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Junkanoo Entertains on Green Turtle Cay Annual Junkanoo Rush Brings Crowds on New Year's Day

By Annabelle Cross

Happy New Year! The new year got off to a noisy start as church bells rang, fire crackers popped and fireworks exploded in the air at the stroke of midnight. The weather was just right for outside events and both residents and visitors came out to welcome in the new year either at church services or with friends at parties. The celebrations continued into the wee hours of the morning; then it was home to finish off the traditional souse and to get a few hours rest before heading out for Junkanoo.

For the people in the "Shack" there was no time for rest as they worked against the clock to get all the costumes pasted and "tricked" before show time. The day dawned to the sound of goat skin drums being "tuned." All day long the ferries transported day visitors to what is for many the tradition of spending New Year's Day on Green Turtle Cay. By noon the streets were lined with people chatting with friends as they enjoyed traditional Bahamian foods sold by the various vendors. The fresh conch salad was very popular, with people waiting for their

Please see **Junknaoo** Page 2



The annual Junkanoo rush of Green Turtle Cay took place on New Year's Day, drawing hundreds of spectators. The visitors were treated to conch salad and other popular Bahamian dishes as they waited for the show to begin and after the parade. The Green Turtle Ferry was kept busy ferrying people back and forth from the mainland.

Passports Will Be Required for Americans

By Julian Lockhart

The Bahamas tourism industry is about to take an unknown hit in the next few months as all American tourists will need to have valid, machine readable passports to return to the United States after January 23rd, 2007. The Bahamas government has been lobbying the United States for an extension but the only extension given was from January 1st to January 8th and finally the 23rd. The Bahamas saw over five million tourists visit its shores in 2006. This

new regulation could cost the country up to a million visitors in 2007.

The US Government gave Canada and Mexico an extension until 2008 and cruise ship passengers until 2009 to require passports.

This new regulation resulted from the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative which implemented national security measures

Please see **Passports** Page 25

Min. Wisdom Revealed Housing and Sporting Plans



The Hon. Neville Wisdom, Minister of Housing, with his wife, Mrs. Wisdom, visited Central Abaco on January 5. He held a meeting with town leaders at the Council office and discussed several topics relevant to Abaco issues. He is shown here on the left with his wife and Mr. Cubel Davis, Chief Councillor of the Central Abaco District. He itemized several projects under consideration for Abaco which would include sporting facilities on Moore's Island and in Central Abaco.

MOW Youth Call for Santa



Every community has its own traditions. Man-O-War residents get together every Christmas morning to greet neighbors and friends and sing carols but more importantly call for Santa Claus. The children call until Santa arrives, bringing gifts for everyone. See story on page 6

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News of the Cays

Junkanoo

From Page 1

number to be called to enjoy the delicacy!

By 2:30 p.m the music coming from "up the hill" was the signal to the crowd that "dey comin'." It was finally time for the Junkanoo Parade. The parade made its way down past the cemetery and through Parliament Street stopping at times for spectators to enjoy the music and the dance routine of more than 20 school girls. The little girls were adorable in their butterfly costumes as they tried to keep in step with the older girls in the dance routine. The older participants wore the bigger, more elaborate costumes, leaving the drummers and bellers in their silk suits to provide the traditional music. The parade continued

around the entire town of New Plymouth and then it was back to the basketball court for a final performance.

Months, days and hours go into preparing for the Junkanoo parade. Creating one large piece takes endless hours and can cost more than a thousand dollars. The Junkanoo Committee depends on the generosity of the business community to help fund this annual event that attracts many visitors to the island. This year 1000 Junkanoo wrist bands were donated to committee and sold during New Year's Day. The proceeds will help fund the next parade! There were many school children in this year's parade, ensuring that this age old cultural expression is passed on to the next generation.

After an exciting Junkanoo parade and

performance and as the sun set, people made their way to Settlement Point to enjoy the fireworks display. The Green Turtle Cay Volunteer Fire Department held various fund raisers to fund the cost of the display and were also responsible for setting off the fire works. It was well worth the cost and effort with an amazing display that lasted almost 30 minutes bringing "oohs" and "aahs" from the crowd as each one burst into color in the night sky! Thank you to the Junkanoo Committee and Volunteer Fire Department for all the hard work in making New Year's Day a fun filled, exciting start of 2007.

The entire month of December was a busy time on Green Turtle Cay as people prepared for the holidays. Awana Club held its holiday closing program early in the month to give the children a chance to prepare for the end of term exams. The Awana Sparks presented a lovely skit that told the true meaning of Christmas as well as explained the tradition of Santa and the special symbols of Christmas.

The Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held at Quincentennial Park where the beautifully decorated Administrative building was the perfect background. There was an open house at the Roland

Please see **Cays**

Page 4

December Events



The narrow streets of Green Turtle Cay present challenges for the Junkanoo parade as they are clogged with spectators and the corners are hard to maneuver around.



The Green Turtle community expends a great amount of time, effort and money on its costumes. The event is very professional and reflects a great commitment. The event draws hundreds of spectators.

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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 2

Roberts Environmental Center. Each church held its annual Christmas program and worshipers filled the pews to enjoy

each one. The tradition of the church Christmas program is one that continues even after so many of the old island traditions have been lost to more modern times. And all of the shiny bikes and new toys is proof that Santa found his way to Green Turtle Cay!

On Boxing Day the second annual Children's Christmas Party was held at the Basket Ball Court. Bonnie Guitche and Julie Smith head this committee that raised funds, organized and hosted the party. Earlier in the month they delivered gift baskets to the senior citizens. There was food for the children and adults and an appearance by Santa who presented each child with a gift. This was the only holiday event where the weather did not completely cooperate. A light, chilly drizzle discouraged people from stay-



Junkanoo costumes are made in the traditional way that requires a great amount of time, labour and patience.



ing to enjoy the games. Thank you to all who helped to make this fun day for the children. After two carefree weeks filled with fun activities, it was time for the children to go back to school. Some students had to return to an upcoming week of exams, while others would get the results of the exams taken in December. This is reason enough to wish Christmas

would last all year!

Upcoming Events

With a few weeks to rest and get over the indulgences of the holidays, there seem to be more exciting events planned for GTC. First, its off to the Cacique

Please see Cays

Page 6



New Year's Day is anticipated by many as the Green Turtle Cay community presents well organized, delightful entertainment to bring in the New Year.

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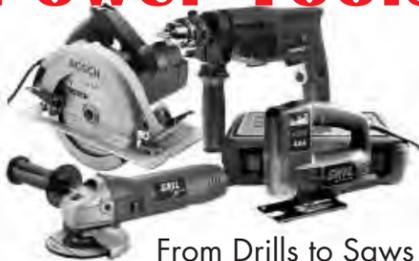
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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 4

Awards for Debbie Symonette and her friends at the Green Turtle Club. Debbie is a finalist in the annual tourism awards and in the hearts of all who know her, she is already a winner! Good Luck, Debbie!

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee will host two fund raisers in the upcoming weeks. The Fourth Annual Wine Tasting will be held at the Green Turtle Club on February 3rd. This popular event will be sponsored by Bristol Wines and Spirits. The Gully Roosters will provide live entertainment throughout the evening. Tickets are \$40 in advance and can be purchased from committee members.

On February 24th the Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee will host its second annual jewelry luncheon. Handmade, unique pieces using gold, silver, gemstones and sea glass will be on display as guests enjoy a fabulous lunch prepared by the committee and friends. Tickets for the luncheon will go on sale after the Wine Tasting. All proceeds will help fund the Fourth Annual Island Roots Heritage Festival to be held

May 4th, 5th and 6th.

The Green Turtle Cay Volunteer Fire Department will host its Third Annual Firemen's Ball at the Green Turtle Club on February 17th. This popular event gives us another chance to dress up and enjoy a night of dancing and socializing while supporting a worthy cause. The Committee will hold a meeting to finalize plans and tickets will be available from the volunteer firefighters.

Elections Must Not Divide Us

As we look forward to the planned events of this new year we also realize that this will also be an election year in The Bahamas. We have always had peaceful elections in our country and governments have changed without incident. But politics can also cause so much division in small communities. Hopefully, we can all exercise our right to vote and at the end of all the campaigning and rallies, we will emerge undivided and continue to work together in the GTC tradition!

Man-O-War

By Charmaine Albury

People on Man-O-War Cay were blessed with Christmas programs at each of the three churches on the island. The kids were kept busy as many of them performed in all three programs. Job well done!

On Christmas morning the community met at the volleyball court for the annual Christmas morning celebration. Everyone sang a few carols, then the kids all gathered together and called Santa Claus. Of course, Santa arrived with a huge sack filled with goodies for each child. Thanks, Santa!

The Texaco Pirates will be playing again this year at the AAU International Softball Tournament at Disney's Wide World of Sports on January 18-20. Stay updated and view pictures from past tourna-

ments at www.fastpitchwest.com.



Santa visits Man-O-War every Christmas morning bringing gifts and good cheer. The community comes together to welcome him.

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Abaco Beach Resort Will Host Annual Art Show

By Jennifer Hudson

The Abaco Beach Resort will present its 10th Annual Art Show in the Marquee at the resort on February 2-4. This year the organizers are planning to really celebrate with an even bigger event to mark the show's 10th anniversary.

Between 40 - 45 artists are expected to exhibit this year which is more than usual. In addition to local artists, exhibitors will be coming from various islands throughout The Bahamas and also from the United States. Artists from outside the country will have work permits for the show. Artwork will include wall art, mixed media and jewellery.

To give the show more of a festival atmosphere a café will be set up in the marquee on the Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. where people can pur-

chase light refreshments and sit to enjoy them without having to leave the show for something to eat and drink.

Friday evening will be set aside as a "sneak preview" for invited guests and entrance will be by invitation only. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served and viewers can admire the artwork to the accompaniment of live music.

An Art Festival Hotel Package Special is being offered for out of town visitors to the show. This consists of a four-night stay for \$149 per person per night double occupancy including breakfast. This is inclusive of all taxes and service charges. Persons who take advantage of this package will receive an invitation to the Friday night "sneak preview." For more details the hotel may be contacted at 367-2518.

Art Students, Take Note

An exciting addition to the show this year will be a school art contest. All aspiring young student artists between the ages of 12-18 years are invited to participate using any medium. Information will be distributed to the schools and there will be no entry fee. Interested students are asked to write their name and telephone number on the back of their entries and drop them off to Wrackers

Gallery before January 26. Pieces must be no larger than 16 by 20 inches.

Entries will be judged by a panel of three judges before the opening of the show on February 2 and the three winners will not only receive prizes but will have the honour of having their artwork displayed at the show alongside that of the professional artists and may even be lucky enough to sell their work.

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The Editor Says . . . Thoughts on Abaco's Junkanoo



Several public schools attempted to participate in the Junior Junkanoo scheduled for Saturday evening, December 16. However, a light rain began during the day and continued into the evening. The musical group from Abaco Central High School made the best of a poor situation by playing in the light rain. The cardboard costumes were kept dry for a later presentation.

Abaco Central High School is the expected winner of any high school competition as it receives the most financial support and has the least distance to transport the participating members and the fragile but elaborate costumes. Its logical competitor, S.C. Bootle High School, has many logistical strikes against its being a serious competitor.

Transporting 50 to 75 students the 40 miles to Marsh Harbour for a night parade is the first challenge. Trucking the elaborate individual float-pieces worn by individuals without damaging them is a additional challenge. They are fragile and subject to damage from wind, rain and careless handling.

Moore's Island made the effort to participate and brought a group to Marsh Harbour. This is quite a trip for them, and expensive. The students take a 40 - 60 minute boat ride into Sandy Point, then hire a bus for the hour drive into Marsh Harbour. They were quite disappointed that the event had to be postponed.

Having used their budget for the futile trip to Marsh Harbour, which included an overnight stay, the Junkanoo Committee is exploring ways to fund their transportation for the Junior Junkanoo presentation rescheduled for mid-January.

The Abaco Central High students were quite energized, even through the light rain, as they were anticipating going to Nassau the next day to participate in the Junior Junkanoo there.

The Abaco Junior Junkanoo is now scheduled to be held in the early evening of January 11 in Marsh Harbour.

The adult Junkanoo for Central Abaco was scheduled for the night of December 26 but was cancelled due to light rain.

The next day word came from the Administrator's office that the event had

not been rescheduled. Even an inquiry in mid-afternoon on the 27th confirmed no rescheduled date.

However, word was later broadcast on Radio Abaco that the parade would be held in the evening of December 27. Various persons said it was well attended to enjoy the program by two groups that performed.

One was the Spring City Stingers and the other was the Murphy Town Supreme Dancers. A second Spring City group, the Rockers, backed out earlier as they were dissatisfied with the \$2,000 seed money given them by government, claiming it was inadequate for the performance being requested. The money was returned. A fourth group also backed out.

Green Turtle Cay stages an afternoon Junkanoo every New Year's Day which is well attended. The town turns out in force and many residents and visitors from Abaco mainland go to Green Turtle Cay on the constant stream of ferries. These left the Treasure Cay ferry landing about every 20 minutes, each with 30 - 40 persons.

Recognizing the challenges of trying to export their event, Green Turtle Cay does not pit one group against another with judges and prizes. The group encompasses all who want to participate, and they put on a magnificent daylight show. Surprisingly, when the parade finished in

late afternoon, ferries were still taking boatloads of people to the island to enjoy the evening festivities.

Wide spots in the narrow streets as well as yards bordering the roadway were converted into food vending stalls. It is truly a town event.

The costumes, music and parade participants would compete well with the Marsh Harbour groups, but the improbable logistics of distance separated by water is recognized, and they are satisfied to display their effort locally.

For photographers and spectators, the afternoon parade shows the costume colours and the float designs to everyone's delight. The Junkanoo parade makes the circuit around New Plymouth on its narrow streets. The spectators are only inches away from the performers and their elaborate costumes.

The Green Turtle Cay Junkanoo Committee has elected to put its show on during the afternoon to maximize viewing by spectators and to increase the potential revenue for food and souvenir vendors.

This is in contrast to the Marsh Harbour parades which are at night. The students usually begin at 6 or 7 p.m. and the adults begin at 10 or 11 p.m. Although the area is well lighted, the police barricades keep the spectators farther away from the participants.

The Central Abaco Committee has chosen to adhere to the time honoured parades which were typically in the early pre-dawn hours. They have conceded a bit to the modern world by moving the event to just before midnight.

The better organized Junkanoo groups get requests for mini-performances for which they are paid and which helps support their financial needs. Singular groups are often seen as native culture and entertainment at restaurants, hotels, resorts and tourism activities.

However, success can be a handicap. It was amusing watching a group perform at Snappas in Marsh Harbour on New Year's Eve. Some of the elaborate costumes had problems getting through the entrance into the inside. Once inside, there was scant room to maneuver with the patrons already there.

Perhaps regional Junkanoo displays similar to the Green Turtle Cay event would allow more groups to participate and grow without the threat of being overshadowed by large, well established and well funded groups. Regional groups would be in a good position to offer their services to Abaco's growing and diverse resort community. The Green Turtle Junkanoo puts on a good performance without the pressure of competing with someone else.

The Ups and Downs of Paradise . . . Keep It Up!

By Stephanie Downs

"Keep it Up!" Jay said.

"What do you think I am trying to do?" I replied, panting under the strain.

My knuckles were white from "keeping it up."

At the time I was wedged between the side of the house in Hope Town and a huge piece of plywood which was to form one slope of the shed's roof.

"If this thing falls, it will slice me in half," I whined.

"Don't be so dramatic Steph."

"It's falling," I screeched.

"No, it is not," Jay said calmly.

"How do you know?" I replied.

"Because you are holding it!"

"But I can't hold it much longer."

"Yes, you can, Steph."

"No, I can't, Jay."

You're fine, and it is fine.

"Neither of us is," I fired back.

"Do you want this roof changed or don't you?" Jay asked.

"You know I do, Jay, but I value my life more."

"Trust me you can have both," he grinned.

I do trust you but I don't trust my arms.

On our last visit we had agreed that next time we would change the roof which was unsightly.

Well, this was "next time" and my

vivid imagination was conjuring up images of it's being the last time.

I was to end my days here at the mercy of a 4-foot by 8-foot piece of plywood in a narrow walkway twixt a stone wall and a rainwater tank. What a way to go!

"Give me a minute," he said as he changed batteries on the screwdriver. I didn't reply.

"Are you ok back there, Steph?" he enquired.

"I am saving my breath," I replied.

"Well, save it!" he laughed.

"I was trying to," I muttered.

"Ok! you can let go now," he said as he inserted two big screws into the wood.

I stood aside and looked at our progress.

"It's coming on well," I enthused, quick to recover from my theatrical outburst which just amused Jay. It was a breeze holding up the other slope. I was an expert by now.

"No problem," I sang out when he enquired about my well being.

"He thinks I have limitless strength and can move mountains," I told my daughter, Tara, the following day, adding that he really should have married a man or one of those Amazon women.

"I know, I get the same thing, Mum, from Chris, but it is a huge compliment," she said reassuringly.

"I agree," I replied, "but it's hard to appreciate any kind of compliment when your life is hanging in the balance."

"He's right, Mum, you are over dramatic at times," she laughed.

When I went on to describe how we got the plywood from the lower dock to the house, she just shook her head.

"Mum, why didn't you ask Jack (as in Captain)? He has a truck."

"He is always so helpful but he's a busy man," I replied.

"So you balanced the sheets of wood on a wheelbarrow through the streets of Hope Town?"

"No, we took them one at a time because the front tire of the wheelbarrow was about to pop when we tried them

both," I explained.

"What a spectacle you must have been," she laughed.

"We had no choice," I said.

At the dock Jay instructed me to pick up one side of each sheet.

"No way!" I protested.

"Would I ever ask you do anything which could harm you?" he asked.

"No," I replied tentatively lifting the wood on to awaiting wheelbarrow.

The sheets were actually not that heavy, but they were almost as wide as the streets themselves.

"Don't let it fall," said Jay.

"How can I stop it?" I moaned as the wheelbarrow bumped over the uneven pavement of the small settlement.

"Just put one finger lightly on it," he said.

"Why don't you stick her on top of it!" a friend suggested as we passed Jacks."

I wasn't sure quite how to take that remark so I just chuckled nervously.

As we inched our way up some steps into an alleyway which leads to our house, I remember someone wishing us Merry Christmas. I grunted it back from under the sheet of wood. It was little surreal - but then island life is at times.

Getting the sheets off the barrow was a production and too painful to recall. After finishing the roof, we remembered that we had decking wood lying on the dock. Jay told me to take a break, but by this time I was energized.

"Try shouldering that piece of wood," a neighbour said.

I was carrying it like a shopping bag!

"You do it," I felt like saying, feeling that I had shouldered enough for one day.

At the end of our stay I looked at the new roof and deck we had built. Jay congratulated me on being a "good assistant" and I thanked him. When we were over the mutual admirations, he sat back and said in a contemplative way, "I really enjoy physical work."

"Oh, I do, too," I mused . . . especially when we are not doing it!

The Abaconian

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Letters to the Editor

Dangerous and Rude Operations of Certain Ferry Drivers

Dear Editor,

21 Dec 06 -10:55 a.m. Donnie 7 was in reverse gear (to hold the ferry close to the dock). I saw that the captain had left the control station - there was no one at the wheel. As I went closer to the stern, I saw him at the stern along with his helper. A boat should never be left in forward or reverse with no one at the controls. The practice of leaving a boat in gear causes the nearby boats tied up to the dock to surge about, sometimes while people are climbing in or out of them. But further to that, if a person were to fall overboard nearby, it would create a very dangerous situation if there was no one at the controls to quickly put the boat in neutral.

But the same Donnie 7 (I don't know if it was being driven by the same captain) created a much more dangerous situation a day later which involved me and my passengers.

22 Dec. 3:15 p.m. I was going slowly (as the law requires while in the channel) out the Hope Town channel in a 17-foot Boston Whaler with my oldest son, his wife and my five-year-old grandson aboard. As I came abreast of Eagle Rock, I looked behind me and saw Donnie 7 on a plane dangerously close to running over me, not going off to one side of me, for there was no room for that, and I judge about 50 feet from my stern. Neither the ferry nor I had anywhere to go on either side so I quickly speeded up.

When I was past Eagle Rock, I made a right turn after deciding that he would probably make a left turn toward the Marsh Harbour ferry landing. Then I had to deal with his big wake by quartering down it before I could go back to my intended course. I consider his running up on me like that very dangerous to me and my passengers. I clearly had the right of way. Had I not speeded up, he would not have been able to slow down sufficiently nor pass me because we were both still in the channel, restricted on one side by Eagle Rock and on the other side by very shallow water.

I have often seen the ferries leaving Hope Town go on plane before the turn of the channel even before they can see who is in the straight east-west section of the channel. Some of the captains just don't care who is in the channel. A very dangerous and inconsiderate practice.

A channel is part of a harbour and what laws govern the harbour also govern the approaches and channel into a harbour. In fact, the maneuvering room in the Hope Town channel is more restricted than the harbour itself.

I am a licensed Bahamas class A Captain and I hear many complaints about the unsafe and rude practices of some, not all, of the Abaco Ferry Service drivers under the new ownership. As demonstrated by the previous ownership, we know that a ferry service can operate on time, safely and with polite consideration for other boats.

It is within the powers of the Port Department to come down hard on these captains who break the Rules of the Road and ignore safe maritime procedures as well as common sense and consideration for other boaters.

I suggest that others who share my concern write to Captain Cyril Roker, Port Director, Port Department, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, and report observed dangerous or rude experiences so that some appropriate action may be taken. I suggest that any complaint also be copied to The Abaconian.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Citizen

Historical Incident

The Editor,

On November 8th, 2006, I was at the dedication of Marsh Harbour Memorial Park. Mrs. Yvonne Key has done an excellent job there. People mentioned Captain Sherwin Archer and his service to Abaco over the years.

I would like to add something to share on what kind of man he was who was respected by all. While he had the Tropical Trader, they were building Union Dock which was way out in Nassau Harbour.

Captain Sherwin left Moore's dock with the Trader loaded for Abaco just after dark. The steel piling at Union Dock was about water level. The Trader ran into the piling and smashed in her bow. Boats are built with a stem lining which the planks are fastened to. The stem is mainly for looks. Captain Sherwin reversed out, turned around and ran the Trader ashore on the eastern side of City Lumber Yard dock. Her bow was raised up by a shallow sand bar near the shore, which kept the damaged area above the water.

My oldest brother, Clarie, and Sherwin went to school together and were lifetime friends. Sherwin called Clarie and in minutes his three sons, Emory, Gilbert and Lowell, had collected other boys from Sears Addition, known as Abaco Village, and were down at City Lumber dock unloading the Tropical Traders freight along with her crew.

Clarie arranged for two trucks and the freight was carried to a warehouse. All this was done for a friend, at no cost to Sherwin. The Trader was taken to Symonette's Shipyard and a new stem installed.

Sincerely,
Jack Lowe

An Unfortunate Incident

Dear Editor,

Please allow me a space in your letter column. Recently, I had a bad encounter with one of our local supermarkets.

On December 17th I went to Maxwell's Supermarket to pick up a few items. However, one of the items that I had to purchase was Huggies pampers. The price listed was \$14.89, but to my surprise at the counter the pampers were rung up as \$18.89. When I realized the difference, I brought it to the cashier's attention. She then called the floor supervisor. Shockingly, the floor supervisor said to me that I would have to pay \$18.89 for the pampers.

My reply to the supervisor was that price control states that you should pay the lowest price on the goods. He then replied that I would have to pay \$18.89 or leave it.

I asked to make a local phone call to the Marsh Harbour Police Station. I explained to the police what had happened. He informed me that I should pay \$ 14.89 for the item. I then asked if a police officer could come to the shop to deal with this horrible situation. The police informed me that an officer would be right by.

I waited at Maxwell's for 45 minutes. To my surprise no one ever came. This situation has made me very bitter. After I left Maxwell's, I stopped by the police station to find out why the officer never came. I was informed that the police called Maxwell's to find out what had happened and was informed by the supervisor that I had changed the price.

This encounter I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. It made me sick to know that

1) The police are the people's servants and are suppose to be there to protect the people's rights.

2) That the store supervisor would make up a hilarious lie and the police would accept it.

3) If I had changed the price, the police should have still come TO LOCK ME UP. I clearly understand that Maxwell's and

Price Right have a monopoly. But situations like this should not be allowed to go on day after day. I am quite sure that I am not the only person something like this has happened to. Thanks for allowing me this space.

Regards,
Disgruntled customer

Some Incidents Need Two Officers

Dear Editor,

Would you kindly print the following letter.

