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VOLUME 15, NUMBER 5, MARCH 1st, 2007

Zion Baptist Hosts Uniform Officers Sandy Point Hosted Church Service for Uniformed Agencies

By Jennifer Hudson

The Royal Bahamas Police Force, Abaco District, and other law enforcement agencies led by the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band marched through the narrow streets of Sandy Point on the afternoon of February 4 on the way to their annual church service. Participating were the Royal Bahamas Police Force, The Bahamas Customs Department, The Bahamas Immigration Department, Road Traffic Department and young members of the police community marching band. Each year the service takes place in a different settlement on Abaco and this year it was held at Zion Baptist Church in Sandy Point. The church was filled to capacity and the rafters rose to the joyful hymn singing of the very large congregation accompanied by the rousing music of the Royal Bahamas Police Force band.

Members of the various organisations, pastors and church members took part in the Scripture readings, musical selections and responsive readings. The sermon was preached by Pastor Napoleon Roberts, Pastor of Zion Baptist Church who expressed thanks to all of the law enforcement and government agencies present and prayed that they be kept from the dangers of life they

Please see **Church**

Page 16



The Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band led the procession to the Zion Baptist Church in Sandy Point. In the procession were Police, Immigration and Customs officers. It is a tradition that these officers worship together at the beginning of each year.

Daylight Saving Time Begins March 11

The change to Daylight Savings Time will occur on March 11, the second Sunday in March, to coincide with the change in the United States, Canada and other countries. Advance clocks one hour at bedtime on the 10th or early on Sunday morning. Eastern Standard time will be observed again on Sunday, November 4, the first Sunday in November. This is a world-wide effort to better utilize daylight and conserve electricity. Previously, the time change was on the first Sunday in April and the last Sunday in October.

Advance Clocks
One Hour March 11



Daylight Savings Time begins 2 a.m. March 11. Set your clocks ahead one hour earlier either at bedtime on March 10 or on the morning of March 11.

Arch Bishop Patrick Pinder Visits Catholic Schools



Archbishop Patrick Pinder of the Diocese of the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos spent a day visiting St. Francis de Sales School and Every Child Counts, both in Marsh Harbour. He and Ms. Claudette Rolle, Director of Catholic Education, visit each of the 14 Catholic schools annually. He chatted with children in each room including this classroom at St. Francis de Sales. St. Francis offers classes from pre-kindergarten through high school. Every Child Counts is a school for students who cannot cope in a normal classroom, whether their problems are neurological or physical.

Moore's Is. Youth Get Band Instruction



Moore's Island Community band had a one-day training session when several members of the Royal Bahamas Police Marching band visited the island. The Band was formed less than one year ago but they can now play one selection. See story on page 20

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Fees for Seabed Use Are Being Studied

By Julian Lockhart

The government of the Bahamas feels it is receiving a "very small portion of the potential" economic benefits from the largely expanding marina and boating industry and thus has asked a marina task force to recommend changes to the policies relating to this industry. The task force, led by Malcolm Martini, a consultant from Canada; Rochelle Newbold of the Bahamas Environmental, Science and Technology Commission; and Professor Dennis Nixon, was in Marsh Harbour on February 12th to discuss amendments to the existing policies with marina and hotel owners. Ten percent of Abaco's tourism dollars is derived from the boating industry and with the saturation of the Florida market, that number only looks to go up, considerably, in the future.

Though nothing has been determined yet and the draft is just in the infancy form, local marina owners and managers were able to voice their opinion on what should be done and what should be changed in the new policy.

The study done by the Ministry of Tourism and other government agencies states that the marina sector currently generate \$25 million in revenues per annum but the Bahamas Treasury sees little of that money in taxes. The draft policy said The Bahamas levied an annual charge of \$6.15 and \$1.95 per linear foot of dock space for commercial and private slips respectively in Family Islands. For the first 10 months in 2006, the Port Controller's Office had collected \$156,000 in charges from New Providence, but just \$115,000 from the Family Islands.

However, Captain Cyril Roker, Assistant Controller for the Bahamas and Port Administrator for Abaco, said in 2006 they collected \$228,810.80 for private docks,

commercial docks and moorings and \$480,000 for the Marsh Harbour freight dock. So Abaco alone doubles the number stated in the figures collected for the Family Islands.

Mr. Martini said, "I sure hope this works in The Bahamas. There is a great opportunity here. In the policy business we call it a moment when we are opening the policy window. Marinas are being discussed in a wide range, and it is time to take a look at the entire contribution of marinas to the Bahamian economy. The marinas provide jobs and their boating clients support the economic activities in the area, but the marinas must contribute to sustainable tourism and make sure their environmental footprint is minimized. The boats that will be coming here are already accustomed to living in the most heavily regulated environment in the world in Florida. They are accustomed to strict regulations and in most cases are surprised when they come to The Bahamas and the same rules are not in affect," he added.

One suggestion to alleviate the taxes on marinas, especially the small ones, was, instead of levying a set tax on docks, a owner would pay a six percent tax on their revenues. Thus in the slow season they are only asked to pay on what they make. All of the marina operators on hand were in favor of this proposal and said it could help make the rest of the draft proposal easier to accept. The present per foot levy applies equally to a marina on Inagua as to one on Abaco, irrespectively of the marine activity. Mr. Martini said this is the only way the government can continue reaping consistent benefits from marinas and dockminiums. Even though the person does not own the sea bed or "Queen's Bottom,"

he has a long term lease on it.

Another recommendation was to charge property owners who have a dock, whether private or commercial, real property tax on the seabed their docks are anchored to. Those in attendance felt that this will be double taxing as they will already be paying taxes on their revenues for the dock slips.

All commercial marinas will be required to have a pump out station under the new policies, and one suggestion to ensure that boaters are not pumping into the harbors is the use of red pills in bilges and holding tanks. Pump-out requirements would have to phased in gradually as pump-out facilities became available. There are no pump-out stations on

Abaco at this time. A mobile pump-out truck is available in Marsh Harbour.

Troy Cornea, owner of Harbour View Marina in Marsh Harbour, said he would put in a pump out station tomorrow if he knew government had already established somewhere for them to carry the waste product once they pump it out of the boats. The problem is that Abaco does not have a waste refinement process.

Mr. Cornea said, "I don't know what ideas will accepted until they come up with a better proposal. This is just in its infancy

Please see **Marine Use** Page 26



Mr. Malcolm Martini with the Ministry of Energy and Environment is consulting marina owners and others involved with the shoreline on the use of the seabed by private businesses and individuals. He held a meeting in Dundas Town with interested persons to discuss ways that government can have a bigger return by government for the use of the seabed. He is shown here talking the Mr. Chris Roberts and Mr. Troy Cornea.

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Abaco Beach Held Its 10th Annual Art Festival

By Jennifer Hudson

Art aficionados attended this year's art show in record numbers and the artists were very pleased at the interest shown in their work and the number of persons who actually purchased pieces. Most of our regular local artists were once again in attendance with the exception of several who come to mind, Ann Ray, Marlee Mason and Pete Johnston, but there was very little representation from Nassau this year. Several artists from Freeport were making appearances at the show for the second and even third time as they said that they enjoy the experience of the good art community here on Abaco.

It was good to see some new faces on the scene this year, some locals and some from Freeport who had been encouraged to try out the Abaco art scene by Marjolein Scott and Jeep Byers when they were over there for Festival Noel in December.



Tonia Van Mill showed at the Art Festival for the first time. She is a long time second-home owner in Marsh Harbour.

Tonia Van Mill has been hiding her light under a bushel. She has lived on Abaco for many years and yet I (and I would suspect the majority of people here) had no idea that she is an artist and, indeed, a very talented one. Tonia paints in oils and the detail in her underwater scenes is meticulous. Her work drew much attention from the crowd at the art show, especially her picture of a group of stingrays seen through the translucent waters, which was stunning. Tonia, I discovered, had been painting for years much earlier in her life and then decided to take it up again seriously about six months ago and was, fortunately for us, persuaded to exhibit at the show as her work is refreshingly different.

Nancy Angstadt, whose paintings capture the atmosphere of island life, was encouraged to exhibit by her friend Mrs. Tonya Van Mill. Having spent many years working hard at a job in Pennsylvania, Nancy has now retired to Abaco where she finds it exciting to have time on her hands in which to paint. She is very impressed with the art community of Abaco and finds the artists extremely talented and friendly.

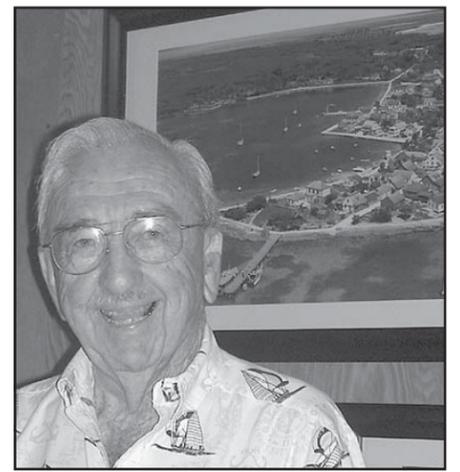
Teleri Jones has been a winter visitor to Elbow Cay for the past seven years, but this was her first art show on Abaco though her work is displayed at galleries in Harbour Island and Nassau. Her work, which sells under the name Island Abstracts is uniquely different. Since it is so different, she wondered how it would be received but was very pleased at the interest shown in her work. Teleri, whose background is in product design such as ceramic tableware, ties and handbags, has specialised in the study of materials such as crystal, leather and metal. She works in natural vibrant colours which she says "celebrate the natural wonders of

the Bahamas in a quirky, joyful and yet sophisticated way." Her collage and mixed media pieces were simple, vibrant and stunning. She has carefully studied the coconut tree and cleverly includes all parts of the tree and fruit into her designs.

Rosemarie Laing is a young artist who hails from Nassau but is currently living on Abaco. She studied art education at the College of The Bahamas and, though she has entered her work in two exhibitions at the college, this was her first major show so she admitted that she was a little nervous. Rosemarie studied graphic design which is evident in her large striking pieces. She paints in acrylic and uses spatulas, nails, wood and, in fact, anything she can find to get the texture she wants. "I like to build up a texture in layers rather than just have a flat background so that people really want to take a closer look," she said.



Rosemary Laing from Nassau is a young up-and-coming artist with great potential.



Colyn Rees had many new photographs in his display. Well known for his photographs of Abaco in the 1950s, he has recently begun taking digital photographs of the same locations, specifically aeries showing the changes taking place all over Abaco.

Natalia Zanotti, a native of Argentina but resident of Freeport for the past six years, was excited to be on Abaco for the show. She was a little apprehensive, not knowing quite what to expect as this was the first time she had ever shown her work. She found, however, that the artists were most accommodating, and she enjoyed the enrichment she gained from them. Natalia's eclectic subjects were very colorful and happy. She paints as therapy and a way to explore the fantastic world of art and have fun. It was amazing when viewing her attractive work that she had only been painting for one year. Though she had always had a passion for art, she actually discovered her talent when she was experiencing a very difficult time in her life and the artis-

Please see **Art Show**

Page 5

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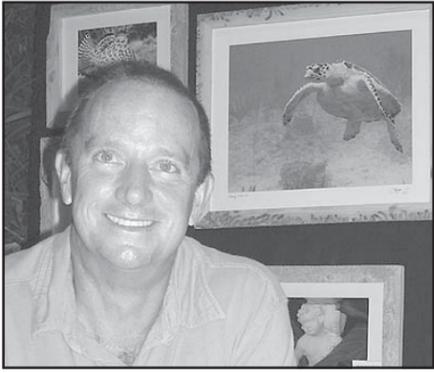
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A Wide Variety of Art Was Displayed



Tim Higgs displayed his exceptional under water photographs of reef inhabitants. This was his second show.

Art Show

From Page 4

tic talent she had always felt inside found its way out.

It was good to see Zandric Jones, an up-and-coming young Abaconian, showing his work again this year and to notice the exceptional maturity he has developed in his work over the past few years. Zandric began showing at the Abaco Beach Resort show soon after graduating from Abaco Central High School in 1999. He then went off to study painting at the College of The

Bahamas before receiving a scholarship to the Vancouver Film School to study 3-D animation and visual effects. His work was much admired and talked about by many during the evening and one of his large paintings sold almost as soon as the preview evening opened. This gifted young man, who has always had a love for art, admits that he started painting and drawing on walls in his home as soon as he could hold a pencil.

Adina Dolce, a 15-year-old student who attends Abaco Central High School, showed her work for the first time at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge Art Show in December where she was delighted to sell her first painting. This very enthusiastic young artist who paints in oil and shows much promise continued to do well at the Abaco Beach Resort show.

Jeep Byers, who was known for years for his water colours of nature, has recently adopted a "new look" to his work. Jeep now paints in acrylic on canvas in what he describes as "a very colourful and more Bahamian style. People are looking for something cheerful, and I have had a great response to this new style," he said.

Bob Zwickel's work also has a new look.



Nicole Angelico displayed her oil on canvas work. She depicts historical scenes in her paintings.

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able to greatly enhance the colours and these large high-quality prints are proving very popular," he stated.

Trishka Knowles, one of the event organisers, stated that the Abaco Beach Resort really wanted to make this 10th anniversary show a memorable occasion and, by the comments I heard from people who attended the show, they definitely seem to have achieved their goal.



Maureen Koepp's finely detailed quilts depict underwater scenes. And now she is expanding into beach and village scenes.

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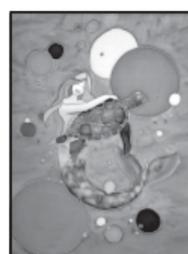
ART



Nicole Angelica



Jeep Byers



Marjolein Scott



Teleri's Tropical

The Editor Says . . . Will Nassau Consider Our Input?



Dave Ralph

Two recent events showed government operating at each end of the public spectrum. One was a public consultation on taxation issues impacting marinas, docks and other facilities using the seabed. The other was the quiet construction of two garbage transfer facilities, causing a quiet rebellion locally.

Let's begin with the consultation. Twenty to 30 marine-oriented persons attended a five-hour presentation and discussion on proposed changes to the various tax or fee options being considered for those using the seabed. Mr. Malcolm Martini, a Canadian consultant with the Ministry of Energy and the Environment, presented current and possible changes to the taxes and fees collected by The Bahamas government.

Cabinet has recently discovered that marinas are an important component of many resort developments, particularly in the Family Islands, and that government's share of the revenue is not realistic. All of this is predicated on the world-wide concept that the seabed belongs to government for its use, allocation and taxation.

The presentation included the present situation in The Bahamas on private and commercial docks and a comparison of how Florida and other states handle their docks and seabed use.

The consulting group included representatives from the Port Department, the Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission, and a sustainable tourism representative along with a noted lawyer from Rhode Island who specializes in marine issues.

It was said emphatically that whatever changes are implemented, they must not imperil the existing relationship between our marine industry and our marine visitors. The environment, marine-oriented businesses, the public, marine tourism and other interests must all be considered while formulating a country-wide policy.

The goal is to equitably increase government's revenue while allowing the business sector to operate profitably within acceptable environmental and public interest guidelines.

Although the current Bahamian situation was presented, there was an apparent willingness to listen to local concerns and suggestions for changes. In fact, similar meetings were scheduled for Grand Bahama, Exuma, Eleuthera and Nassau. A report with suggested changes to policies, laws, procedures and fee structures will be made for Cabinet's review and possible implementation.

Extensive discussions centered on harbour pollution and the need for pump-out facilities. Apparently Georgetown, Exuma, is about to get a pilot plant for land and marine sewage. This is a compact plant designed for minimal spaces and may be suitable for many island locations.

The refreshing part of the meeting was the willingness of government representatives to listen and to accept suggestions from those present. The panel hopes to present its recommendations to Cabinet by early summer. What may come from this exercise remains to be seen and any changes are probably a year or two away from being implemented.

In any event, changes can be expected in the taxation, lease or fee schedules now imposed against docks, marinas and other seabed uses. The consultation was an interesting exercise, but it remains to be seen what the final result will be.

At the other end of the open consultation process was the recent awareness of two garbage transfer stations being constructed on Abaco without any local knowledge or consultation. The first station is well under way on the Cherokee road and the second has recently begun in Little Abaco just west of the causeway.

The Cherokee site is not far from the well field serving the Abaco Club and which will soon supply Cherokee Sound. It is adjacent to a goat farm.

The 50 persons attending a hastily called meeting concerning this facility questioned the logistics, economics and environmental soundness of its operation. The site is believed to be intended to accept all the garbage and trash from Cherokee, the Abaco Club and all points south to Sandy Point. The trash from the various communities will be collected in large open-top bins, then trucked to the new landfill site eight miles farther north on the Snake Cay road. These bins are often seen at construction sites and are now used to carry garbage from Hope Town and Man-O-War to Marsh Harbour.

It appears that the Sandy Point trash contractor will drive 40 miles to this new transfer site, unload and return home. The unanswered question was why not go eight more miles and be done with it, without creating another pollution source to our water lens.

A similar transfer site is apparently being constructed on Little Abaco close to the bridge. We are told that a large block of virgin forest is being cleared which will be the trash collection station for North Abaco with large containers, then trucked to the Snake Cay landfill. Without benefit of a hydrology study, it would appear that this site is on the eastern edge of the water lens supplying Cedar Harbour. The water lens in Little Abaco should be a protected resource and not be imperiled by garbage or other hazardous development.

Whether Treasure Cay trash will go north 30 miles to be consolidated with

Little Abaco Trash or go south direct to the new landfill site is not known. Treasure Cay is about equal distance from either site. It is about 58 miles from the Little Abaco transfer site to the landfill near Snake Cay.

The new Little Abaco site has been striped of the topsoil preparatory to constructing the garbage transfer facility. There is an additional area cleared for apparent quarry removal. This particular site is in one of the last remaining virgin pine forest areas on Abaco.

The two transfer sites, Cherokee and Little Abaco, represent a substantial capital expense with an implied substantial annual operation expense. Then there is the arbitrary disruption to the Abaco landscape and the possible contamination of our valuable fresh water lens.

Although the intent is to improve the system for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash, it is not at all clear that this is being accomplished. In this case, local consultation would have gone a long way to either put local fears aside or inject a local element of concern. It appears that once the system is in place, we will be told how it works.

The landfill site near Snake Cay is more than a year behind schedule with no completion date in sight. There is virtually no information on its operational logistics and expenses, manpower requirements or tipping fees which the public and commercial operators will pay to take trash there.

The Nassau perception is that Abaco people are not yet mature enough to be given this information or to be asked for their input.

Viewpoint

We Need to Help Our Environment

By Vernique Russell

Over the past years, there have been countless articles about the abuse of our marine creatures. In spite of the attempts at migration, restoration and agitation, there seem to be an increase in the abuse especially in the north. Recent trends have shown the rise of undersized marine creatures being caught. When questioned divers, often complain about the appearances of lobsters underwater claiming that they seem larger. These are seasoned divers!

There is great concern of the amount of reported cases of people being caught with undersized marine animals. However, there should be more concerned at the ones that go unreported. How often are these creatures captured? Who are the ones that are guilty? How often are the creatures captured? Is it the local divers

or the local buyers? Maybe it is the fisheries officers, the "black market" consumers inclusive of the local restaurants? Maybe we are all guilty! There is uncertainty in this matter, is this a case of just greed, ignorance or both. These same fishermen that practice in the harvesting of undersized marine animals are the same ones to complain about the scarcity of lobster and conch each season. They fail to recognize the link between harvesting undersized marine animals and their decline.

