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VOLUME 20 NUMBER 8 APRIL 15th, 2012

Contract signed for \$12 million health care facility



On April 10 the Abaco Community Health Care Facility's contract was signed. Coastline Construction and Development Company Ltd. was the company with the winning bid. The official signing ceremony took place on the grounds where the construction of the new health care facility is to begin shortly. The Prime Minister, Minister of Works, and Minister of Health were among the government officials present at the signing ceremony. The contract is for \$11,969,280.60 and work is to be completed over a 60-week period.

The health care facility, which was designed by New Providence-based architectural firm Alvin K. Rolle & Associates, was presented as a state-of-the-art property to the hundreds of business and community leaders in attendance. It will be a single storied building sprawling out over approximately 32,000 square feet including auxiliary buildings to house a morgue and equipment. It was designed to reflect traditional colonial characteristics.

Island Administrator, Cephas Cooper, delivered opening remarks and acted as the master of ceremonies. The signing

Please see Contract Page 5

Funds raised for Lowe House

Rotary, Pilot, Scurvy Few and other civic clubs join together for a good cause



Above: A pensive young girl weighs her options for the lollipop-draw. This game, and others, were among the attractions that day. For the full story see page 2.

Abaco brings home gold from CARIFTA



Above: Elroy McBride and Shane Jones arrive home from the CARIFTA games which are being held in Bermuda this year. Part of The Bahamian track and field team, these young athletes hail from Moores Island. See page: 11

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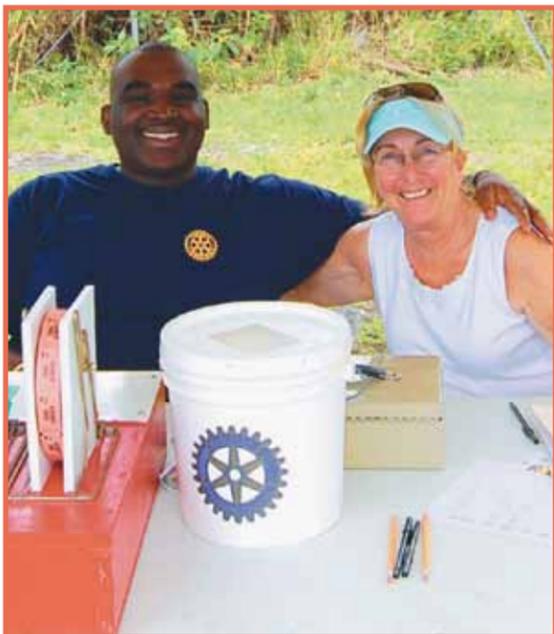
Civic clubs raise money for Lowe House

On March 31, 2012 the Rotary Club of Abaco partnered with The Scurvy Few, Interact Clubs and the Anchor and Pilot clubs. On the grounds of the Anglican Hall in Marsh Harbour the groups spent the day grilling, serving steak dinners, hosting games and doing other activities.

They were raising funds for Angela and Brent Lowe whose home in Spring City has fallen into disrepair. Starting at noon, and lasting throughout the day, hungry crowds stopped by the Anglican Hall to pick up their steak dinner, order one of the Rotary Club of Abaco's specialty burgers or play a few

rounds of hoopla.

The Lowe house, one of the original structures in Spring City built during the logging-days, was the focus of "Love for the Lowes." The Lowe family needed to make necessary repairs to their home and requested a loan to complete the work. The loan was approved. However, the family hired an unscrupulous contractor who



Tickets were sold beforehand for the steak dinners. However, patrons could buy tickets to participate in any of the games or for drinks and cakes. Above: Steve Davis and Debbie Curry smile and sell tickets.

went to work laying down cement on the old wooden floors and leaving the job unfinished after the house was inspected. The inspection revealed the structure of the building had been compromised.

Their house was suddenly made worthless. In order to finish the crucial repairs the Lowe family needed to extend their mortgage. To extend their mortgage they needed to finish repairs to bring value back to their house in order to back the loan. However, this was now impossible since the

property had been condemned and become valueless overnight. The Lowe family has suffered from illness and has been unable to maintain gainful employment.

Hearing of the Lowe family's plight,



Above: hefty steak dinners were served to everyone who bought a ticket. People lined up to get their fixings. Throughout the day many people who had a ticket stopped by for a meal to go. All money raised went to the Lowe House Project.

several civic and charitable clubs on Abaco decided to organize the "Love for the Lowes" event. Tickets were sold for the steak dinners and people were encouraged to visit the event for more fun that was planned for the day.

The Pilot Club and Anchor Club sold cakes and desserts to those in the steak line who had a sweet tooth. The Scurvy Few helped set up the tents and booths and supervised some of the children's games such as the bouncy castle.

Interact members, the youth branch of the Rotary Club, also came out to help man the booths. It should be noted that these students took time out of their holiday weekend to support the cause. The Rotary Club of Abaco also helped organize and staff the event.

Jo-Ann Bradley, current President of the Rotary Club of Abaco, worked hard along with the rest of her club to make this fundraiser a reality. She expressed how happy she was with the participation, "This is the first time I've ever known all the civic clubs on Abaco to pull together to help one family." Everyone involved produced a herculean effort.

After picking up their steak dinner, gourmet hot dog or hamburger, patrons were invited to the grounds behind the Anglican Hall where game and drink booths were set up. Visitors that day would also run into Reg Patterson, the tireless raffle-master, who made sure that everyone who wanted a chance at the several, valuable prizes had a chance at buying a ticket. Children were entertained by the bouncy castle, hoopla and lollipop guessing games. Adults in the crowd had entertainment as well.

Though the day had its share of fun and entertainment, more money still needs to be raised. If you want to donate to the Lowe House Project please contact the Rotary Club of Abaco or any of the organizations mentioned.

News that needs reporting? Tweet at or Facebook The Abaconian with details.

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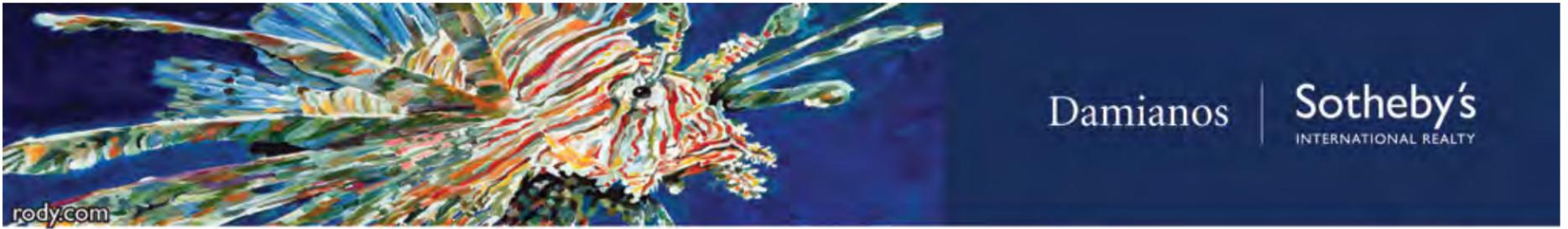
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NEW LISTING
HOPE TOWN #15924
BALI HAI - on Tahiti Beach - A truly exceptional property and location, 6b/5.5b plus guest house & 160 ft dock. **US\$3,900,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



NEW LISTING
HOPE TOWN #15968
FLAMINGO VILLAS - Two Villas located at the entrance of Hope Town harbour, view of Light house. 2b/2b A/C, Pool, Dock, generator. **US\$1,698,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



PANORAMIC VIEW
HOPE TOWN #14872
MAY HOUSE - Oceanfront - This cozy round design 2/2 home situated on 1/2 acre. Near dockage and beaches. **US\$1,695,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



TURN KEY
HOPE TOWN #13593
HILL TOP - Absolutely fabulous, newly renovated Key West-style, 4/2, swimming pool, high end finishes, harbour views. **US\$1,160,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



WHITE SANDY BEACH
HOPE TOWN #13742
QUACK CAY - OCEAN VIEWS - This 3b 2b home has high ceilings, large kitchen, close to town. **US\$1,200,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



LARGE LOT - PRIVATE
HOPE TOWN #12823
NORTH STAR - WATERFRONT - Private, spacious 2 / 2 home, close to beach and dockage. **US\$975,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



NEW LISTING
HOPE TOWN #13823
HORIZONS - 4/4 beach house with lighthouse views in prime location on the edge of town. Walk to all amenities. **US\$889,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



OWNER FINANCING
HOPE TOWN #15429
TAHITI HAI - DORROS COVE - 5b/3b with guest cottage, dock slip, panoramic water views, and fun beach décor. Walk to Tahiti Beach. **US\$895,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES
HOPE TOWN #12088
CLIFFORD SAWYER HOUSE - Historic refurbished 3/2 home with pool, detached studio, great rental. **\$875,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



EXCELLENT VALUE
HOPE TOWN #14661
COCO PLUM - Newly built 3b 2b main house & 2b 2b guest cottage on a quiet lane across the street from one of the best beaches on the island. **US\$750,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



EXPANSIVE VIEWS
HOPE TOWN #15561
BANANAQUIT COTTAGE - 2b/2b and has covered decks with a panoramic view of the Sea of Abaco and lighthouse. **US\$599,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HISTORIC HOME
HOPE TOWN #12051
VALENTINE'S - Situated in town this 3/2 bath is steps to the beach and dockage, good rental. **US\$500,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



NEW LISTING
HOPE TOWN #13590
CEDAR COTTAGES - Newly constructed 1600 sq. ft. 3b/2b, near the ball park with lighthouse and ocean views. **US\$495,000.** ea Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



NEW LISTING
HOPE TOWN #15630
MERLEE'S PLACE - Heritage home in the heart of the village, 2b 1b recently renovated, well maintained, covered porch, large lot. **B\$470,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



BEACHES NEARBY
HOPE TOWN #13081
CLOUD NINE - In the Quiet north end of Elbow Cay is this 2/2 home on a nice size lot, close to dockage. **US\$465,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



GREAT STARTER HOME
HOPE TOWN #15458
TOP OF THE WORLD - 1550 sq. ft. Loyalist-style 2b/2b with bonus space, hilltop lot w/ mature trees. **US\$395,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



NEW PRICE
HOPE TOWN #13839
VISTA VERDE - BUTTWOOD BAY - Very private 4/3 home is amongst the native trees, close to dockage. **\$365,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



MAKE AN OFFER
HOPE TOWN #13590
LIL HOPE - 2 bed/2 bath Loyalist cottage across from the Mission House. Walk to shops & restaurants, good rental. **US\$350,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



1/2 DOCK OWNERSHIP
HOPE TOWN #12584
HERONVIEW - NORTH END - 50% dock ownership with 4.5 feet at low tide and 18,000 sq. ft. lot with guaranteed sea views. **US\$286,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



BEACH & DOCKAGE
LUBBERS QUARTERS #14073
SUNSET HILL - 2,800 sq. ft. 3 bed 3 bath home with incredible views of the Sea of Abaco. Beachfront & dockage on the east side of the island. **US\$695,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



BREATHTAKING VIEWS
LUBBERS QUARTERS #10482
 Live the island lifestyle! Panoramic views & prevailing winds. Large open floor plan w/ abundant natural light & wrap around deck. Boat slip included. **US\$575,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



OWNER FINANCING
LUBBERS QUARTERS #15236
TY BACH Immaculate 2b 2b w/ spacious & inviting open floor plan. Fully furnished, stainless steel appliances, AC, dockage. **\$395,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



UNBEATABLE DEAL
LUBBERS QUARTERS #12309
HUMMINGBIRD COTTAGE & GARDEN COTTAGE Two cottages with total 3 bed 2 bath, deeded dockage and beach across the street. **\$350,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com

LOTS & ACREAGE

- HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY**
- #11680 Big Rock Hill - One acre oceanfront, 140' on the Atlantic. **US\$665,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #10785 Eleven at Big Point - 1/2 acre beachfront building site. **US\$395,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #12584 HeronView - North End w/ 50% dock ownership & Sea of Abaco view. **US\$286,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #13590 Harbour Hill - 100ft of beachfront at the entrance to Hope Town harbour. **US\$395,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #13179 Hope Town Point Lot 70A & B - North end building site. **B\$125,000. & B\$145,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #15195 Joanie's Lot - Elevated 1/2 acre in Dorros Cove with expansive views. **US\$220,000.** Jane Patterson
 - #10342 New Settlement - Hillside lots with water views starting at \$140,000. Kerry Sullivan
 - #13827 Lucayas Lot 27 - UNDER CONTRACT - Beautifully elevated site. **US\$195,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #11440 North End - Lot 51A & B - Ocean Views \$185,000. & \$195,000. Jane Patterson
 - #15941 Ocean Bluff - NEW LISTING - 1/2 acre oceanfront w. dock slip. **\$365,000.** Kerry Sullivan
 - #15471 Ocean View Community Lot 1 - Beautifully wooded lot in quiet residential community with view of the Atlantic from a second storey. **B\$165,000.**

LUBBERS QUARTERS

- #11512 Abaco Ocean Club Lot 18 - Steps to water, dockage available. **\$150,000.** Laurie Schreiner
- #10312 Abaco Ocean Club Lot 46 Large waterfront lot. Stunning views. **\$250,000.** Laurie Schreiner
- #13186 Abaco Ocean Club Lots 21 & 22 - Two adjoining lots & boat slip. **\$149,900.** Laurie Schreiner
- #3947 Abaco Ocean Club Lot 143 Approximately 11,450 sq. ft. **\$150,000.** Bill Albury
- #10707 Abaco Ocean Club Lot 152 NEW PRICE - dockage. **\$99,000.** Laurie Schreiner

TILLOO CAY

- #10599 Fabulous Beachfront Lot. Best Beach Location. NEW PRICE **\$375,000.** Stan Sawyer
- #4671 Sea Views, high elevation, 1/2 acre. FURTHER REDUCED **\$135,000.** Stan Sawyer
- #11897 Tilloo Beach Subdivision Lot 27 Superior elevation, shared dock. **\$115,000.** Kerry Sullivan
- #10287 One Waterfront Acre Great elevation, room for dock. **\$220,000.** Laurie Schreiner



PRIVACY
TILLOO CAY #14306
COCO LOBOS 8 acres with sweeping views of the Sea of Abaco & the Atlantic, tucked away in a protected cove w/ 3 bedroom home with 100 ft dock. **US\$1,785,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



SECLUDED SETTING
TILLOO CAY #10075
BEACHWOOD COTTAGE Enjoy picturesque sunsets from this cozy bed waterfront cottage with a dock. **US\$265,000.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



EXCEPTIONAL VALUE
TILLOO CAY #11546
TOP-A-TILLOO - This property is a STEAL with amazing views and solid construction. Walking distance to dockage and beach. **US\$199,500.** Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com



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THE RESIDENCES AT ABACO BEACH RESORT
 Beautifully appointed 2 and 3 bed condos with panoramic marina, ocean and island views. The residences offer sophisticated club amenities along with an authentic out island lifestyle. From \$742,300 - Ref. #7754
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REDUCED
AYNYA
 Dickie's Cay- Sea to Sea property, 3,500 sq. ft. house with swimming pool, private deep water dock on Man O War Cay's protected harbour. Unsurpassed views!
 \$1,300,000 - Ref. #7559
 mailin@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



LUBBERS QUARTERS
 Luxury on Lubber's Quarters! Custom 2,000 sq. ft. home on .85 acres with beach, dock and amazing views. Fully turn-key with many amenities including boat and golf cart.
 US \$949,000 - Ref. #7757
 pleasants@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



DAY BREAK
 Man-O-War - 3 bed/3 bath home on double oceanfront lot. Exquisite views of the Atlantic Ocean. Wrap around porch and 150' of rocky shoreline.
 \$750,000 Ref. #7205
 mailin@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



REDUCED
SKY VIEW
 Marsh Harbour-4 Bed/2.5 bath hilltop sanctuary, 1.4 acre treasure features a pool 4,250 sq. ft. residence and mature landscaped grounds
 \$795,000 Ref. #7364
 mailin@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



REDUCED
MAN-O-WAR CAY
 Bahamian style hilltop home on large plot offering views of the protected creek and Sea of Abaco. Includes boat house and private dock.
 \$825,000 - Ref. #7365



HIGH ROCKS
 Back on the market at an even better price! Views plus more with this unique 7 bed/5 bath property. Three separate living quarters, room for guests or monthly income from renters.
 US \$675,000 - Ref. #7718



REDUCED
LUBBERS QUARTERS
 Authentic island living in this cozy 3b/3b cottage steps away from the sea in Lubber's Abaco Ocean Club. Quick boat ride to Tahiti Beach, Hope Town or deep sea fishing.
 \$399,900 - Ref. #7745



NEW EXCLUSIVE
CHEROKEE SOUND
 3bed/2 bath well furnished home ready to move in. Features include central a/c, ceramic tile, T&G ceilings, etc. Beautifully landscaped, wooden deck with wet bar & stand-by generator, large tiled area for entertaining.
 \$295,000 Ref. #7808



NEW EXCLUSIVE
JOE BOOKIE'S BAY LOT #8
 Quiet, Private 4.847 acre lot a few miles from Little Harbour and Cherokee Sound. Completely off the grid and secluded with exceptional views of the Atlantic ocean.
 \$225,000 - Ref. #7801



CASUARINA POINT
 Located across the canal this 2 bed, 2 bath home features a 3 sided porch, enclosed yard, high ceilings, mini split a/c. Just minutes to the beach and deep sea fishing.
 \$245,000 - Ref. #7705



NEW EXCLUSIVE
HOPE TOWN
 Newly built 2 bed/2 bath cottage close to Tahiti Beach with private pool and views and breezes from the Atlantic. Charming turn key home to enjoy right away!
 \$850,000 Ref #7809



YELLOW WOOD
 Oversized lot with incredible elevations 1.171 acres. Captures amazing Atlantic views. Private setting, but close to Cherokee, Little Harbour and The Abaco Club.
 \$170,000 - Ref. #7664



REDUCED
MAN-O-WAR CAY
 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. The two stories comprise 2,754 sq. ft. of living space. Fixer upper with lots of potential. Patios with sea views.
 \$299,000 - Ref. #7616



TREASURE CAY VILLA #501
 2 bedroom, 2 bath villa in a beautiful resort community. Community pool, steps to a powder white beach. Ideal vacation villa!
 \$235,000 - Ref. #7638



REDUCED
'COZY COTTAGE' MAN-O-WAR CAY
 Bahamian style 2 bed, 1.5 bath adorable cottage. Centrally located and close to harbour and lovely beaches.
 Priced to Sell!
 \$240,000 - Ref. #7675



BAHAMA PALM SHORES
 2 bed/2 bath, 2,000 sq. ft. home with spacious living area with a bonus gaming room. Located on a dead end road offering private surroundings.
 \$299,000 - Ref. #7320



REDUCED
LUBBERS QUARTERS
 Island retreat! Two homes on this 9 acre sea to sea property facing beautiful Tahiti Beach. Large private dock and endless possibilities.
 \$1,675,000 - Ref. #7167



REDUCED
SIMMON'S PLACE
 Commercial Property on main tourist strip. Comprises four store fronts and two 1 bedroom apartments. Investment Property!
 \$399,900 - Ref. #6766



HIGH ROCKS
 "Yellow Elder" Charming 3 bed, 2 bath cottage with 144 feet of waterfront on the Sea of Abaco with a bulk head in place and a prime space for a dock.
 \$775,000 - Ref. #7703



REDUCED
CASUARINA POINT
 3 bed/2 bath home in a quiet area. 1,624 sq. ft. of air conditioned living space located across from the canal. Well designed and fully furnished.
 \$199,900 - Ref. #7344



MERMAID COTTAGE
 Man-O-War - Adorable 2 bed/2 bath cottage with wrap around porch. Features generator and central A/C. Furnished and close to beach.
 \$299,000 - Ref. #7549



MAN-O-WAR CAY
 4 bed/3 bath spacious island home on 6,300 sq. ft. lot. Features wrap around porch, central a/c, laundry room, and sun patio.
 \$345,000 - Ref. #7380



MAN-O-WAR CAY
 3 Bedroom, 2 bath home on a 8,729 sq. ft. lot. Catch nice peaks of the Atlantic ocean from the porch. The home is mostly furnished with a 30 KW generator and extra storage facilities.
 \$295,000 - Ref. #7704



SCHOONER BAY
 Prime harbourfront lot (54x75) with extensive views
 \$380,000 - Ref. #7613
 Little bridge beach lot (52x50) with views of the harbour and ocean.
 \$198,000 - Ref. #7612

VACANT LAND/ HOMES
REDUCED Guana Sea Side Village - 3,080 sq. ft. Beach access. \$44,000
 Bahama Coral Island - 10,000 sq. ft. lots from \$12,000
 Bahama Palm Shores - Residential lots available. Starting at \$23,000
 Schooner Bay - Little Bridge Beach oceanfront lot. \$365,000
 Marsh Harbour, large homesite adjacent to Sunrise Bay \$210,000
 Lubber's Quarters - nice sea view lot with dock slip \$99,000

Hope Town - Oceanfront lot 55' of beach. NOW \$595,000
 Lubbers Quarters - Waterfront lot. 100 x 200. \$199,500
 Little Abaco - Waterfront acreage with power. \$49,000
 Long Beach - 1/4 acre lot in quiet community. \$41,500
 Hope Town - 2b/2b with great views! \$599,000
 Bookie's Bay - 4.847 acres with 135' of Oceanfront. \$225,000

Dundas Town - 9,000 sq. ft. lot on Christie Street. \$10,000
 Murphy Town - Residential lots. Financing available. From \$45,000
 Little Harbour - several lots with views and elevations From \$99,000
 Sweetings Village - 9,000 sq. ft. vacant lot. \$48,000
 Yellowwood - Hilltop lots w/ views of Cherokee Creeks. or Atlantic From \$79,000
 Little Harbour - Lot with views and completed foundation. \$99,000

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Central Abaco

Contract From Page 1

of this contract, he said, "marks another red letter day for the people of Abaco." He thanked the attending heads of government, religious leaders and others who had a critical role in the process.

Edison Key, the Member of Parliament for Central and South Abaco addressed the crowd. "Abaco's time has come," he said in reference to current and planned government projects on Abaco. He continued, "The expenses will pay dividends 100 fold." Before closing his

"Abaco's time has come ... The future is ours to create."

remarks he told those gathered, "The future is ours to create."

The project is funded by the National Insurance Board. Patrick Ward, the chairman of

the NIB, was present to deliver remarks. The first community clinic in The Bahamas was funded by the NIB. This first clinic is, in fact, the current facility in Marsh Harbour. The new health care facility will be the twenty second health center the NIB has funded as part of its initiative of delivering a greater investment to The Bahamian people. "Today it's all about you," Mr. Ward remarked.

After a stirring song selection by Wendy Sands, the Minister of Health, Dr. Hubert Minnis, took the podium. He announced that after the health care facility is completed in 60 weeks it will replace the current clinic in Marsh Harbour. The Honourable Dr. Minnis explained the push towards advancing tele-medicine, rotating

specialists in and the possibilities of performing outpatient surgeries.

The keynote address was brought by the Right Honourable Hubert Ingraham. He reflected on the growth of Abaco and the resilience of its economy compare to other family islands. "You've led the way, in many ways," he said. He also said there was "growing recognition of your importance," within central government.

"You've led the way, in many ways,"

The same facility which is being constructed in Exuma is costing \$2 million more than the one in Abaco. The Prime Minister tied this to more efficiencies and the lower cost of doing business in Abaco. On the topic of costs, the Prime Minister called the exten-

sive cavities under the grounds of the new Administrative Building and health care facility, "regrettable," eliciting a chuckle from the crowd.

He reminded Coastline Construction that 60 weeks was the deal. He asked that, as part of the deal, Coastline access local materials and services on Abaco as much as is possible. Twenty to thirty young people will also be trained on-site as part of a government initiative.

The Rt. Hon. Ingraham also announced plans for the eventual creation of a new township in Marsh Harbour that will encompass the new government complex, health care facility and will reach to Central Pines. "The bank that wants the government's business," he said, "will come to this part of town."

Closing the ceremony was the signing of the contract. After the signing and

official groundbreaking, there a junkanoo rush-out by students from Abaco Central High School.

Pictured below: Alvan Rolle, Project Architect; Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham; the Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis; the Hon. Neko Grant; Cephas Cooper, Senior Island Administrator; and Edison Key; Keith Knox, Coastline Construction Company Ltd; Algernon Cargill, director NIB; Patrick Ward, chairman NIB; Rev. Etienne Bowleg, deputy chairman NIB.



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Central Abaco

Carnival a success

By Samantha Evans

The Holiday Carnival was on Abaco for a little over three weeks and according to Manager Chad Russell, their stay here was an absolute success. He stated that during the day the fifty person crew got a chance to explore Abaco (including the blue holes) and visit many of the Cays. He stated that this island is beautiful and the people are some of the friendliest they have met in their world travels. The fact that they have numerous friends on the island made their stay even more enjoyable.

