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# The Abaconian

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VOLUME 9, NUMBER 21, November 1st, 2001

## Hundreds Support Cherokee Day

Money Raised Will Restore The Old Schoolhouse



The crowds at the Cherokee Day celebration were enthusiastic, all enjoying the games, competitions, food and fellowship of the three-day event. An auction proved to be very successful, raising \$3900 for two quilts. Monies raised will go toward restoring the Old Schoolhouse to be a community center. The organizers were pleased with the weekend activities as they can now continue work on the schoolhouse.

By Lee Pinder

The organizers of Cherokee Day were pleased with the turn-out and support by alumni and residents. Nearly \$27,000 was raised to complete the restoration of the old school building and make it into a community center. Visitors flocked to Cherokee from Sandy Point, Hope Town, Marsh Harbour and many of the other towns on Abaco. The three day event began with a full Friday evening program. Saturday was filled with games, food booths, auctions and other fund raising and crowd pleasing events. Sunday concluded with a church service. Cherokee folks are scattered far and wide and they care to give their full support and enjoy the good times.

Starting off Friday evening, the 12th of October, a cultural program was put together by some of our "Old School" alumni telling about births, deaths, marriages, a women's life during the 1940's and 1950's in the islands and stories about Cherokee family roots. A special presentation by Capt. Leonard Thompson told about the games young people used to play before "television." The weather co-operated and it was a very comfortable balmy evening. Everyone enjoyed the presentation and stayed till the very end.

A small group came especially for Cherokee Day from Saveour Magazine in New York to write about some of our local foods. Their magazine is internationally renowned

Please see South

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## Service Honors Civil Officers



A choir from North Abaco provided special music at the church service on October 21 commemorating Local Government Month.

An ecumenical church service commemorating Local Government Month was held on October 21 at Zion Baptist Church in Murphy Town. The well attended service was a service of celebration recognizing the contribution of civil servants. Many government officials and ministers took part in the service and there was a variety of special music.

The sermon was delivered by Pastor A.B. Lewis, who exhorted the civil employees to turn to God. God is calling them to make a new commitment, to give up their wayward habits and to stay focused. They must not compromise right but must be good examples. He continued by nam

Please see Church

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## Postal Clerks Take Precautions



Dave Darville, postal clerk in the Marsh Harbour Post Office, is shown wearing a face mask and latex gloves to protect himself from possible contamination by anthrax spores.

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# Dock Construction Will Soon Begin

American Bridge has been awarded the contract to design and build the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour. On October 22 officials with the company met with representatives of all businesses in Central Abaco which are involved with using the dock at this present time. Mr. Dave Thornton of American Bridge, who will be overseeing the construction, expected that work will begin the first week of November.

American Bridge expects to have equipment here by the end of October and will begin by dredging out the turning basin. The dredging will be done by a crane with a clam bucket. The fill will be barged to the shoreline where it will be stockpiled to be used as fill for the new dock. They will build up a

berm and will enclose the fill with sheet piling.

The west face of the present dock will not be available for boats to use which will inconvenience the small freight boats serving the cays. The two main boats from the States will not be directly affected. The Duke of Topsail uses the east face of the dock where they adapted the dock for their Ro-Ro operation. The Tropic Night, the boat that Marsh Harbour Shipping has on the Florida - Abaco route, now docks at the Parker site in Murphy Town and trucks all their containers to the customs area in Marsh Harbour for clearance.

After the turning basin is dug out, the crane will dig a new channel to a depth of 13 1/2

feet which will be diagonal out to the harbour entrance. They will begin from the shore and work their way out. The road going past the dock, Queen Elizabeth Drive, will be relocated somewhat to the south and will be widened to a three-lane road which will allow a middle lane for turning.

American Bridge will first clean up the area, demolishing the buildings of Pizza Hut and the docks in front as well as haul away all the junk vehicles. They will be using the octagon buildings on the Pizza Hut property as an office. The company will be keeping the construction area fenced off to insure the safety of everyone locally. When completed, the international area of the dock will be fenced off to make it a secured area. The existing dock will be repaired and will remain concrete. The new dock area will be edged with a 20-foot apron of concrete but will be a tar sealed surface on other areas.