As a concerned citizen of the Bahamas I write not just on my behalf but on the behalf of our police men and women who are responsible for the safety of the public.

On December 30th a suspicious-looking man with a knife was seen lurking around Classic Coin Laundromat. A police reservist was there and she called the police.

When the reservist left a hour later, no police had shown up so she went to the station to report it the second time. She took it upon herself to return to the laundry on December 31st to let me know what she had observed. She went with me to look around and found that someone had been sleeping in our hot water propane tank room. There were his personal belongings and evidence of smoking in the room! (That could have been very dangerous). I went in and called the Police for the third time. I was told the police would be there shortly.

After waiting for two hours, one police officer showed up. I took him outside to show him what we had found earlier only to get the shock of my life. When I opened the door, the man was back in the room with his belongings. The police officer told him that he was under arrest and the man tried to run. But the policeman was able to get him out of the room. That is when I noticed he had a knife on him. I yelled to the police that he had a knife. The policeman was trying to put handcuffs on him when he got away. There was a chase and 20 minutes later the police officer came back to say that he had caught him and that I had to come to the station to make a compliant and give a statement. (I did when I got off work)

The problem that I have is that I cannot understand why are they allowing the police to go to a crime seen alone. If there would have been two police officers there,

all this would not have happened and there would not have been a chase to get him.

And what if he would have got to the knife. The policeman could have been dead and myself or seriously injured. It might have sounded like it was a petty incident where you only needed one police but that was not the case. PLEASE HAVE OUR POLICE TRAVEL IN PAIRS FOR THEIR SAFETY AND OURS.

B. Kemp

What's a Solution to the Crossing Beach Traffic Problem?

Dear Editor,

It would appear that many people are very concerned about the service and fees provided by Albury's Ferry Services, a privately operated company. Some are even indicating that the ferry service, as a public transportation system, should be regulated by the government. I don't know about that seeing as how I'm not a very politically-minded person. But my observations would be on how well other government systems work, or doesn't work, as the case may be.

In my opinion the REAL problem here isn't the ferry service itself as much as the traffic hazards and parking problems that the ferry terminal location presents in Marsh Harbour together with the increasing demands of more commuter vehicles trying to park in a limited space.

Over the last couple of years attempts have been made to increase available parking off the road in order to allow traffic to move more smoothly. The additional parking was a god-send and relieved some of the stress involved in negotiating the Crossing Beach area early mornings and late afternoons as workers head out to work or back to their families.

Unfortunately, as is the case with our airport, the solution did not take into account the natural growth of Abaco. The additional off-street parking is now so much in demand that in order to snag a good spot a worker must make every effort to arrive at the ferry terminal at least 30 minutes before departure. Even this doesn't necessarily guarantee a parking space as there are numerous other workers with the same plan in mind.

In desperate attempts to find someplace to leave their cars for the day as they go off

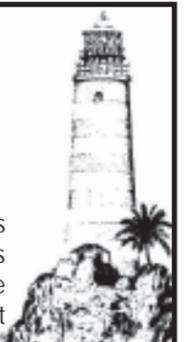
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Gulfstream Hosts an Open House

By Jennifer Hudson

Continental Connection, operated by Gulfstream International Airlines, hosted an Open House at Abaco Beach Resort on December 19th in appreciation of persons and businesses who frequently use the airline. Joining in the festivities were persons from the Ministry of Tourism, Immigration and Customs, travel agents, hoteliers, Zig-Zag Fuel Company and second-home owners. "We began this tradition two years ago in Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, and decided that we would like to extend it to Abaco for our SunPac, Frequent Commuter Coupon Book customers," said Wendy Clements, Vice President of Sales and Marketing.

Representing the airline in addition to Ms. Clements were Mr. Tom Cooper, CEO and past owner; David Hackett, President; Roy Canter, Senior Vice President of Passenger Services; Sharon Smith, Station Manager

for Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay, and Tyrone Sawyer, Director of Airlift Development.

Gulfstream is code shared with Continental Airlines and flies from West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Miami throughout the islands of the Bahamas. The airline first began flights to some islands of the Bahamas in 1989. At first it utilized 19-seat Beech 1900 aircraft and in 2004 added the 30-seat Embraer 120 to accommodate the increasing passenger load.

Also that same year the airline was named the Bahamas Cacique Award winner, "Airline of the Year." Mostly 30-seat aircraft are now used and the airline has achieved 90 percent on time performance for the past two years.

Guests enjoyed refreshments while awaiting the arrival of Mr. Cooper and Mr. Hackett, who were to make speeches on

behalf of the airline. "We apologize for their being a little late but would like you to know that they are not coming on Gulfstream," quipped the Master of Ceremonies. Fortunately, they soon arrived to greet the assembled company.

Mr. Cooper made brief remarks stating, "Business keeps growing and this destination keeps getting better and better."

Mr. Hackett thanked all present for their support. "We fly 200 flights a day but our heart is the Out Islands of the Bahamas," he said. Then he spoke of "a couple of changes which will take place shortly." A fourth flight will be added between Marsh Harbour and Fort Lauderdale each day leaving from Marsh Harbour at 9 a.m.; a third Marsh Harbour - West Palm Beach flight will come into effect mid-February and there

have been many requests for a West Palm - Treasure Cay service. Other destinations in North Florida from Marsh Harbour may also be looked at.

Mr. Sawyer said that he works to improve service throughout the Bahamas and was impressed to see the widespread representation from the Abaco community. "Abaco is looked at as a leader in tourism and I commend the staff of the Ministry of Tourism for the great job they are doing," he commented. He also thanked Gary Smith, Superintendent of Customs in Marsh Harbour, for the support of the Customs Department. "Gulfstream is a real partner," he stated and ended with a request for the continual support of the Abaco community so that the partnership with Gulfstream can go from strength to strength.



Gulfstream International Airlines hosted an Open House on December 19 at Abaco Beach Resort in appreciation of the support Abaco gives them. Shown here are Gulfstream staff members Lorenzo Whitehead, Devona Hollingsworth, Lawanda Bootle, Exuma Station Manager, Tom Cooper, Leslie Cornish, Mary Beth Horn, Roy Cantor, Wendy Clements, Dominique Rolle, Sharon Smith, Mrs. Cantor, Ryan, Marsha Strachan and Dwane Adderley.



Mr. Tom Cooper, Gulfstream International Airlines founder and CEO, talks with Mr. Dave Bhuto, Commodore of the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club, and Mr. Ed Whitcraft, President of the Treasure Cay Property Owners Association.

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Hon. Wisdom Discussed Abaco Issues

The Hon Neville Wisdom, Minister of Housing, visited Central Abaco and met with local government officials on January 5. He discussed several topics important to Abaco.

Government is planning upcoming repairs to several sporting facilities. The facilities on Abaco are in such disrepair that the associations cannot use them for sporting activities. One of Mr. Wisdom's goals on this visit is to see that repairs are expedited.

Moore's Island has been promised better sporting facilities. A new facility is well on the way as he is leaving plans with the Administrator. Improvements on several other sporting facilities will be placed on the fast track.

There are many potential athletes on Abaco that need improved facilities to develop their full potential. By the time the next Bahama Games are held, hopefully Abaco athletes, trained on Abaco, will be able to compete, and not rely on athletes from elsewhere to represent Abaco.

Mr. Wisdom is asking parents to support their children in various sports and enroll them when the opportunity arises. Youth in active sports programs are proven to be better citizens as they mature and con-

tinue their education.

Proper sporting facilities in the Family Islands can be utilized by Tourism as training facilities for foreign sporting associations looking for places to train in more favorable climates than their native winter settings.

Government's thrust in affordable housing is another of his pet projects and Abaco should see more effort in this direction. Mr. Wisdom recognizes the desperate need for housing on Abaco due to the unprecedented growth in the economy. The Department of Housing now has a list of 500 - 600 persons expressing an interest in affordable housing. One of the delays in this program is getting enough contractors qualified to undertake the construction of these homes.

Phase two in Central Pines subdivision will see an additional 250 lots being made available. An expansion of Spring City is being studied.

Mr. Wisdom said the Mud and Pigeon Peas problem is a complicated issue that developed over many years and will take years to resolve. Many of the residents there who are broadly named as illegal are discovered to be either Bahamian or have a basis for legal status even though this pro-

cess may not be as efficient as desired. Effort to solve the immigrant problems will require a joint effort by the Ministry of Housing, Social Services, Immigration and others. Government recognizes the need for common labour such as gardening, landscaping, and the need for manual labour by contractors and those in agriculture.

All the previous studies and recommendations on the immigrant problems and other housing issues are now being consolidated and government will be moving forward on this issue. Housing will not be made available to illegal persons, but Mr. Wisdom stated that the law must be applied with compassion.

Government in Nassau is taking measures to remove squatters from government lands and this program is expected to expand to the Family Islands. Besides issues related to squatting on government land, there are other issues these communities present to society that must be addressed such as health and crime. They are also areas prone to calamities such as fire and flooding that are expensive to resolve satisfactorily.

Mr. Wisdom asks that views, opinions and possible solutions on this topic be sent to his Ministry for consideration. Interested persons can leave their views with the Housing office in Marsh Harbour.

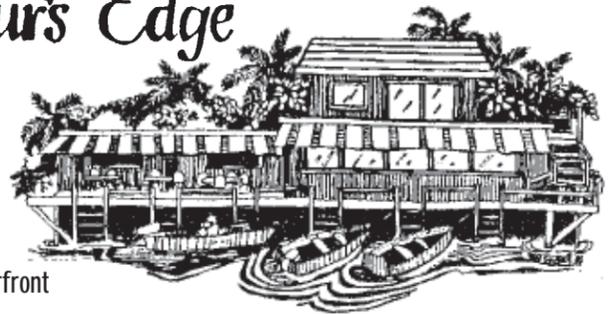
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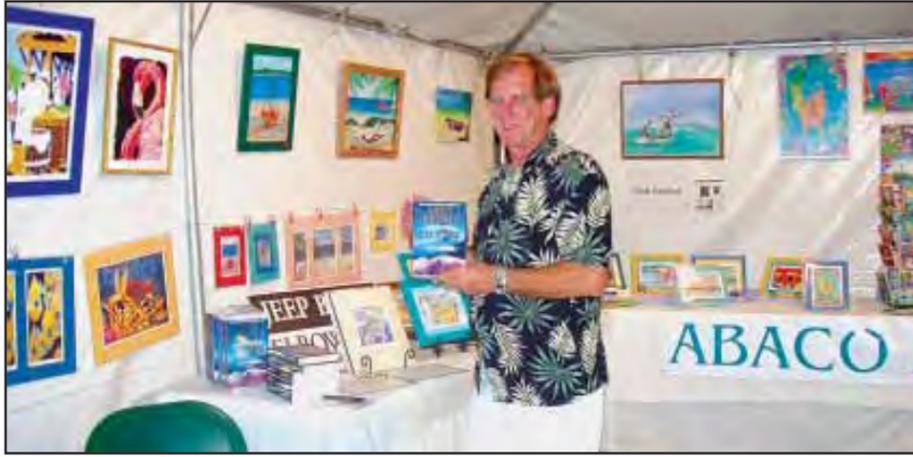


Abaco Artists Visit Festival in Freeport

The 12th annual *Evening Under The Stars* was presented at the Rand Nature Centre in Freeport on December 1st and 2nd. Over 1000 guests got into the Christmas spirit on Friday night when the top restaurants in Freeport prepared gourmet entrees on The Nature Centre grounds. On Saturday craftspeople presented their wares to the public.

Featured artists at the event were the Eddie Minnis family in the main gallery. Well known artist Eddie Minnis displayed a collection of his beautiful paintings and gave a lecture to the public. Abaco artists invited to the festive event were Raquel Russell, Jeep Byers and Marjolein Scott.

All the proceeds will benefit the Bahamas National Trust on Grand Bahama.



Three Abaco artists were invited to show their work at the Festival Noel in Freeport. Shown is Jeep Byers in the Abaco tent. The show was a benefit for the Bahamas National Trust on Grand Bahama.

AA and Al Anon Meetings

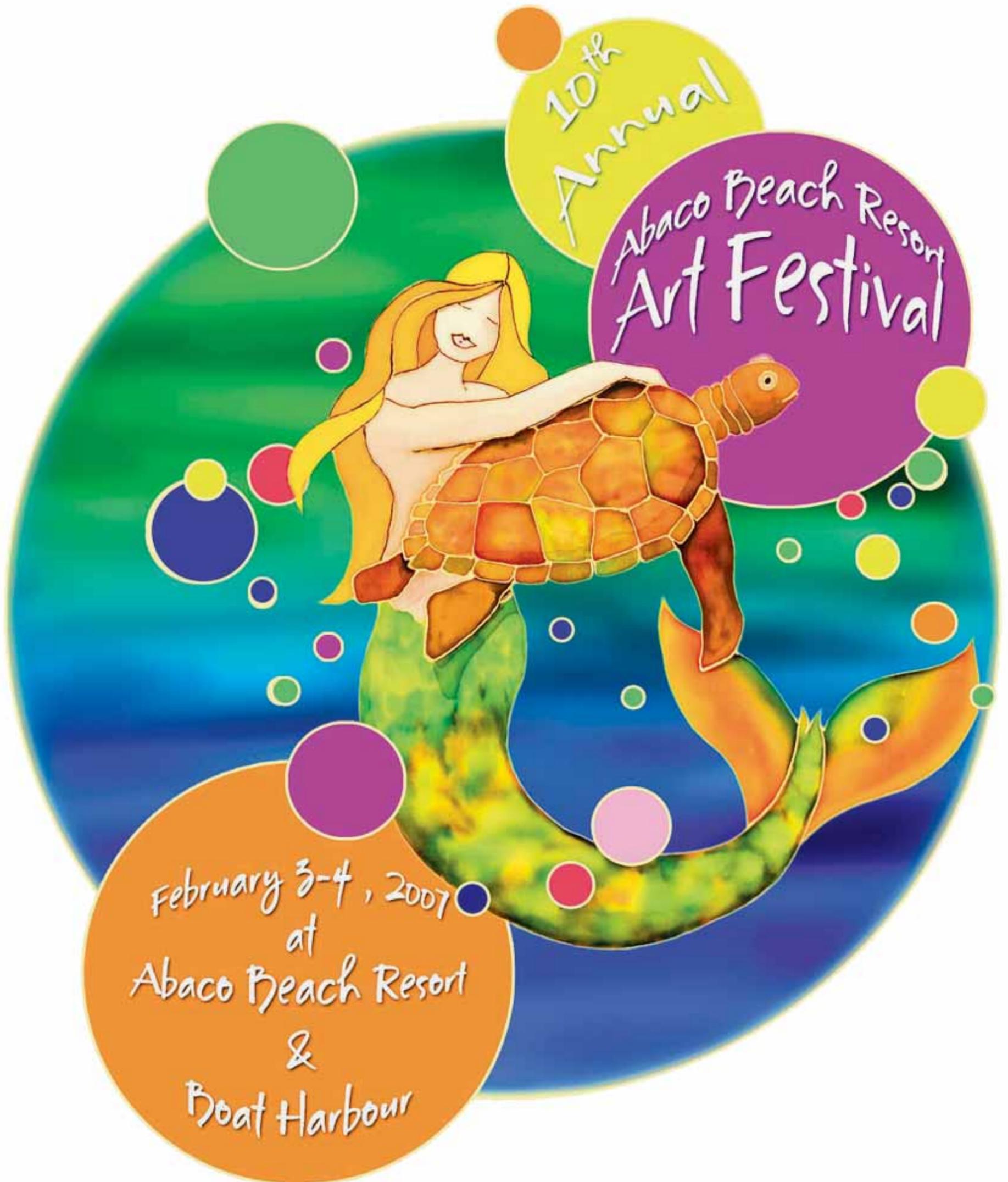
The AA (Alcoholics Anomymous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AlAnon group of Marsh Harbour meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

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

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

Please call 357-6511 for additional information.



Cherokee Holds Town Meeting

A Town Meeting held in Cherokee Sound on December 13 attracted approximately 40 persons, mostly from Cherokee, although a few persons attended from Casuarina Point and Bahama Palm Shore, about 15 and 20 miles away respectively. Mr. Neil Campbell had been in Cherokee for an earlier formal meeting of the Town Committee but did not remain for the open town discussion.

Traffic and road issues were primary items on the residents agenda, both the 11 miles of highway and the settlement roads. Abaco's Police Chief, ASP Wayne Miller and Sgt. Henfield attended and answered questions related to traffic issues.

Residents were upset that a month earlier that Administrator Campbell had advised the town of their responsibility for maintaining 11 miles of road between the settlement and the highway. He was unable to provide any funding for maintenance and the Cherokee budget did not have any funds for this. Neither was it clear that funding might be available for the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the road is not now solely to serve Cherokee. Several miles serve a vibrant farming community. The road also serves the Little Harbour residents and visitors. The new Abaco Club at Winding Bay is probably the heaviest user of this road with employee and resort traffic, contractor vehicles and

equipment and finally their supply vehicles bringing food, construction materials, concrete and lumber.

It was obvious that residents and the Cherokee Town committee were not pleased at being given this stretch of road without any funding for maintenance. A main complaint was the poor visibility at the sharp corners and curves due to overgrown weeds and brush. The many narrow curves are not properly marked in advance with signs. Cat eyes or reflectors are needed to alert night drivers. Brush needs to be cleared from the roadsides. Cherokee school children occasionally clean the roadsides of litter, bottles and cans as a community service.

Apparently, a few signs and cat-eye reflectors were installed several years ago but not enough to properly signal the many curves. There are three abrupt 90-degree turns which should be better marked and perhaps illuminated with street lights now that an electric line follows the road.

Yvonne Key of the Marsh Harbour Town Committee was praised for mowing the roadsides and clearing the brush on the curves to improve visibility but nothing has been done since.

Residents complained to ASP Miller that speeding trucks and other large vehicles often force Cherokee residents off the road and that it is only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs.

Residents mentioned that speeding within

town is also a serious problem. Recently the school put up movable barricades on the street near the school during school hours in an attempt to control traffic. Several residents refuse to abide by the barriers claiming that they are illegal. ASP Miller confirmed that the town can put them there, but that he has no legal recourse against those who ignore the barriers.

[Ed: Towns can draft traffic rules, send them to Nassau for approval, then have them Gazetted which makes the traffic rules lawful. Spanish Wells did this several years ago.]

He also stated that speeding offences must be witnessed by three persons willing to testify in court and supported by a video of the offense. He did suggest that speed bumps be constructed which are quite effective at controlling speed when properly constructed.

Mr. Miller said he would request approved signs from Road Traffic which Local Government could then install.

On complaints of loose dogs, Mr. Miller stated that the law is vague, only requiring that they be kept under control. One remedy he suggested is for aggrieved persons to file civil charges against owners of "bad dogs." The police has no authority to contend with bad dogs unless ordered by the court. This procedure also applies to other nuisance animals.

Mr. Miller stated that Cherokee was due

to get a second constable, and he asked those who create "mischief" during the holidays to be sensible and not be destructive.

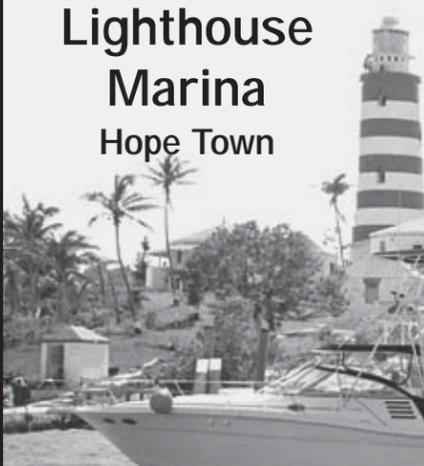
Residents complained that they are not made aware of building applications in their area. They felt that they should have some voice in approving or disapproving buildings for their town. A newly constructed two-story apartment building on the waterfront was given as an example of not conforming with existing buildings either in size or appearance. The residents objected to being aware of inappropriate buildings as they are being erected and not at an earlier stage. Apparently applications for building plans are posted only in Sandy Point approximately 50 miles away. Zoning was suggested as a way to preserve the single family residential nature of Cherokee and to limit the construction of restaurants, bars and multiple family buildings.

The chairman was asked on the status of a landowner who claims the adjoining swamp is his and is clearing the mangroves and placing fill in the area next to the bridge to the long dock. He stated that work was ordered to stop and Local Government is waiting on a reply from the Attorney General's office.

In conclusion, residents asked if town meetings like this could be held more often.

Please see **Town Meeting** Page 26

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Central Abaco News

The Shops of the New Wm. H. Building

By Jennifer Hudson

The new three-storey yellow building on Bay Street in Marsh Harbour, next to Sapodilly's, is the William H. building, dedicated to the late William H. Claridge, a well known Nassau businessman and father of owners Robert and Brenda Claridge. They planned the building three years ago to house quality retail stores, the goal being to make Marsh Harbour a more upscale location which would encourage visitors to spend more time in Marsh Harbour.

The building, which was built by Robert's company, RC Construction, comprises 6,000 square feet of space and presently houses three retail shops - Tupp's, Monkey's Uncle, Bahamas Outfitters - and the offices of H.G. Christie Limited. The vacant office space on the second floor will be occupied by the prestigious Nassau law firm of Higgs and Johnson in February.

While the owners have not made a final decision for the large space on the third floor, which has magnificent views across the harbour all the way down to Guana Cay, it will possibly be let as a large loft living space or divided into two smaller spaces.

"A complaint people made in the beginning was that there would not be not enough room for parking but there is actually no problem for, in addition to the spaces available in the front of the building, there is ample parking in the rear," stated Brenda.

A Quality Wine Shop

"Tupp's is one of the first privately-owned high-end wine stores with a wine selection that cannot be found anywhere else on Abaco with over 3,000 bottles on the shelves not including wines in the cellar," stated owner, Brenda Claridge.

The store interior is very attractive, giving one the feeling of walking into a wine cellar which is exactly the atmosphere the owner was trying to create. Brenda studied

the interiors of several wine shops in the United States and spent several months getting the interior how she wanted it to be. Instead of displaying the wines grouped in countries of origin like most wine shops, she has the wines displayed going from the lighter grapes to heavier grapes, the way the newer wine shops do. She carries many specialty wines from the United States and also from Spain, Italy, France and Argentina.

In addition to the wines there is a full line of liquors and liqueurs including beers. An interesting beer called Bam Bay, which is a mix of beer, sour orange and grapefruit juice, is actually made by Brenda's brother-in-law in Canada.

Once a month Tupp's will offer a wine tasting by invitation but Brenda says that they are also willing to open a bottle for a tasting in the shop for any serious wine drinker.

A Unique Gift Shop

Monkey's Uncle, located on the lower floor next to Tupp's is an upscale gift shop selling unique gifts and home accessories and is open Monday - Saturday from 10

a.m. to 6 p.m.

Owned by Kathy O'Kelleher and Terry Thompson, the store carries an interesting and diverse array of items including glassware, silverware, wooden objects, linens, coffee table books and all natural handmade soaps. It is such a delightful Pandora's box with so many unique items that a list would be endless and one really needs to go and experience it for oneself. In addition to the imported goods there are paintings for sale by local artists and hand made and painted ceramics by Vincent McWeeney, past Abaco resident whom many remember.

Special Clothing Shop

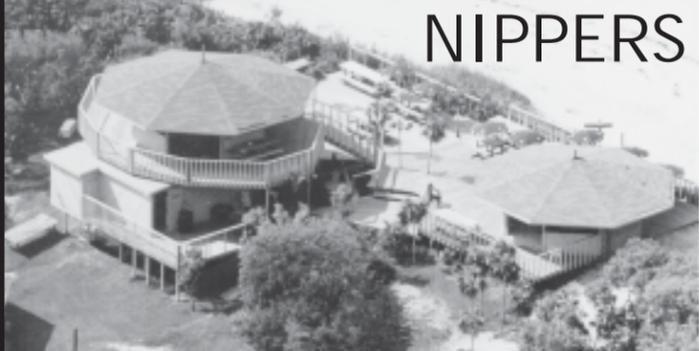
Bahamas Outfitters, located on the second floor, is owned by Frank and Sarah Knowles and opened on December 9th. The store, that carries casual clothing for men, women and children, is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The main brand names for men are Montego Mon and Columbia, while Star of India is the main brand for women. According to Manager,

Please see **Central**

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This prominent Wm. H. building is next to Sapodilly's on the Marsh Harbour waterfront. It houses three shops, two offices and eventually may include an apartment. Sapodilly's patio is visible on the right.