During their stay on Abaco, the carnival was a huge hit with teens and families. Mr. Russell stated that he made it a point to go out onto the grounds and speak with the patrons and they all had great things to say. He noted that they were especially pleased with the ride all you want bands. He stated that the first several weeks were extremely busy but the last week was light. He believes that this is due to the fact that many persons believed that they had left already.

While on Abaco they hired ten persons who turned out to be great employees. Additionally, they brought in 25-30 of their faithful workers from Nassau and Freeport who are familiar with how the Carnival works and have been employed with them for over twenty years. Mr. Russell stated that they have had no break-ins at the site or thefts. He is so grateful that Abaconians have enjoyed the few weeks they were here.

He noted that what keeps them doing this are the kids. He enjoys watching them

grin from ear to ear while on the rides or when they win a stuffed animal. These smiles are an indication that they had great fun. He and his team looks forward to the day when they can come more often and one thing that can aid that is the construction of a dock. This dock will allow big shipping vessels and cruise ships regular consistent access to the port to off load people and equipment.

However, the Holiday Carnival is not scheduled to return for the next three years but they hope that this can be lessened but is dependent upon the powers that be. He sends high regards to all persons who made this trip possible. Russell stated that he and his team were not ready to leave but duty calls. The last day for the carnival was Easter Sunday April 8, 2012.

Fires keep Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire and Rescue busy

By Timothy Roberts
Barber Shop

At 3 a.m. on March 28 Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire and Rescue (MHVFR) responded to a barbershop (known as Kelson's Barbershop) and apartment in Murphy Town across from Abaco Central High School. The building was totally engulfed in flames on the arrival of the fire engine. The firemen acted quickly bringing the flames under control and preventing the fire from spreading to the house behind.

A nearby hydrant allowed a second engine to keep the first engine's tank filled.

It took over two hours to completely extinguish the flames and embers. Neighbours said that the building was unoccupied at the time.

The police are investigating the possibility of arson as a bystander report that a car stopped at the site, and then sped away just before the building erupted in flames.

Car Fire

Just before 1am on Wednesday, April 4, the Fire Department received a call to respond to a vehicular fire in the area of the Methodist Church Grave Yard in Dundas Town. Engine Five was sent to the scene and firemen met a black Mitsubishi Galant rolled over on its side and burning. Firemen quickly extinguished the flames.

Waste and Oil Fire

Just before 3pm on April 4 a huge plume of black smoke caused the fire dispatch phone in Marsh Harbour to receive many calls. Initially there was a concern that it might be the BEC plant on the S.C. Bootle Highway because of the volume of solid black smoke seen by many concerned persons in Central Abaco, and even as far away as Hope Town. It was soon discovered to be at the old dump close to the BEC plant where hundreds of gallons of old engine oil had been dumped and set afire.

The oil was in a low depression where septic tank sludge is pumped and allowed to dry. Concerns were raised over

the toxic smoke being a combination of used oils, industrial chemicals and septic tank bacteria.

No buildings were threatened but there are concerns that a high-water condition could take the oil out through the western marls. Wind shifts took occasional smoke through the Central Pines Subdivision.

Using foam and the high pressure water cannon on top of Engine Five, most of the flames were suppressed. However, a small but intense oil-fed fire just out of reach on the far side of the swampy area continued to burn. The fire department left the scene at about sundown; however, that fire continued to burn through the night.

Firemen responded again the next day, April 5, when the oil flared up again. The fire was finally put out before dusk when the septic-tank pump operator built a small causeway across the swampy area, allowing him to reach the far side. Investigation into this matter is ongoing.

Old Lumber Mill Home Burns Down

A call from Spring City alerted firemen to a house fire at about 5 p.m. on April 7. The volunteers found the Ferguson house completely engulfed in flames. This wooden house built of native pine, heavy with resin and pitch, made a very

Please see Fire

Page 22

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Central Abaco

Auskell introduces new services on Abaco

By Canishka Alexander

During her visit to Auskell Medical Center on March 30, Dr. Duranda Ash, an ophthalmologist, was just as ecstatic as her patients to find that a brand new eye chair

“You have the specialist, and all the high-tech equipment to go with it. It’s a great day,”

had been installed in her office.

The eye chair is equipped with a slit lamp to check eye

pressure because glaucoma is one of the leading causes of blindness, and a phoropter, which determines if the patient will need glasses.

Additional instruments included a computerized screen for checking vision, and Dr. Ash was able to switch from numbers to letters to shapes and increase and decrease their sizes. She also pointed out the autorefractor, which is a device used to check the prescription for glasses or contact lenses. Finally, the lensometer is used to determine if the patient’s current prescription is accurate or if changes need to be made to improve the prescription.

Dr. Ash began offering her services through Auskell since 2007, and now visits the facility twice a month to provide more continuity of care to her patients. As she looked around at the state-of-the-art eye equipment around her, Dr. Ash’s excitement continued to build.

“You have the specialist, and all the high-tech equipment to go with it. It’s a great day,” she remarked. “I am ecstatic, and so are my patients, and I am sure they will continue to be.”

Dr. Duranda Ash is scheduled to return to Auskell in mid-April.

Also visiting Auskell was Dr. Keith Lewis, a chiropractic physician, who spoke about two health services that will soon be offered. The first is called non-surgical spinal decompression, which is available for the treatment of herniated discs, disc protrusions, disc bulges or disc degenerations before surgical intervention is needed. At Auskell, a laser assisted or laser enhanced approach has also been incorporated into the spinal decompression procedure to speed healing and reduce pain more quickly.

Over the years, Dr. Lewis admitted that he has become increasingly irritated with the number of failed back surgeries he has seen involving people who have undergone as many as three surgeries, yet still experience pain. However, he was pleased to announce that spinal decompression may be offered as soon as the end of April at Auskell.

Dr. Lewis said that they intend to have seminars to acquaint people with what they are doing and to demonstrate how spinal decompression works. As for what happens after decompression, he said it is no different than after back surgery because spinal rehabilitation and exercise are highly beneficial.

Please see Auskel Page 13

South Abaco

Abaco National Park workday planned

The Abaco National Park is 35 miles south of Marsh Harbour making it too far for many to visit a pine forest; however, the Bahamas National Trust (BNT) is in the process of putting together plans for making the park more user friendly through more activities and amenities.

On May 5th 2011, from 8-2pm, the BNT is hosting a work day at the Abaco National Park. If you are interested in helping the BNT improve your national park please join in.

Help is needed in various areas including painting signs, painting benches and picnic tables, trail improvement, and trash pickup. This is also a great opportunity to find out about the plants and animals, including the Abaco parrot, found in the park by interacting with wardens and biologists who work in the area.

Contact Caroline Stahala (Stahala@bio.fsu.edu / 475-4504) or the BNT Abaco office (367-6310) for more information. Also, if you are interested in participating but need a ride or have additional space to take people to the Abaco National Park, please let them know.

SAFA meets before Agri Expo

By Mirella Santillo

Few farmers attended the South Abaco Farmers Association meeting which took place on the eve of the long Easter weekend. But all the board members were

present that evening of April 5, so a regular monthly meeting was held with Leslie Thompson presiding. He announced immediately that the clearing of the lots would take place between April and June, advising the farmers that the cost of one hour of equipment rental would be matched by the Department of Agriculture, giving them two hours of machinery for the price of one.

Barbara Gibson read the minutes of the March 15 meeting which was brief because of a political rally taking place in town. BAIC offering Persian Lime from Andros for sale at the price of \$7.50 was discussed again. It was clarified that a minimum of 200 trees was required to be purchased. A member asked whether the canker ban was lifted and were told that it was lifted for trees grown within The Bahamas but not for trees grown in Florida.

Farmers were reminded again to supply whatever produce they had to enter the All Abaco Agricultural and Marine Resources & Agribusiness Expo that takes place April 27-28. The farmers were encouraged to enter even if bush tea or jams were their only products.

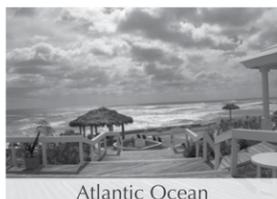
T-shirts will be on sale once forms have been submitted to the Department of Agriculture for approval. After the approval of the minutes Mr. Thompson addressed the concerns that had surfaced at the last meeting such as removing the cow grass, the problems with hogs and the clearing of the roads to access the lots. Those concerns had been forwarded to BAIC.

Please see SAFA Page 10

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From the Editor's Desk // Politics as Junkanoo



I had my editorial for this issue all planned out and ready to type. That is, I did have it planned out until the bell rang. Yes, election fever has officially hit the country and my hands are tied: this editorial will be about our politics.

Most Bahamians love politics. We don't even need a secret ballot, all you have to do is sneeze and a fellow Bahamian will tell you his colour. It is a cultural storm that builds up during the months leading up to the day when ballots are cast and doesn't subside until months after. The rallies, speeches and parties all leading up to that all-important date build on each other. It's a chorus that we all join in on until our voice is hoarse. It builds momentum, and as the momentum builds it drags people under its weight.

Depending on who you talk to, the election cycle is either fun, serious business or an inconvenience. Rarely will you find a Bahamian who thinks this season is boring. That is because over the years we have been conditioned to see election time as a spectacle. The parties aren't represented by their beliefs, accomplishments or ideals. They're represented simply by the colour of the shirts they give away at their rallies.

You're either red, or yellow or, more recently, green. When a party's entire belief system is boiled down to a colour or a chant it's easy to not talk about the issues. It's easy to get swept up in the fever pitch of election and blame the country's troubles on one side or the other. For a country whose politicians switch sides as often as they do it is incredible how much the colour of the other person's shirt matters.

Where do they plan to take our country? What do they believe in? And, for that matter, what do we believe in? Certainly not a colour or a mantra.

We need to remember that this spectacle we all engage in, yes we are all guilty, can be fun and, indeed, a guilty pleasure. But we can be blinded by the procession of rushing colour and trumpeting noise. This is not Junkanoo. This is so very important.

The importance of what we as a country are about to do, vote, should not be lost. We, as a people, have a great opportunity that many in the world do not share and will never know. We are a free people with a democratic system of government. A system that, while flawed, can work.

The flaw in the system can't be solved by pointing fingers and laying blame. At least, it can't be solved that

way by those who are put in charge. But if we as a people examine our choices and look beyond what colour we're voting for and look instead at what this country must accomplish to succeed we may realize we need to do more than think up nick-names to bad-mouth our least favorite politician.

A nickname never stopped a toothless law from being passed or a damaging budget from being approved.

I'm not here to advocate for one side or the other. I can't do that. But I have long practiced listening to what each side has to say. You learn things that go beyond what each politician believes or has for her or his goals. You learn things about yourself and this empowers you to grasp a larger understanding of what's happening in this country.

If we stay in the same circles and never talk or reason issues out with someone who opposes us there will never be growth. Not for us personally and certainly not for our country. We live in an echo chamber where everything bad that happens is the other party's fault. And we'll have our reasons why it's their fault and they may be good, and they may be right, but at least we need to admit to ourselves how much more complicated the world is.

We Bahamians have never lacked that deadly sin: pride. We're a prideful people who have, in fact, achieved much. But we have also built our little castles of entitlement. The politics of today play on our pride and that's what makes them so successful at the game and spectacle, but not successful in producing substance.

We must demand that our politicians produce substance.

Pick your side. We've got red, yellow or green. We've made it real simple and we don't have to ask any more questions; especially if the questions are big. It's all a big game, a charade and spectacle. It's a Junkanoo rush for our entertainment.

That, dear reader, is the attitude that will appease our pride but destroy us as a country.

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Letters to the Editor

Illegal Bug Trade

Guana Cay has some new visitors and I'm wondering if they are guests of Bakers Bay Company (BBC). Evidence suggests spiders of the brown recluse type along with boogey man millipedes have come to town. Everybody knows what vagabond insects are when it comes to a free ride. Why they're even worse than me.

Now, you might ask. "How is this possible?" After all, back in 2004 BBC promised to get all their shrubs and grass locally on Abaco. (Are you paying attention, Mr. Edison Key and Department of Agriculture?) Well, as it turned out, Bakers is getting all that stuff from southern USA, home of the recluse spider and the millipede. They don't worry about bugs on the fancy verandas at BBC. Guys in head-to-toe white costumes spray everything that moves, but down in the settlement we have good bugs and bees and fruit trees and gardens. We like to keep poison spray far away.

There could have been many jobs in Abaco growing flowers and bushes and grass. That would have been very good for Abaco and it would have prevented bad bugs from coming into Guana Cay. Now what would you suppose happened to that promise made back in 2004? It's the same story; Not enough skilled workers? Hire foreigners!...Not enough shrubbery? Buy Foreign! Yes sir those jobs have gone to foreigners, like so many of the BBC jobs.

It says in the paper that they are growing the golf course grass here. Sea-

shore Paspallum grass-that uses little or no fertilizer. They are even offering it for sale to locals. Maybe little or no fertilizer for a regular lawn but not for a golf course!!! I can't afford a computer or that fancy internet stuff but I asked someone to Google Seashore Paspallum grass and it says in the plain Queen's English that it needs 5 to 8 pounds per year per 1000 square feet. So that is between 217.5 to 348 lbs of fertilizer per acre per year. Now multiply that by 100 acres of golf course and we are talking some serious fertilizer. My calculator don't even go that high. Anyway, back to the bugs.

The way things are going, we'd better expect to see the Chinese Four-Eyed Spotted Beetle showing up on Guana Cay pretty soon. Bakers Bay Co. actually tried to bring in a ship full of plants (and God alone knows what else) from Columbia. Yes, that's right, Columbia, South America! Can you imagine all the snakes and bugs in that cargo? Bakers must have thought our customs people were blind! Luckily someone has some sense and sent them packing!

Shame on you, Bakers Bay, for trying a dirty trick like that to save money. Too expensive to buy from Abaco?Just like it was too expensive to conduct scientific monitoring! How dare you put your money bag before the environmental health for Great Guana Cay! How dare you! Your profits are the only thing you talk about at those fancy meetings.

I may be a "penniless person", as you say, but at least I have a conscience. Those

rich folks who want a place on paradise are not going to want to be associated with Bakers Bay Golf Co and their illegal bug trade.

And while we are talking about bugs and other animals, what happening to all the crabs at Bakers Bay? It said right there in the EIA and EMO that the land crabs would be an indication of how well Discovery Land took care of the environment. Well there is not one crab to be found anywhere near Bakers Bay. Things that make you scratch your head. How is a penniless man supposed to be able to make some crab soup and dough?!

Aubrey Clarke
"The Pennyless Man"

in the ground into which trash is bulldozed and burned openly. The latter system is not unlike what exists now on Guana Cay and we have all experienced discomfort from those burns. Long-term community-health problems frequently can be traced back to incinerators and numerous studies have linked certain cancers and diseases with the particulates produced from burning trash. Why not purchase a few trash compactors and ship them to Marsh Harbour on the many barges that frequent BBC's dock, instead..

Since the tourist economy is central to Guana Cay's survival, let us consider the tourist's point of view. To bring a family of four to Guana and rent a house and eat for a week, the average household will pay about \$8000.00. Clean air and water are undoubtedly some of our major attractions. Indeed, mention the word 'Bahamas' and people paint a vivid picture of clear blue skies and crystal aqua waters, contrasted with endless beaches...an idyllic and accurate image. Now, staying with our visiting family, imagine their feeling of betrayal as smoke burns their eyes and irritates their throats. A wind shift has placed their cottage directly in the line of smoke from our burning garbage. If, as is increasingly common, one of their children suffers from asthma, there may be an expensive, emergency trip to the doctor in Marsh Harbour. One bad experience guar-

Incinerator for Guana Cay?

We commend Bakers Bay Corporation (BBC) for their renewed commitment to follow through with their nearly forgotten agreement to handle the trash produced by greater Guana Cay. Incineration, however, brings serious concerns which should be openly addressed at a series of public meetings. Its impact on health, tourism, and property values must be examined.

Not all incinerators are alike. Some have secondary burn provisions along with smoke stack "scrubbers" and emit a relatively benign gas. Others are merely holes

Please see Letters Page 19



Chris Thompson 359 - 6146
Christopher Lightbourn 357 - 6897
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South Abaco

SAFA From Page 7

Before communicating the answer from BAIC, Mr. Thompson announced that a 40 foot container had been purchased for \$1800. Once renovated, it can be used to sell products and material to other farmers in order to generate revenues. This is necessary since the grant money is dwindling down.

The farmers were advised to use a special machine to remove the roots of the cow grass, but that alternative solutions were being sought due to the high expense involved with the machine. In reference to the wild hogs, the farmers were reminded that once in possession of their land they were responsible for dealing with the problems arising. BAIC was only there to assist. It was suggested that they fence their lots to keep the hogs out.

Duty-free material can be purchased from Florida to minimize the expenses. Mr. Thompson suggested that the members get together to order in bulk from the United States. A positive point still to be investigated is that BAIC might be responsible for clearing the roads. One member asked about the container that was to be given by Mr. Edison Key. Mr. Key is president of BAIC and MP for Central and South Abaco.

Mr. Martin came up with a sketch of a greenhouse made with PVC pipes and net cloth. He brought a quote of \$500 for material; the members would build it. He asked for assistance from the men to do it but most urgently for the building of the tractor shed. Damaged poles can be purchased from BEC cheaply, he said but they

will have to be transported to the property. He would like to get to the building of the shed as soon as possible as BAIC has promised to supply a tractor once there is a safe place to store it. The board insisted that the members should join hands together to do as much as possible themselves.

The point that members of the association should work together as often as possible was stressed several times during the meeting. Mr. Martin also mentioned the board's intention of having a formal ground breaking ceremony. He was hoping on deciding of a date that evening but too many people were absent.

Jacqueline Estevez went over the financial report. She enumerated the various entries and expenses and announced that there was approximately \$12,000 left from the grant. The biggest expense was bringing up to date the registration fees for the association.

The PR person, Shanishka Bain, stressed the point that members should be up to date on their dues within two months in order to receive the benefits associated with being part of SAFA. She then went over the details of the Agricultural Exposition. The price of a 10x10 booth with two eight feet tables ranges from \$300 to 150, depending on what is being sold. She advised to contact Mr. Cornish at BAIC or Ms. Curry for more details or to reserve a space.

The legal aspect of the association (documents of incorporation) and the necessity to maintain an accurate record of the payment of the dues were brought forward by a couple of members.

The assembly was reminded that there will be a training workshop April 24-26.

Roadway Clean-Up

By Lee Pinder

The Abaco Club on Winding Bay arranged for their employees and family members to do a roadside clean-up and litter collection on Saturday, March 31, 2012. They covered both sides of the road up to the club, down through Yellow Wood and as far as the Cherokee parking lot an area of approximately three and a half miles.

Afterwards a picnic and fun day at the beach was held at the Long Dock in Cherokee. Everyone brought a bathing suit and went for a swim. The new pavilion, barbecue and picnic area by the Long Dock in Cherokee was a perfect spot for this event and everyone seemed to have wonderful time.

Volunteers needed for park workday

The Abaco National Park is 35 miles south of Marsh Harbour making it too far for many to visit a pine forest; however, the Bahamas National Trust (BNT) is in the process of putting together plans for making the park more user friendly.

On May 5, 2011, from 8-2pm, the BNT is hosting a work day at the Abaco National Park. If you are interested in helping the BNT improve your national park please join in.

Help is needed in various areas. This is also a great opportunity to find out about the plants and animals, including the Abaco parrot.

Contact Caroline Stahala (Stahala@bio.fsu.edu / 475-4504) or the BNT Abaco office (367-6310) for more information.

Bush fires plague Moores Island



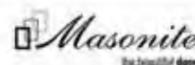
For several days a series of smoldering bush fires have smothered settlements in Moores Island. Locals are doing their best to contain the blazes, however, uncooperative winds and difficulty reaching the fires have provided challenges.

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South Abaco

Moore's Island track and field stars compete on international stage Elroy McBride and Shane Jones bring home gold



Above: Shane Jones and Elroy McBride happy to be home. Even happier, perhaps, to be sporting gold medals. These two young athletes hail from Moore's Island, Abaco, and add to a long legacy of athletic excellence from that island. They were greeted at the airport by Gary Sawyer - middle right - representing Abaco Petroleum who was a sponsor of the team. They were also greeted by Celestine Swain, an ardent supporter who came all the way from Moore's Island to greet the champions at the airport. Shane competed in the 4 x 100 meter relay race and took gold. Elroy was a part of the 4 x 400 relay and also brought home gold with his teammates. Both competed in the under 20 boys division. Together, they won a total of three medals: adding to The Bahamas' growing medal-count this year and giving our country the opportunity to host next year's CARIFTA Games.

Returning home from Bermuda after attending the 41st CARIFTA games, Shane Jones and Elroy McBride stepped off the plane and onto the Marsh Harbour International Airport's tarmac as champions. Wearing their bright, Bahamian colours proudly the young athletes from Moore's Island All Age School displayed one more colour that blended seamlessly into their tracksuits: gold.

Part of the record-setting Bahamian track team, who are collectively closing in on over 40 medals this year, Elroy and Shane each have a gold medal to their name. Moore's Island is known for producing top athletic talent, and these young men's performances add to the legacy.

Shane Jones competed in the under-20 boys relay team in the 4x100 meter. He and his teammates edged out Jamaica by 0.3 seconds to win the gold. Shane also took second in the 100 meter dash.

The 4 x 400 meter relay team had Elroy McBride. Also from Moore's Island, he and his team blew out their nearest competitor by nearly ten seconds.

The Abaconian wishes these young men, and their national teammates, all the success going forward. Look forward to an interview with all Abaco's competitors in the coming issues.

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CONCEPTUAL

The Cays

Cay Topics authors urge support of Bahamian lightstations

By Janet Reingold

On March 20, Annie Potts, the author of the visually and verbally compelling new book "Last Lights: The Hand-Wound Lighthouses of The Bahama Islands" spoke to 80 women at the March Cay Topics luncheon at the Hope Town Harbor Lodge. Dave Gale, Founder of the Bahamas Lighthouse Preservation Society, and author of two books "Beneath Another Sky" and "Ready About" was also featured. Annie and Dave shared with a rapt audience their knowledge of the history of eleven Bahamian lightstations, why they were built, and their changing status since construction.

Potts told her audience that the lighthouses were originally built by the British to keep merchant sailing ships safely away from the shallow Bahama Banks, and that they have survived 150 years of time and weather. While most of the lightstations have been automated and are now unmanned, three of them still remain hand operated, attended by keepers. Presently, their use as primary aids to navigation is in question and they are in need of continual structural repairs.

Few in the audience realized that the Elbow Reef Lighthouse in Hope Town is the world's last remaining kerosene fueled

and manually operated lighthouse. Ms. Potts encouraged her audience to join the effort to maintain this lighthouse as it is.

Noting the combined talents and resources within the Abaco community she shared her passion and positive outlook for the future of the Elbow Reef Light. She mentioned specific support from businesses and individuals throughout the world who have already helped the BLPS and the Port Department to keep the manual lighthouses going.

"While I can not see into the future, I have a good feeling about this lighthouse," Potts said. She added that all who care about the Elbow Reef Lighthouse must consider themselves the current stewards of this treasure of Bahamian history.

She finished by saying "There is a unique opportunity here in Hope Town and Abaco: to save for the world the last manned lighthouse of its kind. Somehow it will be done, because it is the right thing to do. It's as simple as that."

As if to accentuate the necessity for aiding the lighthouse's historical existence, just after the talk was over a strong rain squall blew through, shortening the ability of the luncheon attendants to see any further than their immediate tables. However, everyone still managed to enjoy the beach-side setting at the Harbour Lodge and vividly see the importance of saving this last light.

Books by Annie Potts and Dave Gale are available through Ebb Tide in Hope

Town. To learn more about the Elbow Reef Lighthouse, visit: <http://www.Elbow-CayLighthouse.com>. To make a donation to the Bahamas Lighthouse Preservation Society and help preserve the Elbow Cay Lighthouse, please contact: Hope Town Harbour Lodge, Toll Free: 1-866-611-9791, Local: 1-242-366-0095. Or email: harbourlodge@abacoinet.com

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Appreciation luncheon held for Dr. Black on Green Turtle Cay



The Abaco District team of School Administrators, under the direction of District Superintendent, Mrs. Helen Simmons-Johnson, recently held an Appreciation Luncheon at the Green Turtle Club in Green Turtle Cay for veteran educator and daughter of Abaco soil, Dr. Lenora Black. Dr. Black served as District Superintendent of Abaco and raised the educational standards with her dedicated leadership. The luncheon featured many speeches and games making for a light hearted yet heartfelt time for those who attended. Dr. Black was presented a certificate for a cruise for 2 to show the districts appreciation for her leadership.

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Auskell From Page 7

"We will offer a broad full range spectrum of services that will include specific spinal exercise machines to strengthen and rebalance muscles after a long period of time."

He said that statistics have proven that decompression produces an 86 to 90 percent success rate for its patients whereas back surgery only yields a long-term benefit of 50 percent or less.