Harvesting undersize sea creatures means that the animal has little time to reproduce. This further means when we consider that out of the 300,000-600,000 eggs for the lobster or conch, less than half of these would survive to maturity. In addition to the natural predators, greed leads to interference from humans predators. We must realize the dangers and protect our marine lives for future generations. Some dangers that divers who harvest undersize marine creatures are

- Destruction to food chain/balance of nature
- Future loss of revenue for the Bahamas government
- Complete extinction of these marine creatures

The question now is, who do we hold responsible for this crisis? While the answer for that may vary, the real fact is we have contributed in one way or another and it's time we help ourselves. Therefore, we are suggesting that we put in place the following for recommenda-

tions:

- Subsidized employment for more marine/fisheries officers
- Education of the public through more marine seminars and workshops
- Liaising with and supporting environment groups such as Friends of the Environment
- Encouragement of community self-help programs
- Stiffer penalties for poaching/infraction of the laws referring to these creatures
- More involvement from the local government's perspectives through the posting of signs/reminders near bay sides.
- Realization of individual's responsibility to report infractions or abuse of the law
- Add Marine Biology as a separate subject in all schools, including primary level
- Consider and prepare for mariculture

Revival of any existing and rise of new Fishing Associations to address concerns and find other ways to preserve and regulate the nearby reefs within their vicinities. In addition, they would align themselves with international organizations as this is a global problem.

Mandate perpetrators to perform some duty toward the marine environment that they are destroying.

It is our responsibility as citizens of the Bahamas to persevere and protect our waters and creatures that abide undersea. We MUST help ourselves!

The Abaconian

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Letters to the Editor

Fishing Regulations Will Hurt Tourism

Dear Sir:

If Mr. Miller (the Hon.) hasn't had any negative feed-back regarding the new fishing regulations for tourists, then please allow me the honour of being among the first to enlighten him.

The changes in the regulations are only going to affect the honest tourist who currently obeys the laws. The people he speaks of who take hundreds of thousands of pounds of illegal catch are the ones no one ever sees: they do not check into customs, do not pay for a fishing permit and do not spend money in the Bahamas. They ply the edge of the Banks and then leave.

He should start focusing on those people, not the average tourist who takes a small catch to enjoy eating fresh seafood while they cruise. It will take him only a few years to figure out that the changes he touts will NOT stop the loss of the resources. His reasoning is faulty. Bahamians and Haitians have already depleted the conch fishery on their own. The few of us who take a few lobster or conch are NOT the ones who are depleting the resources, and it makes no sense to punish us.

Secondly, the Bahamas does not have a monopoly on good clear water and fishing resources. Our own Florida Keys are excellent, and with early attention to preservation of our resources, our fishery has recovered and we can take fish, lobster, and conch (in Federal waters). Also, American boaters are welcome in Cuba and many people are starting to go there. The fishery is virgin and the Cubans make it easy for us to visit.

So don't think we are going to subject ourselves to your snobbish attitude and show up in the Bahamas by default. You will find that we are not interested in visiting where we are not welcome, and we are not interested in spending money where we are not welcome.

When the American boating community becomes apprised of Mr. Miller's attitude toward them, I think he will see a noticeable reduction in tourism on Abaco. Guess what! It is not going to hurt us - it going to hurt the Bahamians, especially those who earn their living on Abaco and enjoy the dollars we used to spend there. I, for one, don't need to waste my time making the difficult crossing and spending a small fortune to enjoy six lobsters and be treated like dirt by the government.

Donna Jones

Appreciates Assistance

To the Editor,

We survivors of the disastrous fire early morning of January 12, 2007, at Royal Palm want to thank God for saving our lives and thank the brave and efficient volunteers of

the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department for their expedient arrival and quick action to limit the blaze to the upper units in the six-unit Building No. 1 at Royal Palm in Treasure Cay.

It threatened the lives of the six occupants of adjacent units. It claimed the life of our beloved cat Dini, who was trapped in our unit below and nearly claimed our lives, too, with the dense smoke. Luckily, Lorna was awakened by a loud noise in the upper unit, and we got out just in time in our bare feet.

We want to thank the Treasure Cay Airport Fire Department for its equally successful effort to contain the flames and save the next building from being engulfed as well.

Also we want to thank the many other volunteers from Atlantis and other units and homes including boaters in the harbour for striving with limited means to fight the fire before the fire department volunteers arrived and who also helped us clean up afterwards.

We would like to thank Hagen Peters, President of Royal Palm Condo Association for his valiant efforts to rebuild, as we love it here and want to stay. Thank you all.

Lorna and Bill Firstbrook

Small Boaters Will Go Elsewhere

Dear Editor,

Bimini is the small boat capital of The Bahamas. As you know, it is very near Miami and Fort Lauderdale, and with good weather it is a wonderful trip.

The past 14 years a group of four friends with four boats, all 23 and 25 footers, have been traveling to Bimini twice and sometimes three times a year to fish and spend time with our good friends on North Bimini.

We have always stayed at Weech Marina and Hotel, paying in cash for four dock spaces and four rooms for three nights. We compensate the dock master, the night watchman, and the maids. We purchase, also in cash, ice, beer, booze and fuel. Also eating breakfast out every morning and dinner out at least one night. And yes, we do bring ice and food with us so we can barbecue the fish that we catch.

We have always fished under The Bahamian bag limits and have purchased conch from the locals to take home with us, last year over \$400 worth. So we do leave some green in Bimini.

We disagree with Mr. Miller. Not everyone fishes the Bahamas in large war canoes and do not spend any money when they are there. I have been at Treasure Cay and Boat Harbour and have seen how much money is spent at these places. He is either very stupid or not very well informed.

But, it has always seemed that Central Government is not interested in the well

being of the Out Island people at all. The purpose of this note is to let you know that we just canceled our trip to Bimini for the Memorial Day weekend after 14 years of really great times. We have booked in the Florida Keys, because, after all, the purpose for making the trip is to fish. The cost for a small boater now far exceeds the fish that we may catch and now can keep.

We are not trying to make a statement here. It is their country and they must do what they must. Time will tell, as always. But, our Bimini weekends look to be very much over. Too bad, indeed; we have had some really wonderful experiences in the Land of the Sea and Sun.

Neil and Deborah Curry

Commends New Fishing Regulations

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources on the new fishing regulations that came into effect on January 1 of this year.

I must also commend the government and the Ministry for over the last three years putting into effect a season for Nassau grouper, which I feel has improved the population for that species over this time period. I have personally talked with a number of fishermen who have noticed an increase in the grouper population and have noticed a great increase in the number of juvenile grouper; this is evidence of the effectiveness of this law. Many thanks should also be extended to all law abiding citizens and visitors who have respected this regulation which, by doing so, has secured its success.

Many of you who have read this paper faithfully over the years know that during the past five or six years I have written several letters concerning the issue of poaching and over-fishing.

This is an issue of grave concern to most Bahamians and is an issue that has deserved prompt attention for quite some time.

The issue of crawfish poaching and over-fishing should have been dealt with some 15 or 20 years ago, but better late than never. The regulations that have been put in place I hope will have a positive effect on the crawfish industry and hopefully will rehabilitate this industry.

I also applaud and support the recent decisions on the regulations for conch. I

would hope that this regulation would be rewarded with an increase in our conch stocks throughout our conching grounds. If this move does not help, then I would recommend that further steps be taken to facilitate a season for conch. I am a young Bahamian in my early 20s, and I have noticed this decline in my observation. The older generations can see a massive decline, looking at it from a longer time span.

As for the effectiveness and whether these new regulations will prove to be a success in sustaining our marine life, the key will continue to be ENFORCEMENT. If the laws are not enforced, then it is a wasted effort. However, if the laws are enforced and the judiciary hands down stiff penalties to all offenders, I feel that our fishing habitats will recuperate and replenish in short order.

I would like to make a call to our commercial fishermen to form a Fishermen's Association to demand enforcement and to see that all persons, Bahamian and foreign, adhere to the regulations.

Again, Mr. Editor, I thank you for your space, and again thank the government for hearing the cries of the people on this issue, and for taking the correct action.

Yours faithfully,

Jeremy T. Sweeting

Police Brutality

Dear Editor,

On Saturday February 3rd, 2007, I went to see my brother in the Pigeon Peas. I was standing up outside of the house door for about five minutes when three police, one of them was Sgt. Johnson, came up to me, grabbed me, handcuffed me and started to push, punch and gun butt me without any questions. They proceeded to throw me on the ground and kicked me repeatedly like I was a ball.

When they finished physically abusing me, they picked me up and saw that I was not the person they were looking for. They uncuffed me, and without a word of apology or anything, they left.

I feel very disrespected. I am not a DOG! I am a Bahamian citizen. And Sgt. Johnson, who knows me, didn't even have the decency to apologize for the actions of himself and the other two officers. They need to start treating people like humans and not dogs.

Sincerely,

Volvick Louis



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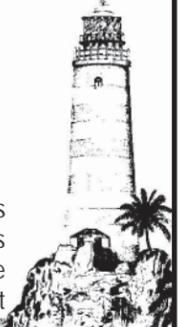
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Apr 2006

Garbage Transfer in Water Reserve Area Is Opposed

By Mirella Santillo

It was standing room only at the meeting held on February 7th to oppose the construction of a garbage transfer station on the Cherokee Road next to Rev. Charles Carey's goat farm. Mr. Al Key, who had started a petition, brought it to the attention of Mr. John Hedden. They were joined by Mr. Patrick Bethel. The three of them decided to bring the issue to the public and organized a meeting to hear the concerns of the public.

The session was attended not only by residents of the area concerned with pollution of their aquifer but also by various Central Abaco residents.

First to take the stand, Mr. Al Key explained his reasons for opposing the transfer station. He talked about our aquifer system and the part blue holes play in our underground water supply. "The north aquifer is addressed by blue holes in water and on land, the south aquifer by blue holes on land," he stated. However, he explained that through data gathered by cave divers over many years, it was concluded that all the blue holes are connected together by an underground cave system. When one aquifer becomes polluted, the others will soon follow. "Besides," he said, "The Cherokee aquifer is very small."

He expressed his concern that with more developments and more people moving in the area, it will soon be depleted and polluted, the more so with a garbage transfer station so close. "If we allow that to happen, what you'll be doing is towing water from Marsh Harbour. I don't know any more ways to say that if we allow the dumping site, it is going to affect our children and grandchildren.

I intend to do something about it. Our water system is our first priority," he concluded.

Mr. Hedden stated, "We cannot let our water system be destroyed." He exposed four points of concern. He cited the case of other countries such as Australia, where water is recycled from waste. "We have access to clear, potable water," he continued, "and we are doing our best to mess it up. Environmental issues are my main concern. He explained that pollution by destroying the marine plants, reefs, coral and fish, affects our lives all the way to tourism, our livelihood. We have to think about those coming after us."

His second concern was the lack of consultation. "Nobody in the public was aware of what was going on until construction of the transfer station had already started. We have to devise a mean of consultation between public servants."

The third point he made was the loca-

tion of the transfer station which is only eight miles from the future Snake Cay solid waste facility. "Why has it been placed where it is?" he asked. "I do not see the logic behind it. Is it going to be cost effective? I do not see how it can save money. As a member of the public, I have to know about these things. If informed, I can make a decision about that facility that government has already decided to do."

Mr. Hadden said he was also bothered by environmental issues on the Spring City Road where many lots are being cleared to accommodate derelict vehicles. These lots are in the well field. "These areas should be protected. They produce the potable water for the communities of Abaco." In view of the environmental issue generated by the dumping site, its cost effectiveness and its threats to the potable water supply to future generations, Mr. Hadden suggested that it was

time for Abaco to develop land zoning on the island.

Mr. Al Key mentioned that he had consulted with the Abaco Club at Winding Bay and read a letter stating that the resort was also opposed to the site.

Mr. Keith Thompson, the new manager of the Water and Sewerage department on Abaco, was questioned about the issue. He responded that he "was only here to observe. I only found out yesterday. No one knew about it," he added. "Concerning the water reserve, it is something we are looking at. As far as the transfer site, we did not know about it."

Ms. Christine Green from the Environmental Health office on Abaco said that she did not have all the answers to the questions and hoped that the person who did was on the island. However, she con-

Please see **Transfer Station** Page 26



This is the site of a transfer station intended to accept garbage from the communities in South Abaco. Garbage will then be transported eight miles to the solid waste facility which is located near Snake Cay. At a recent meeting in Marsh Harbour many voiced opposition to the site as it is near the well field for Winding Bay and farms. The landfill facility is not completed as a liner has not arrived.

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British American Opens Local Office

By Julian Lockhart

A day after becoming a completely owned Bahamian commodity, British American Insurance Company officially opened their office in Marsh Harbour with a grand opening on February 8th at the Hull Plaza.

British American has been a part of the Abaco community for decades but has never had a full time office based on the island. President and CEO, Chester Cooper, and a number of vice-presidents made the trip to Abaco for the grand opening and to ensure Abaconians that they are here to stay.

The official ribbon cutting were performed by Maggie Sweeting, wife of Member of Parliament for South Abaco, Robert Sweeting.

Mr. Cooper said, "These are exciting times for British American. Only yesterday we announced that British American is 100 percent Bahamian-owned entity. We thought it would be our first cause of business to come here to Abaco to establish our branch in Marsh Harbour, something we ought to have done 10 years ago. I thank you for welcoming us here with open arms. We promise we are here to stay like we have been in the Bahamas for 87 years. We have now re-energized our company. The significance of this branch here today means we will be able to provide for Abaco the same level of quality service we have provided across the Bahamas.

Mr. Cooper said they want Abaco to benefit

from their services the same way that the rest of the Bahamas has and they offer everything from mortgages to insurance to basic financial services for the individual or company.

He added that they have to ratchet up their business on Abaco because of the development and growth of the economy on the island and British American wants to help build the economy and community of Abaco. The entire British American Abaco office will be manned by Abaconians as they want people who know the community and the people's needs.

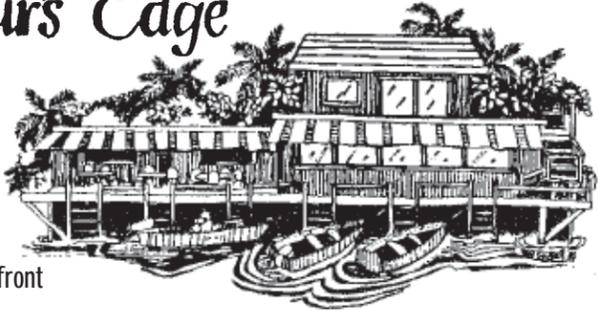
Mr. Sweeting said, "It is my privilege as the member of parliament for the past 15

years to welcome British American here to Abaco. Abaco is a growing and thriving community and I can remember when the first bank came to Abaco and the first insurance company came here. Insurance has become a big part of our community here on Abaco and for some time to come we will be dependent on health insurance from private companies. I will encourage people to pay more attention to insurance policies. We here on Abaco take great pride in our businesses and most of them are owned by Bahamians. I am sure you (British American) will do well here in our community," he concluded.



Mrs. Maggie Sweeting had the honour of cutting the ribbon to open the new office of British American Insurance Company on February 8. The office in the Hull Building in Marsh Harbour will offer a full range of financial services. Beside her is Robert Sweeting, MP, representative for South Abaco.

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Central Abaco News

Pathfinders Will Hold Annual Auction

By Kathy Weldon

The popular and much anticipated Abaco Pathfinders' Scholarship Auction will be held again this year in the tent of the Abaco Beach Resort on March 10 at 6 p.m. Over the last four years, this event has become one of the social highlights of the winter/spring season, drawing bigger crowds each time. It is an evening of fun, food, comedy, suspense and excitement with the drama of both silent and live auctions. The fabulous prizes include exotic furniture, stays-in villas, summer homes, hotels, and this year, a spa. Beautiful art work and jewelry from local artisans, fishing charters and boat rentals will also be available for bidding. Many of the items will be listed in the advertisement in this issue of The Abaconian.

However, while the auction has quickly

become a source of entertainment for the Abaco community, it should be remembered that the primary and practical purpose of this event is to raise money to provide scholarships for our local students so that they may reach their full potential. In doing so, they also enrich our community. Since its inception in 2001, Pathfinders has assisted 67 students with their education. A number have graduated and are fulfilling their educational goals as teachers, doctors, accountants and nurses.

These students and Pathfinders want to thank all of you who have donated your services, your art, your time, your business and your money. Your continued support will give hope and motivation to those current 11th and 12th grade students who are wondering now how they will ever be able to make it to college or vocational school.

You may call 242-554-8061 or email: judy@abacopathfinders.org for the free tick-



Dance lessons are very popular in the Marsh Harbour area after the outstanding production of the Nutcracker this past December. Now the students are learning more ballet techniques under the guidance of dance teacher, Mrs. Elaine Pilon.

ets that will admit you to the auction and a preview of the auction items.

Dance Academy Expands

By Samantha V. Evans

After a successful Nutcracker Production during the Christmas holiday, the Marsh Harbour Dance Academy got dozens of phone calls from parents wanting their children to be a part of the Dance Academy. Registration for new and returning students was held during the middle of January and classes resumed days after that. Mrs. Elaine Pilon, Dance Instructor, stated that now that they have this performance under their belt, she is focusing on more intense ballet training. Everyone can agree that for the students to perform so flawlessly as they did in the Nutcracker, they needed to be trained.

As a part of this current training they will learn various small synopsis such as *A Whole New World* and *Anne* and various movie musical pieces. They will also learn circle dance which is a combination of special songs and dances. The dancers will perform these pieces for their parents. Even though Mrs. Pilon has not given a great deal of thought to what the next production will be or when, she did say that it will be a play.

Presently, there are 62 dancers enrolled in the dance program ranging from 5-17

years. Mrs. Pilon has made a number of changes to the program including the introduction of ballet uniforms for the students. This is a part of teaching them discipline, she stated, and it makes them a more unified group. The colors of the uniform for the younger girls are pink or black leotards, pink tights and shoes. The older girls wear a one piece uniform with pink tights and shoes. Ms. Pilon now has a full contingent of dancers so she is busy five days out of the week. On Mondays and Fridays she meets with the older girls and Tuesday and Wednesday she meets with the girls ages seven through eleven and with the babies (ages 4-6) on Thursdays.

Realtor Holds Open House

By Jennifer Hudson

An Open House was hosted on February 3 by Sandra Evans Real Estate Sales for a viewing of *Far Horizons*, a spectacular property for sale within the gated community of the Great Abaco Club in Marsh Harbour. *Far Horizons* is a custom-built home to a design based on an 18th century West Indian governor's residence. Outfitted throughout with solid cypress, hardwood

Please see **Central**

Page 13

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Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 12*

floors and Mexican tile, this home has been perfectly maintained. The home and adjacent building site both offer high elevation with two-way water views and lush tropical landscaping.

The location of this property within the Great Abaco Club places it in one of the



Open House at the Far Horizons house in Great Abaco Club drew many people to admire the custom-built home.

most desirable boating communities on Abaco and the only one which is centrally located. This home and its separately offered adjacent property, each provide sheltered dockage for up to a 65-foot yacht plus a lie-along dock for a 25-foot runabout. Ownership includes beach, tennis and health club membership for two people.

This property is being offered for sale at the price of US\$1.149 million with an adjacent lot priced at \$575,000. The property was being shown by Mrs. Sandra Evans.

Bigger and Better

By Mirella Santillo

Island Petals, a popular flower and gift shop has moved a few doors away to a brand new, larger space located in the recently completed addition of Abaco Shopping Centre. When I visited the shop, it was decorated with hearts, balloons and stuffed animals ready for Valentine's Day a week away.

The new location is nearly twice as large as the previous one and with that much space Ms. Fox is going to expand the inventory of the shop, introducing more home decor

and accent furniture such as side tables, mirrors and paintings. "We are still catering with fresh and silk flowers," she added. Flowers account for 75 percent of our business." She excitedly described the space reserved for the fresh flowers. It contained a refrigerator and all the material for the arrangements that are presently prepared by Ms. Jaime Sweeting.

Cuddles Toy Store and Gift Shop

By Jennifer Hudson

The new Cuddles Toy Store and Gift Shop can be found tucked away behind Memorial Plaza and is well worth seeking out if you wish to find a great selection of inexpensive toys and gift items. A large attractive sign on the road beside Memorial Plaza makes the store easy to locate and you will receive a pleasant welcome from owner/manager Alanna Thompson.