Also at the meeting was Mr. Tom Hluehan of Cox and Shal which is the engineering firm involved and Mr. Paul Agate with the Ministry of Works.

The construction of the dock has been a very long time in coming. There were many steps to be taken before a contract could be signed. However, once the equipment arrives, work will move quickly. Mr. Thornton expects the dock and all the support structures to be completed in one year.

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## Christmas Concert Is Planned

On November 30 and December 1 the Abaco Cultural Society will start off the festive Christmas season with An Abaco Christmas, a concert of religious and secular Christmas music presented by Highgrove Productions. The program will feature music from Handel's Messiah to Negro spirituals and traditional carols. Special guests will include the local group Jes'us - a men's ensemble comprising talented Abaconian voices Basil Been, Gentry Morris, Anderson Alcime, and Kevin Sterling. In addition, secular Christmas carols will be featured in the second half with a special rendition of The Prayer which will be performed by Bryan Thompson and his mother, Valerie Pyfiron, as well as a choir from the Amy Roberts School on Green Turtle Cay. Additionally, Bahamian Christmas carols such as Mama Bake da Johnny Cake and Jun-Jun- Junkanoo will be performed to lend a native Christmas feeling to the concerts.

Bryan Thompson, artistic director of Highgrove Productions, will be one of the featured soloists, A tenor, Bryan is a former

member of the world renowned Bahamas National Youth Choir representing The Bahamas on tours to Toronto, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami and Trinidad and Tobago. Mr. Thompson is Customer Service Manager at Barclays Bank in Marsh Harbour having been transferred in February of this year. Mrs. Pyfiron, a professional opera singer based in New York, will be another featured soloist. This mezzo-soprano has had many singing roles in New York including 93 performances of Porgy & Bess at a theater in Berlin, West Germany.

Both concerts on Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1, will start at 7:30 p.m. in the festively decorated Lowe Art Gallery at the home of Bahamian artist Alton Roland Lowe, Black Sound, Green Turtle Cay. Tickets for An Abaco Christmas will be on sale at the door and will cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12. The Lowe Art Gallery has a dock on Black Sound. For transportation by ferry, call the Green Turtle Ferry at 365-4166 or 365-4128.

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# Cable Will Give Better Service

By Alice Bain

Cable Bahamas has recently expanded its fiber-optic cable connection to Abaco, which is the fourth island to be connected to the system. The cable which connects Sandy Point to Current Settlement on Eleuthera was laid on the sea floor across the Northeast Providence channel at a depth of up to 12,000 feet. From Sandy Point the cable has been being laid in a trench up the Great Abaco Highway and will terminate at a "head end" at the Marsh Harbour cable substation on Don MacKay Boulevard.

The biggest impact fiber-optic connection will have for Abaco is in internet connectiv-

ity. Cable Bahamas will offer an alternative Internet Service Provider through its Coralwave provider and those connections will be faster and more efficient than those currently available. Tony Butler, Vice President of Cable Bahamas, commented, "We will be offering the same level of service as you would expect to find in Nassau or New York City and for the same cost!" Four different internet packages will be available; the two upmarket packages will be unlimited access for a flat monthly rate, and the more inexpensive packages will charge per download rather than per hour, which is the current norm.

Cable Bahamas originally laid fiber-optic cable from Boca Raton, Florida, to Freeport, Grand Bahama, and a second cable was laid from Grand Bahama down to New Providence. The company worked hard in hand with both American and Bahamian environmental commissions and has obtained communications licensing from the United States FCC and the Public Utilities Commission in the Bahamas. In a later phase the cable was extended from New Providence to Current Settlement in northern Eleuthera and from Current to Sandy Point where the cable "landed" in November 2000. In the future the cable will be extended all the way up through Crown Haven and another underwater cable will connect Crown Haven with North Riding Point in Grand Bahama. This will complete an "internal fiber loop" which will enable Cable Bahamas to provide more dependable service. If the loop is out at some point, subscribers should still have access via the other side of the loop instead of being out off. Twenty-five million dollars has been invested in this fiber optic system already.