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More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 16*

Beulah Wong, a new line will soon be in stock which is an all organic blend of silk and cotton from the company Indigenious.

This store carries Exotic Recovery which is a line of room fragrances and scented candles and also an all natural line of sun care products.

A Real Estate Company Moves

H.G. Christie Limited Real Estate Company is located on the first and second floors, having moved from its previous location on

Front Street during the first week of November. The company has undergone a major expansion, having not only spread out over a much greater square footage but has increased its staff by 100 percent. A weekly rental and a property management division has been added. The lower area consists of reception, greeting area, conference area and office of manager, Kathleen Albury while the upper area consists of the sales agents' stations, and the rental and property manager, Lydia Bodamer's office. There are two full time appraisers on staff.

"The company is expanding very rapidly and we will soon be hiring even more staff"

said Ms. Albury. "We are still getting settled into our new, very modern space and we love it here," she added.

Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday but sales agents can be reached at any time of the day or evening and even on week-ends.

Other Business News

By Samantha V. Evans

Abaco Shopping Center's extension is

finally done and two businesses have moved in. Light Impression Tile and Music Store relocated from the original plaza to the western section. Owner David Lowe stated that the phone number and postal address remain the same. It has no new additions at this time but expects continued growth in 2007.

Sugar Lips, a new ladies' apparel and ac-

Please see Central Page 18



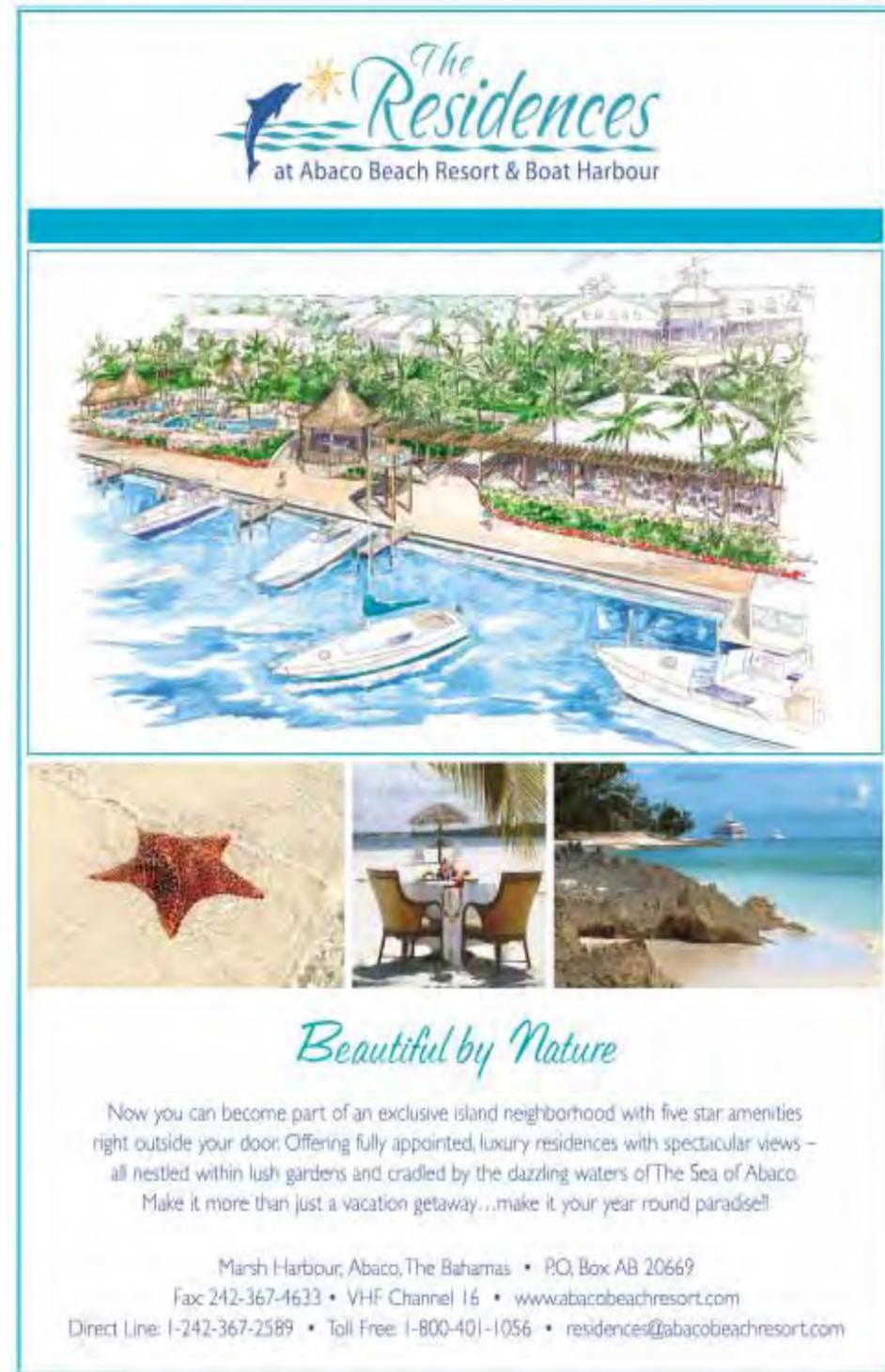
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More Central Abaco News

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cessories store, is now open in the new section of the plaza. The motto for the store, *Fashion for Less*, can be seen in the affordable prices throughout the store. Anything from flats to sandals to belts to costume jewelry can be found here. The fashions are bought from Los Angeles so trends from the East and West Coast can be found there. The owners of this "hip" ladies fashion store are Jason and Sophie Thompson. The phone number for the store is 367-0466 and the store hours are M-Fri. 10-6 and on Saturday 10-3.

Hardware Store Celebrated 25 Years

By Mirella Santillo

Abaco Hardware celebrated its 25th anniversary with a store wide sale. For two Saturdays in a row Marsh Harbour's popular hardware store, Abaco Hardware, offered its patrons a 25 percent discount on every item in the store as a goodwill gesture towards its customers and in celebration of 25 years in business.

With a live remote radio broadcast hosted by well known anchorman Silbert Mills, the store was full of people taking advantage of

the sale to finish their Christmas shopping. Said one of the store's employees, Mr. Peter Rolle, "It was packed during those two days. People were lining up at the registers to pay for their purchases."

ITS and MBS Move into New Premises

By Jennifer Hudson

Intelligent Technology Solutions (ITS) and Marshall's Business Services (MBS) have opened in the building behind Let's Talk Wireless next to First Caribbean Bank and will be open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

ITS, owned by Timothy Roberts, began almost two years ago but has now moved from a home office to a commercial office. Tim's main emphasis is "the best possible service in the most professional way," and he says that he plans to "keep prices competitive by always ordering on a per customer basis and only selling computers built with quality parts." Tim has eight years' experience in the computer field, and the services he will offer include the building, upgrade and repair of computers, web design and web host-

ing, setting up and maintenance of networks and graphic design (ads, logos, brochures, flyers, business cards).

MBS, owned by Rowland Marshall, specialises in marketing, advertising and promotional products, office stationery and office furniture. It can provide, through a company in Fort Lauderdale, printing on T-shirts, promotional items, gift sets, uniforms, pens, calendars, party items and business cards and "can bring in bulk orders at very reasonable prices and quicker than other local distributors." Mr. Marshall says, "I will be targeting businesses, not the tourist market." He will also be bringing in top of the line golf equipment and some less expensive equipment for learners. With office furniture he can order from a catalog and bring it in with big savings to the customer.

Mr. Marshall is exclusive agent on Abaco for Impact Images and has brochures for clients to select from. His motto is "Availability, quality of product, on-time delivery and better prices."

Please see **Central**

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At 3 a.m. on Boxing Day, December 26, fire broke out in the home of Tony Stubbs on Archer's Hill in Dundas Town. The Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department responded quickly. The back section of the house was badly damaged by fire and smoke but the front of the house may have suffered smoke damage but was spared from fire damage. Shown are Firemen Mike Parotti and Danny Sawyer.

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More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 18

Murphy Town Holds Christmas Service

By Samantha V. Evans

Every year the Murphy Town Local Government Committee holds a party for the community but this year the committee decided to have a Christmas service of thanksgiving instead. The service was held on December 21st at Bethany Gospel Chapel. Chief Councillor Cubell Davis brought greetings and opening remarks stating that there has been a lot of deaths in the community this year. He further commented that if they had had a beer fest they would have a full house but since they de-

ecided to gather in the house of the Lord many stayed at home. Pastor Christopher Dean, moderator, stated that in spite of all of the deaths and tragedy, this has been a fruitful year, especially since there has not been one hurricane to come our way.

Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator for Central Abaco, stated that Mr. Davis

and his team are to be commended for their efforts because he is passionate about Murphy Town and gives all of his decisions great thought before they are executed. ASP Miller, Abaco's police chief, thanked the residents of Murphy Town for their support. He made a commitment to increase

walk-about in the community so as to strengthen the partnership between the police and the community. Mr. Fritz Bootle stated that he is happy to be home with them

Please see **Central**

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Even the young enjoyed wearing costumes and participating in the Spring City Stinger Junkanoo group.



The Spring City Stingers rushed at Snappas Restaurant on New Year's Eve, bringing in the New Year with lots of noise and excitement. The Stingers won first place in the competition held in Central Abaco on December 27.

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Moore's Island Is Proud of First Police Woman

By Jennifer Hudson

Moore's Island is proud to have produced its first female Police Officer. WPC Valencia Curry graduated from the Police College in Freeport on November 23rd at the age of 19 and is now stationed with the Police Department in Marsh Harbour. Valencia lived with her mother on Moore's Island during her early years and attended the Moore's Island School where her teacher was Ms. Ruthamae Rolle. Ms. Rolle, who has since become principal of the school, is very proud of her former student's achievement at becoming the first female police officer from that island.

Valencia left Moore's Island to continue her secondary education, first in Nassau for one year after which she came to stay with her father in Marsh Harbour and finished her secondary schooling at Abaco Central High School, graduating in 2004. She worked on Abaco for two years before deciding to fulfill the dream she had had since 10th grade of becoming a police officer. She traveled to

Freeport in July to begin her training.

The physical training aspect of the course took some time for Valencia to get used to. "At first I found it hard," she confessed, "especially the running. I had to get up at 3 a.m. each morning to do exercises with all 40 of the other cadets in my training group which, in addition to running, included push ups, sit ups and pull ups for one and a half hours. After the exercise session we did fatigues which involved cleaning the college campus, offices, classrooms and police vehicles. Following fatigues we got ready for classes which began at 9 a.m. After a break for lunch at 1 p.m., we resumed classes at 3 p.m. until din-



Valencia Curry

ner at 5 p.m. At 7 p.m. we all had to 'fall in' for a head count."

Courses included the history of policing, different codes and divisions, a visit to the morgue, how to deal with accidents, learning to drive police vehicles and how to use guns. "The first time I did gun practice I found it very hard and I could not hit the targets," admitted Valencia. "However, after the third day it did not feel strange any more. I prefer the 9 mm. to the revolvers and rifles." Training also involved spending time observing in various police stations.

"My favourite part of the course was learning to drive the police vehicles; we did both theory and practical. We had to drive very fast, but it was in a specially designated area, not on the streets. We also learned the correct way to chauffeur Members of Parliament and other dignitaries."

Every two months the recruits had to sit a major exam and then came the final graduation parade for all successful candidates. The newly graduated WPC Curry is now completing her probationary year. She will spend the first six months in Marsh Harbor after which she will be sent to serve on Moore's Island. After her probationary year WPC Curry will sign on for a period of five years

as all fully trained police officers sign five-year renewable contracts.

WPC Curry has been assigned to the Community Policing project and works along with Corporal Minnis. They cover the areas of Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Marsh Harbour and Spring City and sometimes also visit the cays, assessing the concerns of the residents in each area. Every Friday morning she flies to Moore's Island to carry out Community Policing duties there during the weekend, flying back to Marsh Harbour on Monday morning. WPC Curry is enjoying her new vocation very much and highly recommends it as a career. She is delighted that her parents are very proud of her and wishes to thank her parents, pastors, friends and all who encouraged her and kept her in their prayers.

Qualifications necessary for entering the Police College are six BGCSE passes which must include Math and English, or the candidate may sit the police entry exam. Also necessary are a copy of the applicant's high school diploma, passport and birth certificate. An application form must be completed which is obtainable from the Marsh Harbour Police Station. Applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 30 years to begin training.

Power Surge Knocked Radio Abaco off the Air

By Julian Lockhart

Radio Abaco was been off air for several days after a power surge knocked out its transmitter late on Monday night, January 1st, 2007. The electricity throughout Abaco went off shortly after 11 p.m. on New Year's Day; and when it came back on, Radio Abaco was not as fortunate. Radio Abaco supplies Abaco with its only local broadcasting. Owner Silbert Mills said electronics experts fixed the problem.

Mr. Mills said, "We had a power surge and the transmitter got damaged from the power surge. I am not the expert but the

engineer is checking it out. It is not frustrating because you have to do what you have to do. You are off the air first day of the year. This is not the first time it happened to us, but we know how to deal with it. There is no way to prevent this from happening again unless you went completely off from BEC," he added.

Radio Abaco did receive some good news when Mr. Mills found out they could broadcast over the internet. Mr. Mills said, "We found out that we were still on the internet so if anyone wanted to listen to us they could do so that way," Mr. Mills concluded.



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Better Sporting Facilities Are Coming

By Julian Lockhart

After years waiting for new facilities or the improvement of the current sporting facilities, Abaco will finally see a number of sporting facilities renovated and new ones built in 2007.

Director of Sports for Abaco, Ishmael "Stretch" Morley, said the Hon. Neville Wisdom recently stated at a meeting that renovating the sporting facilities throughout the length of Abaco will commence shortly as they have already decided whose bids won in each town.

Facilities will be repaired or built in Crossing Rocks, at the Murphy Town Park facilities, Fox Town Primary track will be looked at, Mount Hope and also the facilities in Cooper's Town.

Mr. Morley said, "First of all, this year coming, all of the facilities on Abaco will be taken care of. That is already sorted out because we had a meeting last night (Friday, January 5th, 2007) at the Council office and the Hon. Neville Wisdom was at that meeting. He assured us that all of the sporting facilities in Abaco would be taken care of. A gym will be coming later, but his concerns were to get all the facilities fixed so the kids can

practice on the playing fields. It is not really disappointing because it takes time when you send contracts into Nassau. They have to look at them and they need three quotes. So most of the time when we send the contracts to Nassau they call for an extra one. We are finally at that point where in another couple of days we will go forward with all the contracts sent into New Providence," he added.

Considered the third island in the Bahamas behind New Providence and Grand Bahama, Abaco seriously lacks sporting facilities in any form.

There is no gym on the island; the two softball fields that are functional need a lot of work. Besides a few basketball courts, there are no consistent areas for the youth to compete and train on.

The best field is the one at the Murphy Town Park but the track surrounding the field is in disrepair. The student athletes have been crying out for sporting facilities not only to practice on but to compete on.

There is hardly any consistent sporting competition between the schools on Abaco and although a lot has to do with the distance between the high schools, the

lack of facilities to compete on is a major deterrent.

Abaco Central High student athlete Kevin Altidor said, "It will be great to finally get our own facilities so most of our players will not have to go Nassau or Freeport. We can practice here and we won't have to always go there to compete. They can now come here and play, which will be better for us. It will make us better athletes in many ways. If we have a gym, we won't get hurt as much on the floor. Unlike playing outside if we fall, we won't get cut or bruises," Altidor added.

Mr. Morley said the fixing of the facilities is definitely something they had to wait for but the wait will be worth it.

Because of the lack of facilities and consistent competition, a number of top student athletes in Abaco transferred into high schools on Grand Bahama and New Providence. Mr. Morley is hoping that these athletes can now return home instead of traveling abroad to tap into their enormous talents.

He added that he doesn't know yet if it was good for the Abaco student athletes to leave to go to Grand Bahama and

New Providence. Once the graduation period rolls around in May and June, he will have a better feel if it was productive.

The private high schools on Grand Bahama have been known for years to recruit other schools' top athletes to give them a better opportunity to receive college scholarships in the United States.

Mr. Morley said, "It is very important because if you don't have any facilities to advance the program, none of the kids would be looked at to get scholarships. You have to have facilities in order for the kids to play and to practice on. I think facilities will be able to help our athletes compete on a higher level. Despite the inconvenience we had with the facilities being down, the Abaco athletes competed on a high level.

Quite a few of the Abaco athletes went to school on Grand Bahama and New Providence. The only problem is the other islands are taking all the good athletes. It is all in good spirit and I hope that things work out for the kids that left. The idea was they would get scholarships, and I am hoping and praying they are able to get these scholarships," he concluded.

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Two Groups Competed in Senior Junkanoo

By Samantha V. Evans

After anticipating the excitement of the senior Junkanoo parade on Boxing Day, December 26th, scores of fans were disappointed when rain poured down from mid-afternoon until past the 10 p.m. hour when the parade was slated to start. Downtown Marsh Harbour was like a ghost town as Abaconians realized that there would be no parade that night. However, the parade was held the following night and even though many persons did not know of the new date, Junkanoo officials stated that they made the announcement several times over Radio Abaco. In spite of this apparent mix-up in dates, there was still a good crowd that came out to support the groups.

This year only two groups took part in the Senior Junkanoo parade: the Supreme Dancers of Murphy Town and The Stingers of Spring City. The theme of the Supreme Dancers was *Tribal Warfare* and that of The Stingers was *Protecting the Abaco Wildlife*. The parade began minutes before 10 p.m. with The Stingers performing first. After two laps in downtown Abaco, the four judges came up with the final scores.

The best of the shoulder costume winner was Jonathan Johnson and runner up was Kirk Thompson. The winner will receive \$250. The winner of best banner was The Stingers with 41 points. The Supreme Dancers received 32 points. The group that won for the best execution of the theme was The Stingers with 53 points while the Supreme Dancers received 48 points. The group that won the costumes category was The Stingers once again with 741 points while the Supreme Dancers received 644 points. The best music category was won by The Stingers with 2,553 and the Supreme Dancers received 2,414 points. Overall group per-

formance winner was The Stingers with 496 points. The Supreme Dancers received 370 points. The total unofficial scores for each group are as follows: The Stingers: 3,884 and the Supreme Dancers: 3,508 points. The winning group will receive \$3500 and the runner up \$2500. The money will be released once details of the parade are finalized and any protests addressed.

The youth officer for Abaco, Ishmael "Stetch" Morley, stated that he is disappointed that other groups did not enter. These groups being The Rockers from Spring City, whose leader is Colin Curry

and The Murphy Town Dancers. Both groups stated that they did not enter because of lack of financial support. Mr. Morley continued by saying that the government is not supposed to finance the Junkanoo groups. They only assist with the seed money which to date stands at \$2,000. He wants the groups to understand that in order for this seed money to be increased, the Minister of Youth must see a good product. So far, this has not been achieved. He wants to encourage the groups to have fund raisers throughout the year to assist with the rising cost of being a part of this lavish

parade.

The government released seed money for all four Junkanoo groups for the Boxing Day parade but to date only Mr. Colin Curry has returned his money to the Youth department. Mr. Morley wants to remind the remaining group leader that the money must be returned. On behalf of the Minister of Youth, Sports and Housing, he wants to thank the two groups that participated in the parade to provide the locals and tourists with the Junkanoo experience that is almost synonymous with the Christmas season.

The Stingers: Up Close and Personal

By Samantha V. Evans

For persons who have lived on Abaco for more than two years, they can probably remember when The Stingers first made their appearance in downtown Marsh Harbour in 2004. The leader of this group, Mr. Uriel Delancy, stated that he loves the Bahamian culture and sees his involvement as a way of passing on this tradition to the youth. He stated that they chose as their theme *Protecting the Abaco Wildlife* because of the wild horses that live in Treasure Cay. He hopes to make locals more aware of this so that they will protect them. Presently, the group has 35 persons, but he would like to see it grow to about 80. He plans to get more kids involved in 2007 and hopes that more Bahamian men especially will get involved in Junkanoo.

He stated that one of his plans where the youth are concerned is to do some activities like fish fries and Junkanoo rush outs to motivate them to become a part of Junkanoo. The group is presently located

in a gym in Spring City but they are hoping for a sponsor so that they can get a permanent Junkanoo shack. For the past two years he has written local business houses asking for support but has received no response. However, his group has been assisted by Snappas. The Stingers brought in the New Year by having a Junkanoo rush out at the eatery at the midnight hour. They also put on shows at various locations that help the group with expenses.

He would like to see youth and their parents get more involved in their community activities such as Junkanoo. He gets a lot of interest from the Haitian/Bahamian kids but very little from

Bahamian kids. He would like to see more Bahamian kids take an interest in pre-

serving their culture. They are needed so that the culture can continue to live on after he is gone. He encourages males especially to get involved and to get of the blocks.

He would like to appeal to the hoteliers to utilize Junkanoo groups so that the tourists can see what Junkanoo is all about year-round and develop an appreciation for the culture. In the very near future he would like to see business houses get involved in the parade because this will enable them to put on a more successful event. The Boxing Day parade cost his group approximately \$6,000 and he looks for the expenses to increase to \$10,000 for the December 2007

Please see **Stingers**

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Manager Spells Out Tourism's Plans for 2007

By Samantha V. Evans

The Tourism Industry is booming on Abaco and to ensure that all tourism personnel are current in all areas of this industry and that the visitors have the best tourism experience ever, Mr. Don Cornish, Manager of the Tourism office on Abaco, plans to implement the following initiatives in 2007.

Community Tourism – This initiative will educate communities about the tourism industry. Residents will learn about maintaining the streets and other resources so that tourists as well as Bahamians can get the maximum benefit from what God has given Abaco. He plans to work along with the churches and various community agencies to better all communities. Hopefully, leaders will be identified who can assist youth in the communities where they live.

School Tourism – This initiative will educate students about the world of tourism including all of the exciting careers that they can prepare for while in primary and high school. The aim is to prepare them early so that they can best embrace what tourism has to offer in the future. He wants to prepare leaders for tomorrow because he sees them

as being the greatest partners in making The Bahamas a better place. He is especially interested in helping Central Abaco Primary School develop the playing field on the school grounds..

Training Department – This department will be very active beginning in 2007 as it will serve many purposes. The upstairs board room at Memorial Plaza will be transformed into the training room. He plans to do a lot of staff training in this room as well as for businesses in the community. Some of the training programs to be offered are etiquette training, Bahamahost program, small hotel training, customer service training, website development and cultural training. All of this training will maximize the tourism product for all stakeholders.

Cultural Training – This program will be offered to foreign employees and employers as a way of bridging the cultural gap. He sees this as a way of the industry maintaining itself and its resources. He has developed a handbook for this particular training.

Certified Programs – These programs will be offered in bonefishing, tour guide and other tourism-related areas. A fact sheet

has been developed on each community as well as scripts for those persons who want to be trained to do tours on Abaco.

Youth Program – He plans to work along with the youth officer, Mr. Ishmael "Stretch" Morley, to prepare a business plan for the youth. This will include different linkages i.e. sports. He wants to help the youth so that they will have the skills needed for them to function effectively when they graduate from high school. Therefore, he plans to begin working with them from primary school. One of the things he would like to see improved is the consistency of programs on the island. He wants to see one big activity a month that brings youth and their parents together. He wants par-

ents more involved in youth programs by coming out to watch their children play or perform at least once every month. He feels that this will greatly improve that child's self esteem and that will spill over into every other area of that child's life.

Many other things will be put in place to sustain the industry and celebrate Abaco's history so that residents can share the island's rich culture with guests. They can educate the tourists on how this culture has impacted the present and will continue to impact the future of Abaco. He sees this as a way of connecting the dots . . . "where we are now to where we came from."