The store carries a wide selection of toys, clothes, games, jewellery, stuffed animals, pillows, candles, stickers, body products and hand knitted and crocheted baby blankets. Also as each holiday comes around it

carries a line of appropriate holiday gift items.

Cuddles opened its doors at the beginning of December and to celebrate its three-month anniversary, Ms. Thompson said that she would like to give something back to her valued customers. Anyone who spends \$20 or more in the store between February 2 and March 2 may enter his or her child to win one of two baskets full of goodies. The drawing will take place on March 4.

The store is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Ms. Thompson is pleased with the patronage she has received, in fact so much so that she says she already has plans to expand the store sometime this year.

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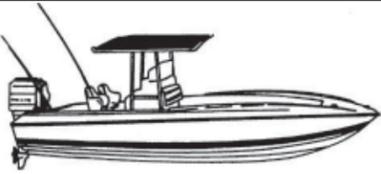


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Church News

Church *From Page 1*

face from day-to-day. The pastor admonished them not to be too busy fighting crime that they forget about God and suggested that they "try Jesus, He will never fail."

Offerings were presented to Pastor Napoleon Roberts by ASP Wayne Miller on behalf of the Police Department, Mr. Gary Smith on behalf of the Customs Department, Mr. Spence Dorsette on behalf of the Immigration Department and Mr. Neil Campbell on behalf of the Island Administrators.

Mr. Campbell, Administrator for the South Abaco District, spoke for Mr. Revis Rolle, Administrator for the Central Abaco

District, and Mr. Theophilus Cox, Administrator for the North Abaco District, reminding people how serious it is for the police to go out to do their work in order for us to be able to live in comfort and he asked for appreciation and prayers to be shown on behalf of the officers.

Chief Supt. Rahming presented apologies from Commissioner of Police, Mr. Paul Farquaharson, and Insp. Greenslade as circumstances had prevented them from being present. He thanked ASP Miller on their behalf for putting the service together.

The annual police service always ends with a very moving ceremony for the remembrance of the deceased. The names of those who had fallen from the ranks during

the year 2006 with the date of their deaths were read by officers from their departments. This was followed by the lowering of the Royal Bahamas Police Force standard during the playing of the last Post and Reveille by two of the band's trumpeters.

Following the benediction, the dignitaries left the church in procession behind the standard bearers. Outside the church all the law-enforcement officers "fell in" and once again marched along the main Sandy Point Road led by the Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band.

The service was conducted by the Abaco Christian Council and moderator throughout the service was Pastor A.B. Lewis of Victory Tabernacle, who is Secretary of the Council. Special guests, which included Chief Supt. Basil Rahming, Second Officer-in-Charge of the Northern Region, Grand Bahama; Supt. Russell, who is now stationed in Grand Bahama after serving on Abaco for quite some time; other senior members of the Police Force from Grand Bahama; ASP Wayne Miller, Officer-in-Charge of the Abaco District; Supt. of Customs, Mr. Gary Smith; Supt. of Immigration, Mr.

Spence Dorsette; and island administrators, were all welcomed by Bishop Clifford Henfield of Grace Baptist Church, Treasurer of the Abaco Christian Council.

United Church Service

By Jennifer Hudson

On the morning of February 4 a Regional Worship Service was held in the St James Methodist Church at Hope Town. Worshipping together were congregations from the St. James Methodist Church, Hope Town; St. Andrews's Methodist Church, Dundas Town; Epworth Methodist Chapel, Cherokee Sound and Kirk of the Pines Presbyterian Church, Marsh Harbour. A fellowship service takes place several times a year at each of the Methodist churches within the eastern region and is greatly looked forward to by all of the congregations. The Kirk of the Pines is always invited to join in these services as very close ties were formed between that church and the Methodist churches by Rev. Carla Culmer, who affectionately referred to its members as "her

Please see **Church** Page 17



Special music made the combined Methodist and Presbyterian service on February 4 a memorable one. These are Hope Town members singing a hymn.

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More Church News

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Presbyterian Methodists.”

Two ferry boats left the dock in Marsh Harbour at 9 a.m. to carry members from the various churches over to St James. The beautiful little church was packed with standing room only. Each of the churches presented beautiful choral selections, the St. Andrew's Dancers performed a liturgical dance which was very well received and the young people of St James accompanied some of the hymns on their ocarinas.

The service began with the presentation of credentials to Lay Preachers Bro. Vernon Malone of St. James Church and Bro. Craig Cornish of St. Andrews Church. These credentials from the Conference of the Methodist Church in Nassau provide for these two stalwarts of the Methodist Church to now be able to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Rev. Dr. Stephen Hale stated that he requested this from the Conference since the positioning of the churches over such a wide area makes it impossible for him to be in all churches to administer the Sacrament on a given day.

An inspirational sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Hale, Pastor of the three Methodist churches of the region, in which he stated, "Life is a journey with Jesus Christ in which he demands you to listen. Nowadays people seem to feel the need to be stimulated all the time by music, computers and computer games, but we need to take time to rest in His spirit. We must not, however, fall asleep while waiting. Are you awake or are you asleep?" he asked. "Jesus Christ needs us to joyfully build the kingdom of God in this world. The children in the church are the promise of tomorrow but the adults are the foundation."

Mr. Abraham McIntyre, who hails from a church in Tennessee and is presently Director of Methodist Habitat in James Cistern, Eleuthera, and Mr. Gareth Newton, an Androsian who is also a volunteer with Methodist Habitat in Eleuthera, both gave an overview of their work with Methodist Habitat. "Volunteers from the United States and locals are engaged in emergency home repairs and new home construction. Volunteers range from ninth-grade students to 83-year-old retirees, anyone can help," said

Mr. McIntyre. "It is not about the blocks, these can fall down or be destroyed in a fire, but it is about loving and serving each other and meeting each other's needs in all ways." He concluded by saying that he would love to see more Bahamians step out and help, not for the money but for the joy of service.

After this lovely service the entire congregation walked down to the Mission House for a delicious fellowship lunch provided by the ladies of St James Methodist Church, Hope Town.

Strategies for Effective Living

By Samantha V. Evans

In the Bahamas many parents are losing their children. When they are 13 years old, many parents seem to not have any influence on them. These words were spoken

by Dr. Wayne Thompson on February 4th when he visited Change Ministries for two explosive sessions on *Strategies for Effective Living*. He further stated that parents need to start making better decisions so that they would be in a position to help their children and to positively influence them when it really counts. He stated that it is important that parents lead the family and not have the family lead them. In order for this to happen they need to have strategies for effective living in their marriage, parenting, community, on the job, and at church.

He told the parents present that he understands that it is not easy, but it is important that they make decisions that will allow them to be as effective as they can be in all aspects of their lives including their mar-

Please see **Church** Page 18



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More Church News

Church

From Page 17

riage because their children may listen to what they say. But ultimately, they are watching what they do. He told them to exercise their faith in God and to diligently seek Him because once they do, He will direct their path. The two part session ended that evening with questions from couples and parents

Retreat Proved to Be Beneficial

By Luzena

TEC is the acronym for To Encounter Christ and was the name of a retreat put on by the Catholic Church for 20 year olds and

older that desire a spiritual renewal in their lives. This year the retreat, TEC VIII took place on Grand Bahama during the week-end of January 19 - 21.

Merlyne Dieujuste and I attended this retreat. We met some very cool young people our age who are now friends for life. The weekend was filled with activities including talks and testimonies by past TECers. Their personal stories and life experiences were moving and inspiring.

The theme for the retreat was *Be a Light* and we were all encouraged to be a light and shine forth. The purpose of TEC is to

1. Meet new people and make friends
2. Think through some of your problems
3. Examine your relationship with God
4. Fulfill your obligation to attend a retreat
5. Find out where you are going with your life
6. Have some time away from school, home, and work
7. Understand better who you are
8. Other personal reasons.

From the time we reached the retreat, our cell phones and our watches were taken from us. We were told to participate, not anticipate, and that was repeated each time we asked a question in regards to what comes next. Of all the retreats that I have been to, this has certainly been the best one. I look forward in taking part in any upcoming TEC retreat.



Women who attended a seminar on wellness and nutrition had their blood pressure and sugar levels checked.

Women Learn about Nutrition and Wellness

By Samantha V. Evans

In an effort to educate its members, especially the female members, on ways to live a life of healthy nutritional and wellness practices, Change Ministries International held a one-night seminar on February 13th under the theme: *Women in Action*. Present for the one-day event were Nurse Fernander, Nursing Officer in Charge of the Abaco District, and Registered Nurse Daniel Ekpa. Both nurses spoke to the 40 persons who were present and challenged them to adjust their eating habits so that they can live a happier, more fulfilling life.

Nurse Ekpa stated that wellness is a positive state of the healthy body, mind, and spirit. When the body is healthy, you look healthy, feel good, and live long lives. Good nutrition (what you eat), can also affect one living a healthy life style. Nurse Fernander challenged the females present to get regular breast exams, medical check ups including a pap smear, mammogram, cholesterol and sugar level tests and blood pressure.

Nurse Ekpa introduced them to DASH which stands for Diet Approach to Stop Hypertension. The basic thing one can do to is to reduce the intake of sodium in the diet. Basically, it holds liquid which can result in damaged blood vessels and problems with the heart. He recommends that persons willing to comply with DASH should not consume more than 2000-2300 mg of sodium per day. They must make a decision to take care of their body and stick with it. He told them that DASH has been proven to reduce high blood pressure among participants in the United States. However,

he stated that there can be no reduction in weight unless there is a reduction in calories.

In order to reduce calories he suggested six basic things that they can do.

One, they should not smoke or use tobacco. He explained that nicotine contains 4,800 chemicals that can drastically increase the risk of high blood pressure, stroke or respiratory disease.

Two, they must exercise which will get muscles toned, cause heart muscles to contract and reduce blood pressure.

Three, reduce stress. He encouraged them to not rush for things; what they can't get, leave it. He pleaded with them to find a better way to handle problems rather than worrying. This is an easy way to increase your stress level.

Four, eat a healthy diet avoiding saturated and trans fats that are known as solid fats. They are the enemies of the heart.

Five, do not drink alcohol

Six, get regular check ups. He told parents to teach their children how to eat properly because "old age begins while you are young." Indeed, you are what you eat!

At the end of the seminar the two nurses did free sugar testing, blood pressure checks and taught ladies how to give themselves a breast exam.

Couples Seminar

By Samantha V. Evans

The week end of February 9-11 gave seven couples and a number of singles an opportunity to better their relationship by attending the Growing in Love workshop

Please see Church

Page 19

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More Church News

Church

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held at Abaco Beach Resort. Presenters were Pastor Michael and Lynn Smith from Grand Bahama and Pastor Derek Bignall from Jamaica. Many topics were discussed over these three days including How to Win at Marriage, The Art of Effective Communication, Keeping Romance Alive in Marriage, Meeting Needs in a Loving Family, Secrets of the Opposite Sex, Money Man

Pastor Leonardo Rahming, Pastor of Marsh Harbour Seventeenth Day Adventist Church, stated that he feels that the seminar was a success. He expected a wider cross section of couples but some persons communicated that they were afraid to come because the matters they were presently battling in their relationship were very deep. He plans to have the seminar again next year because he sees Family Life issues as needing major improvement.

The married couples present learned that they need to share with their spouse and focus more on family life. Some of the couples expressed that they do not understand the opposite sex very well, and men stating that they are concerned that their

wives do not take advice from them. This was a very productive session that brought out a lot of very important concerns that needed immediate attention so that the family can flourish. The men learned that women love affection and to communicate. The women learned that men need some sort of recreational outlet and value family life as being most important.

The single persons who were present did not feel out of place. In fact, it helped them by giving them ideas of how to prepare for marriage and family life. On Saturday evening, sessions were held for singles to address their views on the single life. Many of them viewed being single as a bad thing but the session showed them some of the advantages of being single such as being able to focus on their career and to be in control of their own money. Some of them stated that they do not see qualities in the opposite sex that they are looking for in a spouse. Others expressed the fact that they feel pressured by married people to get married. The presenter told them to be confident in themselves and to go after their career right now while they are single and just wait on God and be of good cheer while they do.

People in the News

Farewell to Mr. Paul Bartlett

By Jennifer Hudson

Marsh Harbour had to say farewell on February 17 to one of its leading community members. Mr. Paul Bartlett, Branch Manager of First Caribbean International Bank in Marsh Harbour for the past five and a half years, left to take up the position of Manager of the Harbour Bay Branch in Nassau.

This, in fact, marked the end of Mr. Bartlett's third appointment in Marsh Harbour. The first time he came to the bank as a teller in 1981 since there was a shortage of tellers at that time. The bank was still known then as Barclays Bank and was under the management of Graeme Jones. In 1995 he returned again as Assistant Manager of Barclays Bank in Marsh Harbour where he remained for three years. In 2001 he came as the Manager of Barclays Bank and oversaw the merger of Barclays Bank with CIBC to become the First Caribbean International Bank.

Mr. Bartlett said that he was very sad to leave as he has made many friends on Abaco and has enjoyed participating in the social life and many charitable functions. "I have enjoyed my time at the bank here and it has been a pleasure working with such nice cus-

tomers and employees."

Mr. Bartlett stated that taking over from him will be Ms. Iris Henschell, who has been with the bank for a number of years. This is the first time that an Abaconian who has risen up through the ranks will become manager of the bank.

Many well wishers gathered at a bon voyage party on February 9 at the home of Vanria Lightbourn to bid a fond farewell to a very good friend who will be missed, not only for his leadership, but for his quiet and gracious manner and the welcoming smile he always had for his bank customers.

Students Make Honour Roll

Jamal Roosevelt McIntosh has made the distinguished record of a perfect 4.0 GPA at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, and was named a President's Scholar. The fall semester was his last semester there as he graduated in December. He is the son of Roosevelt and Belinda McIntosh.

Amanda Meagan Sawyer, also a senior at Florida Southern College was honored by being named on the Dean's List for the 2006 fall semester. She earned a GPA between 3.7 and 3.9. She is the daughter of Trevor and Jennifer Sawyer.

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South Abaco News

Moore's Island Community Marching Band Workshop

By Jennifer Hudson

Information from Ruthamae Rolle
 The Moore's Island Community Marching Band was officially formed on May 21 of last year with 41 students of the Moore's Island All-age school. On February 2 these aspiring young musicians received a real boost when several members of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band visited their school to conduct a music workshop. The all-day workshop was facilitated by Inspector Dennis Sturup, Sgt. James Hutchison, Sgt. King Johnson, PC Treco Johnson, PC Rudolph Pratt, all from Nassau, and WPC Vernique Miller, who is stationed in Marsh Harbour.
 According to Ms. Ruthamae Rolle, Principal of the school, the workshop was very productive and the students were left excited and motivated as they were able to play a selection by the end of the day.
 The band is comprised of 19 boys and 22 girls all between the ages of nine and 14 years. Each member has his/ her own instrument. Practice sessions are held on average once a month, but it is hoped to increase practice sessions to twice a month. The music sessions are directed by Insp. Sturup and WPC Miller; marching drill

practices are led by WPC Curry. On days when no one is able to fill in, Principal Rolle supervises the practice sessions. Though the young band has not yet performed at any functions, it is greatly looking forward to its first public performance.

Sandy Point Dr. Craig Layman Explained His Creek Project

By Tonia Ferguson

Dr. Craig Layman along with the education officer at Friends of the Environment traveled to Sandy Point on February 1 to meet with the residents there to share his Adopt-a-Fish, Adopt-a-School Program. Dr. Layman is known for his work in Cross Harbour which involves the tracking of fish movements in and out of the creek. He spoke to a small gathering which included students from the James A. Pinder Primary School.
 He presented his three main reasons why he is passionate about the project. For him his greatest joy was that it involved the stu-



Dr. Craig Layman met with residents of Sandy Point on February 1 to discuss his project at Cross Harbour. He is tracking the movement of fish in and out of the creek by means of tagged fish.

dents of Abaco Island. The project has allowed hands-on involvement for many school students throughout Abaco. He outlined the procedure which includes catching, tagging and tracking the fish. The latter can actually be done by logging onto the website. Students are able to monitor the movements of fish they would have assisted tagging. Dr. Layman would like to return to Sandy Point with hopes of addressing a larger gathering.

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Tracking Fish Movements in Tidal Creeks

Dr. Craig Layman, a graduate of both Yale and University of Texas and connected with Florida International University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, visited Cherokee on February 2nd to give an update on his research on fish movements in the tidal creek at Cross Harbour in southern Abaco. He has been doing research work for F.I.U. in different areas of The Bahamas for seven years. This is only one of several projects that he has been involved with in The Bahamas working in collaboration with the government. On Abaco he works with Friends of the Environment for the future of our islands.

He solicited student participation from the local schools and has been quite impressed with the young people's keen interest and understanding of the work he is doing and hopes that it will entice some of them to become research scientist themselves. The results of this work is a matter of record and is shared with other scientists all over the world. In fact, Dr. Layman pointed out

Please see **South**

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South Abaco News

South

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that his work is necessary to protect the animals and sea life in The Bahamas and that many are losing their natural habitats because of human encroachment and development.

The work at Cross Harbour project involved removing a roadway built of rocks across the tidal creek 70 or more years ago for a train to carry lumber to the coast. This resulted in the part of the creek being closed off allowing an increase in mangrove growth. The causeway choked off the natural flow of the creek, restricting the movement of sea life within that area. They were able to cut a trench across the road, put in culverts and replace the roadway, all within a day's time. The culvert allows the sea life trapped inside to begin moving in and out as soon as the tide was allowed to flow through freely once more, actually within a matter of minutes.

The project included tagging the fish found in the previously blocked off part of the creek and tracking them by means of a battery operated tag (no bigger than a vita-

min capsule) imbedded within the fish. Dr. Layman directed the students who did these operations (much as a surgeon operates on humans) by means of a small incision made in the fishes flesh, the small capsule-like transmitter is placed under the skin and the fish is then sewn up. Dr. Layman assured the students that the fish's cut soon heals and they are able to function as normal within a short period of time. He proved this by showing satellite imagery collected from the tracking units, which meant that the fish were moving back and forth from the enclosed area out as far as the ocean about a mile away, then back inside again. He compared the small fish to the salmon who always return to the place of their birth. Actually, the satellite tracking, taken over a 36-hour period, showed that some of fish made the round trip four times, which really amazed him.

This tagging and tracking information is quite important to the scientific world and has been a very costly project. Dr. Layman said that if anyone catches a fish with one of the transplanted transmitters in them, that they contact him through Friends of the

Environment. Or, if anyone comes across one of the receiver units, please leave them alone. They are a black plastic tube about the size of a 16-ounce soda bottle attached to the sea floor tied to a cement block.

Although the meeting was not very well attended, those who were present were fascinated with Dr. Layman's informative talk.

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Speakers Address Government Heads

By Julian Lockhart

In an attempt to foster a better working relationship and create synergy between the numerous government departments, Island Administrator Revis Rolle holds monthly meetings with heads of government departments. At the meeting on January 30 these government leaders met along with business owners and members of the island councils. Brought in to speak to them was motivational speaker Roosevelt Finlayson and British American Insurance Company vice-president, Herbert Newbold and financial services manager Cecillia A. Cox.

Participants at the meeting were able to voice concerns between departments, share departmental news and partake in

discussions with Mr. Finlayson and the other guests on how to create a better work place and be better leaders in their community. Mr. Finlayson told them that they need to be more creative and their collaboration will not only help their office to be more productive but also help the country to move forward and quality of service to be at a higher premium. The one point of emphasis was the working relationships between the different agencies as one government office did not seem to know what the other was doing and thus the development and process were hindered.

Brought in to speak about the new National Health Plan, Mr. Newbold said the plan has forced insurance companies to tai-

lor their plans to cover areas where the national plan will be weak and they will basically be for supplemental care. He added that he expects a number of companies to drop their private health plans because they cannot afford to pay both the private insurance as well as the new health plan.

