports Organisation which controls all sports throughout the world. This recognition of darts as a sport is necessary if darts is to become an Olympic sport. As this was the last obstacle to becoming an Olympic sport, hopes are now high that darts will be introduced as a sport in the Olympics in 2012 to be held in England.

The three Associations in the Bahamas have around 60 league teams competing throughout the year in the local island leagues. Roughly 500 people compete weekly, year after year.



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South Abaco News

Moore's Island School offers cosmetology classes

By Jennifer Hudson

Tenth and eleventh grade students at the Moore's Island School are very excited about the cosmetology classes which are now being taught at the school. The instructor is beautician Mrs. Sharman Davis, who operates a beauty salon on Moore's Island and is very enthusiastic about volunteering her time at the school. She began the classes last year with the tenth grade class and this year, since the school has now extended to 11th grade, she is teaching both 10th and 11th grades. She gives a one-hour class on Monday and Thurs-

day each week to the 12 students in those grades and covers both theory and practical work. According to Mrs. Sharman, the grade 11 students have now completed their facial and manicure courses in addition to professional ethics, sanitation and sterilization studies. They are now preparing to do acrylic nails and to learn more of the theory of hair.

"The students sit three examinations a year in both practical and theory and must pass their theory exam before they can do the practical work," states Mrs. Davis. The classes consist of both boys and girls. "I have a good group of boys who are very enthusiastic and excellent at facials and manicures, and I am now going to introduce them to barbering," she says.



The Moore's Island All Age School is now offering a cosmetology class which is proving to be very popular with the boys as well as the girls. The boys will eventually be taught barbering. Shown here are two high school students working in a class. The instructor is Mrs. Sharman Davis, who volunteers to come in and teach two classes per week. The classes are held on Thursdays 1-3 p.m. She is very enthusiastic about the program and the kids are excited.

At first the students brought the materials they needed from home. But when Mrs. Davis went away, she purchased whatever supplies she could for the students since the more advanced they became the more equipment and supplies they needed to continue the course. More supplies and equipment are still needed. The students improvise as best they can with what they have and utilize school desks and chairs.

The photograph was taken during an actual examination and shows two of the students giving a facial to parents. In addition to an evaluation by Mrs. Davis, the opinions of the parents was taken into account as to how satisfied they were with the process and its result, how much they enjoyed it and how relaxed they felt.

Ms. Ruthamae Rolle, Principal of the Moore's Island All Age School, wishes to thank Mrs. Davis on behalf of the students, parents and department for all of her efforts.

Honor Roll Students 2006/2007

Grade 1: Shaquawn Davis, Wiltreco Hield, Rolontae Knowles, Giovanni Rolle, Burrell Stuart, Deshante Davis, Glennesha

Duncombe, Temia Rahming and Tanisha Stuart

Grade 2: Ethan Johnson, Anwar Johnson, Christie Davis, Khazeriah McBride, Davantee Tate, Mikayla Rolle and Kenrie Seymour

Grade 3: Megan Davis, Denijah Humes, Rancisha Knowles and Stevanna Thompson

Grade 4: Cardinal Gaitor, Wencil Gaitor, Stephon Green, Kevin Hunt, Carleward Johnson, Isaiah Stuart, Rashae Davis, Charlvanique Hield, Alferniece Simms and Kaylor Simms

Grade 5: Tishanda Cooper, Markwella Davis, Audrea Hield, Isrinique Rolle, Glenniece Culmer and Clanardo Davis

Grade 7: Shemiqic Stuart

Grade 8: Keriann Stuart, Nevandria Rolle and Anadescha Johnson

Grade 9: Mervann Davis and Santrecia Hield

Grade 10: Alando Williams, Judeen Davis, Gelece Gaitor, Jackiyn Davis, Latanya Hield and Kerstella Simms

Please see **South** Page 20



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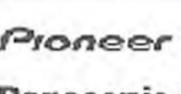
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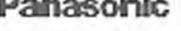
















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More South Abaco News

South From Page 18

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

After The Storm

Once again we were threatened with a late traveling storm and prepared for a direct hit from Tropical Storm Noel and were ready for the worst. However, Cherokee didn't suffer much more than wind damage and loss of small bushes and flowers. Noel did bring the parrots back to Cherokee early. They have been heard squawking up on the hill and spotted around the settlement in search of food, but then, they are some of our most welcome guests.

New Water Pipes

Work progresses on the laying of our new water pipes. The workers are moving fast and efficiently. As you can imagine,



Although the residents of Cherokee Sound had to put up with dust and inconvenience, the crew putting in water pipes throughout the community did an excellent job and got the job done very quickly.

the cutting of the ditches has been a dirty job. But as they cut and lay the pipes, they fill in the trenches and clean up as best they can. I do believe most of the settlement will have running water to their homes by Christmastime.

Senior Citizens Honoured

Cherokee Sound Primary School once again honoured its senior citizens with a luncheon on the school grounds on November 23. Approximately 30 persons attended a program and luncheon prepared just for them which was organized and served by the students. It was a turkey dinner with all the

trimmings including dessert. Of course, we're sure some of the credit should go to Ms. Michelle Lowe, the principal, her PTA and the parents of the children. But all who made the effort to come out certainly enjoyed themselves.

Christmas Wonderland

We in Cherokee don't have to travel to the North Pole or even to the big malls in the United States to see all the Christmas lights, Santa Claus and a winter wonderland because we have it right here in Cherokee. This year Ricky Sawyer has outdone himself. His outside Christmas decorations are bigger, better and more spectacular



The students of the Cherokee Sound Primary School put on a program and served lunch to the senior citizens of Cherokee on November 30. The seniors appreciated the thoughtfulness and effort that the students went to.

than ever. All the little children are wide-eyed when they see the display as well as

Please see **South**

Page 25



A trench had to be cut down the middle of all the narrow town roads so water pipes could be installed. The construction crew has installed the pipes and refilled the trenches ready to finish the job with concrete. They put in meters to residences at that same time.



Cherokee Sound decorates for the holidays. Lights, sleighs, Santas, everything imaginable. Ricky Sawyer adds to his decorations yearly.

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Abaco's New Immigration Superintendent Makes History

By Jennifer Hudson

Abaco's new Superintendent of Immigration, Mrs. Fausteen Major-Smith, officially took up office in Marsh Harbour on November 7 following the completion of a short turnover period from November 3 from former Superintendent of Immigration, Mr. Spence Hutcheson.

Mrs. Smith has 28 years of experience in the Immigration Department having begun as a trainee in Nassau on September 3, 1979. After receiving an Associate Degree from the College of the Bahamas, Mrs. Major Smith went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Professional Management from Nova University. "I am still studying and continuing to upgrade myself," she stated.

In 1983 Mrs. Smith was transferred to Freeport where she served until her posting to Abaco. Whilst on Grand Bahama she completed a short stay at West End and a seven-week stint on Bimini during the height of the drug trade. She spent 11 months on Walker's Cay. At the time of leaving Freeport she was the second in seniority.

During her career Mrs. Smith has received several promotions. "This is not easy for a woman," she says. This is her first posting as a Senior Officer outside Freeport, and she is making history as the first woman in charge of Immigration on Abaco.

"Although I did not quite know what to expect on coming here, I did know that Marsh Harbour is a very busy port. All of the immigration applications for Abaco are processed in Freeport since 1999 so I have seen the large number coming in to Freeport for processing. We know that businesses need quick replies on work permit applications so here on Abaco we send them off straight away. But people have to remember that they have to wait for the decisions to be returned from Freeport."

The illegal immigration situation here is something Mrs. Smith is very aware of, and she would like to see more Immigration Officers stationed on Abaco. "We are trying to combat the illegal immigrant situation but cannot do it with the insufficient amount of manpower here. For a large round-up we have to call in the assistance of the Police, Customs and Defence Force Officers. The airport here appears to be even more busy than Freeport and more Immigration Officers are needed at the airport."

Mrs. Smith is married with three older children and one younger child of 11 years who is a student at Forest Heights Academy. Her posting here is for 12 months as was her predecessor's but she states, "I will be willing to stay on longer if asked but as a government officer I have to move whenever and wherever they decide."

Solid waste landfill is closer to opening

A quick inspection of the new solid waste landfill site between Snake Cay and Spring City was made on November 26 by a team from the Ministry of Health while on Abaco inspecting government clinics. The group was headed by Dr. Hubert Minnis, Minister of Health and Social Development and included Mr. Henry Moxey of the Department of Environmental Health Services. Getting electricity to the site and awarding a management contract are the two major items remaining to be done.

Using the site to its fullest expectations will be a process taking several years of establishing the protocols for its use. Another phase of its operation involves educating the public and contractors using the facility as to proper disposal methods and how to best use accepted environmental methods for recycling.

A public meeting will be held December 5 at 7 p.m. at the Central Abaco Primary School to explain elements of the new landfill operation near Snake Cay.

Corrections

An article in this paper on November 15 concerning the Man-O-War dump had several misconceptions that should be clarified.

Garbage is normally removed from the Man-O-War dump on Fridays by a large flatbed barge. The barge came a day early which coincided with an inspection of the

site by the Hope Town District Council leaving the impression that garbage was removed to give an exceptionally clean site for the inspection. It should be noted that the normal day, Friday, was a holiday, Columbus Day, that caused the barge to schedule the trip a day earlier.

Reference was made to weekly removal being desired as opposed to every two weeks as was done last spring. The removal of the large bins was changed to each week during the summer. Twice a week removal is still desired but present funding does not permit this.

Smaller bins were mentioned which the local freight boats could easily handle. These small bins are visible all around Marsh Harbour and work well. However, they are handled and emptied by special trucks. For this reason using these bins on the cays is not practical at this time. Neither are the operators of the freight barges serving these islands anxious to mix a load of garbage with their normal freight.

A comment that future funding for garbage removal on Elbow Cay might be in jeopardy was not correct. The entire trash handling system is under review and changes can be expected. Although changes to the various methods for garbage removal may take place, the service will continue to be provided.

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Friends organize bird watching excursions

By Jennifer Hudson.

The Friends of the Environment's two ornithology groups are in full swing having made four very successful bird watching trips since September 29. The Treasure Cay group goes out on the first Saturday of every month while the Marsh Harbour group's schedule is a little more flexible. Between six and eight avid bird watchers assemble at 6.30 a.m. and usually return about midday. The Marsh Harbour group "birds" from Marsh Harbour to Sandy Point in the south targeting a different area each time while in the north "birding" is

limited mainly to around the Treasure Cay area.

In October the areas covered in the south were from Hole-in-the-Wall to Crossing Rocks and an amazing 53 species of birds were sighted including such wonderful names as white cheeked pintail, oven bird, ruddy turnstone, grey cat bird and great yellow legs.

In October the North Abaco group spotted 42 species between the areas of Sunset Point Bluff, Split Point, Treasure Cay Blue Hole and Bahama Star Farm including the belted kingfisher, western stripe-headed

tanager and Eurasian collared dove.

These bird watching trips will be ongoing and anyone interested in joining is invited to check out the Friends of the Environment website at www.friendsoftheenvironment.org or call Anita Knowles at 367-2721.

This year the ornithology groups will be carrying out two Christmas Bird Counts in conjunction with the Audubon Society. On December 15 the expedition will take in the area of South Abaco and on December 29 the concentration will be in North Abaco around Treasure Cay, the Bahama Star Farm and possibly as far out as Green Turtle Cay.

Anyone interested in bird watching is invited to join in any or all of the trips. No experience in birding or knowledge of species is necessary. "Amateur bird watchers are welcome and can learn a lot from the experienced birders," says Anita Knowles, Secretary of Friends. "Ron Pagliaro and Reg Patterson are very knowledgeable and share their expertise freely with all, explaining specifics to watch for."

Items to bring on a trip are binoculars and bird identification books if you have them. However, the lack of these is not a deterrent to attending as the Friends has a limited number of binoculars to loan and bird identification books can be purchased



Friends of the Environment have monthly bird watching trips that initiate in Treasure Cay and in Marsh Harbour. The groups include expert birders as well as novices.

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North Abaco News

Stay Focused

By Vernique Russell

With less than a month remaining in this school, the young people of North Abaco are encouraged to stay focused and work hard for success. Examinations are just around the corner and students are encouraged to study hard and do their best. Create time to study your work before entering the examination arena. Remember education unlocks the door to success. Hard work along with determination will guarantee your success. Stay focused!

Recent Events at Sherlin Bootle

By Vernique Russell

The first half of this term has been a very exciting one at the Sherlin Bootle High School. Students and teachers have all been busy and working extremely hard to make this school year the best ever. The students of Grade-12 have all now completed their school work hours on a Saturday, which is a requirement for graduation. A meeting of both parents and students was hosted by Guidance Officer, Mrs. Mackey-Russell, to bring everyone up to date with school policies. Topics discussed included graduation requirements and scholarships.

The After School Program is up and running again. Students can receive assistance in any subject area. On October 16th National Boss Day was celebrated and in recognition of this a fruit basket was presented to Principal Huel Moss on behalf of the teachers and students. In an attempt to prepare her grade-12 Religious Studies students for life after high school, Ms. Demeritte staged an incredibly realistic

wedding at the school – from a chauffeur-driven limousine for the bride to a four-course meal at the reception. It was all part of course requirements.

This year students were given the opportunity to campaign for the envied head girl and head boy and deputy head boy and head girls positions. This was the first time in the school's history that this took place. Students, however, were required to meet a certain criteria before being eligible to run. At the end of the election period, Ruth Lubin had secured the Head Girl spot with Alannah Curry as her Deputy. Leonardo Simms and Josler Pierre secured the Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy position, respectively.

District Superintendent, Mrs. Lenora Black, hosted a well attended North Abaco Parents Meeting at the S.C. Bootle High School in September. Parents were given an overview of the Ministry of Education Abaco Division plans for North Abaco.

S.C. Bootle along with Cooper's Town Primary School started the year off with a very special Prayer Breakfast. Prayers were offered for the students, parents, teachers and the school grounds. The Prayer Breakfast was held to ask the Master above to take control of the school and for His will to be accomplished.

Several teachers, along with a few parents, assisted two workers from the Ministry of Works in taking down the tent in the court yard before the arrival of Tropical Storm Noel. There was no damage to the school. Plans have been made to make up the days that were lost due to the storm.

The year Principal Moss and his team are looking forward to even greater things

to come. With the addition of new teachers and programs, there is no doubt that this year will be the envy of years past. Principal Moss is requesting that parents along with other concern citizens continue to support the school. After all, it's our school. For more frequent updates, visit the school's website at www.sbootle-highschool.org.

Congratulations

By Vernique Russell

Congratulations to K'Yvonne Lopez, a ninth grade student at Sherlin Bootle High School, for her recent performance in the Bahamas Junior Certificate examinations. She passed mathematics with an A. She is also being congratulated for having achieved the highest GPA in the school for the last school year.

On October 27th Ms. Varnette Sawyer, daughter of Ms. Cokan Sawyer of Fire Road and Mr. Mackey Rolle of Cooper's Town, and Mr. Ray Stuart joined heart and hands as they exchanged vows. The ceremony took place in Nassau and was of-



Mr. and Mrs. Mackey Rolle officiated by Pastor Rodney Roberts, assisted by other ministers. The happy couple will reside in Nassau. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Stuart on their new life together. Congratulations from the North Abaco communities, especially Fire Road.

New Business

By Vernique Russell

Blossom's Clothing for men and woman is the newest business to open in North Abaco. Blossom's is located in the Brent Lowe Plaza in Treasure Cay just south

Please see **North**

Page 25

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More South Abaco News

South *From Page 20*

some of the adults. If you want to get in the Christmas mood or just want to enjoy a wonderful sight, just come to Cherokee and stop by Ricky's place for a real treat.

Condolences

A memorial service was held at Epworth Methodist Church on November 10 for Rhonda Jo Albury. She was born in the States to William and Hazel King on October 17th, 1965. And through her Mother's second marriage, she became the step-daughter of Junior Williams. She spent much of her life in Florida. Her family moved to Abaco living in Cassuarina Point in the 1980s to work for the Orange Grove conglomerate known as BG Hammond. Rhonda was aspiring to be a sketch artist for the company when she met Larry

Albury of Cherokee Sound. They soon married and returned to Florida where they made their home and where their only daughter Caitlyn was born. However, they again returned to Abaco and set up housekeeping in Cherokee and have lived here for the past eight years. Larry worked at the rock plant, Rhonda nursed

and cared for the elderly and Caitlyn attended school in Cherokee.

Rhonda is survived by her husband Larry, daughter Caitlyn, brother Jeff (also living in Cherokee) as well as many other family members in the States and a host of good friends. Rhonda's passing was sudden and unexpected. She was such an energetic and vivacious person, always with a smile on her face and cheerful word for all she met. She will be greatly missed.



Rhonda Albury



Animated characters decorate the yard of Ricky Sawyer in Cherokee. Lights and decorations help get the residents in the mood for Christmas.

More North Abaco News

North *From Page 24*

of the airport. It carries a wide variety of clothing from casual to professional to elegant wear in sizes ranging from small to plus sizes. Blossom's also carries a large variety of under clothing and apparel for children. Stop by and check out Blossom's today. The store hours are from 10 a.m- 6 p.m, Monday through Saturday.

Church News

By Vernique Russell

First Lady Miriam Emmanuel of Good Samaritan Ministries in Nassau will be hosting revival services in Ingraham's Park in Cooper's Town on November 21st through 23rd. The public is invited to attend. Healing, deliverance and break-

through are guaranteed.

Pastor Kenny Carroll of Refuge Tabernacle Ministries in Nassau was on Abaco hosting revivals services and walk-about in the settlements of Cedar Harbour, Murphy Town and Crossing Rocks. He thanks all who opened their homes to him as he was about the Master's business.

In an effort to raise funds for transportation, Full Gospel Women's Ministry will be hosting a Tea Party at the home of Women's Ministry President Melvern and Ornel Cornish. The Tea Party will be held on November 24. A large variety of teas and Bahamians delights will be served. Donation for this event is \$10 per person. The public is invited to support this worthy event.

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MOTOR HOME LIFE TRAVEL

Abaco Police Reserves distribute goodie bags



On November 22nd, Thanksgiving Day, the Abaco Police Reserves distributed packages to Sybil's House and senior citizens in the communities of Dundas Town and Murphy Town. The items donated to Sybil's House included cleaning supplies such as bleach, disinfectant, deodorizer, and air freshener. In the packages for the senior citizens were canned goods (cream, tuna, corn beef, vegetable soup), rice, grits, soap, and toilet tissue. The items were donated by Price Right, Bethany Church, and Reserve Sargeant Newbold. This is the second year these officers have given out items to the elderly and, according to Newbold, this has now become an annual thing for them to do. The reserve officers assisting with the distribution of items were R-Sgt. Newbold, R-Cpl. Boscom, WR-Const. Deveaux, WR-Const. Johnson, R-Const. Johnson, and the leader of the reserves, R-Insp. Beatrice Moxey. Also shown with the officers is Supt. Wayne Miller.

Check Out

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Obituaries of Family and Friends

Marianne Orr Quackenbush Christensen passed away suddenly on September 12th at Bethesda North hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. She leaves behind a legacy of volunteerism, a loving family and friends. She will be fondly remembered and missed by all who knew her.

Marianne, or "Babe" as she was more informally known, was born in Cincinnati on December 18, 1926. She married John V. Quackenbush and together they had three children, Ellie, John and Taylor. In 1968 the couple moved to Hope Town where they lived until Mr. Quackenbush's death in 1972. During their time in Hope Town, Babe was an active volunteer at the town's library and the American School in White Sound and was a member of the Hope Town Sailing Club.

When the family lost their son, Taylor while living in Hope Town, they contributed to the improvement of a town park which was renamed in Taylor's memory. The park, located near Vernon's Grocery, was created for the town's enjoyment.

She returned to Cincinnati, where, in 1976, she married Harold S. Mercier. They

spent their winters in Hope Town. After his death in 1997, Marianne remained in their home in Cincinnati until she married Paul Christensen in November of 2006.

She is survived by husband Paul Christensen; daughter Ellie Delaplaine and son John Quackenbush Jr.; stepdaughters Susanne Smith, Delle Jones, Sally Reynolds and Lucy Davis; granddaughters Lindsey McCoy, Alison Webster and grandson Taylor Quackenbush; step-grandchildren Brooks Gassett, Sarah Gay, Dede Persson, Ellie Davis, Kal Davis, Jeny Reynolds and Chris Reynolds; great-grandchildren Benji Webst Webster and Griffin McCoy.

A memorial service was held at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town on November 23rd. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to the Hope Town Association for Taylor Park.

Harold Smith of Dundas Town was found dead of natural causes before dawn on October 21 by his sister at her residence.

Elwood Gehlert of Treasure Cay died in an ambulance en route to a medical flight in the early evening of October 24. He had been suffering from congestive heart failure.