An additional spur cable will be laid between Casuarina Point and Cherokee to provide cable and internet service to residents of Cherokee. International Telecom from Halifax and Montreal, Canada, will be laying this cable in the next few weeks.

The Public Utilities Commission has presently granted Cable Bahamas telecommunications licensing to provide internet service in both Grand Bahama and New Providence. Further licensing to include Abaco and Eleuthera is up for approval the first week of November. If all goes well, Marsh Harbour should be seeing cable modem availability by December of this year.

## Cable Programing

Mr. Butler said that he really could not comment on any possible future changes in the channel lineup available on Cable Bahamas in Abaco. "Right now we're still working with analog signals, but we have plans to digitize everything in the near future and that will make a difference in channel availability, but we can't say anything right now." Mr. Butler continued, "What you will see is the local 'community' channel being turned on. In Nassau this channel carries announcements and locally produced television shows. An example is My Five Cents, an interview "on the street" style program which has covered such topics as Deadbeat Dads and the happenings of September 11th. You would be seeing an Abaco segment being added to the programming on this channel."

Abaco will not be getting a local office, but service calls will continue to be handled on a call-by-call basis by Mr. George Culmer, Cable Bahamas' Abaco technician. "George is great," said Mr. Butler. "He's extremely efficient, one of our few employees that we regularly receive positive feedback about. George's dedication to his job is amazing - he's been known to work until ten or eleven at night, basically to work until the job is done. We get all kinds of calls praising him; we're very happy with him!"

## Beauty Contestants Get Tips



Contestants for the Little Miss Abaco beauty contest were coached on October 20 by Miss World Bahamas, Miss Tia Bowe, and by Ms. Pepper Johnson. The girls were taken to lunch at Abaco Beach Resort and had a photo session with Miss Bowe. The contest will take place on November 17. Benefits from the event will be for Hope House, an organization providing food for needy persons.

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# South Abaco News

## Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder  
Town Prepares  
for Big Event

With pigeon season just getting into full swing, we haven't seen much of our men folk, but some of them did come through for us and did find time to get us snappers for the fish fry and lots of big beautiful conch from the deep water to make fritters and conch salad, and of course, there were those who came to set up the tents, lighting and flags and transport all the ice, furniture and equipment that was needed. All the while the women were doing the really hard work like the organizing and planning. Everyone was busy doing something, whether it was making fudge, cutting up conch, cooking peas n' rice or sprucing up their yards and generally getting ready expecting company on the 12th of October. The school children were practicing their parts for the Cherokee Day 2001 festivities and as the time drew near, their excitement and anticipation grew as they dreamed about the many games and competitions that they hoped to enter. It was all we had hoped for and more.

Some had suggested that possibly with all the anxiety and concerns over the terrorist attacks in the United States, that we should have postponed or even cancelled the event.



Face painting was a popular booth at the Cherokee Day celebration on October 13. Money was raised to continue work on the Old School House to convert it into a community center.

However, too much work had already been put into planning and arranging all the scheduled events and foods and it would have been a great loss to call it all off at the eleventh hour. I don't think anyone is sorry now that we didn't cancel.

Both of our previous Cherokee Day celebrations were also very successful. At the

first one in 1986, we hoped to raise enough money to buy a generator for the present school. However, shortly thereafter Batelco's new building went up and they offered to let the school hook up to their facilities and receive electricity from their new generator. So, it was agreed by Cherokee residents that

the monies raised should be used to modernize the present school and supply it with some much needed furniture and equipment.

In 1995, there were three local families who required help with their medical bills and two-thirds of the monies raised that day went to help those persons while the remaining one-third went into the bank and was added to the Old School Restoration Fund which at that point was very small indeed. Our objective for Cherokee Day 2001 was to duplicate the success of the two previous events while at the same time trying to encourage the old scholars to invest in our restoration project of the "Old Schoolhouse." Well, we certainly reached our goal.

Now that the actual restoration work has started everyone could see the progress and visualize the finished product, interest has increased and even the sceptics cannot deny that the finished building will be a great asset to our community in many useful ways.