As part of Auskell's focus on health a women's fitness program will soon be introduced. The program will utilize cardiovascular machines, supervised exercise programs, and programs that specifically target persons with hormonal imbalances

or who need help with nutrition and diet in conjunction with exercise programs. Protein shakes and meal replacements will be offered as well as exercise clothing for those enrolled in the program.

"The Fitness Center will help with spinal rehabilitation and women's fitness, and again, the bottom line is to get healthy in the first place," he explained. "Healthy to control weight, healthy to control blood pressure, healthy to control diabetes and healthy to try and control your back pain."

"We are focused on the whole body approach, and continue to move forward with healthy means to keep you healthy, so that we will see a healthier and healthier Abaco as time goes on."

Volunteers place Sandy Cay Reef moorings



On April 2, during perfect sea conditions, a group of volunteers headed south. The project, to replace mooring at Sandy Cay Reef, was funded by Cruise Abaco, Mark & Patti Gonsalves and the Bahamas National Trust.

The work is not entirely finished, and another trip back to complete the project as soon as more materials can be acquired is planned. Immediately after installation of the eight moorings there were boats immediately tied to every one of them. This

proves the need for these moorings to protect the reef as well as allowing more people to visit the park and enjoy its beauty.

Mark and Patti Gonsalves want to thank the volunteers that pitched in and gave a helping hand to get this done, Steve and Mike at Dive Time of Man-O-War, Brown Tip Bottom Cleaning and Diving Services, Margurite Melikian, Paul Caval, Elizabeth Eisenhauer, Charlie Horne and John Sporck.

Debbie celebrates 30 years at Green Turtle Club

Debbie Symonette has become an icon of sorts and one of the family as she now celebrates her thirtieth year as a part of the Green Turtle Club.

Starting work on April 17, 1982 Debbie recalls the club as quaint resort with a small wooden dock and a restaurant which she has seen double in those years. In those early days she was a waitress and a maid for the Club eventually moving to help bartend. Working along with Lynn Johnson and Bill and Donna Rossbatch (former managers of the Club) in the early days she said taught her a lot.

"It's been a great experience," she said. "I've gotten to know myself and to know many other people. I have learned a lot about what tourism is all about." She said she has also had the opportunity to travel a lot because of the many guests she has met over the years. She has been to New York, Florida, Atlanta and Portland, Maine among other places.

She said she has met a lot of people, which she really enjoys, and she has a knack for remembering the many names and faces. Even more special to her now is seeing visitor's children now grown up, returning with their children. "It feels like you are a part of a large family," she remarked.

In 2007 she was awarded the Cacique Employee of the Year Award for 2006/07 for which she said she owes a great deal to

Gerri Curry-Rolle for being a great mentor. In turn her own daughter is preparing to follow in her footsteps as LaShondra Curry studies Hospitality and Hotel Lodging at Johnson and Wales University.

She said she owes so much to the many people she has worked with over the years from the owners - Adam Showell and Ann Meriner, to Lynn and Molly McIntosh. Working with Linda McIntosh, Renee Nesbitt, July Russell, Pat McIntosh and all the staff have all impacted her life in many ways. "I love them and look forward to working with them for many years to come," she said.

She also thinks of Erkin McIntosh, Ray and Vertrum Lowe and Rica McIntosh who monuments to longevity having been there for years before she arrived and remain until today. "they treated me like family from the day I got here," she said.

Debbie said she thanks God for the years she has been able to spend in Green Turtle Cay and at the Club and thanks the community and her family in Fox Town and Nassau for all their support over the years.



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- #6088 BAHAMA PALM SHORES -Lot 29 Section 1, Block F, Lot 29. Large lot. \$62,000. Leslie Pinder
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- #5898 ROYAL PALM 2437 - Canalfront with dock slip included. \$540,000. Stan Sawyer
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- #5237 Paradise Cove - Delia Bay 7,533 sq. ft. naturally elevated lot with dock plans included. US\$165,000. Kerry Sullivan
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South Abaco



NEW ISLAND COMMUNITY

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GREAT VIEWS GREAT PRICE

LITTLE HARBOUR #12186 OCEAN VIEWS from 3 bed/2 bath high above sea level with beach access. Near Pete's Pub. **US\$379,000.** Also 2 bed 2 bath cottage with generator. Great starter home with some TLC. **US\$209,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com

National News

Courtesy of The Nassau Guardian

Election Set for May 7

By Taneka Thompson

The next general election will be held on May 7, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham confirmed during a national address last night.

Ingraham rang a symbolic bell signaling the official countdown to the hotly contested race.

The national address came six hours after Parliament was officially dissolved by a proclamation from Governor General Sir Arthur Foulkes. Provost Marshal Ellison Greenslade read the proclamation on the steps on the House of Assembly at 2 p.m.

Greenslade also read a second proclamation later in the day, revealing that Parliament will reconvene on May 23.

Last night, the prime minister recounted the challenges his administration has faced — from the 2008 global recession to a rise in violent crime.

Ingraham said his government has been working relentlessly to eradicate criminal behavior and has focused on the social conditions that give rise to a criminal culture. In spite of these efforts, four murder records were set over the past five years with 127 murders recorded in 2011.

The prime minister urged all Bahamians to join the ongoing crime fight.

"This is a fight we will not lose... It is a blight on our society that knows no party and no creed," he said. "It makes no distinction. We, as a people, must stand as one against this menace perpetrated on our country; it is something too important

for partisan politics to sidetrack us from."

Ingraham said his government has made progress in restoring the country's economic and national security. He also touted the various infrastructure projects his administration has presided over during its current term.

"Elsewhere, we are making progress in terms of

economic recovery and national security. And we have invested in making our country better every day," he said.

"These things were not done because we like roads or we like building; they were done because we love the people of our country."

His comments were a reference to repeated criticisms from members of the Official Opposition, who have argued that the FNM is more concerned with creating infrastructure than investing in Bahamians.

VOTE

The prime minister also thanked Bahamians for trusting him to lead the nation for three non-consecutive terms. Ingraham urged all eligible people to vote on polling day regardless of their political persuasion.

"Over the last five years, there have been challenges, successes and above all, hope for the future.

As we've worked to achieve success and stability, there has been one guiding principle of my government: Our Bahama-land belongs to us all," he said.

"Now we look to the future and the next election. As we begin this process, I want to ask all of our citizens to commit themselves to an election that is truly fit-

ting of this great democracy of ours.

"Whatever the outcome, this will be an historic election on many levels. Casting a ballot is a right of all registered voters. Equally as important, we must have a clean, free, fair and honest election as these are the most sacred aspects of democracy."

He added that for the first time international observers from the Organization of American States, CARICOM and the United States have been invited to monitor the May 7 election.

People who are unable to vote on polling day — because of travel plans, government assignments overseas, pregnancy, or hospitalization etc. — will be able to vote in an advance poll.

More than 172,000 Bahamians are registered to vote, the highest number ever.

Asian distribution center in sights for GBPA

By Jeffrey Todd

The Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) "needs a couple quick wins" to get it on the fast track to prosperity, according to Ian Fair, the incoming chairman.

And high on the agenda, he said, is the establishment of a Chinese distribution center that would sell mass quantities of goods to corporations throughout North America, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The high-profile project, rumored to

be in the works for months, may receive a much-needed kick-start with the appointment of Fair. As exclusively reported by Guardian Business last month, the top executive has now been officially handed the reigns at the GBPA.

Sarah St. George was also appointed as vice chairman.

The appointment of Fair, who is also chairman of the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA), deputy chairman of Butterfield Bank (Bahamas) Limited and chairman of Bahamas First Holdings Limited, could not come at a more crucial time.

Grand Bahama, despite its close proximity to the U.S. and incentives for foreign businesses, has continued to struggle under the weight of the ongoing financial crisis.

Unemployment on Grand Bahama now stands at more than 21 percent, according to the latest numbers from the Department of Statistics.

Fair brings with him considerable international experience and a diverse professional background.

AsiaMart, a brand that seeks to establish the Chinese distribution center, is a project in the sights of the GBPA.

The new chairman described the concept of a distribution center as "a priority" and "an idea with an awful lot of potential".

"We're in the business of granting licenses. We want what is best for Freeport. The minute I learned about the AsiaMart idea, I thought it had potential. It's

Please see GBPA

Page 23

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TREASURE CAY
Houses

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- "**Summertime**" # 1550 - Ocean Blvd. Superb 3 bed, 2 bath beach home plus 2 bed, 2 bath guest house. 3,600 s/f under air plus 4,100 s/f open & covered patios. Tastefully furnished. 1.37 acres, 133' beach frontage. **\$3,995,000.**
- "**Brigantine Bay Canal Home**" # 1589 - Newly built 4 bed, 4 bath unfurnished home. 3,150 s/f under air, 4,850 s/f total. Many extras. 15,306 s/f parcel, 91' canal frontage, lay-along & finger docks, boat lift. **\$2,995,000.**
- "**Turtle View**" - # 1778 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 4,088 sq. ft. elegantly furnished home on landscaped 14,000 s/f parcel with 68' frontage on Treasure Cay Beach. **\$2,559,000.** Package Price option to include Galleon Bay bulkheaded canal lot with dock & garage. **\$2,774,000.**
- "**Top of the Rock**" # 2014 - 3 bed, 3 bath "turnkey" furnished home, 1,824 s/f living space, 740 s/f covered porches, double garage. 198' beach frontage on 2 lot parcel. Fantastic elevated views along entire Treasure Cay Beach. **\$2,300,000.**
- "**Tranquility**" # 1307 - 4 bed, 5 bath, tastefully furnished 2 level canal home on 2 lots. 3,580 s/f under roof, plus decks/balconies. 90' canal frontage, dock, boat lift, Great water views, excellent condition. **\$2,200,000.**
- "**Cutwater Way Canal Home**" - # 1524 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 3,600 s/f home on Brigantine Bay. Newly built in 2008, elegantly furnished, many upgraded features. 144' bulkhead, 70' dock, boat lift. **\$1,995,000.**
- "**Turquoise**" - # 1696 - Ocean Blvd 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2,127 s/f furnished beach home on 1.5 acre parcel with 170' of sandy Treasure Cay Beach frontage. **\$1,899,000.**
- "**Trident House**" - # 317 - 3 Bed, 3.5 Bath furnished beachfront home on Treasure Cay Beach. 3,500 s/f living space, 2 garages, 16,000 s/f parcel with 100' sandy beach frontage. Fabulous Sea Views **\$1,850,000.**
- "**Windward Palms**" # 1454 - Splendid 3 bed, 2 bath furnished Windward Beach home. 2,500 s/f under roof plus 1,600 s/f patios & walks on 16,000 s/f landscaped parcel with 100' sandy beach. Meticulously maintained, Many extras, superior sea views. **\$1,500,000.**
- "**Kokomo**", **Brigantine Bay** # 1509 - Charming 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 level, 3,000 s/f tastefully furnished canal home. Recently renovated and upgraded. 10,915 s/f parcel with 102' canal frontage, pool, spa, dock & boat lift. 3,000 s/f balcony, pool & patio decks. **\$1,399,000.**
- "**Rising Sun**" # 1780 - Windward Beach, 3 bed, 2.5 bath 2,118 s/f furnished home on 25,925 s/f parcel with 150' of sandy beach frontage. Superb sea views! **\$1,310,000.**
- "**Helen's Point**" - # 1791 - 4 bed, 3 bath, 1,800 sq. ft. furnished home on 27,908 s/f Sea of Abaco waterfront parcel with 153' of bulkheaded seawall & dock. **\$1,308,000.**
- "**Camelot**" **Windward Beach** # 1699 - Inspiring 3 bed, 3 bath, 2,600 s/f "turn-key" furnished beach home on 19,000 s/f parcel with 101' sandy beach frontage. Refurbished in 2000. Well Maintained, Includes 2003 Suzuki vehicle. **\$1,299,000.**
- "**Pisces**" - # 2085 - Elegantly furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath harbourfront home, 2,189 s/f under air, plus 1,269 s/f double garage & covered patio, 15,716 s/f property with 71' deep water dockage. Private pool. **\$1,295,000.**
- # 2084 - **Thompson Beach Cottages** - 3 bed, 2 bath turnkey furnished beachfront home on Windward Beach. 19,000 s/f parcel with 103' sandy beach frontage. Spectacular sea views **\$1,150,000.**
- "**Harbour's Edge**" - # 2000 - 3 bed, 3 bath furnished Harbourfront Home, sensational panoramic harbour views, 3,033 s/f under roof. 15,210 s/f landscaped parcel, 90' deep water frontage **\$995,000.**
- "**Our Paradise Place**" - **Cottages 6** - # 2049 - 4 Bed, 3 bath, 2 level, 2,900 s/f under roof beachfront residence. Turn-key furnished. Excellent condition. Includes golf cart. **\$949,000.**
- "**Dolphin Watch**" - **Galleon Bay** - # 1534 - 3 bed, 3.5 bath furnished home (including 2 bed, 2 bath guest cottage). Total 2,800 s/f living space. 18,000 s/f parcel, 74' bulkheaded canal frontage with dock. **\$949,000.**
- "**Palm Bay Harbourfront Townhouse # 2**" - # 1071 - Newly constructed, furnished 3 bed, 3 bath, 2,077 s/f. Great water views. **Owner Financing Available \$789,000.**

TREASURE CAY
Houses

- "**Laguna**" **Delightful Canal Home** # 1875 - 3 bed, 2 bath, turn-key furnished 1,550 s/f Brigantine Bay home with dock, 16,000 lb boat lift, van, golf cart. **\$595,000.**
 - "**Carrollville**" # 1352 - Near Treasure Cay - 3 bed, 2 bath, 2,100 s/f hilltop home on 6 acres from highway to Sea. 165' water frontage. Spectacular sea views. **\$595,000.**
 - "**Treasure House # 2**" - # 1777 - 2 bed, 2 bath topsider style 1,000 s/f furnished beachside villa. Exceptional elevated Sea & beach views. Close to beach & pool. **\$569,000.**
 - "**Elysium**" # 1460 - 4 bed, 2 bath, 2,840 s/f under roof furnished home on 2 lots (22,000 s/f) on Ocean Blvd. Includes double garage. Close to beach. **\$525,000.**
 - "**Treasure House # 11**" - # 1592 - Delightful 2 bed, 2 bath comfortably furnished 1,000 s/f Topsider style beachside villa. Community pool, well maintained villa. Exceptional sea & beach views. **\$549,995.**
 - "**Treasure House # 4**" - # 1582 - Charming 2 bed, 2 bath fully renovated & tastefully furnished 1,000 s/f Topsider style beachside villa. Many upgrades. Community pool, well maintained beachfront complex. **\$499,950.**
 - "**Beach Villa # 715**" - # 2072 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 950 s/f turn-key furnished beachfront villa. Well maintained, excellent vacation rental income potential. **\$499,000.**
 - "**Ocean Villa 916**" - # 1737 - 2 bed, 2 bath "turn-key" 900 s/f furnished villa. Unobstructed sea views, Close to beach. Good vacation rental potential. **\$429,995.**
 - # 1921 - **3 Marlin Dr.** 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,276 s/f furnished home near beach on 12,800 s/f parcel **\$399,000.**
 - "**Toad Hall**" # 1373 - 5 bed/4 bath, 4,000 s/f, Ocean Blvd. furnished ocean view home includes 1 bed/1 bath apt. on 12,000 s/f parcel. Private beach access. **\$399,000.**
 - "**Beach Villa # 605**" - # 1635 - 1 bed, 2 bath well maintained & elegantly furnished "turn-key" villa. Washer/dryer. Many extras & upgrades. Can be modified for 2nd bedroom. Close to beach. **\$365,000.**
 - # 1898 - "**Starfish Cottage**" **Beach Villa 503A & B** 2 adjoining, self contained 1 bed, 1 bath furnished villas near beach. Great Rental Income Potential **\$329,000.**
 - "**Beach Villas # 526**" - # 1851 - Charming 2 bed, 2 bath furnished villa near beach, pool & shopping **\$229,000.**
 - "**Beach Villa 673**" - # 1847, 2 bed, 2 bath furnished 1,000 s/f. Near pool/beach, refurbished, well maintained. **\$299,000.**
 - "**Beach Villa 607**" - # 1982 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 900 s/f villa, furnished near beach, shops & marina. **\$249,000.**
 - "**Beach Villa 527**" - # 1852, Charming 2 bed, 2 bath furnished, near pool/beach, shopping **\$199,000.**
- Condos**
- "**Royal Poinciana Beachfront Condo # 2505-Phase 4**" # 716) Premier 3 level, 3 bed, 4.5 bath, plus loft newly built condo. 2,860 s/f under roof, 644 s/f covered/open balconies/porches. **OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! \$1,995,000.**
 - "**Bahama Beach Club 2047**" - # 1468 - 3 bed, 3 bath, ground level Phase 5 unit, 1,750 s/f living space condo, close to beach, tastefully furnished, numerous upgrades & enhancements. Superb sea views. **\$887,000.**
 - "**Bahama Beach Club 2020**" - # 1139 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,650 s/f 2nd level beach condo, elegantly decorated. Superior beach & ocean views. **\$872,000.**
 - "**Carleton Landing - Carriage House # 1**" - # 1621 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,755 s/f ground level furnished condo on Brigantine Bay. New construction. Includes community pool, finger dock/private slip, 2 garages. **\$855,000.**
 - "**Bahama Beach Club # 2005**" - # 1370 - 3 bed, 2 bath ground level 1,645 s/f comfortably furnished condo. Awesome sea views from most rooms Overlooks beach and pool. Great vacation residence. **\$822,000.**
 - "**Carleton Landing - Carriage House # 2 & 4**" - # 1620 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,755 s/f unfurnished 2nd level condos on Brigantine Bay. New construction. Community pool, finger dock/private slip, 2 garages. **EACH \$799,000.**
 - "**Carleton Landing - Carriage House # 3**" - # 1984 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,755 s/f unfurnished ground level condo on Brigantine Bay. New construction. Community pool, finger dock/private slip, 2 garages. **NOW \$639,000.**

TREASURE CAY

Condos

- "**Bahama Beach Club # 2025**" - # 2057 3 bed, 3 bath ground level condo, 1,650 sq. ft. living space, tastefully decorated and furnished, well maintained. Great sea and pool views. Enjoys excellent rental income. **\$599,000.**
- "**Royal Palm Condo # 2424**" - # 1399 - 3 bed, 3 bath, (including loft) 2nd level, 1,264 s/f furnished condo overlooking harbour. Well maintained, near beach, excellent rental income potential. **\$549,000.**
- "**Bahama Beach Club # 2035**" - # 1991 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,650 s/f furnished ground level condo. Overlooks pool & beach. Best Priced Condo at Bahama Beach Club **\$499,950.**
- "**Royal Palm # 2435**" - # 1881 - 3 bed, 3 bath 2nd level turn-key furnished 1,264 s/f harbourfront condo. Well maintained end unit. Sensational marina views **\$499,000.**
- "**Royal Poinciana # 2511**" - # 1483 - Deluxe 2 bed, 2 bath ground level furnished 1,300 s/f beachfront condo. Well maintained. Great sea views, excellent rental income potential. **\$499,000.**
- "**Sand Dollar Condo # 3**" - # 1599 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f ground level furnished unit, Sensational sea views, community pool, Golf course nearby. **\$499,000.**
- "**Royal Palm # 2403**" - 3 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 2nd level, 1,264 s/f turn-key furnished harbourfront condo. Totally renovated & refurbished in 2008. Many upgrades, well maintained, owner occupied. Fantastic marina views. **\$499,000.**
- "**Atlantis Condo # 2202**" - # 987 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2nd level furnished canalfront unit, w/ boat slip, boat lift, golf cart, garage. "Turn-Key", Near beach. **\$485,000.**
- "**Atlantis Condo # 2203**" - # 1000 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2nd level, 1,000 s/f furnished waterfront unit, includes fully serviced boat slip & golf cart garage. Overlooks Brigantine Bay, Optional Boat Lift. Near beach. **\$464,000.**
- "**Royal Poinciana # 2512**" - # 2060 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 2nd level furnished beachfront condo includes loft, on site pool & tennis court. Great sea views, excellent rental income potential. **\$449,000.**
- "**Royal Palm Condo # 2420**" - # 1546 - 3 bed, 3 bath, (including loft) 2nd level, 1,264 s/f furnished condo. Great harbour & marina views. Well maintained, near beach, excellent rental income potential. **\$429,000.**
- "**Sand Dollar Condo # 7**" - # 1456 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f ground level furnished beachfront condo. Well maintained, superb sea views, community pool. Best Value! **\$405,000.**
- "**Royal Palm # 2477**" - # 2052 - 3 bed, 3 bath, upper level 1,264 s/f tastefully furnished "end unit" condo. Includes 2 extra large private boat slips. Great water views. **\$399,000.**
- "**Royal Palm # 2306**" # 1941 - 2 bed, 2 bath 950 s/f furnished ground level condo overlooking harbour & marina. Includes boat slip & storage unit. Beach nearby. **\$299,000.**
- "**Atlantis Condo 2109**" - # 1990 - turn-key, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f ground level furnished unit. Well maintained, overlooks Brigantine Bay, includes private dock & boat slip. **\$295,000.**
- "**Atlantis Condo 2117**" - # 1741 - Turn-key, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 875 s/f ground level furnished unit. Well maintained, overlooks Brigantine Bay, includes private dock & boat slip. **\$295,000.**
- "**Royal Palm # 2317**" - # 1467 - 2 bed, 2 bath ground level 950 s/f furnished harbourfront condo, includes private boat slip & finger dock. Great harbour views, close to beach. **\$275,000.**

Mariner's Cove Condominiums

- # 1181 - 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 level, 1,650 s/f furnished harbour front condo, tastefully refurbished **\$559,000.**
- # 2010 - 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 1,236 s/f 2 level furnished harbourfront condo. Fully refurbished in 2004. Close to beach & marina **\$479,000.**
- # 985 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level harbourfront end unit. Refurbished in 2000 **\$249,950.**
- # 655 - 2 bed, 1 bath condo with marina view **\$249,000.**
- # 1942 - 1 bed, 1 bath, 450 s/f 2nd level furnished unit overlooking community pool. **\$199,000.**
- # 959 - 2 bed, 1 bath furnished 2 level condo overlooking marina, includes garage. **\$189,000.**
- # 1805 - 2 bed, 1.5 bath, 800 s/f 2 level harbourside condo, tastefully furnished/decorated, well maintained. **\$179,000.**
- # 2073 - Best Priced Condo # 12 - 1 bed, 1 bath, 462 s/f ground level furnished harbourfront condo. Great harbour views. **\$149,000.**

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Teachers Union holds first workshop on Abaco

By Samantha Evans

President of the Bahamas Union of Teachers (B.U.T.) Belinda Wilson and Quentin Laroda, Area Vice President for Grand Bahama, were on Abaco on Friday March 23 to hold a workshop and general meeting with its members. The theme chosen for this first workshop on Abaco was "Solidarity Forever." The workshop began at 1pm with Quentin Laroda as the able first presenter.

His topic was an introduction to the Bahamas Union of Teachers. Laroda is no stranger to the union as he has served three terms in the B.U.T. and two terms in his current post. He began by stating that the B.U.T. has 4000 plus members but not many of them are unionists. He chose to introduce members to the history of the union so that they would know about their history and accomplishments, enhance their knowledge of the B.U.T., know what they fight for, founding members, the importance of the union and how it operates.

He began with the history of the union which was started in 1947 by Mable Walker (founding president), Ivy Dumont and Carlton Francis. The union was recognized by the Government of the Bahamas in 1965 and joined Education International in 1977. The major responsibilities of the union at that time were to protect the rights of members and bargain for better terms and conditions of service. He described the dynamics of the executive body of the union and the roles of those major posts. Once done, he noted that the B.U.T. is set up for the efficient smooth running of the organization. Thanks to the shoulders upon which the current leadership stands, they

are now pushing for more and better benefits, and fight grievances of members.

He spoke about great union leaders and their contribution to the development of the Bahamas. Some of those great leaders are: The Late Sir Randal Fawkes -Father of Labour-, The Late Sir Clifford Darling -President of the Taxi Cab Union-, Dame Ivy Dumont -co-founder of the BUT-, the late Mable Walker -founder of the B.U.T-, major players in the Women's Suffrage Movement, the person after whom the Walker's Hall is named and Carlton E. Francis co-founder of the B.U.T.

After he was done, President Wilson addressed the members. She spoke about Handling Grievances and Leadership. She began by addressing the rights of employees and types of grievances. She outlined the procedures for dealing with grievances and the importance of following protocol. She encouraged members to put their complaints in writing to the shop steward so that they can be addressed in a timely manner. Next she spoke on leadership. He told members to work towards leaving a legacy behind as one day they will move off the scene.

She told them to be secure in their post and be prepared to produce where they are planted. Finally she noted that when people do well that they should complement them rather than covet the other persons' gifts or abilities. After she was done, she went over the Collective Bargaining Agreement and gave the members vital information of the changes that will come on stream before the end of the 2011-2012 school year. Refreshments followed the meeting then persons were able to sit with the president one-on-one to voice concerns.