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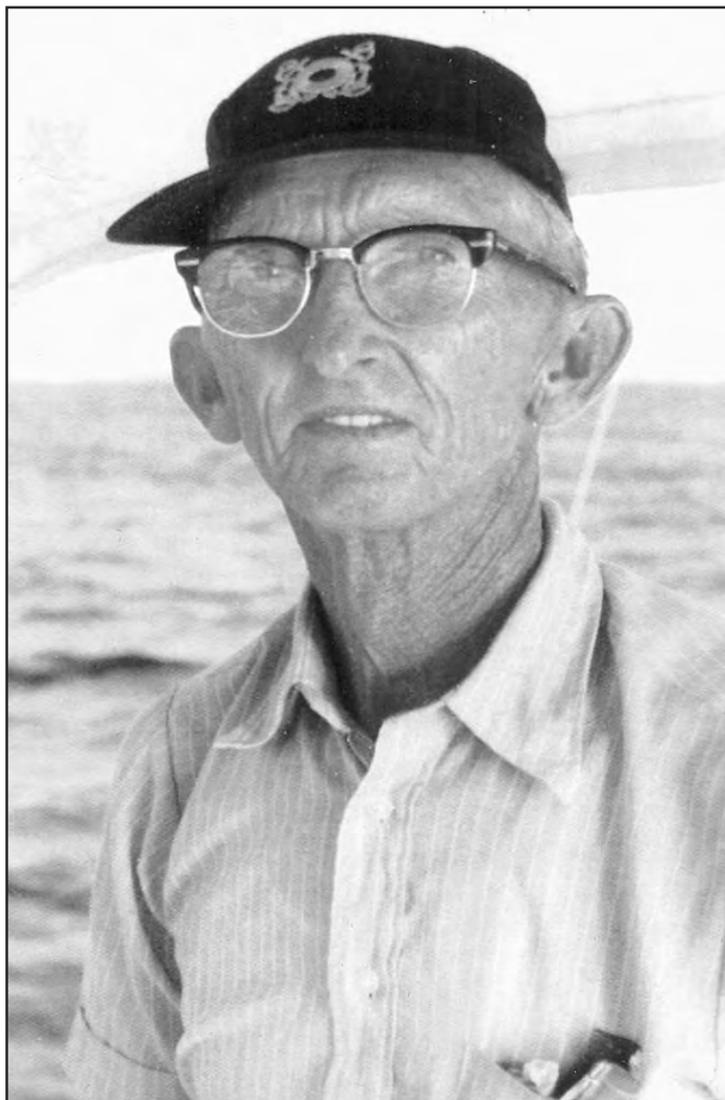
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Robert Lucien Stratton



Seven years after the fact and still no clues, no leads and no suspect apprehended. It's incredulous!! We write today to remember that seven years ago this December 18th, 2007, our grandfather, Robert Lucien Stratton, was shockingly and gruesomely murdered at his home in Marsh Harbour. Along with this wickedness, his two daughters were brutally abused.

Various letters to Prime Ministers, Commissioner of Police, U.S. Ambassadors have found no relief in an attempt to keep this investigation alive. The ongoing uncertainty and lack of closure in the investigation, and psychological impact of the event has played its part in forever changing the fabric of our family.

Countless letters received after this incident described our grandfather as a kind and gentle man, a man whose mark will always be etched in the developmental history of this island.

After the losses of his son Van in March of 2000, and of his wife Phemie in May of the same year, during the end of 2000, Lucien was finally beginning to recover and a spring in his step was reemerging. Then the morning of December 18th, 2000, unfolded to Marsh Harbour experiencing one of the most brutal events of its quiet history.

The family of Lucien Stratton wish to keep his memory alive and in this effort an appeal goes out to the authorities to dust off the files and re-energize an effort to get to the bottom of this unsolved murder.

Today, we remember our grandfather, father, moral compass, and friend. A man of integrity, a man we miss every day, and whose shoes we would find most difficult to fill.

Sincerely,
The Family of Robert Lucien Stratton

Police Crime Report

Vehicle Fire - A driver reported about 8 a.m. on October 19 that his truck caught fire while being driven near the Chelsea Water plant on S.C. Bootle Highway in Marsh Harbour.

House Break-in - A house on Pelican Shores in Marsh Harbour was broken into sometime between October 9 and 19. Nothing appeared to be taken although a door was damaged to gain entry.

Causing Harm - A little after dawn on October 19 a woman living in the Mud suffered injuries when punched in the mouth by her ex-boyfriend.

Unlawfully Carrying Arms and Disorderly Behaviour - A resident of the Mud was arrested October 19 at the Marsh Harbour police station when he entered and caused a commotion carrying two cutlasses and a stick. He intended to harm another man there under arrest for being disorderly in the station..

Unlawful Entry and Stealing - An unlocked sliding door at the Regattas condominium in Marsh Harbour allowed someone to enter sometime during the night of October 18 and take cash from the occupant's bag.

Traffic Accident - An anonymous call about 8:15 p.m. on October 19 led police to a pickup truck which had rolled over several times on the highway near Bahama Palm Shores. The driver, Prince Alvin Strachan, had been thrown out and was found dead at the scene.

House Breaking and Stealing - A house near the Regattas in Marsh Harbour was broken into between October 17 and 19. A small amount of cash was taken.

Causing Damage - Before dawn on October 21 a woman living in the Mud had her front door, a mirror and two windows broken by her boyfriend. Damages exceeded \$600.

House Breaking - A house on Eastern Shores, Marsh Harbour, was broken into during the night of October 21 by cutting a window screen. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

Stealing from Vehicle - A resident of Green Turtle Cay reported that two tires and a rear view mirror were removed from her car sometime between October 13 and 22 while it was parked at the Treasure Cay ferry landing.

Shop Breaking - A window was smashed at the administration building at Abaco Central High School during the night of October 21. The Vice Principle's office was "ram shacked" but nothing appeared to be missing.

Shop Breaking and Stealing - During the night of October 21 a burglar entered a Laundromat on the S.C. Bootle Highway near Treasure Cay and stole a case of Cracker Jacks, a case of Honey Buns, six sodas and eight bottles of water all valued at \$43.

Stealing from a Dwelling - A resident of Abaco Beach Hotel reported on October 22 that someone entered her house during the previous 30 days and stole an envelope containing cash.

Disorderly Behavior - A man in the Mud was arrested in mid-afternoon for disorderly conduct and using obscene language.

Stealing - While attending a wedding

at Trumpet Assembly Church in Dundas Town in the afternoon of October 13, a woman had her cell phone taken from her purse.

House Breaking and Stealing - A guest at the Lofty Fig Villas in Marsh Harbour reported that his villa had been broken into during the night of October 21. Cash, two cameras and eye glasses were taken.

Causing Harm and Threat of Death - Late in the afternoon of October 22, a woman in Murphy Town reported that her boyfriend took her cell phone, gave her a beating and threatened to kill her if she went to the police.

Shop Breaking and Stealing - Imports Limited in Hope Town was broken into during the night of October 22 through a bathroom window. A substantial amount of cash was taken.

Stealing - Four hundred pounds of copper were stolen during the night of October 22 from property on the S.C. Bootle highway. Four men were arrested October 23 concerning this theft. Three were from Freeport and one was from Abaco. While searching the property occupied by one of the men, marijuana was found. While at the police station, a further search found a small plastic bag of cocaine between the buttocks of one of the men. Additional charges were filed.

Shop Breaking and Stealing - Clothing was stolen during an overnight break-in on October 22 at the Chester Lowe's Clothing Store on the S.C. Bootle Highway.

Shop Breaking and Stealing - Cash was taken during an overnight break-in on October 22 at the K & Q Meat Mart in Treasure Cay.

House Breaking and Stealing - Two gold chains and some hats were stolen during a daytime break-in to a house in Dun-

das Town on October 23. A Murphy Town man was arrested that night who admitted to the theft of two gold chains, three hats, two shirts and two boxer shorts. A Dundas Town woman was arrested later that night who admitted to being outside the house during the robbery but claimed she did not participate in the robbery.

Breaking and Entering - The Latter Rain Church in Dundas Town was broken into during the night of October 23 by someone removing a window air conditioner. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

Shop Breaking - The Brothers #2 Fish House on Grand Cay was broken into on October 24. Taken were 280 pounds of lobsters valued at \$2,714.

Arrest - A Dundas Town man turned himself in and was arrested on October 25 in reference to a number of matters.

Causing Harm - A 19-year-old pregnant woman was beaten by her ex-boyfriend after dusk while at the basketball court at the Mud on October 26.

Attempted Break-in - A door panel had been removed from the administration building at Abaco Central High School. The unsuccessful break-in was discovered late Sunday afternoon on October 28.

Arrest for Dangerous Drugs - After a chase at daybreak on October 27, the police stopped a car with three nervous occupants. A search found a bag of marijuana. Three men from Dundas Town were arrested.

Shop Break-in - The M & K Variety Store in Murphy Town was broken into during the night of November 2. A glass door was smashed and about \$75 worth of groceries were taken. A suspect was

Please see **Crime**

Page 29

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Crime From Page 28

named.
House Break-in - A house outside Fire Road was broken into during the night of November 3 and a case and a half of beer was stolen.

Assault - A Murphy Town woman was pushed and nearly fell on November 2. Subsequently a Murphy Town woman was arrested for trespassing and assault.

Arrest for Dangerous Drugs - A 24-year-old Hope Town man was arrested on November 4 after police searched his house and found marijuana.

Arrest for Dangerous Drugs - Police searched another house in Hope Town on November 4 and arrested a 22-year-old man for possession of marijuana.

Letters From Page 9

a vital issue as to what is going on here on Abaco.

I saw an article some time back about the locals being encouraged to invest in their local economy. If they decide on hotel rentals, they should have their head examined. You don't stand a chance as long as our government continues to allow the second homeowners to rent their homes. On Guana Cay 99 percent of the second homeowners are renting their homes and continue to build with this in mind. The government is only cutting itself short because it is not making anything out of the deal. They set up their websites in the States; therefore, the money stays there. Guana Cay is not the only island suffering this fate.

I could not get my wife to register or vote in the last election because of this issue. This matter has been brought up with our past and present Members of Parliament. Do you need facts? My sister has just closed down a \$2 to \$3 million hotel business, Seashore Villas on Guana Cay, and she will not be the only one in The Bahamas. I did vote in the last election, hoping something could come out of this matter. This business has put five people out of a job.

Therefore, this is for locals that are going into the hotel business: dig a hole in your backyard and bury your money. You would be better off.

Thanks again,
 Randy Roberts

Island Café Now Open

By Samantha V. Evans

Abaco now has another eatery that is sure to be a hit with residents. Island Café opened its doors in the Abaco Shopping Plaza in Marsh Harbour on November 18th with hours that are sure to please. On Monday through Thursday they are open from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. On Friday and Saturday they are open until 10 p.m., and on Sunday their hours are 8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. The owners of the Café are Erica Albury and Deedee Roberts. Mrs. Albury stated that they serve breakfast, lunch and dinner and specialize in native Bahamian dishes. However, Island Café is more than an eat-

ery; they are a full ice cream parlor serving all types of ice cream, milkshakes, sundaes and gourmet pastries.

Mrs. Albury stated that this café is something she and her mom, Deedee, talked about opening for families to go to eat and just socialize. It is also a place where young people especially can come to hang out, have fun and eat. They do not sell anything alcoholic and do not plan to. They will soon offer hot dogs, popcorn and other items that are sure to be a hit with youth, young adults and parents. The phone number at Island Café is 367-6444.

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M/V LEGEND



M/V LEGACY

Fishing *From Page 1*

to capture or possess marine turtles. Changes have also been made to clarify what a sports fishing visitor can legally take aboard his vessel when leaving The Bahamas. A foreign vessel that had a valid sports fishing permit can take out of the country the same amount of marine products equal to that amount that could be legally aboard under these new regulations. For example, a tournament participant who may have caught 25 pelagic fish. But on leaving The Bahamas, they will only be allowed to take the maximum of 18 of those fish with them.

Mr. Cartwright feels that these new regulations will set limits for visitors that will let them to enjoy visiting The Bahamas without allowing an unscrupulous minority to exploit the country's marine resources.

The new revised regulations "specifically prohibit" the sale of fishery products caught by visitors using a sports fishing permit. Mr. Cartwright received many complaints that persons were using sports fishing permits for commercial purposes and he wants this to stop.

"To eliminate confusion about the right to engage in sports or recreational fishing," he stated, "persons who have the status of permanent resident of The Bahamas will, for the purposes of the regulations governing sports fishing, be treated the same as Bahamians.

Some of the changes made previously resulted in confusion regarding sports fishing tournaments. "Consequently, the sports fishing tournaments that were scheduled to take place this year were thrown into disarray and in the midst of uncertainty, many regular visitors to The Bahamas who used sports fishing as a vacation or recreational activity chose to either stay away from The Bahamas or to curtail their number of visits

here," Minister Cartwright said. Minister Cartwright underscored that persons wishing to host sports fishing tournaments must now submit a formal application form and provide relevant details of the number of persons and vessels expected to participate as well as the rules proposed for the tournament. "If approved, the appropriate permit will be issued to the tournament director," the Minister stated. "The fee for such a permit is \$500. All vessels participating in the tournament will be provided with a decal identifying themselves as participants." The Minister lamented that many Family Island hotels and marinas reported significant reductions in bookings because of the confusion.

Box Car *From Page 2*

or wine and a potent gin and coconut water concoction. The proceeds from the sale of food and drinks went to various organizations. The Hope Town School had a baked items table. Mrs. Candace Key, the school Principal said that the money would go towards the school's general funds. At the end of the day, cakes were auctioned. One orange cake sold for \$70, bought by a Baker's Bay's employee, Mr. George Smith. Some of the proceeds from drinks and T-shirts sale went to help the youth of the community with sports programs and to the Long Island Relief as a gesture of goodwill towards the residents of that island who suffered damages from flooding during Tropical Storm Noel.

The race ended with a shower of sparks and confetti shot from fire crackers attached to the rear of Stafford Stream Line, the car entered by Mr. Patterson. That was followed by the trophy and prize presentation. Trophies went to the winners of each race. The overall first prize of \$100 went to Mr. Rick Sweetings, who raced with

his futuristic streamlined cart New Creation and the second prize of \$50 went to Froggie's owned by Mr. Lambert Albury. Twenty five dollars was given to the third place winner. In the Junior category, ECC received the first prize, the second went to Tony Lowe and third to 13-year-old Brendon Albury.

The organizers were pleased and felt that the event was successful and well attended.

Baker's Bay *From Page 13*

wherever they can. They are very supportive and give back. I think Baker's Bay will be great for Abaco. They've provided jobs for construction workers and the people of Abaco. You know our economy is probably the best in The Bahamas right now, and I think that is in great part due to Baker's Bay," Ms. Fox said.

Discovery Land Company, the developer of Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club, is a development firm specializing in the creation of world-class golf and residential communities. Additional information on the company and their other developments and projects can be found at www.Discoverylandco.com.

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 + agents with multiple cottages and houses

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

Island-wide Abaco Listings

Abaco Vacations +	800-633-9197
Bahamas Vacations +	800-462-2426
Abaco Bound +	242-367-5576

Casuarina Point

Different of Abaco	8 rm 20 cott	366-2150
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Cherokee

Lee Pinder +	3 hse	366-2053
Marina Albury Cottages	5 cottages	366-2075

Grand Cay

Rosie's Place		352-5458
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Green Turtle Cay

Cocobay Cottages	6 cott	365-5464
Island Properties +	34 hse	365-4047
New Plymouth Inn	9 rm	365-4161
Ocean Blue Properties +	30	365-4636
Roberts Cottages	3 cott	365-4105

Guana Cay

Dive Guana	11 hse	365-5178
Dolphin Bch Resort	4 rm 10 cott.	365-5137
Donna Sands +	12 hse	365-5195
Guana Beach Resort	6 units	365-5133
Guana Seaside	8 rm 7 cott	365-5106
Harbour View Haven		365-5028
Ocean Frontier		519-389-4846
Sea Shore Villas		365-5028
Ward's Landing	4 units	904-982-2762

Hope Town

Abaco Inn	22 rm	366-0133
Club Soleil	6 rm 1 cott	366-0003
Crystal Villas	7 villas	888-812-2243
Elbow Cay Prop +	53 hse	366-0035
Hope T Harb Lodge	25 rm	366 0095
Hope T Hideaways +	63 hse	366-0224
Hope T Villas +	3 hse	366-0030
Lighthouse Rentals	4 cott	366-0154
Sea Gull Cottages +	3 hse	366-0266
Sea Spray Resort	5 villas	366-0065
Tanny Key +	43 hse	366-0053
Turtle Hill	4 villas	366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages	4 hse	366-3121
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Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals +	8 hse	365-6048
Schooner's Landing	5 condos	365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort	82 rms	367-2158
Abaco Real Estate +	6 hse	367-2719
Alesia's	3 rms	367-4460
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 3	367-3980
Great Abaco Club +	12 hse	367-4151
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 eff	367-0148

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp	8 rm	366-6334
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Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort		366-4139
Pete & Gay's Resort	14 rm	366-4119
Rickmon's Bonefishing	10 rm	366-4477

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort	18 rm 6 hse	365-0083
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Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club		365-8500
Island Dreams +	45 hse	365-8507
Treasure Cay Resort	95 rms	365-8801

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel	19 rm 3 villa	365-2222
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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.oii.net>
<http://www.bahamas.com>

Rev. Sep 07



Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Compliments of The Abaconian
www.abaconian.com
 Area code 242 unless noted otherwise

Emergency Services	
Police - Marsh Harbour	367-2560
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
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas	Marine VHF 16
Hope Town 366-0500	Marsh Harbour 367-3752
Guana Cay 365-5178	Treasure Cay 365-8749

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

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers	
Plus extra for each passenger above two	
• Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:	
Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr	\$12 + \$3
Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru	
Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market	\$10 + \$2
Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto	\$ 6 + \$2
Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Murphy Town to Shell Sta	\$14 + \$4
Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house	\$14 + \$4
Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house	\$14 + \$4
Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house	\$16 + \$5
Great Cistern	\$20 + \$5
Spring City	\$15 + \$5
Snake Cay	\$35 + \$10
Treasure Cay	\$60 + \$10
Casuarina Point	\$60 + \$10
Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores	\$70 + \$10
Little Harbour or Cherokee	\$80 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135 + \$10
• Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore	\$ 2 each
Jib Room	\$ 3 each
Solomon's Super Center	\$5 + \$3
Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock	\$ 6 + \$3
Government Freight Dock	\$ 7 + \$3
Gov. Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance	\$ 9 + \$3
Mother Merle restaurant	\$10 + \$3
Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour	
Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people	
Luggage \$1.00 each over four, Surf boards \$4.00 ea.	
• Between Treasure Cay Airport and: Effective 13 Nov 05	
Treasure Cay Resort	\$20 + \$5
Madeira Park	\$14 + \$4
Green Turtle Cay ferry dock	\$8 + \$4
Moxy	\$18 + \$5
Bahamas Star farm	\$24 + \$5
Sand Banks	\$24 + \$5
Joe's Creek, Leisure Lee	\$44 + \$10
Black Wood	\$18 + \$5
Fire Road & Cooper's Town	\$37 + \$5
Cedar Harbour	\$55 + \$5
Wood Cay	\$60 + \$5
Mount Hope	\$65 + \$5
Fox Town	\$70 + \$5
Crown Haven	\$75 + \$5
Marsh Harbour Airport	\$75 + \$10
T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$65 + \$10
T C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry (Blue Hole \$24)	\$18 + \$ 5
T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles	\$22 + \$5
T C Hotel to Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
T C Hotel to Moxey	\$16 + \$5
T C Hotel to Banyan Bch Club XX	\$6 + \$3
Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport	\$75 +

Airlines Serving Abaco	
Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is	367-2266
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau, W. Palm B, Ft Laud	367-2095
Chaulks - Ft. Lauderdale	954-359-0329
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
Island Express - Ft Lauderdale	367-0169
Southern Air - Nassau	367-2498
Twin Air Calypso - Fort Lauderdale	367-0140
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale	367-0032
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S. Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-3450

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

Items of interest • Man-O-War boat yards • Blackwood blue hole & sisal mill • Cedar Harbour plantation ruins - need guide • Hole in Wall lighthouse - last mire very rough road • Abaco wild horses by appointment 367-4805 • Bird watching - ask tourism 367-3067	
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Ferry Schedules • Departure times shown • Daily service unless noted

Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War - 20 minutes from Crossing Beach
 Marsh Harbour to Guana Cay - 40 minutes

Abaco Ferry Service VHF Ch 16 • MH/HT One way \$15 / RT \$20 • Children 6 - 12 half fare,
Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 7:00am* 8:50 10:20 12: pm 1:55 3:55* 5:40
 (Limited Sunday Schedule) **Return** 7:55 am 9:30 11 12:30pm* 2:55 5 6:15
Marsh Harbour > White Sound 7am 12pm 3:15 **Return** 7:40 1:10 4:25
 * to or from White Sound

Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16
Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 7:15 am 9 10:30 12:15 pm 2 4 5:45
 Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 6:30
Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War 10:30 am 12:15 pm 4 5:45*
 Return 8 am 11:30 1:30 pm 4:30

Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) from Conch Inn * Not on Sundays
 (6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30
 Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45
 Same day fare • Adult prepaid oneway \$16 / Round Trip \$22, •• Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free

Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16 • Ten minute ride
Green T Cay to Treasure Cay Airport 8 am 9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30
T Cay Airport to Green T Cay 8:30 am 10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
 New Plymouth one way adult \$10 (Children \$7) • Round trip \$15 • Extra to some G T Cay docks

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT
T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25 , call for time

Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -
Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - return Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm
 Fare \$45 OW / \$90 RT • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information
 Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Bahamas Ferries Sandy Point to Nassau under 4 Hr. Call Sandy Point 366-4119
 or Marsh Harbour 367-5250 for sailing dates • Adults \$95 RT, \$55 OW • Cars & trucks

Enovahs Bus Service - Hourly bus through Murphy Town, Dundas Town & Marsh Harbour to Ferry dock. Spring City early morning & late afternoon.