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Many games and competitions were enjoyed by the crowds at Cherokee Day on October 13. Above girls are seeing what they can win in the Hop-La booth. An auction and a raffle brought in addition funds. Food of all kinds was offered.



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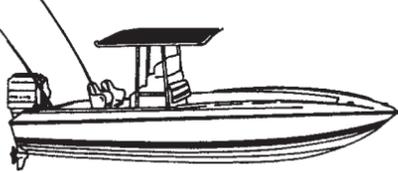
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# More South Abaco News

South From Page 4

and specializes in authentic cuisine from around the world. We feel very honored that they should choose our cooks to represent Abaco but then we always knew we had some of the best cooks in all The Bahamas. Our local soups and some other local specialties seemed to be just what they were looking



On the evening of October 12 Cherokee residents put on a program depicting life in Cherokee the 1940s and 1950s. Sen. Michael Bethel donned a clown suit as he recited poetry from a program from many years ago.

for. Of course, the magazine article will not be released for several months, but we look forward to reading their observations and comments.

If you were there, you would have to agree that probably the highlight of the whole weekend was the very successful "auction" that was lead by our own Patrick Bethel. Two unique and beautiful handmade quilts brought in almost \$3,900 through some extremely lively bidding by some very determined bidders. But there were many other lovely items auctioned off as well including a hand crocheted afghan, a handcrafted wooden magazine stand, a one-of-a-kind Christmas tree skirt, a large beach bag, a carton of homemade jams and a special box of homemade fudge. And Patrick can keep an auction going better than anyone I know.

Then, of course, on Saturday the "Dunking Pool" kept everyone laughing and in stitches as they threw the balls (some with just a little too much enthusiasm) and dunked their friends. I wonder who that clown was? And "The Most Beautiful Knees and Ugly Feet Contest" drew thirteen very bold men into the competition who obviously had no qualms about showing off their bare legs to the crowd. Last, but not least, our own Cherokee Masqueraders did their thing to keep the audience fooled and the evening finished off with some very soothing and relaxing live music provided by Down Town Larry Brown and his friend Lewis.

A combined church service was held on Sunday with Sidney Pinder giving a sermon on God, Ourselves and Others with some special music provided by groups from both churches and a luncheon afterwards held on the school grounds and provided by the church women.

It was all we had hoped for and more. The

"Old School Restoration Fund" will realize almost \$27,000 to finish the work already in progress. When it is finally finished, Cherokee will have a beautiful modern Community Center. It will have an outward appearance of the building as it was when it was new in 1907, according to the old school records, but which some insist is much, much older. It can be utilized by its residents in many different ways.

Our objective for Cherokee Day 2001 was to duplicate the success of the two previous events while at the same time trying to encourage the old scholars to invest in our res-

toration project of the "Old Schoolhouse." We certainly reached our goal.

Lots of our visitors on October 12, 13 and 14th were born in Cherokee or came from Cherokee roots. For many it was their first time. To all of you who came or couldn't make it for one reason or another but helped us in other ways (and we could never possibly name them all), we want to thank you for your help and continued support. These two simple words can mean so much and are so often left unsaid. They are such a small token of how we really feel, so we feel we can not say them enough - THANK YOU.

## Alternate Travel Modes Are Available

By Stephanie Humblestone

With airline travel literally "up in the air" in terms of cancelled scheduled flights and a potential tightening of Federal Aviation Administration security measures on the ground, those who do not like flying at the best of times may wish to be reminded of overland/water routes to the United States.

A much frequented surface route takes about 16 hours, costs about the same as a plane fare and goes by way of Grand Bahama. From Abaco take Bookie Butler's ferry service from Crown Haven on Little Abaco to McLean's Town on Grand Bahama from where a bus service operates to Freeport. From there The Discovery runs a five-hour service to Fort Lauderdale.

Time factor and frayed terrorist activated nerves aside, it is an opportunity to enjoy all

the amenities of a modern cruise ship plus complimentary meals. On the return journey which leaves Fort Lauderdale at 8 a.m. travelers are treated to both lunch and dinner. In view of the present circumstances, there may be specials. Normal fare is \$116.