However, some people will decide they will want more coverage and at a lower cost than they are paying now. Some companies will decide to pay for the supplemental care. Mr. Newbold said, "The integration of this plan with individual health plans or company sponsored comprehensive major medical will cause some people to do things differently but the overall impact will be positive. No one saw this government initiative coming as quickly as it came, and we have not had the opportunity to adjust our plans. But when we have a clearer view of what their benefits will be, we can quickly adjust

our plans," he added.

Ms. Cox said that too many people focus on the present but very rarely look at the future. When they do, it is too late and retirement has sneaked up on an individual. They have to continue working because they did not save.

Mr. Newbold said the economy of Abaco is doing very well and with the community thriving, individuals need to think of the future and save for a rainy day.

Hurricanes have damaged Abaco in recent years. Those who bounced back quicker were those who had money saved and made provisions for not having the same income as they did before.

Ms. Cox said, "Retirement is not that far away and you have to save for it. Financial planning helps you to use your money to get the most out of life. Without a financial plan and with impulsive buying individuals may make it hard to make ends meet.



The heads of government departments in the Marsh Harbour area meet monthly to discuss common problems and policies. At their meeting on January 30 Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator for Central Abaco, invited motivational speaker, Mr. Roosevelt Finlayson to address the group. Also invited were Mr. Herbert Newbold and Ms. Cecillia Cox, both with British American Insurance Company, to discuss the new National Health Insurance plan. Shown here are Mr. Newbold, Ms. Cox, Mr. Rolle and Mr. Finlayson.

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New Stamps Feature Blainville's Beaked Whales

The Bahamas Post Office issued four sets of stamps on the Blainville's Beaked Whale earlier this year. The stamps are 15 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents and 60 cents. Beaked whales are said to account for around a quarter of the world's whale and dolphin species. Little is known about Blainville's Beaked Whales and they are rarely seen.

There is a resident population in northern Bahamas waters as they prefer tropical and warm temperature water habitats in general and usually they are found in small groups of three to six.

The male Blainville's Beaked Whale is a remarkably odd-looking cetacean. It possesses a huge pair of teeth that grow from large bulges in its lower jaw - almost like a pair of horns. These can get so encrusted with barnacles that it appears as if the whale is sporting a pair of poms-poms on top of

its head. A flattened forehead and large spots, possibly scars created by the teeth of sharks and parasites, are the main characteristics by which the species can be distinguished.

There have been mass strandings of Blainville's Beaked Whales in The Bahamas which have been attributed to acoustic trauma resulting from nearby naval exercises.

It is only in the last few years that researchers have been able to study these elusive creatures at sea. They can grow up to five metres in length, weighing more than a ton. They are thought to feed on squid, deep sea fish and possibly sea urchins and starfish. They are able to stay submerged for up to 45 minutes and, fortunately for them, this species is of no commercial interest.



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Viewpoint . . . Changes that Invasive Species Bring

By John Hedden

What are the major concerns over introduced, invasive, or exotic species? Every country in the world and every geographical area has been exposed to introduced or invasive species. Some are intentionally imported for the benefit of the local human population to provide food, clothing, aesthetics or manufacturing.

Others appear in an area or habitat due to the vagaries of nature. The chances of successful establishment are in favour of the exotic when cultivation is involved, as in agriculture and horticulture. In fact, agriculture is the single largest global contributor to indigenous habitat, ecological and species destruction.

Originally this was mainly due to physical clearing of land followed by the introduction of foreign species, but modern agriculture has introduced complexes of climatic, energy, hydrological, soil, chemical, and hybridisation to the list of deleterious factors for the global ecology.

Twelve thousand years ago the first sedentary farming was practiced in Asia (rice cultivation), and from that time invasive species have been introduced to every single habitat in the world. So the question remains, "What are the concerns?"

The answer lies with perception of the relative benefit to the local human population. In the Bahamas we would never move to eliminate goats, sheep, pigs, sapodilla, maize, potatoes and a myriad of other cultivated species from our country. Yet some of these have had undoubted negative impact on our local environment.

Others have been imported into the Bahamian archipelago for aesthetic reasons and have since become entrenched in the local ecosystem. One of the most prominent is

the Casuarina, or Australian pine. Though only introduced some 100 (or so) years ago this species has at the same time become both loved and detested. Functionally, it has been used for garden hedging, ornamentals and also as a serviceable windbreak. By becoming established ubiquitously along our seashores and beaches the Casuarina has provided excellent shading for beach-going Bahamians.

Environmentalists, however, consider this tree one of the most noxious of pests, not least, because of its effect on marine dune destruction and ridge breaching during storms and tidal surges.

In the modern world where communication is instant and access to previously remote areas is easy, movement of biological organisms becomes more and more apparent. Thus arises the concern for epidemics of HIV, Avian flu, drug resistant tuberculosis, agricultural diseases and pests, all being considered invasive species.

Others include the lion fish, wild domestic cats, the racoon, and the much touted Hawaiian sea grape.

The idea of controls then becomes necessary, especially when the local environment apparently becomes overrun by a particular species. Strategies need to be well thought out before implementation takes place.

Unfortunately, emotions often become involved, and resulting control actions are often irrational and ineffective. The introduced species then become well established and over time seem to have become a part of the native habitat. Each foreign species introduced will have modified the invaded habitat while becoming established. These include humans, their livestock, and all their other biological attachments.

So what is to be done about these invaders and their ecological effects? The answer can only come after a myriad of factors, and questions, have been considered. These include species identification, how did it get here? what damage does it do? how can we control it? what will we replace it with? Is it really possible to control it? are there benefits of this species? and so on. Once considerations have been made, we are then able to take a course of action, if any, to deal with the invader.

The purists look to total eradication, but this is often impractical or impossible; and so other less drastic actions may be in order. Other considerations are also important, and these include ecological, climatic, developmental and biological threats which may outweigh the invasive threat being considered.

Think well over the Casuarina threat. Is eradication a priority, or even possible, or should global warming (sea level increases) be taken into consideration first? After all, both will destroy our present shoreline, but in addition, global warming will destroy our protective reef systems, thus exposing us to a higher threat from summer storms.

Finally, it is important to consider that since the beginning of life on this planet, over half of the species ever in existence, have become extinct. Furthermore, many species of organism die out having never been documented. Extinction of a species occurs as a result of the same factors in play with invasive species. Introduction of exotics to an area, competition for space, food, light, habitat modification, pathogens, pests and parasites and so on.

However, life still exists on the planet in spite of this. It must be remembered that the whole earth ecological systems actually make the world a living organism (Gea), with physical and biological (organic) systems very closely intertwined. Bearing this in mind, we must understand that species invasion is but just one of many factors threatening the planet. Industrialisation, pollution, natural resource depletion, energy generation and wasting and global warming are all essential for consideration.

It is essential that we as human beings take heed of this as we manipulate and exploit our environment. Otherwise, we may become one of these extinct species.



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Transfer station *From Page 10*

tinued saying that it was her understanding that town meetings were held to discuss land fills and transfer stations. "I do not know if they are on the same property (as discussed). Information was sent to various administrators on Abaco. Notice was posted on major newspapers. Transfer stations are not dump sites," she added. The garbage will be put there to be sorted out and taken to Snake Cay. Everything will be stored in containers on a concrete platform. The questions have to be addressed to the project manager," she concluded.

The audience was invited by Mr. Bethel to question and comment and many participated. Mr. Stone McEwan confirmed that the letter read by Mr. Key was the club's position. He explained that the resort had offered a compactor that would take care of the garbage of Yellow Wood, Cherokee Sound and Winding Bay. The compacted thrash would then be transported to Snake Cay. "All was needed was for BEC to provide power for the machine. We got a response from them wanting \$10,000 to install the power." The club's owners did not think they had to pay for that hook up. That is the situation right now today," he ended.

Mr. Richard Curry had an explanation on how to avoid having a dump site. "The easiest way is to buy two 40-foot containers. They would take care of Cherokee. We are trying to get rid of problems caused by

one dump site. Why do we want problems with two dump sites?"

Most concerned of all because his farm is adjacent to the transfer station was Rev. Carey, who found out one day that 20y feet of his property was being bulldozed by the people clearing the site. He brought the fact to the machine operator without any luck. They went on tearing up his land.

A fact that seemed to distress people was that no one knew who was behind the clearing. "They are under contract from the government. This is being put in place by the Department of Health Services," Ms. Green finally answered. Someone said they were "flabbergasted that the government could have a surveyor there and bulldozers clearing that land and Water and Sewerage did not know about it."

Mr. Miaoulis complained that Abaco had been promised a Master Plan and never got it. "There is no transparency, no communication," he said.

Many aspects of pollution on the island were also brought up, such as the derelict cars and kerosene being dropped over the well fields every time a plane takes off. Mr. Pat Smith reminded the audience, "If they don't have the proper deep well and lining in the new dump site (Snake Cay), we are going to be in a sad condition."

Mr. Edison Key and Mr. Gary Sawyer both voiced their concern and their support for the residents' opposition of the transfer station. Rev. Carey suggested that a committee be formed to address the problem

immediately. Mr. Patrick Bethel, Mr. Al Key and Mr. John Hadden were chosen by the audience as its representatives. They were joined later by Mr. Bill Johnson. A letter of concern was sent on the 8th of February to the Minister of Environmental Health, the Hon. Marcus Bethel, to invite him to come to Abaco and discuss the issue. No answer had been received by publication date.

Marine Use *From Page 2*

stage right now. When they come back with more defined guidelines, we can then address them at that point. I would rather pay the six percent on revenues and I think that is fair if you base your tax on your dock based on revenue. That is good for everyone. You make no money, you pay no taxes. When you make money, you pay the taxes. If government can implement these regulations, they can help. There has always been a problem with government implementing their new policies. Man power has always been a concern for government and them carrying out their new regulations," Mr. Cornea added.

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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

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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>
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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 Russel 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	
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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
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Bahamasair - Nassau, W. Palm B, Ft Laud	367-2095
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
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Cherokee Air Charters	367-3450

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Froggies, Hope Town	366-0431
Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
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Man-O-War Dive Shop	365-6013

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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 (& Scolland 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 prepaid oneway \$16 / Round Trip \$22, Onboard fare \$20 & 25 (rebate available) • Kids 6-11 half fare, Under 6 free • † From Union Jack Dock * Except Sundays	
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	
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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	
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Man-O-War Marina	26 F 365-6008
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Boat Harbour Marina	183 F 367-2736
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Harbour View Marina	36 F 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52 F 367 2700
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Hope Town Marina	16 366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways	366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6 F 366-0154
Sea Spray	50 F 366-0065
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Spanish Cay Marina	75 F 365-0083
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Quality Star Texaco Cars	367-2979
Rainbow Boat Rentals	367-4602
Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars	367-4643
Rich's Boat Rentals	367-2742
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	367-2513
Sea Star Car Rentals	367-4887
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

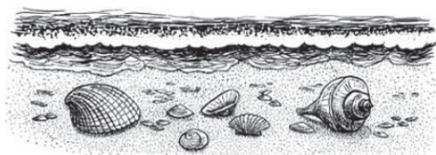
Bonefish Guides		Cherokee	
Sandy Point		Theodore Sawyer 366-2111	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286	Will Sawyer	366-2177
Nicholas Roberts		Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Derrick Gaitor		Noel Lowe	366-2107
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133	Randy Sawyer	366-2284
Vernal Burrows		Casuarina Point	
Kendall White		Junior Albury	366-3058
Anthony Bain	366-4107	Budy Pinder	366-2165
Floyd Burrows	366-4175	Hope Town	
Links Adderly	366-4335	Maitland Lowe	366-0234
Valentino Lightbourne		North Abaco	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233	O'Donald McIntosh	477-5037
Marsh Harbour		Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Jody Albury	375-8068	Ortnell Russell	365-0125
Terrance Davis	367-4464	Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Buddy Pinder	366-2163	Edward Rolle	365-0024
Justin Sands	367-3526	Green Turtle Cay	
Danny Sawyer	367-3577	Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jay Sawyer	367-3941	Jeff Survance	365-4040
Man-O-War		Ricky Sawyer	365-4261
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 21 Jan 07

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





Connection

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited

Dawkins appointed as BTC new Acting CIO

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd (BTC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs. Nickola Gomez-Dawkins as the company's new Acting Chief Information Officer (CIO). This twenty-five year veteran in the field of Management Information Systems (MIS) has been employed with BTC for the past fifteen years. During this time Nickola has worked in the MIS Department holding such positions as Systems Analyst, Senior Manager MIS and IT Business Systems.

Nickola holds an Associate of Art Degree in Biology and Chemistry from the College of The Bahamas, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science with a minor in Accounting from Mankato State University and a Masters in Business Administrations from the University of Miami. She is also a Fellow in the Life Management Institute (FLMI). In



Nickola Gomez-Dawkins
Acting Chief Information Officer

addition, Nickola has also completed many post graduate courses in Europe, Canada, United States and The Caribbean.

Additional, Nickola is the Vice President of the Pilot Club of Nassau and a former Trustee for The Bahamas Communications and Public Managers Union (BCPMU). Active in her church, Holy Cross, she is a member of the Usher Ministry and Parish Youth Council, Co-Leader of the Junior Usher Ministry and a Guider of the 19th Bahamas Girl Guides and Rangers.

Nickola is the daughter of Patrick and Jeanie Gomez and is married to Mucan Dawkins, the couple has one child, Gabrielle Jade.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Executive Management and staff of BTC we congratulate Nickola and wish her well in her new position.



High Speed Internet Upgrade

In its continuing effort to improve its telecommunications services, The Bahamas Telecommunication Company Ltd. (BTC) wishes to inform its valued customers and the general public that, a routine equipment upgrade will be conducted on the network that provides its high speed internet service beginning January 29th

and concluding February 28th, 2007.

However the public is assured that services will not be disrupted during this upgrade and every effort will be taken to complete this project in the shortest possible time.

CALL BTC 225-5282 • www.btcbahamas.com



The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 15, NUMBER 5, MARCH 1st, 2007

Grounded Barge Will Be Removed

Salvage Company May Be Chosen in Two Weeks

The Port Department is making progress at removing the barge that is grounded on the reef near Johnnie's Cay between Man-O-War and Hope Town. The government awarded a contract to a company from Freeport, Grand Bahama, but after the bid was accepted the bidder raised its bid. Now the government has had to begin again getting new bids. This process has taken about six months, and it now has bids from U.S. companies. The company that is expected to turn in the winning bid flew in to do a final onsite inspection on February 20. Capt. Cyril Roker, Assistant Port Controller for The Bahamas and Port Administrator for Abaco, expects that within two weeks the government will have the final figure on the bid.

The bid that the Freeport company turned in was almost \$1 million but the final bid will be well over \$1 million. The company expected to win the bid is a salvage company from Fort Lauderdale. It will be containing all oils and fuel aboard and will take it ashore for proper disposal. The company plans to remove the high structure first, then cut up the barge, float the pieces to tow them out to sea and sink them in deep water. The salvage company is under US strict guidelines to protect the environment and will be subject to the same guidelines here in The Bahamas.

The barge went ashore on the reef south of Man-O-War during Hurricane Wilma in October 2005.

MOW Team Wins Bronze in US Competition



The Man-O-War Texaco Pirates fastpitch softball team competed in the AAU Fastpitch Tournament in Orlando, Florida, recently and were excited to win the bronze third place trophy. This was the fifth year that they competed there and was their best year. The team members are, back row, Grant Albury, Jeff Hook, Doug Sleep, Louie Juglar, Lyle Sawyer, Andrew Albury, Robb Scheller, Darren Rogers, Kyle Magnessun and in the front row Haziel McDonald, Nathaniel Malone, Cheno, Adney Bethel, William Weatherford, Fred Sweeting, and Greg Gardiner. Their team included a pitcher from Canada, one from Michigan and the Bahamas' best, Edney (The Heat) Bethel. See story on page 2.

Hope Town Students Provide Reef Relief

By Candace Key

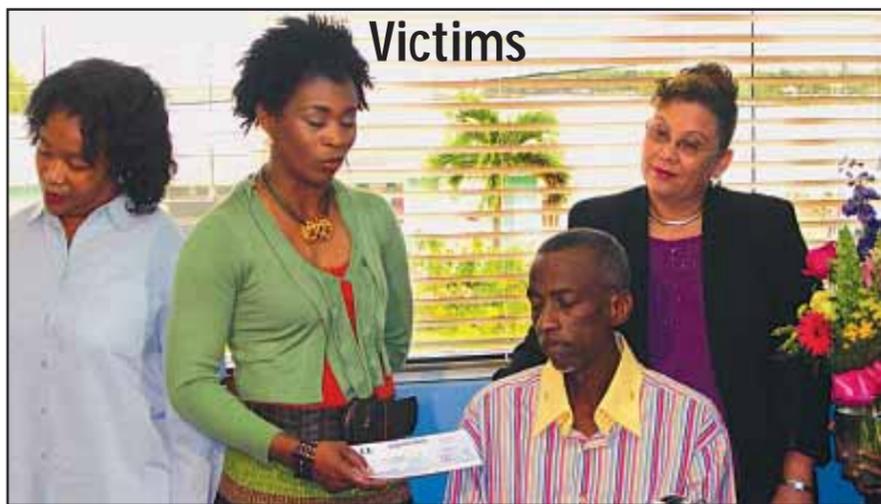
Hope Town students in Grades 5 and 6, assisted by teacher, Mr. Justin Higgs, and videographer, Mr. Matt McCoy, recently removed a huge green fishing net from the reef that is the school's UNESCO Sandwatch project test site. The net had been deposited on the popular swim-to reef (that lies less than 50 feet offshore in front of the Hope Town Harbour Lodge) during Hurricanes Jeanne and Frances several years ago, but was just brought to the Principal's attention recently by visitors snorkeling on the reef. Mrs. Candace Key promised the frequent visitors that her senior students would tackle the problem on the first calm day.

Several days later Mr. Higgs, Mr. McCoy and four students donned snorkel gear and swam to the reef. At first, they shook their heads in amazement at the sheer size and weight of the net. They regrouped on shore and decided the solution was to cut sections of the net away to reduce the mass. Huge chunks were removed and the tired but enthusiastic group managed to finally pop the remaining net off the coral heads. The damage to the reef was apparent when the net was finally removed. It took the entire group to drag the net out of the water and up to the beach.

Please see **Cays**

Page 2

Concert Raised Funds for Cancer Victims



Two cancer patients received much needed funds from a gospel concert held at Ocean View Park on February 9. Mr. Alvin Knowles and Harriet Williams from Dundas Town and Murphy Town each received a check for \$3,000. The concert featured the Voices of Zion from Zion Baptist Church in Sandy Point, the New Direction from the Full Gospel Assembly of God in Treasure Cay and the Christian Massive from Nassau. Other church groups also performed. Ms. Gwen Martin, proprietor of Special Touch Beauty Salon, organized the event and many individuals and businesses donated funds and food. Mr. Knowles is accepting his check in the studio of Radio Abaco. Standing in the photo are Ms. Martin, Ms. Jackie Robins and Mrs. Kathleen Knowles.

Pirate's Ball Brought out Costumes



The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club held its annual Pirate's Ball on February 6. It featured a treasure hunt for booty around the Abaco Beach Resort and ended with a costume competition. Shown above are Terry Ziegler and Peggy O'Neill enjoying the festive party. See story on page 18

Science Fair Showed Enthusiasm

By Mirella Santillo

A little distraught "because most students thought that science was the least exciting subject," Grade 5 teacher, Ms. Monique Curry, organized a science fair, inviting children from grades 3 to 6 to show their experiments. She thought that by participating in a project, "they would develop love and appreciation for science."