The Great Abaco Express Marsh Harbour bus to N Abaco • Call 367-2165
 Lv Marsh H. 5 am & 12:30 pm, connect with ferry to Grand Bahama & bus to Freeport
 Lv Crown Haven 9:30 am & 5:30 pm bringing ferry passengers to Marsh Harbour

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone	
Walker's Cay	
Walker's Cay	Closed
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	45..... F..... 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32..... F..... 365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15..... 365-4531
Other Shore Club	12..... F..... 365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10..... F..... 365-4033
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Cay Marina	150..... F..... 365-8250
Man-O-War	
Man-O-War Marina	26..... F..... 365-6008
Marsh Harbour	
Boat Harbour Marina	183..... F..... 367-2736
Conch Inn	75..... F..... 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36..... F..... 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52 F 367 2700
Hope Town	
Hope Town Marina	16..... 366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways	..... 366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6..... F..... 366-0154
Sea Spray	50..... F..... 366-0065

Spanish Cay	
Spanish Cay Marina	75..... F..... 365-0083
Guana Cay	
Orchid Bay	32..... F..... 365-5175
Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour	

Tours & Excursions	
Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour	367-2936
Above & Below • Marsh Harbour	367-0350
Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour	367-2787
Brendals Dive • Green Turtle Cay	365-4411
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope T	366-0024
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope T	366-0431

Points of Interest	
Albert Lowe Museum	.....Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits	.....Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	..... Green Turtle Cay
Wyannine Malone Historical Museum	.....Hope Town
Elbow Cay Light Station	.....Hope Town
Walk to & swim on Mermaid Reef off M Harb. Pelican Shore	
Drive to & swim in Blue Hole off Treasure Cay farm road	
Art studio & working foundry- Little Harbour	
Pocket beaches • Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour	
• Witches Point - 3 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
• Little Harbour - 20 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
• Cherokee - 23 miles S of Marsh Harbour	
Miles of beach are generally on ocean exposures	
• Treasure Cay • Green Turtle Cay	
• Guana Cay • Man-O-War Cay • Elbow Cay • Casuarina Point • Bahama Palm Shore • Sandy Point & more	

Bonefish Guides		
Sandy Point	Cherokee	
Patrick Roberts .. 366-4286	Theodore Sawyer ...366-2111	
Nicholas Roberts	Will Sawyer..... 366-2177	
Derrick Gaitor	Marty Sawyer..... 366-2115	
Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133	Noel Lowe .....366-2107	
Vernal Burrows	Randy Sawyer .....366-2284	
Kendall White	Casuarina Point	
Anthony Bain 366-4107	Junior Albury .....366-3058	
Floyd Burrows 366-4175	Budy Pinder .....366-2165	
Links Adderly 366-4335	Hope Town	
Valentino Lightbourne	Maitland Lowe .....366-0234	
Ricky Burrows 366-4233	North Abaco	
Marsh Harbour	O'Donald McIntosh ..477-5037	
Jody Albury 375-8068	Pope McKenzie .....477-5894	
Terrance Davis.... 367-4464	Orthnell Russell .....365-0125	
Buddy Pinder 366-2163	Alexander Rolle .....365-0120	
Justin Sands 367-3526	Edward Rolle .....365-0024	
Danny Sawyer..... 367-3577	Green Turtle Cay	
Jay Sawyer 367-3941	Ronnie Sawyer .....365-4070	
	Jeff Survance .....365-4040	
	Ricky Sawyer .....365-4261	
Man-O-War		
David Albury 365-6059		
Crossing Rocks		
Tony Russell .....366-3259		

To Abaco by land and sea from Florida • Take Discovery Cruise Line (954-971-7347) from Ft. Lauderdale or CloudX ferry (866-473-3779) from West Palm Beach to Freeport • Bus to McLeans Town • Ferry to Crown Haven • Bus to Green Turtle Ferry or Marsh Harbour • Taxi to Marsh Harbour ferry dock • Ferry to Hope Town, Man-O-War or Guana Cay • Its an adventure



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only ‡ Provides ride from town	
Marsh Harbour	
Anglers.....	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Curly Tails	\$\$\$ 367-4444
Gino's.....	\$ 367-2002
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Hummingbird.....	\$\$ 367-2922
Jamie's Place.....	\$ 367-2880
Jib Room	\$\$ 367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken .....	..... 367-2615
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Pop's Place	\$ 367-3796
Sea Shells	\$ 367-4460
Snack Shack	\$ 367-4005
Snappas.....	\$ 367-2278
Subway .....	..... 367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074

Dundas Town	
Mother Merle's	\$\$
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Cap'n Jacks	\$\$\$ 366-0247
Harbour's Edge	\$\$\$ 366-0087
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ 366-0423
Sea Spray	\$\$ 366-0065

Man-O-War	
Hibiscus .....	..... 365-6380
Island Treats Snack Bar.....	..... 365-6501
Guana Cay	
Blue Water Grill	\$\$\$ 365-5230
Grabbers	\$\$\$ 365-5133
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Orchid Bay .....	..... 265-5175

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

Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	\$\$\$ 365-4271
Harvey's Island Grill	\$\$ 365-4389
Laura's Kitchen	\$\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$\$ 365-4625
Plymouth Rock Cafe .....	..... 365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$\$ 365-4066
Sundowners .....	..... 365-4060
Wrecking Tree Restaurant	
Harbour Café (ferry dock) .....	..... 365-8635

Sandy Point	
Nancy's	H Cafe Open Nights Only
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge .....	..... 366-4477



Connection

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited



BTC Abaco JA Company receives awards !!

BTC's Abaco Junior Achievement Company "I-Connect We Connect" held its awards ceremony on October 6th, 2007, to celebrate the team's hard work and successes during the year, which culminated with BTC's Abaco team winning Company of The Year. The president of "I-Connect We Connect", Brittany Symonette won the most coveted award in Junior Achievement, The Most Distinguished Achiever Award (MDA) for Abaco. All company members were awarded gift bags filled with T-shirts, cell phones and other goodies.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors, Executive Management & Staff we Congratulate the winning "I-Connect We Connect" Company and the BTC Staff in Abaco who assisted them.




connect
NOLIMITS

Sign up for **i-Connect**
Hi-Speed Internet this Christmas
& receive a free modem

BTC brings "The World at the Fingertips" of Four Family Islands!

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited, BTC proudly announced the launch of GSM in the islands of Acklins, Crooked Island, Eleuthera and San Salvador in a press briefing on Friday November 23rd, 2007. President & CEO, Mr. Leon Williams stated that "Today's launch reaffirms BTC's vision, "to enhance the Bahamas' competitive position in the global community by developing and maintaining the most modern cost effective telecommunications solutions for our customers."

Over the last eleven months BTC has launched GSM services in Grand Bahama, Abaco, Andros, Berry Islands, Bimini, Exuma, Inagua, Ragged Island and Rum Cay with the "GSM Gone Global" Campaign.

GSM has been launched with limited coverage in these islands. BTC Project Management Teams are still working to ensure full island coverage and which the Company aims to have completed in 2008.

BTC is currently the sole provider of wireless services in The Bahamas. The Company has roaming agreements with more than 130 partners for its GSM postpaid customers.



BTC President and CEO Mr. Leon Williams and Vice President of Wireless & Internet Mr. Tellis Symonette, announced the commercial launch of GSM services in San Salvador, Acklins, Crooked Island and San Salvador.

CALL BTC 225-5282 • www.btcbahamas.com



The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 23, DECEMBER 1st, 2007

A musical dance program entertained crowds Christmas Showcase brought out Abaco talent



A Christmas Showcase 2007 had three elements featuring segments from *Fiddler on the Roof*, the *Nutcracker Suite* and *Annie*. Mrs. Elaine Pelon worked with the dancers, singers and actors to produce an outstanding production that thrilled the audiences who attended the two productions on November 24. Shown here are the Spanish Dancers from the *Nutcracker Suite*.

By Jennifer Hudson

Congratulations to choreographer and artistic director Elaine Pilon and her very talented group of singers, actors, dancers and musicians on their wonderful presentation of A Christmas Showcase 2007 on November 24. Approximately 600 persons turned out to enjoy the show which was standing room only for the evening performance. It was obvious from the enthusiastic applause at both the afternoon and evening performances how much everyone enjoyed the show. This show, which had been eagerly awaited since the wonderful performance of *The Nutcracker* last year, was indeed a tremendous success, even surpassing expectations.

This year the Showcase consisted of excerpts from the Broadway classics *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Annie* and the Christmas holiday traditional ballet *The Nutcracker* and included a cast of approximately 70 performers.

The show got off to a great start with a rousing synopsis of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Please see **Showcase** Page 2

Barge removal hampered by Tropical Storm Noel



The oil exploration barge that went aground on the reef south of Man-O-War during Hurricane Wilma in September 2005 is slowly breaking apart. Tropical Storm Noel that traveled just east of Abaco created rage seas that further damaged the boat. It is going to be very difficult now to patch the hull sufficiently to tow it out to sea.

By Jennifer Hudson

It was hoped that the derelict oil rig *Goulett* would have been removed from view and laid to rest long ago but the weather has not cooperated enough since efforts began way back earlier this year.

Tropical Storm Noel which passed over Abaco on November 1 has further thwarted efforts. The rage caused by this storm took a serious toll on the *Goulett* and according to sources "there is now only a slim possibility that the remaining holds and tanks can be patched up so that she can be floated out to her final resting place."

An observer who flew over the wreck stated that the tower has now fallen off the

rig and is in the water on the south side. The bow just forward of the cargo hold is gone having been ripped from the rest of the ship by the forces of Noel and no sign was seen of it in the water. This observer says that it does not look as if the ship has moved from its location on the reef but this can only be verified when someone is able to get out there and check the original coordinates.

If the barge cannot be floated off the reef, two alternatives have been suggested as possibilities: cut the ship into pieces and dump it with the *Deborah K* or let the sea reclaim her over time.

Open House brought the spirit of Christmas



Buds n' Blooms and Simcoe Jewelry held an Open House on November 23 ushering in the Christmas season. This popular annual event drew shoppers and many just browsing, getting into the mood for a good holiday. Simcoe Jewelry owner, Mr. Derek Albury, right, is advising a couple on a sale. They are Mark Hall and Lisa Kemp. Besides jewelry, Mr. Albury has a variety of clocks and antiques that are appealing. See story on page 11.

Art Show showcased several new artists



The Hope Town Harbour Lodge held its annual Art Show on November 23. It was combined with a wine and cheese tasting that created a relaxed social event. The artistic local talent was demonstrated in many medias. Shown here is Kim Roberts, left, showing her fabric art to one of the patrons. See story on page 6

Dance, show tunes, dramatizations - all were part of A Christmas Showcase

Showcase *From Page 1*

Bryan Thompson gave a strong performance in his portrayal of Tevye with a powerful tenor voice and humorous characterization. He was joined for the poignant song, *Far from the Home I Love* by Rhonda Bill as Chava, whose beautiful voice blended melodiously with his in that touching song. Ashley Whyllly and Brianna Higgs were delightful as two of Tevye's other daughters and Brittany Archer was a very convincing meddlesome Matchmaker. They thrilled the audience with their lively performance of Matchmaker. This segment ended with a rousing rendition of the song *Tradition* following the Fiddler's signature

tune played by Jennifer Hudson, who was pleased not to have been made to stand on the roof!. All of these singers were joined by Alex Forbes, who did great justice to that stirring and well known song.

A change of pace followed as the show continued with a shift to some graceful dancing by ten adult dancers followed by the older students of the Dance Academy who performed *The Waltz of the Flowers* and *Spanish Dance* from *The Nutcracker*. Although it is impossible to name all of the dancers individually, they each did a great job and were a delight to watch.

Rounding out the dance section was a special performance by Mrs. Pilon's youngest dancers. These little ones from

the Dance Outreach programme had traveled all the way from Green Turtle Cay and Hope Town to star in their very first dance performance and were enchanting in their little pink tutus.

Following the intermission, the second half of the programme showcased the well

Please see **Showcase** Page 4



The Broadway show *Annie* came alive for the fortunate people who attended A Christmas Showcase 2007 held in Marsh Harbour on November 23. *Annie*, the diminutive girl in the center, played her role fantastically. She and the other orphans are singing one of the well known songs from that play.



The familiar songs from *Fiddler on the Roof* were the feature of one segment of A Christmas Showcase. The program showed how many talented people are on Abaco waiting to be discovered. Mrs. Elaine Pelon is doing a great favor in volunteering her time to work with the children and adults to produce a great program.

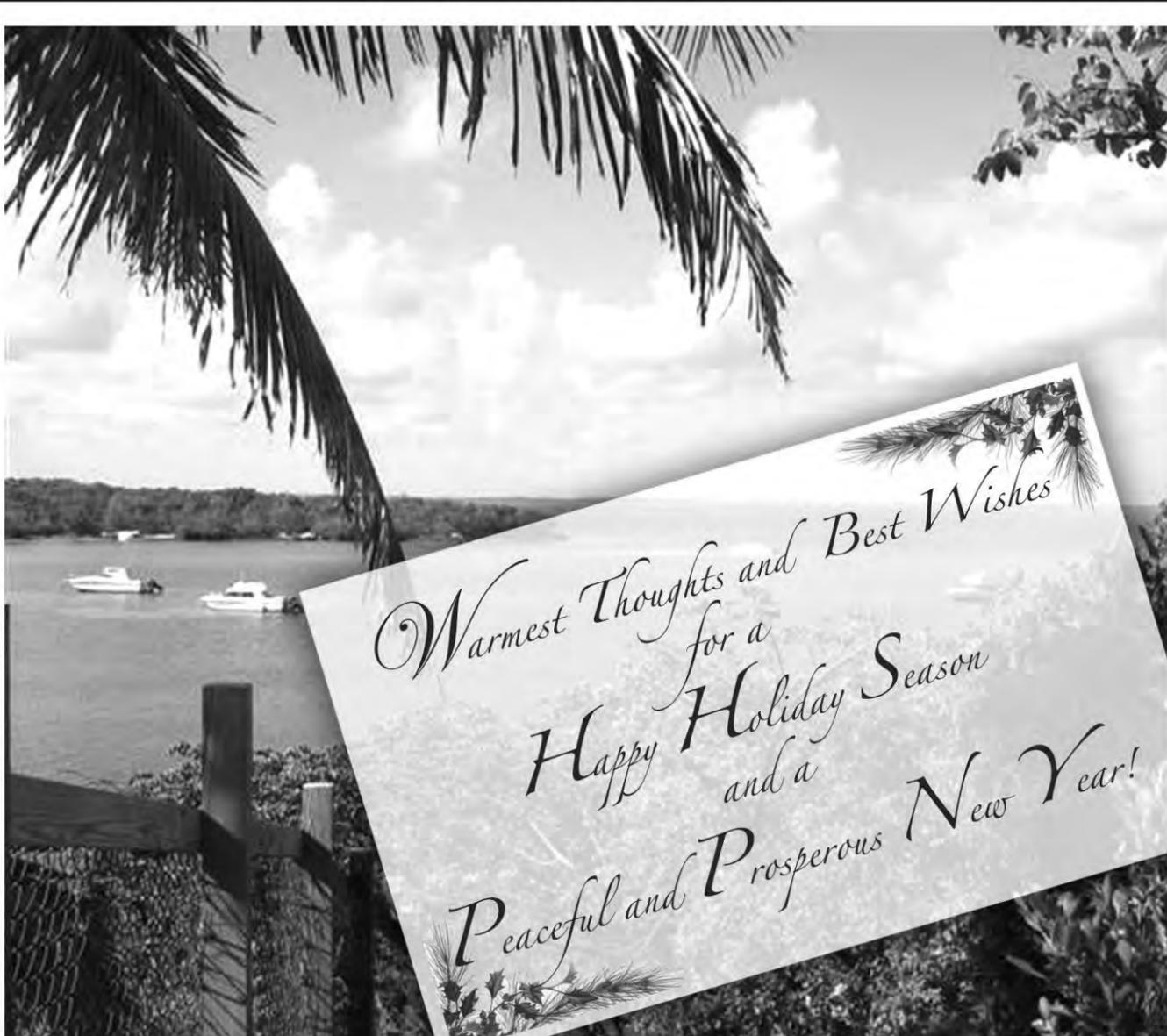
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Matinee and evening shows thrilled hundreds

Showcase *From Page 2*

loved Broadway show *Annie*. Eight-year-old Rebekah Higgs gave a stellar performance as orphan Annie. She is a born actress with remarkable stage presence and good singing voice. She was such an adorable little orphan that anyone would love to take her home and she did indeed find a happy ending in the home of Daddy Warbucks, convincingly played by Bryan Thompson. Lisa Evans sensitively played her supporting role as a very likeable Grace Farrell, assistant to Billionaire Oliver Warbucks.

Brianna Higgs deserves high praise for her portrayal of the intoxicated and cruel Miss Hannigan in charge of the orphanage. Her powerful voice and excellent acting

combined for a mature performance belying her young age.

Alex Forb es did a remarkable job with the many roles he played, especially Rooster. He had only returned to Abaco from an Eco Tourism course two weeks before the show and was able to learn all his lines and songs in just two weeks - tremendous! Who would ever have known that it was Brittany Archer underneath that blond wig as the sleazy Lily, girlfriend of Rooster? That was a great piece of character acting and Brittany, Brianna and Alex gave us a wonderful rendition of *Easy Street*. Chris Roberts was a hoot in his cameo role as President Roosevelt.

Finally, what would the show *Annie* be without all the little orphans? These young girls (are there no boy orphans any more?) were all very convincing and one could

not help feeling sorry for them when they kept asking for their breakfast which Miss Hannigan refused them. Their songs were delightful and full of spirit.

The show could not have gone on without the multitudinous skills of Elaine Pilon's dedicated husband, André, who worked tirelessly for weeks to turn the pavilion of the Abaco Beach Resort into a mini theatre with his carpentry, stage, back drop and prop building. He was assisted in the painting of the excellent backdrops by Yvonne Rogers, Linda Wiltfang, Lynne Key, Tara Key and April Higgs.

Mistress of Ceremonies, Brenda Sawyer, who did an excellent job of filling in

during scene changes, asked parents to encourage and support their children in the arts such as this as there is not much for them to do on Abaco. She encouraged the audience to put on their wish lists a theatre for Abaco. How wonderful it would be if, before too long, all these talented people could be performing in a proper theatre befitting their wonderful talents.

Well deserved accolades are due to all involved and a very big thank you to Elaine Pilon for giving so generously of her time and expertise to bring it all together.

If you missed the show this year you missed a treat; be sure not to miss out next year.



The main character in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Tevye, was played Bryan Thompson with his outstanding voice. He was accompanied by Jennifer Hudson on the violin, far right, who accompanied all the singing for that section of the program. Enjoying the music is the fiddler's daughter played by Rhonda Bill.

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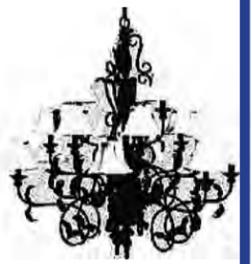
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Veteran's Day service remembers the fallen

By Samantha V. Evans

Friendship Tabernacle hosted the Veteran's Day Service on November 11. Pastor Mills delivered the message entitled How will you be remembered? The Police, Customs, Red Cross and Brownies/Girl Guides all attended the service in full uniform. Pastor Mills stated that the day is observed as Remembrance Day in our nation. Supt. Wayne Miller told the guests to remember those who fought for freedom because it is the right thing to do. They taught us courage, resilience, and bravery.

Pastor Mills remembered those persons who sacrificed greatly for the country they love and those who played a significant role in the start of Friendship Tabernacle. Additionally, he noted that not enough heroes are remembered, especially those who served their country and met their demise. He stated that we must do a better job remembering all of our heroes and not just the famous ones. He explained that even in the church, members who kept the church afloat need to be remembered. People of the Bahamas need to take responsibility for their life's work including the wrong done but too many of them do not want to take responsibility for their actions.

At the end of the service, Pastor Mills unveiled the Memorial Wall erected in front of the church. A member of the church and one from each of the visiting groups laid a wreath at the Wall.



Veteran's Day was commemorated with a church service at Friendship Tabernacle. After the service two uniformed officers laid wreaths at a wall of memories honouring the past leaders of the church. The two officers were Res. Sgt. Marcellus Roberts and Res. Insp. Beatrice Moxey.