Another sea alternative from Grand Bahama to Florida is the Jet Foil which is operated by the West Palm Beach service Sea Jet. The hydrofoil takes 99 minutes to make the 65-mile trip from Freeport. It is fast, comfortable and has delicious food served against a background of light music.

This is a time for the public to explore alternatives. If the FAA does impose regulations with which Marsh Harbour airport cannot comply, albeit temporarily, then the above alternatives and options will be even more welcome.

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# News of the Cays

## Man-O-War

By Pat Elkins

### Community News

Grant Nicholas Albury and Crystal Eve Sawyer were married on August 11, 2001 at New Life Church in Man-O-War. The reception was held at Schooner's Landing Resort also in Man-O-War. Crystal is the daughter of Jill and Andy Albury and Gary Sawyer and Brenda Sawyer. Grant is the son of Neville and Karen Albury. After a wedding trip to Florida the couple will reside in Man-O-War.

### Church News

Baptisms On September 30 Mary Ann Albury and Katrina Albury were baptized by Pastor David Hoard of the Man-O-War Church of God. The baptisms were performed in the pool at Schooner's Landing Resort.

### Gospel Chapel

### Hosts Conference

The Gospel Chapel was host to a weekend conference from the evening of October 11 through 14. Guest speakers for the event included Bro. Frank Perry from Spanish Wells, Bro. Ed Allen from Abundant Life in Nassau and Bro. Roy Hill from the United King-



Mr. and Mrs. Grant Albury

dom.

Special singing included local talent as well as Soloist Bro. Enroll Rolle from Abundant Life. Much food and fellowship was shared in the shade provided by a tent. The church wishes to thank those responsible for the use of the tent and to all who helped make the conference such a spiritual and successful event.

## Hope Town

### Symposium Is Held

By Stephanie Humblestone

"This month is Local Government month. It is a time to showcase local government practitioners and invite the community to ask questions," Senior Deputy Administrator Alexander Flowers told a small group gathered at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town on October 24th.

The meeting, aimed at creating an interaction between the public and government officials, was similar to ones held earlier this month in Cooper's Town and Sandy Point. It was an opportunity for people to put a face to the name. "Now I know what Wayne Cornish looks like," joked local government representative Ross Thompson.

Before opening the floor to questions, each government official gave a brief comment on his or her department along with its duties and responsibilities. For example, Mr. Wayne Cornish explained the duties of the Department of Fisheries and all related areas. "We are responsible for dealing with any infringements against fishing regulations," he said. Mr. David Knowles listed the many aims and duties of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Enroll Ferguson from Immigration provided an insight into immigration policies and explained the varying types of status afforded to foreigners. He explained the "restricted" and "stop" lists which note undesirable. "These are also persons named by Interpol and we have a long list," he said. Nearer to home he reminded the Hope Town

community that there are "major violators" of the immigration laws in Hope Town in the form of employees and employers. "Any foreigner working who does not have a proper permit is in violation of the immigration laws," he stated.

Mr. Loren Coleby, Manager of the Bahamas Development Bank, encouraged people to avail themselves of the services of the bank. He gave hypothetical examples of repayment figures and said that the interest rate is now eight and a half percent. "We are trying to get people to be more creative and industrious," he said.

"We are advocates and facilitators," said Mrs. Charlae Fernandez. "Social Services

is not just about welfare and national assistance," she went on to say, clarifying some common misconceptions and explaining the wide scope of services available to the community.

Mr. Charles Barton from the National Insurance Board provided insight into his department, reminding those present, "All persons gainfully engaged are required to register with the National Insurance Board."

Mr. Flowers invited questions which although few were thought-provoking.

"Are the mangroves endangered and being protected?" asked a local resident. Mr.

Please see Cays

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The residents of Hope Town and Man-O-War heard from representatives of several government agencies who explained their duties and responsibilities. It was one of the symposiums organized to highlight Local Government Month.

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# Disaster Assessment Seminar Held

A team visited Abaco to begin a series of workshops to train local officials in disaster management. Abaco was chosen to host the first two-day workshop on October 22-23 in Marsh Harbour and covered initial damage assessment. Participants came from many communities on Abaco and represented emergency services such as fire departments, Social Services, Police, Ministry of Works personnel and Local Government officials.