Immunization Training Program for Nurses

By Mirella Santillo

Seven nurses from Central Abaco, Hope Town and Sandy Point participated in a three- day training program held at the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic from March 27-29. The program was aimed at stressing the importance of keeping track of the population of children to be immunized, keeping the immunization records up to date, maintaining the vaccines potent by keeping them at a constant cold temperature and adhering to good hygiene practices in regard of storing the vaccines.

Three former nurses now employed by the department of Immunization, Nurse Ruth Bastian, Nurse Lynne Lewis and Nurse Amelia Collie, had come from Nassau to provide the training in Marsh Harbour.

They instructed the trainees of the procedures to follow to keep "the cold chain" such as checking the temperature of the refrigerator, how to proceed in case of sustained power loss by being ready to pack the vaccines immediately in a cooler with four cold packs.

The instructors reminded them to maintain good hygiene measures such as cleaning the refrigerator once a month, storing the live vaccines on the top shelf with the non-live vaccines underneath and keeping the water containers on the bottom shelf.

The last day of the training was dedicated to learning how to create charts of the children to be immunized- the target population- and of the children actually being immunized. Charts have to be recorded on a monthly basis, in order not to miss anyone and to meet the target percentage of children immunized by the year's end.

The records have to be kept not only locally, but copies have to be sent to Nas-

sau to the Department of Immunization, Department of Public Health. The trainees were told to keep track of the children coming from other countries and the children leaving the island. It is important to note infant deaths and adjust their charts accordingly. They were reminded that to be fully immunized the children have to have the first series of three shots followed by vaccination for MMR (Mumps, Measles and Rubella) and varicella.

The seven nurses were subjected to a test at the end of the last session on Thursday, to ensure that they had absorbed and understood the content of the workshop.

While Nurse Collie corrected the examination sheets, Nurse Bastian addressed the class reminding them that although The Bahamas was certified "polio free" and in the process of being certified "measles free," these two diseases were only a short distance away from our islands, hence the necessity to maintain the necessary precautions to keep it that way.

She acknowledged the women's dedication and urged them to keep working hard. Nurse Lewis could not help but stress again the importance of the cold chain. "Keep the vaccines potent," she insisted.

A parallel workshop was conducted during the same period of time in Cooper's Town for the nurses of Fox Town, Cooper's Town and Green Turtle Cay. A similar training workshop already took place on Eleuthera. Grand Bahamas is next on the agenda.

Remember to check out The Abaconian's Community Calendar.

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Letters From Page 9

antees that our family of four will seek other destinations in the future. Is that what we want?

Will property values be affected? What do you, the reader, think about this? Given the choice, would you live near an incinerator? How would you feel if one were to be built near your home? Without exception, every one of us would choose to be far, far away from an incinerator. (You can be sure the bank which holds your mortgage would agree.) Being "up wind" upon ignition is no guarantee you won't be "down wind" half way through the scheduled burn. This occurred on Guana Cay on April 3rd, 2012 with the island full of vacationers! Who will measure the destructive impact on property values if this kind of thing becomes a regular occurrence?

So how about burning only when the wind is from a certain direction? If an incinerator were located on the Crown Land, where BBC already has the nasty parts of its infrastructure, a SW wind may blow the smoke NE. That would work...until the wind assumed its usual clocking. As soon as the wind crept a few more points westerly, the coastal breezes would sweep it in tight to the island and residents would be impacted. Every boating person is familiar with the tendency of winds to wrap around a land mass, as though in defiance of the weather maps. It's part of the micro-climate phenomenon. In short, getting Mother Nature to blow smoke "away" is a tricky proposition.

If BBC suggests they can guarantee a 'no-impact' burn, consider the source. Bakers Bay Developers (or was it Discovery Land Corporation back then?) failed miserably to consider the other 3/5ths of Guana Cay during the endless fires if the

2005-2006 season. Not a single resident will ever forget that. As fast as the bulldozers could work, all day and all night, the mangroves and gnarled, wind hardened shrubs of what is now the hundreds of acres of bare BBC, were burned. Pillars of smoke drifted endlessly over Guana Cay, dropping ash and soot. At night, the merciless inferno could be seen for miles.

Our lungs have sucked in enough of what BBC produced that year. No more!

A well designed solid waste facility utilizing the land-fill method is far more environmentally responsible AND has the added advantage of producing methane, which can then be harnessed to create electricity. Considering the projected demand for electricity in the Abacos, this method must be seriously considered. Yet another option is artificial reef construction using high density, compacted trash. Marine engineering teams at universities around the world have experimented with this technique. Global Coral Reef Alliance may also have researched this system as part of its artificial reef project.

When weighing the pros and cons of community decisions, one must endeavor to avoid the temptation to take the cheapest way. Remembering that, what appears to be the fastest and easiest and cheapest, very often carries the burden of the greatest consequences. There is no place here for the heavy-handed, dictatorial "solution". Our failure to evaluate all the ramifications of choosing incineration over land-fill will cause future generations to condemn us. So, while we are happy BBC is finally stepping up to the plate, we insist the decisions are not BBC's to make. Rather, this is a community matter necessitating full and open discovery and decision making.

The Concerned Citizens of Great Guana Cay

Business

Abaco to receive cellular 4G by mid-May

Courtesy of The Nassau Guardian

Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) customers throughout Abaco and the northern Bahamas will experience consistent, improved cellular service including faster speeds for downloads and browsing on smart phones when the company completes its revamp of the wireless system by mid-May, officials said recently.

"We have completed 35 of the 41 cell sites in Abaco to date and expect to have the remaining few completed within the next several weeks," said Marlon Johnson, vice president, brand and communications. "When the work is done, customers will enjoy greatly improved service, fewer dropped calls and much faster speeds as Abaco goes from a 2G platform to the blazing speed of 4G."

New Providence is already blanketed in 4G, the fastest speed available for wireless users, a technology so new that companies abroad in major markets where it has been introduced are tooting their horns and touting its strength, spending millions advertising its availability. Meantime in The Bahamas, Grand Bahama is nearly 100 percent converted to 4G and BTC said it hopes to have full national roll-out by late August with Abaco, Bimini and the Berry Islands to go live within days of each other about the middle of May.

"Abaco was a large territory to cover because of all the small cays and the sprawling lay of the land," explained

Johnson. "We have 45 cell sites in New Providence and 41 in Abaco despite the difference in population so you can see how comprehensive our coverage had to be. Because of the many small islands in addition to Great Abaco, a lot of the material had to be transported by boat or barge so it was a time-consuming task. Fortunately, we were blessed with good working weather for most of the winter which helped considerably."

Johnson said the improved service in Abaco is expected to please the northern island's extensive boating population.

"Abaco is the yachting capital of The Bahamas," Johnson noted, "attracting thousands of boaters every year. Unlike the rest of The Bahamas where the main season is November through April, Abaco's big season is summer when boaters come over primarily from South Florida. We are confident that they will be in for a very pleasant surprise when they turn their phones on and find that this little quiet set of islands and cays has gone 4G. Many of them will be coming from areas where they do not yet have that kind of speed."

Although work is about 80 percent completed on all cell sites and supporting infrastructure, the launch of 4G will not take place in stages, but will occur all at once when work on the islands and cays is 100 percent complete. When that date

Please see 4G Page 21

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Business

Entrepreneur Watch

Four S Take-A-way

By Samantha Evans

Molly Davis owns Four S Take-A-Way adjacent to Shawny's Take-A-Way in Dundas Town. Ms. Davis decided to open this business because she stated that it is hard to find souse after 11am in the morning. At her business you can find souse all day and every day. They specialize in down home cooking.

Besides all types of souse they also provide soups and sandwiches. They provide fish and pancakes daily, Tuesday is "boil-up" day and Thursday they provide various international dishes. In the coming months, they will open the bakery which will provide breads, guava duff, banana bread, cakes, cheese cake, pumpkin roll and the like.

The catering service will also be operational soon and for this service they can cook any Bahamian dishes for any type of event. The only requirement is that a week's notice is given. Other items they specialize in include ice cream, conch fritters, hot dogs and popcorn. They are open Monday to Saturday 8am to 4pm and 6pm to 10pm. They can be contacted by calling 367-7777.

The Garden of Eden Take -A-Way

By Samantha Evans

On March 26, 2012 Annalyse Coakley opened her business: The Garden of Eden Take-A-Way on Forest Drive next to Island Grocers. Ms. Coakley stated that when she first moved to Abaco she started out cooking so she decided to venture into this business again. She stated that all of her steps to open this business were ordered by God as she was not looking to start a business.

She is excited about this business and looks forward to all of the doors that will open for her. She specializes in snacks only such as wings and fries, cold cups, ice cream, pastries and pies, cupcakes and fresh conch salad. She is open Monday to Saturday 7am to 8pm. The phone contact for the business is 475-1050.

Abaco Mini-Mart Convenience Store

Continuing a tradition inherited from his grandparents, and after 32 years working in the grocery business himself, Telford

Roberts has realized his dream of opening his own grocery store with the opening of Abaco Mini-Mart.

He said "this is something I've wanted to do for a long time. We are starting at a convenience store level and we'll see where it goes."

Abaco Mini-Mart is a small convenience store carrying a variety of products such as snacks, beverages, dry groceries and some produce at this time and he indicated he would expand this based on what customers need.

Since opening on April 7 he says he has received a good response from shoppers, many of whom got to know him as the manager at Price Right over his years there. "We want to offer service, convenience and good prices," he said.

Mr. Roberts started in the grocery business in 1980 when he joined the staff of Golden Harvest. Since then he has been both managed stores for both major supermarkets in Nassau spending his last five years in Nassau at the Lyford Cay City. He has spent the last ten years as both a manager and a buyer for Price Right Ltd.

Abaco Mini-Mart is open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm and is located on Crockett Drive just after K & S Service Station.

Dishy

According to the proprietor, Dakotah Delancy, Dishy means beautiful. And that is just what Dishy sells: beauty. Unique jewelry, cosmetics, lingerie and top-line body supplies can all be found at Dishy located upstairs in the building across from Curly Tails restaurant in Marsh Harbour.

Fashionable and affordable guides her business. Victoria's Secret lines, Bath and Body Works products and Hello Kitty brand accessories are found at low prices. Makeup applications and full pedicures are among the services she offers at her well decorated store.

She designed a store to make her customers ask, "Am I still in Abaco?" She found opportunity to create a business when plans to attend university fell through this year. But that did not stop her determination because in February she launched her retail store. "Things are going great," she said.

Store hours are Mon-Thurs: 10am - 6pm., and Fri-Sat: 10am-7:30pm. To contact Dishy call 458-9751 or through Black Berry Messenger: 282FA4E1. Also, find Dishy on Facebook.



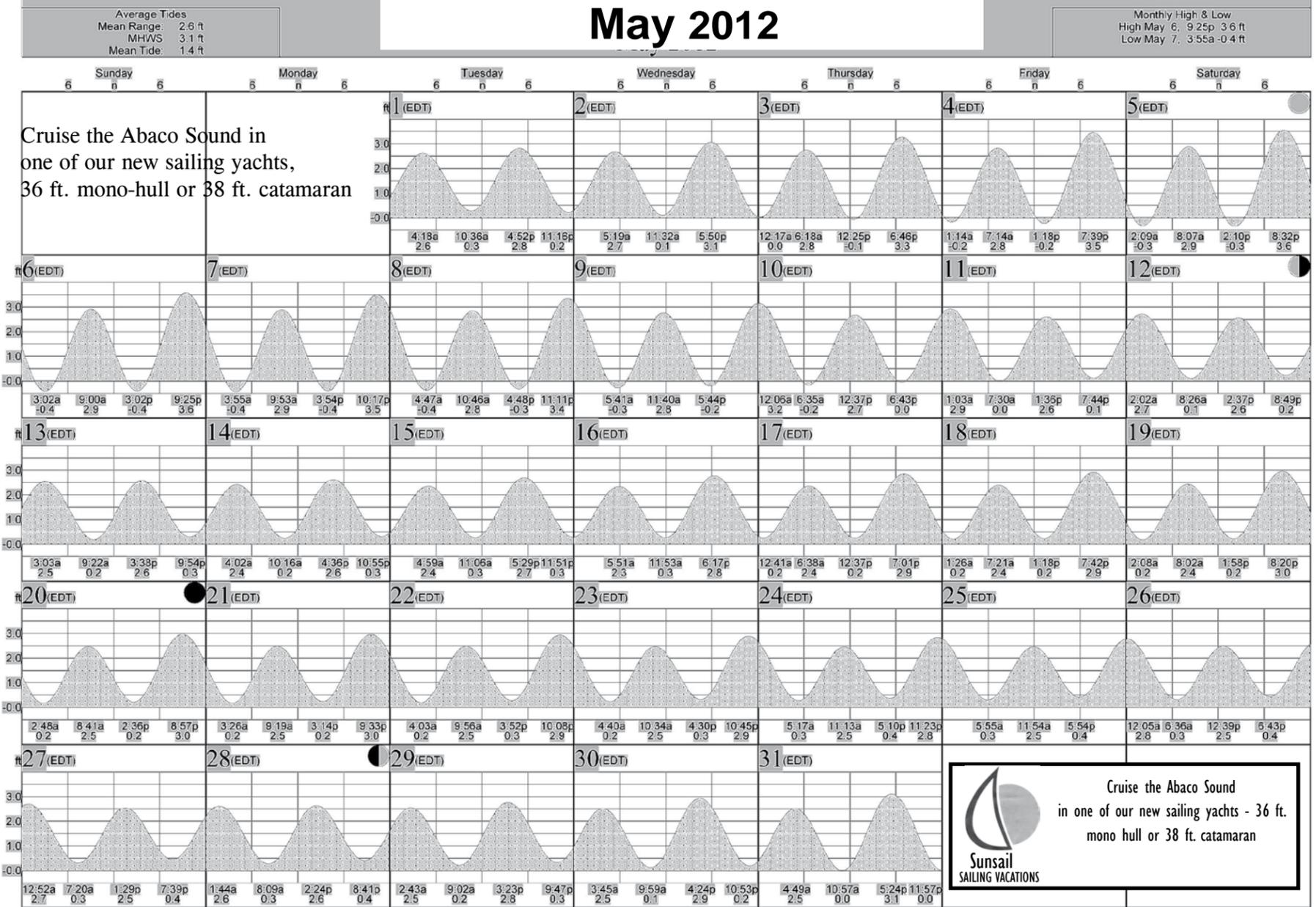
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Further Business

4G From Page 19

comes, subscribers to 4G using BlackBerry, Androids (like Samsung Galaxy) or iPhones will be able to upload to YouTube faster, download tunes, save or send photos, browse with Explorer or Firefox as fast as their eyes and fingers allow or even accomplish the most basic task, making a phone call on speed dial faster than ever before. In conjunction with the new speed, the company will open its first renovated store in Abaco April 26 in Treasure Cay.

BAF Solutions donates to Cancer Society



On April 2, British American Financial's office in Marsh Harbour donated to the Abaco Cancer Society. BAF wanted to express their gratitude for the work the Abaco Cancer Society does for all those on the island whose lives have been affected by cancer. Lillian Cash was present to represent the Abaco Cancer Society and receive the gift. From left to right: Anthony Cartwright, Margel Smith, Lillian Cash, Nia Cooper and Rosemary Russell.

GBPA From Page 16

an amazing idea. There isn't one in the region. Central America, North America, the Caribbean... they can all come through Freeport."

Fair said the GBPA is in the process of working through proposals, and no former permits or confirmation has been given to any particular party.

He did say, however, that the creation of a distribution center would be a "huge

Colina staff gives to Cancer Society



Oeisha Roberts, Abaco Office Administrator, said the staff and management of Colina's local office came together donating personally, to give back to the community and deciding that this time they would give to the Abaco Cancer Society. "The Cancer Society was an easy choice for us because we all knew or are close to people who have had cancer," she said.

They want to do something even bigger next year, and hope to get the company involved in giving to the community.

From L-R: Sandradee Henfield (agents), Nathania Lewis (cashier), Lillian Cash (Abaco cancer society), Leslie Gelin (Branch Manager), Doneth Reid (Sales Director), Oeisha Roberts (Abaco Office Administrator), Eleanor Stuart (agent), Barrie Bascom (agent)

thrust" for employment on the island and the economy at large.

Fair went on to mention "there are a lot of things out there that could happen quite soon" to further stimulate the economy in Grand Bahama. Other projects believed to be on the agenda include two waste treatment facilities to further support the island's already robust ship building and maintenance yard.

But as the dust settles in regards to Fair's appointment, the new chairman said the primary message, for now, is Grand Bahama is back in business.

Know of any news? Call The Abaconian: 367-3200.

Resort VIPs arrive in Treasure Cay on board Delta Airbus



An Airbus A319 flew into Treasure Cay International Airport on April 5. This marks the first time this type of aircraft has landed in Abaco. The three hour flight from New York brought in about twenty passengers who were brought in to tour properties at Bakers Bay Resort in great Guana Cay. Peter Russell and his crew at the Treasure Cay airport helped coordinate the flight and ensured the guests arrived in style. Using the signature airstairs he had built for a similar flight a few month ago, Treasure Cay once again rolled out the red carpet.



NEW! A Celebration of The Bahamas CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

2013 marks a special year for The Bahamas – 40 years as an independent island nation. To celebrate this momentous occasion, FamGuard invites all photographers to enter the Company's special 2013 Calendar Photo Contest.

ENTRY FORM
Deadline July 13, 2012

Return this form with photos and CD to:
Calendar Contest
FamGuard Corporate Centre
East Bay Street & Village Road
P.O. Box 55-6232
Nassau, Bahamas

- FamGuard's annual Calendar Photo Contest is open to all photographers. The title for the company's 2013 calendar will be "A Celebration of The Bahamas".
- Photographs may be of any uniquely Bahamian subject, scene, historical structure, handicraft, or art form that depicts a striking example of the culture, history, or natural beauty of The Bahamas.
- DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS JULY 13, 2012.** All entries are submitted at the owner's risk and will not be returned.
- All entries are to be delivered to the FamGuard Corporate Centre, located on East Bay Street and Village Road, Nassau, between 9:00am and 5:00pm weekdays only. Envelopes should be marked "Calendar Contest".
- All entries must be accompanied by a signed and completed official entry form, available at any Family Guardian office, as published in the newspapers or on the website (www.famguardbahamas.com).
- Only colour images will be considered. Images must be provided as digital files on CD. Digital images must be of high quality (2700 x 2100 pixels or larger). Digital images showing signs of photo manipulation, resolution enhancement or compression will be rejected. To ensure the best colour reproduction, digital images should be supplied in RAW, TIFF or high quality JPEG and in the original colour format the camera uses (LAB or RGB). **All entries must be supplied with colour prints (8 x 10) which will be used in the judging process.** (Note: prints submitted without CD's will not be eligible and vice versa). The photographer's name, photo subject and photo location must be written on the reverse of the print.
- Judging of entries will be based on beauty, interest, composition, colour, originality and quality of photograph. Particular areas and subjects of interest are detailed on the website (www.famguardbahamas.com). The photographs selected will appear in FamGuard's 2013 wall and desk calendars. The decision of the judges will be final.
- A cash prize of \$500.00 for each winning entry will be presented at a special winners' reception. Photographic credits will be given in the wall and desk calendars. The number of entries per photographer is limited to a maximum of 5 photos.
- The winning photographs, along with all publication and reproduction rights attached thereto, become the property of FamGuard Corporation Limited and the Company reserves the right to use such in the future. Photos will not be returned.
- Employees of the FamGuard Group of Companies or their family members are not eligible.
- Previously published photos are not eligible.

Visit www.famguardbahamas.com for more information and for special hints and contest details.

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

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No. PHOTOS ENTERED (\$ maximum):

I agree that in the event one or more of my entered photographs is selected as a winner in the 2013 FamGuard Calendar Photo Contest it will become the property of FamGuard Corporation Limited, and I assign to FamGuard all rights pertaining to its use in any way whatsoever. I also confirm that the photos entered in this contest were taken in The Bahamas by the undersigned and have not been previously published.

Signature

Date

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Fire From Page 6

hot fire initially keeping the firemen at bay.

Engine Five, using the water canon from a safe distance, cooled the flames allowing the firemen to get closer with hoses. Engine Two arrived and attacked the fire from the other side. The empty house had underbrush close that was on fire and a small shed behind was also engulfed in flames but harder to access through the brush.

It was about 9 p.m. when embers were finally believed to be out and the engines returned to the station. The vacant house sat in a wooded area by itself and no other residences were threatened.

This was one of the last houses still in Spring City that was built in the mid-1940s in Pine Ridge, Grand Bahama, using the native pine lumber. The house was moved to the Gap, inland of Riding Point, Grand

Bahama, by the Owens-Illinois pulpwood operation in 1956, then moved to Spring City in 1959.

Shed Fire

Mid-morning on April 8 two engines responded to a report of a house fire by M 'n' R Grocery Store on Crockett Drive in Marsh Harbour; however, after firemen investigated the area the fire was discovered to be in a small banana field next to the Mud on the Port Road.

Upon further investigation it was discovered that a Haitian shack had burned down in the field, which was difficult to access. Firemen oversaw what remained of the fire as burned itself out. No other buildings were threatened.

Dumpster Fire

One engine and two volunteers responded to a fire in a refuse dumpster near the old softball field in Marsh Harbour mid-morning on April 10.

Typically, spring is our dry season and brush fires are prevalent in April and May. The volunteer firemen are not equipped to tackle brush fires unless they are close to buildings that are accessible. Homeowners whose property has coppice and brush adjacent are advised to keep the area around their buildings clear of brush and other flammable materials.

Large brush fires are a challenge as winds can carry hot embers into new areas, igniting new fires. Fires can break out in unexpected areas, sometimes even right behind the fire engine, causing a quick change in strategy.

A prolonged drought is fueling brush fires throughout the Eastern United States this spring. Lightning is not the main cause of fires in the dry season. It is usually discarded cigarettes, homeowners burning trash, farmers clearing their land or an occasional accident that drops live wires onto the ground.





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Left: Marsh Harbour Volunteer Firefighters fight a blaze at the old dump close to the BEC plant where hundreds of gallons of old engine oil had been dumped and set afire. Mixed with the oil was septic waste which created a health concern.