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News of the Cays

Hope Town Lodge Art and Craft Festival

By Jennifer Hudson

Each year on the Friday following Thanksgiving, the Hope Town Harbour Lodge kicks off the Christmas season with its Annual Art and Craft Festival. This year at the event held on November 23rd, 18 artisans participated presenting a wide and interesting variety of arts and crafts. Although it was felt by the exhibitors that there were fewer persons coming to the show this year, nevertheless the patrons were excited to view all the wares, get into the spirit of the season and begin working down their Christmas gift lists. This is always an enjoyable social occasion as second homeowners returning for the season meet with old friends whom they had not seen for several months and catch up on the news over a glass of wine and tables overflowing with cheeses of every variety. Bristol Wines and Spirits once again provided the wines for tasting, presenting five whites, five reds and one champagne from vineyards in Chile, Argentina, Italy, Australia and the United States.

The wonderful cheese and fruit selections were courtesy of the Lodge.

This year, while a couple of familiar faces were missing, the show welcomed three new exhibitors. Kaitlynd Zimmer, a talented young artist just two years out of college, displayed all original oil paintings depicting colourful fish and seascapes.

Master woodworker Bill Fuller, in addition to sets of beautiful mahogany bowls, had on display some very striking tables crafted from mahogany and wild tamarind. Mr. Fuller explained that most of his wood

is hurricane wood which he gleans from the trees which have been felled by storms, or sometimes he will get a call from somebody saying that they are about to clear property so he sees what tree treasures he can find. "The crafting of these wooden items is a long process since the wood has to dry for a couple of years before it can be worked on and then the items are oiled and wax finished and left to mature," he explained.

Marcel Miller, who has vacationed in Hope Town for the past 10 years, read about the Lodge Art Show in The Abaconian and decided that she would like to show her wide array of jewellery made from cloisonné and freshwater pearls which she has been making back home in West Palm Beach most of her life.

Jewellery was also on display by regular exhibitors, Linda Schleif and Marlee Mason. Linda uses all freshwater pearls from Southeast Asia and semiprecious stones to create her colorful jewellery which is all one-of-a-kind. Marlee is well-known for her Silver Moon designs in which she sets sea glass of many delicate shades into her

stunning silver jewellery designs.

Kent LeBoutillier, owner of Cocomotion Island Art, is a lady with a prolific imagination and skills to match. She recycles what she terms "stuff off the beach" into unusual mobiles and Christmas tree ornaments. She is also a photographer and has her own line of postcards depicting Hope Town flowers and the lighthouse.

Kim Roberts is another lady whose imagination never sleeps. Every time I see Kim she has something new on display. This time it is colorful furniture. She is starting a line of furniture which will include shelving, chests and benches. Kim also exhibited a large assortment of her signature quilted cushions and unique and humorous driftwood signs. Another new line she has brought out is Fabric Fritters which consists of original art quilt pieces ready to frame.

Ann Schadt had a large display of what she labels 'JIBart'. This consists of bags, camera, cell phone and glasses cases,

Please see **Cays**

Page 8



Marlee Mason offered an extensive display of jewelry, much of incorporating sea glass into her creations.

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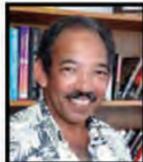
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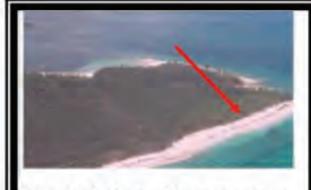
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Treasure Cay - 4 bedroom 3bath home located on Ocean Boulevard. features 95' of gorgeous, powder white beachfront. \$1,500,000.00 or any reasonable offer - Call Chris



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Green Turtle Cay- 1.6 acre beachfront lot located on the most beautiful beach on the island. Approx. 130' on the beach and 560' deep. \$665,000.00 -Call Chris



Bahama Palm Shores - #5670 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 4,876 sq ft island home on 2 acre lot with 220' of beachfront, guest quarters, pool house, generator and pool and more! \$995,000.00- Call Mailin



Long Beach- #5520- Vacant interior lot in growing subdivision. This corner lot is approx 1/4 acre and would be an ideal spot for building your home. Long Beach features community beach access to a magnificent powder white beach. Call today. -\$50,000- OWNER MOTIVATED! - Call Mailin



Green Turtle - #6023
3bed/3bath home. Tastefully furnished and has dock, swimming pool and large deck. \$1,265,000.00 - Call Chris

Murphy Town - Vacant Lots near Great Cistern - across from waterfront. Corner Lot (104 x 120) \$ 45,000.00 (101 x208) \$ 65,000.00 (NEW LISTING) Call Lee
Green Turtle Cay, Coco Bay- vacant lot, beach access, 9000 sq.ft. - \$95,000.00
Green Turtle Cay, Island Reach -vacant lot, 1.5 acres, beautiful views - \$1,200,000.00 (New Listing) Call Chris
Green Turtle Cay Estates - Vacant lot , 1/4 acre - \$ 75,000.00 (NEW LISTING) Call Chris
Turtle Rocks- Multi family lot, 27,507 sq.ft., power & cable to boundary, beach access, \$85,000.00
Green Turtle Cay, Coco Bay - Wooded Lot Ready to build. \$120,000.00 Call Chris

More News of the Cays

Cays From Page 6

scarves, head bands and necklaces all made out of Androsia and Bahama Hand Print fabrics.

Tammy Cash's Christmas tree ornaments were cheery and eye-catching. She paints her colorful Santas on driftwood, oyster shells and mahogany pods. Also this year she displayed her "Shard Pots" which are old pieces of china and buoys she has salvaged and imaginatively decorated with tile mosaic.

Mary Balzac is another artist who makes use of what nature provides. She seeks out delicate pieces of sea glass from the beaches and crafts them into attractive palm tree ornaments and whimsical pictures.

Virginia Williams was once again displaying her line of straw work. Her hats, baskets and bowls are all made from silver top palm, a skill she learnt from her mother who taught straw work at home to all the children on Andros.

Though Brigitte Bowyer-Carey and Jeep Byers displayed artwork, they were not actually in attendance but five other artists were present with their work in addition to Kaitlynd Zimmer. Kim Rody, who is best known for her large and colorful depictions of sea life, has branched out this year into a slightly different style with some boating scenes though she is still specializing in large pieces.

Michael Adams is both a sculptor and painter. Though he is known for some very large sculptures he was displaying some of his smaller bronzes which were all limited editions and designed to work well in pairs on end tables. He also had a colorful display of small relief paintings which he explained that he creates with a palette knife and molding paste.

Attila Feszt is a young artist who is just

"feeling my way into the art scene" as he puts it. He presented his pen and ink drawings but is inspired to branch out further for next year. Christine McCully displayed paintings and a line of greeting cards.

The Champagne Sisters sold calendars depicting Hope Town scenes in aid of the Friends of Abaco Animals charity and were thrilled to completely sell out.

Once again this year it was very obvious that the Art and Craft Exhibition was enjoyed by exhibitors and visitors alike and will be looked forward to next year.

Green Turtle Cay Recycling program is underway

By DeeVon Quirolo

An aluminum recycling program began on Green Turtle Cay last year to reduce the growing environmental problem at the dump. Recycled fruit bins were placed at the Capt. Roberts House Environmental Center, Sid's Grocery Store, Amy Roberts Primary School, Green Turtle Club and Bluff House, thanks to Reef Relief volunteers. In cooperation with Amy Roberts School teacher Maria Schrack and her class, signs were designed for the program that read Put You Aluminum Cans Here so We Can Keep Our Oceans Clear! We Don't Want Junk and Bologna - We Want Aluminum Cans Only! and If You're a Fan of Aluminum Cans, Put Them in the Recycling Can! Aluminum was even collected during the Island Roots Festival.

The aluminum - mostly beverage cans - are collected from the bins and bagged. Thanks to the generous Mr. Gene Lowe, they're delivered to the Treasure Cay ferry dock where Mr. Reginald Knowles is responsible for picking them up, crushing them and delivering them to the mainland to be recycled. The program got off to a



Virginia Williams, a native of Andros, learned straw craft as a child. She now proudly displays beautiful creations that are practical as well.

good start until Mr. Knowles' truck broke down.

Now, a new start is underway. Mr. Paul Mills, who has been dedicating full time to the recycling effort for Abaco, has agreed to collect our aluminum from the Treasure Cay ferry dock. He has been coordinating with Ms. Bernadette Hall of the Marsh Harbour Abaco Tourist Office and their effort has expanded from aluminum

to include batteries, oil and scrap metals on other islands.

For now, we are thankful that Gene has agreed to continue delivering the bagged aluminum from New Plymouth and that Paul will deliver them to the recycling market from there. So now its up to island residents and visitors to do their part. Drop off your aluminum at Capt. Roberts House or Sid's Grocery. It's a big step toward a cleaner environment. Remember the 3 R's: reduce, reuse, recycle!

Green Bags Now Available

The good news is that there is now a way to go green and avoid the use of plastic bags on the island. Enviro-tote's organic cotton

Please see **Cays** Page 10

Rich's Boat Rentals

Abaco's Best Rental Fleet
At the Head of the Harbour

Rental Rates - March, April, May			
	Daily	3-day	Weekly
21' Boat	\$170	\$475	\$790
26' Boat	\$250	\$650	\$1200
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21' Boat	\$170	\$475	\$790
26' Boat	\$250	\$700	\$1300

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Marsh Harbour



Perry Thomas



Lofty Fig Villas



This 1.5 acre property located directly across from Mangoes Restaurant in the heart of the water front restaurant district is ready to become the most sought after gated residence in Marsh Harbour. This property has already been approved for

toun house or condo-style accommodations. The investor with the vision for creating something special will make this one of the most unique and upscale properties on Abaco. REDUCED \$1,957,000 net

Great Business Opportunity



a two-story building that has a total of 19,300 sq. ft. There are 7 apartment units on top floor that are rented and two huge office spaces on the bottom floor that are rented. This building is

located in Marsh Harbour and is on three lots that are 100' x 120', bringing the total land space to 36,000 sq. ft. REDUCED \$1,266,900 gross

Fourplex for sale



3 two-bedroom, one bathroom, fully furnished apt, also one split-level three bedroom, two and half bathroom. Property 80' x 100'. Oleander Drive across from Friendship Tabernacle Church, Dundas Town. REDUCED \$397,500

Four bedroom, 4 bathroom house



with covered back patio, covered entryway with huge columns. House is 4,000 sq. ft. situated on 1/4 acre of property in Bahama Palm Shores. Central air conditioning, Jacuzzi tub in master bath. Appraised at

\$600,000 REDUCED \$402,800

Agape Villa Murphy Town



Two free standing structures containing four one-bedroom, one bathroom apartment units that are fully furnished with central air conditioning. Sits on 15,000 sq. ft. Landscaped. All units are rented. REUCED \$291,500 Person purchasing this will have an instant business.

Three bedroom, two bathroom home



fully furnished, central air conditioning, on 9,000 sq. ft. Landscaped with beautiful trees and lawn. Rented. REDUCED \$185,000. Can be sold separately or with above property.

Duplex for sale off Forest Drive



two, two bedroom / one bath apartment units, fully furnished. One unit has central A/C and washer & dryer. The other unit has window A/C unit in the bedroom. Building sits on lot 131 x 90 property, landscaped. Appraisal value this year at \$242,356. This is priced to sell at \$190,000 net. Purchaser pays legal fee and govt tax. Persons interested should call or come in. We will find a way to work something out for you.

Nine lots for sale

in new gated community in Great Cistern, Abaco. Residential only
 Lot #12 8,491 sf \$29,803 gross
 Lot #13 11,759 sf \$41,274 gross
 Lot #14 8,800 sf \$30,888 gross
 Lot #15 UNDER CONTRACT gross
 Lot #16 12,010 sf \$42,155 gross
 Lot #17 11,741 sf \$41,210 gross
 Lot #18 10,868 sf \$38,146 gross
 Lot #19 12,514 sf \$43,924 gross
 Lot #20 10,474 sf \$36,763 gross

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Perry Thomas, BRI

Salesman and Rentals, Marsh Harbour branch with 10 years experience
Call Adler Realty to have your next appraisal done
Rent your apartment or find an apartment to rent. We can help.

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.

Lot #11 11,022 sf. \$85,000 gross Lot #44 13,307 sf \$98,000 gross
Lot # 112 20,485 sf. \$175,000 gross

One lot in Murphy Town Subdivision on Shell Road Lot size 131 x 110 (14,41) UNDER CONTRACT

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.

Two lots for sale located on hillside in Yellowwood- Property adjacent to The Abaco Club on Winding Bay

Lot# 7 G3 size 12,600 s.f. \$63,000 gross
Lot # 7 G4 size 12,600 s.f. \$63,000 gross

Duplex for sale off Forest Drive in Dundas Town 2 two bedroom, one bath each, both with attached laundry room \$200,000 net

Duplex for sale off Forest Drive 2 one bedroom, one bath each. \$137,800 net

Duplex for sale off Forest Drive in Murphy Town 2 two bedroom, one bath \$185,500 net

Triplex for sale Murphy Town 2 one-bedroom, one-bath and 1 two-bedroom, one-bath. \$159,000 net

For sale duplex 2 two-bedroom, one bath and a two-bedroom, one bath home. Both \$315,000 net

For sale water view lot in Murphy Town, 9213 s.f. \$35,200 net

For sale water front home in Sandy Point, Abaco, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2000 s.f. lg. sunken living room, TV rom, dining room adn lg. kitchen on 26,000 s.f. of land. Call for pricing

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CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENTS

1. CARLETON LANDING

Newest opportunity
 Canal front condo and cottage units with available boat slips
 Starting at \$680,000 + 14% closing

2. PALM BAY

Townhouse units in protected harbour with boat slips
 Phase One **SOLD OUT**
 Phase Two **COMING SOON**

3. THE COTTAGES

Now the newest oceanfront development on Treasure Cay beach comprising 10 individual luxury units
 Starting at \$750,000 + 14% 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

MARINER'S COVE

Townhouse condos with on-site tennis, heated pool, office, laundry
 Marina view, 2 bed/ 1 1/2 bath, fully furnished, never rented, extra features.
 MUST SEE FGS \$351,000

Marina view, 1 bed / 1 bath upstairs - good rental potential \$220,150 FGS

Marina view, 2 bed/ 2 bath and unit - fully furnished- storm shutters- good rental potential \$351,000 FGS

TREASURE LANDING

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

ROYAL PALM

Canal Front Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool
 2 bed / 2 bath lower unit, 16' wide slip, includes golf cart and 22' boat
 MOTIVATED SELLER EXC. \$553,500 FGS

TREASURE HOUSE

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

Unit #7 Two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home.
 MLS \$636,000 + 7.5% closing

Unit #9 Two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home
 MLS \$575,000 + 7.5% closing

BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

Resale condos available in first completed project. Ready to go. Both units never rented but definite potential. MUST SEE PROPERTIES.

Upstairs unit 3 bed / 2 bath with den / optional 4th bed. Completely and tastefully furnished. 6-seat golf cart included.
 VERY MOTIVATED SELLER
 EXC. \$765,000 + 14%

Downstairs unit 3 bed / 2 bath with den/ optional 4th bed. Completely and tastefully furnished with many extra features including garage and Ford Taurus \$1,002,000 FGS

ATLANTIS

Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool
 Bldg 1 Lower unit 2 bed / 2 bath, 15' wide boat slip, includes car. Newly decorated.
 MUST SEE EXC. \$500,000 FGS

Bldg 4 Downstairs unit 2 bed / 2 bath, totally redone, **SOLD**
 EXC. \$435,600 FGS

SAND DOLLAR

Unit #3 Ocean front, downstairs 2 bed/2 bath, fully furnished. \$640,000 FGS

ROYAL POINCIANA

Ocean Front Condos with on site pool and tennis
 3 bed / 3 bath upper unit, fully furnished, beach front, with good rental potential.
 Priced to sell. \$897,900

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Special garden location, car pool, 2 bed / 2 bath. Great with many repeat guests **SOLD**
 EXC. \$369,000 FGS

Second row beach with direct ocean access. Great view. 2 bed / 2 bath, many special features. MUST SEE EXC. \$553,500 FGS

SANDPIPER BEACH

"Lacey Daze" Spectacular 4 bed/ 3 1/2 bath CBS home with panoramic ocean views and direct beach access from every room but one via decks and patios. The main house has living/ dining/ kitchen/ master bedroom suite, two guest bedrooms with bath, powder room, double garage and utility/ workshop area. Included with its own entrance is a private 1 bedroom/ 1 bath apartment with an open living/ dining/ kitchen with its own deck. Many features. MUST SEE.
 EXC. \$2,220,000 FGS

ABBREVIATION CODE

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

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GALLEON BAY ESTATES

"Gramling House" newly built, 2 storey home located on Galleon Bay canal with a 45' dock. Upper level has 4 bed/ 2 bath. Open living/ dining/ kitchen. Lower level has 2 bed/ 1 bath, laundry room plus covered open boat/ car storage MUST SELL EXC \$794,500 + 7.5%

"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 \$2,525,000 + 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 \$2,800,000 + 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 \$820,000 + 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

ROCK POINT

"Pilot House" special unique location with a commanding, enviable view of the Sea of Abaco. Water front home, 2 storey, CBS/ frame. Upstairs master and guest bed, 2 baths, large living/ dining/ open kitchen; lower level 1bed / 1 bath, 2 car garage plus 1 car/boat garage. MLS \$1,160,000 + 7.5% closing

Apartment four-plex, 2 storey CBS building, each level has 2 full apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen. Great rental investment. MUST SEE! EXC. \$400,000 FGS

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 \$325,000 FGS
- Rock Point Waterfront, bulkheaded
 Beginning at \$360,000 FGS
- Golf Course / Interior
 Beginning at \$60,000 FGS

News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 8

shopping bags are now available at many locations in Green Turtle Cay. The bags are well made, roomy and sporty and feature artwork of a green turtle, which is sure to make it a great souvenir for visitors and a staple for boaters.

Local residents can feel good that they'll reduce the use of plastic bags that are used and then discarded only to be burned, something that is not only harmful to our coral reefs, but also a threat to public health. The bags were designed by Reef Relief and ordered thanks to the support of the Green Turtle Cay Foundation in cooperation with Mr. David Bethell.

Capt. Roberts House lease extended

The Architectural Preservation Foundation has extended Reef Relief's lease of the Captain Roland Roberts House for another year, beginning January 1, 2008. The foundation purchased and restored the former home of the Roberts family, a classic circa 1840's two-story Bahamian house across from the Post Office in New Plymouth. Reef Relief leased the house for the past five years, thanks to start-up funding from the Disney Conservation Fund. The Captain Roland Roberts House Environmental Center is a public facility for all to learn about the value of Abaco's coral reefs and how to protect them.



The Capt. Roland Roberts was renovated a few years ago and is now an environmental information center managed by Reef Relief. This organization has several projects including buoys near the reefs for boats to anchor and a reef monitoring program.

Visitors, residents, students and special groups have visited the center and benefitted from its video classroom, reef displays, children's activity room and library. They've also learned tips for boating, diving and fishing on Abaco. Students from Amy Roberts Primary School have utilized it for environmental projects. The historical exhibits and architecture of the building have attracted others.

Reef Relief has utilized the house as a base of operations for its reef mooring buoy, coral photo-monitoring survey and other environmental programs. Local and visiting docents and college interns have staffed the center, along with Craig and DeeVon Quirolo of Reef Relief. Sally Anstey and Jackie Patrick have been the local coordinators. The generous support of the Green Turtle Cay Foundation, matched with other contributions, made it possible to meet the rental obligation for this year.

"We look forward to another year of operations at the Capt. Roberts House," noted Reef Relief's Mrs. Quirolo. "Vis-

iting docents have already signed up for the new year. But more docents are needed to be open full time; if you have a day or part of a day to volunteer at the center, please contact us at (242) 365-4014 or drop by the center. It's easy; all you need is a good attitude to welcome visitors.

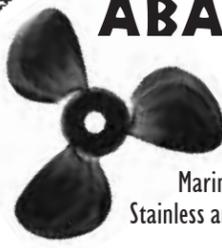
Buoys Help Save the Reefs!

Eight years ago, Reef Relief installed and has maintained 18 reef mooring buoys at Green Turtle Cay's most visited coral reefs to avoid anchor damage by boaters. The program has served its purpose, despite some intentional damage to the system. Brendal of Brendal's Dive Center has generously supported the program by replacing lost buoys. Thanks so very much!

Help Protect Our Coral Reefs

Be a part of Reef Relief's programs to protect coral reefs. Reef Relief is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. To make a contribution to support the operations, contact DeeVon Quirolo at dquirol@gmail.com.

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Open House encourages Christmas shopping

By Samantha V. Evans

Once again Buds n' Blooms and Simcoe Jewelers held their grand Open House on November 23rd to kick off the Christmas season on the island. After last year's Open

House at Buds n' Blooms with all of the tropical colors being chosen as the colors for Christmas, this year has seen the return of the traditional red, green and gold of yesteryear with the infusion of colors such



The staff of Buds n' Blooms was on hand at that shop's Open House on November 23. The shop was decorated with a wide variety of beautiful Christmas items, bound to be appealing to the crowds who took the opportunity to browse and shop. They are Crystal Hield, Mrs. Marilyn Sawyer and Melinda Russell.

as aqua and lime green. Store owner Melinda stated that the lime green is very popular this year with the brown and aqua as accent colors. The aqua, she stated, is popular all on its own as well, because it is a tropical color and reminiscent of the beautiful beaches in The

Bahamas. It has also been voted by shoppers as the color of choice.