The seminar was organized by Mrs. Beryl Ambriester, training consultant with the National Disaster Office in Nassau which sponsored the workshop along with Mr. Ron Simon from Grenada, Mr. Paul Saunders from Jamaica and Mr. Lester Blackett from St. Nevis. These people work closely with the Office of the U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and gave the participants very specific guidelines on how to assess damage after any

kind of disaster ranging from a building collapse to oil spills, pollution, tidal waves and hurricanes. The workshop trained the participants to assess damage to inhabited property, not crops or civil structures.

Concepts which were emphasized were to determine the cost of damages and to determine what assistance will be needed and where that assistance will come from. The initial overview should be done within eight hours. Within 48 hours there should be an initial damage assessment to trained persons to determine if property is habitable. They recommend having a professional make detailed cost estimates.

The assessment is based on a scale of 1 to 4

1. Minor damage - owner/ occupant can fix
2. Major repairs needed, requires assistance
3. Extensive damage - not habitable
4. Total loss



Some of the participants of a Disaster Assessment Seminar are shown above with the presenters. Left to right are Mr. Ron Simon from Grenada, Mr. Lester Blackett from St. Nevis, Mr. Paul Saunders from Jamaica, Mr. Clay Willhoyte from Hope Town the Hope Town Fire Department, Mr. Saronne Kennedy from the Red Cross, Abaco Branch, and Ms. Beryl Ambriester, Training Consultant with the National Disaster Office in Nassau.

## Small Businesses Are Supported

By Alice Bain

The Bahamas Industrial and Agricultural Corporation recently sent a representative, Mr. Lucian Curry, to follow up on a workshop held in Abaco in the early part of this year. One of the mandates of the BAIC is to facilitate small business development in the Bahamas, and the corporation offers aid in the form of advice, management training and business plan preparation. Twenty-eight people took part in the course originally.

"We also help people implement ideas they have for small businesses," said Mr. Curry. "We can offer the skills and knowhow to help

in the step-by-step development of businesses. The Bahamian government is enthusiastic in its support of this. "Some 75 percent of the Bahamian economy depends on small businesses. "Mostly we see businesses related to tourism, manufacture of small retail items and, of course, farming and agriculture." Courses have been run by the BAIC on Eleuthera and Exuma, and a trade fair was due to be held on Grand Bahama on September 26th. September was Small Business Month in the Bahamas.



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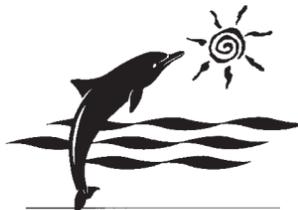
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# The Editor Says. The road traveled by Local Government



Dave Ralph

The road traveled by local government in its nearly five and one half years has been fairly smooth. Potholes and bumps have appeared but the trip has generally been worth the ride. Occasionally those serving feel that the road they were put on was pointed in the wrong direction but local and central government must work together toward the same goals.

The system is a definite improvement over the past with decisions now being made locally rather than being made in Nassau and imposed on us. We can now grumble locally and exert local influence when things go astray.

In order for the system to function smoothly, it is important that the voters put into office good, well rounded individuals who, in turn, will appoint a similar caliber of persons to serve on the statutory boards. There is a tendency to appoint board members based on friendship or town affiliation rather than abilities. Furthermore, many of the better qualified persons are not interested in offering their talents for local government service due to frustrations:

- ! with the rules of the system
- ! with the time required
- ! with the historic rivalry between towns
- ! in attempting to implement town preferences only to have an outside majority decide otherwise
- ! at spending time resolving issues, then see a higher body ignore or reverse the group's consensus
- ! competing with others for funds or accomplishments
- ! with the time spent in meetings in petty conversation.

Those elected or appointed come from all walks of life with diverse knowledge and experience. They are not college educated and may have little or no experience with meeting protocol and etiquette. Board Chairmen, Chief Councillors and the Central Government representatives must be patient and willing to coax these members to a consensus on the issues.