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Rev. March 2012

Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

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Emergency Services		
Police - Marsh Harbour	367-2560	• 911
B. Electricity Corp	367-2727, 367-2846, 367-4667	
Water & Sewerage	475-1499, 475-5518	
The following services are provided by volunteers		
Fire - Marsh Harbour	367-2000	
Fire - Hope Town	VHF Ch 16	
Fire - Green Turtle Cay	365-4133	
Fire - Man-O-War	365-6911	
Treasure Cay Fire & Rescue	365-9111	
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
Integrated Medical Center	367-1304
Emergency	458-1234
Marsh Harbour Medical Centre	367-0049
Government Clinic Marsh Harbour	367-2510
Corbett Clinic Treasure Cay	365-8288
Government Clinic Cooper's Town	365-0300
Government Clinic Green Turtle Cay	365-4028
Government Clinic Hope Town	366-0108
Government Clinic Sandy Point	366-4010
Government Clinic Fox Town	365-2172

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Airlines Serving Abaco	
Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is	367-2266
Air Gate Aviation - Daytona/New Smyrna	367-3636
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau, W. Palm B, Ft Laud	367-2095
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
Craig Air Center - North Florida	367-3522
IBC Airways - Ft. Lauderdale, W Palm Beach	367-1336
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Regional - Freeport	367-0446
Sky Bahamas - Nassau/Ft. Lauderdale	367-0996
Twin Air Calypso - Fort Lauderdale	367-0140
Western Air - Nassau	367-3722
Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale	367-0032
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S. Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-3450

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

Taxi Cab Fares one or two passengers	
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• Marsh Harbour Airport to: Effective Dec 08	
Clinic, Downtown, Stop Light	\$10
Ab Bch Resort, Eastern Shore close, Ferry	\$15
Spring City	\$15
Dundas Town, Nat Ins bldg, C Abaco Primary Sch	\$15
Murphy Town & Great. Cistern	\$20
Snake Cay	\$35
Casuarina Point	\$60
Cherokee, Winding Bay, Little Harbour	\$80
Bahama Palm Shore	\$90
Crossing Rocks	\$105
Sandy Point	\$150
Leisure Lee	\$50
Treasure Cay Airport, G Turtle ferry	\$80
Treasure Cay Resort	\$85
Fox Town	\$165
• Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Clinic, downtown, Ab Beach Hotel	\$ 10
Nat. Ins. Bldg, Murphy Town, Gr. Cistern	\$10
Wait time \$0.40 per minute, Hourly rate \$40 per hour	
Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people	
Luggage \$0.75 each over two, large bags \$1 ea.	
• Treasure Cay Airport to: Effective Dec 08	
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Madeira Park	\$20
Sand Banks	\$25
Treasure Cay Resort	\$30
Leisure Lee	\$45
Black Wood	\$20
Fire Road & Cooper's Town	\$40
Cedar Harbour	\$60
Wood Cay	\$70
Mount Hope	\$80
Fox Town	\$85
Crown Haven	\$90
Marsh Harbour airport	\$80
Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport	\$80
T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$85
T Cay Hotel to G Turtle Ferry	\$25
T Cay Hotel to Blue Hole	\$30

Ferry Schedules • Departure times shown • Daily service unless noted	
Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War - 20 minutes, Guana Cay - 30 minutes	
Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16 • Hope Town & Man-O-War from Crossing Bch	
Marsh Harbour>Hope Town	7:15am 9:00am 10:30am 12:15pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 5:45pm
Return:	8:00 am 9:45am 11:30am 1:30pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:30pm
Marsh Harbour>Man-O-War	10:30am 12:15pm 2:30pm* 4:00pm 5:45pm
Return:	8:00am 11:30am 1:30pm 3:15pm* 5:00pm
Marsh H.>Guana Cay/Scotland cay From Conch Inn	(6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30am 1:30pm 3:30pm 5:45pm
Return:	8 am 11:30am 2:30pm 4:45pm 6:30pm
Fare • Adult prepaid one way \$17 / open return \$27, • Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free (Phone after hours 359-6861)	
Note: During the month of August through December there are some adjustments made to the schedule. You are advised to contact the office for the changes.	
Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16 • Ten minute ride	
T Cay Airport>Green T Cay	8:30am 10:30am 11:30am 1:30pm 2:30pm 3:30pm 4:30pm 5:00pm
Return:	8am 9am 11am 12:15pm 1:30pm 3:00pm 4:30pm
New Plymouth one way adult \$10 (Children \$7) • Round trip \$15 • Extra to some G T Cay docks	
Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 or 375-8123 VHF Ch 16 Charters Available	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday departs 11:00am & returns 3:30 p.m. \$40 RT	
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Saturday departs 9:30 am, \$45 RT	
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 Summer Schedule only (April to Dec)	
Sandy Point & Nassau Every Friday & Sunday, except holidays, under 4 hours. Call 225-3376 or 366-4119	
Call for rates.	
The Great Abaco Express Eco & Historical bus tours • Call 367-2165 or 559-9160	

Attractions	
Albert Lowe Museum	Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits	Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	Green Turtle Cay
Wyanne 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	Treasure Cay farm road
Art studio & working foundry	Little Harbour
Working boatyards	Man-O-War cay
Pocket beaches • Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour	
• Witches Point - 3 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
• Little Harbour - 20 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
• Cherokee - 23 miles S of Marsh Harbour	
Miles of beach are generally on ocean exposures	
• Treasure Cay • Green Turtle Cay • Guana Cay • Elbow Cay	
• Man-O-War Cay • Casuarina Point • Bahama Palm Shore	
• Sandy Point & more	
Items of interest • Man-O-War boat yards • Blackwood blue hole & sisal mill • Cedar Harbour plantation ruins - need guide • Hole-in- Wall lighthouse - last mile very rough road • Abaco wild horses by appointment 367-4805 • Bird watching - ask tourism 367-3067	

Tours & Excursions	
Abaco Eco Tours & Kayak rental	475-9616
Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour	367-2936
Abaco Neem • Marsh Harbour	367-4117
Abaco's Nature Adventure	577-0004
Above & Below • Marsh Harbour	367-0350
Adventure on Prozac - T Cay	365-8749
Brendal's Dive • Green Turtle Cay	365-4411
C & C Charters - Treasure Cay	365-8506
Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour	367-2787
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope T	366-0024

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone	
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 367-2158
Conch Inn	75 F 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36 F 367-2182
Mangoes Marina	29 367-4255
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	60 F 366-0065
Spanish Cay	
Spanish Cay Marina	75 F 365-0083
Guana Cay	
Bakers Bay Marina	158 F 365-5802
Guana Hide-aways	37 577-0003
Orchid Bay	64 F 365-5175
Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour	

Charter Boats	
Lucky Strike - Hope T	366-0101
Sea Gull - Hope Town	366-0266
A Salt Weapon - Hope Town	366-0245
Down Deep	366-3143
Local Boy	366-0528
Back Breaker	365-5140

Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Cart Rentals	
Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Abaco Dorado Boat Rentals	367-1035
B & B Boat Rentals	367-7368
Bargain Car Rentals	367-0500
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Concept Boat Rentals	367-5570
Cruise Abaco	577-0148
Quality Star Car Rentals (Texaco)	367-2979
Rainbow Boat Rentals	367-4602
Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars	367-4643
Rich's Boat Rentals	367-2742
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	367-2513
Sea Star Car Rentals	367-4887
The Moorings Boat Rentals	367-4000
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendal's Dive Bikes & Kayak rental	365-4411
C & D Cart Rental	365-4084
Cruising Cart Rentals	365-4065
D & P Cart Rental	365-4655
Donnie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
Kool Karts	365-4176
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts & Bikes	365-4147
T & A Cart Rentals	375-8055
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Dive Guana Boats & Bikes	365-5178
Orchid Bay Cart rentals	354-5175
Lubbers Quarters	
Cruise Abaco	321-220-8796
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6502
Ria-Mar Golf Cart Rentals	365-6024
Waterways Boat Rental	357-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
Elbow Cay Cart	366-0530
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
J R's Cart Rental	366-0361
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Adventure on Prozac - Kayak	365-8749
Blue Marlin Rentals	365-8687
Cash's Carts	365-8771
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749

Bonefish Guides	
Casuarina Point	
Junior Albury	366-3058
Cherokee	
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Randy Sawyer	366-2284
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Crossing Rocks	
Tony Russell	366-3259
Green Turtle Cay	
Rick Sawyer	365-4261
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0234
Tom Albury	366-3141
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-605
Marsh Harbour	
Jody Albury	375-8068
Sidney Albury	477-5996
Richard Albury	367-0367
Terrance Davis	375-8550
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Justin Sands	367-3526
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	477-5037
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Herbert Thurston	365-2405
Sandy Point	
Valantino Adderley	366-4323
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Derek Gaitor	366-4249
Nicholas Roberts	366-4486
Treasure Cay	
Capt. Joe Pritchard	559-9117



Bring errors & revisions to our attention Revised March 9 12

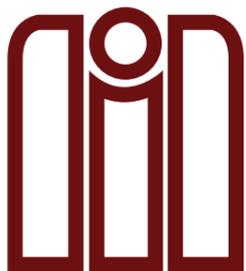
Everyone reads **The Abaconian**

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only † Provides ride from town	
Marsh Harbour	
Abaco Pizza	\$ 367-4488
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Blue Marlin	\$ 367-2002
Curly Tails	\$\$\$ 367-4444
Gino's	\$ 367-7272
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Island Family Rest	\$ 367-3778
Java Coffee House	\$ 367-5523
Jamie's Place	\$ 367-2880
Jib Room	\$ 367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken	367-2615
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Pop's Place	\$ + 367-3796
Snack Shack	\$ + 367-4005
Snappas	\$\$\$ 367-2278
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Harbour's Edge	\$ 366-0087
H T Coffee House (B & L)	366-0760
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ 366-0423
OnDa Beach	\$ 366-0558
Sea Spray	\$ \$ † 366-0065
Sugar Shack	\$ + 366-0788
Little Harbour	
Pete's Pub	\$ 366-3503
Lubber's Quarter	
Cracker P's	366-3139
Man-O-War	
Dock'n Dine	365-6139
Island Treats Snack Bar	365-6501
Guana Cay	
Baker's Bay - Market Place	612-1021
Grabbers	\$ 365-5133
Nippers	\$ 365-5143
Orchid Bay	\$\$\$ 365-5175
Treasure Cay	
Coco Beach Bar & Grill	\$ 365-8470
Florence's Cafe	\$ 365-8354
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Treasure Sands Club	365-9385
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
Miss Emily's Restaurant	365-4181
New Plymouth Inn	365-4161
Pineapple Restaurant Bar & Grill	365-4039
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Sundowners	365-4060
Sandy Point	
Nancy's	366-4120

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Tel: (242) 367-4204
Fax: (242) 367-4206

Eleuthera

Queen's Highway
P.O.Box EL-25190
Tel: (242) 332-2862
Fax: (242) 332-2863

Exuma

Queen's Highway
George Town
Tel: (242) 336-2304
Fax: (242) 336-2305

email: info@imbabaco.com



The Abaconian

SECTION B

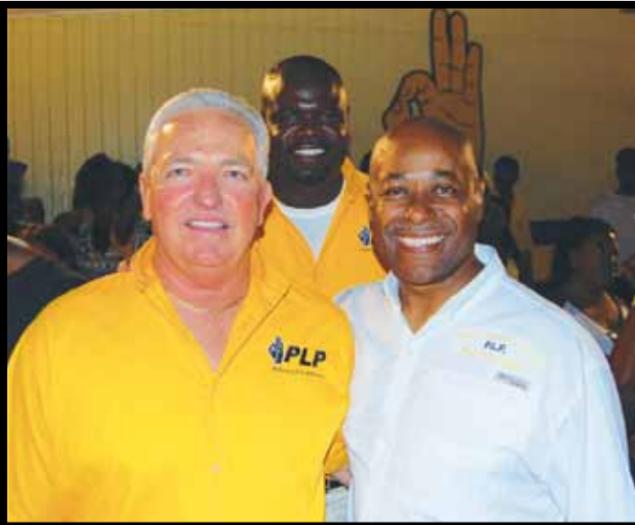


VOLUME 20 NUMBER 8 APRIL 15th, 2012

As May 7 election looms local politics heat up



The Member of Parliament for Central and South Abaco, Edison Key, joined his counterpart in the North, the Right Honourable Hubert Ingraham, during the Red Splash event on Easter Weekend. Supporters and others attended the event at the Treasure Cay Public Beach for food, drinks and games. For the full story see page 12.



PLP candidate for Central and South Abaco, Gary Sawyer - left -, enjoyed a block party with campaign manager Junior Mernard - center - and West Grand Bahama and Bimini PLP Member of Parliament Obie Wilchcombe. The block party was originally intended to be a regular Tuesday night meeting for the PLP members at the headquarters in Marsh Harbour. However, with the announcement of the election for May 7 the group decided a celebration was more fitting. For full story see page 15.



On March 29, Democratic National Alliance candidate for Central and South Abaco, Roscoe Thompson III, held a street meeting under the Fig Tree in Guana Cay. He addressed citizens concerns for empowering local government, the environment and other topics. See page 14.



Above: Moore's Island All Age School's English teacher, Principal, Dinnea Cooper, contest winner Devin Major and her proud mother, Monalisa Major. Devin won the U.S. Embassy's 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Essay Contest. Devin's essay was one of four submissions that were selected for eloquently illustrating the power of a non-violent approach in advocating for justice and equality during the civil rights era.

U.S. Embassy recognizes Devin Major as contest winner

Press Release

On March 27, the faculty and students of Moore's Island All Age School formally celebrated the accomplishment of 10th grader Devin Major, the Abaco winner of the U.S. Embassy's 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Essay Contest. On hand to celebrate the achievement was the U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Officer Erica Thibault who noted that of the more than 120 essays submitted from students throughout The Bahamas, Devin's essay was one of four submissions that were selected for eloquently illustrating the power of a non-violent approach in advocating for justice and equality during the civil rights era.

In front of the 150 member student body, Principal Dinnea Cooper and Ms.

School & Youth News

Sandy Point community and FRIENDS restores beach

On Wednesday March 28, FRIENDS along with Michael Parotti from Sugarland Nursery, 18 eager helpers from JA Pinder Primary and members of the Sandy Point community combined their efforts to restore a section of shoreline near the community's Government Dock that has been



experiencing erosion and had no native vegetation.

A cleanup was done to make sure the area was pristine. Native plants were also

planted along the top of the beach to help prevent erosion and beautify the area. The students were very enthusiastic and did a great job carefully placing and watering the plants.

The plants chosen for the restoration are representative of those found in Bahamian coastal environments. Some of them, including the seagrape and cocoplum trees, will even provide fruit in the future. FRIENDS provided two picnic tables (built by a Sandy Point carpenter), so that the community can further enjoy the area.

Special thanks were made to The Nature Conservancy for supporting the project and to the Sandy Point Town Council for providing assistance in preparing the area and watering the plants as they establish themselves.

Children participate in annual Cherokee Easter Egg hunt

By Lee Pinder

Although the weather threatened rain on Good Friday the children were still able to join in the annual Easter Egg Hunt on the old school grounds in Cherokee Sound.

Two areas were designated, one for the smaller pre-school children and another area for the 6 to 10 year olds. There were lots of eggs hidden for all of them to find and a prize for the one who found the most. Afterwards, there were games and more prizes along with lots of food for everyone and candy for the children. And,



as always, there was enough food left over to send a plate to the elderly and shut-ins.

Of course, the grown-ups aren't left out and the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles all come to cheer the children on, sit and talk with neighbours and enjoy themselves. The ladies who organize this event all deserve a vote of thanks.

Left: Cherokee children anticipate the annual Easter egg hunt. Despite threatening rain, everyone managed to have fun.

Man-O-War students perform locally produced musical



The students of Man-O-War Primary School students perform "This is My Father's World." The show was written by Deanna Stecker and performed beautifully by the children.

Featured in the photo: Shania Sawyer, Max Albury, Amanda Bethel, Makayla Roberts, Kallina Weatherford, Colin Ray Albury, Micah Albury, Brittany Weatherford, Serena Newton, Jeremiah Weatherford, Ryan Albury, Riley Albury, Katie Sands, Aaliyah Roberts, Nathan Sweeting, Erica Roberts, Noah Albury, Grace Albury. Photo courtesy: In His Time Photography



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<p>Eastern Shores</p>  <p>*Tween Waters - House & Cottage 28,000 sq. ft. lot sea 2 sea 90' dock. #2011 - USD\$1.2M</p>	<p>Eastern Shores</p>  <p>Even Tide / Low Tide - 3B/3B rental history, turn key, waterfront. #1374 - USD\$1,199,000</p>	<p>Eastern Shores</p>  <p>Sur La Mer - 2B/2B + bonus room Rental history. 130' waterfront. #2007 - USD\$740,000</p>	<p>Eastern Shores</p>  <p>On The Rocks - New 2B/2B, 1000 sq. ft. waterfront cottage. #13808 - \$599,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FEATURED LISTING</p>  <p>190 yr. old New Plymouth Inn, Green Turtle Cay. Boasting 11 beds and 11 baths over 2,800 sq. ft. Plus a restaurant seating forty five opens to a large entertainment deck with a pool. Over 20,000 sq. ft. of verandahs, patios, gazebos and terraced garden areas complete this property. #2008 - \$1,200,000</p>
<p>Great Abaco Club</p>  <p>Mer-Sea - 3B/3B Gated community 50' deepwater dockage, seaviews. #2000 - \$599,000</p>	<p>Great Abaco Club</p>  <p>Lea-Sing - 2,200 sq. ft. 3B/4.5B + bonus rm. 50' secure dockage. #2009 - USD\$875,000</p>	<p>Great Abaco Club</p>  <p>Grouper Therapy - 4B/4B, 7ton lift, 60' protected yacht slip. #13711 - USD\$925,000</p>	<p>Pelican Shores</p>  <p>Alcatraz - 3B/2.5B, Elevated, 117' harbour frontage, 16,862 sq. ft. lot. #2005 - \$655,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOTS & ACREAGE</p> <p>THE CAYS Guana Cay #13807 Interior \$49,900 View \$49K+ Oceanfront. \$139K+ Guana Cay #13017 103ft. oceanfront, 20,200 sq. ft. lot. \$239K Guana Cay #1150 92A & 93B - 3/4+ acres, 200' from water. \$99K Guana Cay #13710 Orchid Bay Ctg Lot #4 80' waterfront. \$249,900 Tilloo Cay #13500 2.7 acres sea to sea, 50' deepwater dock. \$569,900 Tilloo Cay #13709 #47 #48 #49 11,000 sq. ft. 100' to beach. \$99Kech.</p> <p>MARSH HARBOUR Eastern Shores #13809 6,285 sq. ft. lot 90' dockage. CALL FOR PRICE Marsh Harbour #13903 2.05 acres adjacent Maxwell. \$245K Pelican Shores #1127 163' Harbour frnt 90' dock 26,200 sq. ft. lot. \$700K Royal Harbour #1005 Lot #26 off front street 14583 sq. ft. lot. \$175K Stede Bonnet Road #13901 Residential Lot 8, 125 sq. ft. \$78K Sunrise Bay #1066 Lot 12 13,226 sq. ft. Gated community. \$238K</p> <p>SOUTH ABACO Casuarina Point #1777 Lots 90 & 91 10,000 sq. ft. each. \$44,500 Gilpin Point OWNER FINANCING Interior \$40K+ Beachfront \$225K+ Long Beach #1224 Lot 31 12,600 sq. ft. elevated views. \$125K Long Beach #14557 Lot 24717,600 sq. ft. elevated views. \$39,900</p> <p>NORTH ABACO Joes Creek #1100 Lot #12 Utilities near, 18,000 sq. ft. lot. \$35K Leisure Lee #1002 Lots 27, 28 29 & 30 "Open to Offers". \$43,900 eck NEW Red Bay #13021 5 acre parcel off S.C. Bootle Highway \$150K Treasure Cay #13018 Lot 8 Block 190 "Open to Offers". \$68K Treasure Cay #13019 Lot 9 Block 190 Interior Lot, canal views. \$79K Treasure Cay #13020 Comm. lot adjacent school 9.4 acres \$229K Treasure Cay Lots 8 & 9 "as shown above". \$130,000 buys both. Treasure Cay #14798 Lot 78 Block 1 Section 1. 10,000 sq. ft. \$59,900 Turtle Rocks #2001 Hilltop lot with water views 16,969 sq. ft. \$69,900 NEW Turtle Rocks #2012 10 Acre 60%+ BELOW APPRAISAL. \$335K</p>
<p>Marsh Harbour</p>  <p>Below appraisal - 2B/2B + 2 bonus rooms easy duplex conversion. #2010 - \$235,000</p>	<p>Guana Cay</p>  <p>Coconut Tyme - 3B/2B up 1/1B/1B down. 18,601 sq. ft. lot. #1103 - \$499,000</p>	<p>Guana Cay</p>  <p>Dolphin Bch Est. - 3B/3B 130' protected waterfront 1.165acre lot. #12387 - \$1,185,000</p>	<p>Bustic Bight</p>  <p>Bustic Bight - 2B/2B + Ctg. 1.26 acres 373' seawalled waterfront. #13817 - \$399,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEASES / VACATION RENTALS</p> <p>3 Bed/2 Bath - Bahama Palm Shores, beachfront - \$1,200/mo 3 Bed/2 Bath - High Rocks, waterfront, fenced yard. -\$2,500/mo 3 Bed/2 Bath + Bonus Rm - Pelican Shores, dockage. -\$2,300/mo 2 Bed/1 Bath - Sweetings Vlg, private home, fenced yd. - \$1,100/mo SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE RENTAL & LEASE OPPORTUNITIES.</p>
<p>Guana Cay</p>  <p>Fishers Bay - Lots 28 & 28B, 94 ft. waterfront 23,873 sq. ft. lot. #1102 - \$299,900</p>	<p>Guana Cay</p>  <p>Guana Cay - 12,281 sq. ft. lot, great views. Dock slip option \$15K #13735 \$59,900K</p>	<p>Tilloo Cay</p>  <p>Subdivision - Waterfront lot 19. Electric available. 13,050+/- sq. ft. #13999 - \$199,000</p>	<p>Old Kerr (3miles S. BPS)</p>  <p>Amazing Deal -14 acres 209' of beachfront, up to 45' elevations. #13987 - \$248,500</p>	

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CROCKET DRIVE \$399,000
Tastefully furnished, 2 bdrm home on a quiet cul-de-sac is perfect for entertaining. Ref. AS11821



REGATTAS \$248,000
Furnished, 2 bdrm, 2 bath upper level condo. Ref. AS11281

LITTLE ORCHARD \$249,000
Spacious and well built 4 bdrm, 3 bath home. Ref. AS11761

GREAT ABACO CLUB \$150,000
New Price! 7,630 sq. ft. canalfront homesite is the lowest priced in this gated community. Ref. AS10731

VISION HEIGHTS \$58,000
Affordable lots of approximately 9,000 sq. ft. Ref. AS11810

ABACO MAINLAND



SCHOONER BAY \$2,100,000
Bahamian harbour village with beachfront lots, *plus* 'to-be-built' 4 bdrm luxury home. Ref. AS11766

BUSTIC BIGHT \$149,000
56,604 sq. ft open zoned lot in a high traffic location. Ref. AS11488

MURPHY TOWN \$145,000
Well priced, 3 bdrm starter home in need of TLC. Ref. AS11868

GREAT CISTERN \$76,500
30,000 sq. ft. hilltop lot with available utilities. Ref. AS10866

BAHAMA PALM SHORES \$22,500
Affordable, 10,000 sq. ft. lots near the beach. Ref. AS11739/AS11740



CASUARINA POINT \$295,000
Secluded and fully equipped, 3 bdrm, 1 bath house with private dock and 205 ft. of canal frontage is a fisherman's paradise. Ref. AS11648

HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY

GILLAM STREET \$299,000
Under Contract! 2 bdrm home on a 3,842 sq. ft. lot. Ref. AS11692

WHITE SOUND \$199,000
15,500 sq. ft. lot with 75 ft. of beach and near Abaco Inn. Ref. AS11702



NIGH CREEK \$249,000
0.376 acres with 65 ft. of water frontage. Ref. AS11743

NORTH END \$170,000
13,005 sq. ft. property near the beach and dock. Ref. AS11694

LITTLE POINT \$75,000
Ready-to-build, 8,709 sq. ft. sea view homesite near the island's best beach. Ref. AS11864

LUBBER'S QUARTERS



TAHITI BEACH \$999,000
One-of-a-kind, 2 bdrm beachfront home on almost an acre, plus a 30 ft. boat slip. Ref. AS11582

SEAVIEW SUBD. \$125,000/\$165,000
Approx. 20,000 sq. ft. hilltop lots with dock slip. Ref. AS11569/AS11581

GREEN TURTLE CAY



SUMMER ESTATE \$4,500,000
63 acres with over 6,000 ft. of water frontage is ideal for an estate or development. Ref. AS11783



BLUFF HARBOUR \$2,100,000
Unique 2 bdrm waterfront home on 2 acres, *plus* dock. Ref. AS11826

NEW PLYMOUTH \$643,500
This 4 bdrm home was built with entertaining in mind. Ref. AS11511

SUMMIT POINT Price upon request
228 acre development site with utilities nearby. Ref. AS11890



BLACK SOUND \$288,000
New, 4 bdrm family retreat awaits your final touches. Ref. AS11513

GUANA CAY

BAKER'S BAY \$4,250,000
1.14 beach acres at Baker's Bay Golf & Ocean Club. Ref. AS11503

BOAT HARBOUR \$1,390,000
43,560 sq. ft. property offers a 6 bdrm waterfront home. Ref. AS10945



SOUTH END \$175,000
20,424 sq. ft. ocean view lot with beach access. Ref. AS10624

SANDS ROAD \$265,000
Tucked away 2 bdrm cottage near the beach. Ref. AS10648

DOLPHIN BEACH ESTATES \$165,000
18,200 sq. ft. lot on a hillside with views of the Atlantic. Ref. AS11722

DOLPHIN BEACH ESTATES \$149,000
25,703 sq. ft. lot offers panoramic sea views. Ref. AS11639



OCEAN RIDGE ESTATES \$89,500
7,723 sq. ft. hillside lot with ocean and bay views. Ref. AS11764

SHIPWRECK SUBD. \$70,000
A fantastic value, this 6,811 sq. ft. lot has potential sea views, *plus* dock and beach access. Ref. AS10891

TREASURE CAY



ROYAL PALM \$450,000
Fully furnished, 2 bdrm, 2 bath canal front condo with its own dock space and boat lift. Ref. AS11777



LUKKA SPLIT ROCK \$795,000
15 acre waterfront tract. Ref. AS11554

ROYAL PALM \$350,000
2 bdrm condo with dock slip. Ref. AS11705

OTHER CAYS

JOE'S CAY \$2,225,000
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School & Youth News

Abaco Central High School's GGYA donates native plants to BNT

By Mirella Santillo

On March 29, members of the Abaco Central High School's Governor General Youth Award Club (GGYA) invited a representative of the Bahamas National Trust to the school. They presented him with non-invasive trees.

Marvin Russell, a Park Warden for the Bahamas National Trust, was handed a coco plum plant as a symbolic gesture by a student, Shawnardo Stirrup. The native plant was one of twenty five non-invasive species donated to the BNT as a celebration gesture to mark the twenty fifth anniversary of the Governor General Youth Award program in The Bahamas.

Mr. Russell was charged of distributing the plants, among them coco plums, sea grapes, Christmas palm, coconut palms, hibiscus and orange geiger, to name only a few. The plants will be distributed to various communities.

Mr. Russell said that he intended to go to all the island's settlements from Crossing Rocks to Wood Cay to distribute them. The Bahamas National Trust was established in 1959 Act of Parliament to create and manage the park system in The Bahamas. Recently, the BNT has focused on bringing several infrastructural improvements and additions to the park systems on Abaco.