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Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral service for **Vivian Henza Davis-Woodside**, 48, of Murphy Town, was held on December 30th at Zion Baptist Cathedral in Murphy Town. Rev. Christopher Dean officiated assisted by Rev. Leroy Thompson. Interment was in the Murphy Town Public Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband Leroy Woodside; daughter Leeann Woodside; father Brennen Davis; sisters Sandra McKenzie, Helen Forbes, Joy and Cecile Davis; brothers Joseph, Hilton, Sylvan and Benjamin Davis; aunts Verleta Davis, Williamae Dawkins, Lerraine Farrington, Aremanta McKenzie, Beverly Davis, Elsie and Inez Knowles; uncles Herchel and Hiram Davis, George McKenzie, Clifford and Leonard Knowles and Benjamin Dawkins; nieces; nephews; sister-in-law Addie Davis; step-children Sharon Octavien, Erma Simms, Maureen, Dory, Royette and Judith Woodside and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Vernerva Margaret Brown**, 86, formerly of Marsh Harbour, was held on January 6 in Nassau. Interment was in Nassau.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Catherine and Geoffrey McPhee; grandchildren Kim Dean, Marcella and Austin Wilson, Alexis and Terika Dean, Natasha-Huyler, Benjamin and Christopher McPhee; great-grandchildren Felicianna, Easternee and Valchino Williams, Anthonique Arnett, LaVonne Ferguson, Aysha, Alexis and Alijah Dean; great-great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law; Pecola Mackey, Francina Butler-Watson, Cathleen Butler; brothers-in-law Herman Nixon, Alexander, William and Epheus Butler; nephews; nieces; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Lionel Knowles Fox**, 60, formerly of Sandy Point, was held on January 6th in Nassau. Interment was in Nassau.

He is survived by his wife Victoria Fox; grandchildren Sidney Fox, Kischnell, Michael and Sophia Laing; grandchildren Colincia Laing and Kendera Farrington; great-grandchild Colissa McKinney; sisters Vernita Rahming, Patricia Hall, Theresa Thurston, Belinda Morley, Barbara and Tammy Knowles, Susan and Dianne Fox; brothers James and Joseph Knowles, Richard Lionel "Boy" and Robert Fox; brothers-in-law Stanford Ferguson, Henciel Johnson, Sidney, Theodore Morley, Leonard Rahming, Andrew Hall and Hently Thurston; sisters-in-law Thelma Ferguson, Eloise Ferguson, Henrietta, Marilyn Johnson, Sheila and Melvern Bain and Louise Knowles; godchild Felicia Armbrister; aunts Lillian Fox and Eva Mortimer; uncle Samuel Arthur; grandaunt Marina Knowles; aunts-in-law Dedrieana Arthur and Lizzieanna Ferguson; uncle-in-law Wellington Ferguson; nieces; nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Gloria Mikula Knowles**, 51, of Treasure Cay was held on January 6th at Full Gospel Assembly in Sand Banks. Rev. Stafford Symonette officiated. Interment was in the Public Cemetery in Cooper's Town.

She is survived by her children Katherine, Willis, Dedric and Romana Russell, Cutelle and Michelle Mikula Knowles and Shanda Campbell, mother Annie McIntosh; grandchildren Chrishantie Edgecome, Brianna Russell, Michelle Nicholson, Miguel Davis, Rayshan, Rayvonne, and Raynevia Campbell; brothers Roosevelt, Sam and Deoily McIntosh; sister Freeda McIntosh;

parents-in-law Bernice and Dolly Nicholson; daughter-in-law Keisha Russell; sisters-in-law Belinda, Urenia and Andrea McIntosh; aunts Savaletta, Evelyn, Mildred, Lucy, Miriam and Betty; uncles Kelvin, Ronald and Edwin; aunts-in-law Estelle, Florence,

Rudy, Fena, Kathleen and Magnola; uncles-in-law Orthnell, Hasting and Carl; nephews Radney, Jamal, Devon, Dennis, and Deoily; nieces Jamika and Deora; and many other relatives and friends.

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US Visitors Will Need Passports

Passports

From Page 1

taken by the US following the September 11, 2001, attack. The intent is to ensure that the borders of America are protected. The Bahamas has been asked to issue passports that contain identification data of individual travelers that can be electronically scanned.

Manager of the Abaco Tourism Office Don Cornish said, "The greater interest is in airlines after 9/11, though they haven't spelled that out. But it is fairly clear because they are allowing cruise ship passengers an exemption until 2009. We (Abaco) have a very small niche of regular customers with a 69 percent return rate. I believe, and I will probably put my head on the chopping block, that we have the savvy traveler. These persons have been traveling very frequently and they regard Abaco as home. Because they have a vested interest in the destination, they have probably already taken the necessary steps," he added.

Mr. Cornish said he is almost certain Abaco will be less affected than the national average, but there will be significant business loss. Even if it is a two percent drop off, it will be significant.

The first six months of 2007 will be the

most crucial months as American travelers adjust to the new rules and apply for their passports. It takes six to eight weeks after applying to receive a passport; however, applicants can pay to expedite the process. Mr. Cornish recommends that hotel and rental property managers use their visitor data to notify their guests to apply for their passports early. He added that if every hotel and property manager on Abaco did that, it would lessen the impact of the situation.

Mr. Cornish said, "This situation is being pushed late. We were hoping to negotiate an extension so we haven't gotten the message out to the American public as well as we could have. The spontaneous traveler, the person who jumps up and says let's go to The Bahamas next weekend, that individual we will lose. The persons who are more savvy and plan their vacation in advance will discover these new regulations when they go to their travel agents.

Boaters represent about 10 percent of Abaco's tourism business and Mr. Cornish said a 10 percent decrease in this area would represent a lot of money to be lost from the economy even for a short period of time.

The Cruisers' Net on the internet has done a good job in letting boaters know that they now need passports to reenter the United States.

New Markets Are Being Explored

To offset anticipated lower numbers of US visitors to The Bahamas due to passport requirement, the Ministry of Tourism has been increasing its advertising in other markets, specifically in Canada, Europe and China. Especially in China, Tourism is trying to reach a new market and has been working on a contract for direct flights from China into The Bahamas. Mr. Cornish said, "We are focusing on them now. We have a very strong effort now going on in China. The biggest challenge is getting them here."

Canada is another option with the emergence of direct flights on the bargain air-

line West Jet. We have placed more emphasis on direct flights from Canada. I think that is going to help us if that market comes around and Canadian visitors see us as an alternative to their other destinations.

Mr. Cornish said, "Having the West Jet direct flights coming from Toronto (to The Bahamas) now help. We can be a lot better off because the Canadian numbers can be higher than they are now. We now can re-focus on that market and especially for Abaco if we can rebuild the Treasure Cay market with the charter flights from Canada."



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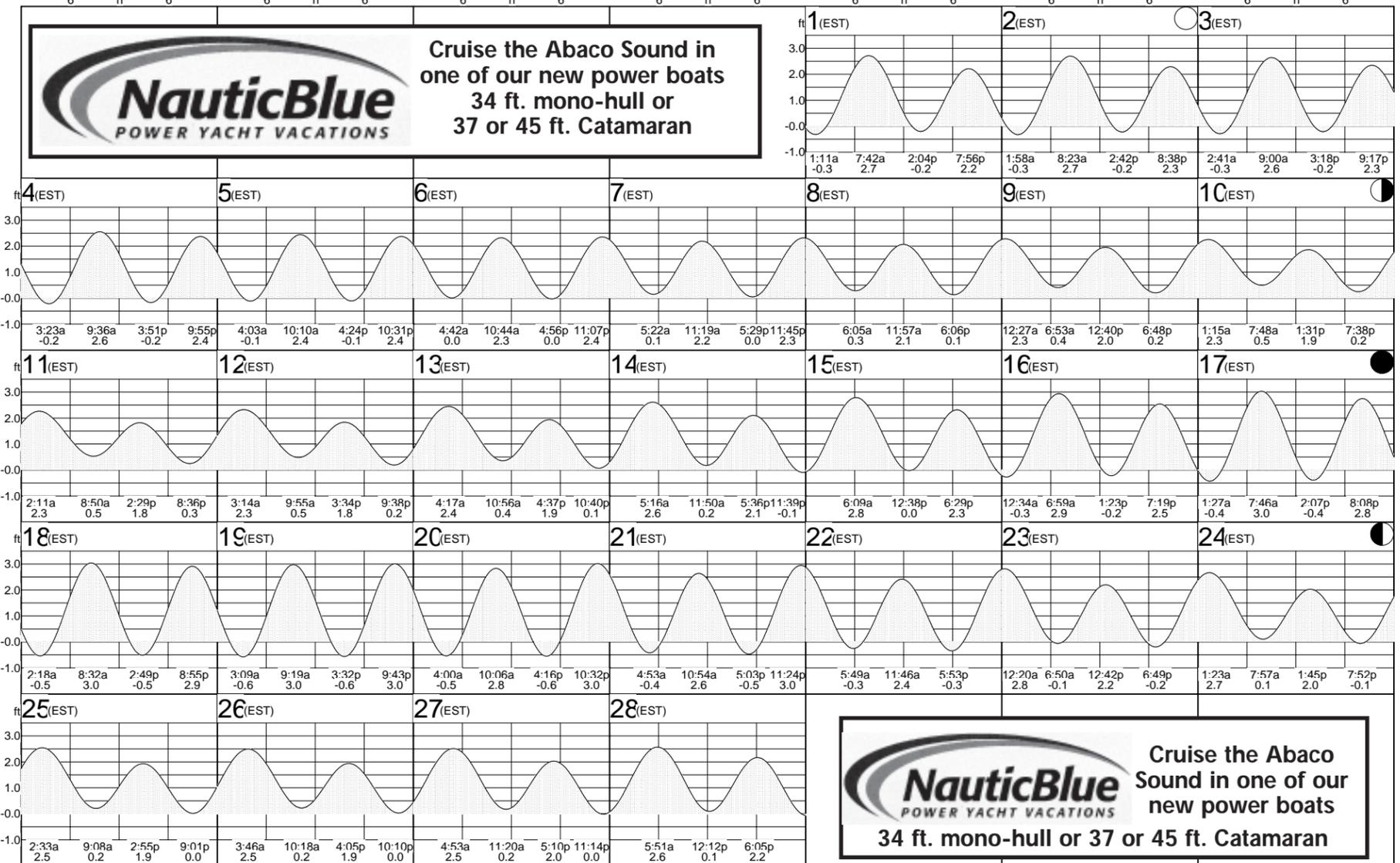
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Tide - North Bar Channel February 2007

Average Tides
Mean Range: 2.6 ft
MHWS 3.1 ft
Mean Tide: 1.4 ft

Monthly High & Low
High February 18, 8:32a 3.0 ft
Low February 19, 3:09a -0.6 ft

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
6	n	6	n	6	n	6	n	6	n	6	n	6	n
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Cruise the Abaco Sound in one of our new power boats 34 ft. mono-hull or 37 or 45 ft. Catamaran</p> </div> </div>													
													
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Cruise the Abaco Sound in one of our new power boats 34 ft. mono-hull or 37 or 45 ft. Catamaran</p> </div> </div>													

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More Letters

Letters

From Page 9

to the cays to work, workers have had to resort to parking along the narrow road leading into Eastern Shores and in some cases, into homeowners driveways. I have seen cars parked on the rocks just above the water where one of the last hurricanes washed out most of the road into Eastern Shores. I do have sympathy for the homeowners that must brave this fiasco of ill-parked cars daily and understand why they do not want workers parking in their driveways and along their narrow roadway.

But I also have sympathy for the normal worker, running late to catch a ferry to their job, a job they may lose if they are late, and desperately trying to find a tiny corner to slip their vehicle into.

Something has to be done. Right now there are paid parking spots. But if you take a drive to the Crossing Beach on any weekday morning, you will see that it is simply not enough. There seems to be vacant land in the vicinity of the ferry terminal which might be put to similar uses. While a paid parking lot may not be the most attractive thing to do with an undeveloped lot of land, it would seem to be a rather lucrative endeavor as the current paid parking rate is \$50 per car per month.

The confusion of trying to locate a parking space while 10 other people are doing the same thing makes for a rather tight squeeze on the narrow strip of land known as Crossing Beach. Add children and adults milling back and forth from cars to terminal. Now you have frustrated drivers and absent-minded people sharing the same strip of road as a throughway, a parking lot, a sidewalk and a drop-off/pick-up point. It

amazes me how no one has gotten seriously injured yet. And I am sorry to say that I believe it is only a matter of time.

I'm not interested in who solves the problem of traffic and the ferry location. I can't. I don't own any of the property there, and I am not a member of public office. But we as citizens have the right to demand a resolution by SOMEONE.

I am fearful though that a resolution may come too little, too late, as projects like our new airport and runway seem years away from breaking ground, much less completion. Does anyone have any ideas about what can be done to fix this tangled ball of string?

Desperate for Changes

Regrets Not Teaching

Dear Editor,

Please allow this letter space in your column.

For the past year and a half I have taught at St. Frances de Sales School. I was the math teacher for 7th, 9th and 10th grades as well as the health and general science teacher for 7th, 8th and 9th grades. It was my intention to finish out the 2007 school year at St. Frances de Sales.

At this time I am sorry to inform the students, parents and teachers of St. Frances de Sales school that due to personal reasons of health issues I will no longer be returning to teach. I wish the best for my students at St. Francis, and I especially hope that my grade 9 class does well on their BJC's. Even though I will not be returning to teach, I do love you all and will miss you very much. I hope you can understand my own reasons for doing this.

Thank you for the space in your paper.

Sincerely,

Barbara Plossl-Claridge

Stingers

From Page 22

parade. He stated that his group was able to successfully meet their budget because they started raising funds early in the year so that they can spread out costs. He encourages anyone who is thinking about forming a Junkanoo group to get a strong leader who can plan for a successful parade.

Finally, he would like to see the Ministry of Youth give the groups their seed money earlier in the year so that they can make purchases earlier. He looks forward to the day when the seed money is increased to \$5,000 so that groups can prepare for a more competitive parade and give spectators a good "down home" show.

Central

From Page 19

on this day of thanksgiving and plans to make his stay more permanent in the next few months.

The message for the evening was delivered by Bishop Bert Williams, the pastor of

the host church. He told the residents that they should strive to live a life of peace not only at Christmas time but at all times. They should try to uplift each other and not to tear each other down. He stated that they should be living so peacefully that the police should not have much work to do.

Town Meeting

From Page 13

They felt that airing problems early would lead to better and more effective solutions. The chairman was agreeable to this and said town concerns could be presented to the District Council of which he is a member. He explained that the rules under which the Town Committee and the District Council operate are somewhat restrictive and neither he nor the Council could change the law.

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

Guana Cay

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

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133
Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003
Crystal Villas 6 villas 321-783-4576
Elbow Cay Prop + 53 hse 366-0035
Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095
Hope T Hideaways + 63 hse 366-0224
Hope T Villas + 3 hse 366-0030
Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154
Sea Gull Cottages + 3 hse 366-0266
Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065
Tanny Key + 43 hse 366-0053
Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121
www.lubberslodging.com 7 hse

Man-O-War

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

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158
Abaco Real Estate + 6 hse 367-2719
Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460
Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022
Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980
Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000
D's Guest House 6 rms 3 367-3980
Great Abaco Club + 12 hse 367-4151
Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776
Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681
Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600
Regattas (Prev. Abaco Towns) 32 eff 367-0148

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

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

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

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

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villa 365-2222

Web Sites with Abaco Information

http://www.abaconian.com
http://www.abacoinet.com
http://www.abacoinfo.com
http://www.abacos.com
http://www.go-abacos.com
http://www.oii.net
http://www.bahamas.com

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Visitors' Guide

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Emergency Services	
Police - Marsh Harbour	367-2560
The following services are provided by volunteers	
Fire - Marsh Harbour	367-2000
Fire - Dundas Town	367-2935 or 4935
Fire - Hope Town	VHF Ch 16
Fire - Green Turtle Cay	365-4133
Fire - Man-O-War	365-6911
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas	Marine VHF 16
Hope Town 366-0500	Marsh Harbour 367-3752
Guana Cay 365-5178	Treasure Cay 365-8749

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

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

Points of Interest	
Albert Lowe Museum	Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits	Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	Green Turtle Cay
Wyannie Malone Historical Museum	Hope Town
Elbow Cay Light Station	Hope Town
Walk to & swim on Mermaid Reef off M Harb. Pelican Shore	
Drive to & swim in Blue Hole off Treasure Cay farm road	

Airlines Serving Abaco	
Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is	367-2266
Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale	367-5599
Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale	367-2800
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
Fla Coastal Airlines - Vero B & Ft Lauderdale	367-0179
Island Express - Ft Lauderdale	367-0169
Major's Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
Southern Air - Nassau	367-2498
Twin Air Calypso - Fort Lauderdale	367-0140
USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale	954-359-0292
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S. Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-3450

Dive Shops	
Above & Below, Marsh Harbour	367-0350
Dive Abaco, Marsh Harbour	367-2787
Abaco Dive Adventures, Marsh Harbour	367-2963
Froggies, Hope Town	366-0431
Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
Brendal's Dive, Green T. Cay	365-4411
Dive Guana	365-5178
Man-O-War Dive Shop	365-6013

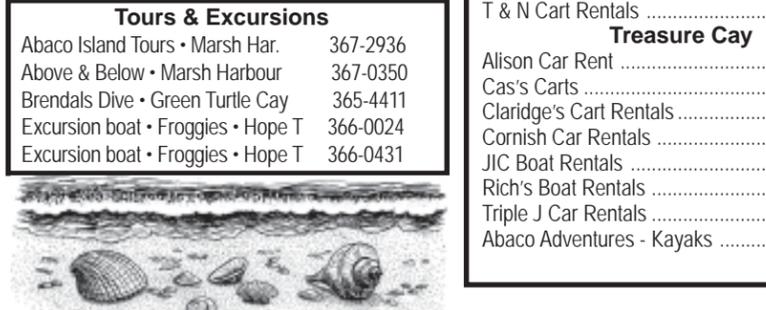
Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted	
Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16	
Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach	
7:15	9 am 10:30 12:15 pm* 2 4 5:45
Return	8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm* 3 4 5 6:30
Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach	
10:30 am	12:15 pm* 2:30* (M-Sat) 4 5:45*
Return	8 am 11:30 1:30 pm* 3:15* (M-Sat) 4:30
Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) 40 min. from Conch Inn	
6:45am†	10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45
Return	8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 6:30
Same day fare • Adult oneway \$15 / Round Trip \$20 • Kids 6-11 half fare Free under 6 † From Union Jack Dock * Except holidays * Hope Town late trips Fri & Sat only	
Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16	
Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport	
8 am	9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30
Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay	
8:30 am	10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
One way adult \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$12 Extra to some destinations	

Abaco Adventures	
• Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT	
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT	
T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25 , call for time	
Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -	
Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm	
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm	
Fare \$45 OW / \$90 RT • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information	
Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.	
Bahamas Ferries Sandy Point to Nassau under 4 Hr. Call Sandy Point 366-4119 or Marsh Harbour 367-5250 for sailing dates • Adults \$95 RT, \$55 OW • Cars & trucks	
Islander Express - Bus - M Harbour & Sandy Point -call 366-4444 or 457-9958	
Enovahs Bus Service - Hourly bus through Murphy Town, Dundas Town & Marsh Harbour to Ferry dock. Spring City early morning & late afternoon.	
The Great Abaco Express Marsh Harbour bus to N Abaco • Call 367-2165	
Lv Marsh H. 5 am & 12:30 pm, connect with ferry to Grand Bahama & bus to Freeport	
Lv Crown Haven 9:30 am & 5:30 pm bringing ferry passengers to Marsh Harbour	
From Freeport take cruise ship to Ft. Lauderdale or ferry to West Palm Beach	

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone	
Walker's Cay	
Walker's Cay -	Closed
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	45 F 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32 F 365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15 365-4531
Other Shore Club	12 F 365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10 F 365-4033
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Cay Marina	150 F 365-8250
Man-O-War	
Man-O-War Marina	26 F 365-6008
Marsh Harbour	
Boat Harbour Marina	183 F 367-2736
Conch Inn	75 F 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36 F 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52 F 367 2700
Hope Town	
Hope Town Marina	16 366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways	366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6 F 366-0154
Sea Spray	50 F 366-0065
Spanish Cay	
Spanish Cay Marina	75 F 365-0083
Guana Cay	
Orchid Bay	32 F 365-5175
Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour	

Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts	
Rentals * Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Bargain Car Rentals	367-0500
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Concept Boat Rentals	367-5570
Laysue Boat Rentals	367-4414
Pier One Boat Rentals	367-3587
Power Cat Boat Rentals	367-4620
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
Wilmac Car Rentals	367-4970 or 367-4313
Green Turtle Cay	
Bay Street Rentals	477-5300 365-4070
Brendals Dive Bikes & Kayak rental	365-4411
C & D Cart Rental	365-4084
D & P Cart Rental	365-4655
Donnie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
Loggerhead Boat Rental	365-5461
New Plymouth Cart Rentals	365-4188 or 4149
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts	477-5497
T & A Cart Rentals	375-8055
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Dive Guana Boats & bikes	365-5178
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6059
Island Treasures Cart Rentals	365-6072
Ria-Mar Golf Cart Rentals	365-6024
Water Ways Boat Rent	357-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals	366-0292
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
J R's Cart Rental	366-0361
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Alison Car Rent	365-8193
Cas's Carts	365-8771
Claridge's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749

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



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

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Everyone reads The Abaconian
 Please bring errors & revisions to our attention
 Rev 30 Dec 06

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper (Based on dinner entree range)	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only † Provides ride from town	
Marsh Harbour	
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Curly Tails	\$ 367-4444
Gino's	\$ 367-2002
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Hummingbird	\$\$ 367-2922
Jamie's Place	\$ 367-2880
Jib Room	\$\$ 367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken 367-2615
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Pop's Place	\$ 367-3796
Sapodilly's	\$\$\$ 367-3498
Sea Shells	\$ 367-4460
Snack Shack	\$ 367-4005
Snappas	\$ 367-2278
Subway 367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Dundas Town	
Mother Merle's	\$\$
Back Street Cafe	\$\$
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Harbour's Edge	\$\$ 366-0087
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ 366-0423
Sea Spray	\$\$ 366-0065
Man-O-War	
Hibiscus 365-6380
Island Treats Snack Bar 365-6501
Guana Cay	
Blue Water Grill	\$\$\$ 365-5230
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Orchid Bay 265-5175
Treasure Cay	
Florence's Cafe	\$
Coconuts
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	\$\$\$ 365-4271
Harvey's Island Grill	\$\$ 365-4389
Laura's Kitchen	\$\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$\$ 365-4625
Plymouth Rock Cafe 365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$\$ 365-4066
Sundowners 365-4060
Wrecking Tree Restaurant	
Harbour Café (ferry dock)	H Cafe Open Nights Only
Sandy Point	
Nancy's
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge 366-4477



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Tel: (242) 352-7421
Fax: (242) 352-2857

ABACO

Elizabeth Drive
P.O. Box AB-20666
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



The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2, JANUARY 15th, 2007

Airport Repairs Should Commence Soon

Tourism Manager Sheds Light on Airport Improvements

By Julian Lockhart

Abaco has been asking government for an updated airport in Marsh Harbour for years and Minister of Works, the Hon. Bradley Roberts, promised the repairs on the terminal and new runway would commence over four months ago but no repairs have started to date. In March Mr. Roberts signed the paving contract with Bahamas Hot Mix.

However, Prime Minister Perry Christie revised the plan for the Marsh Harbour airport after visiting in September to adjust for the need of a taxiway, fitting into the existing budget. The new plans have been approved and now all is needed is for the funds to be found to start construction.

Manager of the Abaco Tourist office, Don Cornish, said the work on the Marsh Harbour airport should commence shortly on the word he has received lately.

Mr. Cornish said, "There are a number of standards we have been able to meet in terms of the airports at Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour. I know that the airport initiative on the government's part is tied up in the bidding process with the terminal and we get the right runway and taxiway."

I am hoping that the time line is much more clear once we get farther into January, once these technical reports have been received and who the contractor of record is for the terminal. We know who the runway's contractor will be. It is just a matter of the additional \$10 million.

Once the Prime Minister came, it negated any commitments that were made

Please see **Airport**

Page 22

Derelict Vehicles Will Make New Reefs



A total of 22 derelict vehicles were taken out to sea from Elbow Cay in mid-December. Lorin Senn organized the effort and his crew made the vehicles ready for being dropped into the ocean to make a habitat for crawfish and fish. He and his crew drained all fluids from the vehicles, punched holes in any tanks, took out batteries and stripped out any materials that would float. The vehicles were collected at White Sound. Abacays Freight Company donated the use of one of its barges to haul the vehicles out to sea to form reefs. The Abacays crew explained that the vehicles will make a very good crawfish habitat for a couple of years. By that time the area will be populated with reef fish that will greatly reduce the number of crawfish.

Churches Celebrated Christmas with Programs



Churches throughout Abaco celebrated the holiday season with special services and Christmas programs. Change Ministries Church in Murphy Town put on a program on December 24 to celebrate the birth of Christ.

By Samantha V. Evans

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th, was a joyous day at Change Ministries International as the church celebrated the birthday of Christ. From the oldest to youngest, carols of joy, peace and love were sung throughout the church building. Some of the children entertained the congregation by sharing in their own words the meaning of Christmas. Twelve

adults from the congregation found themselves singing the *Twelve Days of Christmas* in the most unusual harmony. It was indeed fun and hilarious. However, Pastor Samuel Cornish reminded the group that Christmas is a time of love, giving and hope.