Simcoe Jewelers was packed from start to finish with shoppers looking for the right piece to give to their loved ones. The owner stated that sterling silver and stainless steel with leather cords are big hits with the young people. They also have a large selection of platinum and gold jewelry for him and her that the women in particular love. What is also a big seller among natives this year are the fresh water pearls, enamel pieces and sea opals. For those persons who enjoy collecting antiques, Simcoe has a selection of those items as well.

For those persons who love lots of color, Christmas tree ornaments are now very colorful infusing the new and traditional colors. Shoppers can find an array of new gift items and home decorating items this year since many locals are

building homes. Christmas tree signs are very popular this year and they are very versatile and can be used to add flare to a fire place as well. Melinda gave away four out of five door prizes to persons holding the lucky ticket numbers. The winners were Sue Ann Pinder, who won a boxwood tree; Lisa Kemp, who won a Fresh Green Center Piece; Pauline Sawyer, Danielle Wells and Aisha Jones, who all won lamps.

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Church News

Anglican/Methodist women held retreat

By Samantha V. Evans

The Anglican and Methodist Church Women held their first Retreat together over the weekend of November 9th-11th between St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Marsh Harbour and St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town. The theme for the weekend was Vessels for the Master's Use. The retreat began with a worship service on Friday at the Anglican Church where the women got in the atmosphere of praise and worship before the full day of conference on Saturday morning. The guest speaker for the session was Rev. Angela Palacios,

Assistant Pastor of St. Margaret's Anglican Church in Nassau. She was the first female to be ordained into the Anglican Church in the Bahamas.

Rev. Palacios stated that they should all want to live a life that God approves of; they must live a life that is dedicated to God and that God can use; they must be righteous, at peace, loving, and faithful to those things that are important to them; they must have a pure heart; and be kind, gentle, patient, and have a teaching spirit.

She taught the ladies practical things that they should do to build themselves up and encouraged them to let God help them to do those things that they know are good and pleasing to Him. The youth of

Abaco are depending on them to be good examples. She stated that everything that happens in the lives of people in general should not be taken on but rather they must chose what things they will be the authority over in their lives. She encouraged them to be thankful for all the gifts, talents, abilities God has blessed them with.

The organizers of this event were Mrs. Telanna Newbold Anglican Christian Women President, Mrs. Centina Sawyer Methodist Women Ministry President, Mrs. Ruth Smith Vice President Methodist Women Ministry, and Sherilyn Forbes Vice President Anglican Christian Women. The closing service, held on Sunday, was officiated by Father Earl Hepburn at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church and assisted by Rev. Stephen Hale, Pastor of St. Andrews Methodist Church.

Church of God Fun Day and Steak Out

By Samantha V. Evans

On November 17th Marsh Harbour Church of God held a Family Fun day and Steak Out as a fun raiser for its new church building, the Marsh Harbour Church of God on Glory Hill in Sweeting's Track. This is the church's third fund raiser towards their building fund and they are hoping to move into their new building by 2009. The church will seat 700 persons and have all of the amenities of a first class church including a kitchen, cafeteria and a daycare. The church is very community-minded so it plans to have several outreach programs. The Church of God youth conventions are expected to be hosted at this

Please see **Church** Page 13



New Vision Ministries held its annual Thanksgiving dinner on November 20 inviting anyone interested to share with the members. More than 400 enjoyed the social time, the food and the concert that followed. The church has very talented musicians with an excellent band, praise group and others who perform. Shown here are Ted Pearce, Chris Pinder, Kevin Pinder and Dave Lowe.



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- Lot 28: 1.63 acres with 200 ft. of beachfront. \$4,250,000. Ref. AS10802
- Lot 29: 1.75 acres with 200 ft. of beachfront. \$4,250,000. Ref. AS10803
- Lot 25: 1.73 acres with 200 ft. of beachfront. \$3,995,000. Ref. AS10742
- Lot 5: 1.1 acre golf course estate lot. \$2,350,000. Ref. AS10817
- Lot 51: 1.072 acre golf course estate lot. \$2,100,000. Ref. AS10698
- Lot 47: 4 bed/4.5 bath golf course luxury home. \$4,495,000. Ref. AS10701

An Abaco Diabetic Association is formed

By Samantha V. Evans

The first meeting of the Abaco Diabetic Association met on October 25th at the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic. The aim of the association is to prevent diabetes and promote a active, healthy lifestyle. For persons with diabetes the aim is to stay healthy throughout their life span. Several persons from the Marsh Harbour Clinic were present including Nurse Peggy Sands and Nurse Daniel Ekpa, who were instrumental in the formation of this association.

Diabetes is a disease in which blood glucose or sugar levels are too high. Glucose comes from the food we eat. Insulin is the hormone that helps the glucose to get into cells for energy. In type I diabe-

tes, the body does not make insulin. With type II, the common type, the body does not make enough or use its insulin well. Without enough insulin, glucose stays in the blood. Early diagnosis and early education are crucial to reducing complications and saving lives.

Nurse Ekpa explained that forming this association came about from the global campaign of asking people with diabetes as well as their family, friends, health care professionals, and others to express how diabetes has impacted their lives and to share their stories with others in their families and communities. Additionally, they plan to create awareness amongst the Abaco district that diabetes is preventable and that persons who have diabetes have

the resources they need to fight it.

The national association is a non-profit organization providing information, advice and advocacy. It came into being in the Bahamas in 1986, and is currently headed by Mr. Bradley Cooper, the national president.

Elections were held to vote for officers of the Abaco Diabetics Associations and are as follows: President: Dr. Sue Fairclough, Vice-President: Mr. Gary Smith, Secretary: Ms. Tara Hingle, Assistant Secretary: Nurse Peggy Sands, Treasurer: Ms. Salomie Gibson, Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Denise Gadsby, Literature / Media: Ms. Samantha Evans.

Now that the officers are in place, a professional or advisory committee will be

appointed by Dr. Fairclough and her team. Plans for the inauguration of the branch by Mr. Cooper will be made as well. The association will hold meetings once per month. The next meeting is scheduled for November 8th at the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic. World Diabetes Day is November 14th and plans for this day will be discussed at the next meeting.

The association is open to all persons (including children) with diabetes, their family members, health professionals and the general public. The following services will be made available to the members: free blood sugar testing, diabetes testing supplies, counseling and support, education, research and a newsletter.



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- "Argyll House" #483** - Elegantly furnished, elegant 4 bed, 5.5 bath, 6,900 s/f Ocean Blvd. estate on 1.6 landscaped acres with 153' beachfront. Includes vehicles. **\$4,900,000.**
- "Tradewinds" #589** - Luxurious 4 bed, 3.5 bath furnished beachfront home, plus separate 3 bed, 3 bath ocean view guest house. Superior design & finishes. Total 1 acre **\$4,575,000.**
- "Peace & Plenty" #503** - Splendid 7 bed, 4.5 bath 2 storey, furnished Ocean Blvd beachfront estate, on 1.453 superbly landscaped acres. 163' beach frontage. **\$3,800,000.**
- "Trident House" #317** - Superb 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath fully furnished, 3,500 s/f beach front home. **NOW \$2,699,000.**
- "Final Approach" #601** - Recently renovated, furnished canal front 2 storey, 5,500 s/f 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath private home on large property, 100' private dock, 4 car garage **\$2,625,000.**
- "Fish Tales" #808** - Elegant 3 bed, 3 bath furnished canal front home, 3,430 s/f under roof on 15,493 s/f landscaped parcel. 90' deep water frontage & dock. **\$1,850,000.**
- "Porter Place" - Brigantine Bay #868** - Newly constructed, furnished 3 bed, 3 bath canal front home, 3,040 s/f under roof, double garage, 165' of dockage, new boat lift. **\$1,600,000.**
- Windward Beach #780** - 3 bed, 2 bath, 2,500 s/f furnished new home, 106' seawalled sandy beachfront. **\$1,150,000.**
- "Laguna" Galleon Bay #745** - 3 bed, 2 bath single storey, 1,550 s/f canal front home, furnished, elevated landscaped lot, carport & garage, deep water dock with boat lift. **\$985,000.**
- "The Cottages" #535** - New 3 bed, 2 bath beachfront cottages, 1,300 s/f living space on main level, plus 970 s/f lower level. Superior construction/finishes. **From \$900,000.**
- "Shell Shack" #712** - 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 1,600 s/f furnished home on Brigantine Bay, elevated 10,000 s/f lot, garage, 80' bulk-headed sea-wall, serviced 30' new dock. **\$799,500.**
- Treasure Cay House - Near Beach #492** - 3 bed, 3 bath 1,276 s/f furnished home, recently renovated. **\$450,000.**
- Just Off The Beach #771** - Attractive, furnished, 3 bed, 2 bath, 2,244 s/f home, carport, 1 block from beach. **\$345,000.**
- "Home, Sweet Home" #784** - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,240 s/f furnished home on 13,500 s/f lot, close to beach. Adjoining lot also available. **\$268,000.**
- Royal Poinciana Beachfront Condominiums -Phase 4 #716** Premier 3 level, 3 bed, 4.5 bath, plus loft newly built condos on Treasure Cay Beach. 2,860 s/f under roof, attached garage. 644 s/f covered/open balconies/porches. **\$2,075,000.**
- Atlantis Condo 2112** - #929- 4 bed, 4 bath 2,000 s/f 2 level furnished waterfront condo on Brigantine canal, great water views, includes 2 large boat slips. Beach nearby. **\$865,000.**
- "Hayard Quay" #827** - Superior 3 & 4 bed 1,568 s/f & 2,108 s/f waterfront condos, gated community, 15' beam dock slip, private garage **Pre-construction pricing from \$603,000.**
- Atlantis Condo #2209 #770** - Elegantly furnished, well maintained 2 bed, 2 bath 2nd level condo on Brigantine Bay. Includes boat slip & finger dock for 32' boat. **\$549,000.**

TREASURE CAY

- Beach Villa 507 #782** - Newly renovated, 2 bed, 2 bath 1,150 s/f villa, plus 592 s/f patios. Tastefully furnished. Many extras. Close to beach, marina, golf course. **\$490,000.**
- Brigantine Beach Condo #369** - 2 bed, 2.5 bath furnished townhouse, ocean views, close to beach, furnished, excellent rental history. **\$458,000.**
- Beach Villa #506 #636** - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,250 s/f garden view villa, fully renovated & refurbished in 2005. Private garden patios. **(Owner Financing Available) Reduced \$405,000.**
- Beach Villa #504 A&B #743** - 2 furnished 1 bed. 1 bath adjoining Garden Villas, separate kitchen & living areas, excellent rental history, sold together, turn-key **\$339,000.**
- Mariner's Cove Condominiums**
 - #454 - 2 bed, 1 bath, 2 level poolside unit **\$295,000.**
 - #928 - 2 bed, 1 bath, 2 level, overlooking harbour **\$279,000.**
 - #655 - 2 bed, 1 bath with marina view **\$274,000.**
 - #455 - 1 bed, 1 bath, ground level, poolside **\$185,900.**
- Beachfront Parcel #870** - Exceptional 1.58 acres on Ocean Blvd. 147' beach frontage. Cleared, all utilities available. Breath-taking beach & sea views. **\$1,600,000.**
- Beachfront Parcel - Ocean Blvd. #876** - 1.5 acres with 100' of beach frontage, on spectacular Treasure Cay Beach. All utilities available. Gorgeous beach & sea views. **\$1,510,000.**
- Beach Lot #654** - Prime elevated 12,800 s/f parcel, 118' of pristine beach frontage in protected cove. Fully cleared, all utilities available, superior sea views. **\$1,480,000.**
- Beachfront Lot #705** - Choice 12,281 s/f elevated parcel on Treasure Cay Beach. 95' beach frontage. All utilities available. Sensational sea views. **\$1,385,550.**
- Beach & Canal Lot Package #941** - Windward Beach lot with 100' of beach frontage on Sea of Abaco, PLUS Galleon Bay lot with approx. 90' of sea-walled canal frontage **\$1,326,000.**
- Windward Beach #817** - Half acre waterfront parcel directly on Sea of Abaco, 124' beach frontage. Newly installed sea wall. All utilities available. **\$482,000.**
- Brigantine Bay #841** - 11,200 s/f cleared canal lot. 80' water bulkhead. All utilities available. Dock pilings. **\$458,000.**
- Galleon Bay #422** - Prime 10,295 s/f cleared canal lot. 88' + protected canal frontage, all utilities available. **\$350,000.**
- Rock Point Waterfront Parcel #783** - 12,200 s/f lot near entrance to Treasure Cay Marina. 90' newly installed sea wall. Cleared, all utilities available. **\$289,000.**

ABACO CLUB AT WINDING BAY

Oceanview Lot #2 #727 - Spectacular 1.1 acre elevated parcel overlooking 18th hole. Magnificent views. **\$2,395,000.**

SCOTLAND CAY

Sea of Abaco Lot Q1 #845 - 25,658 s/f lot, 172' water frontage in quiet cove, good elevations, native vegetation, access privileges to Atlantic Ocean beaches. **\$559,000.**

GREAT CISTERN CAY

"Paradise Point" #659 - Furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2,400 s/f waterfront home with porches & balconies on 1/2 acre. 193' elevated Sea of Abaco frontage, Fantastic views. **\$759,000.**

GREAT CISTERN CAY

Sea of Abaco, Waterfront Lot 9A #918 - Large 21,565 s/f lot with 190' of water frontage, superb sea views, ideal building lot, all utilities available, paved roads. **\$195,000.**

LITTLE HARBOUR

Waterfront Property #347 - 2.2 acres, sea to sea, total 280' water frontage, ideal for boat dockage in protected Little Harbour, large protected cave. **Reduced to \$608,000.**

LEISURE LEE

- "Double Eagle" #757** - Recently renovated 3 bed, 3 bath, plus loft, 2,500 s/f furnished home on canal front parcel. 95' sea wall, 68' dock. Underground utilities. Near beach **\$776,000.**
- "So-Be-It" #861** - Furnished 2 bed, 2 bath canal front home on 12,100 s/f parcel, 110' bulkheaded frontage, 2-25' docks. Close to beach. Option available for two adjoining canal lots. **\$656,000.**

Residential Parcels

- #823 - 10,708 s/f canal lot w/130' frontage & dock **\$392,000.**
- #602 - 15,334 s/f canal corner lot w/197' seawall **\$334,000.**
- #886 - 12,828 s/f canal lot, 100' sea wall, 50' dock **\$329,000.**
- #704 - 10,400 s/f elevated canal lot w/104' frontage **\$265,000.**
- #597 - 11,242 s/f canal lot w/171' seawall, sea view **\$265,000.**
- #904 - 16,345 s/f w/108' water frontage, sea view **\$119,950.**
- #811 - 10,400 s/f sea view corner lot, near beach **\$107,000.**
- #567 - 2.139 acres on highway near Leisure Lee **\$149,700.**

GUANA CAY

- Atlantic Oceanfront Parcel #746** - Approx. 1 acre residential parcel, 154' elevated shoreline near Orchid Bay community, great ocean views. **\$395,000.**
- Dolphin Beach Estates #843** - Atlantic Ocean View, 17,500 s/f lot #121. All utilities installed. Includes house plans for 4,350 s/f under roof elevated home. Close to beach. **Reduced \$212,000.**

MARSH HARBOUR

- Great Abaco Club, Canalfront Home #637** - Elegantly furnished 4 bed, 4 bath, 2,800 s/f home. State-of-the-art kitchen. Canal-side pool/patio, 42' deep water frontage **\$2,185,000.**
- Great Abaco Club, Sea View Lot #493** - 7,750 s/f, Sea of Abaco views, finger dock for 25' vessel, gated community, all utilities available. Use of resort amenities. **Reduced \$279,000.**

GREEN TURTLE CAY

- "Beau Soleil", White Sound #662** - Beautiful 4 bed 5 bath Beachfront Estate - Main House, Apt & Guest House - furnished 3,634 s/f on 0.878 acres, 120' dock, pool, 173' beach. **(Main & Guest Houses also available separately) \$2,300,000.**
- "Island Reach" Seaview Lot #684** - Hilltop 0.405 acre parcel on White Sound Bluff overlooking Sea of Abaco **\$725,000.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

- Beach Front Parcel #714** - 45,343 s/f parcel, 100' beach frontage on Atlantic Ocean. Electricity available. Ideal site for permanent residence or vacation home. **\$349,000.**
- Inland Lot - Near Beach (Ref #756)** - Large 13,000 s/f lot near white sandy Atlantic Ocean beaches, native vegetation, Good road access. **\$38,000.**

LONG BEACH, SOUTH ABACO

Ocean View Residential Lot #887 - Elevated, hillside corner parcel, 12,600 s/f +/-, close to sandy Atlantic Ocean beachfront. All utilities available. Ideal building site. **\$179,000.**

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Howard University Performs Needs Assessment

By Samantha V. Evans

On November 16th professors from Capstone Institute and Howard University returned to Abaco to perform a needs assessment so that the improvement plan for the two schools selected can be met, Central Abaco Primary and Cooper's Town Primary Schools. Once the needs assessment has been done, these schools will become the demonstration sites. This needs assessment will also be presented to the Ministry of Education.

This day was full of meetings with four focus groups: school administrators, teachers, students and parents. The first meeting was held with the school administrators and Mrs. Lenora Black, Abaco Superintendent, to get their views on the school improvement plan and to ensure that they know what the pressing areas are for them. The next focus group was held with the school administrators and the guidance counselor. Dr. Fred Johnson led both groups. He is a

retired superintendent of schools in Tennessee and a former college leadership professor in Memphis. Since his experience is extensive, he has been recruited by the Howard University to assist with the strategic planning for Central Abaco Primary School.

While in the school system, he shared that he has seen some of the same problems being experienced at this school. The only difference is that it was between the Caucasian and African American students. He believes that schools are not aware of the major influence they have on students. He stated that schools have more influence on students than does the church. So if anything is to happen in the school system, it must start with the leadership. The student focus group consisted of seven students from grades 4-6. Darla Scott led this group. She asked the students what they would like to see in their school that is not presently being offered and what their

ideal school would look like. Students in the focus group were Sidney Decius grade 4, Avery Sturup grade 4, Neseda Mere grade 4, April Smith grade 5, Ethanique Bain grade 5, Kyle Bain grade 6 and Kadesha Burrows grade 6.

Focus groups with level heads and parents were both held after school. Six teachers addressed some of their pressing needs such as improving parent involvement in school and finding better ways to assess students in the classroom. Many of them stated that they do not rely on tests alone. Instead, they have to use other things that go on in the classroom to determine if a child has improved. Parents and community heads met in the staff room and many areas were discussed, and they came up with some doable solutions. They discussed introducing technical studies at primary school; making the school envi-



Dr. Fred Johnson, a retired superintendent of schools in the U.S., Mr. Curtis Boykin and Dr. Darla Scott from Howard University will be forming a program to improve the academic levels in two Abaco primary schools.

ronment technology-based because education today is not relevant; there is need for a proper play ground, auditorium and sports facilities; parents need to become more involved in their children's education; and communication between school and parents needs to improve.

The final focus group allowed parents to critique themselves and make suggestions

Please see **Howard U.** Page 30



Howard University held meetings with various groups to assess what local people felt was needed in the school. One group was seven students who were asked what they would like to see their school offer and what changes they would like to see.

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Junior Achievement is Back Again for Year Two

By Samantha V. Evans

After a successful first year on Abaco, Junior Achievement successfully began its second year with Batelco, Water and Sewerage and BEC as sponsoring companies once again. The hard working

Abaco JA board has an even more exciting year planned for the 55 achievers who have signed up to join this prestigious program. Newly appointed chairperson, Ms. Barbara Johnson, is proud that the rest of the board has such con-

fidence in her to lead them through this year. The board has a calendar of events planned beginning with a JA Orientation and Charter Church Service held on November 9th and 10th respectively.

This year the achievers will be exposed to training sessions from Toastmasters who will travel from Nassau to train the achievers. This Speech Presentation Workshop will take place before the achievers break for the Christmas holiday. Students enrolled in JA this year are from Forest Heights, Agape Christian, Abaco Central High and St. Francis. Students from the other high schools are still welcomed to sign up. The Board

is appealing to business houses from the North and South Abaco as well as the cays to get involved in this youth-based business training program so that high school students who live in those districts can become a part of this program and benefit from all that it has to offer. The public is asked to support the youth as they learn the foundational steps of enterprise. The other board members are Jackie Estevez, Treasurer; Chevron Mackey, Secretary; Anita Rolle, Public Relations - Radio; Samantha V. Evans, Public Relations - Newspaper/Print; and Emery Curry, Chaplain.



Fifty-five students from four high schools are part of the Junior Achievement program. The organization teaches students the basics of running a business by having them form businesses and managing them throughout the school year. Each group sells 100 shares in their business. The profits that are made by the students in their business venture are shared among the shareholders.