Above: Shawnardo Stirrup - front and right - hands a plant to Marvin Russell in front of the other members and advisors of the Governor General Youth Award Club at Abaco Central High School. The club made a donation of 25 plants of Bahamian origin to the Bahamas National Trust. Marvin Russell - front and left - is a park warden for the BNT and he intends to distribute the plants throughout Abaco's communities.

I know these students are behaving in this way because they are simply bored and have not found their calling in life. I believe that, if our school had enough after school programs, more children would begin to use their time and youth for good," Devin said in front of her peers.

Ms. Thibault noted that one of the highlights of the trip was an opportunity to meet

Moore's Island renowned youth track stars that are making their mark in both national and international athletics thanks to the support of the community including their volunteer coach. A few of Moore's Island track students have gone onto college in the U.S. on athletic scholarships but many more students could do so with increased exposure and intensive academic preparation at an early age.

Throughout her visit to the school, Ms. Thibault met students who have been recognized locally and nationally for their academic achievement demonstrating the impact that dedicated teachers can have on a community. In an effort to encourage all of the students of Moore's Island All Age to continue to strive for academic success, the U.S. Embassy made a commitment to donate a library worth of books to Moore's Island School that will arrive in the coming weeks.

Thibault presented Devin with this year's grand prize, an Apple iPad 2, as part of the school's weekly assembly. Devin then read her essay, which focused on the contributions made by activists Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rev. Jesse Jackson. She also shared through her essay how she would take an active stance in her community to promote peace by encouraging her fellow students to resist negative peer pressure.

Moore's From Page 1

"Many high school teens celebrate with their classmates when they do wrong."

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School & Youth News

Junior Achievers' awards and appreciation banquet held

By Mirella Santillo

Rose Mika Charles with SWAG (Students With Ambitious Goals) sponsored by Infinity No Limit Outlet won the title of Most Distinguished Achiever for the 2011-2012 year and SOAR (Seeking Opportunities Achieving Results) sponsored by First Caribbean-CIBC was proclaimed Company of the year, the second consecutive win for CIBC.

The spacious Grace Gymnasium of Agape Christian School had been reshaped with lattice partitions and tastefully decorated by Ms. Bakera Taylor, creating a more intimate atmosphere to accommodate

ment Bahamas, Mr. John Ronald Darville, had taken the stage. It was his first visit to the island since taking office. He acknowledged the "stellar accomplishment" of last year's JA- Abaco with the winning position of Quitel Charleton in the 31st National Speech Competition and her victory as the first National Most Distinguished Achiever.

He announced the creation of a number of new opportunities for Bahamian youth with a budget for expansion of Junior Achievement on Abaco for Elementary and Junior programs, recognizing the leadership of Mr. Ishmael "Stretch" Morley, Chairman of the JA Board on Abaco and of his wife Dr. Chervon Morley who oversees the execution of the JA programs on the island. He offered his gratitude to all the contributors of the program and his congratulations to "those who will achieve this evening," and urged them to spread their wings and with pas-

high they could hardly walk. He also informed the assembly that scholarships had been lost because of the email addresses of some Bahamian students containing sexual innuendos. The warnings were delivered amidst jokes, but the point was sent across.

The first part of the program was halted around 9:00 pm to allow people to line up at the buffet table where Bahamian food prepared by Merissa was being served. The head table's guests were catered by the local high school students.

Mr. Thompson soon resumed his orchestration of the event on a more allegro tempo as the highlights of the evening unfolded: the announcements of the Most Distinguished Junior Achiever and the winning company. Without prolonging the suspense longer than necessary, Mr. Thompson proclaimed the results.

- New Corporate Company Award: SWAG
- Winner of the Sports Day Competition: BTC's CHAT n'EZ
- Trade Fair Booth and Banner: SOAR and SWAG in a tie
- Best Return on the Investment: CIBC-First Caribbean, with \$72.00 return on a \$3.00 investment
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- Best Annual Report: SOAR
- Company of the Year: SOAR CIBC -First Caribbean

And last but not least, the title of Most Accomplished Achiever went to Rose Mika Charles, President of SWAG. Rose Mika Charles also won the JA Speech



Above: Rose Mika Charles, of SWAG, won the Most Distinguished Achiever award. From left to right: Paula Morley, Rose Mika Charles and Anthony Cartwright.



Above: group members of SOAR pose with Kathy Key. SOAR won the Company of the Year. From left to right: Khadisha Bain, Lashawn Bevans, Valencia Nesbitt, Rickanta Smith, Mrs. Key, Brie McKenzie, Shanae Morley, Leslie McDonald- President, Conrad Davis, Ashley Burrows, Juanyette Curry (Executive Advisor), and Charlotte Collins (Advisor).

the sixth annual JA Banquet and Award Ceremony. As they entered, female guests were ushered along a red carpet to their table by three young men from Abaco Central High School. Balloons provided color and a festive ambiance.

Moderated with zest by Toast Master Jamaro Thompson, a former Junior Achiever, the evening unrolled with messages from each company's president, but not before the Executive Director and Chief of Operations for Junior Achieve-

ment and pursue their purpose.

Before dinner was served Mr. Lionel Elliott, former JA Executive Director who was responsible for developing JA on the Family Islands, bestowed a few words of advice to the younger female audience on how to dress properly. With an analogy to a jewelry store, where the cheaper items are displayed in the front and the more exclusive pieces guarded in the back, he urged the girls to not look cheap with too short dresses and wearing heels so

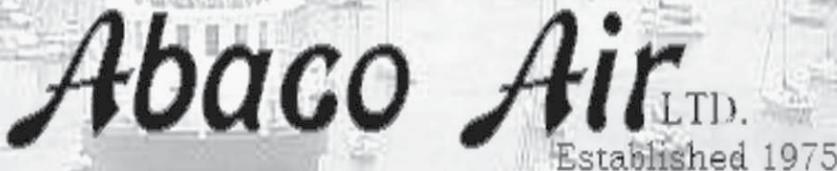
Competition and the Interview.

The guests of honor, Mr. and Ms. Edison Key, John R Darville, Lionel Elliott, Anthony Cartwright, Paula Morley and Laverne Cooper were invited to present the trophies.

Besides her trophy, Rose Mika Charles, a student at SC Bootle High School, was presented with a lap top and a 4 year scholarship at the College of The Bahamas, compliments of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. It was a joyful event for teachers of the high school and advisors of SWAG, who cheered and hugged her as she returned to the table.

Mr. Morley wishes to express heartfelt thanks to all the corporate sponsors, those who sponsored a JA company throughout the year and the ones who helped support the expenses of the banquet and the trophies, such as Treasure Cay Ltd, Commonwealth Bank, BAF and Island Pharmacy.

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School & Youth News

Abaco Central High School presents social science students of the month



Abaco Central High School held a special award ceremony for its social sciences students of the month.

First row from left to right: Alexis Bootle, Danie Pierre, Daphne Blanc, Philip Neely. Second row from left to right: Vincent Ferguson, Kevin Pierre, Britnaey Bain and Bernise Oradin.

The back from left to right: Social Science Teachers Ms. Farrington, Ms. Mills, Ms. Cooper, Ms. McIntosh and Ms. Cox.

Man-O-War School students achieving



Above: these students traveled to Nassau to receive trophies from the Minister of Education for their high scores in the Numeracy and Literacy Exams. from left to right: Kalina Weatherford, Aaliyah Roberts, and Grace Albury.

Below and left: Man-O-War Primary's Outstanding Student of the Year Nominees. From left to right: Kalina Weatherford, Shania Sawyer and D.J. Bethel

Below and right: Noah Albury and Erica Roberts were Man-O-War Schools second grade spelling bee contestants. Noah took 5th place in the district and Erica placed 2nd in the district. Photo courtesy of: In His Time Photography.

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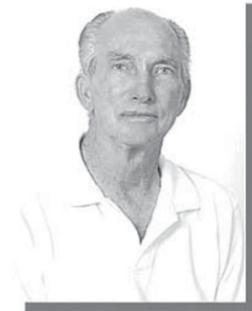
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School & Youth News

Over one hundred outstanding students honoured

By Samantha Evans

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize was the theme chosen for this year's Bahamas Outstanding Student (BOS) Foundation's 8th Awards Ceremony held on Abaco on March 29, 2012. The ceremony was held at Grace Gym and began at 6:30 pm. Welcome remarks were made by T. Ricardo Whyly, President and CEO of the Bahamas Outstanding Student Foundation. He commended the students for continuing to demonstrate their many abilities and proving that they are among those who are meeting the educational requirements of the Bahamas.

He thanked Superintendent Helen Simmons-Johnson and the principals for their support and he pledged to continue highlighting the great academic and athletic work of students through the BOS Foundation. Police Superintendent Noel Curry followed with brief remarks stating that at this time while students are being honored for doing great work, his department has a sixteen year old in custody for burglary.

He renewed his pledge to the students and stated that Sgt. Joycelyn Smith is the officer they can reach at any time they have matters that warrant police assistance. He told them to remember that the sky is no longer the limit but the starting point. He encouraged students to listen to their parents as they excel.

Guest speaker for this awards ceremony was Pastor Samuel Cornish Senior Pastor of Change Ministries International. He began by saying that there are many distractions in the country today which are different from the distractions he experienced some 20-30 years ago. Therefore, he noted that when young people are doing the right things we must applaud them. These young people being awarded have demonstrated that they have done the right thing so are worthy of being recognized.

He told them that with hard work and constant focus they can achieve anything.

Their only limitation would be themselves and those persons who they allow to speak negativity to them.

He gave the students six points to remember as they continue to strive for higher heights. He told them to stay focused because life goes in the direction of their focus. Secondly, he told them to believe in themselves especially when others do not believe in them. Thirdly, they should keep away from bad company. Their parents have taken the time to teach them morals, good character skills and standards so he admonished them to remember what their parents have thought them.

He explained to them that bad behavior is not inherited but is a learnt behavior. Next, they must study hard and don't be lazy. Fifth on the list is that they should respect authority which includes their teachers, the law and older folks.

Finally he told them to not let anyone define them. They should know who they are and to not let teachers, parents or peers tell them what they can and can't become. He stated that a teacher told him that he would never become anything and those words could have ruined his future but thank God he did not internalize them. Today he is a pastor of a church with a membership of 650 and just recently completed his Master's Degree.

He applauded parents as they have pushed and watched over their children to ensure that they were excelling in school. He applauded teachers as well, he firmly believes that teaching is a calling as the pay teachers receive is minimal compared to their hard work and devotion to teaching children.

After he spoke, the students were given their awards. Sixty-five sixth grade students received the Opal Award for having made a 3.0 GPA and above at their respective schools and seventy-two grade twelve students received the Emerald Award for making a 3.0 GPA or better.

In the primary school, only one student had a 4.0 GPA and that student was Giovanni Rolle of Moore's Island All Age School. In grade 12, nine students had a 4.0 GPA and they all came from Forest Heights Academy. They were: Tyler Al-

bury, Alysia Boyce, Deanza Cox, Matthew Grammatico, Nathan Grammatico, Blair Johnson, Briana Maxwell, Antwanee Smith and Shannon Steele.

The primary school students received a certificate and medal and the grade 12 students received a certificate and a trophy. The students from grade twelve who made a 4.0 GPA also got a special certificate of excellence for their accomplishment.

Thirteen students received the sports award and were given a certificate. The guest speaker and special guests were given t-shirts and ceramic mugs.

Before the ceremony ended, Senior Education Officer Leslie Rolle greeted the gathering on behalf of Superintendent Helen Simmons-Johnson. He told the students that they did not get to this place of distinction on their own.

He added that they will now be the envy of their peers so they must remain focused and push onward towards graduation and college. He reminded them to keep God first place in their lives and remain humble. The committee for this year was Neulessa Major, Cindy Hollingsworth and Chairman William Davis.

Books donated to CAPS

By Samantha Evans

On Wednesday April 4 at 2pm, three students from Lake Highland Preparatory School donated two boxes of reading books to the Central Abaco Primary School Library. The books can be used by students

from all grade levels. This donation of books will give the students community service hours for collecting, transporting, sorting and distributing the books.

Janie Drummond, mother of the students donating, is a second home owner who loves the community. So she inquired as to which school they could donate the reading books to. She was pointed towards Central Abaco Primary School.

The students present for the donation were Amanda and Danielle Drummond who are in grades 10 and 8, and Christian Morris who is in grade 12. The books were donated to Library Supervisor Samantha V. Evans.



Above: Students visiting Abaco from Lake Highland Preparatory School donated two boxes of reading books to Central Abaco primary School. Above: Amanda Drummond, Danielle Drummond and Christian Morris pose with library supervisor Samantha Evans.

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School & Youth News

Youth leaders and teens attend communication training seminars

By Samantha Evans

Youth leaders and teens from across Abaco attended the Trusted Adult Youth Communication Training where the focus was on reducing HIV/AIDS on the island of Abaco. The training was held at Central Abaco Primary School beginning on Friday March 30, 2012 at 5:30 pm and ending on Saturday March 31st at 4pm.

Through research and observation, it has been recorded that a major barrier that is faced in The Bahamas in preventing HIV, STI or unwanted pregnancies amongst young people is their inability to have open, honest and effective communication with a trusted adult about aforementioned topics. Many adults have also reported that they do not feel prepared to have these conversations with the young people in their lives.

This training is a part of the Caribbean HIV/AIDS Project (CHAP) – a two year project funded by the American Red Cross aimed at providing both adults and young people with the information, skills, and tools necessary to communicate effectively. Once they can better communicate on this topic then the country stands a better chance at reducing new HIV infections amongst young people in New Providence and Family Islands.

Ms. Jamie Strachan, the event's facilitator, stated that the aim of the American Red Cross is to get to zero by 2013 which

means that there will be no reported new HIV/AIDS cases in The Bahamas. To do this they need to reach youth, train peer educators and host focus groups to hear the needs and concerns of the community. Training has been going well in New Providence, especially in the inner-city communities. Abaco is the first Family Island that the training as been taken too.

This Abaco training was suggested by Colin Scavella, a native Abaconian who wanted to do something great for his island and get persons involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS. He is a trainer with the CHAP program as well. The goal of CHAP is to sensitize communities about things they can do to decrease the rate of new HIV/AIDS infections. To do this, they go out into communities to educate people. At the Abaco training some 20 persons were in attendance.

The adult session was led by Jamie Strachan and the teen sessions were led by Colin Scavella. Some of the topics were communication with children, parenting skills and tips, sex and drugs, HIV/AIDS, and sex and the church. The participants also engaged in role playing scenarios that happen in homes. Many personal situations were discussed resulting in adults and children being more empowered and equipped to make better judgment calls.

On the final day, the adults and teens were brought together at which time they had a wrap up discussion on what they learned. An evaluation form was filled out by all participations and certificates distributed. Refreshments were served on both days. The sessions were very well received

and the facilitators were asked to return to have a following session with the participants and others.

Kayla Wallace elected CAPS Teacher of the Year

By Samantha Evans

"Tell me, and I'll forget, show me and I may remember. Involve me, and I'll understand." This proverb is a creed that Kayla Rolle-Wallace lives by and implements in her daily teachings in the classroom. Ms. Kayla Wallace presently holds the position of Teacher of the Year at Central Abaco Primary School 2012-2014. She is also currently the Grade Level Coordinator for grade five and has held this position for the past three years.

Ms. Wallace is married to Israel Wallace and they have two lovely children. A quality education is a passion that has always been sought by Ms. Wallace. She began her school life at C.W. Sawyer Primary School, completed her junior education at S.C. McPherson Junior High and graduated from R.M. Bailey Senior High. She then completed her tertiary education with a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Sojourner Douglas College.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Ms. Wallace entered the work force in 2001 as a police officer; she was in the first female squad of the Royal Bahamas Police Cadet Corp. Program. Living true to her calling as being a "change agent," Ms. Wallace entered the teaching profession on January 2003. She states that the rewards of teaching are incredible. These rewards are realized each day when students achieve new skills, cooperate with their classmates and succeed as a team.

She has contributed to education by implementing the 'Block Teaching Approach' when she was grade level coordinator for grade two, and has written several GLCT District Examinations.

She has also helped with the implementation of the Drama Club at Central

Abaco Primary, has written numerous skits for special assemblies, including the skit for the visitation of His Excellency Sir Arthur Foulkes and has also implemented the drill team at her school. Ms. Wallace consistently brings her bubbly personality into the classroom and motivates her students with songs, poetry, skits and drama.

St. Francis prepares for Spanish Day

By Canishka Alexander

On March 27-28, St. Francis de Sales Catholic School began their two-day celebration of Spanish Day with a luncheon, and students and staff were given the option of purchasing two items: beef tacos and nachos. Meanwhile, Jessica Hidalgo-Brown, the school's Spanish teacher, encouraged the students to participate in the costume competition. She placed examples of Spanish clothing near one of the classrooms to help the children get ideas on what to wear.

At the Spanish Concert held on the following day, Charese Kemp and Antonia Nottage brought welcoming remarks. Primary school students sang "Joyful, Joyful" beautifully as they stood confidently before the audience. Seventh grade students danced to an upbeat Reggaeton song called: "Taboo" by Don Omar.

One of the featured performances was the Parade of Nations, which allowed students to dress in the native costumes of the country they represented. The countries represented were Spain, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Guinea Ecuatorial, Colombia and Argentina. Models were dressed exquisitely as they danced to the music of their respective countries while showing off what they were wearing.

Abideme Simon was the winner of the speech competition, and she was given the opportunity to read her speech during

Please see Spanish Page 9

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School & Youth News

Spanish From Page 8

the program. Simon was very detailed and animated in her speech as she talked about what The Bahamas has to offer in Spanish.

Ms. Hidalgo-Brown soon announced the names of winners who had participated in the Speech Competition, Spelling Bee and Poster Competition. Awards were given to first, second, third and fourth place winners. Competitions were designed to allow primary and high school students to participate. The costume competition only had three contestants all of whom were sisters; they were all selected as winners.

Following the singing of the school song, Principal Josephine Giraud-Kumar brought brief remarks. Although she was assured that the students had enjoyed themselves, she was also hopeful that they had learned something new about the Spanish culture. She added that a lot of preparation had gone in to the success of the day as she expressed her gratitude to the teachers particularly Hidalgo-Brown and Hazel Lorene, who worked tirelessly.

"Ms. Brown is a person of dedication, and she is a true example of what a true giver is," Giraud-Kumar said. "However, she had a lot of support from the staff."

Giraud-Kumar also thanked Mr. Brown for his support of his wife and the school. Before departing, she reminded students that school would close at noon on March 29 and re-open on April 16 for Easter break.

Forest Heights wins math and science competition

By Canishka Alexander

The Dept. of Education's Annual High School Math and Science Competition took place on March 28 with the participation of students from seven schools on Abaco. Senior Education Officer Leslie Rolle explained that the math and science categories are divided up into two levels each and contain eight rounds in total for each category. Toward the end of the competition, the students compete in a speed level.

Each time a new level or round began questions were first directed to students of Agape Christian School, then Abaco Central High School, Mary E. Albury School, Forest Heights Academy, St. Francis de Sales School, S.C. Bootle High School and finally Long Bay School.

The questions varied in difficulty, but the students were well-prepared and familiar with them because the questions had been submitted by their teachers for the competition and covered material that appears on their BGCSE examinations.

At the end of it all, Forest Heights Academy's all-male team of James Hull, Deanza Cox and Tyler Albury, emerged as the winners. Agape Christian School placed second and S. C. Bootle took third. Forest Heights also won the junior competition in the previous week.

Lindsey Borsz, Forest Heights teacher, coached the students and commended them on their win. She said the questions

were geared toward preparing them for their national examinations. Ms. Borsz said it was the second year that the junior team has won the competition.

Nassau Boy Scout Troops visit Abaco

By Canishka Alexander

Boy Scouts from St. Thomas More's Troop 46 and Columbus Primary School's Troop 35 visited Abaco from March 30 to April 1 for a weekend of scouting. They headed directly to Treasure Cay from the Marsh Harbour International Airport to set up camp at St. Simon by the Sea Anglican Church. Leading up to their opening ceremony that evening, the scouts marched from Save-A-Lot to St. John's Parish Hall before participating in an opening ceremony that was held in conjunction with the Abaco Sea Scouts.

St. Thomas More Troop Leader Thomas Ferguson Sr. said he and the other leaders wanted the scouts to be in charge, so they allowed them to handle the entire ceremony. Jude Rahming and Anthon Pratt of Troop 35 were chosen as flag bearers, and were joined by Thomas Ferguson Jr. and Yani Rolle, who served as moderators of the brief ceremony. Rev. Willish Johnson of St. John's Anglican Church was called on for the opening prayer, and following the national anthem and pledge, Adrian Newbold of the Abaco Sea Scouts gave the welcome address. The Abaco Central High School Band provided the entertainment, while the Ministry of Tourism assisted with refreshments.

Brief remarks were made by South Abaco Island Administrator Benjamin Pinder, who apologized for the absence of several of his colleagues whose names were listed on the program. He extended a warm welcome to all the boys and girls scouts who were present during the ceremony.

"I know that Scouts is one of the oldest organizations, and it has done a tremendous job in helping to shape the lives of young men and women here in this country and around the world," Pinder said. "I was never fortunate to be a part of Scouts, and I wish I had the opportunity that you have."

After Mr. Pinder's remarks, all of the Scouts recited their Scout Motto, Promise and Law. The vote of thanks was given by Thomas Ferguson Sr., who commended the scouts on doing a good job. He said it was the first time that some of the scouts ever flew or visited another Family Island, so it was an unforgettable experience for them. Added to that, Ferguson said they received lots of support and assistance for their visit to Abaco.

"We've found that it's been a very exciting time for the Scouts, and because of this particular trip, I think we're going to do a quite a few more," Ferguson disclosed. "This Abaco trip has been very exciting to the point that they want to continue fishing and camping, and some of the parents are even more excited than the kids."

When he had ended, the Scouts gave a thank you in song with a "Bravo, bravo, bravo, bravissimo!"

Please see **SCOUTS** Page 10

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School & Youth News

Scouts From Page 10

Delene Wilmott, Assistant Scout Leader of Columbus Primary School's Troop 35, was thrilled about the trip. She explained that seven of their 44 scouts were on the visit to Abaco, and that it was a time for fun and fellowship with the other scouts as they participated in a number of land-based activities. At Columbus Primary, Cub Scouts is open from pre-school students to sixth graders, so there were Scouts as young as four years old in the group.

Many of the Scouts shared their excitement over setting up their own tents that afternoon, and others looked forward to fishing, camping and other outdoor activities. A closing ceremony was scheduled shortly before the Scouts and their leaders and parents departed for Nassau on April 1.

Also in attendance for the scouting trip were St. Thomas More Troop 46 Leaders: N'Komo Ferguson, Carson Neilly, and Steven Cooper along with Jechelle Rolle of the St. Thomas Moore Parent Committee.

Central Abaco Primary Library Held Disney Character Parade

By Samantha Evans

Library-card holders of Central Abaco Primary School had a treat this Easter as they got a chance to take part in a Disney Character Parade held at the school on Wednesday April 4, 2012 beginning at 2 pm. Eighteen students participated in the parade.

As a part of this event, they were each given a character by Library Attendant Ms. McKenzie who then gave them

a set of rules which they had to follow. They had to make a costume and read a book or watch a movie about their character. They also wrote a book report about the character.

Some of the questions they had to answer were what the story was about, what role did the character play, what characteristics did the character have that are like theirs, what characteristics they would change about the character and what did the character do to become a hero at the end.

Each book report had to be two paragraphs in length and read by each child to the entire school as a part of the Disney Character Parade. Some of the characters represented were Minnie Mouse, Cinderella, Pocahontas, Robin Hood, Woody and the Little Mermaid. There were 100 total points that the students could receive for costume, presentation and creativity.

At the end of the parade all participants were presented with a Disney certificate. In third place was Savannah Valsaint with 363 points. In second place was Mia Clarke with 373 points and the winner was Kaitlyn Francis with 380 points.

The prizes were Easter Baskets and reading books, a fun pack with reading books and a touch screen E-reader, respectively. The judges were Neulessa Major, Cindy Hollingsworth, Roberta Lindsay and Kayla Wallace. The event was organized by Samantha V. Evans, Library Supervisor, and assisted by Ms. McKenzie. The event was named in honor of the late Mary Cartwright founding librarian of the school.



Some Disney princesses pose for The Abaconian's camera during the Disney Parade at Central Abaco Primary School on April 4, 2012

Breakfast---FREE !” People chuckled at the theme as they enjoyed their Fire Engine and Grits and Tuna and Grits served with biscuits, fresh fruit and tea and coffee. District Superintendent, Mrs. Helen Simmons Johnson, Education Officers Ms. Felamease Sawyer and Ms. Eunice Mills also attended the delicious breakfast. The Hope Town Harbour Lodge and the Hope Town Coffee House are corporate sponsors for this event.