Please see **Church**

Page 11

Abaco Welcomes New Tourism Manager

By Samantha V. Evans

Abaco's Tourism office now has a new manager, Mr. Don Cornish. On December 1, 2006, he officially began his new post. He describes himself as a passionate per-

son, especially about his community. He finds it amazing to see how people are so impressed with Abaco now, but as an Abaco

Please see **Tourism**

Page 21

Community Committee Receives Funds



The Sandy Point Development Association was presented with funds from several businesses to assist in its goals to improve the community. President of the association, Ms. Della Kelly, accepted the funds. Mr. Ron Pinder, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Energy and the Environment, on the right, and Rex Albury of local government presented the check. See story on page 2.

South Abaco News

Sandy Point

By Tonia Ferguson
**Hon. Ron Pinder Visits
 Sandy Point**

The community of Sandy Point was visited by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Energy and the Environment, the Hon. Ron O. Pinder on December 14. The invitation to his visit came as a result of the clean-up efforts made by the Sandy Point Development Association. During their town meeting Mr. Pinder expressed his gratitude for the invitation and his commitment in assisting the association's campaign in beautifying Sandy Point. In his keynote address he identified matters that were bothersome to him: the burning of

garbage that is still carried out in Sandy Point, derelict vehicles, the improper disposal of oil and the over-population of stray dogs. He provided remedies for these matters. Two that were of particular concern to him are the burning of garbage and the dog population.

He took this time to discuss his ministry's plans for a new land-fill that will be constructed in South Abaco. While he was unable to present a date to the crowd that gathered at the Zion Baptist Church Hall, he was adamant that the ministry was in its final stages of planning. Regarding the dog population he encouraged existing owners to spay or neuter their dogs. Although such debate is not within his portfolio, he is willing to assist. He identified the Bahamas

Humane Society as an ally in alleviating the over-grown dog population.

Sandy Point Development Association Receives Donations

At its recent town meeting held on December 14, the Sandy Point Development Association received monetary donations to assist in its clean-up efforts within the community. The president, Ms. Della Kelly, in a prior interview outlined the association's goals as follows:

- Removal of derelict vehicles
- Removal of used household furniture and appliances
- Floral beautification which will involve a combination of non-flowering and flowering plants

The association received donations from Scotia Bank in Marsh Harbour, Michael A. Dean and Company, the Abaco Club on Winding Bay, Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic and H. G. Christie Limited Real Estate.

Local Sandy Point Residents Honoured

Evangelist Jason and Deacon Nicholas

Roberts, residents of Sandy Point and sons of Reverend Napoleon Roberts, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Sandy Point, have spent over 17 years in the gospel music industry within The Bahamas, inspiring the hearts of thousands throughout the United States and the Bahamas with their traditional sounds. They are also involved with special performance projects such as the Make a Wish Foundation. These brothers are committed to the continued development and growth of the gospel music industry within The Bahamas. As a result they were honoured on December 7 in New Providence at Breezes Super Club when they were recognized for their contribution to the advancement in gospel music by the Gospel Music Workshop of America.

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Fund Raising Dinner Held

A fund raising dinner was held on the schoolgrounds for a local resident who has contracted cancer of the lip. The dinner was

Please see **South**

Page 4



Mr. Ron Pinder, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Energy and the Environment, spoke to the residents of Sandy Point during his visit there on December 14. He brought out several issues that he would like to see resolved including burning garbage and a serious dog problem.

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CONTINUED IN SECTION A, PAGE 3

South Abaco News

South

From Page 2

a great success and the organizers raised over \$2200. The family of the patient wanted to thank the community for its support.

Road Accident Between Two Residents

Troy Sands and Jeff Williams were involved in a road accident around one of the many curves of the Cherokee road just before Christmas. Neither driver was seriously injured but Troy's truck rolled over and was completely demolished. Troy's mother is often riding in the passenger's seat, but luckily that day she stayed at home.

Road Barriers Return

To protect our school children during school hours road barriers have been placed across the roadway to make drivers aware that children are playing.

Please observe these road barriers and take another route from 8:30 a.m. till 3 p.m. while the children are in school. If you must have access through the road and move the barriers, please return them when you are finished. Remember our children are our most important assets.

Watch out for Lady Drivers

This is one of our newest drivers on the Cherokee inroads. Mariah Sawyer is just learning and, of course, does not yet know all the rules of the road. Therefore, we ask you to keep an eye out for these new under-powered vehicles on our roads and please do not exceed the 10 mph speed limit within the settlement. We thank you for your cooperation and our children thank you.



A young driver enjoys the new vehicle she received for Christmas. She is sharing the road with regular traffic.

Holiday Celebrations

There were plenty of celebrations and parties over the holidays with it all starting the week before Christmas and finishing New Year's Eve. After Santa handed out all the presents to the children on December 23, a crowd of about 250 persons were treated to soused pigs feet, soused chicken, curried mutton and curried chicken. A very happy recipient was heard to exclaim as he walked out of sight, "Soused pigs feet and homemade Johnny cake, it don't get any better than this." It sounds as if he's no Scrooge and had a very Merry Christmas.

The tree was big and beautiful, the fireworks display was spectacular and the shenanigans of the pranksters were kept to a minimum. Personally, in over 20 years I have never seen a more magnificent fireworks show in Cherokee, and all privately donated. But I hear from reliable sources that ours was nothing compared to the dis-

play in Spanish Wells, Eleuthera." But then there has always been a little friendly rivalry between the two settlements plus a whole lot of exaggeration.

New Year's Eve saw 16 Guy Fawkes (some of them were personalized) propped up to burn, and afterwards there was a hot grill in the school yard to cook your steak on with all the side dishes supplied by the ladies of Cherokee. This is a first for the settlement. Before, many private parties were going on around the

place, but this year it was decided it would be more fun to bring everyone together for one big bash. As far as I know, there was no serious misbehaving and the fireworks went on till after 2 a.m. And, of course, the canon was set off at midnight, shaking all those who didn't come right out of their beds. However, some of the big bangers this year were really loud and very impressive.

Anyway, Cherokee has survived another year and there is a brand new year ahead of us with lots of new and exciting things yet to come.

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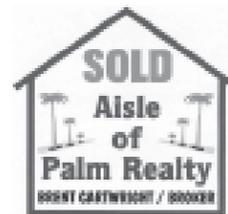
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1208 - Yellowwood - Four hillside lots with great views. Close to Cherokee and The Abaco Club on Winding Bay.



1307 - Great Cistern 5 acre Prime waterfront property ideal for private estate or small development. Offers a small beach and elevations of 50'+.

1283 - Bahama Palm Shores Interior lot directly across from the beach. Great price compared to recent sales of same lots

1180 - Jaffa - Fabulous three story home in **The Great Abaco Club at The Abaco Beach Resort**. Dock your yacht at your back door

1312 - Summerwind - Great buy on a 2/2 home with beach access on bay and ocean side. Views of bay and ocean.

1180 - Three bedroom home centrally located in **Marsh Harbour** with very spacious rooms. Large landscaped property.

1272 - Bahama Palm Shores - Beachfront lot. 100 feet on spectacular beach.

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Please call us for information on these fine listings or any of our other listings throughout Abaco.

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E X C L U S I V E L I S T I N G S

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Casuarina Point



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2 bed 2 bath, one storey home with canal frontage. Hardy panel exterior, concrete base, Very well constructed. The interior needs to be completed to new the owners specifications. 10ft ceilings, large walk-in master closet. Decking out back, very private. Brand new, never lived in. This is the "Bone Fishing Capital" of Abaco

#3263
Man O War Cay



\$375,000

18th Century Historic Man O War Cottage Hilltop corner lot & is just a 2 min walk to the beach. This classic historic loyalist cottage is complete w/ modern amenities including AC & an updated kitchen. 2 bed, 1 bath & a loft that can accommodate up to 4 people or 6 kids. Excellent views of Man O War harbor. Room for further development.

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#1946
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2 lots available
each lot priced at

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Only minutes from Marsh Harbour & Elbow Cay, there are two 80 x 125 choice lots available. Identical in size & price, both lots can boast picturesque sunsets, & views of the Sea of Abaco. There is soon to be dockage close by. Roads are in great condition, & this desirable location is walking distance from the local restaurant. Tahiti Beach is a skiff ride across.

NEW LISTING! **#3339**
Treasure Cay Lot



\$45,000

This large lot is situated in a very nice neighbourhood and is very reasonably priced, with much to offer. Approx 9,000 sq. feet this ideal family lot backs onto the golf course. Perfect for the single family home. All utilities are already in place. Must see to appreciate value!

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The Main House on 2 levels is **Ekali**, a beautiful 3 bed, 3 bath house. The Guest Quarters boast another 2 bed, 2 bath w/ full kitchen, open dining & sitting room. Just outside the lovely French doors on the sea side is a spacious deck. The existing 60ft dock is included with this property. **\$1,600,000**



Set back on a hill **Kashmir House** is a unique home that offers a view of the ocean from every room. This very attractive, well built home sits at the center of the estate & is constructed with aluminum & hurricane proof glass. **\$1,300,000**



Alcantara I & Alcantara II are 2 identical 4 bed, 4 bath homes, built using the best craftsmanship. Alcantara I & II sit on very high, solid concrete bases, overlooking the entire estate with an excellent view of the Bay of Abaco from the wrap around porch. **\$1,400,000**

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Discount Stores Pleased with Christmas Season

By Mirella Santillo,

Marsh Harbour now boasts several discount stores including Price Busters, All Sorts Discount and Kaleb's.

What was their Christmas business like when it is a well known fact that Abaconians go to Florida for shopping? But not everyone on Abaco goes to Florida as the comments from shopkeepers show.

It was the first Christmas for Kaleb's which opened last May. That shop offers the most merchandise. From household goods, cosmetics, party supplies, tools, china to cleanup products, shoes, even under garments and old movies, there are too many items to list and all the prices are a bargain. Owner Anthony Roberts said that Christmas business was four times more than usual, the most popular items being toys and curtains. "Besides buying toys for the children, people like to make their house nice for the holidays."

At Price Busters, the first of the discount stores to open in our town, Mr. Jerry Wisdom is already getting ready for Valentine's Day. "Yes," he said, "business was good. We sold at least 10 to 20 percent more than last year. We had more toys this year. Toys and gift items were the best sellers."

If you patronized Kentucky Fried Chicken the week before Christmas, you must have noticed the pretty colored four-wheeled toys and bikes displayed in front of the neighboring store, Marsh Harbour Electronics. "Well, they are all gone" said the store attendant, "We did very well with the toys, even if our shipment arrived a little too late." she said. "We only order toys for Christmas and we'll soon be putting TV's and other electronic equipment back on the shelves."

The owner of All Sorts Discount, Mrs. Portia Johnson, was out of town when this survey was done, but as a patron who bought toys there and from conversations with Mrs. Johnson prior to Christmas, we know that the shop did very well with the toys.

So instead of fighting the Christmas crowds in Florida, why not buy local? There might not be as much choice yet, but it is coming. Shopping here for toys can be done in a more leisurely way. Carrying cumbersome parcels on small planes can be a stressing adventure, made even more so by having to pay for extra weight freight and duty upon arrival.

Teachers and Salaried Workers Union Has New Manager

By Samantha V. Evans

After having several months with only a temporary manager, the Teachers and Salaried Workers Union now has a new manager, Mrs. Hadassah Marche, whose stay appears to be a permanent one. She began her post here on December 1st, 2006. She has been employed with this Union for the past five years and enjoys her work thoroughly. She got her training at the Freeport Branch where she had an opportunity to work in all areas except management. The past five years have been extremely interesting and has shaped her for this current post.

She obtained her formal education at the College of the Bahamas in management. She has always had an interest in the business field. She grew up in a family where her mother was an entrepreneur which has helped to strengthen her skills. She is happy to have

an opportunity to manage this branch. She has moved to Abaco along with her husband and young son.

She would like to see this Abaco branch grow in many areas. She has several goals for the branch including getting young adults more interested in saving at an early age, promoting the different services that they offer and getting involved in and sponsoring youth-oriented programs in the community. She wants consumers to know that they offer services to all sala-



Mrs. Hadssah Marche

Please see **Manager**

Page 21

The Abaco Real Estate Specialists!



Donna Darville
Marsh Harbour
242-367-SOLD (7653)
donna@paradisebahamas.com



Frank Knowles
Hope Town
242-375-8655

frank@paradisebahamas.com

Featured Properties

- **Triplex** - in town, walking distance to restaurants, shops. Immaculate condition. All units rented. **REDUCED from \$465,000 to \$405,000 Exclusive**
- **LOTS - Long Beach** - minutes to beach \$36,000
- **Gilpin Point** - beach access for all lots, half acre, each starting at \$35,000
- **Bahama Coral Island** - Interior lot \$18,000 **SOLD**
- **Bahama Coral Island** - sea view, lot walking distance to beach \$30,000

Shop our listings online at

www.ParadiseBahamas.com



John Cash, B.R.I., C.R.S.
Licensed Real Estate Broker
Certified Residential Specialist



JOHN CASH REALTY

**Bahamas: 242-477-5056
242-365-8467**
**USA: 843-290-2254
843-278-0277**
**Fax: 242-365-8508
843-785-5528**
Email: jic@oii.net
www.johncashrealty.com

PO Box 22212 Treasure Cay, Abaco Bahamas

- | | |
|--|--|
| Royal Palm 3 BR, 3 BA furnished \$553,500
<i>SOLD</i> | Brigantine Bay canal Lot \$365,000
<i>SOLD</i> |
| Steiner House, Treasure Cay Road 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA \$809,000.
<i>SOLD</i> | Parker Place, Galleon Bay, spacious 4BR waterfront home with beautiful Sea of Abaco views. \$995,000.000 |
| Royal Palm 2 BR, 2 BA Marina front condo, fully furnished, with boat slip. Tropical decor \$575,000 | Treasure House, Ocean front 2 BR, 2 BA Island decor top-sider villa overlooking gigantic lagoon pool \$579,000 |
| Helen's Point, Galleon Bay Waterfront 4 BR, 3 BA Home, Sea of Abaco views \$1,388,000 | Royal Palm 2 BR 2 BA on marina with beautiful furnishings and boat slip. \$562,000 <i>NEW LISTING</i> |
| Galleon Bay Road Homesite overlooking Treasure Cay Marina \$405,000
<i>UNDER CONTRACT</i> | Bahama Beach Club 2055 \$705,000
<i>UNDER CONTRACT</i> |
| Atlantis 2BR, 2BA Canal front condo with 14' wide boat slip. Completely redone with furnishings. \$549,000 | Anchorage Estates Lots 22, 23, 24, 25 \$834,949
<i>UNDER CONTRACT</i> |
| Beach Villa 685 2 BR, 2 BA, steps away from pool and beach \$275,000 | Anchorage Estates Lots 29 \$691,642
<i>UNDER CONTRACT</i> |
| Razzall House, Treasure Cay Beach 4BR, 3BA Ocean front, fully furnished with excellent rental history. \$1,735,000 | Anchorage Estates Lots 21 and 30 <i>SOLD</i> |
| | Canal Lot 8 Block 198 Galleon Bay Drive \$310,000
<i>UNDER CONTRACT</i> |

January 15, 2007

Dean's Shipping Co

Serving Marsh Harbour Weekly with Freight Service from Nassau and Palm Beach

LEGEND Loading Monday in Palm Beach
Arriving Tuesday in Marsh Harbour

LEGACY Loading Tuesday in Nassau
Arriving Wednesday in Marsh Harbour
Leaving Thursday for Nassau

Both ships serving Green Turtle Cay
Charter freight stops en route on request



Dean's Shipping office at the Marsh Harbour dock

Marsh Harbour Contact
Ph: (242) 367-2653
367-0364 • 367-5642 Fax
Government Dock
Marsh Harbour, Abaco

Nassau Contact
(242) 393-4371 • 393-3829
394-7529 • Fax 394-0057
Western End Potter's Cay Dock
Nassau, New Providence

Palm Beach Contact
Ph: (561) 844-5387
M/V Legacy
c/o Palm Beach Steamship
158 B East Port Road
Riviera Beach, FL 33404

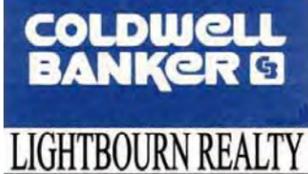


M/V LEGEND



M/V LEGACY

January 15th, 2007



Mailin Sands
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Ph.# 242-367-2992
mailin@coldwellbankerbahamas.com

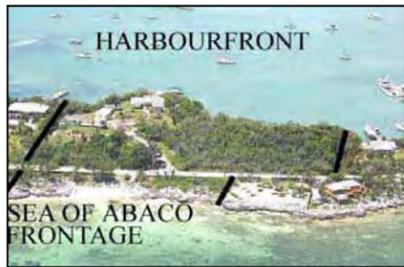


Chris Farrington, BRI
Green Turtle Cay, Abaco
Ph# 242- 365-4695
chris@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



Lee Pinder
Cherokee Sound, Abaco
Ph# 242-366-2053
lee@coldwellbankerbahamas.com

www.coldwellbankerbahamas.com



HARBOURFRONT
SEA OF ABACO FRONTAGE

MAGNIFICENT ACREAGE

"Pascoe House"

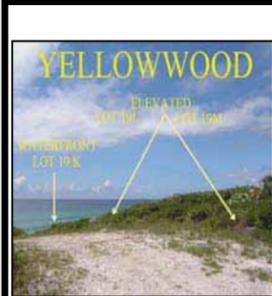
4.673 acre property comprises approx. 600 ft of harbour front in the prestigious Pelican Shores area and features a deep water dock.

The 2-bed, 1.5- bath Pascoe House has 2,500 sq ft of living space with the living room and patio commanding gorgeous harbour views. The property includes a 2 bed/2 bath guest cottage with porch, a 1 bed/1 bath cottage, dock house, one car garage and generator house. Beautifully landscaped garden.

US\$4,500,000-Call Mailin



Sweetings' Village-#5779- Newly built triplex, CBS, each unit is 2bed/2bath, central AC, backup generator, hurricane shutters. Phone & cable TV installed. Sits on 9,200 sq.ft. lot. **GREAT INVESTMENT! CALL TODAY!** Offered at \$635,000.00 – Call Mailin



Yellowwood Creek
Lot 19K- 1.470 acre parcel, runs approx. 365' on the Atlantic rocky shoreline. -\$399,000
Lot 19L and 19M- both lots comprise 1.171 acres and feature stunning views of the Atlantic.-\$299,000 each
All three of these lots boast great elevations.
Yellowwood is a few minutes away from Cherokee Sound, Little Harbour and Winding Bay.- Call Mailin



Treasure Cay- #5740 Beachfront 2 bed/2bath villa with a "Lagoon" style swimming pool. Offered at \$636,000 Call Chris.



Lubbers-#5617- Vacant lot comprises 10,094 sq.ft and is one lot in from the Sea of Abaco. Offered at \$110,000.00-Call Mailin



NEW LISTING
Green Turtle Cay, Big Bluff- #5878 1/2 acre + waterfront lot, ideal lot for house & dock- Offered at \$476,000.00- Call Chris



Leisure Lee- #5366 - 3bed, 2bath 1,600 sq ft home with extensive wrap around screened porch and central A/C. Beach access. \$295,000.00 – Call Mailin



Green Turtle Cay-#5532- 2 bed/2 bath beach house on Bita Bay. Central A/C, fully equipped kitchen & much more. Great rental history – Offered at \$1,200,000.00 Call Chris



Man-O-War Cay # 5509 – 3bed/3bath, two story home near Atlantic Ocean. Upstairs loft, 17.5 KW generator, outdoor patios, basement, manicured lawn. \$750,000.00-Call Mailin



Bahama Palm Shores - #5742- Beachfront lot 200 x 416 Offered at US\$550,000.00
Or split lot in half 100 x 416 Offered at US\$300,000.00 - Call Mailin



Yellowwood- 2H- # 5484- 37,368 sq.ft., featuring 184' on the Atlantic rocky shoreline, minutes away from Cherokee Sound and Winding Bay. \$275,000.00 –Call Mailin



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



Leisure Lee-#5739 A lovely 3 bed, 2 bath canal front home. Features 57' dock and over 17,000 sq.ft of property. \$950,000- Call Mailin



Green Turtle Beach House #5777- 3 bed/3 bath w/ loft upstairs, 2 bed/1bath below. Wrap around porches, generator, water maker, central A/C. 1.6 acres. Offered at \$1,850,000.00 -Call Chris



Turtle Rocks- Multi family lot, 27,507 sq.ft., power & cable to boundary, beach access, \$85,000.00 – Call Claudius



Man-O-War Cay-#5451-Two cottages, both with 2 bds/2 bths, on 16,000 sq. ft. of waterfront property. 60,000 gallon cistern, and 15KW generator. \$1,100,000.00 –Call Mailin



Yellowwood - #5427- Incomplete 1bed/1bath home comprises 24,621 sq ft. Built of wood & durable cement siding. \$135,000.00- Call Mailin



Green Turtle Cay -#5347 -An island dream! 2 bed/2 bath beachfront home has a private dock and dredged channel. Offered at \$2,300,000.00- Call Chris

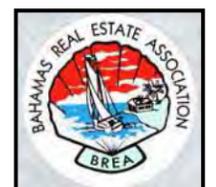


Green Turtle Cay- 1.6 acre beachfront lot located on the most beautiful beach on the island. Approx. 130' on the beach and 560' deep. \$820,000.00 –Call Chris



Manjack Cay - 10 acres sea to sea Beautiful beachfront at both sides, & protected anchorage. Great development property – Offered at \$2,000,000.00 –Call one of our agents today.

- * **Green Turtle Cay, Coco Bay**- vacant lot, beach access, 9000 sq.ft. - \$89,000.00 (NEW LISTING)
- * **Bahama Palm Shores**- vacant lot, approx. 1/4 acre in size, US\$30,000.00 (UNDER CONTRACT)
- * **Long Beach**- vacant lot, 1/4 acre in size, beach access, \$50,000.00 (REDUCED)
- * **Casuarina Point**- vacant lot in quiet community, 10,000 sq.ft and situated across from the canal.- \$80,000
- * **Sand Banks**- Canal property, small home, mature fruit trees. Very private. Lots also available –Call for details.
- * **Bahama Coral Island**- vacant property in Bahama Coral Island, financing available- Call for details.