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Regattas of Abaco CONDO 2 bed / 2 bath, down stairs unit, overlooking Marsh Harbour, fully furnished, swimming pool, tennis courts, security. **\$320,000 EXCLUSIVE**

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Bahama Palm Shores Lot in Section I **Price \$41,000**

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#13563

Price: \$4,700,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

This fabulous offering includes 14 + acres of property situated on Bookies Bay with 335' of beach frontage. Just 1/3 of a mile north of the prestigious Abaco Club at Winding Bay. Perched upon the hilltop (elevations of 60') this cottage enjoys unparalleled views of the Atlantic Ocean from the covered porch. One bedroom, 1 bath cottage plus additional bunk house. The gardens are filled with beautiful tropical plants and surround the homes with flowers. Privacy and seclusion in your own piece of beachfront paradise.

#13515

Price: \$4,250,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Lovely well maintained CBS home featuring 3 beds, 2 baths on corner lot 90x150. Enclosed & landscaped property with secluded garden.

#2837

Price: \$350,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Comfortable island style 3 bed, 3 bath on one acre of property. 100' of gorgeous beachfront. Relax & enjoy the Bahamian lifestyle at it's best.

#13180

Price: \$580,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Three bedroom, three bath, two storey home with garage. Open concept beach side living on spectacular Atlantic Ocean lot.

#13552

Price: \$699,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

1 & 2 acre estate **beachfront** lots in sea side community. Good elevations, gorgeous Atlantic Ocean views.

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#13596

Price: \$230,000



CASUARINA POINT

Nice 4 bed, 4 bath furnished home on gorgeous beachfront with views of Atlantic. Generator, cable, phone, fenced, deck turnkey!

#2818

Price: \$580,000



SAND BAR AT CHEROKEE

Great potential for expansion, 2 acres of pristine waterfront property small villa & restaurant buildings. Spectacular views.

#13088

Price: \$2,455,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

Just under one acre of direct ocean front property. Fantastic Atlantic Ocean views. Power available. Good elevations. Cleared and ready to build.

#13604

Price: \$330,000



MURPHY TOWN

Very nice 2 bed, 2 bath home with open concept living, sits on 1.75 acres. Can be subdivided. Great investment opportunity.

#13475

Price: \$305,000



TURTLE ROCKS

Newly built home on over 2 acres of beachfront property. Four beds, 3 1/2 bath with open concept living. Breathtaking views of Sea of Abaco.

#13561

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Price: \$490,000



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#13482

Price: \$2,185,000

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 Green Turtle Cay 1.5 acres, 135 ft. of frontage and great elevations. \$665,000

* Casuarina Point Canal front lot with ocean access. Water/electric/cable. \$80,000
 * Cherokee Sound Quiet and private area with half acre lots available. \$210,000
 * Treasure Cay Elevated lot offering, golfing, deep-sea fishing, boating. \$90,000
 * Yellowwood Beautiful hilltop lot overlooking Winding Bay. \$150,000
 * Elbow Cay Newly constructed 3 bed, 2 bath hilltop home. Dock slip. \$925,000
 * Hopetown Comfortable 2 bed, 1 bath Bahamian style home. \$260,000
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South End, Elbow Cay

Oceanfront Lot 1/2+ acre, suitable for main and guest cottage, adjacent to private Dorros Cove community at south end of Elbow Cay, close to restaurant and marina **\$750,000**



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White Sound

Hilltop lot adjacent to Aunt Pats Bay in White Sound. 1/3 acre with private dock slip and views of the Sea of Abaco and Atlantic **\$355,000**

BREAKERS Ocean front lot located in White Sound on one of the best surf spots and just steps away to marina and restaurants. Hope Town settlement is just a short ride away. Can be subdivided. Offered at **\$795,000**

OCEAN FRONT WHITE SOUND

Lots #13 & #14 with dockage on White Sound Bay **\$495,000 each**

White Sound

Ocean Front Lots #15 and 16, both with dockage on White Sound bay, and just steps away from marina and restaurants **SOLD**

DORROS COVE

Lot #18 with dock slip and ocean views **\$362,000**

Lot #21 with dock slip and panoramic views **\$425,000 SOLD**

Lot # 43 with dock slip and ocean/sea view **\$365,000**

LYNYARD CAY

3 acres on Sea of Abaco, north of pond **\$730,000**
1 acre north of pond on Sea of Abaco **\$365,000**



MAY HOUSE,

North End Elbow Cay Ocean front Large 1.5 acre property, 2 bed / 2 bath villa, generator room, can be subdivided

Reduced

\$2,900,000



TOWN BREAK

Hope Town 5 bed / 4 bath ocean-front turn key home on beautiful sandy beach, located north of historic Hope Town settlement. Open deck-ing, beautiful decor and excellent rental history.

\$2,300,000

Under Contract



SUNSET BAY

Spectacular sunsets at this 3 Bed/3 Bath home on the Sea of Abaco in private Dorros Cove community. Wrap around decks, incredible elevation and large private dock.

SOLD



SUNBLIME

Hope Town Settlement Historic Hope Town house with dockage. Main house 4 bed 2.5 bath with detached dock house. Rental history available.

Reduced

\$1,200,000

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School News

Grade Four Student Wins Boys' Reading Challenge

By Samantha V. Evans

After an entire month of reading books, October 1st through 31st, the 143 students who entered the Boys' Reading Challenge

at Central Abaco Primary School received their awards on November 19th. The guest speaker for this event was Mr. Christopher Roberts, a businessman in Marsh Harbour. He told the students that he did not learn to read until he was 14 years old, but he did not learn to read properly until he attended

college in Canada. He told the students that he can relate to those of them who cannot seem to understand the subject or learn it well enough to perform well in school. Even though some of them may have this challenge, he encouraged them to continue pressing forward because the day will come when they will master reading if they do not give up.

He encouraged parents not to become discouraged if they have a child who struggles with reading. He believes that most children can learn how to read and whether they become good readers will depend largely on the support they get from their parents. The following tips will assist parents to help their children become better readers:

- Help them acquire a wide range of knowledge
- Talk with their children about their experiences
- Encourage children to think about events
- Read aloud to their child
- Provide their preschooler with writing material

- Encourage children to watch television programs that are educational
- Monitor the amount of television their children watch
- Monitor children's school performance
- Encourage them to read everyday
- Continue to be involved in the educational advancement of their children.

The students had to read a minimum of 10 books to receive a certificate but every student who read a book received an award. The winner was Sidney Decius, grade 4 who read 170 books, second place was Steven Jones, grade 4 who read 142 books and third place winner was Kenston Gedeon, Grade 5 who read 130 books. The winner received a brand new bicycle donated by Vyrona Archer.

Mrs. Black challenged them to read even more books than they read this year. She told them that she has a passion for boys and is confident that they can all do well. Ms. Elaine Martinborough, organizer of this event, donated magazines to the

Please see **School**

Page 19



The winner of the Boys' Reading Challenge at Central Abaco Primary School, Sidney Decius, won a bicycle donated by Mrs. Vyrona Archer. Shown are Mrs. Lenora Black, District Superintendent, second place winner Steven Jones, Ms. Samantha Evans, school counsellor, Ms. Elaine Martinborough of Urban Renewal, Sidney on his new bicycle, third place winner Kenston Gedeon, and Mr. Chris Roberts, guest speaker.

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- **New Listing!** For the ultimate in privacy, three bedroom, two bath furnished home on Bluff Harbour and the Sea of Abaco. Over 1000 feet of waterfront. New dock with lift. \$2.7m plus 7% to close
- **New Listing!** This stately two story furnished beachfront home on the Atlantic Ocean is based on an 1871 mansion built in Guadalupe. Five bedrooms and four baths. A/C throughout. Whirlpool tub in Master Bedroom. Study/office. Excellent rental history. Meticulously kept property. B \$2.545 million including all closing costs.
- Striking four bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home. A/C, W/D, single attached garage. 2500 sq. ft. under roof with large screened porch and patio. View of Sea of Abaco. Reduced \$895,000 inclusive of all closing costs
- Four bedroom four bath furnished waterfront home on Bluff Harbour with dock. Beautiful views. \$1.95 million plus 10% closing costs.
- Large four bedroom two and a half bath immaculate furnished home with office and attached garage. Great attention to detail. 140 steps to the beach. B\$795,000 plus 2% to close.
- One acre oceanfront lot with 66' on Atlantic Ocean at Ocean Beach. Reef is close enough to shore to swim to. \$945,000. All closing costs included.
- 3 acre Bahamian estate with 350' on Atlantic Ocean Beach and 1/2 acre waterfront on Black Sound. Furnished 3 bedroom 2 bath main house plus attached owner's unit with kit/liv/ding area and one bedroom and one bath. High elevation. Swimming pool. Observation tower. Owner financing available. \$2.5 million with all closing costs included.
- **Price reduction** 90' on beach 1/4 acre lot at stunning Bight O Bay on the Atlantic Ocean. \$489,000 plus 7% to close.
- One 9,500 sq. ft. lot within sight of Coco Bay Beach. **SOLD**
- Atlantic Ocean lot on Munjack Cay - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- 9,600 sq. ft lot in Green Turtle Estates - **SOLD**

Dec. 1, 07

Multiple Listing System What is MLS?



A Multiple Listing System (MLS) allows participating real estate agents to place their sellers' homes on a database providing information to other licensed real estate agents about these listings. This is greatly beneficial to the seller as it is great exposure for your property.

The MLS is quite important to the buyer as well. If your real estate agent is a participating member of the MLS and is

searching for suitable properties for you, this system is the best tool because your real estate agent will have access to all properties listed by other members.

Whether buying or selling make sure your real estate agent is a member of the Multiple Listing Service of the Bahamas Real Estate Association, Abaco Chapter!

The first MLS service in The Bahamas was launched on Abaco on October 1st and, to date, the participating members are:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Derek Lee | Abaco Cays Realty |
| Chris Plummer | Abaco Cays Realty |
| Cindy Newell | Abaco Estate Services |
| Ed Newell | Abaco Estate Services |
| Bill Thompson | Abaco Real Estate |
| Elaine Thompson | Abaco Real Estate |
| Sandra Evans | Abaco Waterfront Properties |
| Bill Thorndycraft | Abaco Waterfront Properties |
| Brent Cartwright | Aisle of Palm Realty |
| Maria Silvester | Aisle of Palm Realty |
| Rhiannon Thomas | Aisle of Palm Realty |
| Chris Roberts | Bahamas Realty Abaco |
| Molly Roberts | Bahamas Realty Abaco |
| John Bethell | Bayfront Realty Nassau |
| Chris Farrington | Coldwell Banker |
| Mailin Sands | Coldwell Banker |
| Bill Albury | Damianos Sotheby's Intl. Realty |
| Jane Patterson | Damianos Sotheby's Intl. Realty |
| Laurie Schreiner | Damianos Sotheby's Intl. Realty |
| Stan Sawyer | Damianos Sotheby's Intl. Realty |
| Kerry Sullivan | Damianos Sotheby's Intl. Realty |
| Donna Rees | Era Dupuch Real Estate |
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| John Cash | John Cash Realty |
| (Ruth) Anne Albury | Treasure Cay Real Estate |
| Everett Pinder | Treasure Cay Real Estate |
| Marcellus Roberts | Treasure Cay Real Estate |

Abaco Chapter
The Bahamas Real Estate Association

More School News

School *From Page 18*

school library. She hopes that the Reading Challenge will help them to enhance their reading skills and performance in other subjects. The coordinator for the Reading Challenge on site was Samantha Evans, Counselor for Abaco. The Girls Reading Challenge is scheduled for the month of February, 2008.

The sponsors of the gifts received by the students were The Print Shop, Cyber Learning Center, Friends of the Environment, Water and Sewerage, Change Ministries, Bayview Restaurant, Lynden Newbold, Anita Rolle, Vyrona Archer, AID, Capt. Cyril Roker, Ministry of Tourism, The Royal Bahamas Police Force and Snap Shop.



Central Abaco Primary won its first softball game of the season 8 to 4. The team played against Treasure Cay Primary in a game played in Treasure Cay.

Eagles Win First Softball Game in Treasure Cay

By Samantha V. Evans

On November 23rd the first softball game for the season was played in Treasure Cay when Central Abaco Primary School took on Treasure Cay Primary School. At the end of the game Central Abaco Primary Eagles defeated their opponent 8-4. This winning team consisted of male students from grades four, five and six. The coach is Mr. Jeffery Victor. They are scheduled to play St. Francis at their next game.

Long Bay School Wins Grade Eight Spelling Bee!

By Samantha V. Evans

Twenty-one grade eight students were entered into the Spelling Bee for grade eight Spelling Bee held on November 23rd at the Learning Resource Center. The students

completed ten rounds of spelling from the seen list before the competition stiffened as words of the unseen list were called. Today was an unusual day of spelling as during the 12th round all of the contestants spelled their word incorrectly except for one student resulting in a spell off to determine who the remaining two students would be to add to the student who spelt her word correctly so that a winner, second and third place could be declared. After a total of 15 rounds, Long Bay School student Damara McIntosh was declared the official winner followed by Antwanee Smith from Forest Height Academy in second place and Nathan Grammatico from St. Francis de Sales in third place. Greta Strachan-Culmer presented the trophies to the students on behalf of Strachan's Construction Com-

Please see **School** *Page 20*

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- or
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- or
- Flame Broiled Black Angus Filet with Lime and Pepper Seasoned Local Lobster Tail
- ~
- Served with
- Sauteed Mixed Variety Fingerling Potatoes
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Glazed Carrots with Dill
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Baked Red Bliss Potatoes with Herbs
Macaroni and Cheese
Bahamian Bread

English Trifle
Pineapple Pie
Bahamian Rum Cake

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Reservations Recommended.
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More School News

School *From Page 19*

pany, sponsor of the trophies. Mrs. Black once again attended to give the students her support and told them to be motivators to the rest of their school student body so that they would want to improve their spelling.

St Francis Hosts Thanksgiving Prayer Service

By Samantha V. Evans

Thanksgiving Day officially starts the Christmas Season and every year St. Francis de Sales holds a Thanksgiving Service. This year they held a prayer service at the

Catholic church to give God thanks for His blessings on their school. The service was led by Mr. Bongon, Religious Knowledge teacher and students performed a skit. The students were encouraged to be thankful to all of those persons who bless and care for them.

A slide show was played depicting the damage experienced by Long Island and Cat Island residents after Tropical Storm Noel passed over The Bahamas at the end of October. At the end of the show, students paid their respect to the victims. They had raised \$775 to assist the victims with the purchase of water. The students in grade

seven raised the most money, \$144, and were commended by Principal Kumar.

Abaco District held Debate Competition

By Samantha V. Evans

On November 14 high school students from St. Francis de Sales, S.C. Bootle High School, Forest Heights Academy and Moore's Island All Age gathered at the Resource Center to debate on the topic *Be it resolved that attempts at developing Family Island*

economies have negatively impacted traditional community lifestyles. After a fierce day of competition, Forest Heights Academy was victorious at claiming the first

Please see **School** Page 21



The Abaco District holds a Spelling Bee for each grade annually. These are the winners of the Grade 8 competition for this year. Long Bay School student Damara McIntosh was declared the official winner followed by Antwanee Smith from Forest Height Academy in second place and Nathan Grammatico from St. Francis de Sales in third place.



Four high schools competed in an Abaco-wide debate. The winning team was the Forest Heights Academy team with Taj Anderson, Zöe McDaniel and Nasasha Bootle. They are shown with their coach, Mr. James Savage.

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More School News

School *From Page 20*

place spot. The team of Zöe McDaniel, Nasasha Bootle and Taj Anderson stated that they attribute collaboration, organizing themselves, team effort and self-confidence to their team winning. They decided to address the topic from a different perspective which they believe also gave them the edge.

Mr. Leslie Rolle was the organizer of this event and all coaches stated that it was very well organized. Rolle commended the Moore's Island team for coming from so far to participate in the debate. Mr. James Savage, coach for Forest Heights, stated that he was extremely happy that Mrs. Lenora Black took the time to attend and to give them her support. Many parents came to support their children and Mr. Savage believes that this made the world of difference.

The best debaters from the competition were selected to represent Abaco at the Nassau debate competition to be held at a later date. These students are Clayshawn Brown from S.C. Bootle, Nasasha Bootle

from Forest Heights, Nekhira Saunders from St. Francis and Shalna Blanc from Abaco Central High School. The trophies for this debate were donated by Strachan's Construction Company.

Abaco participates in Junior Minister of Tourism

*By Michelle Mikula
Ministry of Tourism*

Abaco was represented at the National Junior Minister of Tourism Speech Competition by Marcus Sands, a 10th grade student at

St. Francis de Sales School. He was named Abaco's overall winner when he entered his essay title The Caribbean Intra-Regional Travel Market into the competition. This qualified him trav-



Marcus Sands

Please see **School** *Page 30*

Christmas Block Party

Friday, December 7th
7 till 9 p.m.

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News of Clubs and Co-ops

Pilot Club/Anchor Installation

By Samantha V. Evans

Seven new members were sworn in as Pilots on November at Central Abaco Primary School. They were Ms. Roberta Lindsay, Mrs. Rochelle Russell, Mrs. Melvern Black, Mrs. Jessica Smith, Ms. Monique Curry, Ms. Patchment and Ms. Miriam Fredericks (not pictured). Swearing them in was Mr. Cecil Simon.

The Anchors from Abaco Central High School, St. Francis de Sales, Forest Heights and Central Abaco Primary School were sworn in as well. Abaco Central High School has 14 members and the president is Kendero Murray. St. Francis has 28 members and their president is Shamariah Baillou. Forest Heights has 24 members and the president is Antonia Wright. Central Abaco Primary School V.I.P. Anchors

have the biggest club with 35 members with Conrad Cornish as president.

VIP Anchors campaign for road safety

By Samantha V. Evans

On October 26 the Anchors of Central Abaco High School had a Road Safety Campaign. The Pilots for the school supervised them while they distributed the various road safety flyers. They encouraged persons to walk on the sidewalk, cross at the intersections, look left and right before crossing into traffic, be sure that cars see that they are crossing before stepping out into the street and adults walking with children must ensure that they are being held. Finally, The VIP Anchors want to encourage those persons in vehicles to buckle up, drive safely and do not speed because the life they save might be their own. Unfor-

tunately, one of the Anchor sisters had just lost her dad in a road accident so this made this exercise even more meaningful. The Anchors are committed to promoting safety on our streets so that everyone can be safe and drive safely.

Co-op's Meeting and Officer Training

By Mirella Santillo

Two men from the Nassau credit union, Mr. Frank Davis from the Credit Union League and Mr. Burt Mullings, Senior Co-operative Officer, visited Marsh Harbour to conduct a training seminar for existing and prospective officers of the local agriculture co-op.

The topics covered by Mr. Mullings included the duties and characteristics of a good director and the role of a manager.

Mr. Davis's topic related to the importance of good financial information. All financial decisions should be based on good information that is accurate and current.

Mr. Davis presented his findings on why businesses fail.

- 1./ 2./ 3./ Inadequate planning, inadequate planning, inadequate planning
4. Insufficient initial capital
5. Mistaken estimate of market demand
6. Lack of management ability
7. Failure to select and use appropriate outside professional advice
8. Inability to market produce or service effectively
9. Over dependence on a single individual
10. Failure to understand capital requirements of a growing business
11. Poor timing of expenditure due to poor

planning
12. Expedient rather than reasoned decision-making

After going over statistics provided by several internet accounting firms, he covered the principles of accounting and went over the structure of financial statements.

Both visitors attended a meeting the following day. The Chairman, Mr. Augustine Williams, and several members of the co-op attended. The main discussion concerned the audit of the books requested by Mr. Mullings upon the demand by Rev. Charles Carey to be released as guarantor of the loans incurred by the co-op. Mr. Mullings said he would address any concerns Rev. Carey had after auditing the books which Rev. Carey was asked to hand over. The election of a new co-op board before the end of the year was also mentioned.

Some of the local projects for the upcoming season were discussed including the management of the sod farm, the preparation of the land for planting and the onion season.



The Pilot Club of Abaco inducted six new members into the club who were sworn in by Mr. Cecil Simon.

Hints for Helping Our Environment

Water Conservation

- A shower can use 25 to 30 gallons of water
- Leaving water running while brushing teeth can use up to 5 gallons of water

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Local Government at Work



Central Abaco Council Oct 25

The three Town Committee chairmen submitted names of their candidates for the five Statutory Boards and one Advisory Boards. The Board members appointed were the following:

Town Planning - Chairman Bill Swain, Deputy Chairman Stephen Knowles, Marcus Bethel, Mark Roberts, Gilbert Davis, Danny Sawyer and Larry Williams

Licensing - Chairman Eugene Dawkins, Deputy Chairman Glenn Russell, Carl Archer, Doug Evans, Leonard Edgcombe, Reckling Bootle and Andrew Russell

Hotel Licensing - Chairman Ruth Pinder, Deputy Chairman Sonith Lockhart, Carrington Anderson, Mike Malone, Debbie Poldun and Brenda Claridge

Port Authority - Chairman Dale Hill, Deputy Chairman Wenzel McBride, Timothy Roberts, Brandon Thompson, Kendal Swain, Kevin Hucheson and Brent Brooks

Tourism Advisory - Chairman Brenda Sawyer, Deputy Chairman Colon Curry, Wynsome Ferguson, Bobby Jones, Bradley Swain and Ada Deveaux

Road Traffic (for entire island of Abaco) - Renardo Curry, Julia Mills, Danny Sawyer, Victor Patterson, Eustace Penn, Frank Hepburn, Arthur Lightbourne, Jen-son Edgcombe and Stafford Symonette

Council business included a discussion on improving and utilizing the South Side dock area including a functional boat ramp. Due to the volume of business that

the Council must contend with, it was agreed with the Council will meet twice monthly in the future, on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

The conditions and trash overload at the present dump site across from Central Pines Estates was discussed. Various remedies were considered to contend with the large amount of trash the site accepts. One suggestion related to requesting that Abaco Club garbage and trash be diverted to the dump serving Cherokee or Casuarina Point as that project falls within the South Abaco District.