By early morning on February 9th all the projects were displayed in St Francis Catholic Church ready to be judged. Four judges with experience in teaching and scientific

fields met to look at the projects and interview each participating student. It took several hours for Mr. Michael Malone, Mr. Silbert Mills, Ms. Lauren Riviere and Mr. Jesus Hernandez, to examine the displays and hear each student's explanation on how they chose their experiment and how they proceeded to build it. Fifty-one exhibits on display included subjects such as natural science, astrology, chemistry, physics, as-

Please see **School**

Page 10

News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 1

The Hope Town school is involved in an ongoing UNESCO project of beach restoration called Sandwatch. They continually monitor their test site beach to determine how the beach withstands development, hurricanes and natural weathering changes. So far the students have monitored many aspects of the beach, currents, tides, wave action, water quality and beach usage. They have conducted tourist interviews to determine knowledge of reef etiquette and then designed an informational brochure for reef sustainability. This activity actually put them on the reef and the group will monitor hoped-for improvements now that the net has been removed. Mother Nature and future snorkelers send their thanks to you guys!

Man-O-War

By Haziell McDonald

The Texaco Pirates Fastpitch Softball Team returned from Orlando, Florida, where they played in the AAU Fastpitch Tournament. This included 32 teams in total. Teams from all over the world participated, from countries such as: Mexico, Venezuela, Spain, the Virgin Islands, Columbia, Canada and the United States.

This is the fifth year the Pirates have participated in this event. This year, the Pirates had their best finish ever, with a third place finish and bringing home bronze medals.

This year's Pirates' team from Abaco included: one pitcher from Canada, one from Michigan and the Bahamas' best, Edney (The Heat) Bethel. Also, there were a couple of U.S. National team players that

joined up and played with the Pirates at this tournament.

The Pirates finished with a record of six wins and one loss, defeating teams such as Mexico's National team (6-5) and the Venezuela team which consisted of National team players.

Ednay Bethel put on a great performance overall. He not only helped provide our team with three wins with his pitching, but also, coming from his batting were three home runs. Other players with home runs were: Grant Albury with two and William Weatherford and Lyle Sawyer each with one.

The next tournament for the Pirates will be in Miami on March 2 - 4. Teams that the Pirates will be playing against in Miami will be Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, and multiple teams from Florida.

The Pirates are excited and building on this great performance at the AAU Tournament! We are looking forward to participating in a couple more tournaments this year. The Pirates will be hosting its first tournament in Man-O-War Cay in May, 2007, where top teams from Canada and the United States will be participating.

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

The hustle and bustle of the holidays were over and it seemed that life should get back to a slower pace as it usually does in winter. But January did not offer much winter and the upcoming weeks promised to be full of things to do and places to go!

Cacique Winner

First, it was off to the Cacique Awards for nominee Debbie Symonette of the Green Turtle Club. A large group of friends and

co-workers accompanied Debbie to the awards ceremony in Nassau on January 27th. During the ceremony a very emotional Debbie accepted her award as Employee of the Year. Debbie looks back on her 24 years at Green Turtle Club and is grateful to all the people she has worked with during that time. It is Debbie's wonderful personality that has earned her this prestigious award and so many wonderful friends. Green Turtle Club can now boast of four Cacique Award winners; Mr. Vertrum Lowe, Mr. Ray Lowe, Ms. Lynn Johnson and now Ms. Debbie Symonette!

Wine Tasting

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee held its 4th Annual Wine Tasting on February 3rd. The event was sponsored by Bristol Wines and Spirits and hosted by the Green Turtle Club. More than 200 people came out to support the event and enjoy an evening of fine wine, delicious hors d'oeuvres and entertainment by our very own Gully Roosters. It was a very successful evening and all proceeds will help fund the 2007 Island Roots Heritage Festival on

May 4th, 5th and 6th. The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee is grateful for the continued support of its fund raising events by both local residents and those who travel from other Abaco communities. A special thank you to Brian Major and Bristol Wines and Spirits for sponsoring the Wine Tasting and to Ms. Lynn Johnson and her helpful staff at the Green Turtle Club for hosting the event!

Basketball Classic Was Held

Green Turtle Cay's Consultative Committee held its first annual Police Basketball Classic on February 10th. Basketball teams from all over Abaco were invited to participate. In the end five teams of 12 - 17 year olds competed in a round robin tournament. At the end of the event the Flyers were the overall winners, followed by the GTC Rockers and the Lakers. The Most Valuable Player award went to Arlington Wells and Brandon McIntosh was declared the Most Improved Player. All the participants were awarded medals and the win-

Please see **School**

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Marsh Harbour
Abaco, Bahamas
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Pelican Shores - Elevated Lot on the Harbour. Great views - **Exclusive, Call for Info**

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

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March 15, 2007



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HARBOURFRONT 2 bed 2 bath, 100 ft. dock permit. **\$950,000.**
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TREASURE CAY

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 Home Sweet Home #3032 \$250,000.
 Tranquility 3 bed 3 bath #3070 \$235,000.
 Seagrapes Estate #2887 \$3,500,000.
 UNDER CONTRACT
 Galleon Bay Canal Lot #3071 \$250,000.

CONTINUED IN SECTION A, PAGE 3

More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 3

ning teams were awarded trophies. A 10-minute exhibition game between "senior" players probably brought the most entertainment of the day!

Late last year the committee held a contest for a T-shirt design. Two students of Amy Roberts Primary, Krista Curry and Tannisha Charlton, won the contest and their art work is on the official T-shirts. T-shirts are still available from committee members. The proceeds will help sponsor the next event. Thank you to the committee for organizing this exciting event.

Torchbearers Hosted a Steak-out

The Torchbearers Association of the Free National Movement held a steak out at



The Green Turtle Cay Volunteer Fire Department held its annual Firemen's Ball to raise funds for equipment. Special musician for the occasion was Daniel Rodriguez, the Singing Policeman. Shown here are Junior Roberts, Fire Chief; Mr. Rodriguez; and Fireman Thomas Sawyer.

Settlement Point on February 2nd. A large group of FNM supporters from Green Turtle Cay and other North Abaco communities came out in support of their political party. The member of Parliament for North Abaco, former Prime Minister, the Hon. Hubert Ingraham, and the party's candidate for South Abaco, Mr. Edison Key, were in attendance. It is expected that a general election will be called within the next few months, so it is likely that we will see more of these political events.

Firemen's Ball Raised Operating Funds

Another weekend meant yet another event! The Green Turtle Cay Volunteer Fire Department held its third annual Fireman's Ball on February 17th at the Green Turtle Club. It was a very chilly evening, and the dining areas were filled to capacity as everyone enjoyed a lovely buffet dinner. After dinner there was a brief award presentation and then it was on to the entertainment of the evening. Once again our own Kevin McIntosh (Island Spice) was on hand along with Billy Roberts and Avery Thompson. The special guest for the evening was the famous tenor, Daniel Rodriguez, also known as the Singing Policeman. Mr. Rodriguez had vacationed here recently and met members

of the Volunteer Fire Department. An invitation was extended to him to sing at the fund raiser and he accepted.

Mr. Rodriguez began singing as a young boy growing up in New York City and presented his first recital at Carnegie Hall at age 16. At 19 he put aside music to raise his family and worked at various jobs, eventually becoming a New York City Police Officer. He was an official singer for the NYPD's Ceremonial Unit and sang at memorials after the September 11 attacks. In 2001 Mr. Rodriguez sang for Placido Domingo and was invited to study with him in Washington. Since then he has performed at many high profile events and has recorded three albums. He is now officially retired from the NYPD.

Mr. Rodriguez sang selections from Broadway plays and also in Spanish and Italian to a captivated audience on the clear, but chilly night. He thanked the Volunteer Fire Department for inviting him and told briefly of his experiences since pursuing a musical career. It was a pleasure to have Mr. Rodriguez entertain what was quite possibly one of his smallest audiences! And for those of us living in a small community it is always a pleasure to be exposed to different cultural experiences. It was a successful evening and all proceeds will be used to purchase rescue/ emergency equipment.

Dinner and Jewelry Show Is Scheduled

But February activities are not over with just yet! The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee will host an early dinner and Jewelry Show on February 24th at the home of Pat and Louise Green. Under the theme *Glittering Treats for the Body and Soul*,

Teresa Ellis Cetto will display her hand crafted jewelry. Ms. Cetto was an apprentice of the late Randolph Johnston of Little Harbour. She uses precious metals, gemstones and beach glass to create her original and unique pieces. The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee members will offer an early dinner to those in attendance to enjoy along with the jewelry. Tickets for this event are limited and are available from committee members.

An Evening of Music Will Again Entertain

Also on the evening of February 24th, Alton Lowe will host an evening of music at his Gallery on Black Sound. James Mastin and Joy Martone along with other singers and musicians will entertain. James and Joy are no strangers to Green Turtle Cay, having entertained at many of Mr. Lowe's and the Abaco Cultural Society events.

School News

Like the rest of the community, Amy Roberts Primary School has also been busy with extra curricular events. Early in January the school competed in the annual Abaco Junior Junkanoo Competition that had been postponed. Because Amy Roberts has a small student body, it would be hard to compete against the large primary schools, so they compete in the All Age School division. This allows GTC's high school students to be a part of the group. Under the guidance of Floyd Johnson and Brent Curry the group won first place in their division. Congratulations to the Junkanoo group!

Then it was off to the grade six spelling

Please see **Cays**

Page 5

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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 4

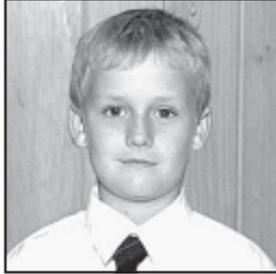
bee for Amanda McIntosh, Colby Cross and Abigail Jones. Amanda took fourth place, just missing a chance for a trophy. A week later students Kirkland McIntosh, Tatia McIntosh and Jamal Johnson represented the school at the fifth grade level. Then it was the fourth grade's Rebecca Roberts, Christian McIntosh and Christa Sawyer's turn to give it a try. Both Rebecca and Christian got out on a technicality. But they are all winners and it was a wonderful experience.

Amanda McIntosh later represented the school in the Abaco district spelling bee. Amanda has participated in every spelling bee since first grade. While she did not win at the district level, she is definitely Amy Roberts Primary's Top Speller!

In January, 10 students from the fifth and sixth grades did a book report on mangroves and earned a chance to participate in the Adopt -A-Fish, Adopt-A -School project sponsored by Friends of the Environment.

The ten students spent January 15th with Dr. Craig Layman, who is in charge of the Cross Harbour Restoration Project, where they tagged fish to study their movements online. They all returned home muddy and excited about their day in the "swamp"!

Colby Cross is Amy Roberts Primary School's nominee for the Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year competition. This prestigious competition was established in 1997 to recognize young, talented primary school students throughout the Bahamas. An application requirement was a 400-word essay on the topic *My Vision For A Better Bahamas*. Colby is a sixth grade honor roll student and the first boy to



Colby Cross

represent Amy Roberts Primary at this event. Congratulations Colby, and good luck!

Amy Roberts Primary's Annual Fair and Grand Raffle will be held on March 31st at the school. Plans are being made for a day of games, fun, food and a chance to win great prizes. Please come out and support the school. Meanwhile, the sixth graders are having their bake sales to raise money for their field trip in June. Each sixth grade class visits Nassau for an educational, fun filled trip at the end of the last term.

Local Government

The Local Government District Council

held its first meeting of the year on January 18th. The usual concerns of the dump, speeding and lack of parking were discussed. Volunteer Fire Chief Junior Roberts gave an update of the emergency equipment that the department received. He is still trying to acquire land to build a permanent building to house the fire truck and equipment. Also discussed was the lack of support and funding for Junkanoo. The New Year's Day Parade costs approximately \$10,000, but donations are not nearly enough to cover the cost.

Please see **Cays**

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The Island Roots Heritage Festival committee held its fourth annual Wine Tasting that is fund raising event to fund the festival. The event was well attended despite the cold weather.

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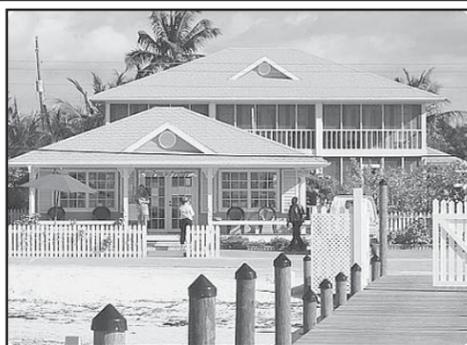


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GUANA CAY

GUANA BEACH FRONT

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BAHAMA PALM SHORES

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BAHAMA PALM SHORES

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North Abaco News

By Vernique Russell

FNM's Walk About

As preparations are being made for Election 2007, the Free National Movement (FNM) leader, the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, conducted a walk about on Green Turtle Cay on February 9th. The Member of Parliament for North Abaco and former Prime Minister, with his team, went from house to house, knocking on doors and becoming familiar with the people in that area. He outlined the FNM's plan for the country, if he is elected to serve. Residents were also afforded the opportunity to voice their concerns to Mr. Ingraham, have questions answered and tell the MP what they would like to see happen on Abaco, especially Green Turtle Cay, during the next five years. The walk bridged the gap between the residents and their representative and allowed them to get to know him better.

Steak-Out and Social

The Torchbearer's Association was formed in the 1970s by the FNM for young members to provide training for those who sought to become involved in national politics or hold office within the senior branch. Though they have existed for 30 plus years, the Torchbearer's Association North Abaco Branch was launched in May of 2006. Since then, the president, Gary Smith, his executive team and members have been working tirelessly to educate, inform and entertain. From its inception the Torchbearers have held events that served as both fund raisers and socials for its members and residents of the community. They work along with the senior association branch members.

On February 10th the Torchbearers and the FNM Senior Branch hosted a Social/

Fund raiser at Green Turtle Cay. On site for this event was North Abaco MP, Hubert Ingraham, along with Mr. Edison Key, the nominated candidate for South Abaco. The events committee, under the direction of Dwayne Edgcombe, was able to pull off a very successful event. The monies raised assist both the Senior Branch and Torchbearer with expenses and development. The Association thanks to all who supported them.

After School Programs

In order to assist students to reach their maximum potential academically, the Principal and staff at the Sherlin Bootle High School implemented an after school program for students who are struggling in various subject areas. There are programs for the social and athletic development of students. Classes are offered on Mondays and Tuesday from 3- 4:30. They have classes in every academic area and also sporting activities providing one-on-one instructions. Teachers volunteer their time and there is no charge for classes. Bus service is provided for the students following the sessions.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Charo Williams, who placed third in the District Spelling Competition. Though he did not win the competition, he was the top male student in the competition and top in the government schools represented.

Impressed by Parent Turn-out

National Report Card Day was held throughout the country on January 12th. Principal Huel Moss is proud to report that 99 percent of parents enrolled at Sherlin

Bootle High School collect their children's report card. This year showed a dramatic improvement in parental involvement at the school. For the first year in over 15 years teachers have experienced seeing many parents. Mr. Moss is excited to see that parents are concerned about their children's education. He is assured that student will perform at higher standards knowing that their parents are more interested. Teachers were grateful for the opportunity to update parents and discussed their children's weaknesses and strengths. Principal Moss and his staff are expressing gratitude to the parents and they look forward to having parents working along with them for the rest of this school year.

Agriculture Department

The Agriculture Department students at the Sherlin Bootle High School were the

proud recipients of 200 chicks provided through the agriculture program. Students are already raising pigs and they grow tomatoes, lettuce, cucumbers, carrots, cabbage and more. Student are given the chance to receive hands-on experience in farming and raising animals and growing vegetables. The head of the department, Mr. Scott, is offering agriculture as a career choice for his students. He hopes that students who select agriculture will be inspired to pursue this work. Students are excited about the chicks and looks forward to raising them.

Sports Day

For three days the air was filled with competitive school spirit, team pride and excitement as the students and staff celebrated their annual inter-school sports

Please see **North**

Page 8



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Sand Bank Creek: one acre waterfront \$98,000.

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NEW LISTING!

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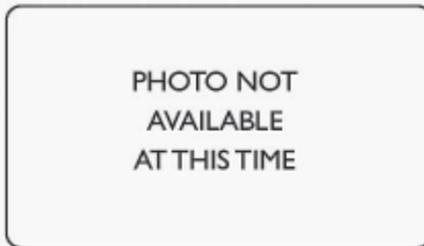
This large lot is situated in a very nice neighbourhood and is very reasonably priced, with much to offer. Approx 9,000 sq. feet this ideal family lot backs onto the golf course. Perfect for the single family home. All utilities are already in place. Must see to appreciate value!

#3390 Lubbers Quarters

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In the quaint settlement of Hope Town in the lane overlooking the Hope Town Harbour in back of the famous bakery of Vernons Grocery is a 100 year old home that needs a handyman to bring it to life again. It is two floors and exterior wood is made of the Abaco Pine.

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More North Abaco News

North

From Page 6

days at Sherlin Bootle High School. With the school divided into four teams, the Lions, Tigers, Cougars and Panthers, the Dynamic Dolphins took off their fins and roared as wild cats devouring any competition in sight for the right to be crowned champions.

The competition began on February 1st and lasted until that February 5th. Athletes participated in track and field events and teachers even participated in events.

After three of days of exciting competition the first place winner and recipient of the Charles "Chuck" Colebrooke trophy were the Lions with a total of 633 points. Coming in second were the Cougars, Panthers in third and Tigers in fourth. The exciting teachers' relay (4x200) was won by Mrs. Sabrina Russell, Mrs. Tina Roberts, Mr. Garvin Daziel and Mr. Enzil Cooper. Congratulations to all the hard working athletes who participated in this year and hats off to the Physical Education Department headed by Ms. Martin.

Principal Moss, the staff and the students of Sherlin Bootle would like to thank Mr. Colebrooke of Diamond Seven

Convenience Store in Cooper's Town for donating the trophy for the award ceremony. Mr. Colebrooke has been a pillar of strength to the school for quite some time and his continual support is greatly appreciated.

BTVI Follow Up

From the initial conversation with Mr. Fred Delancy, who is responsible for BTVI Northern Bahamas, work and assessment of offering courses in North Abaco are still being conducted. Hopefully, a conclusion should be reached by mid-March. Persons who are interested can still sign up to be enrolled. Presently, there is a great demand for classes in Computers, Nail Technology, Intro to Computers, Tile Laying and Office Base Training Classes. However, other areas have not been ruled out. The school would require a minimum of eight persons to offer any class. Students that are anticipating enrolling in the classes are required to pay \$250 prior to classes and a registration fee of \$100. Students will be responsible for their books and supplies.

If you are in the North Abaco area and have an interest in any course that is available through BTVI, please contact me, Vernique Russell, at 365-8720 or 442-

0019 as soon as possible. If you are interested in a course that has not been listed, do not hesitate to contact me. This is a great opportunity and be sure to reserve your seat when classes begins.

Top Students Recognized

Following the recently held Sport Days at Sherlin Bootle High School, the top male and female athletes were honored during the special medal and awards assembly held at the school. These athletes participated in multi-events and finished top in the competition. Students received medals and trophies. The House Trophy was won by the Lions. The top male students were Julian Cornish, Jerome McDonald, Leon Pierre and Francis

Delva. The top female students were Cyndera Parker, Timmesha Russell, Shenna Francis and Ashley Clarke. Congratulations to all the students for a job well done.

Fish Fries

In an effort to defray the expenses of the North Abaco Summer Festival and Power Boat Race, the committee has launched weekend Fish Fries at the ferry landing in Treasure Cay. The Fish Fries begin at 5 p.m. and run until. The event so far is growing and North Abaco residents are encouraged to come to make the Summer Festival a success. Lots of food, music and fun are offered.