WATER AND SEWERAGE

Family Island Operations Division

Family Island Projects Report Card : November 2006



HON BRADLEY ROBERTS



CHAIRMAN DONALD DEMERITTE



ACTING MGR GODFREY SHERMAN



ROBERT DEAL AGM FAMILY ISLANDS

For further information on projects on your island, please contact:

Mr. Gregory Johnson
Eleuthera Operations

Mr. Keith Thompson
Abaco Operations

Mr. Geron Turnquest
Exuma Operations

Ms. Daisy Bowleg
North/Central Andros
Operations

Mr. Wendell Cartwright
Long Island Operations

Mr. Keith Beneby
All Other Islands

or the Corporation's
Project Management &
Planning Department

ITEM NO.	PROJECT	PROJECT	
		CONCEPTUALIZATION	PLANNING
1.0	ABACO		
1.1A	Sandypoint Storage Tank	██████████	██████████
1.1B	Sandypoint Transmission Mains Upgrade	██████████	██████████
1.1C	Sandypoint Pumping Station	██████████	██████████
1.1D	Sandypoint Valves	██████████	██████████
1.2	Green Turtle Cay RO Plant	██████████	██████████
1.3	Treasure Cay Sewerage Works	██████████	██████████
1.4	Cherokee Sound Water Supply	██████████	██████████
1.5	Yellow Wood Distribution System	██████████	██████████
1.6A	Coopers Town Mains Extension	██████████	██████████
1.6B	Coopers Town Commercial Office	██████████	██████████
1.7	Moore's Island RO Plant Reliability Improvement Works	██████████	██████████
1.8	Marsh Harbour Valves	██████████	██████████
1.9	Abaco Wellfield and Pumping Station Improvements	██████████	██████████
2.0	ACKLINS & LONG CAY		
2.1	Salina Point, Snug Corner/Masons Bay and Long Cay Water Supply	██████████	██████████
2.2	Snug Corner Storage Shed	██████████	██████████
3.0	ANDROS		
3.1	Mangrove Cay Storage Tank	██████████	██████████
3.2A	Bluff Storage Tank	██████████	██████████
3.2B	Bluff Pumping Station	██████████	██████████
3.3	North Andros Wellfield Rehabilitation	██████████	██████████
3.4	North and Central Andros Tanks	██████████	██████████
3.5	North and Central Andros Community Pump Sites	██████████	██████████
3.6	Stafford Creek and Behring Point Distribution Systems	██████████	██████████
3.7	Conch Sound Mains	██████████	██████████
3.8	South Andros Water Supply	██████████	██████████
4.0	BIMINI		
4.1	Underwater Main Replacement	██████████	██████████
4.2	New Bimini Commercial Office	██████████	██████████
5.0	BERRY ISLANDS		
5.1	Great Harbour Cay/Bullocks Harbour Long Term Plan	██████████	██████████
6.0	CAT ISLAND		
6.1	Cat Island Water Supply	██████████	██████████
7.0	CROOKED ISLAND		
7.1	Colonel Hill Wellfield	██████████	██████████
7.2	Community Wells	██████████	██████████
7.3	Colonel Hill/Cabbage Hill/Church Grove Distribution System Water Supply	██████████	██████████
7.4	Landrail Point Water Supply	██████████	██████████
7.5	Cripple Hill to Seaview Water Supply	██████████	██████████
8.0	ELEUTHERA		
8.1A	Central Eleuthera RO Plant	██████████	██████████
8.1B	Naval Base Pumping Station Upgrade	██████████	██████████
8.2A	Bogue Storage Tank	██████████	██████████
8.2B	Bogue Pumping Station Rehabilitation	██████████	██████████
8.2C	Bogue Wellfield Optimization	██████████	██████████
8.3	Eleuthera Tanks Refurbishment	██████████	██████████
8.4	Eleuthera Mains Renewals Project	██████████	██████████
8.5	Bannerman Town RO Water Supply	██████████	██████████
8.6A	Cotton Bay Homeowners Water Supply	██████████	██████████
8.6B	Windermere Island Water Supply	██████████	██████████
8.7	Spanish Wells Trailer Office	██████████	██████████
8.8	Three-Islands Dock Mains Extension	██████████	██████████
8.9	Rock Sound/Tarpum Bay Water Supply	██████████	██████████
9.0	EXUMA		
9.1	Exuma Mains Extension/Renewal Project	██████████	██████████
9.2	Barratterre Water Supply	██████████	██████████
9.3	Williams Town Water Supply	██████████	██████████
9.4	Georgetown RO Plant Expansion	██████████	██████████
9.5	Farmers Cay Brine Disposal	██████████	██████████
9.6	Staniel Cay RO Plant Expansion	██████████	██████████
9.7	Black Point Upgrade Works	██████████	██████████
9.8	Little Exuma Water Supply	██████████	██████████
10.0	GRAND BAHAMA		
10.1	Sweetings Cay RO Plant	██████████	██████████
10.2	East Grand Bahama Water Supply	██████████	██████████
11.0	INAGUA		
11.1	Inagua Mains Extension	██████████	██████████
12.0	LONG ISLAND		
12.1	Central Long Island Mains Renewals and Extensions - Phase II	██████████	██████████
12.2	Central Long Island Extension - Phase III	██████████	██████████
12.3	Northern Long Island Water Supply System - Phase I	██████████	██████████
12.4	Deadmans Cay Commercial Office	██████████	██████████
12.5	Simms Wellfield Optimization	██████████	██████████
13.0	MAYAGUANA		
13.1	Mayaguana Water Supply Improvements	██████████	██████████
14.0	RAGGED ISLAND		
14.1	Duncan Town Distribution System	██████████	██████████
15.0	RUM ISLAND		
15.1	Rum Cay Distribution System	██████████	██████████
16.0	SAN SALVADOR		
16.1	San Salvador Mains Project	██████████	██████████
16.2	Cockburn Town Storage Tank Repair	██████████	██████████
16.3	Cockburn Town RO Plant Expansion	██████████	██████████
16.4	Cockburn Town Commercial Office	██████████	██████████
16.5	Sugar Loaf and Long Bay Extensions	██████████	██████████

\$10,465,783.32 Total Est.

The Water and Sewerage Corporation is making steady progress towards ensuring a high quality supply of water to every resident throughout the length and breadth of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. We salute our Family Island Area Managers/Supervisors and staff who are diligently carrying out the National Water Strategy by coordinating numerous waterworks projects at various stages of completion in all of the Family Islands.



STAGE

PROCUREMENT	WORKS IN PROGRESS	SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE	COMPLETE	ISLAND TOTAL
✓				\$1,891,994.60
✓✓				
✓✓✓				
✓				
✓	✓			
✓✓	✓✓			\$1,247,440.25
✓✓✓	✓✓✓			
✓✓✓✓	✓✓✓✓			
✓✓	✓			
✓	✓✓			\$881,096.51
				\$55,979.00
✓✓	✓	✓	✓	
				\$2,769,267.20
✓✓✓	✓✓✓			
✓✓✓✓	✓✓✓✓			
✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	
				\$2,585,566.37
✓	✓	✓	✓	
✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	
✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓	
✓	✓	✓	✓	\$684,439.39
✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	\$350,000.00

Capital Works in Family Islands.

North Abaco News

North Abaco News

By Vernique Russell

Coconuts Reopens

Located opposite of the main entrance of Treasure Cay is the unique restaurant Coconuts. After being closed for a few months for what is referred to as the off season, Coconuts has reopened its door and once again customers can enjoy scrumptious meals. Coconuts Restaurant offers a variety of Bahamian, American and Italian dishes with a special twist that adds a unique and unforgettable flavor. Owner Jarrod Cooper extends a special welcome to the community of Abaco to dine at Coconuts.

Happy Christening

Little Prince Malachi Ayden Russell was dedicated/christened on December 17. The christening took place at Full Gospel Assembly in Treasure Cay, officiated by Rev. Stafford Symonette. Proud parents of Prince Malachi, Mr. and Mrs. Vito Russell, treated family and friends to a beautiful lunch reception at the residence of grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Russell in Dormy Villas.

Café La Florence is Open

It's open, folks! Café La Florence has opened its door in Marsh Harbour, you heard me correctly. You can now indulge in scrumptious and tasty meals hot from the kitchen or freshly baked bread and cinnamon rolls along with other freshly baked assorted cakes and cookies from the bakery. So if your in the Marsh Harbour area, stop by Café La Florence, located in the yellow and white plaza adjacent to the Fire Station. Café La Florence officially opened on December 23, 2006 with an evening reception for its guests.

"Bahamasair do me right in"

By Vernique Russell

One would surely assume, after years of being poorly spoken about in newspapers both locally and internationally, that service granted by the national flag carrier would have improved by now. While there are visible improvements at Bahamasair, my recent experience left me crying "I get do right in."

During the holiday break a friend and I traveled to Nassau for Junkanoo and all the other Christmas festivities. While the trip was quite successful, it was dampened on Friday, December 29th, when we arrived at the airport to return home. Upon arrival to the airport we learnt that the flight was oversold, and we would not be able to get on a flight until the following Tuesday. Talk about devastating and brutally cruel! I was crushed. After spending a week in Nassau already, I was ready to come home. However, my day only got worse when I asked the lady at the counter if they were paying for accommodations and meals until I left. She responded so kindly "NO." In fact, I can still hear that response echoing through my ears.

"What am I supposed to do now?" I wondered. Almost broke, can't get home and extremely devastated! "Bahamasair do me right in!" I definitely couldn't sit and cry and my chance to catch the fast ferry was gone for the boat had already sailed for Abaco.

On Tuesday, after being confirmed again for a seat on the flight, I returned to the airport only to learn once again that there was no vacancy for me on the flight. If I had I checked in late, I wouldn't have minded. But I was at the airport on both occasions at 12:30 p.m. for the 3:45 p.m. flight on the 29th and the 6 p.m. on the 2nd and was turned away.

Finally, I was able to secure a seat on Bahamasair on Friday January 5th, 2007, one week later that originally planned. Bahamasair MUST improve its services! It is wrong to leave people stranded without any assistance. How long will this problem continue to exist? I guess as soon as we get another carrier of the same size to provide services between Nassau and Abaco we will be faced with this dilemma. Yes, sir, Bahamasair do me right in!

Band Practice Resumes

Calling all members of the Treasure Cay Community Marching Band to the practice site for a special meeting on January 20th at 12 noon. Band practice will resume at this time. Vacation is over and it's time to

get serious and back to work. If you're interested in joining the Treasure Cay Community Band, a special invitation is extended to you to come to the St. Simon by the Sea Church on Saturdays from 10-2 weekly for practice.

Central Abaco Has New Street Signs

By Mirella Santillo

After the Community Disaster Management Workshop that took place last fall, a committee of volunteers was formed, the Abaco Volunteer Interaction Team (AVIT), to help the communities of Central Abaco with preparing for a disaster and dealing with the aftermath. As a starting project, the committee was charged by the organizers of the workshop with the task of erecting six street signs. The team was given the money which was handed to the Administrator to see the project to completion.

A week before Christmas, with the help of Mrs. G. Knowles, who coordinated the sign project with the Administrator's office, and Mr. Roland Bevans at the Ministry of Works, six signs were erected in each community of Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town and Murphy Town.

Following up on that initiative, Dundas Town Committee had four more signs made. Mr. Augustine Williams confirmed that two signs are being made by the township.

Shortly before the last local government elections, a resident of Murphy Town mentioned that one of the things she would like local government to do was the erection of street signs. Unfortunately, one year and a half later, there are still no new street signs in that township except for the ones just erected and one other privately erected.

It was a concern of the organizers of the disaster workshop that in case of a major disaster for which outside help would be required, people would not know how to orient themselves without proper street names. It was a major issue for the insurance adjusters after the last two hurricanes.

Hopefully, other communities will follow this initiative.

Abaco Real Estate Agency

Abaco's Oldest and Most Experienced Real Estate Agency

Telephone : (242) 367-2719

Contact Bill Thompson 477-5712
Lil Bill Albury or Elaine Thompson

ABACO REAL ESTATE

P.O. Box AB20404, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
Ph : (242) 367-2719 | Fax (242) 367-2359
www.abacobahamas.com



MARSH HARBOUR - EASTERN SHORES
LOOKOUT HOUSE - 3 bed 2 bath on exclusive Eastern Shores. This 1700 sq. ft. house is situated on 32,500 ± sq. ft. of Sea-to-Sea property, lush landscaping, wonderful views, of Man-O-War & Scotland Cay to the North & Sugar Loaf Cay /Lubbers to the South.. Private dock with boat lift, Central AC, Ceiling fans, Free standing fireplace.
New Price \$1,575,000



New Exclusive Listing LONG BEACH

Beach Front lot 13 - \$245,000
Lots 402 & 403 - \$155,000 each
Lot 73 - \$29,500, Lot 126 - \$35,900
Lot 316 & 418 - \$50,000 each
Lot 408 & 409 - \$102,000 each, \$185,000 for both

GUANA CAY

GUANA BEACH FRONT

Large beach front lot 300 yards NE of Nippers
\$525,000 gross

2 / 2 HOUSE IN SETTLEMENT

Great location 150 yards to beach next to Batelco & School, 21,000+ lot nice
2 / 2 house, \$585,000 gross

MALONE HOME

3 bedroom 3 bathroom home 50,730 sq. ft. lot with 130 ft of protected waterfront. Located on the water between the settlement & Blue Water Grill. Generator house w/ standby generator and r/o water system. Must be seen to be appreciated. "By appointment only." \$B2,150,000

New Exclusive - Interior lots 92B & 93A side-by-side 21,500 sq. ft. ± each, good elevation, Great views. Dock access, only 200' to Sea of Abaco
\$270,000 each

HARB. VIEW HAVEN & SUNRISE COTTAGE

Top floor; 2 Bd w/ Queen Beds, 1 bath, one single room with futon, kitchen, living room, dining room, balcony. One single unit, 1 bd, 1 bath & futon. Central A/C, T.V. Satellite, VCR, & CD Player, Ground floor; 1 bd w/ Queen bed, 1 bath, ground floor office, Cistern 48,000 gallon.

SUNRISE COTTAGE

1 Bd 1 bath, fully equipped kitchen, Central A/C., Satellite TV., CD Player - Exclusive Listing - View by appointment only : \$B1,500,000,

3 VACANT LOTS

Located in settlement next to Batelco
1) 8251 sq. ft.
2) 7922 sq. ft. \$160,000 each
3) 7593 sq. ft.

HOPE TOWN / LUBBERS LUBBERS

2 acres 115' waterfront \$600,000 gross

"New" Abaco Ocean Club LUBBERS Lots 39 & 40 \$99,000 gross each

Visit Our Website

www.abacobahamas.com

CHEROKEE

WATCHING BAY, CHEROKEE

"New" Subdivision, limited number of investor lots available. Interior lots from \$50,000, Ocean view lots from \$190,000 gross

YELLOW WOOD CREEK

1.17 Acre Hilltop lot Winding Bay Oceanviews \$300,000 Gross

SOUTHABACO

OLD KERR

2 miles south of Bahama Palm Shores 10.8 acres, Great elevations \$165,000 gross

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

4 Interior lots from \$25,000

MARSH HARBOUR

REGATTAS OF ABACO

3 - 2/2 fully furnished Units 203, 302, & 303 \$315,000 each

SOUTH-WIND PELICAN SHORES

34,385 sq. ft. with 175' on the road and 40' on the water (duck pond) with a very private protected dock. 1960's style 3/2 house and small guest cottage. This property has great potential in exclusive and much desired Pelican Shores. \$B809,000 gross

SUNRISE BAY

New Exclusive - Harbour views, gated community, private marina slips available for purchase, Lot 35 - 7803 sq. ft. \$175,000
• only 6 lots remain in this beautiful subdivision - from \$184,000

BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND

New Exclusive - 11 Residential lots Priced from \$10,000 to \$17,000

SWEETINGS VILLAGE

New Exclusive - Commercial with plan for 14 Town houses on 41,000 sq. ft. of corner property \$198,000
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Church

From Page 1

In his message, he encouraged his congregation not to get caught up in a date but to be happy that Jesus came so that we can face tomorrow. Too many times we forget Christ and focus on the gifts and everything else. It is important that, in spite of what the world says, we realize that there would be no Christmas without Christ. However, many persons are still so busy keeping up with "the Jones" that they forget about Christ. "So just run your race at your own pace and do only what you can with what you've got.

Pastor Cornish hoped that this Christmas will be a time well spend with your family and loved ones and not one that is spent comparing your gifts with that of others, he

stated. He expressed that God wants all of us to have an abundant life now while we are on this earth and to be happy while here. It is not God's plan for people to live with guilt and fear of a past life that haunts them, he explained.

After we have lived an abundant, fulfilled life on this earth, all of us will spend eternity somewhere. Christmas Day is a day of celebration for a future that is secure. Let this Christmas Day be filled with peace on the earth and good will towards all men.

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TREASURE CAY:

"Argyll House"
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"Tradewinds"
(Ref # 589) Luxurious 1 acre beachfront estate 4 bedroom 3.5 bath main house on T.C. point beach plus 3 bedroom 3 bath 2 storey guest house. Spectacular views, superior architectural design and finishes throughout, fully furnished Price: \$4,575,000

"Peace & Plenty"
(Ref #503) Splendid 7 bedroom, 4.5 bath 2 storey, fully furnished Ocean Blvd beachfront estate, situated on 1.453 superbly landscaped acres with 163' feet of spectacular beach frontage, magnificent views, covered balconies, superior finishes, guest cottage, ideal location with privacy. \$3,800,000.

"Trident House"
(Ref #317) Superb 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath fully furnished beach front home, 3,500 square feet, sensational beach & ocean views, many extras \$2,500,000.

"Final Approach"
(Ref #601) Canal front 2 storey 5,500 s/f 6 bedrooms, 4.5 bath private home on large property, 100' private dock, 6' depth. Recently renovated, fully furnished, four car garage. Price \$2,497,000

"Oceana"
(Ref #498) Furnished 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath private home with open floor plan, British Colonial decor for elegant and comfortable living, located on Sandpiper Beach, magnificent views, garage, landscaped, beachside deck. \$1,875,000.

"Beachfront Vacant Lot"
(Ref #462) 1.82 acre cleared lot with 144' of prime beach frontage, located on prestigious Ocean Blvd, all utilities available, limited beach lots available in this area. Price \$1,695,000.

"Beach Lot"
(Ref # 590) Located on Leeward Beach near the T.C. Point with 136' of fabulous beach frontage, views of Green Turtle Cay, total of 28,700 s/f, ready for construction, all utilities available, quiet & secluded Cul de sac. Price: \$1,330,000

"Ocean Blvd. Beach Lot"
(Ref # 585) Prime location with 140ft on magnificent beach, total of 1.37 acres, partially cleared, all amenities at lot line. Price: \$1,215,000

"Harbour's Edge"
(Ref #191) 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,500 s/f harbour front home, 90' of bulkhead for dock with 8+/- depth, waterfront views though large glass doors, open kitchen, interior decor includes hand painted tropical mural, 2 car garage, 1/3 acre lot with privacy walls, Mediterranean style pool, fully furnished. Price: \$1,265,000.

"Pilot House"
(Ref #568) Waterfront 3 bedroom 3 bath 2 storey home overlooking Sea of Abaco on narrow peninsula for superior water views, drive through carport with private boat ramp, perfect house for bone-fishing enthusiast. Price: \$1,160,000

"Treasure Landings"
(Ref #600) Newly constructed 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,300s/f luxury condominiums, close to beach, marina, restaurants & shops. Superior finished, fully furnished. Price: \$495,000. Financing available.

"Brigantine Beach Condo"
(Ref #369) 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath bath townhouse with ocean views just steps from the beach, furnished, rental history \$458,000.

"Beach Villa 506"
(Ref #636) 2 bed, 2bath garden view villa, completely renovated in 2005, all new furnishings & appliances. 1,250 s/f. Ideal rental property. Price \$492,000.

"#3 Marlin Drive"
(Ref #492) 3 bedroom 3 bath single story CBS construction home, walking distance to beach & golf course. Modern kitchen, renovated, open decking on large lot. Price: \$450,000

"Galleon Bay Canal Lot"
(Ref #422) Prime Canal Front cleared lot totaling 10,295 s/f and 88+ feet of protected canal water frontage situated on the wide expanse of pictureque Galleon Bay, quick access to the Sea of Abaco. \$350,000.

"Harbourfront Condo"
(Ref #688) Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath ground level condominium with superb views of the Treasure Cay harbour & marina. Located in the Mariner's Cove complex. Good rental history Price \$345,000.

"Canal Lot on Galleon Bay"
(Ref #569) Protected canal lot near Galleon Bay entrance for quick access to Sea of Abaco, utilities at lot line, very well priced. Price: \$331,500

"Two Bedroom Mariner's Cove"
(Ref #454) 2 bedroom, 1 bath fully furnished, two level poolside unit within view of Treasure Cay Marina and just a 5 minute walk from the Treasure Cay Beach. Can be combined with listing #455 to make a 3 bed/2bath with open living area. Price \$317,900.

"Mariner's Cove Unit 1401"
(Ref #655) Fully furnished 2 bed, 1 bath end unit overlooking marina/harbour. Complex offers pool and tennis courts, close to beach, restaurant and shops: Price \$317,000.

"Rock Point Waterfront Lot"
(Ref # 586) Located on Rock Point Dr. 90 ft on Sea of Abaco at entrance to Treasure Cay Marina. 11,818 s/f, enjoys cool south-easterly summer ocean breezes & also overlooks the bonefish flats of Gun Powder Creek to the west. Price: \$299,500

"Waterfront Lots"
(Ref #260) Sea-walled waterfront lot on Galleon Bay Rd with spectacular views of the Sea of Abaco, cleared ready for construction, excellent value, Price \$220,000

"One Bedroom Mariner's Cove"
(Ref #455) 1 bed, 1 bath fully furnished ground floor poolside unit. Mariner's Cove offers pool, tennis courts, laundry facilities, on site management, good rental potential. Price \$200,000.

"Flamingo Drive Lot 66"
(Ref #558) Large residential lot situated on a quiet Flamingo Drive cul-de-sac, an ideal home building site, all utilities, including electricity, water, telephone, Cable TV & DSL access available at the lot line. Price: \$46,785

"Residential Inland Lot"
(Ref #442) Choice residential lot on paved Flamingo Drive, located just one block from Ocean Blvd. 10,000 s/f & 80' on the road. All utilities are available at the property boundary, including TV & DSL. Price \$45,000.

"Golf Course Area Corner Lot"
(Ref #559) Oversized corner lot # 7 offering paved street frontage on two sides, plus all utilities at lot line, enjoy the solitude & greenery of the golf course, just a few hundred feet away. Price: \$35,100

LEISURE LEE:
"Canal Front Home"
(Ref #214) 2 bedroom 2 bath single story CBS construction home, open living/kitchen on the end of a finger canal, tile floors, central A/C, low maintenance, 50' of bulkhead canal front with deep water and dock, fully furnished, includes vehicle. Close to beach access \$465,000.

"Canal Lot 206"
(Ref #597) Cleared 11,242 s/f lot with 171 feet of bullheaded seawall, views of Treasure Cay and the Sea of Abaco. All utilities available. Price \$265,000.

LITTLE HARBOUR:
"Waterfront Property"
(Ref #347) 2.2 acres, sea to sea, total 280' water frontage, ideal for boat dockage in protected Little Harbour, large natural cave. \$608,000. Reduced!!!

TURTLE ROCKS:
"South Hampton"
(Ref#683) Just completed 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 2640 s/f beach front home on 1.416 acres, custom kitchen, 950 s/f covered decks, pool fantastic Sea of Abaco views from virtually every room. \$1,400,000.

"Turtle's Rock"
(Ref #361) 3 bedroom 2.5 bath beach front home built in 2000 on 1.18 acres with 102' on the beach, very private area, fully furnished. \$755,000.

"Joe's Creek Vicinity Lot 15"
(Ref# 567) Offering 2.139 acres with a 50 ft elevated ridge, 956ft deep from highway to Coromont Pond, ideal for private residence or small subdivision, electricity & telephone at highway, easy access to Marsh Harbour & Treasure Cay. Price: \$149,700

GUANA CAY:
"Two Commercial Lots"
(Ref#368) 2 adjoining lots, harbour front road location, across from the public dock, total frontage 161 feet, lot#8 \$299,000, lot#9 \$349,000.00.

MARSH HARBOUR:
"Sea View Lot with Dockage"
(Ref#493) Select residential lot in Great Abaco Club, 7,750 sq. ft. in size, finger dock for 25' vessel, direct access to Sea of Abaco, gated community, all utilities available, use of all resort amenities, close to restaurants, shops, etc - reduced \$395,000.

GREEN TURTLE CAY:
"Beau Soleil"
(Ref#662) Beautiful 4 bed 5 bath Beachfront Estate - Main House, Guest House and Apt. total 3,634 s/f on 0.878 acres on White Sound with 120' dock, fresh water pool 173' beach frontage, great elevation, magnificent views, furnished. \$2,975,000.

"Oceanview Home"
(Ref#693) Newly built 4 bed, 2.5 bath, fully furnished 2 storey colonial style, 3,000 s/f + 300 s/f covered porches, residential neighborhood, beach access, large lot, ocean views. \$778,000.

"Sea View Elevated Lot"
(Ref#684) Hilltop 0.405 acre parcel in planned residential community of "Island Reach", perched high on White Sound Bluff, one of the highest elevations on Green Turtle Cay, overlooking the Sea of Abaco, \$725,000.

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The Cancer Society of Abaco's Year in Review

By Jennifer Hudson

The Cancer Society of Abaco had a busy and successful year in 2006 promoting cancer awareness and providing assistance for cancer patients on Abaco.

Airline tickets were provided by the Cancer Society for 20 patients seeking medical treatment abroad at a cost of \$9,623 and \$1,425 was donated towards defraying the cost of mammograms received by persons at the Auskell clinic. Twenty five dollars is donated towards the cost of each mammogram and 57 ladies took advantage of these subsidized mammograms. Three thousand dollars was sent to Nassau towards the care of patients at the Cancer Caring Centre. Half that amount was in honour of cancer patients still living and half in memory of those from Abaco who have passed on.

Much of the money the Abaco Cancer Society donates for cancer care and prevention comes from money raised by its Thrift Shop which is run by a faithful group of volunteers. The shop is very popular with people who like to buy good quality items at bargain prices and is open two Saturday mornings each month. It is located in the Marsh Harbour library building and has recently doubled in size as it has been able to obtain the use of an additional room.