During the Annual Breakfast, Ms. Eunice Mills, Education Officer in charge of Numeracy and Literacy for the Abaco District, unveiled a large poster with a list of students who were to be honoured by the Minister of Education for the yearly National Awards for students placing with near perfect scores on the Rigby Reads and Iowa Math National Exams given to Grades 2, 4 and 5. It is always a thrilling time for our students to travel to Nassau for this award ceremony, stay and eat in the hotel and see the sights of Nassau. This year the lucky group of 7 students were rewarded by visiting Government House, Christ Church Cathedral and the Pirate Museum. Shopping, hotel pool, Dunkin' Donuts and Mc Donalds always add to the fun times!

Congratulations to Stella Higgs, Joey Gale, and Lilly Higgs for winning BOTH the Literacy and Numeracy trophies, Eloise Albury, Samara Cole, and Charlie Cash for winning the Literacy trophy and Madisyn Cole for winning the Numeracy trophy.

Please see Hope Town Page 11

Hope Town School news and events

Submitted by Candace Key

We would like to congratulate Jasmin Aberle, a Grade 2 student, for winning Third Place in the District Grade 2 Spelling Bee.

Everyone always enjoys the school's Annual Parents, Grandparents and Volunteers Breakfast. The children plan and cook the breakfast then proudly serve their creations to the guests. This year our theme was “Times Tough—99cent Bahamian

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April 18th & 25th

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School & Youth News

Hope Town From Page 10

The school's PTA, under the fundraising expertise of Lindsey McCoy and Erica Russell, planned a fantastic evening of Wine and Cheese Tasting at the Hope Town Lodge by the pool area. For weeks the talented school children had been working on several forms of artwork to sell on that night. There was batik, watercolours and other forms of arts and crafts such as bookmarks and magnets offered. The kids work flew off the clotheslines they were pegged to into the hands of eager buyers. Many local artists offered their pictures and crafts to be on the silent auction table which also drew a lot of interest and competitive bidding. It was a wonderful night of fundraising to aid the building of an additional building that will house the school's computers and library.

Right before the Easter Break the school had a Field Event Day at the soccer field. There were as many parents, volunteers and community members as children cheering on the four house team competitors. Sprints, softball throws, long jumps, lime in spoon races, relay races and sack races kept the kids moving all morning long. When all the ribbons were given out (each child won at least 1 ribbon) and the points were added up, the Mighty Marlin House under the leadership of teacher Justin Higgs came out victorious.

A day full of egg colouring and Easter crafts finished off the Easter term at school. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is eagerly anticipated each year. Pre-School makes their own paper mache baskets to hunt their eggs with. It doesn't take long for the 65 children to find all the eggs with delicious surprises and money hidden inside. Then we all enjoyed a delicious party lunch and left for our break.

Abaco girls meet Prince Harry during his recent visit



Above: Abaco students from Hope Town School and Forest heights Academy were invited to a luncheon with Prince Harry during his visit. They were invited for their efforts in environmental conservation and education.

From left to right: Candace Key - Principal of Hope Town School - Aly Boyce -Eco Club President from Forest Heights - and Student Eco Committee members from Hope Town School Charlie Cash and Lilly Higgs.

Left: The Mighty Marlins showing their excitement upon hearing they had won the Hope Town Schools Field Event Competition .

Below: Hope Town Primary Students pictured with Honourable Desmond Bannister, Minister of Education, at the Minister's Awards for Literacy and Numeracy held in Nassau. These students achieved near perfect scores on National reading and math tests administered yearly to certain grades. Pictured are: Stells Higgs, Joey Gale and Lilly Higgs for BOTH Numeracy and Literacy, Eloise Albury, Charlie Cash and Samara Cole for Literacy and Madisyn Cole for Numeracy



Training has been going well in New Providence, especially in the inner-city communities. Abaco is the first Family Island that the training as been taken too.

This Abaco training was suggested by Colin Scavella, a native Abaconian who wanted to do something great for his island and get persons involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS. He is a trainer with the CHAP program as well. The goal of CHAP is to sensitize communities about things they can do to decrease the rate of new HIV/AIDS infections. To do this, they go out into communities to educate people. At the Abaco training some 20 persons were in attendance.

The adult session was led by Jamie Strachan and the teen sessions were led by Colin Scavella. Some of the topics were communication with children, parenting skills and tips, sex and drugs, HIV/AIDS, and sex and the church. The participants also engaged in role playing scenarios that happen in homes. Many personal situations were discussed resulting in adults and children being more empowered and equipped to make better judgment calls.

On the final day, the adults and teens were brought together at which time they had a wrap up discussion on what they learned. An evaluation form was filled out by all participations and certificates distributed. Refreshments were served on both days. The sessions were very well received and the facilitators were asked to return to have a following session with the participants and others.

Pennies for Potcakes raises money for animal shelter

Throughout stores on Abaco you will find canisters labeled "Pennies for Potcakes." The money raised goes towards Pop's Place Animal Shelter located by the grounds of the old dump. The current facilities on site house nearly two dozen



Above: Amanda Drummond, Danielle Drummond Christian Morris, children and friend of local homeowners, helped collect and donate money to Pennies for Potcakes. Ms. Zehler - middle right - gave them a tour of the facility and spent the day bathing the dogs.

potcake dogs that are either strays or have been abandoned.

Jennie Zehler, advocate for the cause, manages the shelter and cares for the strays along with other volunteers. They have plans to add on to the current facility to better accommodate the dogs they care for. Besides feeding and providing a more loving home, Ms. Zehler also spays and neuters the animals.

Contact Ms. Zehler at jenniesdoghouse@hotmail.com to learn more.

Youth leaders and teens attend communication training seminars

By Samantha Evans

Youth leaders and teens from across Abaco attended the Trusted Adult Youth Communication Training where the focus was on reducing HIV/AIDS on the island of Abaco. The training was held at Central Abaco Primary School beginning on Friday March 30, 2012 at 5:30 pm and ending on Saturday March 31st at 4pm.

Through research and observation, it has been recorded that a major barrier that is faced in The Bahamas in preventing HIV, STI or unwanted pregnancies amongst young people is their inability to have open, honest and effective communication with a trusted adult about aforementioned topics. Many adults have also reported that they do not feel prepared to have these conversations with the young people in their lives.

This training is a part of the Caribbean HIV/AIDS Project (CHAP) - a two year project funded by the American Red Cross aimed at providing both adults and young people with the information, skills, and tools necessary to communicate effectively. Once they can better communicate on this topic then the country stands a better chance at reducing new HIV infections amongst young people in New Providence and Family Islands.

Ms. Jamie Strachan, the event's facilitator, stated that the aim of the American Red Cross is to get to zero by 2013 which means that there will be no reported new HIV/AIDS cases in The Bahamas. To do this they need to reach youth, train peer educators and host focus groups to hear the needs and concerns of the community.

Politics & Government

Prime Minister mingles with constituents at Red Splash beach party

By Rashida Murray

The Right Honorable Hubert Alexander Ingraham painted the Treasure Cay Beach "red" on Easter Monday. Supporters waited with anticipation for the appearance of the Prime Minister at the newly restored public beach in Treasure Cay on April 10, 2012.

A good number of supporters gathered to celebrate the holiday. The Red Splash event, which had been coordinated throughout The Bahamas for the Easter weekend, provided free food, free non-alcoholic beverages, and good clean fun on the beach. Acres were cleared to build a first-class beach facility and to create a convenient parking area. An accessible roadway to the beach for public access was made also. Locals were able to engage in games and water activities on the beautiful shores of Treasure Cay.

It was around 2 pm in the afternoon, the moment many in the red-shirted crowd were anticipating had arrived. At the appearance of the leader of the Free National Movement the crowd chanted "you're simply the best, better than all the rest." After greeting his constituents and touring the facility, the prime minister took center stage to address the people with Edison Key, Member of Parliament for Cen-



tral and South Abaco standing beside him.

The prime minister commented that the Free National Movement is going to make this election eight straight. He noted that people all over the Bahamas are turning the color red. He said, "We are on our way to another victory". The Prime Minister informed the people that if they haven't registered to vote yet it may be too late and if they have registered to vote make sure check their ballots' red. In fact, at the writing of this article the register is now closed and the election has been called for May

7. The Prime Minister encouraged the supporters of Abaco to hold the fort.

The Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham made history by hosting the Red Splash event on an Easter Monday, the day before "the ringing of the bell." Mr. Ingraham's last words to his constituents were to send him back to take seat for the North and Mr. Edison Key for the South on the premise that the FNM government delivers.

On Tuesday, April 10, 2012, the Prime Minister announced the election date for the Commonwealth of the Bahamas has been set for May 7, 2012.

Above and Left: Dennalee Curry and Maria Edgecomb flash the torch sign beneath their vendor's tent. All smiles as they grilled up food for hungry Red Splash attendees.

Below: Children search out Easter eggs hidden in the sand. Treasure Cay's scenic and brilliant white beach was the venue for the government's Red Splash event.



Police to begin new youth initiatives

By Samantha Evans

The police officers on Abaco have a very unique task of policing both the mainland and the cays. To add to this challenge, Abaco has few activities to keep the young people engaged which can sometimes result in them engaging in the wrong types of activities. To combat this, the police have devised several programs. The first program is called the Drill Corp which will be coming on stream in the coming weeks.

That program is geared towards teaching students rigorous parade and team building skills. The program will be held after school and facilitated by police officers. Students from grades 4 to 10 can enroll in this program. They are hoping that this program will lead into the Police Cadet Corp Program being introduced on the island which was created to be an elite program for young people desiring to learn more about the police force. Today, the program is used to assist deviant youth get their lives on track. The drill corps program will be voluntary and will meet once weekly.

The next program that the police department will be introducing is RENEW. This program is geared towards those students who are on suspension. This will keep them engaged so that they are not idle to commit crimes. This program is for students in grades 11 and 12 and is primarily for the public schools but the possibility of

Please see Police Page 15

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- 33,342 s.f. - 0.765 Acre
- 161.30' on Coco Bay
- 3,300 s.f. - 3 Bd - 3 Bath
- Double Garage - 600s.f.
- Impact Doors/Windows
- Turkish Stone Floors
- Galvilume Metal Roof
- 13 KW Generator
- Ultra Violet System
#GTH1162 \$2,050,000



Great Guana Cay
- 22,694 s.f. - 0.520 Acre
- 97.42' on Sea of Abaco
- 1,950 s.f. - 3 bd - 2 bth
- 256 s.f. Guest House
- T&G clear cypress
- Mahogany floors
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- Wood Floors
- Double Golf Cart garage
- 2,356 s.f. Wrap/decks
- Built 2009
- Tastefully Decorated
#GTH1179 - \$2,990,000



Green Turtle Cay
- 1,823 s.f. - 0.0419 Acre
- 1,723 s.f. - 2 bd, 2 bth
- On Settlement Harbour
- Corner Lot
- Workshop/Garage
- Fully Furnished/turn key
- City water
- Great Rental Property
- Water views
#GTH1193 - \$390,000

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- 1,255 s.f. Residence
- 17,792 s.f. - 0.408 Acre
- 768 s.f. Covered Decks
- 812 s.f. Open Decks
- 360 Views
- Shared Auxiliary Gen.
- Well Kept Gardens
#MWH1195 - \$749,000



Green Turtle Cay
- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 1,190 s.f. Residence
- Sea to Sea
- Land - 2.68 Acres
- 150.60' Atlantic Beach
- 196.60' Coco Bay Beach
- Dock - 50% Shared
#GTH1165 \$990,000

"CLAIRE'S BEACH" - Beachfront building site - 31,243 s.f. - 0.717 Acre - 117' of Atlantic beachfront - Dock access - good elevations - superb ocean views. #GGV1006 - \$478,000.



Man O' War Cay
- Sea to Sea property
- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 1,096 s.f. Beach Res.
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 625 s.f. Guest Cottage
- Land 0.764 Acre
- Workshop/Laundry
#MWH1164 - \$1,090,000



Green Turtle Cay
- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 1,355 s.f. of Residence
- 23,546 s.f. - 0.54 Acre
- 125.78' on White Sound
- 127.28' on Sea of Abaco
- Private sea to sea
- 2 docks - deep draft
- Boat Access Only
- 50KW Generator
#GTH1137 - \$995,000

"LOST SHAKER" - 36,839 s.f. - 0.847 Acre - 65' of Atlantic beachfront - Dolphin Beach Estates - oversized parcel - good elevations - easement to beach. #GGV1000 \$460,000.



Man O' War Cay
- 103,237 s.f. - 2.37 Acre
- Sea to Sea Parcel
- 339.94' on Atlantic
- 125' on Sea of Abaco
- 1,000 sf 2 bd/1 bth
- 510 sf Guest /1bd. 1bth
- Garage/Gen. Shed
- Dockage / membership
Sea Glass Association
#MWH1178 - \$3,500,000



Green Turtle Cay
- 4 Bd, 2 Bth
- 1,962 s.f.
- 2 kitchens
- 30,874 s.f. - 0.708 Acres
- 360 views
- 30' elevations
- Centrally Located
#GTH1192 - \$1,200,000

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Man O' War Cay
- 134,491 s.f. - 3.08 Acres
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- 290.65' Sea of Abaco
- 4,056 s.f. - 3 bd, 3bth
- 1,595 sf guest cottages
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Politics & Government

DNA holds street meeting in Guana Cay

By Timothy Roberts

The Democratic National Alliance (DNA) held a Street Meeting in Great Guana Cay under the Fig Tree on March 29 interacting with residents and speaking to them about environmental issues, jobs and representation.

The Central and South Abaco Candidate for the DNA talked and told the gathered residents that he supports the empowering of local government as local people have a better understanding of the needs of their communities.

"I did not come here to promise Guana Cay that I will give you new roads, or that I will do this or that. I only promise Guana Cay, and South Abaco, that I will stand up and fight for the people," he said. "I am fighting for your right to have a say in your community."

He said that if elected he will come back to the people of each community to work together to deal with their needs. "It's not about me," he said, "it's about us. Deciding what is best for the people of Abaco"

He reiterated his pledge that if elected he would give his salary to the Central and South Abaco – minus travel expenses to go to Nassau for the House of Assembly – to use in the communities. "I'm not doing this for

me. This is about our future and our children's future. We have to change the way things are going right now."

Mr. Thompson told the people of his reputation of representation during his time in local government and his record



Above: The Democratic National Alliance candidate for Central and South Abaco meets with supporters and undecideds beneath the Fig Tree in Guana Cay. Roscoe Thompson III spoke about empowering local government and fighting for the rights of communities throughout Central and South Abaco.

of transparency and accountability while serving as Chairman of Marsh Harbour Town Committee.

He read from a speech written by his father when he ran for Free National Movement (FNM) in South Abaco in 1982 noting that many of the same issues he spoke about then are still the same today. In 1982 he spoke about the need for water on the cays and today residents have to pay a lot of money for a basic necessity.

He said that if elected he would have the opportunity to tackle the issues important to the people of South Abaco and be their voice in central government. "It is up to us to make the change, together we can do it," he said. "A vote for the DNA is a vote for the DNA."

"I only promise Guana Cay, and South Abaco, that I will stand up and fight for the people,"

FNM meet and greet in Cherokee

By Lee Pinder

The FNM candidate for Central and South Abaco and Member of Parliament, Edison Key, visited Cherokee Sound on March 30. The evening was a simple meet and greet with no speeches made. Mr. Key made his way around the old schoolgrounds to everyone there that night while he shook hands and socialized. There were familiar faces in the crowd with many wearing red t-shirts sporting different political messages.

The Cherokee FNM stalwarts were all set up and ready by 6:30 pm awaiting the MP and his entourage from other parts of Abaco. Most had arrived by 7:15 pm in a motorcade with horns honking and red flags flying. The sodas were iced down and the outdoor grill was fired up for hot dogs. But it seems most stood in line for Kenneth Albury's famous conch fritters right out of the skillet. A table full of homemade cakes, cookies and fudge was also available. The meet and greet continued until 10pm.

Abaco Pathfinders receives donation from PLP candidate



Above: PLP candidate for South Abaco, Gary Sawyer, hands a cheque to Abaco Pathfinders' Administrator Leazona Richard. The cheque was included in a recent charity drive by an anonymous donor who has matched the funds for all donations to the scholarship organization

Pathfinders received a donation on April 11 from the Progressive Liberal Party's candidate for Central and South Abaco, Gary Sawyer. The funds were donated to the local scholarship program as part of a recent matching grant promise from an anonymous donor. The time window given by the donor allowed for all money collected by Pathfinders to be doubled.

Mr. Sawyer said that this is a commitment he continues to make to education and Abaco's youth regardless of his political actions or position in the business com-

munity. "I just happened to be a candidate this time," he said.

Pathfinders recently finished a series of events aimed at raising money to help send children to college. The next big fundraising event hosted by Pathfinders will be the Taste of Abaco – Top Chef Competition in summer. If you would like to donate to Pathfinders contact Leazona Richard at the Pathfinders' office in Marsh Harbour. The number to call is 242-367-6279.

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Politics & Government

PLP holds block party in anticipation of general election

The evening of April 10, 2012 saw a gathering of supporters, and those looking for festivities, at the Progressive Liberal Party's headquarters in Marsh Harbour. A DJ was present to play a mix of Bahamian, pop and politically themed music. The PLP candidate for Central and South Abaco, Gary Sawyer was there to mingle with the crowd and enjoy the evening with supporters. Also present was Obie Wilchcombe: the Member of Parliament for West Grand Bahama and Bimini, and the previous Minister of Tourism.

Mr. Sawyer Remarked that the party emerged out of the PLP's regular Tuesday

night meeting. However, this time they wanted to do something different, especially since the Right Honourable Hubert A. Ingraham was expected to announce the election that evening.

"It's a block party," Mr. Sawyer's campaign manager, Junior Mernard, remarked, "but we're calling it a celebration. It's a celebration because the PM finally rang that bell!"

Drinks and food were served to the crowd. Many showed up in their bright gold shirts to show their support for the party. However, some arrived in neutral or red as onlookers as well. Despite the differences of opinion represented by the colour on their sleeve, all in the crowd appeared to get along and enjoy the evening.

The election was scheduled by the Prime Minister for May 7.



Police From Page 12

extending it to private schools as well is being looked at.

The students will engage in a two hour counseling class at school on the first day then taken to a work site where they will spend the remaining days. At the end of the week they will attend a wrap up session. They will also have to write a report and an apology to the school. The students will then be monitored for the next six months. Parents will also have to attend the counseling sessions if their child is suspended.

The final program is the Etiquette Program which is geared towards students in primary school. In this program the students will learn manners and how to conduct themselves in public. The goal of these programs is for kids to know that the police are their friends.

The police's primary goals do not include locking up young people, but if they get into mischief they will be arrested.

"we have an obligation to fix the things that have gone wrong"

Interested school personnel can contact the police department for more details. The officer in charge of these programs is Sgt. Joycelyn Smith.

Sgt. Smith is the Officer in Charge of Community Policing on Abaco and has been spearheading this section since November of last year. She hopes that these

programs will help more youth become conscience of what it means to be productive citizens of the Bahamas.

She noted that there are many Bahamians away for college who do not want to come home because of what they see going on in the country. Therefore, we have an obligation to fix the things that have gone wrong so that our children will want to return home to help develop the Bahamas once they have received their post-secondary education.

U.S. Embassy Announces "Family Island Wednesdays" for Visa Applicants

Press Release

With the goal of providing the best possible service to Bahamian visa applicants throughout the archipelago, the U.S. Embassy in Nassau is now offering Wednesday afternoon appointments for applicants living on Grand Bahama and the Family Islands.

With a "Family Island Wednesday" appointment, applicants will now be able to fly into Nassau in the morning, proceed to the Embassy for an early afternoon visa appointment, and fly home later the same day. Visa applicants with afternoon appointments can expect to finish their interview by 3:00 p.m. The processing time for approved visas remains 24 hours for all applicants.

Please see Visa Page 23

Walk up and Fly

MARSH HARBOUR TO ORLANDO		
DEPART	ARRIVE	FREQUENCY
4:55PM	6:15PM	MON-SUN

MARSH HARBOUR TO WEST PALM BEACH		
DEPART	ARRIVE	FREQUENCY
9:45AM	10:45AM	MON-SUN

MARSH HARBOUR TO FORT LAUDERDALE		
DEPART	ARRIVE	FREQUENCY
8:20AM	9:25AM	MON-FRI
2:00PM	3:05PM	
9:40AM	10:45AM	SATURDAY
12:40PM	1:45PM	
2:00PM	3:05PM	
9:50AM	10:55AM	SUNDAY
2:15PM	3:20PM	

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TREASURE CAY TO FORT LAUDERDALE		
DEPART	ARRIVE	FREQUENCY
1:20PM	2:20PM	MON-FRI
10:15AM	11:15AM	SATURDAY
2:10PM	3:10PM	
10:55AM	11:55AM	SUNDAY
3:00PM	4:00PM	

*Schedule subject to change. Open return good for 14 days. Special counter fare offers not available online.

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* Quoted fare is one-way. Purchase of round trip is required and does not include US excise tax of \$33.40 for each US International arrival and departure, US Immigration of \$7.00, US APHIS User Fee of \$5.00, US Passenger Facility charge of \$4.50, US Civil Aviation Security Fee of \$2.50, US Customs User Fee \$5.50, Bahamian Passenger Departure Tax \$25.00. Seats are limited and available on a first serve basis. An additional fee of \$25.00 will apply each way for standard size checked bag up to 50lbs. Additional fees may apply for oversized/overweight baggage. Walk-Up Fare must be purchased no later than 90 minutes prior to departure.

Politics & Government



Traffic Safety & Rules

Common Traffic Infractions

Traffic Laws will be heavily enforced in 2012

- Uninsured vehicles
- Unlicensed vehicles
- No seat belt
- Failing to transfer ownership of vehicle
- Insecure load
- One/no headlamp/rearlamp burning
- Loud music & loud mufflers
- Dark tinted windshield/windows
- Fluorescent red, green or blue headlights
- Riding a motorcycle with no helmet



TIPS TO AVOID ACCIDENTS

- Stop telling yourself you drive better when intoxicated, always have a designated driver
- When sleepy keep your body out of relaxed positions, pull over and catch a nap or jog around your vehicle to get your heart rate up
- Always drive a car length or two behind the vehicle ahead of you in the event they stop suddenly
- Always stop at a stop sign whether a car is coming or not
- Avoid texting, BBMing, talking on cell phones, eating, drinking and spanking children in the backseat
- Whenever there is reduced visibility while driving reduce speed

SCHOOL ZONES

- Whenever in an area where there's a local school or large number of school students walking to their various destinations, ALL VEHICLES are to reduce their speeds to 15MPH
- Students are NOT to be picked up from the center median at the Central Abaco Primary School
- Drivers that allow a larger number of students to be passengers in their vehicles than the vehicle is designed to hold will be charged with having passengers not wholly seated in vehicle and will be fined for each student not secured by a seat belt

Traffic has such an effect on our lives that even non-drivers are impacted by it. Traffic costs us time and money, affects our physical and mental well-being, and has consequences for the environment. - ABC News

CRIME REPORT

Stolen Vessel (Vessel recovered, suspects arrested and charged.)

At 7:13pm on March 27, 2012, a 70 year old male of Crown Haven and a local captain reported that sometime between 5:30pm and 6:40pm on Monday March 27 2012, some unknown person/s stole a ferry boat owned by his employer. The vessel is a white with red stripe 27ft Boston Whaler with green top, twin 200hp Yamaha outboard engines attached. The vessel was moored at the Crown Haven Government Dock. Police action was requested.

Arrest Update

A joint operation between officers from Grand Bahama and the Abaco District and the boat's owner led to the recovery of the vessel at about 12:15am on March 28, 2012, about ten miles south of Crown Haven, Abaco and three miles out of Freeport. The same was found in possession of one minor, d.o.b. 12/11/94 of Grand Bahamas and Jeremy Jones, d.o.b. 15/7/79 of Hanna Hill, Freeport, Grand Bahama. Both persons were arrested, charged, arraigned and remanded to Her Majesty Prison Fox Hill Nassau N.P., Bahamas.

Causing Harm. (Suspect arrested & charged.)

At 4:15am on March 31, 2012, a 38 year old female of the Mudd, Abaco, reported that at about 3:50am the same date she had just arrived home to her residence from a dance, when she met her male boyfriend, who was inside her residence. She further reported that her boyfriend attacked and beat her about the body. Police action requested.

Suspect Arrested

At 11:40am on March 31, 2012, Officers from the Central Detective Unit arrested the male boyfriend a 56 year old of Dundas Town, Abaco reference to this matter. The suspect was arrested, charged and arraigned on this offense.

Breach of Fisheries Act (Possession of Turtle)

At 10:20am on March 31, 2012, the chief Fisheries officer c/o Department of Fisheries Department, Abaco, came in at the M.H.P.S. with one male suspect a 42 years old of Dundas Town, Abaco, under arrest reference to Possession of Prohibit Article namely Turtle. He was arrested at 10:00am same date while in the area of Bellevue Business Center, Don McKay Blvd, Marsh Harbour, Abaco.

Suspect arrested and charged.