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- **New listing!** 1/3 acre oceanfront lot with 120' on sandy beach on north end of Munjack Cay. Use of private shared dock on Sea of Abaco. \$295,000 plus 7% to close.
- **New listing!** New construction project. Model cottage on site already sold! Two bedrooms, two full baths. 30'x42' cottage with attached 9'x12' garage/shed. Just steps to Coco Bay Beach. Central A/C. Reverse osmosis system. Ceiling fans throughout. Stove & side by side refrigerator included. \$495,000 plus 7% to close.
- **New listing!** 12,000 sq.ft. lot with 75' on Bluff Harbour waterfront. High elevation with outstanding water views. Use of private shared dock. \$650,000 plus 7% to close.
- **New Listing!** 4 acre sea-to-sea Bahamian estate with approximately 420' on the Atlantic Ocean and 300' on Black Sound, with private dock. Furnished main house has three bedrooms, two baths, fireplace, swimming pool, observation tower, gazebo and A/C in bedrooms. Attached furnished owner unit has one bedroom and one bath. Spectacular ocean views. 3 small boats, 2 all-terrain vehicles. Good elevation. Owner financing available. \$4.75 million plus 7% to close.
- **22,000 sq. ft. inland lot** within walking distance of Lagoon Beach Cove on the north end of Munjack Cay. Access roads to private shared dock on the Sea of Abaco and the beach road to the Atlantic Ocean Beach. \$85,000.00 plus 7%
- **Two story furnished home** with outstanding views of Black Sound and Gillam Bay. 1.67 acres. Total three bedrooms; three baths; two kitchens/living/dining areas. Central A/C. Guest house with one bedroom and one bath. Two vehicles. 120' dock on hurricane sheltered Black Sound. Large porch and surrounding deck. \$1.99 million, includes all closing fees.
- **190' water front** 12,500 sq. ft. lot on Coco Bay. Dredged channel. Good elevation, private dock. \$650,000 plus 7% to close.
- **New Listing!** 19,175 sq. ft. lot within walking distance of two great beaches and a major resort. \$201,300 with all closing costs in.
- **Two bedroom two bath furnished home** with enclosed porch, large deck, laundry room, and generator. New free-standing carport shelter. 1/4 acre. \$485,000 with all closing costs in.
- 15,870 sq. ft. lot with views of and access to Atlantic Ocean. \$250,000 inclusive of all closing costs.
- **85' of beach front** on Bight O Bay. One acre. Can build four homes with outlying buildings. \$840,000 with all closing costs in.
- **New listing!** Mainland Abaco. Two deep water waterfront lots on Sea of Abaco. Approximately 18,000 sq. ft. each. Utilities available. \$150,000 and \$185,000 each with all closing costs in.
- **New listing!** Mainland Abaco. Ten acre parcel with 150' on Abaco Highway and water front on Angel Fish Creek. Near Fire Road. \$325,000 with all closing costs in.

SOLD - Gillam Bay Beach Parcel

SOLD - Lot 5 Coco Bay Estates

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Sea Cliff, 3 BR 3 BA luxury residence, within steps of beach, professionally decorated. \$1,220,000 *NEW LISTING*

Mariner's Cove 1509 Town House, 2 BR 1 1/2 BA, direct harbour view in desirable 1500 building. Fully furnished, includes garage. \$365,000 *NEW LISTING*

Royal Palm 3 BR, 3 BA furnished \$553,500 *SOLD*

Royal Palm 2 BR, 2 BA Marina front condo, fully furnished, with boat slip. Tropical decor \$575,000

Helen's Point, Galleon Bay Waterfront 4 BR, 3 BA Home, Sea of Abaco views \$1,388,000

Galleon Bay Road Homesite overlooking Treasure Cay Marina \$405,000 *SOLD*

Atlantis 2 BR, 2 BA Canal front condo with 14' wide boat slip. Completely redone with furnishings. \$549,000

Beach Villa 685 2 BR, 2 BA, steps away from pool and beach \$275,000 *UNDER CONTRACT*

Razzall House, Treasure Cay Beach 4 BR, 3 BA Ocean front, fully furnished with excellent rental history. \$1,735,000

Parker Place, Galleon Bay, spacious 4 BR waterfront home with beautiful Sea of Abaco views. \$995,000.000

Treasure House, Ocean front 2 BR, 2 BA Island decor, top-sider villa overlooking gigantic lagoon pool \$579,000

Royal Palm 2 BR 2 BA on marina with beautiful furnishings and boat slip. \$562,000

Bahama Beach Club 3 BR, 3 BA \$705,000 *UNDER CONTRACT*

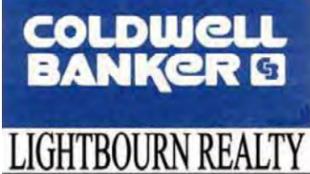
Anchorage Estates Lots 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 \$834,949 *UNDER CONTRACT*

Anchorage Estates Lots 29 and 30 \$691,642 *SOLD*

Canal Lot 8 Block 198 Galleon Bay Drive \$310,000 *SOLD*

March 1, 2007

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Your Paradise Awaits You

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. Admired by many, but can be owned by you! US\$4,500,000-Call Mailin



NEW EXCLUSIVE Casuarina Point

This CBS 3 bedroom 2 bath home features 1,600 sq.ft of living space. It was built in 1999 and very well-kept. Located across from the community boat ramp. Also features 1x6 v.joint cypress ceilings, ceramic tiles and utility room. Being sold furnished.

Priced to sell! – \$299,000 Call Mailin

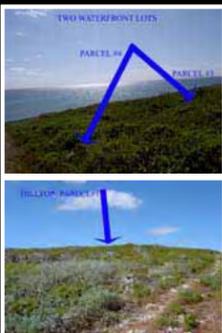


Yellowwood Creek

Two waterfront parcels currently available. Both parcels are just over an acre and sit directly on the rocky shoreline of the Atlantic. Lot #3 is offered at \$312,000 and lot #4 is offered at \$300,000.

Adjoining Lot #3 is a hilltop lot that is approx 3/4 of an acre and looks out over the Atlantic. Offered at \$195,000.00

These lots are all close to Winding Bay and Cherokee Sound.



Leisure Lee- #5366 – This 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home is tucked away in Leisure Lee and offers privacy and tranquility. Features about 1,600 sq.ft of living space. Also features his and hers closets and a spacious en suite master bath. Open floor plan makes it easy and fun for entertaining family and friends. The large wrap around screened in porch adds charm and makes outdoor entertaining easy as you enjoy the gentle island breezes. Community beach access is only minutes away. Why rent when you can own your own home?! \$295,000- Call Mailin

NEW LISTING

Bahama Palm Shores- Vacant lot, approx. 1/4 acre in size, two blocks from the beach. \$30,000.00 Call Lee Pinder

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

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

•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

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

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

REDUCED

Leisure Lee-#5739 A lovely 3 bed, 2 bath canal front home. Features 57' dock and over 17,000 sq.ft of property. Common Beach Access \$790,000.00- Call Mailin

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

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

Yellowwood- 2H- # 5484- 37,368 sq.ft., featuring 184' on the Atlantic rocky shoreline, minutes away from Cherokee Sound and Winding Bay. \$265,000.00 –Call Mailin

Yellowwood - #5427- Incomplete 1bed/1bath home comprises 24,621 sq ft. Built of wood & durable cement siding. Great starter home! \$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.

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. \$890,000.00 –Call Mailin

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

REDUCED

Lubbers-#5617- Vacant lot comprises 10,094 sq.ft and is one lot in from the Sea of Abaco. Offered at \$99,500.00-Call Mailin

- Green Turtle Cay, Coco Bay- vacant lot, beach access, 9000 sq.ft. - \$89,000.00 (NEW LISTING)
- Green Turtle Cay, Island Reach- vacant lot, 16,390 sq.ft., 106' on Sea of Abaco, Beautiful views & sunsets. \$450,000.00 (NEW LISTING)
- *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.



School News

School

From Page 1

tology and statistics.

Many were creative experiments including a solar powered car, an artificial crystal-growing kit, a display of the solar system, a method of growing plants without soil, an explanation of electricity, a testing for vitamin C in various brands of orange juice, a survey among people showing that the expensive brand (in this case cereals) is not necessarily what they like best, the life cycle of a bean from seed to plant, showing

how a water powered turbine works and many more.

An eye catching project was *Can I predict the weather?* by Yelena Pursaud. Her conclusion was, "By observing the earth's atmosphere, I can forecast the weather most of the time." To demonstrate her hypothesis, Yelena observed the type of clouds present and constructed instruments to measure the air pressure, the wind speed and direction. The project was well documented and she explained it in detail when interrogated.

There were 10 volcano eruption demonstrations, complete with red food coloring, vinegar, baking soda and dish washing liquid. Some of the children did not know much about volcanoes apart from putting together the chemical experiment. They thought it was great fun to see the "lava" erupt after all the ingredients had been placed into the crater, but others such as Da Shane Knowles, dressed in a white "scientist's shirt," had more detailed knowledge of the phenomenon. An interesting project, displayed by Hector Velez, was the effect of gravity on plant's growth. He showed that, as experimented in space by NASA plants cannot grow without gravity.

Research on diabetes by grade 6 student, Rickanta Smith, was well documented. Her display showed an array of food, some causing diabetes and others that did not. She explained the different type of diabetes and medicines used to control it. Another six grader, Brendon Pinder, demonstrated in a very simple way how to create a magnet. A learning survey by Yael Sawyer demonstrated whether people could memorize a six digit number better by hearing or seeing it. She tested approximately 20y people and demonstrated that more girls remembered

the number by seeing it and more boys by hearing it.

A great display by Pedro Maycock showed the problems caused by the blockage of a tidal creek and how to restore the water flow with culverts. He reconstructed the creek, the blockage, placed the culverts and released his fish that swam through the culverts. His knowledge of the types of mangroves and the fish found in a creek was very precise.

The students were judged by the presentation of their projects, by their knowledge of the experiment and by the way they explained it.

The award distribution took place at the church the following evening. Excited children and parents, who in some cases had more than a little role in their children's creations, awaited the results impatiently, armed with cameras. Every child participating received a certificate of achievement and a medal. Trophies were handed out for the first and second place in each grade.

The winners were

Grade 3 Yalena Pursaud, first, and Joshua Archer, second

Grade 4 Pavel Bailey, first, and Severiano Pedican, second



These students of St. Francis de Sales School were the winners of its science fair exhibits. They are Pedro Maycock, Rickanta Smith, Hector Velez, Yael Sawyer, Pavel Bailey, Severiano Pedican, Joshua Archer, and Yelena Pursaud.

School

From Page 11

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- **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

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M/V LEGEND

M/V LEGACY

More School News

School From Page 10

Grade 5 Yael Sawyer, first, and Hector Valez, second

Grade 6 Pedro Maycock, first, and Rickanta Smith, second

The Principal, Mrs. Josephine Kumar, and Ms. Curry were extremely pleased with the students' participation and the success of the fair. "I have already put it to the teachers," said Ms. Curry, "that next year participation in the fair will be from kindergarten to grade six."

Central Abaco Primary Literacy Month is Launched

By Samantha V. Evans

On February 1st Literacy Month was launched at Central Abaco Primary School under the theme *Reading - The Powerhouse of Knowledge*. The first event held was a Radio Show at the local radio station, Radio Abaco on the same day. Present for that show was Mrs. Coral Johnson, Librarian at the primary school and coordinator of the Literacy Committee, and others.

The purpose of this month is to get chil-

dren and adults more involved in reading. Mrs. Ruby Rolle, English teacher at Abaco Central High School, spoke about literacy. In most dictionaries, it is defined as the ability to read and write. Today, literacy has been expanded to be the ability to locate, evaluate, use and communicate. Mrs. Kim Miller, a parent at Central Abaco Primary School, spoke from the perspective of a parent and gave parents tips on how to help their children become better readers. Most children will learn to read while in school but others will not. However, whether they learn to read

or not can depend largely upon parents helping and encouraging their children. Some of these tips include

- Helping children acquire as much knowledge as they can
- Talking to your children about their experiences
- Encouraging them to think about events
- Reading to your children
- Monitoring your children's school performance.

Please see **School**

Page 12



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(Ref #483) Elegant & luxurious 4 bedroom, 5.5 bath Ocean Blvd. Estate approx. 6,900 s/f, on 1.6 acres with 153' on the beach, landscaped, fully furnished, high ceilings, marble floors, 2 car garage, includes vehicles. \$4,900,000.

"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 \$2,625,000

"Oceana"

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

"Beachfront Vacant Lot"

(Ref #462) 1.82 acre cleared lot with 14' 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, 10' depth, waterfront views though large glass doors, open floor plan. Interior decor includes hand painted tropical motifs, 2 car garage, 1/3 acre lot with privacy walls, Mediterranean style pool, fully furnished. Price: \$1,265,000.

"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 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 \$435,000. Reduced

"No Problem"

(Ref #718) 2 bedroom 2 bath Villa, fully furnished, close to beach, shops, restaurants & marina, furnished, screened lanai, extra storage, central A/C. Price: \$399,000

"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: \$350,000.

"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.

"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

"Canal Lot"

(Ref # 744) 68' of protected canal frontage, enjoys both Sea of Abaco and Galleon Bay views, all utilities available, cleared, 19,256 s/f Price: \$425,000

"Beach Villa 504 A & B"

(Ref # 743) Two 1 bedroom 1 bath adjoining Garden Villas, each with full kitchen and living, excellent rental history as individual or combined units. Sold Together, furnished, turn key Price: \$380,000

"Galleon Bay Home"

(Ref # 745) 3 bedroom 2 bath single story 1,550 s/f canal front home, fully furnished, located on elevated landscaped lot, car port and garage, deep water dock with boat lift, includes Van and golf cart. Price: \$1,148,000

"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

"Elevated Canal Lot"

(Ref #704) Located on deep water canal with 104' of protected frontage, 10,400 s/f, all utilities available, near beach access, quiet residential community. Price: \$299,000

"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:"

"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.

"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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More School News

School From Page 11

There are a number of events planned for this month. On February 2nd the door competition was held at Central Abaco Primary School. Each class decorated its door using the theme for the month as their incentive. Four judges from the community judged the 21 doors. Mrs. Eleanor Darville, one of the judges described some of the doors as cute, very innovative and creative. It was evident by the looks of the well decorated doors that the competition would be stiff and, indeed, it was. The winner for upper primary was Ms. Lindsay's Grade 4 and the winner for lower primary was Mrs.

Major's Grade 1. The overall winner was Grade 4 whose design will be printed onto the Literacy Month t-shirts. Honorable mention was given to Ms. Phillips Grade 4, the Special Education class, that came in second place for upper primary. The winning classes will receive their prizes at the climax of Literacy month on February 28th.

Nurse Teaches about Personal Health

By Samantha V. Evans

Finding persons who are still committed to educating youth about how to make their lives better can be difficult at times but retired nurse of 40 years, Barbara Reckley,



Retired Nurse Barbara Reckley, a well known person on Abaco, instructed students at Central Abaco Primary School on personal hygiene and healthy living.

has committed herself to work with the children of Bridging the Gap Youth Program to teach them about important health issues they need to know in order to live healthy lives. Her first session with them was held on February 3rd at Central Abaco Primary School. She chose as her topic *Personal Hygiene*. She told the youngsters that personal hygiene is the science of taking care and maintaining good health. It supports

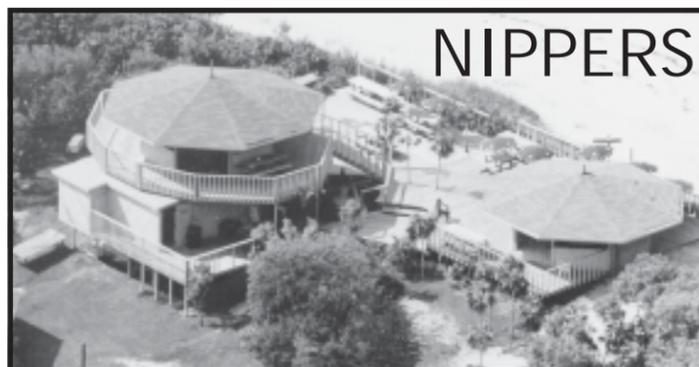
practices that promote good health. She told them that when she was growing up that they did not have running water in the house so they had to use a tin tub to bathe in. Now most homes have running water so they are able to take longer baths.

She told them to keep their sleep area as clean as possible so they do not get bed or

Please see **School** Page 14



Once again 19 students from Central Abaco Primary School have excelled and earned a certificate and pin as students of the month for January. These students are Wisler Desiline preschool, Yolnicka Jeune grade 1; Clodine Floridor grade 1; Paige Stubbs grade 1; Amelia Gomez grade 1; Jackline Jean-Jacques grade 2; Kenny Pierre grade 3; Guetty St. Fleur grade 3; Frandjina Eldor grade 3; Kadesha Canton grade 3; Sunshine Forbes grade 4; Wilda Cadet grade 4; Bertram Minns grade 4; John St. Fort grade 4; Madeisha Lowe grade 5; Gabriel Davis grade 5; Shamika Simms grade 5; Valesha Johnson grade 5; and Tallia Bastian grade 6.



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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.	 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.	
 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.	 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.	 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!	 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.	
 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.	OFFICES IN Abaco Nassau Exuma Eleuthera Long Island Harbour Island		 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, bon-fishing resort, etc.



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These offerings are subject to errors, omissions, change of price or withdrawal without notice.



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LITTLE HARBOUR

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#13515 **Price: \$4,250,000**



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Nice CBS 2 bed, 2 bath, situated on approx. 4 acres with 135' beachfront, 70' elevations. Spectacular views, perfect island living.
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LITTLE HARBOUR

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#13494



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

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BAHAMA PALM SHORES

2 acre estate beachfront lots located in seaside community. Good elevations with gorgeous views of the Atlantic Ocean.
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MURPHY TOWN

Very nice 2 bed, 1 bath home with open living concept, sits on 1.75 acres of property. Can be sub-divided. Landscaped with room for expansion. Additional out-building that can be a bunk house. Old barn for storage. Mature tropical fruit trees. Great investment opportunity. Open zoning, area invites multi-family development.
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CASUARINA POINT

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#2818 **\$580,000**



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Great potential for expansion, 2 acres of pristine waterfront property small villa & restaurant buildings. Spectacular views.
#13088 **Price: \$2,455,000**

CHEROKEE SOUND

Extraordinary property boasting scenic ocean views, located in a quiet private area with 1/2 acre lots available.
#3035 **Price: \$210,000**

- CHEROKEE SOUND
- BAHAMA PALM SHORES
- SAND BAR
- CASUARINA POINT
- LEISURE LEE
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1.5 acres on gorgeous ocean beach with 135 feet of frontage and great elevations.
Gorgeous waterfront lot available on nice secluded island with electric/phone ready. Motivated Seller.
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- Price \$90,000

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01 March 2007

More School News

School *From Page 12*

hair lice. It is also important to wash their hair at least once per week and brush their teeth after each meal which should be at least three times daily. She demonstrated how they should properly brush and floss their teeth. She ended her session by reminding the children that it is important that they visit the dentist every six months for a complete examination and cleaning.

Students Learn Origami

By Samantha V. Evans

It is becoming very clear that Abaco schools have a lot of talented children. On February 3rd I got an opportunity to meet yet another one of them, Avery Thompson, a student of Forest Height Academy. He is very good at Origami and spent two hours teaching 30 students the art of paper folding. They made a frog and a boat on their first day which is great. Making the boat was a bit difficult but the students were up for a challenge.

What made this very exciting is that some of the students are in the special education class at Central Abaco Primary School. The class teacher, Ms. Margaret Phillips, has made a commitment to expose her students to as many hands-on activities as possible so that they can have many opportunities to choose from to support themselves when they become adults. Avery is committed to teaching the students as much as he can and as many things as he can about Origami. His first encounter with them was great and he looks forward to all of the sessions to come.

Job Fair Was Held at

Abaco Central High

By Samantha V. Evans

A team of executives and support staff came to Abaco to hold a job fair in hopes of finding persons to fill openings at the Ports Division of Hutchinson Ports Holding from Freeport, Grand Bahama. The job fair began on February 7th at Abaco Central High School. Several positions were being advertised including the position of financial analyst. The Human Resources Director, Mrs. Malvese Capron, stated that the company held a similar job fair in Nassau last week but chose to come to Abaco because of its proximity to Grand Bahama. She felt that if someone was hired here, the relocation would be a little easier. The last day of the job fair was on February 8th at which time five or six students of Abaco Central High School were interviewed for jobs. Mrs. Capron stated that this second day was good as a number of persons from the neighboring communities were interviewed. Accompanying Mrs. Capron to Abaco was Lisa Gibson, Assistant Manager of Recruitment; Alarie Turner, Security Manager; Marvin Hudson, Labour and Deployment Manager; Jamieson Deveaux, Trainer; and Yolanda Basden, Office Assistant.