The society is also grateful for donations it receives in memory of loved ones who have passed on and also from the community. Recently the Cancer Society of Abaco was presented with a cheque from the St.

Francis de Sales School as a result of their Jeans Day and also a cheque from George Riviere, who made up the shortfall from the amount they were able to raise and present last year. Ricardo Miller, owner of the Island Pharmacy in Dove Plaza, makes frequent donations to the Cancer Society of money raised from donations he requests people make when they receive free testing in his store. In December a group of Girl Guides from Abaco Central High School sang Christmas Carols in the Abaco Shopping Centre on several different occasions which raised funds for the Cancer Society.

Normally each year cancer screening clinics for both women and men are held in Marsh Harbour, Cooper's Town and, whenever possible, Moore's Island. However, in 2006 the cancer screening clinics were not held on Abaco nor in Nassau for various reasons though they may be resumed next year. Pap smears are done regularly throughout the year at the Government Clinic so no one needs go without being screened.

A radio talk was held on Radio Abaco in October in connection with Cancer Awareness Month when Hugh Cottis and Marjolein Scott, President and Secretary of the Cancer Society, spoke on cancer awareness and answered questions. Dr. Sue Fairclough, physician at the Auskell Clinic, was also a member of the panel. Leaflets on cancer prevention were distributed throughout the town. Hugh Cottis gave a talk on cancer

prevention to the Rotary Club in November and passed out literature there. Monthly meetings of society volunteers are held.

Some additional facts and figures of how the Cancer Society of Abaco has assisted the community since 2000:

62 patients have been helped at a cost of \$39,000

14 free clinics at a cost of \$5,317

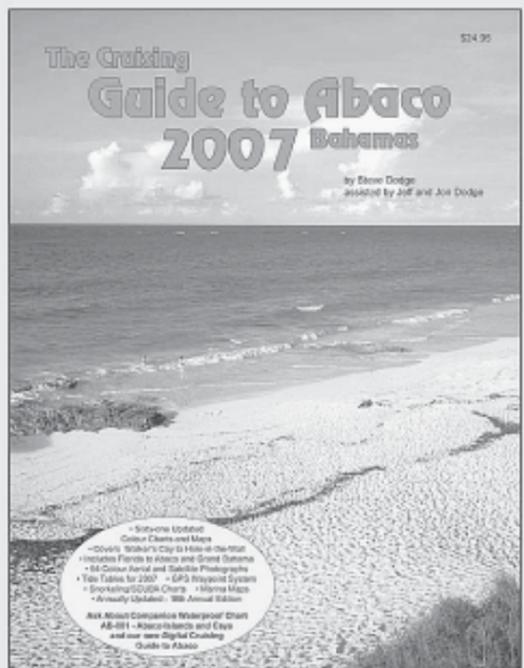
571 women screened for breast and cervical cancer

\$42,000 was contributed to the Cancer

Caring Centre in Nassau

\$1,000 has subsidized the cost of mammograms

The Cancer Society of Abaco wishes to thank the community for its help. Donations of good quality, clean clothing and household items for the Thrift Shop are always welcome. Call 367-3744 or take to Brass and Leather Shop in the Abaco Shopping Centre in Marsh Harbour.



The Cruising Guide to Abaco, Bahamas: 2007
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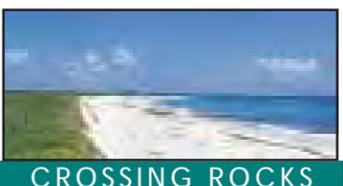
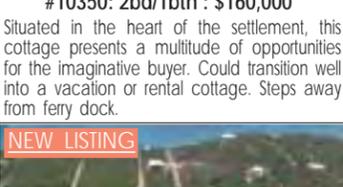
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 GUANA CAY #10181: 3bd/2bths : \$375,000 This super home is nestled in the heart of the settlement, surrounded by lush specimen foliage, a winter garden and well maintained lawns. Panoramic views are enjoyed from the widow's walk and porches.	 GUANA CAY #10350: 2bd/1bth : \$160,000 Situated in the heart of the settlement, this cottage presents a multitude of opportunities for the imaginative buyer. Could transition well into a vacation or rental cottage. Steps away from ferry dock.	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">UNDER CONTRACT</p>  LYNARD CAY #9297: Acreage : Serious Inquiries Bordering the Sea of Abaco with Atlantic to the east, this expansive parcel boasts 77 fabulous acres, includes high elevations, dense native coppice, numerous coconut palm trees and white sand beaches.	 CROSSING ROCKS #9510: Residential Lots: \$160,000 Greenland Bay. Gorgeous, unspoiled beach front, dazzling white sand, rolling grassland interior. Parcels encompass 100 to 200 ft on the beach. Only one parcel may be sold in each instance at above starting price.	 BAKER'S HEIGHTS #562105: Acreage : \$1,360,000 Prime development property located 11 miles north of Marsh Harbour on Queen's highway. Features wooded rolling terrain with hills of up to 30' in elevation. Great potential for development.	
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NEW PRICE</p>  CASUARINA POINT #562299: 3bd/2bths : \$359,000 Bright and sunny, sturdy concrete family home, just steps from the beach. 1,472 s.f. of living space, tile floors, crown molding. Perfectly suited for family or retirement home.	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NEW LISTING</p>  GUANA CAY #562031: Residential Lot : \$395,000 NEW! Gorgeous Atlantic Ocean front home site. Located adjacent to the Orchid Bay development with elevated rocky shore and beach. Densely vegetated with natural coppice and native trees.	 BAHAMA PALM SHORES #10202: Acreage : \$350,000 Gorgeous, generously-sized home site on Eight Mile Bay beach. Approx. .85 acres of nicely elevated land thickly treed with native hardwoods and coconut palms. Wonderful views, wide sugar sand beaches.	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NEW LISTING</p>  TREASURE CAY #562353: Residential Lot: \$85,000 Lovely, oversized multi-family residential lot in popular Anchorage Estates. Close to beaches and all amenities the resort and community offer. Invest in the future!	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">NEW LISTING</p>  BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND #9935: Residential Lot: \$24,000 Lovely, homesite of approx. 10,000 sq.ft. with high elevation and views of the sea on the west of Abaco and the South side. Conveniently located just 3 miles north of Marsh Harbour.	
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">UNDER CONTRACT</p>  BAHAMA PALM SHORES #8928: 4bd/2bths : \$422,000 Secluded home, located directly across the lane from Eight Mile Bay and its gorgeous beach. Rooftop deck enjoys the best views of the area. Room to expand and add personal touch.	 PELICAN SHORES #562332: 3bd/3bths : Executive Rental Spacious family home located on prestigious Pelican Shores. Long term lease only, references, first, last and security required. Lease pricing on request.	<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">OFFICES IN</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Abaco Nassau Exuma Eleuthera Long Island Harbour Island</p>		 MARSH HARBOUR #562133: 3bd/2bths: \$347,000 Fully furnished, with all new appliances and cabinets. Ideally located on quiet road, but close to Marsh Harbour. Excellent investment for rental or family home.	 BUSTIC BIGHT #562174: Acreage: \$1,500,000 Green Cay is a nature lover's paradise. Situated just 1/2 mile off the west coast of Great Abaco Island. Perfectly suited for private retreat, bonefishing resort, etc.



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#13180 Price: \$580,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

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

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NEW LISTING

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Beautiful 2 acre beachfront lots. Good elevations with gorgeous views of the Atlantic Ocean. Utilities available. \$550,000 each.

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MURPHY TOWN

Cute 2 bed, 1 bath home sits on large parcel of land. Can be subdivided. Landscaped with room for expansion.

#13475 Price: \$350,000



SWEETINGS TRACT

Located in a very nice area of Marsh Harbour. Has access to the water with a small beach which looks over to Hope Town & Lubbers.

#3963 Price: \$55,000



TREASURE CAY

Nice elevated lot in the beautiful development of Treasure Cay. Offering golfing, boating, deep-sea fishing, flat fishing and much more

#13551 Price: \$90,000



WATCHING BAY

Situated on 8 acres offering 250 feet of beachfront. 90 foot elevations and 35 foot dunes. One of a kind.

#13482 Price: \$2,185,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

Comfortable CBS 2 bed, 2 bath home situated on approximately 4 acres with 135' beachfront and 70' elevations. Nicely landscaped.

#13495 Price: \$1,450,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

Lovely 2 bed, 2 bath home overlooking the harbour and channel entrance. Small private dock. Walking distance to beaches, fishing and dining.

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CASUARINA POINT

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GREEN TURTLE CAY

1.5 acres on gorgeous ocean beach with 135 feet of frontage and great elevations. This is the last available peice in this area.

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ACH Graduate Earns Pilot's Wings

By Jennifer Hudson.

Twenty-year-old Whitney McIntosh is an excellent role model for the young people of today, especially the girls. Whitney, who graduated from Abaco Central High School in 2003, is now a pilot. Getting to where she is today has not been an easy road for her, but Whitney's message to young people is, "You can always achieve your goals; if you really want it, you can accomplish whatever you put your mind to."

Whitney's keen interest in aviation began at a very early age. Her mother, Katheran Adderley, was a ticket agent and also a taxi driver, both of which led her to spend much time at the airport, and Whitney often had to go along with her. She loved to "just be around planes and watch them taking off and landing." This fascination grew into an obsession.

Whitney began "hands on" experience with Robbie Nixon of Cherokee Air and Edrick Symonette of Abaco Air at 14 years. Unable to come up with the \$40,000 necessary for flight training upon graduation from school, Whitney went to work as Manager of the Internet Café. After a while the company transferred her to Nassau where she began taking a Business Management Course at the College of the Bahamas. She finally achieved

her goal of attending Flight School at 19 years and received her training with Airborne Systems at the Fort Lauderdale International Airport. "I was the only girl who had attended the school for many years and studied along with 10 guys," Whitney proudly says. She finished Flight School with her single and multi private and single and multi commercial license.

A short time after graduation she was happy to be given the chance to "get into the air" with Cherokee Air with whom she has been flying for two months. Her routes are mainly to Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Nassau and Eleuthera. She flies the nine-seater Caravan and six-seater Aztec. Whitney flies about four to five hours a day and is still "building time" which means that she must have an experienced captain in the co-pilot's seat. She has 300 more hours to accumulate before returning to Flight School for more training. After a practical test she will then be qualified to fly without a co-pilot.

When asked if she had ever experienced a flight when something had gone wrong, Whitney told me of one occasion when she was still in training and was flying as co-pilot. The plane was returning from Cap Haitian when they lost their right engine and had



Whitney McIntosh

to land in Exuma. Whitney said that she felt very calm and reassured the passengers who were understandably upset when they saw fire on the wing. One lady was crying but, fortunately, Whitney was able to speak Creole and so was able to calm her down. "We secured the right engine, went into a dive and the wind extinguished the fire," explained Whitney, who said that she has been described as having a very good nerve.

Whitney is a young lady with many great aspirations. She would like to become an Airline Transport Pilot which would entitle

her to fly Boeing 707 aircraft. She will have to wait a few more years for this as one must be 23 years of age.

Yet another goal this magnanimous young lady would like to fulfill is to start "safe homes" for young women who need help. "I would like to provide somewhere where young women can have someone to confide in without being gossiped about and where they can be encouraged to be their best," says Whitney. "I know how difficult it is for young girls growing up on Abaco. Many young women are confused and narrow-minded but need to be made to see that they do not have to follow the same pattern as their family has always done. My advice is to go away where you can learn respect for other people and cultures and, by widening your horizons, learn about yourself."

"Even though I was hindered by lack of finances, I went after my passion and proved that the sky is not the limit," enthuses Whitney. She credits her strong belief in God, the support of her church, Change Ministries, that reaches out to young people and the encouragement of her mother and her boyfriend for helping her get where she is today. It is her desire to encourage other young women to be the best that they can be.



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Euro (dollars) and two cigarettes along with the message. The message contained an e-mail address that the Pinders intend to contact.

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<p>NEW</p> <p>Great Guana Cay Dolphin Beach Estates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beachfront Building Site - 30,920 s.f. - 0.71 acres - 117' Ocean Beach - 35' Elevation - Fabulous Ocean and Sea of Abaco Views <p>"Claire's Beach" #TS10565 - \$850,000.</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beachfront Building Site - 36,839 s.f. - 0.845 Acre - ± 65' Beach Frontage - Good Elevation - Superb Ocean Views - Lush Native Vegetation <p>"Lost Shaker" #AS10575 - \$545,500.</p>	<p>PRIVATE ISLAND</p> <p>Lubbers Quarters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.94 Acres - Sea-to-sea - 97' of East frontage - 120' of West Frontage - Deep water for dock on Lubbers Channel - Beautiful Beach on west. - Lush native vegetation. <p>"Lubbers - Sea-to-sea" #AS10719 - \$910,000.</p>	<p>PRIVATE ISLAND</p> <p>Sea of Abaco near Leisure Lee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.4 Acres - 300' from mainland - Excellent Elevation - 8' water at western end - 3 Miles south of Treasure Cay <p>"Carrington Cay" #AB51471 \$455,000.</p>

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Sports News

Basketball Association Receives Donation

By Jennifer Hudson

Recently Cay Mills was presented a cheque for the Abaco Basketball Association for \$10,000 by Mr. Edward Divita, Senior Vice President of the Discovery Land Company and Baker's Bay Development. "I am very grateful to Mr. Divita for making this donation, especially when he had been told that I had no interest in continuing after 25 years of service in the league. I was moving away from basketball as there is a group of guys trying to run the league. The league should have been back opening again from the first of October but though the group who wanted to succeed me are doing a lot of talking, after five meetings which I called by radio and tele-

phone to try to move the league forward, they have not showed up," said Mr. Mills.

Cay Mills thanked Mr. Divita for the confidence he has displayed in him and promised to start the basketball league up again in January. He would like to thank Baker's Bay on behalf of the Abaco Basketball Association for their continued support of basketball, the people of Abaco and the youth who are the future of our country. "The cheque will be used towards fixing up the basketball facilities, paying outstanding bills and travel expenditure during the season," he stated.

Mr. Mills said that although he had wanted someone else to take over the leadership, he will now be coming back to basketball. The players on the police team from Nassau encouraged him to continue and told him that he would be crazy to walk away from the

game. They were impressed with how well behaved the crowds are at Abaco Basketball Association events. According to Mr. Mills, the players said that they were not going to play if he did not remain in the leadership role. "If you love the game, you will continue," he replied. What really touched his heart and helped him decide to continue was when the kids cried on the last night of the basketball championship, and he received phone calls from kids who play basketball saying, "We

have nothing to do evenings or weekends now." Approximately 200 fans turn out to watch each game.

"Last year there were ten teams in the Abaco Basketball Association which involved 120 players. This was the first time Abaco had more teams than any other basketball league in the country," said Cay. "We have won the Bahamas Basketball Federation five times in the past six years with three different teams but still get no help from the Ministry of Youth and Sports nor are any players ever invited to represent the Bahamas in overseas play," he lamented.

Karate Students Will Compete

By Julian Lockhart

Students at the Abaco Karate Academy will embark on four tournament journeys starting on January 20th on Grand Bahama which could lead to their qualifying for the Pan American Games in 2008. A number of Sensei Churton Toote's students will be competing at the Sensei Joye Ritchie-Greene Freeport Tournament, and depending on how

Please see **Sports**

Page 17



Mr. Edward Divita of Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club presented a check to Cay Mills representing the Abaco Basketball Association. It will be used to fix basketball facilities and for travel expense.

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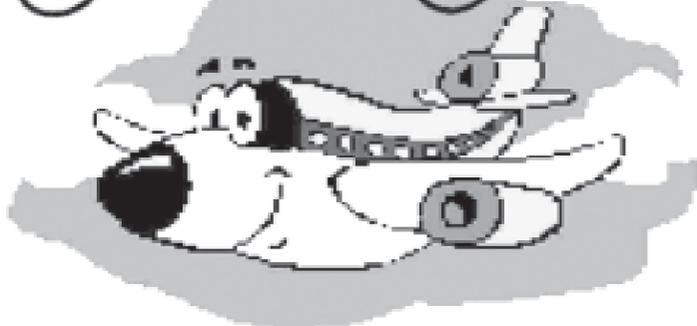
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Sports

From Page 16

they do in this tournament and three others will determine whether they qualify for the Pan Am Games.

This is the first tournament of the year and Sensei Toote said he is expecting big things from his dojo this year. Sensei Toote said, "This tournament is very important to me because not only are we going to this tournament, but they are preparing for an event in July. If they are successful in this tournament and the tournaments to come, they will have a free ride going to the Pan American Games.

They will qualify for the Pan American Games through these tournaments. I think we will see improvement and I see it already. Once the kids ask you questions, it is helpful. I feel about six will qualify but there could easily be more," he added.

One of Abaco's brightest prodigies is Sensei Agatha Curry, who at 16 has already been a black belt for almost two years. She is looking for a break-out year in 2007, starting with the tournament in Grand Bahama. She is also one of the top candidates to qualify for the Pan American Games.

She is currently a 12th grade student at Abaco Central High School and wants to continue fighting and competing after she graduates. She feels qualifying for the Pan Am Games can be the launching pad for her.

Sensei Curry said, "I want to finish in first place, not mess up on my katas and just do the best I can. I have been training very hard and practicing on a new and better kata. I see myself qualifying for Pan American Games because after I graduate from school it will help me be better and go farther in karate. Karate is very important in me and I think I will qualify," Ms. Curry added.

The Abaco Karate Academy is growing fast but Sensei Toote said they need community support in order to compete at the highest level. Sensei Toote said, "What our aim is this year is to find sponsors; we need sponsors badly. That will be one of my main things this year. For most of the kids their parents don't have that kind of funding, but they have the talent. I want to embrace that talent and give them the opportunities. Hopefully, with sponsorships we can send more kids to tournaments. This program is working because it helps the kids become more occupied and our main objective is to give kids something to work for," Sensei Toote concluded.

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 EXC. \$2,337,000 FGS

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"Cross Winds" Split level CBS home extra large lot across from 2 beach greenways. Private. Master bed/ bath suite upstairs. Lower level 2 bed / 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/ dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1bed/ 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus! Plus! Plus!
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OCEAN BLVD. CASUARINA BEACH

"Seagrapes" Planned for Beach Living. This CBS ocean front home sits on 2+ acres fully landscaped. Plan includes 3 bed/ 3.5 bath with master suite and one guest bedroom facing ocean. Large open concept living/ dining/kitchen, with covered porch, all offer direct ocean views/ access. Some extra features include garage and large detached CBS garage/ workshop/boat storage.
 MLS \$3,500,000 + 7.5% Closing

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WINDWARD BEACH ESTATES

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School News

Abaco Central High Students Will Raise Chickens

By Mirella Santillo

On January 4th approximately 20 Abaco Central High School students from grade 9 to 12 attended a presentation on raising and maintaining healthy chickens. The introduction was made by the Principal, who stressed the importance of agriculture, not only as a means to make money, but as a service to help one's country to be self-sufficient.

Lately a revival of agriculture has become part of the agenda of many government schools. So it does not come as a surprise that the new Principal of Abaco Central High School, Mr. Kendris Hield, dedicated a portion of unused grounds behind the school to agricultural projects.

"It is unfortunate that a country has to import these things" (food items), he said. "I want to raise your interest in agriculture, get some of you involved, even passionate about it." He announced his intention to have a full agricultural program not only with produce and chickens but also with goats and pigs by the beginning of the next school year.

The training session was organized with the help of Rev. Kenneth Knowles, who explained how he got into chicken farming because of his wife's health. "Having grown up with chickens running around the yard as a boy when chicken was a delicacy eaten once a week on Sunday," he decided to build a coop and raise chickens for meat and eggs for his family's consumption. Raising his own chickens assures him of the freshness of the eggs and the wholesomeness of the feed he

gives them: no hormones or growth injections. He feeds his chicken a lot of grain and oyster shells for strong eggs.

He reminded the students that they have to have interest and dedication. "You must be willing to discipline yourselves into caring for your animals, in this case your chickens. Chickens are lovable birds. They are good companions." To prove his point, he brought with him some of his pet chickens: a one-week-old baby chick "Broiler," an eight-month old chicken of the same species, a white female pigeon, that lays eggs, a Rhode Island Red rooster and a Golden Laced hen, that students were invited to hold.

Mr. Knowles explained in detail the laying cycle of a hen, laying for 21 days, incubating for 21 days, feeding the chicks for

another 21 days and laying again.

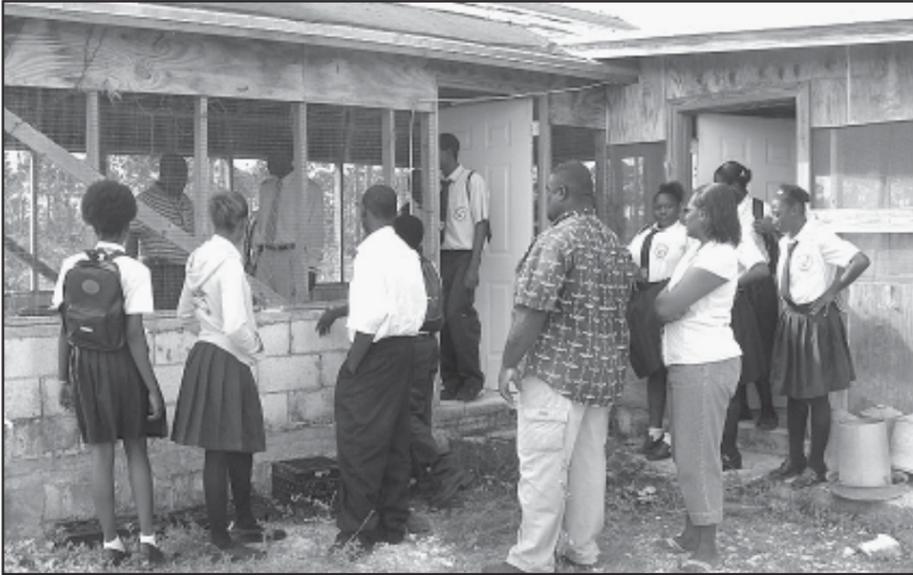
He offered his hopes that perhaps soon, Abaco Central could provide the local stores with chicken.

The seminar ended with a visit to the proposed grounds and coop that is nearly complete. Mr. Knowles made a few suggestions to make sure that the five chicks, the rooster and hen that he will donate the school have the proper housing.

Students from grade 7 to grade 12 will be able to take agriculture as an elective subject under the expertise of Ms. Ingrid Gray, agriculture teacher, and Mr. Jack Hardy, planting consultant, advising students where and when to plant.

Please see **School**

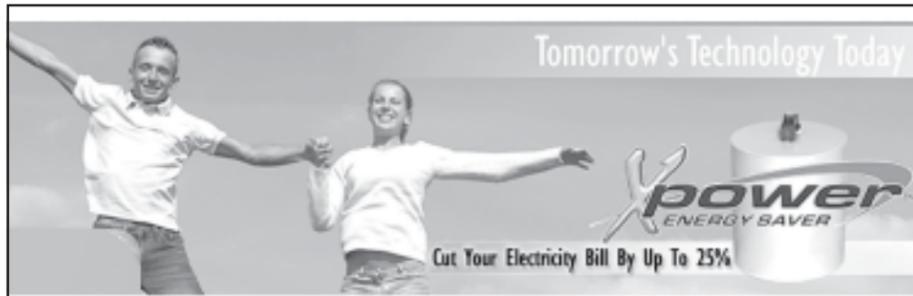
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Students of Abaco Central High School are preparing to raise chickens. They are looking at a run-down chicken coop on the campus that will require repairing.



Grade 6 students of Central Abaco Primary School proudly display T-shirts that they have tie-dyed. Mrs. Martha Smith has worked with the students and taught them several crafts.



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More School News

School *From Page 18*

Central Abaco Primary Students Learn to Tie and Dye

By Samantha V. Evans

Grade six students of Central Abaco Primary School got another opportunity to learn a skill that can earn them money later in life. They learned to tie-dye. Mrs. Martha Smith ended her craft sessions with these students



These students are tying their T-shirts preparatory to dyeing them.

by teaching them how to tie and dye beginning in December of 2006. The students bought white t-shirts and Mrs. Smith bought the dye. She explained to them how to knot the t-shirts to create the desired design. She told them that each design will be original and would not be able to be duplicated by them or anyone else. That is one of the beauties of this type of design. The process of knotting the t-shirts took about a half hour per class.