Suggestions by the Airport Beautification Committee included the construction of a simple roof over the area where travelers exit Customs to get a taxi. Work on that is expected to begin in mid-November. Marco Air Conditioning volunteered to donate a five-ton air conditioner to service the general lobby area on the condition that if the building was decommissioned within the next two year he could salvage the unit.

Other aspects of making the terminal more visitor friendly were discussed. Mrs. Jacquelyn Estevez, Manager of Commonwealth Bank, attended the meeting briefly and offered to spearhead a corporate partnership with local businesses to improve the terminal. Her offer was accepted. The deplorable condition of the restrooms in the terminal lobby was felt to need immediate attention.

A past member of the Road Traffic Board complained about the way procedural matters were handled and recorded improperly in the minutes about two years ago. The Road Traffic Board which is comprised of members of the three mainland districts has not had a functional meeting in over

a year.

A new member appointed to the Town Planning Board quoted the sections of the Town Planning Regulations which give Town Planning members their mandate.

The Front Street in Marsh Harbour and the road between the Batelco compound and the Every Child Counts School were both singled out as being in terrible condition. Administrator Cephas Cooper advised that improvements to Front Street will begin soon with the ultimate goal of a concrete surface as the original road was paved.

A resident of the High Rocks area of Marsh Harbour near the ferry dock was allowed to comment on a petition submitted to the Local Government office on September 12 against the Crossing Condominium Project near the ferry.

She felt the Town Planning erred in not honouring her petition and for not holding public consultation on the project.

Two member of the Abaco Volunteer Intervention Team asked to represent their cause and asked for the Council's moral support and volunteer attendance at the opening of their office in Marsh Harbour on December 1st. They requested a donation to further their work.

It was decided to give the Chief Councilor authority to spend up to \$2000 for emergency work as required without immediate consultation with Council members. For example, this is for such things as repairs to malfunctioning toilets at the airport, clinic or schools or other similar emergencies.

Please see **Local Gov.** Page 24

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Local Government at Work



Local Gov. From Page 23

Council and Town Planning Concerning the Crossing Nov 12

A joint meeting between the Central Abaco Council and Town Planning was held to discuss issues related to a three-building three-story condominium project near Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour. An earlier decision to allow the project to proceed was being appealed by members of the public living in that area.

There appeared to be inconsistencies by Town Planning and the Council in their handling of the application and in the handling of the approvals as well as inconsistencies in the submission made by the developers. The Council is obliged to rule on appeals, and those members felt that both sides, the developer and the appealing residents, should be heard before any determination to accept, modify or reject the original decision is made. Apparently, due to the controversy, the developers had agreed to temporarily withhold all work on the third building which is a three-story building scheduled to be built about 15 feet from the high water mark.

It was brought out that Town Planning members had not seen the petition but had heard about it. A woman representing the petitioners attended the meeting and spoke at length about the objections to the project but did not specifically make reference to the petition.

A building inspector will be asked to compare work underway with work ap-

proved to see if they agree. Questions arose concerning the space available for the third building on the waterfront and its proximity to the high water mark. It was disclosed that the developer had applied for a 40-foot extension to reclaim the seabed beyond the present boundary on the coast but had not originally disclosed this fact. Town Planning members were not clear on whether or not this additional 40 feet was material to the position of the third building.

The question arose over three-story buildings in a residential area, particularly in view of the fact that there are very few three-story buildings in Marsh Harbour's commercial or residential areas. The issues related to the legal setback from the coast were brought up without being resolved. It was noted that the area from The Crossing and the Pelican Shore turnoff is residential and this would be the first major commercial venture in that stretch. It was brought out that a neighbouring property owner has also applied to reclaim seabed to extend a parking lot. An onsite inspection by Town Planning members brought out that the survey markers on the coast are under water at high tide. Discussion then centered around definitions of high tide.

A procedural matter was discussed without resolution in that the petition was acknowledged to have been submitted to the Council office but did not appear on the Town Planning agenda. The chairman of Town Planning felt that inasmuch as the petitioner attended the meeting but did not mention the petition by name, Town Planning members were absolved of knowledge of the petition. Subsequent information from the petitioner disclosed that the petition had been submitted to Council as required by The Act, and she felt that further

specific reference was not required.

The resident representing the objectors felt betrayed in that the application concerning four and a half acres on Pelican Shores proposed several months ago was allowed extensive public consultation. Yet this similar project was passed with minimal public awareness. The Pelican Shores project failed to get approval. She noted that a condominium project near this controversial site was rejected several years ago as being inappropriate, not in keeping with the area and being too dense for the available property.

In other business, it was noted that the recent demolition exercise for removing recently constructed illegal houses in the immigrant community of the Mud had collectively cost something in the neighbourhood of \$15,000. It was felt that the exercise was beneficial, but that funding was not in place for continuing operations of this nature.

The meeting closed with a Council member noting that with no other business conducted, there was little accomplished for the time spent.

Central Abaco Hotel Licence Nov 21

This meeting was chaired by Ruth Pinder, recently appointed chairman of this board. This was the first meeting of the board in over a year.

Delinquent revenues from hotels in the Central Abaco District were reviewed. This relates to the six percent hotel tax collected from guests and due to be submitted to government by the 15th of the following month. Only a few hotels are current in this respect but most were noted to be extremely delinquent or even in non-compliance. This situation will be reviewed.

Eleven hotels on the register in the Central Abaco District include Abaco Beach Resort, Abaco Towns (now called Regattas of Abaco) Ambassador Inn, Bustic Bight, Cat Island Experience, Conch Inn, D's Guest House, Island Breezes, Lofty Fig, Pelican Beach Villas and Sunset Beach.

Discussions followed on hotels constructed under the Hotel Encouragement Act that received duty and other exemptions. Then years later they are being converted into apartments or sold as condominiums. The questions came up over the current status of these conversions.

The next meeting will be the third Wednesday in January.

Please see Local Gov. Page 26

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MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES

Abaco Properties

Dundas Town Crown Allotment Appraisal \$265,225.00



ceiling is sheet rock and the floors of vinyl tiles.

One two bedrooms, 1 bathroom, triplex. Approximately 9,000 sq. ft. lot no. 188 with an area for a small shop. Age-12 years the land is a portion of one of the Dundas Town Crown Allotment parcels stretching from Forest Drive to Front Street, being just under a quarter acre in size and on the lowside. A concrete block structure, with asphalt shingle roof and L-shape in design with a total length of 70 x 26 ft. Plus 50 x 22 ft. 2,920 sq. Ft. the interior walls are concrete blocks;

Portion of Murphy Town Crown Allotment, Murphy Town, Abaco. Appraisal: \$108,000



The property is 890 x 100 ft and rectangular in shape. The land is elevated approximately 15 ft above road level and approximately 25 ft above sea level. Located on this property is a 20 yr old three bedroom, two bathroom, living, dining, kitchen and laundry room house. The structure requires much attention.

New Providence Properties

Kennedy Subdivision Nassau Appraisal: \$188,406.00



Lot no. 21 all utilities available 10 year old single story house, 3 bedroom 2 bathroom, living dining area, family room, kitchen, study, laundry and an entry porch. Heading west along Soldier Road take main entrance to Kennedy Subdivision on the left, then take the 1st corner on the left, then 1st right. House is second on your right with garage.

Lot No. 1490 Appraisal: \$162,400.00



Golden Gates Section 2 All that lot of land having an area of 6,000 sq. ft. Being lot no. 1490 of the subdivision known and designated as Golden Gates, the said subdivision situated in the southwestern district of New Providence, Bahamas. This property is comprised of a 25-yr-old single family residence consisting of approximately 2,480 sq. ft. of enclosed living with three bedrooms three bathrooms, living room and kitchen. The land is on a grade and level; however, the site appears to be sufficiently elevated to disallow the possibility of flooding during annual heavy rainy periods of the year. The grounds are fairly kept with improvements including driveway, walkway and low shrubs. Yard is enclosed on one side with 5-foot chain link fencing and a low cement block wall to the front.

Traveling west on Carmichael Road turn left, then right onto the service road opposite Bahamas Faith Ministries Complex, then first left again after passing clico and pre-school. The subject house is the 6th house left painted green trimmed white.

Lot No. 130, St. Andrews Beach Estates Appraisal: \$245,237.00



All that lot of land having an area of 8,100 sq ft, being lot no. 130 of the subdivision known and designated as St. Andrews Beach Estates, the said subdivision situated in the eastern district of New Providence, Bahamas. Located on the subject property is a structure comprising of an approximately 12 yr. old duplex apartment consisting of approximately 2,072 sq. ft. of enclosed living space which includes one 3-bedroom 1-bath, living, dining rooms, kitchen and utility room, and one bedroom, 1-bath, living /dining rooms and kitchen. The land is on a grade and level; however, the site appears to be sufficiently elevated to disallow the possibility of flooding during annual heavy rainy periods of the year. The grounds are fairly kept; the yard is enclosed with chain link fencing at the sides and back with gated access on both sides of the property. The front lawn section is not enclosed.

Traveling east on Yamacraw Hill Road take the third corner right with sign for St. Andrews Beach Estates, then take first left, then first right, the subject property is the 2nd property on the left side painted beige trimmed orange.

New Providence No. 21B Fraser Allotment off Soldier Road Appraisal \$303,000



The subject property consisting of 8,400 sq ft is developed with a split level home with 1925 sq ft of floor area on the ground floor, a porch area of 437 square feet and second floor area of 735 square feet. The building is of sound construction and completed in its entirety. The ground floor comprises 2 bedrooms, one bath, a kitchen, dining and family room. The second floor comprises two bedrooms, one bath, living and dining areas. Directions to property: Heading East on Soldier, turn

left onto first paved road opposite Lowe's Wholesale, 2nd to last house on the road with chain link fence.

Eleuthera Properties

Lot No. 62, Lower Bogue Eleuthera Appraisal: \$235,638



is approximately 85% completed. The property is well landscaped with crab grass and some fruit trees.

All that piece, parcel or lot of land and improvements in the settlement of Lower Bogue, North Eleuthera, being No. 62, comprising of about 34,210 sq. ft. This site encompasses a 12-year-old single storey home comprising of 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, front room, dining, breakfast room, kitchen and laundry room with a total living area of approximately 2,342.06. Property also includes a double car garage and front entrance with a total sq. ft. of approximately 655.75. This home

Lot No. 7. Boiling Hole Subdivision Appraisal: \$153,521.00



This duplex was built in accordance with the plan and specification as approved, and at a standard that was acceptable to the Ministry of Public Works. This structure is in good condition. Each apartment could be rented at \$800.00 per month. The land is landscaped and planted with ficus trees but needs some manicuring.

This property is situated on the western side of Eleuthera Highway in the settlement of Lower Bogue.

All that piece, parcel or lot of land and improvements situated on the Island of Eleuthera, North of Governor's Harbour, comprising of Lot No. 7 in the Boiling Hole Subdivision and comprising of approximately 10,000 sq. ft., this site encompasses a 17-year old duplex with each unit consisting of 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, front room, dining room and kitchen with a gross floor area of approximately 1,474.20

Eleuthera Lot No. 1, Block No. 45 Appraisal: \$151,007.00



All that place parcel or lot of land having an area of 9,644 sq. ft, being lot #1 In block 45, Section E In the subdivision called and known as Eleuthera Island Shores Subdivision, situated In the vicinity of Hatched Bay Harbour, on the Island of Eleuthera, one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. This site encompasses a two-storey building which is approximately 14 yrs. old and is abandoned. There is a wooden landing approximately 7'-4" wide by 20'-0" on the upper level, approximately 1,610 sq. ft. of enclosed living space, with 3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, front room, dining room, den, kitchen, and utility room. The wooden porch on the upper level approximately 148 sq. ft. There is also a water cistern under the dining room floor area. All utilities and services available. This property is situated in Eleuthera Island Shores.

Long Island Properties

Hamilton's, Long Island Appraisal: \$112,000.00.



the property such as electricity, water, cable and telephone. The property is accessed by the main Queen's Highway.

All that piece parcel or lot of land and improvements situated in the settlement of Hamilton's on the Island of Long Island and comprising of approximately 13,547 sq. ft. and is elevated approximately 7-8 ft above sea level. This site encompasses a 35 yr. structure. A simple style home consisting of two bedrooms, one bathroom, kitchen, living and dining room. The home, however, is consisted of separate constructions; 360 sq. ft. of concrete construction and 624 sq. ft. of wooden construction. All amenities are to

VACANT PROPERTIES

Eleuthera Vacant Property

North Eleuthera Heights, Eleuthera Appraisal \$41,275.00

Lot #20 approximately 11,200 sq. ft. and bounded on north by Early Settler Drive and south by Deal Investment Ltd. This is single family zoning and 50 ft. above sea level. This site encompasses a foundation with plumbing and roughing in place and well compacted quarry fill. The concrete floor has not been poured as yet. The foundation is 2,511 sq. ft. Lot # 20 situated 1/5 miles eastwardly of the Bluff Settlement. The said lot is vacant and on a hill overlooking the Atlantic Ocean

Lot. 1 10B, Palmetto Point Appraisal: \$72,000

All that piece, parcel or lot of vacant land containing 9,000 and being lot No. 10B situated north of Ingraham's Pond and easterly of Palmetto Point, on the Island of Eleuthera, one of the islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, and is bounded and abutting as follows: - on the north by Lot No. 3B and running thereon for a distance of 90 ft; on the East by Lot No, 11B and running thereon for a distance of 100 ft; on the south by a 20 ft. wide road reservation and running thereon 90 ft. on the west by Lot No. 9B running thereon for a distance of 100 ft., the said lot is overgrown with shrubs and is in close proximity to a white sandy beach. This neighbourhood is zoned residential development and is quiet and peaceful with a topography of approximately 50 ft. and because of this there is no danger of flooding. The area is approximately 80 percent developed with all utilities and services available.

Mutton Fish Point, North Eleuthera Appraisal: \$51,421.00

All the piece, parcel or lot of vacant land containing 44,714 sq. ft, and designated E which forms a portion of land known as "Mutton Fish Point" situated about two miles northwestward of the settlement of Gregory Town on the Island of Eleuthera, one of islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, and is bounded and abutting as follows: Northwardly by the land now or formerly the property of Coridon Ltd. and running thereon for a distance of 393.13 feet; outwardly by a 30' wide road reservation and running thereon for a distance of 402.57 ft. eastward by the main Queen's Highway and running thereon for a distance of 109.73 ft; westwardly by land now or formerly the property of Coridon Limited and running thereon for a distance of 110.75 ft. This property having an area of approximately 44,714 sq. ft. This neighbourhood is zoned commercial/residential development and is quiet, peaceful and has a topography of approximately 2 ft. with all utilities and services available.

Mutton Fish Point North Eleuthera Appraisal: \$51,421.00

All that piece, parcel or tract of land containing one acre situated about 2 miles northwest of the settlement of Gregory Town on the island of Eleuthera, one of the islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and is bounded and abutting as follows: Northwestly by the main Queens Highway and is running thereon for a distance of 125.462 feet northwestward by the land now or formerly the property of Coridon Limited, and running thereon for a distance of 390.274 ft; southwestwardly by a 30' wide road reservation and running thereon for a distance of 128.128 ft; Southeastwardly by the land now or formerly the property of the Vendor and running thereon for a distance of 322.955 ft. This property having area of approximately 44,847.76 sq ft. This neighbourhood is zoned commercial development and is quiet and peaceful with a topography of approximately 2 ft, with all utilities and services available This lot is vacant land and is located In the area known an "Mutton Fish Point."

Mutton Fish Point, North Eleuthera Appraisal \$51,276.00

All that place, parcel or lot of vacant land and improvements containing approximately 44,587 sq. ft, and designated 'F' which forms a portion of land known as "Mutton Fish Point" situated about two miles northwestward of the settlement of Gregory Town on the Island of Eleuthera, one of the islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, and bounded and abutting as follows:- Northwardly by the land now or formerly the property of Coridon Limited, and running thereon for a distance of 383.56 ft; southwardly by land now or formerly the property of Coridon Limited and running thereon for a distance of 393.19 ft, eastwardly by the main Queen's Highway and running thereon for a distance of 113.40 ft, westwardly by land now or formerly the property of Coridon Limited and running thereon for a distance of 113.40 ft. This neighbourhood is zoned commercial / residential development and is quiet, peaceful and has a topography of approximately 2 ft. with all utilities and services available.

VACANT PROPERTIES

Exuma Vacant Property

Island Harbour Beach, Exuma Appraisal: \$80,000

All that parcel or lot of vacant land containing 10,000 (80'x 100') sq. ft. being Lot No. 9, Block 2, Island Harbour Beach Subdivision situated the western most portion of the Hermitage Estate, Little Exuma, Bahamas. The property is located on an unpaved road known as Stocking Road. The property also has a commanding view of the ocean.

Abaco Vacant Property

Blackwood, Abaco Appraisal: \$219, 354.40

All that lot of land having an area of approximately 258,064 sq. ft. This property is yet to reach its highest and best use. It is ideally suited to single or multi-family development as is the nature of surrounding properties within the community. The site may also serve well as a commercial site as the area remains un-zoned the property remains largely in its original state. It is covered with low brush and broad leaf coppice vegetation interspersed with broad strands of mature yellow pine indigenous to the area. The property is well drained and represents no immediate flooding danger under normal conditions. The subject property is vacant and is situated at the southeastern entrance of the community of Blackwood, Abaco. The property is undivided and comprises approximately 6 acres of a larger tract of land of approximately 26 acres.

New Providence Vacant Property

Lot B. Wilson Street, Rock Crusher Appraisal: \$97,214

All that lot of land having an area of 10,498 sq. ft. being Lot B, between the subdivision known a Rock Crusher and in teh vicinity of Perpall Tract situated in teh western district of New Providence, Bahamas. This property is zoned multi-family / single family. Also located on this property is a structure comprising of a duplex at foundation level under construction, and consisting of approximately 1,566 sq. ft. of enclosed living space with a patio consisting of 270 sq. ft. The starter bars are in place and foundation poured.

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Local Government at Work



Local Gov. From Page 24

Road Traffic Board Nov 25

The meeting was chaired by Frank Hepburn who was recently reappointed as chairman. This Board covers all of Abaco and has members from the three mainland districts.

This Board has a poor record of meetings with the previous two meetings being in July 2006 and January 2007. Issues discussed at this meeting concerned school children being transported in the back of pick-up trucks, an unlicensed private bus transporting workers to one of the island resorts and assigned franchise plates not being active.

Inactive franchises for cabs, rental cars and other vehicles will be examined to see if the plates should be recalled and reissued. Since there is a moratorium on issuing additional plates, it is felt that maximal use should be derived from those plates that have been allowed.

This meeting was noted as being historic for Road Traffic as four island administrators were present although only one is required. Inasmuch as the Board represents road traffic matters for the entire island of Abaco, it was felt that the meetings should rotate between the three districts. The next meeting is scheduled to be in Cooper's Town on January 23 with monthly meetings planned due to the volume of business anticipated.

Town Planning and Council Nov 26

A joint meeting of Town Planning and Council was held on November 26 to hear from a subcommittee appointed to make a physical inspection of the condominium project being reviewed. Councillors wanted to get their views and opinions on the third building as it related to the coastal boundary of the property. Attending the meeting were two of the developers and their attorney. The attorney repeatedly stated that no written objections had been shown him or the developers. It was stated that the nature of the meeting was not to resolve the problem with the petition but to hear from the subcommittee that made the physical inspection to the job site. Different figures were given, ranging from 11 feet to 16 feet from the coastal boundary to the building.

A new member of Town Planning objected to the short notice given concerning the meeting. He was told at noon it was private meeting, then learned at 4:30 p.m. it was going to be a public meeting. He was upset that the developers were represented but no one submitting the petition was represented. Not enough time was given to announce a public meeting, he said.

He also noticed the developers had made changes, moving the building back four additional feet in an effort to satisfy setback concerns. This gave a 16-foot setback from the original distance of 12 feet from the coastal boundary. An extensive discussion followed on what would be an appropriate setback from the coast. The lawyer strove to establish a specific distance whereas some Town Planning members felt that discretion was involved in coastal issues of this nature.

The developers were adamant that the third building does not require any of the Crown Land that they have requested. However, acquiring that addition 40 feet would enhance their project. They spoke of their commitment to dredge and to establish a beach along the shore of the property.

After answering questions and giving the developers' position, the developers left and the Council and Town Planning members discussed various aspects of the situation. The three and a half hour meeting was dismissed with no decision.

Town Planning members present were dismayed that none of their normal business was conducted as approximately 25 applications are before them with a total value of \$9 million.