Students Learn About Bahamian Culture

By Samantha V. Evans

Students at St. Francis de Sales School had a great experience on February 2nd when they had their presentation on Bahamian Culture. Students showed how appreciative they are of their culture by dressing in Bahamian attire, making Bahamian dishes

such as coconut cake, conch fritters, conch salad, fried fish and switcher (lemon aide) to share with their class mates. One student, Aisha Jones, took two Bahamian-made dolls wearing dresses made of straw with Androsia in prints and a crocheted dress. She even brought in an ornament made of drift wood and Christmas ornaments made of straw and raffia.

Leroy Thompson wore an Androsia shirt and a straw hat stating how creative Bahamians are. He is proud to be a part of this culture. Another student, Sherese Kemp, explained that the Bahamas is a unique place in many ways and what we have to offer is first class. In the oral presentations the students addressed topics such as Bahamian music, food, clothing, the people, national

symbols, and crafts. The crafts displayed were provided by Mrs. Martha Smith. At the end of the oral presentations, all students had to turn in a formal written report on everything that was presented. These senior students did an extremely good job depicting things Bahamian. Appreciation is extended to the class teacher, Mrs. Olive Simon, for opening the classroom to parents for viewing.

Grade 4 Spelling Bee

By Samantha V. Evans

This competition proved to be fierce on February 9th as 22 students from schools across Abaco gathered at the Learning Re-

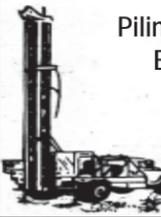
Please see School Page 15



Grade 6 students at St. Francis de Sales School have been learning about Bahamian culture, food, clothing, dolls, ornaments and crafts.

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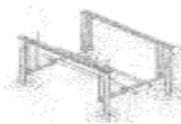
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More School News

Please see **School** Page 14

source Center for the grade four Spelling Bee. Parents, coaches and on-lookers cheered and lobbied for their favorite contestant, trying to make it as difficult as possible for the four judges to declare a winner. After 22 rounds, the following winners were declared by the judges. In third place was Fredericka Storr of J.A. Pinder Primary School in Sandy Point, second place Frederick Pinder from J.A.Pinder and the winner, Tristan Albury from Agape Christian School. These students had an awesome



The winners of the Grade 4 Spelling Bee were Tristan Albury of Agape Christian School, first place, Frederick Pinder of J.A. Pinder Primary School, second place, and Fredericka Storr of J.A. Pinder Primary School, third place. They are shown with Mrs. Cecile Albury, Principal of Agape Christian School.

ability to spell and pronounce words and almost devoured the seen list so they are all to be commended. Accepting the trophy on behalf of the coach was Mrs. Cecile Albury, Principal of Agape Christian School. All of the Spelling Bee officials thank and congratulate parents and coaches for a job well done.

Central Abaco Primary New Spanish Teacher Arrives

By Samantha V. Evans

Students at Central Abaco Primary School got a needed addition to their school in the form of a new Spanish Teacher, Mr.

Richard Akompi who originates from Ghana, Africa. Even though he is from Africa, Mr. Akompi spent most of his life in Cuba where he was raised and schooled. He stated that this is his first time in the Bahamas as a teacher.

He stated that he is also a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, but he would rather work as a Spanish teacher. He stated that he learned of the position from his step-brother in Nassau and applied. He explained that since he arrived in Abaco on January 17th, everyone has been so helpful and friendly. He has met a lot of interesting people

and he expresses his sincerest gratitude to everyone who showed him kindness. He hopes to accomplish the goal to teach the students introductory Spanish courses. Since most of them claim English as their first language, he hopes that they will be able to understand and speak basic Spanish by the end of this school year in June.

St. Francis de Sales Student Wins

Please see **School**

Page 16



The top spellers on Abaco will represent Abaco at the National Spelling Bee in March. In first place was R. Octavia Dean-McIntosh, seventh grader from St. Francis de Sales School. The second place trophy went to Paxton Lowe an eighth grader of Agape Christian School and third place went to Charo Williams a eight grade student of S.C. Bootle High School.



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Red Cross and ECHO are offering CPR certification



Barbara Johnson is pleased to announce that the Bahamas Red Cross & ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office) will be hosting a community First Aid/CPR Certified Course on Saturday, March 10, 2007, from 9-5 pm.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Humanitarian Aid



THE BAHAMAS
RED CROSS

Registration forms and information on the location for the CPR instruction can be picked up from Ms. C.E. Martinborough at the Urban Renewal Office located in Dove Plaza, Suite # 204, Marsh Harbour. Registration fee is \$10. The deadline for registration is March 6th.

The instructors are: Mr. Damario Barton - National Training Officer
Ms Diane Turnquest - Bahamas Red Cross Disaster Manager

A light lunch will be served.

A DIPECHO V Project

More School News

School *From Page 15*

the National Spelling Bee

By Samantha V. Evans

Abaco held its 9th Spelling Bee on January 31st at the Learning Resource Center in Marsh Harbour. Twenty-five students from schools all across Abaco gathered at the Center to compete to be named the best speller on Abaco. In attendance was Mr. Charles Carter, CEO of the Nassau Guardian, the major sponsor of the Spelling Bee. During the opening ceremony Mr. Carter stated that this is the tenth year for the Spelling Bee in the Bahamas and they have a grand event planned for the students who will be competing on March 25th in Nassau.

When the spelling began, it was clear from the outset that this would be a very tough competition. The students ranged in grade from 5-8. The students were so knowledgeable of the seen list that the decision was made to move to the unseen list after only eleven rounds. After 20 rounds they ran out of words. This is the first time that this has happened in Spelling Bee history on Abaco. A winner was

finally declared after 26 rounds. The winner was R. Octavia Dean-McIntosh, a grade seven student from St. Francis de Sales School. The second place trophy went to Paxton Lowe a grade eight student of Agape Christian School and third place went to Charo Williams a grade eight student of S.C. Bootle High School. The trophies for this event were sponsored by the Nassau Guardian and presented to the students by Mr. Charles Carter.

Congratulations to all of the students as they did a fantastic job representing their respective schools.

Plans For National Spelling Bee in Nassau

By Samantha V. Evans

Mr. Carter was excited to be present for this 9th Spelling Bee on Abaco. He was especially proud of all of the students and congratulated them for a job well done. He saw Octavia Dean-McIntosh as being an excellent speller who should do well in Nassau.

He stated that there are wonderful prizes to be given out at this 10th Spelling Bee, especially since they have new sponsors who have come on board this year including BEC.

The events are slated to begin on March 22nd with a tour and lunch on The Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, one of the sponsors. On Friday they will attend an elegant reception at Government House with His Excellence the Governor General A.D. Hanna. They will also have a grand tour of Atlantis.

Sunday will be the big day when the Spelling Bee will be held at the Radisson Convention Center. Octavia will do well as her school is behind her. Octavia is the daughter of Ms. Valerie Dean and Mr. Clifford McIntosh II.

AA and Al Anon Meetings

The AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and Friday at noon and at 7 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AlAnon group of Marsh Harbour meets the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. each month 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.

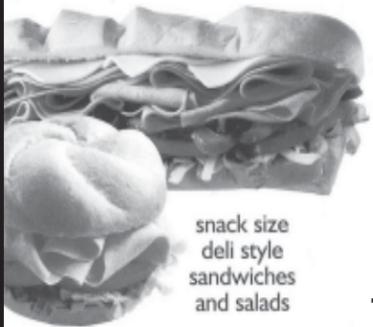
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Whether buying or selling make sure your Realtor is a member of the Multiple Listing Service of the Bahamas Real Estate Association, Abaco Chapter!

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

Chris Plummer
 Cindy Newell
 Ed Newell
 Bill Thompson
 Elaine Thompson
 Sandra Evans
 Bill Thorndycraft
 Brent Cartwright
 Maria Silvester
 Rhiannon Thomas
 Chris Roberts
 Molly Roberts
 Chris Farrington
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 Stan Sawyer
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Abaco Chapter

The Bahamas Real Estate Association

Cays

From Page 5

An unsigned letter that was circulated through the community to suggest there was some "secret" plan to make the town an historic district that would be controlled by a select few was also discussed. The idea of New Plymouth being designated as an his-

toric district is not new and not a secret. The established rules and regulations for a Historic District would come from a government department, not a select few. The history of our community should be preserved for future generations. Every island in this country has clear water and beautiful beaches, but our rich history makes our

community special! This lively meeting was well attended .

After an unseasonably warm January, winter has come to Abaco! But we won't complain because summer will be here soon enough and the temperature will rise to 90 plus sticky, hot degrees! AHHHH! I can't wait!

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- PALM BAY** Townhouse units in protected harbour with boat slips
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- THE COTTAGES** Now the newest oceanfront development on Treasure Cay beach comprising individual luxury units
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- BAHAMA BEACH CLUB**
Luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 3 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features
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- ROYAL POINCIANA TOWNHOUSES** with on-site pool and tennis, newly completed luxury townhouse units directly on Treasure Cay Beach totalling 3 bed/ 4 1/2 baths plus loft bedroom/ den
 Ground floor - garage, 2 bed/ 2 bath with ocean front patio
 First floor - open concept living / dining/ kitchen plus master bedroom suite, all ocean views with patio/ balcony
 Loft - bedroom/ den with ocean view
 \$1908,000 + 14% Closing

MARINER'S COVE Townhouse condos with on-site tennis and heated pool
 Marina view, 2 bed/ 1 1/2 bath, fully furnished, never rented, extra features.
 MUST SEE EXC \$351,000 + 7.5% closing
 Marina view, 2 bed/ 1 1/2 bath, fully furnished, good rental potential.
 EXC \$325,950 FGS

TREASURE LANDING

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

ROYAL PALM

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

TREASURE HOUSE

Ocean front luxury octagonal units with lagoon/ pool/waterfall. Good rental potential.
 Unit #7 Two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home.
 MLS \$636,000 + 7.5% closing
 Unit #9 Two storey 2 bed/ 2 bath home
 MLS \$575,000 + 7.5% closing

BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

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

Upstairs unit 3 bed / 2 bath with den / optional 4th bed. Completely and tastefully furnished. EXC. \$882,000 FGS

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

ATLANTIS

Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool
 Bldg 1 Lower unit 2 bed / 2 bath, 15' wide boat slip, includes car. Newly decorated. MUST SEE EXC. \$500,000 FGS
 Bldg 4 Downstairs end unit 2 bed / 2 bath, totally redone, 12' wide slip
 EXC. \$435,600 FGS

SAND DOLLAR

Unit #3 Ocean front, downstairs 2 bed/2 bath, fully furnished. \$726,000 FGS

ROYAL POINCIANA

Ocean Front Condos with on site pool and tennis
 2 bed / 2 bath downstairs end unit with wrap-around deck. Never rented. Fully and tastefully furnished. Special must see unit.
 EXC. \$665,500 FGS

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Special garden location near pool, 2 bed / 2 bath. Great rental unit with many repeat guests EXC. \$369,000 FGS
 Second row beach with direct ocean access. Great view. 2 bed / 2 bath, many special features. MUST SEE EXC. \$553,500 FGS

SANDPIPER BEACH

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

GALLEON BAY DRIVE

"Gramling House" newly built, 2 storey home located on Galleon Bay canal with a 45' dock. Upper level has 4 bed/ 2 bath. Open living/ dining/ kitchen. Lower level has 2 bed/ 1 bath, laundry room plus covered open boat/ car storage EXC \$907,500 FGS

LEEWARD BEACH ESTATE

"Trident"/"Turquoise Seas" You cannot be more "on the beach" than in this special home. Offering 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath in the main house with detached garage / bed / bath / attic plus storage. Vast deck oceanside with widow's walk. WOW!

MLS \$2,500,000 + 7.5% closing

"Cross Winds" Split level CBS home extra large lot across from 2 beach greenways. Private. Master bed/ bath suite upstairs. Lower level 2 bed / 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/ dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1bed/ 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus! Plus! Plus!
 MLS \$820,000 + 7.5% closing

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

WINDWARD BEACH ESTATES

"Dream Point" Special CBS split level home located on a corner lot near "The Point" with two choices of direct beach access. Upper level has master bedroom with ensuite bath plus two guest bedrooms and bath. On the split level there is the main entry into a large open living/dining area, modern well-equipped kitchen. All rooms open onto a wrap-around partially covered deck overlooking the garden. Ground level has an extra large garage/ workshop with lots of storage.
 EXC. \$996,300 FGS

ROCK POINT

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

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

VACANT LOTS AVAILABLE

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 Casuarina Beach/Ocean Blvd.
 Sand Piper Beach
 Sunrise Point Beginning at \$1,250,000 FGS
- Canal Front Beginning at \$290,950 FGS
- Rock Point Waterfront, bulkheaded
 Beginning at \$293,225 FGS
- Golf Course / Interior
 Beginning at \$60,000 FGS

ABBREVIATION CODE

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

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Club Members Enjoyed Pirate Party

By Rita Reis Wiczorek
M/V Magnum Opus

Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club pirates and their guests had a wonderful fun-filled afternoon and evening in the Marquee Tent at Abaco Beach Resort. The afternoon began with a hunt for booty around the grounds of the resort. Pirates were assigned to teams of about 10-15 people when the party started to search for clues that would lead to the pirates' hidden booty. Each team was given a ship's name and a treasure map with a set of directions. When the group found its first clue, they found directions for finding their second clue. There were 10 clue cards for each team to find the buried booty. The team that recovered their 10 clues first ending up with the buried treasure was the winners. Trinity Team won the game! Those pirates were from the Marsh Harbour Marina and Jib Room. Rover Team got honorable mentioned as they found the booty through deductive reasoning before they found all 10 clues. If this game sounds complex, it was quite elaborate, but a lot of laughter and jokes were shared among the pirates as they stole, pillaged and robbed their way through the maze of their clues on the grounds of the resort.

There were two bars set up to keep the thirsty hunters from going dry during this activity. Plenty of grog and drinks were served along with heavy appetizers that doubled as dinner for most people. The

bartender extraordinaire was Paul Graham from the M/V *Odysey*. He was a busy man all evening long!

The MC for the evening was Jim Fenn from the M/V *Fennders*. He was terrific! In addition to keeping the evening festivities in "order," he told stories and sang a few songs. Jim was thanked with a bottle of rum! *Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum!*

The costumes that members and their guests put together were quite original and very imaginative. It was hard to recognize some members who were so done up in their outfits and make-up, it was difficult to initially place them as members of our club. You had to stare at them for a few minutes before you could recognize them. Of course, there was a costume contest with prizes for the most piratical won by Dennis Karkow from M/V *Walkabout* and Commodore Dave Bluto from the M/V *Chablis*, most original which was won by Bette and David Bauereis on the S/V *Tar Heel*, and the best overall costume or the grand winners that was taken by Karen and Steve O'Brien on the M/V *Christmas*. Two little boys won the best small pirates awards for their costumes; Johnny Piperato on the M/V *Kimberly Ann* and Joey Lo Russo, his friend, who lives at *Rum Runners*, a villa on the canal at the Abaco Beach Club Resort.

The judges had a difficult time deciding the winners in this contest. The pi-

rates given the responsibility for selecting the winners were Ted Baker from the m/v Brenda J, Elinor Vitek on m/v Lazy Bones and Sue and Ray Vallerie from the m/v Last Dance.

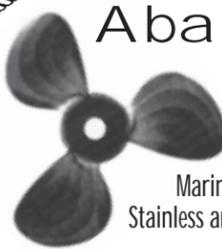
After dinner Jim Fenn our MC continued the program for the evening. Next on the agenda, we had either individuals or groups present ditties, songs, stories or shanties that they either wrote or that were taken from other 'artists.' The ditty winner was the group Piph, best song was won by the Lazy Bones Singers and the best story award was won by Jim Fenn. The show was terrific-no one realized we had such talented pirates in the Club. Hardy, har, har, har!

This event was planned and executed by couples from 3 boats: Robert and Carolyn Wilson on their new m/v Sea

Island Girl, Margo Caldly and Dennis Krakow from the m/v Walkabout and Steve and Karen O'Brien from the m/v Christmas. These 6 members did an excellent job and many members want to know when we are going to have the next pirate's party?

The photographs from this event were taken by Connie Murgo our photographer for Club events in 2007. Connie lives on the m/v The Rose in the Bahamas during the winter and she travels to Rhode Island on her boat each summer to visit her family.

The next event takes place on February 13 when the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club has their annual meeting. Watch the web for a summary of the meeting with photographs.



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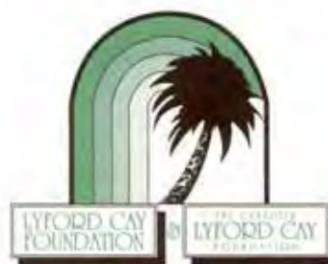
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DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION MAY 1, 2007



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**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION
MARCH 31, 2007**

Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral service for **Woodis Herbert Key**, 81, formerly of Marsh Harbour was in Nassau on February 17 and interment was in Nassau.

He is survived by his sons Herbert, Seth, Zyndal and Kranston Key; daughters Sandra, Jackie, WPC Wenderlee King and Min. Katrina Key; daughters-in-law Minnie, Marjorie and Rose Key; sons-in-law Paul Roberts, Robert Malone and Pastor Prince King; grandchildren Bernadette, Brent, Priscilla, Matthew, Carmen, Vanice, Maurizio, Felisha, Elisha, Sean, Deswood, Shannon, Shawn, Kadero, Kranston Jr, Shavon, Delkeno and Kranstonia, Octavia, Mark and Savannah, great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Eugene Pedican**, 64, formerly of Green Turtle Cay was held on February 17 in Nassau and interment was in Nassau.

He is survived by his sons Stanley and Steve Pedican; daughter Coralee Pedican; grandchildren, Ahmad Nortelus and Mataya Cox; brothers Earnal, Bruce, Roy and Clarence Pedican Jr.; sisters Viola Curry, Winifred Bodie, Deborah McIntosh, Inez and Eleanor Pedican; brothers-in-law Livingston Bodie and Pinchie McIntosh; sisters-in-law Gail and Gertrude Pedican; nieces Patricia Bootle, Faye McIntosh, Selena and Patryce Curry, Jennifer Pritchard, Denise and Margaret Bodie, Carla, Nyka, Earlene, Jennifer, Necree,

Royann and Bionka Pedican, Sandra Burrows, Jennifer Pedican, Bridgett Armbrister, Brenda Davis, Abby Gail Babbs, Wendy Sands, Donna Knowles, Deneak Butler, Shanna McIntosh, Shena Roberts, Denalee Penn, Nacoya and Ohanisha Pedican; nephews Ronald Bootle, Quintin, Craig, Ricardo, Dwayne and Anton Curry, Selkirk, Michael, Troy, Terrance, Mark, Darron, Philip, Julian, Mark and Marcus Pedican, Geno Simms, Baron Attenborough, Rudolph and Marvin Ferguson, David Simms, Jeffery Thompson, Eddie and Perry Bodie; grandnieces; grandnephews; great-grandnieces and nephews and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Mark "Sarto" Greene**, 51, of Sandy Point was held on February 17th at the Assembly of God Church in Sandy Point. Rev. Erskine Wells officiated assisted by Deacon Paul Pinder. Interment was in the Public Cemetery in Sandy Point.