Both students and teachers were excited and very enthusiastic as the project got underway. Due to exams and other activities, they were unable to dye the t-shirts before the end of the first school term in December but finally got this process done on January 4th, 2007, when Mrs. Smith returned to walk them through the dying process. She stated that this process usually doesn't take long. But because there were over 50 students and they had limited containers for dying, it took about two class periods to complete. Once the t-shirts

were dyed, the students laid them across the railings at the back of the school to dry. Thanks to the sunshine that day, the drying process took about an hour. When the t-shirts were dry, they were pressed to set the dye into the shirts. The students will use the t-shirts for their Social Studies project - the Election Process. The t-shirts were dyed two different colors to differentiate the two political parties.

St. Francis de Sales Candidate for Who's Who Is Named

By Samantha V. Evans

It is that time again when primary schools across the Bahamas name their candidates for the Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation "Who's Who" in Primary Award Program 2007. St. Francis de Sales has named Aisha Z. Jones, a sixth grade student, as its

candidate. The grade 6 teacher, Mrs. Olive Simon, stated that she made a selection based on a number of areas including academics and personality. But what made her decision final was when she asked all of her students to bring in their portfolio, Aisha's really impressed her.

The principal, Mrs. J. Kumar, is very excited about this candidate and believes that she will do very well. Aisha has strong academics, is very involved in extra curricular activities and is a school prefect. She has an outgoing, friendly personality and presents herself with class and grace. She is not afraid to speak (or sing) in public and has done so at her school many times. She is well rounded and a pleasure to be around.

All of the candidates have a list of criteria to meet including writing a 400-word essay on *My Vision for a Better Bahamas*. Each stu-

Please see **School** Page 23

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MP Robert Sweeting Has Health Plan Doubts

By Julian Lockhart

Member of Parliament for South Abaco, Mr. Robert Sweeting, said the new National Health Plan bill is a "gimmick the PLP are only using to hopefully get votes in the upcoming election" as election 2007 is closing in.

The National Health Plan Bill has passed the House of Assembly and the Senate, but it has not been Gazetted to this date. Until that time it will not become law.

However, even if the bill becomes a law, it is up to the minister to enact the law and Mr. Sweeting doesn't think the Minister of Health and National Insurance, Dr. Bernard Nottage, will enact the law before or anytime after the next election.

Mr. Sweeting said, "I think this will backfire on them. Clause 14 in there basically almost saying if private individuals are carrying health insurance now, they are basically saying you cannot cancel that when you pick up the new one being proposed now. Every single individual I have talked to whether companies or private individuals today said there is no way they will drop their private insurance. Even though we need to improve more on our national health scheme. But the health care

is out there, though not as much as we need.

"I will not pre-judge them but certainly from all the people I have contacted, they feel it will not be a good plan. You will see people dropping out of private insurance like flies because they cannot afford to pay both."

The Bahamas currently spends almost \$200 million on health insurance each year. This number will most likely rise, with a higher percentage of each person's salary going to the National Health Plan. The salary ceiling to be taxed is \$60,000 per annum and the bill is proposing for \$5 to be taxed out of every \$100.

National Insurance already has problems consistently collecting monies on the Family Islands as well as from self-employed or fishermen and will have to spend even more money to put in place people who can go after these monies on a consistent basis. The



Robert Sweeting MP

new plan says it will take care of everyone from the cradle to the grave. Mr. Sweeting said this is a bad idea because now it allows women to have as many children as possible because they will be taken care of.

The new law was created for women to have more time off for maternity leave but added in the law was that the employer would only be responsible once every three years. This was done to discourage women from having children every year because of the added cost to the health system and the burden on the employer financially.

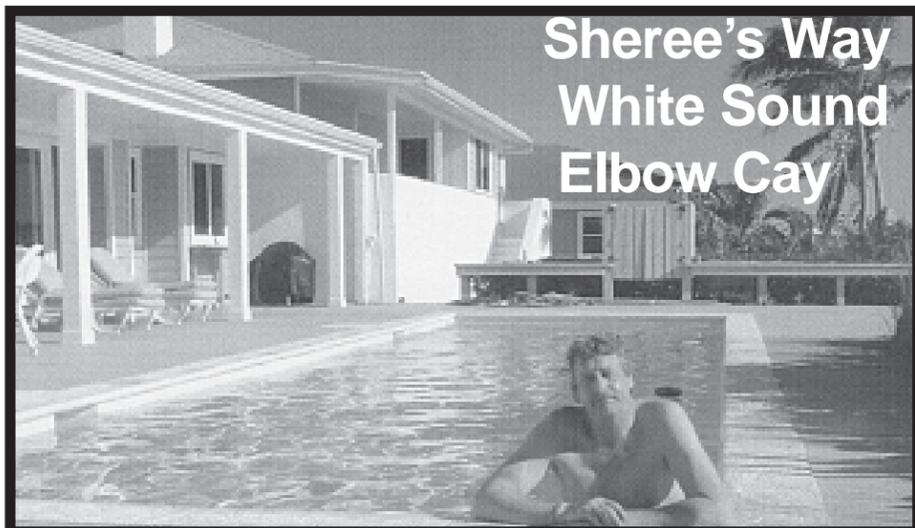
Mr. Sweeting said, "They talk about the cradle to the grave thing and any tax you bring on every class of society will have to pay. They put a ceiling on it at \$60,000 of what percentage you pay on. Even retired people now will have to pay and government employees will have to contribute. It should be done in conjunction with private insurance companies. Government doesn't run organizations well and there is always a waste of tax payers' money," Mr. Sweeting added.

Abaco faces a major illegal immigration problem that is a burden on the education and health systems, and the health system will

be even more burdened by this new plan. Illegal immigrants will not have to pay towards the new National Health Plan, just like they are not currently paying towards National Insurance, but they will be entitled to health care in all government facilities. The burden on the health system and hospitals in the Bahamas most likely will get worse as the hospitals and clinics are already operating at 100 percent capacity."

Mr. Sweeting said, "There is no question that illegal immigrants will get free service. I think Bahamians don't take advantage of it enough because they go over to the clinics and the lines are so great. Fifty percent of the patients treated are illegal immigrants. We will bear the burden of their health care. That, I believe, is international law and certainly in the states interest. If you have immigrants there, whether illegal or legal, to see that they get care when they are here.

"The same thing with the educational system and that is something we are stuck with. They are also painting the picture that you can have as many children as you like because we will take care of them from cradle to the grave," Mr. Sweeting concluded.



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D. Cornish Comes Home to Manage Tourism

Tourism

From Page 1

native himself, born and raised here, he stated that it was not always this way. People of Abaco are now very progressive. They know how to step up to the plate and look at ways to create wealth. This is as a result of the many infrastructures here and they are here without much government help, he explained.

He can remember as a boy walking from Dundas Town to Spring City to go to school because at that time the only high school was located there. So, he is used to working hard for what he wants and is not afraid of getting his hands dirty. He wants to make it clear that there was a bus system available but it was not very reliable. It had limitations due to the limited mechanics on the island at that time. He had to walk on unpaved roads which made walking more difficult, but he made it.

He can remember the student body from grades 9-12 protesting under the leadership of Jimmy Lowe, Carlton Delancy and others due to lack of proper bus transportation. This was the only high school they had because Abaco Central High School did not come along until 1986. He can remember the wife of Mr. Hugh Cottis challenging him to look outside of the box at the big world and learn more about what it had to offer outside of Abaco. She spoke to that part of him that at that time had not blossomed. She opened his eyes to a new world that he was now intrigued by and wanted to learn more about. This re-

sulted eventually in his going away to college to study education to become a teacher. He realized that in order to achieve great things he needed his education.

He has always been greatly involved in sports and as a result of this was invited to attend Government High School by Neville Wisdom to better his skills. This was an opportunity for him to get a scholarship, but when he got injured playing soccer, he lost his chance for a scholarship. When this happened, he took the academic route to to college.

After he got his degree, he worked with Local Government before joining the Ministry of Tourism in 1999. He stated that he ended up in Tourism by accident. He had no interest in Tourism but once was asked by the then Director General to apply; he later did. Since joining this ministry, he has learned a great deal about tourism. Even though it was not his intention to become a part of it, he is happy that he did.

Achieving to him was not a challenge. He knew that he wanted to make a difference and he has had many opportunities to



Mr. Don Cornish

do that. He is thankful that his community helped to prepare him to achieve great things so that he can in turn help others succeed. He has worked at the Fort Lauderdale Tourism office and traveled a great deal to learn all sections of this market. He spent three weeks in Nassau prior to coming back home. He is looking forward to tapping into the new Abaco market.

He sees Abaco as being at a critical point and is happy to be here during this time. He is looking forward to showing everyone how they contribute to the tourism economy. The former director left a great plan in place so all he has to do is to make that plan his. He has prepared a business plan of his own to assist him in making this office the best ever. He has made some changes to his area since taking office. The Green Turtle Cay office was closed down;

he shuffled staff at his office around to be more effective; and lessened the out-of-office workers down to two. He has weekly meetings with staff and feels that they are appreciative of the changes made. He has a staff of eight females to one male, him. He is excited to be a part of this team and executing all of the new projects they have planned for 2007 and beyond.

Manager

From Page 7

ried workers and not only teachers.

She wants the youth of Abaco to plan ahead and start saving at a young age. She hopes that the Junior Cooperative League can be started in some of the high schools in Abaco which encourages students from grades 9 to start saving for their prom or a college education.



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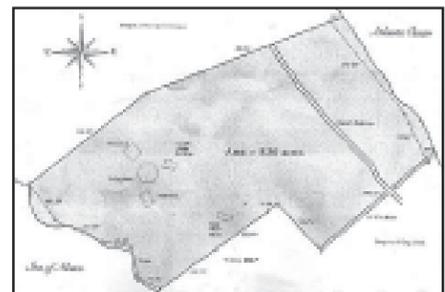
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Revised Plans Are Completed for Airport

Airport From Page 1

previously because the engineers had to go back to the drawing board. Once those amendments were agreed, then it was a matter of trying to integrate the new request into the scope of work that was needed and determine the budget that was needed to go back to cabinet for new approval," he added.

Ministry of Works was trying to figure out if they would use sand and seal or asphalt surface for the new runway and

taxiway, and Mr. Cornish said they have leaned towards using sand and seal.

There is nowhere in the 2006-2007 budget for the repairs and additions to the Marsh Harbour airport, but government can pull money from a number of different areas to reach the \$10 million estimated cost.

Mr. Cornish said he is not concerned about the promises; he is concerned about the delivery because it will happen. It is just a matter of when. Elections are slated for later this year and a number of projects throughout The Bahamas should start be-

fore elections. Abaco was pushed back because of work that needed to be done to the airports on Andros, Exuma and Long Island.

"They have been focusing on Andros, Exuma and Long Island because I know those airports needed major work. It has affected their tourism. It is affecting ours and always has affected ours with the safety issues in having a proper standard," said Mr. Cornish. The repairs to the airport in Long Island have set tourism back with the difficulties of planes flying in with all the construction work going on.

Mr. Cornish said, "The anxiety that I have in my capacity, without getting into the political thing, has to do with the industry. Whether or not the airport will be built in a time when there will be minimal disruption and that is the key. It would have been perfect for us in September or sometime prior to the end of February because our peak season starts the end of February into early March. It is going to be a virtual nightmare to have major works going on, but I am sure we will find a way to work around it."

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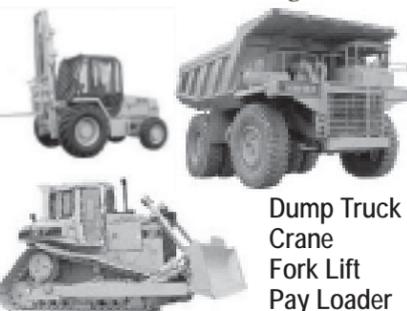
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Excitement filled the air on the night of December 16. For the second consecutive year Santa Claus made a special stop at Peter and Priscilla Pinder's house in Cove Estates. Kids from all over Marsh Harbour stopped by to see Jolly Old St. Nick. They received gifts from Santa, candy canes and Christmas pencils. Appetizers, desserts and drinks were handed out. The kids gave Santa their Christmas lists before saying goodnight.

School

From Page 19

dent has to prepare a portfolio containing all of his or her certificates, report cards and other accolades to the foundation. The award program is held in Nassau during the month of May.

The Foundation is in its 11th year and looks forward to giving out more scholarships to students this year. Last year 30 scholarships were given to sixth graders across the Baha-



Aisha Jones

mas to assist with high school fees. The winner receives a \$5000 scholarship.

Congratulations to Aisha Jones on being named the Who's Who in Primary School candidate for St. Francis de Sales Catholic School.

Birth Announcement

Aidy Elizabeth Driggers was born on November 28 to Matthew and Ashley Driggers. Her grandparents are Wade and Martha Cash and her uncle is Adam Cash.



Follow-up on a Message Found in a Bottle

By Mirella Santillo

A few months ago, a Marsh Harbour resident found a bottle on the beach of Bahama Palm Shores. In the bottle was a message written in French by three school children, dated December 18, 1997; it was decorated with balloons, little people and brightly colored parcels and signed, Adelyne, Aurelien, Franck. The address was Ecole Sainte Marie, Lampaul-Plouarzel.

Marjolene and Ed Scott, who became recipient of the message, tried to contact someone in France without much luck. So during my last trip home, I went to the source of the message and here is the story.

The village of Lampaul-Plouarzel is located at the very western tip of Brittany and like here, its inhabitants live with the sea. Most of the men are fishermen or sailors. The message found on Abaco was the result of the actions of one of these sailors, a man who had a dream of discovering new horizons - involving in that dream the residents not only of his town, but of others in the area - and creating an interaction between the people of Brittany and the people he met during a journey that took him and his friends for two years far away from home.

That man was Patrick Cloatre, who with three other companions built a sailing boat that they baptized F'mur (in honor of a famous Swiss cartoonist). The boat building and the financing of the journey were community projects sponsored by some of the town's people and the idea was to stay in touch with them during the voyage through telecommunication and to involve them upon their return by showing them the multitude of photographs they had taken and reading them the boat's log.

The children of various schools of the region wrote messages that were put in bottles and placed on the vessel before her departure. These bottles were thrown over board at various points during the journey that took the boat to Brazil, the South Atlantic Ocean, the Maldives and the Antarctic.

Most of the bottles were found and contact established with the little town of Lampaul Plouarzel. For the children who had written the messages, it was a live lesson in geography, teaching them about other parts of the world. For the sponsors (one of them a retirement home) and the town people, it was an adventure lived through someone else.

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Retail business for sale in Marsh Harbour. Number 1 location. Call 367-7653 for information

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2000 Ford Explorer XLT Excellent condition. \$12,500 OBO Call 242-359-0081



05 Hyundai, Tiscon. Owner leaving island. \$22,500. Call 367-2804, 242-436-5082

LAW Japanese Used Parts. Offering used auto parts directly from Japan. Sentra (B13 & B 14), Civic, Accord, Corolla, Surf, Windom, Prelude and more. We currently have engines, transmissions, body parts, etc. Call Levon Major @ 242-364-4653 shop or 242-455-3632 cell 24

BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE

16.5' Malibu 84 with 2003 50 HP Mercury (3 hrs) w/trailer \$6450. Can be seen at National Marine. See Royce or call 367-2326

17' Boston Whaler, commercial 70 HP Johnson, center console, DUTY PAID, repainted '02, low hours, located at Lighthouse Marina, HT. Call 307-733-4009

BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE

19.4' Cobia '98, 150 HP Yamaha, 170 hrs. Bimini, mint condition, DUTY PAID. \$15,000 Call 365-6432

23' Mako w/a, 1989 w 200 Yamaha, rebuilt in 1998. Low hrs. \$75000 OBO Call Leo 802-223-2808



23' Mako 140 HP Mercury, low hours. 15,000.00



24' Limestone Diesel Express Cruiser, 1987, diesel engine, 9'6" beam, 400 hours, Volvo engine HP230, outdrive Duopro, Stored on a lift, DUTY PAID. \$32,000 Tel: 242-365-8715

24' Mako with brand new (less than 10 hours) twin 225 Yamaha 4 stroke engines. Engines still under warranty. \$25,000 OBO Will sell engines alone \$20,000 OBO DUTY PAID Call 242-365-5032 or 954-258-9644 VHF Ch. 16 "Ridgehouse" Great Guana Cay



25' Grady White Sailfish, '88, w/ 2 225 HP Evinrudes, cuddy cabin, depth sounder, DUTY PAID, good condition. Asking US \$16,000 At Green Turtle Shipyard. Call 365-4648 or 215-256-9990 or < cachowns@verizon.net >

BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



25' Parker with 225 HP 4-stroke Yamaha, fully equipped, outriggers, depth finder. DUTY PAID. Call 365-6004



31' Hydrocat, '98, with twin 200 HP Evinrude engines. DUTY PAID Asking \$45,000 OBO. Please contact Mark @ 242-366-0342 for further information.

31' Ocean Master, '88, open cockpit fishing boat, 2 - 250 HP Yamaha 2 stroke, autopilot, outriggers & fishing rods, live bait locker. DUTY PAID. US \$34,000 Call 242-365-8101, 305-433-7577

34' Catalina 1988 shoal draft sailboat, DUTY PAID, 27 HP Yanmar, 12 v. refig, many upgrades. Lying Abacos. \$41,500. Call 828-669-0828 Fax 828-664-1710

45' #1 hull, fiberglass crawfishing boat with stabilizers. Call 367-2707 or 375-3830

Your Ad Could Be Here
Call 367-3202



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SALES ★ RENTALS ★ APPRAISALS ★ RESIDENTIAL ★ COMMERCIAL



NEW

"Hilltop"

Dundas Town - Abaco
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
 - 1,452 s.f. Residence.
 - 18,000 sq.ft - 0.41 acre of land
 - 50' Elevation
 - Great Views of the Sea of Abaco.
#AS10723 - \$199,500.



"Junkanoo Splash"

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
 - 1,150 s.f. Residence
 - 760 s.f. Covered Porch
 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - 490 s.f. Apartment
 - Workshop
 - Great Views
 - Near Settlement
#AS10689 - \$640,000.



NEW

"Far Horizons"

Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club
 - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 2,800 s.f. Residence.
 - Beautiful Landscaping
 - Private Dockage
 - 65' & 25' vessels
 - Fabulous Views of Cays and Sea of Abaco.
#AS10717 - \$1,395,000



"Point of View"

Elbow Cay - Dorros Cove
 - 6 Bedrooms, 5 Baths.
 - 3,600 s.f. Residence.
 - 2 Connected Buildings
 - Ocean Waterfront
 - Amazing Views
 - Swimming Pool
 - Private Boat Slip
 - Furnished.
#AB112 - \$1,750,000.



NEW

"Paradise Point"

Great Cistern - Abaco
 - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 2,400 s.f. Residence
 - 193' on the Sea of Abaco
 - Amazing Views
 - 22,371 s.f. of land
#AS10749 - \$995,000



NEW

"Jaffa"

Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club
 - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 2,300 s.f. Residence.
 - On 2 Lots totaling 10,000 s.f.
 - Swimming Pool
 - 90' Of Private Dockage
 - Fabulous Views
#AB149 - \$1,525,000



NEW

"Lucayan Bonefish Villa"

Casurina Point - Mainland Abaco
 - 4 Bedrooms, 1 Baths.
 - 1040 s.f. Residence.
 - .81 Acre / Double Lot.
 - 331' of Canal Frontage
 - 2 docks
 - Atlantic Access / Flats Fishing
#AS10721 - \$595,000.



NEW

"Ridge Runner"

Great Guana Cay
 - 7 Bedrooms, 4 Baths.
 - 3,100 s.f. Residence.
 - 330 feet of waterfront.
 - 1.74 Acres
 - Private 100' Dock.
 - Swimming pool
 - Superb Bay Views
 - Furnished.
#TS10583 - \$2,850,000.



Under Contract

"Harbour View Villa"

Marsh Harbour Royal Harbour
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 1,900 sq.ft. Residence
 - In-ground Swimming Pool
 - Fenced Back Yard.
 - Furnished
 - Immaculate Condition.
 - Dock Slip Available.
#AS10604 - \$635,000.



NEW

"TreEscape"

Elbow Cay - Lucayos
 - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 1,370 s.f. Residence.
 - 13,600 sq.ft - 0.31 acre of land
 - Great Views of the Sea of Abaco.
 - Access to Lucayos dock.
#PS10596 - \$875,000.



NEW

"Starboard Side"

Great Abaco Club - Marsh Harbour
 - 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
 - 2,055 s.f. Residence.
 - 50' Canal Frontage
 - 9,315 Sq. Ft. Lot
 - Beautifully Landscaped
 - Private 20' Dock
 - Fabulous Views
#AS 10757 - \$1,100,000.



"Wings of the Dove"

Marsh Harbour Cove Estates
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 2,216 sq.ft. Residence
 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - Downstairs Apartment
 - 14,500 s.f. of Land
 - Good Central Location
#AS10598 - \$491,500.



NEW PRICE

"Surfside"

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
 - 5 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 3,000 s.f. Residence
 - Open Decks.
 - 100' of Beachfront
 - Over 1/2 Acre
 - Superb Ocean Views
 - Fully Furnished.
#AB123 - \$1,271,000.



NEW

"Lookout"

Man-O-War Cay - The Creek
 - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath.
 - 974 s.f. Residence
 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - 268 s.f. -Dock House
 - Land - over 1/2 Acre
 - Private 66' Dock.
 - Superb Views
 - Furnished.
#AB122 - \$1,450,000.



NEW

"Agape Villas"

Murphy Town
 - Rental Complex
 - 5 Residential Units in 3 Buildings.
 - 4 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - 1 - 3 Bedroom, 2 bath
 - Total of 3,300 sq.ft. of Living Space.
 - Over 24,000 sq.ft. of land
#AS10724 - \$575,000.



"Coco Di Mama"

Great Guana Cay
 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - 930 s.f. Residence
 - 750 s.f. of Decks
 - 250' on Sea of Abaco
 - 47,930 s.f. - 1.1 acres
 - Ample space for additional Residences
 - Great elevation
 - Fabulous Views
 - Dock Permit approved
#TS10559 \$1,385,000.



NEW

"Tip O' the Tail"

Man-O-War Cay -
 - 4 Bedrooms, 4 Bath.
 - 1,255 s.f. Residence
 - 768 s.f. Covered Decks
 - 812 s.f. Open Decks
 - Rooftop Skydeck
 - Land - 17,792 s.f.
 - Fabulous Views
 - Furnished.
#AS10609 - \$975,000.



"SandCastle"

Great Guana Cay
 - 2 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
 - 960 s.f. Residence
 - Fully Furnished
 - Atlantic and Bay Views
 - Great Rental History
 - 5,000 s.f. of land
 - Bahamian Style Cottage
#AS10752 - \$375,000.



"Watch Hill"

Great Guana Cay -
 - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
 - 1,686 s.f. Residence
 - 725 s.f. Open Decks.
 - 80' of Prime Beachfront
 - Superb Ocean Views
 - Semi-private Dock
 - Fully Furnished.
 - Great Rental History
#AB142 - \$1,380,000.



NEW

"Villa Pasha"

Green Turtle Cay -
 - 5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths.
 - 3,900 s.f. Residence.
 - 2000 s.f. Wraparound Porches
 - Land - .84 Acre Parcel
 - 250' Atlantic Beachfront.
 - Great Rental History
 - Fireplace.
#TS10581 - \$2,545,000.



"Bountifully Blessed"

Tilloo Cay
 - 2 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths
 - 800 s.f. Cottage
 - 3.75 Acres Sea-to-sea
 - 109' on Sea of Abaco
 - 106' on Sea of Abaco
 - Boat Basin
 - Protected Dock
 - Dock on Sea of Abaco
 - Fabulous Views
 - Swimming Pool
#AB8118 - \$1,850,000.



"Pura Vida"

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
 - 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths.
 - 2,100 s.f. Residence
 - 670 s.f. Raised Decks.
 - Over 1/2 Acre
 - Great Views
 - Beach & Dock Access
 - Furnished.
#AS10668 - \$838,000.



NEW PRICE

"Golden Palms"

Man-O-War Cay - Settlement
 - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath.
 - 1,270 s.f. Residence.
 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
 - 400 s.f. Guest House
 - Workshop - Crow's Nest for great views.
 - 0.373 Acre
 - Beautifully Landscaped
#AS10585 - \$595,000.



NEW PRICE

"PawPaw Patch"

Man-O-War Cay
 - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
 - 1,400 s.f. Residence
 - 10,000 s.f. of land
 - Separate Snore Box that sleeps four
 - New Generator
 - Furnished
#AS10737 - \$595,000.

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New Office Now Open in the Wm. H. Building next to Sappodilly's Restaurant