We have to remember that many of the people serving on committees, councils and boards are new to the concepts of

parliamentary procedures. They do not know the terminology or rules. This is probably their first experience with the formalities of meetings. As those in our towns become comfortable with this new governing concept, we will see more effective leadership develop.

We see a need for improvement in management and communication skills of the members which could give more confidence and produce more efficient management of our towns. Many need to learn the basics of parliamentary procedures. This can be done informally within the meetings, perhaps at the beginning of a term of office. Next summer we could have a new slate of Local Government officials and the learning process will begin all over again.

There will always be complaints and conflict particularly in those groups which concern money. This is only human nature. The goal is to keep these conflicts to a minimum. This can be accomplished through better communication and compromise.

Another improvement could come about by teaching methods of conflict resolution, of ways of working out compromises. There are many reasons for these conflicts but

frequently if they are verbalized, it helps the participants see why they cannot come to an agreement. They are then in a better position to negotiate an agreeable solution.

We have attended meetings where the outcome on some issues was not at all clear. In the few instances where the conclusion is in doubt, it is the duty of the Chief Councillor, the Chairman, the Central Government's representative or the recording secretary to ask that the outcome be clearly made and that a majority agree on the conclusion.

The Chief Councillor has the greatest burden as the position in some districts requires a lot of his time. Whether you agree or not with the performance of the present or past Chief Councillor, the job approaches a full time commitment for Central Abaco. The Hope Town District requires nearly as much time. Ordinary Council and Town Committee members frequently devote only the time required to attend a monthly meeting and are not burdened more than once a month for several hours. However, once involved, some members feel the process is not worth their time and they attend only

occasionally. Some members attend meetings just often enough to remain on the stipend list while others have given it up altogether. Very few of the better qualified people can afford the time required of a Chief Councillor or Town Committee Chairman of the active districts. Although the Chief Councillor receives a stipend of over \$500 per month, that does not replace the time spent away from normal income producing activities and the effective management of those activities.

Although Local Government is having its problems and conflicts, it must be given the necessary attention to overcome these humps in the road. The system will always have problems but the goal is to assist leaders to resolve conflicts and work with them to find acceptable solutions. This does not mean that Central Government should interfere, only that the local leaders need advice in overcoming these conflicts and resolving their conflicts. The system will never be perfect. Countries with local government for decades are still facing the same problems our local people are. But by working together these problems can be resolved.

## Generally Speaking . . . Our Privilege

By Timothy Roberts

The greatest abuse in the world today is not the abuse of power, but rather it is the neglect of the awesome privileges we enjoy living in the free world.

One privilege we enjoy is democracy. In a democratic society "we the people" are in control of our country's fate; we determine as a people whether we succeed or fail. The supreme responsibility lies not in the government but in us.

The aspect of this that is most daunting, and most disturbing, is how poorly educated and ill prepared we as a society are when it comes to doing our part in the machinery of democracy. There seems to be a pervasive lethargy among Bahamians when it comes to our duty to our country. In general, we are either ignorant or apathetic and thus we shirk our responsibility to ourselves and our country.

Since we live in a country where we are blessed to have a democracy and where we are able to have an active part in the running of our country, why then is there such disinterest? We have not just the right, but the responsibility to be actively involved in our country's direction and growth. If we don't take hold of this great privilege, we can live to regret it.

Many may be disillusioned, not necessarily by the present government, but by government in general; they are disheartened by hypocrisy and unfulfilled promises. This is expected. However, apathy is not the response we ought to give. Many more are exasperated by what they think are awful and wrong decisions by the government or their representative. That is great.

We should be happy that we are able not only to get upset with our government, but also we are able to voice our opinions; the pinnacle of this privilege being the voting process. So when you

are disgruntled with a representative or the government, let them know. If they don't heed your voice, use the power of the vote to get their attention. We are the ones responsible to make our representatives and our government accountable. When they aren't, we have the power to replace them with someone who will do the job.

Often we like to criticize the government or our local representatives or the things we think they are doing wrong. Why don't we write them a letter instead. Think about it. If you get 20 people writing or signing a letter on a single topic to a representative, that representative will take notice.