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Public Notice Department of Environmental Health Public Landfill Meeting

The public is advised of a town meeting
Wednesday, December 5, 2007, at 7 p.m.
Central Abaco Primary School

A presentation on the new landfill operation inland of Snake Cay will be made. Associated logistics and changes to garbage and trash collection, transportation and disposal will be presented.

The Snake Cay site will be the main focus although other aspects may be presented.



Government Notice Extension - Abaco Landfill Invitation for Tenders

Tenders are asked to make note of the extension in the deadline for the submission of the bid documents

The Government of the Bahamas is inviting tenders for the necessary Operation and Maintenance of The Great Abaco Regional Landfill.

Interested parties may obtain further information, including eligibility to participate, and may collect the bidding document upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$100.00, as of Monday, October 22, 2007.

The Department of Environmental Health Services Accounts Division
Farrington Road, Nassau, Bahamas
Telephone No: (242) 322-8037, Facsimile No: (242) 322-8073
Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The method of payment will be certified cheques or cash. Tenders are to be submitted in triplicate (3) in a sealed envelope(s) addressed to:

The Tenders Board
C/O The Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance and Planning
Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Centre
P.O. Box W-3017
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

no later than 4:30 p.m. on 17th day of December 2007

Tenders will be opened at 10:00a.m on the 18th December, 2007 at the office of the Tenders Board, Ministry of Finance and Planning

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders.

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Illegal immigrants are being deported



Immigration has an ongoing operation of sending illegal immigrants to Nassau to be deported. Groups are flown by charter planes such as the one shown here. Government is approaching the immigrant problem in several ways including destroying illegal housing.

Status of illegal housing

Analysis of the recent demolition exercise in the Mud showed that seven recently constructed houses are remaining which are occupied by women and children who appeared to have been displaced by the extensive fire two years ago. One house was found with 10 single rooms. Two houses were found earlier with 16 and 17 rooms being used as boarding houses. Ten persons were found hiding on a roof but when discovered escaped by running from roof to roof. One occupant offered \$500 to the demolition team leader to leave his house standing. A building was discovered that housed a casino. Those persons physically

demolishing the building commented on the physical difficulties of knocking them down.

Administrator Cephas Cooper wanted a summary of the operation forwarded to officials in Nassau so they can realize the gravity of the situation.

It was stated that as many as 200 individuals in the Pigeon Peas may be paying weekly rents of \$40 to \$70 to the alleged landowner. It is acknowledged that the Pigeon Pea community is built on private land granted to Nathan Key in the 1800s and subsequently claimed by his descendants.

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Vertum Lowe and Growing up on Green Turtle Cay

By Jennifer Hudson

Vertrum Lowe has spent all of his 74 years on Green Turtle Cay and has been a valuable employee of the Green Turtle Club for 42 of those years. "I have been at the Club from day one," proudly states this multi-talented gentleman who can turn his hand to painting, plumbing, carpentry, mechanics and a multitude of other jobs which keeps the club in tiptop shape.

Mr. Lowe was born on April 20, 1933, to Albert and Annie Lowe whose Loyalist ancestors came to Green Turtle Cay many generations ago from the Carolinas. In addition to Vertrum, the couple had two more boys, Alton, the well known artist, and Leonard, and one daughter, Iva.

Mr. Lowe attended the Green Turtle Cay School from the age of six until 14 when he got his first job as a result of the 1947 hurricane. During the storm some very large trees fell on his father's house and young Vertrum was given the job of clearing them away. His next job was as a "water boy." He had to put water over the ground to wet it for workers to repair the huge potholes left in the road after being washed out by the hurricane. For this work he received two shillings and six pence a day which was equivalent to 56 cents.

"It was fun growing up here," reminisced Mr. Lowe. "We would play marbles, make spinning tops and kites and have ring plays in people's houses. The games we all enjoyed the most were the kissing games. Empire Day, May 4, was a bigger celebration than Christ-

mas, and all the young people enjoyed games such as the greasy pole where the goal was to take off as many biscuits as possible with your mouth, and another to retrieve coins out of a tub of flour with your hands tied behind your back. There was a lot of spluttering as people came up with white faces and noses full of flour."

"We would go off fishing and hauling with a net. Since we had no electricity, we would go on the boat for six months at a time collecting enough wood to chop to last for six months for cooking in the old rock ovens outside in the back of the house. As there were no refrigerators, we would put salt on the food to keep it and would pickle the wild hogs down in barrels. Ice would sometimes come from Nassau in barrels of sawdust and then people were able to make ice cream as a treat."

At the age of 16, Vertrum went with Capt. Sam Sawyer on his boat, the Stamba IV, running crawfish to West Palm Beach after which he got on the Lindo with his father, Albert Lowe, and Roswell Sawyer plying into Nassau. There, on one of his trips he met his future wife in a store on Bay Street. "I knew as soon as I saw her that I was going to marry her. As soon as I got back to the boat, I told them I had met the girl I would marry," he said. At the time the young lady was only 13 years of age. But when she reached the age of 16, the beautiful Cynthia Curry did indeed marry 18-year-old Vertrum. The couple later produced three children, Ray, Trina, who runs Harvey's Restaurant on the cay, and Johnny,

who is well known as the minister of the Green Turtle Cay Church of God and has traveled the world through his church work.

After his marriage, Mr. Lowe ran crawfish to the United States for another two years. Since this entailed being away for six months at a time, he left that job as it meant that the children hardly got to know their father. "Many people were involved in the sharking industry at the time, but this was very tough work," stated Mr. Lowe. "Fishermen went to Andros and got nurse sharks by the hundreds and shipped the hides, liver and fins to West Palm Beach. People from all over The Bahamas would bring sharks and salt from Ragged Island to salt them down for keeping." In those days everyone had to travel by boat. Mr. Lowe saw the arrival of the first sea planes, the Widgeon, Goose and Catalina which arrived at the ramp by the park.

Mr. Lowe looked back on those hard days saying, "In those days you were very lucky if you got a job as there was very little to do. And if you had a job, you really had to hang on to it. Many people left to look for work in Nassau and the United States. I remember



Vertrum Lowe of Green Turtle Cay has made more than 300 model ships. He is shown here with a recent model.

many times when there was not a single penny in the house."

He told a story of how, when you give your all, the Lord will provide. "One Sunday we were in church and my mother said that she had nothing to put in the collection plate that week. There was only one pound left at home and that had to provide food for the family. My father told her to go home and get it and put it in the collection plate. This she did while very aware that then there would be nothing left. The following day father went out in the boat and, washed up on a beach, he found two bales

Please see **Vertrum Lowe** Page 31

Random Astronomical Data

<p>The earliest sunset this year will occur between November 25 and December 5 with the sun setting at 5:15 p.m. during this period. This is six minutes earlier than sunset on Dec 21 which is the shortest day of the year. It is a little known fact that the earliest sunset is about a month before the shortest day. On December 6 rejoice - each sunset is a minute or more later, extending afternoon daylight. Data, to the right, is given for the highest and lowest tides during waking hours for the next twelve months for those requiring either the lowest or highest water.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="3">Lowest daytime tides</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-0.4</td> <td>Dec 25</td> <td>3:27 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-0.5</td> <td>Jan 22</td> <td>2:21 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Highest during waking hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.6</td> <td>Nov 24</td> <td>7:30 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.5</td> <td>May 4</td> <td>8:13pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.6</td> <td>May 5</td> <td>9 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.7</td> <td>Oct 17</td> <td>10:30 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.7</td> <td>Nov 14</td> <td>8:30 am</td> </tr> </table>	Lowest daytime tides			-0.4	Dec 25	3:27 pm	-0.5	Jan 22	2:21 pm	Highest during waking hours			3.6	Nov 24	7:30 pm	3.5	May 4	8:13pm	3.6	May 5	9 pm	3.7	Oct 17	10:30 am	3.7	Nov 14	8:30 am
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- LOWE'S FOOD STORE - GREEN TURTLE CAY
- SEA SPRAY RESORT AND MARINA

Mural depicts Enchanting Abaco

By Mirella Santillo

In Spring of 2007 artists belonging to the Abaco Art Guild took on the project of painting a mural. The idea was to involve not only the members of the Art Guild, but also gifted students of the local high schools as well as their teachers. The location of the mural was important as the project had to have visibility, but it also had to be well received by the business that would lend its walls to the creation. A business which was in the midst of enlargement and renovations, Standard Hardware, was receptive and dedicated a corner for the mural. Renown artist from Nassau, Mr. Antonius Roberts, came to Marsh Harbour to give his guidance for the project.

The final product, composed of 12 panels and created by more than 30 peo-

ple who had never worked together before, was astounding. To compliment the art work, the corner was landscaped and picnic tables added. The result was cozy, colorful and very "islandy."

So it did not come as a surprise when Mr. Scott Weatherford, General Manager of Standard Hardware, approached the Art Guild to commission its members for another mural, this one composed of 16 panels. Since Mr. Roberts could not come, the Art Guild Treasurer and gifted painter, Mrs. Jo-Ann Bradley, became the coordinator for the project which was executed at the New Vision meeting hall. The artists decided what the scene should be like, but each took an area where they were most at ease with. The mural would have to compliment the first one, so the same colors were used. Underwater

scenes were added as well as more local fauna and flora as the idea was to project the island of Abaco "at a glance."

The Art Guild's members along with art teachers and their students, altogether about 25 people, participated for six weekends during the summer, Artists who worked on the mural signed their area in a special ceremony on November 10.

People can now enjoy the bright colors, the slashing dolphins and recognize landmarks of the Abaconian landscape when they visit the hardware store or drive past on Queen Elizabeth Drive. The Abaco Rage, ferry boats, the lighthouse, hibiscus, turtles, sailboats, dolphins, grouper, parrots, the William H Albury, they

are all there. The Art Guild hopes that by showing this amazing island environment, people will become more aware of the treasures of nature around us and will take actions to protect it.

Painting this mural was a good experience even for a non-painter. "Taking part in the project," said Mrs. Adams, "made me become more aware of the design and shapes of things around me." It was a community effort by artists and students that will be appreciated by everyone.

The Art Guild is a non profit organization dedicated to supporting creative talents and cultural life on Abaco. For more information you can go to abacoart.org or call Anyes Adams 242-577-0534.



The Art Guild completed its second mural to decorate the walls of Standard Hardware. The colorful depiction of many elements that make Abaco unique are pictured on the eight-foot by 64-foot mural. Local artists had the assistance of art teachers and their students. The signing ceremony was held on November 10.

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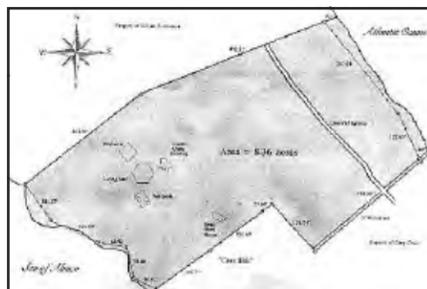
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Howard U

From Pag 14

on how they can become more involved in their children's school life. They recommended that parents need to help more with homework and school assignments, discipline, attending PTA meetings, teaching children values and morals and being good examples themselves. The community can help by holding seminars for parents, becoming mentors for students and coordinating a Big Brother-Big Sister Program between high and primary schools; just to name a few.

Mrs. Black stated that something has got to change, and she believes that change has already begun. She has just returned from an extensive literacy workshop in Nassau, also attended by Ms. Roberts Lindsay, Lit-

eracy Coordinator for Central Abaco Primary, and Felemease Sawyer, Education Officer. She added that the way students are assessed is presently under review at the Ministry of Education. They are investigating ways that make students smart. The Buddy System is already up and running on Moore's Island, and it will soon begin on the main land. What was impressive about this program is that it was initiated by 10th and 11th grade students.

Church

From Page 12

once completed.

The church presently has four girls' programs running to discuss pressing problems and to teach them basic skills such as cooking. On November 15th they held a

Thanksgiving dinner at the church for the girls and their mothers at which time they dressed in their finest apparel.

The members still have a long way to go before they can move into this new building and will be happy if anyone is willing to make a donation to assist with completing the building. The pastor of this church is Pastor Lernis Cornish.

School

From Page 21

el to Nassau to compete against 29 other students from throughout the country for the Bahamas Junior Minister of Tourism's post.

The Junior Minister of Tourism Program was launched in 2003 in Nassau and was adopted by the Caribbean Tourism

Organization in 2003. Since its inception, four young ladies and one young man have held this coveted title. With their reign came scholarships, cash prizes, summer employment with the Ministry of Tourism, speaking engagements and other benefits.

On November 6th Marcus along with the other students took the stage and delivered their essay in an impressive fashion. Winning over the judges and becoming the sixth student to hold the post was Katanga Armbrister-Johnson of Kingsway Academy.

Although Mr. Sands did not capture the national title and all its benefits, he will be called upon by the Abaco Tourist Office to serve in various capacities as Junior Minister of Tourism for Abaco in the 2007-2008 year.

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Vertrum Lowe

From Page 28

of rubber and a large tin of lard as good as new. This was worth a lot of money as the rubber was sent into Nassau to the Admiralty Marshall who then sent money in payment. The gift of the last pound to God's work was returned tenfold."

Nowadays Vertrum Lowe is a well known name in the craft of model boat making. Model boats made by Mr. Lowe can be found in homes and exhibits all over the world. He does not display his models in any shops but people find out about him and visit his workshop to purchase his models which he makes in his spare time after finishing his day at the Green Turtle Club. Mr. Lowe first began making model boats 22 years ago after his father passed on. He gained his skill and expertise from watching his father who was an expert model boat maker but the young Vertrum never intended to get into it like his father. It happened quite unexpectedly shortly after his father died. Albert Lowe was supposed to make a model for someone but died before

he could do so. Vertrum's brother, Alton, suggested that Vertrum do it but he had little interest until someone who happened to be present said that he could not do it because he did not have the ability. This immediately motivated him to do it, and he took on the challenge to prove them wrong. The first boat he made was for display in the Nassau Beach Hotel and to date he has made over 300 model boats.

His most recent has been made for a gentleman from Texas who came to his workshop and bought a two-masted schooner. He was leaving that afternoon but asked Mr Lowe to make him a four-masted model which he would send his jet to pick up when it was ready. Mr Lowe has made a model of the four-masted M J. Thompson, the original of which was built in Harbour Island. The masterpiece model comprises a red cedar wood hull, redwood and spruce decks and fir masts. These beautiful model boats which are meticulous in their detail won Mr. Lowe the coveted Ministry of Tourism's Cacique award for handicrafts two years ago.

"I have seen unbelievable growth on Green Turtle Cay. When I was a boy, there was nothing. But every week now the mail boats from Nassau and West Palm Beach come in fully loaded with building materials, and houses are going up all over the cay. There is a different atmosphere these

days now that people are far more prosperous. They are not as loving as they once were when everybody worked together and helped out. There was nothing else to do in those days but to help in whatever way help was needed and everybody was happy to lend a hand."

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29' Strike, cuddy cabin, 1998, fiberglass hull with trim, 330 HP Cummins diesel, recently surveyed. \$89,000 DUTY PAID 365-8349

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30' Scarab with cuddy cabin, great condition. Hull completely refurbished in 2006. Painted white awlgrip, 2 bilge pumps, sound system, VHF, new cushions, console cover, rocket launcher seat, new battery switch and wiring. Asking \$16,000 OBO. Hull only. Call Charles Pinder @ 357-6982



31'4" Stapleton Sportsfish, single CAT 3208T, 11' beam, 2 helms, 2 depth sounders, VHF, CD/stereo, live well, salt water wash down, heavy duty outriggers, Bahamian Registered. Asking \$39,900. Call 242-366-0266



33' Newport Sloop, 25 HP Universal diesel engine, gas stove, refrigerator, roller furling jib, hot water. DUTY PAID. Reduced \$12,500, Call 366-0549

75' Steel Hull, "No Opinion," 22' beam, 2 baths, sleeps 9, 2 freezers, depth finder, satellite radio, stove, microwave, 2 TV's, ice machine, stand-up cooler, white & blue. Call for info 333-5180, 551-0315, 359-7256

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LONG BEACH
Brand new, two story home with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths in 4,000 sq. ft. of well-appointed space. Set on an 18,700 sq. ft. lot overlooking an incredible beach.
\$849,900. Ref. AS10905



CEDAR COTTAGES

HOPE TOWN
Choose from two 3 bedroom, 2 bath newly built cottages with varied interiors. Enjoy great views of the Atlantic and Hope Town's harbour.
\$995,000 each
Ref. PS10637 & PS10638



CHEROKEE SOUND
Moderately sloping sea view lot comprising 34,922 sq. ft. with easy access to the beach and the Abaco Club, and all utilities. Ideal setting for your dream home.
\$425,000. Ref. AS10872



AEOLIAN

ELBOW CAY
Well located waterfront home featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, a well equipped kitchen, large living area, wrap-around deck, amazing views and possible dockage.
\$1,275,000. Ref. PS10565



VILLA PASHA

GREEN TURTLE CAY
Luxurious Caribbean style beachfront villa on 0.84 acres. This 5,750 sq. ft. home has 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, fully equipped kitchen, and wrap around porches.
\$2,545,000. Ref. TS10581



TREASURE CAY
Beautiful 8 acre parcel on pristine Basin Harbour Cay perfect for a secluded getaway or an eco-resort if purchased and combined with adjacent 9+ acre tract
\$280,000. Ref. AS10897



THE ABACO CLUB
Elegant 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath golf course home at the Ritz-Carlton managed Abaco Club at Winding Bay offering a clubhouse, European spa, tennis and beach.
\$4,495,000. Ref. AS10701

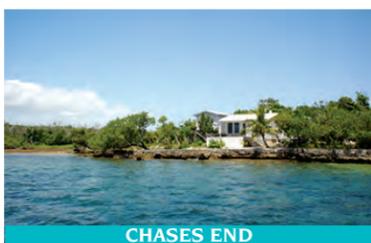


SLIPAWAY

MARSH HARBOUR
Sea-to-sea retreat on a 3/4 acre lot within a prestigious community. Accented by a 2 bedroom main house, separate master suite, guest cottage, and a boat lift.
\$2,315,000. Ref. AS10877

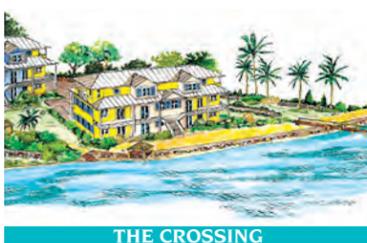


MARSH HARBOUR
Last chance to obtain a homesite in the prestigious and gated Great Abaco Club. This 7,630 sq. ft. canal lot has easy access to pool, tennis courts, and beach.
\$399,500. Ref. AS10731



CHASES END

LUBBERS QUARTERS
Amazing 3.64 acre property featuring three separate cottages totaling 3 bedrooms, a private dock, and views over the Sea of Abaco, Tahiti Beach and Tilloo Cut.
\$1,100,000. Ref. AS10889



THE CROSSING

MARSH HARBOUR
Collection of 2 bedroom condos and 3 bedroom penthouses overlooking the sea in a gated development offering a pool and private beach.
Starting at \$445,000
Ref. AS10890



WHITE SOUND
Gorgeous 15,500 sq. ft. beachfront lot with 75 ft. of amazing water frontage, endless ocean vistas, and views of White Sound and Seaspray Resort.
\$485,000. Ref. PS10618



PRINCE'S TRUST

GREAT GUANA CAY
Unique 12.5 acre sea-to-sea estate with a 2 bedroom residence, fantastic views, and a boat basin. Ideal for a private estate or commercial development.
\$12,950,000. Ref. AS10867



GREAT CISTERN
Well built fourplex comprising four 2 bedroom, 1 bath units. Excellent investment opportunity with great rental income potential. Just minutes to the sea.
\$460,000. Ref. AS10751



ELBOW CAY
Picture perfect 8,709 sq. ft. lot in tranquil Little Point. Near the beach with superb views of the Atlantic and Hope Town's candy-striped lighthouse.
\$179,500. Ref. PS10614



CHEROKEE SOUND
One-of-a-kind 2 bedroom, 2 bath rustic villa on a 17,000 sq. ft. site elevated to 60 ft. providing wondrous views and completed by a basement and beach access.
\$405,000. Ref. AS10883



ELBOW CAY
Well protected, 20,000 sq. ft. lot in the quiet Buttonwood Subd. Just moments away from the community dock offering perfect dockage for your runabout.
\$145,000. Ref. PS10629



MER SOLEIL - Great Abaco Club, Marsh Harbour
Executive 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath vacation home in a gated community. Recent swimming pool addition, ocean views and a 50 ft. layalong boat slip. **Starting at \$3,950/week.** Ref. AR10556
242 367-4151 • www.HGChristieRentals.com



WINGS OF A DOVE

GOVERNMENT SUB.
Beautiful open plan home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. This 2,216 sq. ft. home features an apartment ideal for a guest suite or rental unit with income potential.
\$450,000. Ref. AS10598



LUBBERS QUARTERS
8.7 acre pristine waterfront property with a 20 ft. bluff and amazing views. Great investment for a hideaway home or a development of subdivided lots.
\$1,220,000. Ref. AB5145

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