The suspect was charged and released on \$1,500.00 bail to attend court at 10:00am on April 4, 2012.

Shop breaking

On Wednesday 28th March 2012, at 7:08 a.m., Officers of the M.H.P.S. while on patrol reported that while at Marsh Harbour International Airport some unknown person's broke and entered The Bahamas Customs Department at Marsh Harbour International Airport. Entry was gained through the back glass door by smashing it. Police Action was requested.

Officers of the Central Detective Unit visited the scene. Investigations are continuing into this matter. The Police Department is also appealing to members of the community who may have seen anything in relation to this matter or any other matter to please call 367-3437, 911, 919 or 367-2560

House Fire

At 2:46am on 27th March, 2012, an anonymous caller contacted the M.H.P.S. and reported that a residence owned by a male of Murphy Town, Abaco, was on fire. Police assistance requested.

At 2:50am on 27th March, 2012, Volunteer Fire Personnel, Police fire personnel along with Police Officers arrived on the scene. A check was made for persons who maybe in the interior of the structure with negative results. According to neighbors, the owner of the wooden structure was not on the Island. The fire was extinguished by the Volunteer Fire Department but totally destroyed.

Investigation continues.

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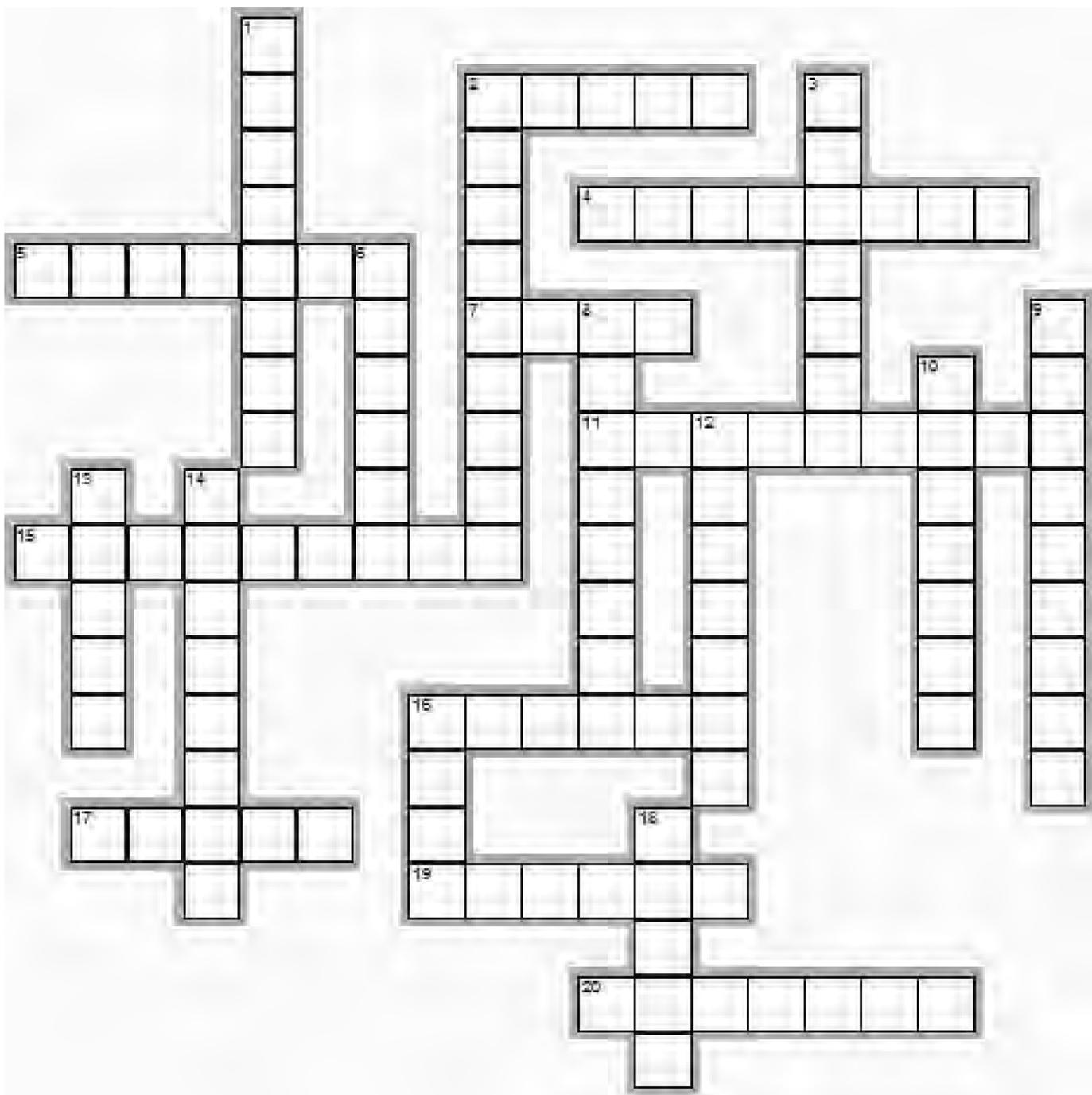
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The Abaconian Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2. A home for fish; a draw for divers
- 4. Long Dock; Beagles
- 5. Leading Industry
- 7. Leaves you high and dry
- 11. Porous rock; builds our islands
- 15. Irene, Floyd and Andrew
- 16. Abandoned City; logging
- 17. Royal visitor
- 19. Salty tears; enjoys sea grass
- 20. The bush, not pine.

Down

- 1. Pink shallows-wader
- 2. Construction company given the hospital contract on Abaco.
- 3. PM's town
- 6. Docking and amenities
- 8. Echolocation; an underperforming football team
- 9. Pineapples; destination of the Adventurers
- 10. A local dog
- 12. Alternative to anchors
- 13. Makes a good duff
- 14. Bahamas' "second city."
- 16. Sunset's direction
- 18. One masted sailboat

Answers from April 1, 2012 Crossword

Across

- 1: Conch
- 2: Ralph
- 5: Moores
- 6: Hollywood
- 7: Lionfish
- 9: Guana
- 10: Harbour
- 14: Andros
- 16: Beach
- 17: Wrecking
- 20: Sisal
- 21: Junkanoo
- 22: Dove
- 23: Pathfinders
- 24: Georgia

Down

- 1: Crawfish
- 3: Loyalists
- 4: Coconut
- 8: Parrots
- 11: Atlantic
- 12: Rage
- 13: Crown
- 15: Lighthouses
- 18: Mangrove
- 19: Sand

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- ♦ Lots starting at \$30,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Hilltop lots with ocean view \$150,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Gorgeous beach front lot \$250,000.⁰⁰

CASUARINA POINT

- ♦ Entrance to bay, waterfront lot, panoramic views \$98,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Sea view lot, 100 ft. to beach. \$42,500.⁰⁰
- ♦ 4/4 Beach front duplex \$405,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Lots \$37,000.⁰⁰ and up
- ♦ Beach House 3/2 \$795,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ 4/2.5 Beach House, great vacation home \$550,000.⁰⁰

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- ♦ Beautiful interior lots, starting at \$21,700.⁰⁰
- ♦ 1 Acre beach front estate lot \$295,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Pinehurst lots \$10,000.⁰⁰ & \$11,000.⁰⁰

TREASURE CAY

- ♦ Home site - one lot in from beach \$60,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Rock Point waterfront lot, exc price \$185,000.⁰⁰

Cherokee

- ♦ Ocean view, beach access, utilities \$125,000.⁰⁰
- ♦ Watching Bay hilltop lot \$99,000.⁰⁰

Hope Town

- ♦ Lot close to town, beach access \$149,500.⁰⁰

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Man-O-War's Garden Club hosts Horticulture Society

By Mirella Santillo

The Horticultural Society visited Man-O-War Cay's Garden Club on March 31. It was an event that kept all the visitors' conversations fueled for quite a while after the visit. The Society members enjoyed the warm hospitality they received and the marvelous plants they discovered in the gardens they visited. Growing tips they were also shared.

A group of approximately eighteen people left Marsh Harbour on the 10:15 ferry to Man-O-War on Saturday March 31 to respond to the invitation of the Garden Club. They were welcomed on the cay by several ladies driving golf carts; in the welcoming committee was the Garden Club's president, Cheryl McKee. They were assigned drivers who took them in a caravan through various alleys and back streets to discover some of the most beautiful gardens on the island.

The members of Garden Club had prepared a full agenda for their guests. They had five properties to visit, a luncheon and a tour of the Museum with enough time to spare to catch the 3:15 ferry back to Marsh Harbour.

The first stop was at the home of Cheryl and Knox McKee, Key Lime Villa, which was the site of an old citrus grove. Key limes still abounded at every corner. Pathways and plant beds were lined with stones and coral heads that Mr. McKee had gathered from the shore. Blooming orchids hung from trees and several raised plots displayed healthy vegetables such as let-

tuce, tomatoes, eggplants and herbs. The artful landscaping and the abundance of trees and flowering bushes made the property seem much larger.

Sun Dial was next on the tour. The group was led by the owner of the property, Gail Foust, who explained the various techniques she and her husband Doug had used to obtain a better harvest and control insects. Set on a street sloping towards the sea, the garden was a mixture of vegetables and flowers such as Mexican sunflowers, nasturtiums and alysums. Old pieces of carpet were used under the vegetable beds to keep moisture in and bugs out. Blooming orchids and exotic plants decorated the front of the house where a delightfully cozy patio nestled in the middle of lush tropical vegetation.

Lunch was at Canary Wharf, the home of Ted and Barbara Dowty. The spacious home overlooking the sea of Abaco served as both a restaurant and museum. The eclectic decor was a tasteful combination of antiques, special craft pieces and treasures from the sea. Several of the Man-O-War Garden Club members had pitched in to prepare lunch. The tour resumed with the hostess' own garden.

Walking distance from Canary Wharf was the property of Leslie Moore and Jerry Tubs. Ms. Moore's challenge was protecting her garden from the wind and growing in the sandy soil. It took her twenty five years to achieve the tropical atmosphere surrounding her house using local plants. Nearby, Mary-Ann Bassier's garden also

showed evidence of adaptation to the shore environment: mulch held the sand in place, succulents multiplied healthily on the edges of pathways and native lilies were about to bloom.

Last on the tour, Mr. and Ms. Pleydell-Bouverie garden offered mature trees and luscious vegetation. Near the entrance a blooming brassavola nodosa, nestled in a lignum vitae tree, immediately caught the orchid lovers' attention. The hostess greeted the visitors with photos of the grounds before she had applied herself for the last

fifteen years to fill them with unique trees. She mentioned having lost a lot of species in last year's hurricane, among those some pigmy date trees.

At the museum, Chana Albury and Carmen Newton, whose great grand-father owned the building, welcomed the visitors. They providing information and answered questions. It was the last stop for the gardeners before reaching the ferry dock except for the few who could not resist indulging in a scoop of ice-cream before the return.

Below: members of the Horticulture Society and Man-O-War's Garden Club pose for a group photo at Barbara Dowty's house. Midway through the day's events of touring gardens and sharing growing tips, the clubs met at Ms. Dowty's home to enjoy a lunch of fresh salads and snacks provided by Garden Club members.



Bahamas Electricity Corporation

Tender

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation invites Tenders for the services described below:

CONSTRUCTION OF 1.5 MILES OF 34.5KV 7/1.183 AAAC THREE-PHASE TRANSMISSION LINE – SC BOOTLE HIGHWAY, ABACO

Bidders are required to collect packages from the Corporation's Administrative Office, Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Contact: Ms. Charlene Smith at telephone 302-1158

Submissions should be marked as follows:

**Mr. Kevin Basden
General Manager
Bahamas Electricity Corporation
Executive Offices- Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Nassau, Bahamas**

**Tender No. 773/12
CONSTRUCTION OF 1.1 MILES OF 34.5kv 7/1.142
AAAC THREE-PHASE TRANSMISSION LINE –
SC BOOTLE HIGHWAY, ABACO
Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Nassau, Bahamas**

Deadline for delivery to BEC:
**April 20, 2012
no later than 3:00 p.m.**

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.



Bahamas Electricity Corporation

Tender

MARSH HARBOUR 34.5KV SUBSTATION BUILDING CONSTRUCTION & CIVIL WORKS S.C BOOTLE HIGHWAY, ABACO

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation invites Tenders from eligible bidders for the provision of labour for the **CONSTRUCTION OF THE MARSH HARBOR 34.5KV SUBSTATION BUILDING & CIVIL WORKS – SC BOOTLE HIGHWAY, ABACO**

Bidders are required to collect packages from the Corporation's Administration Office, Blue Hill & Tucker Roads by contacting Mrs. Sandra Knowles, Telephone No. 302-1167, or from the Corporations Offices in Marsh Harbour by contacting Mr. Everette Strachan at 367-2740

Tenders are to be delivered on or before Friday, April 20th, 2012, 3:00 p.m. and addressed as follows:

**Mr. Kevin Basden
General Manager
Bahamas Electricity Corporation
Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Nassau, Bahamas**

Marked: **Tender No. 782/12
CONSTRUCTION OF MARSH HARBOR 34.5KV
SUBSTATION BUILDING & CIVIL WORKS
S C BOOTLE HIGHWAY, ABACO
Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Nassau, Bahamas**

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

Church News

Anglican Church Picnic

By Jennifer Hudson

As far back as most locals can remember the Anglican Churches of St. John the Baptist, Marsh Harbour, and St. Martin, Sandy Point, have held their annual picnic on Easter Monday in Sandy Point. The picnic is traditionally held at the Sandy Point community picnic site but this year, owing to damage at the site caused by hurricane Irene last year, the event was held at the Government Dock.

Normally the picnic is well attended by members of both churches, with church members from Marsh Harbour travelling up in the church bus, as well as being attended by friends from the Sandy Point community. However, this year owing to a major event being held at the same time in North Abaco, only persons from Sandy Point were in attendance, although they were supported by the Reverend Willish Johnson, Rector of the St. John the Baptist Church and her family who travelled up from Marsh Harbour.

Several tourists who were in Sandy Point for some Easter bone fishing also joined in and enjoyed this truly Bahamian event.

The picnic began at 11.00 am but the party really got going later with people enjoying themselves so much that several did not leave until midnight. While the ladies chatted and served the food, several of the men played dominoes and the children had fun in the sea. There was plenty of good food to enjoy including grilled ribs and chicken, conch salad and fritters, pies and guava duff.

The money raised from the Easter Monday picnic goes towards the upkeep of the church buildings and though less was raised this year, Priest Warden of St. Martin's Church, Nurse Estelle Pinder,

said, "We are thankful for what we got because every little bit helps. " Next year in addition to having their regular crowd again, the organizers are hoping that the picnic site will have been repaired so that they will have more room to accommodate larger numbers.

Easter play and service held by Voice of Deliverance Church

By Samantha Evans

On Good Friday, April 5 at 7pm, the youth department of Voice of Deliverance held their first production at the Dundas Town Burial Society in Dundas Town. The Easter Production was two-parted. The first one re-enacted the Crucifixion and the second one was a play called "Change of Action" written by two youth of the church-Saleah Bethel and Carl Rolle.

The story of the Crucifixion is one that is basis of the Christian holiday of Easter. The death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Christ are central tenants of the religion. Easter is celebrated to remind Christians of the great love Christ has for humanity.

The Biblical event dramatized was by the youth. It gave them an opportunity to experience first-hand a taste of Christ's love for his people. The second play, written by Saleah and Carl, was about a young man who chose a path of selling drugs and leading a deviant lifestyle. Things started off good for the character, however that good life came to an end when he got shot.

The story told about the battle he went through to decide what the outcome of his life would be. The story unfold-

ed when he had an encounter with angels and his life was changed forever. Various adults also performed poems and other pieces on the program throughout the night including Kayla Wallace.

Earlier in the day, at 11am, the Seven Last Words of Christ was performed by seven speakers as a part of their Good Fri-

day service. Services from the church can be seen on BCN at 6pm on Saturdays. The prayer line, 367-0091, is open during the service and is also the church contact during normal work hours.



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2. Understand the local environment and the plant material in that environment
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4. Irrigation materials, design and installation
5. Same or similar responsibility in a previous employment on a project of the same or similar scope and complexity. Better experience is a plus.
6. Staff management and direction is a critical responsibility and must have directed staff of more than 20.
7. Knowledge of plant importation requirements
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The Abaconian Community Calendar

April 15 - May 1

April 14

Red Bone Tournament
Coconut Bay Cleanup
FNM 'Ignite' Party

April 18

Primary School Interschool Sports Day

April 19

42nd Annual Abaco Anglers Tournament

April 22

Central Abaco Lionfish Tournament

April 23

Friends of the Environment Earth Day celebration

April 26

Treasure Cay BTC store grand opening

April 27

2nd Bi-Annual All-Abaco Agricultural, Marine Resources & Agribusiness Expo

April 28

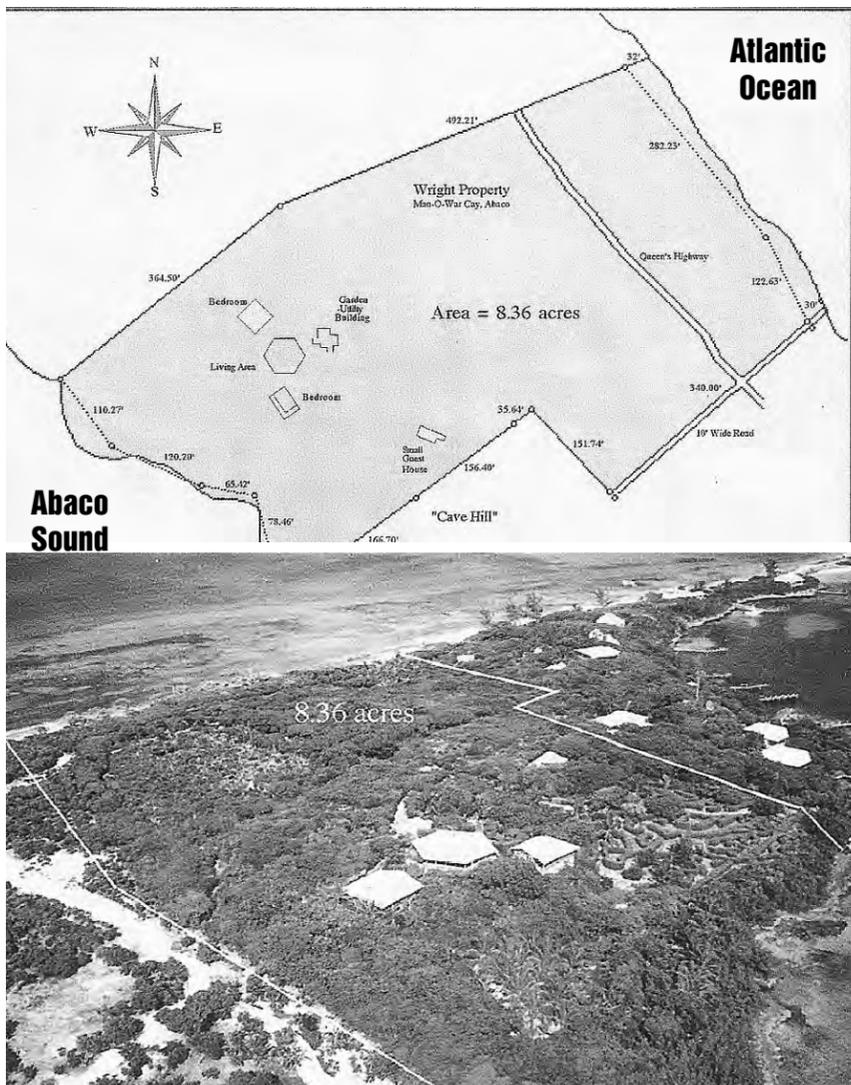
Agri Expo
Brown's Bay Coastal Cleanup
Christian Councelling Center Golf Tournament

April 29

Antonius Roberts Art Show at Schooner Bay

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Marsh Harbour

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Marsh Harbour

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More Church News

Voice of Deliverance held church building fundraiser

By Samantha Evans

Voice of Deliverance Church held its first service on Abaco July 17, 2011 at the church site on Forest Drive. The connection with Abaco and Apostle Leon Wallace was made by Minister Elizabeth Nixon who was affiliated with the Nassau church. Minister Nixon stated that Apostle Wallace had a dream that he was to start a church on Abaco so he was obedient to the call.

Once Apostle Wallace came to Abaco, he met with Elder Oswald Nixon and the ground work for the start of the Abaco church began. Once the church opened, regular Sunday services began at 11am and 7pm and weekly prayer meeting and Bible study held. The senior pastor and overseer of the church is Edlin Scott who comes over every weekend for Sunday services. He is also the pastor of Morning Glory in Nassau.

According to Elder Oswald Nixon, the building that the church currently occupies is a temporary space as they have already applied for property on S. C. Bootle Highway. Once approval is granted, they

will begin building the church. Once the church is built, it will have a pre-school, a halfway house and a youth center.

The church held its first fundraiser in February which was a cookout and on Easter Monday, April 9 starting at 11:30am. The church family of Voice of Deliverance held a Cook Out and Family Fun Day at Brown's Bay in Dundas Town. On the menu was various dinners including chicken, fish and steak, conch fritters, guava cake, pound cake and banana bread. The kids could also enjoy the bouncing castle, the beach and wonderful gospel reggae music.

Crusade held at Grace Baptist Church

By Samantha Evans

Grace Baptist Church held four days of crusades on Abaco March 28 to 30 under the theme Fire of the Holy Spirit. During the day they had leadership training by various gifted motivational speakers. According to coordinator of the events, Bishop DJ Roker from Memphis, Tennessee, they had the first leadership development conclave last year but it was geared towards training pastors, leaders, lay workers, and business professionals. That event

was hosted in conjunction with Grace Baptist Church.

The leadership conference was motivated by the fact that Roker believes that the church needs development in practical knowledge. Historically, he noted, pastors addressed spiritual need but little emphasis was placed on real life experiences. A lot of times church becomes a place for becoming inspired not empowered.

Thirty years ago, he stated, most pastors worked a secular job and studies on the weekends. He noted that the Bible states that people perish for lack of knowledge not lack of faith. Therefore, this knowledge can be academic, general life knowledge or the like. Finally, he stated that people want practical teachings to help them deal with real life situations.

Several speakers were brought in for the conference. They were Robert Lemon who spoke on his experience and how God took him from the Ghetto to becoming a millionaire. Dr. Valorie Parker, a radio personality in Fort Lauderdale, motivational speaker and CEO and President of Soul of a Woman Foundation, a foundation that deals with domestic violence and single parent issues, spoke on the topic "If You Believe.... Ye Should Receive the Glory of God."

She stated that no matter what you are going through you can embrace what God has for you. Further, she added that no matter what nay-sayers say, you should believe that God has a good plan for your life. She encouraged those in attendance to not let people dictate what they can become. She told them to participate in their own rescue and to remember that every dream needs activation.

Dr. Eric Farmer was another of the speakers from Memphis Tennessee and he is a healing evangelist. He said that he is an avenue through which God heals. He has been in this ministry for 40 years and even though he has been to the Bahamas before, this is his first time on Abaco.

He told of the time that he was called to ministry at the young age of 15. Since then he has travelled to many countries around the world including Fiji, Australia and Africa. He claims to have the gift of healing and performed at Grace Baptist Church over the conference event. At the service he spoke about the power of the tongue and the words one speaks. He has two doctorate degrees and has written six books.

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Visa From Page 15

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For information on the visa process, applicants should visit the U.S. Embassy's website at <http://nassau.usembassy.gov>

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\$1,099,000. Ref. AS11880



ELBOW CAY

Elegant Beach Home!
Situated on a protected cove beach, this delightful 3 bdrm home exemplifies tasteful beachside living.
\$949,500. Ref. AS11552



LUBBER'S QUARTERS

Sea Views!
On nearly 0.5 acres, this 2 bdrm, 2 bath waterfront cottage is complete with a private dock slip.
\$840,000. Ref. AS11450



GREEN TURTLE CAY

Enchanting Beach Cottage!
Low maintenance, 2 bdrm cottage on 1.5 acres at Long Bay has room to expand and 140 ft. of beach.
\$795,000. Ref. AS11322



GREEN TURTLE CAY

Charming And Tranquil!
Old world charm meets modern amenities at this 3 bdrm home within Leeward Yacht Club.
\$795,000. Ref. AS11349



MARSH HARBOUR

Turn-Key!
Collection of 2 and 3 bdrm condos at the Crossing enjoy beach, pool and dock amenities.
\$575,000 to \$695,000



LUBBER'S QUARTERS

Two For One!
Two, 2 bdrm, 1 bath cottages complete with a boat slip, established rental history, and sea views.
\$399,500. Ref. AS11553



CASUARINA POINT

Newly Renovated!
Charming 2 bdrm, 2 bath home on the canal is the perfect starter home for a young couple or family.
\$340,000. Ref. AS11835



CASUARINA POINT

New Price!
Renovated, 2 bdrm, 2 bath home is tastefully furnished and just steps from the beach and boat ramp.
\$165,000. Ref. AS11775



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