He is survived by his children Marguerite Bullard and Marco Greene; grandchildren Steffon and Antonia Greene, Deigo and Danzel Bullard; son-in-law Bradley Bullard; daughter-in-law Chanley Greene; brothers Vertelese Joseph, James and David Greene; brother-in-law Astanor Aimonour; sisters-in-law Annie and Leona Greene; nieces Lamercie, Marguerite, Lecia, Christine, Yolette, Michelin, Sologne, Shantel, Lillian, Cotrina Pinder, Ceila Johnson, Ramona Brown, Davantee, Julie, Lawanda, Donae,

Kendia, Deaysa, Sema, Alicia, Alisha, Allanka, Alvonel, Jamila, Kendisha, and Kenisha; nephews Alvin, Sintenie, Danero, Jameson, and Lavardo Greene, Leonardo Burrows, Gregory and Vladimir, Luke Lallane, Al Pinder, Desmond Johnson, Kendal and Kadan Brown, Alvin Jr., and Anwar Seymour; god-child Cassey Thomas, and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Fredrica Louise Cornish-Albury**, 43, of Blackwood was held on February 17th at Holy Saviour Anglican Church in Blackwood. Fr. Dwight Rolle officiated. Interment was in the cemetery in Blackwood.

She is survived by her husband John Albury; father Donald Cornish; grandfather George Bonaby; mother-in-law Lillian Russell; adopted daughters Jاليا and Iakara Lira Albury; sisters Carolyn Pedican, Fayann and Sandramae Cornish, Shelia Williams and Portia Russell; brothers Roy, Leonard, Washington, Jason Derrick Cornish; adopted sister Alvair Johnson; step-

brothers Stanley McIntosh, Ricardo Davis, Effie Edgecombe and David Williams; sisters-in-law Damita and Kenisha Cornish, Donnalee and Jackie McIntosh; nieces Leantea, Faynicia, T'shura, Liza, Dirabley, Derrinique, Deija, Brittney, Leonique, Dormarria and Kenadee Cornish, Kaywaanya Pedican, Patricia Poitier, Crystal Levarity, Garanette, Evara, Vana and Whitney Curry, Stacy Penn and Charmile Adderley; nephews Antoine and Santino Curry, Kaywaan and Kelianeko Pedican, Michael Levarity Jr., Pedro and Philip Poitier Jr., Trevor Rolle, John, Jerme, Daniel, Delory, Rickero, Troyn, Leonard Jr. and Javaughn Cornish; grandnieces; aunts; uncles; grandaunts; granduncles; step-sisters Louise and Linda McIntosh; brothers-in-law Selkirk Pedican, Godfrey Green, Jamaal Russell, Alexander Williams, James, Wilfred and Paul Russell, Willis Munroe, Carlton McIntosh and Godfrey Green; god-child Lakiesha Reckley and many other relatives and friends.



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HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
 Re: Assistant Manager, Commercial & Mortgage Lending,
 Abaco Branch
 P.O. Box SS-6263
 Nassau Bahamas
 Telefax: 394-0758
 E-mail address: anne.lightbourn@combankltd.com

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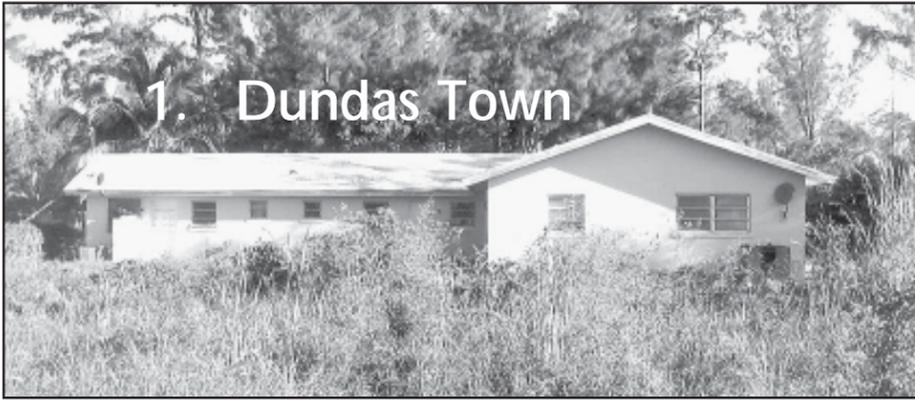
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Other qualifications may apply

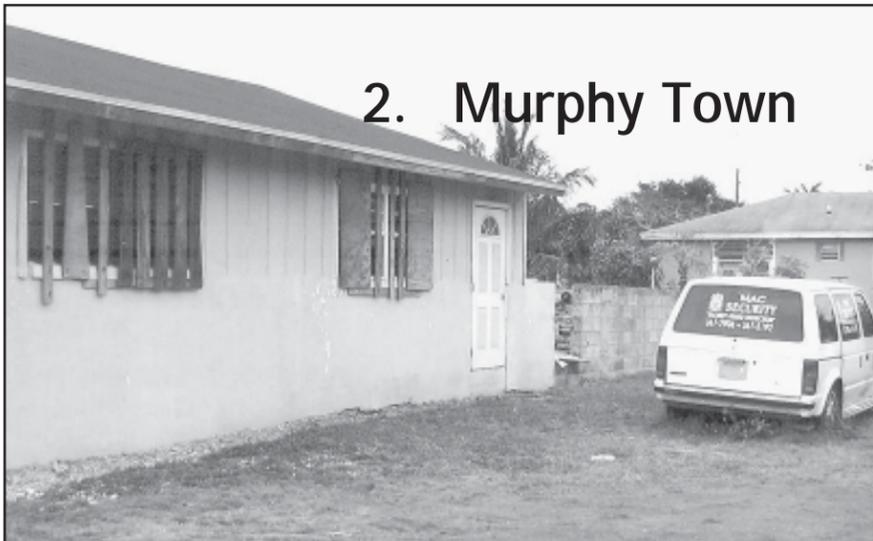
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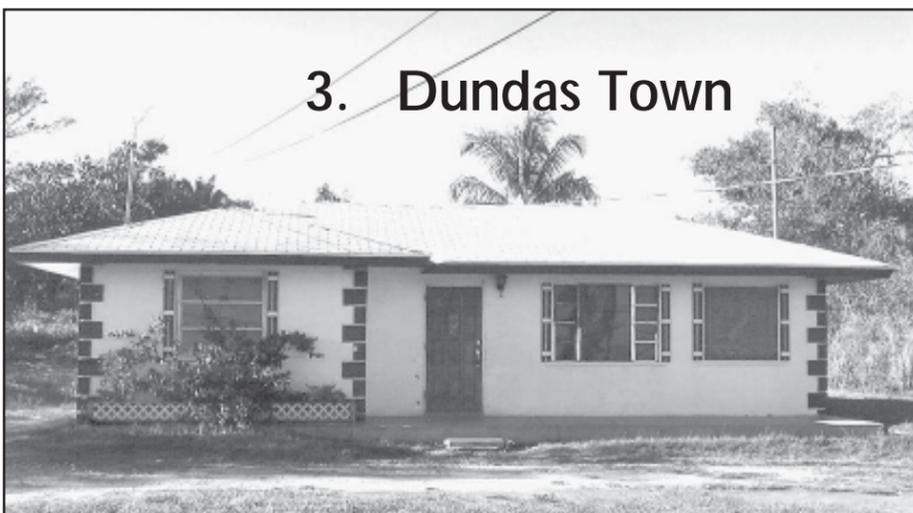
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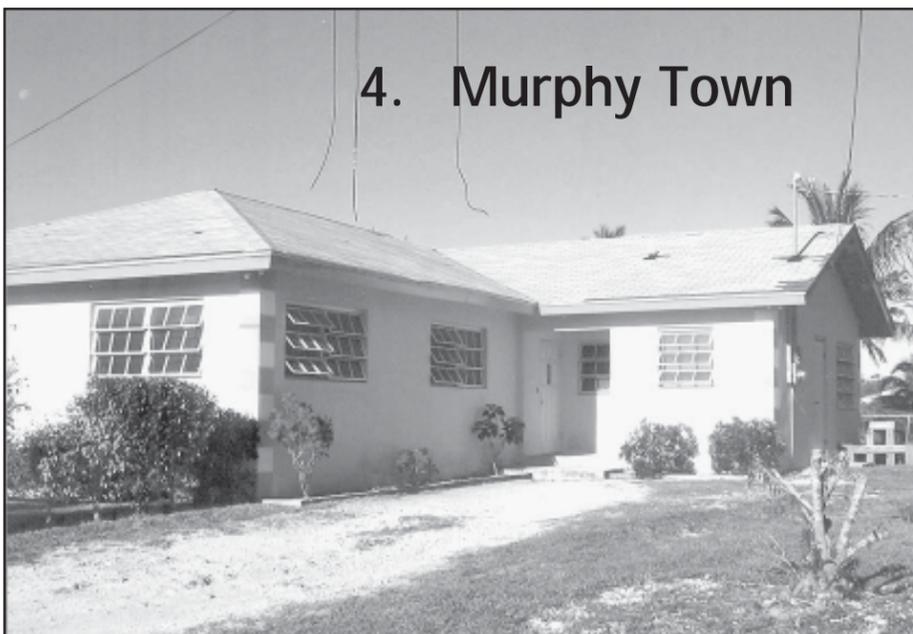
One two bedrooms, 1 bathroom, triplex. Approximately 9,000 sq. ft. lot no. 18B with an area for a small shop. Age-12 years the land is a portion of one of the Dundas Town Crown Allotment parcels stretching from Forest Drive to Front Street, being just under a quarter acre in size and on the lowside. A concrete block structure, with asphalt shingle roof and L-shape in design with a total length of 70 x 26 ft. Plus 50 x 22 ft. 2,920 sq. Ft. the interior walls are concrete blocks; ceiling is sheet rock and the floors of vinyl tiles. Appraised value \$268,225



All that lot of land having an area of approximately 10,400 sq. ft. Being a portion of Lot No. 60, of the original Murphy Town Crown Allotment situated in the settlement called and known as Murphy Town Crown. The subject property presently contains a single storey wooden/concrete structure. The subject building is being utilized as a primary dwelling with approximately 900 sq. ft. of interior floor space containing 2-bedrooms, 1-bathroom, living room, dining room and kitchen spaces. The building appears structurally sound. However, the interior and exterior are in need of refurbishment to improve aesthetics. The building has an additional sealed floor adjoining which can accommodate construction of a duplex unit. The property landscape is not relevant at this stage. All utilities are within 100 ft of the property. Appraised value \$75,660



All that parcel of land having an area of 14,400 sq ft, being a portion of the Dundas Town Crown Allotment. This land is rectangular in shape with dimensions of 80 ft by 180. Located on the above mentioned lot is a concrete block structure with dimensions of 27 x 40. This house is an approximate 30 yr old single family residence comprising of 3-bedrooms, 1-bathroom, living/dining area and kitchen. This house is in fairly good condition for its age with a projected future life of about 25 to 30 more years. The land rises above road level, to a height in excess of approximately 15 ft above sea level, with no likelihood of flooding in a hurricane. The grounds are sparsely landscaped. Appraised value \$90,000



All that lot of land having an area of 6,790 sq ft, being Crown Allotment No. 77, of Murphy Town, Abaco, Bahamas. Located on the subject property is a single storey single family concrete building. This house is less than 5 yr old and is in good condition with approximately 1,750 sq, ft of living space, and contains 3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, living room, dining, kitchen, laundry, and utility spaces. There is no significant improvements or deterioration evident. The property is very well drained and not susceptible to flooding. Landscaping efforts are still in remedial stages. All major public and private utilities are situate within 100ft of the subject site. Property boundaries are clearly delineated.

The subject property is situate off the Front Street, Murphy Town, Abaco and is painted light yellow trimmed dark yellow. Appraised value \$167,580

5. Vacant property - Dundas Town

Lot No. 21, Crown Allotment, this is vacant land approximately 10,810 sq. ft. situated off S.C. Bootle Drive. Appraised value: \$15,890.00

**For more information - Contact
P.O. Box N-7518
Nassau, NP, Bahamas**

Phone 242-502-3017 or 242-326-1771

The Rape of Abaco's Forests

By Dr. Elwood D. Bracey, M.D.

Do you realize that a large portion of the virgin pine forest on Little Abaco has been bulldozed to create a dump transfer site and a nearby pristine portion of never logged forest "stripped for fill"? This environmentally destructive activity is directed by the Bahamian government in Nassau despite the already existing dump a few miles away.

Does this benefit Abaconians? Precious few of our tax revenues that go to Nassau come back to Abaco and is this how we want them spent? Did locals have any part in this act of "environmental terrorism" to destroy the best of our natural pine forest never to be seen by future generation? I think not.

While birding in Northern Abaco with Tony White of Nassau, Board member of the Bahamas National Trust and author of *Where to Find Birds in the Bahamas*, Bruce Hallett of Atlanta, author of the recently published photographic guide *Birds of the Bahamas*, and Hagen Peters of Treasure Cay, active member of the Friends of the Environment, we drove down a freshly bulldozed road to a large expanse (a half-mile square) of recently denuded forest and asked Devado Smith of Super C Marine, "What's goin' on here?"

He said, "We cleared a site for the Little Abaco dump transfer site."

We heard a bulldozer actively working a half mile further into the forest. "How about

there?"

Mr. Smith replied, "Strippin' for fill."

"What's that?"

"Strippin' the land to get the fill underneath."

As a concerned environmentalist and member of the Bahamas National Trust and the Friends of the Environment on Abaco, I ask you, "What are we doing using the most unspoiled land to sort and deposit the worst of man's legacy - our garbage, trash, old and broken refrigerators and cars - when there's an existing dump site nearby?"

I called Nassau to speak with Donald Cooper, Head of the BEST (Bahamas Environmental Science and Technology) Commission and was referred to Stacy Moultrie, responsible for Abaco trash. Maria Heald took my request for a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment study to be faxed to me.

No fax came within two days. So I called back and was told they don't deal with solid waste and I would need to talk with Henry Moxie of Environmental Services. He was always in a meeting or out of the office,

but his secretary Melanie McKenzie said she would ask his permission to send me a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment study.

No fax or return call ever came.

I suspect no such study was ever done. Some governmental official in Nassau decided this is what we're going to do and it will be in this location-similar to what has been done with the dump transfer site along the road to Cherokee in Southern Abaco - without concern for the environment or the wishes and needs of the local people.

This is the same type governmental thinking that has allowed used car lots and unsightly clearings along the tourist-traveled road between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay. Similarly, the pine forest behind the Treasure Cay dump has been wantonly bulldozed for topsoil and fill - apparently without permit. All this is done without utilizing the pine logs heaped up to rot or be burned.

I'm sad for the future generations on Abaco and angry with those who have raped our forests today.



A large area of virgin pine forest is being destroyed for a transfer station for garbage on Little Abaco. The pine woods are a natural resource and Little Abaco has the last of the virgin pine woods on Abaco. The transfer station will hold garbage until it can be trucked to the landfill site south of Spring City.

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Elbow Cay, Marnie's Landing, 1/2 acre lot, private dock slip, Atlantic views, beach path access. Reduced below appraisal. \$395,000. Call Rick at 305-481-0970

Great Cistern 2 lots, 90' x 250' each, w/ great elevation and views of Sea of Abaco. \$65,000 each. Call 365-5175 Ask for Robbie.

Guana Cay, 3 bed/2 bath, 500 yards to beach, good rental history. Priced reduced \$229,000. Call Danny 404-256-9626

Guana Cay 2 bdrm 2 bath w/ Jack & Jill shower. Magnificent views of Atlantic Ocean and Sea of Abaco. Incredible sunsets. Priced reduced to \$350,000 net to seller Call Danny 404-256-9626

Guana Cay, Orchid Bay Subdivision Lot for sale 75 x 100, great elevation and close to town, nicely paved road and underground utilities. All lots already sold - last one available. Call 365-5175 Ask for Robbie

PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE

Guana Cay, Sea of Abaco, 400' frontage, dock w/lift poles, elevations on 1+ acre. \$950,000 net. Brokers welcome. Ph 242-357-6675 or 365-5149



Hope Town Settlement - New ocean view 3 bed/2 bath + office, 200 feet to beach. \$875,000. Tel 242-366-0590/ 617-500-4157.

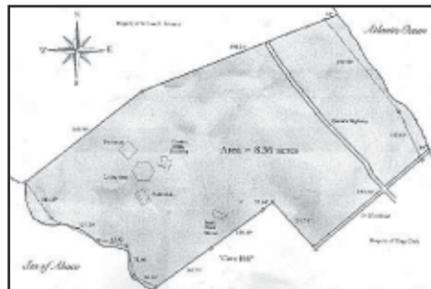
Leisure Lee - Water front lot, 100 ft. deep water on front canal, dock, utilities, premier location with ocean views, totally protected, \$299,000. Call 904-813-5732 or murphmclean@yahoo.com

Lubbers Quarters, "Jack's Jungle", Beautiful Interior, waterfront & hilltop half acre + lots available. Views of Tahiti Beach and Tilloo Cut. Deeded dock slip included. Roads completed. Electricity soon available. Prices starting at \$110,000. www.lubberslandforsale.com. Contact Sea Grape Realty @ (242) 367-2749 or call (242) 367-0886.



Lubbers Quarters Land and/or house for sale. Please contact us at: conch@ctinternet.com

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Man-O-War 8 acres sea to sea, 4 cottages, will divide. 100 ft. dock, 800 ft water front. Contact 242-357-6700 or 772-321-5613

Scotland Cay, 2 adjoining lots for sale, ocean beach on private island. Private paved runway and marina slips available. Each lot 125' on beach x 260' deep. Call 970-333-1055

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ECC and ACH Anchor Club Join Forces

By Jennifer Hudson

On February 2 members of the executive board of the Abaco Central High School's Anchor Club, along with their adviser, Ms. Philippa Farrington, visited with the students of Mr. Mars' class at the Ev-

ery Child Counts School. The entire club was unable to be present as the school was planning its house sports day but the four members of the executive committee represented the club well. The aim of the meeting was to encourage social interaction be-

tween the two schools and to plan a project which will give the students exposure outside of school and be able to work together to tackle important issues in the community. The students of ECC had been looking forward very excitedly to this meeting.

A list of issues which they felt needed addressing in the community had been prepared in advance by the ECC students and included:

- Trash and littering - the students suggested adopting a block which they would clean up and maintain and plant some plants to beautify the area
- Shoreline clean up
- Cleaning up parks which are in decay
- Graffiti removal by repainting walls
- Shopping for groceries for shut-ins
- Mowing lawns for elderly people
- House painting

Both schools were unanimous in choosing to paint a house for some elderly or disabled person in the community. Since Abaco Central High School's Anchor Club has previously had experience of painting a house as a project, they were able to offer ideas on the best way to go about it. Ms. Farrington agreed to identify a house which fit the criteria for assistance and a further planning meeting was scheduled for February 16.



The Anchor Club of Abaco Central High School is teaming with students at Every Child Counts to do community service. The students of ECC need more social interaction and community service will develop this. ECC is a privately-funded school for students with developmental or physical problems. It is dependent on support from the community.

Dart Competition

By Mirella Santillo

Dart "aficionados" met on February 4th to hold trials aimed at creating a team of players for Abaco. Five women and nine men were chosen who will represent Abaco in the National Gold Cup.

"Twenty-six people participated in the qualification, most of them regular players, shooting darts for hours till the wee hours of the morning," reported Mr. Malcom Spicer, the league's President. "The best players from Nassau, Abaco and Grand Bahama make the National team, which has now competed internationally for 19 consecutive years. Besides the international scene there are island to island tournaments," he went on, which Abaco won once in 1993. "I hope to repeat it this year," he said.

There is also the Champion's Cup. The best team in each league will meet together in the Champion's Cup to find the National Team's Champions. There are presently six teams on Abaco: the Casuarina Stars, the D & R Dragons, the Humming Bird's Hummers (a women's team), the Foundations (Dundas Town), the Snappas Snipers and the Spring City Sixers.

Another competition is the National Masters' Tournament, an individual competition, which will be held this year on Abaco on May 4th and 5th. The best players in this tournament will represent The Bahamas in the World Cup, which will be disputed in Holland.

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