Please see Roberts Page 9

## All About Town

By Isobel Sherman

### The Media

Since the events of September 11th the media have been persistent in their reporting and even worse in their exploring other possible terrorist activities. I realize the media have an obligation to report happenings but I am afraid that in many cases the media are doing more harm than good. Some of their reporting on possible scenarios gives people ideas, whether they are terrorists or just "nuts" who always come out of the walls when something bad happens in the United States.

The talk of germ warfare or bio-terrorism has been hyped to the max by the media. The truth is that the terrorists want to cause terror or fear. That is exactly what is happening despite leaders urging people to get on with their lives. They are now hyping smallpox. I was getting my hair cut recently and overheard another customer tell a person how the smallpox was going to be next.

For some reason I am not afraid of anthrax or smallpox because the germ is only in the United States and in Russia. Do terrorists want to kill off the world or the United States? I doubt it. They want people to be so afraid that they cannot function.

People are glued to the television watching the events day in and day out. Rumors abound and sometimes reports are given which later have to be refuted as being inaccurate such as the anthrax in the air conditioning ducts in the Capitol.

What am I saying? Europeans have been living in terror for years. Look at Israel. Yes, the way of life has been changed forever in the free world. But we need to look to the media and tell them to cut out the excess fear factors. Professional psychologists and psychiatrists will tell you stop watching as it does you no good.

We in the Bahamas need to take a serious look and realize that we must continue with

our lives. We are close to the United States and our children may be in the States. What comfort do we have? My comfort is in prayer that God will protect my child just as I would pray if there were no terrorism threat. As far as I am concerned airplanes and airports are probably the safest place at the moment.

As to the nuts, let them be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and let us be cautious but let us continue with our lives, because that is what the terrorists do not want.

### Go Ahead and Fly

If you are interested in traveling to places that are considered safe, meaning you are not traveling to the Middle East or to Libya, etc., then make your plans and go. Flying is the safest form of transport. You are playing into the hands of the terrorists if you stay home because of their threats. I wish I had the time and money to go on trips to the places that are offering stupendous deals such as to Las Vegas, Disney World, etc.

### Parents, Where Are You?

A PTA meeting was held last week at Abaco Central High School. For the first meeting of the school year, I was told it was standing room only so many parents came out. But not so for the second meeting. Why?

I would hate to think that people came to the first meeting only to see what the new principal looked like and hear what he was saying. However, it certainly is a possibility.

Parents, why can't you take the time once a month to come to a meeting to hear what is happening in the school that your child or children attend?

I write about more parental involvement continually but it seems it is only words on paper because nothing is really changing. How can we raise involved children if we do not get involved ourselves?

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# Viewpoint . . .

## Is it Just Me?

By Stephanie Humblestone

A member of my family told me that when seriously perplexed, I look to the left and blink rapidly. If seated at the time I cup my chin in my hand and stay very still while my mind struggles to comprehend. Apparently, I do much the same thing when I am standing except that my hand and chin pose is substi-

Roberts From Page 8

You get more people involved and you will more than likely see action taken. The great thing is, if the action taken is not satisfactory, they will be up for re-election soon enough, and then you get to exercise the power you have in the machine of democracy.

We can, in fact, make a difference, and we need to start right here on a local level. As we see the power of our freedom and as we take responsibility in this area, we begin to take control, as we ought to. Then government will be more willing to recognize their role for what it is, they are public servants. We elect them to take care of the day to day running of the country. When they fail, we are responsible to remove them and place someone we feel will do better. We are in control!

I think that we can do a better job with our future voters. I think we can begin by teaching our children not only about the type of governmental system we have but how that government system works, how we as citizens of this country are responsible for our country through the power of the vote and what we are able to and not able to do in such a system. This kind of education would be invaluable.

As adults we must take responsibility for our country. We the people are responsible when the government fails. We only hurt ourselves when we do nothing but criticize. We must take hold of the privilege we have.

It is not mere idealism of which I speak, but it is our civic right, our duty. It is a right that carries an awesome burden and a great responsibility. It is not something that affects just ourselves. It affects even more than just our family, our neighbors, or our friends. It affects the well being of an entire nation, and it is our momentous task to choose wisely.

With such a responsibility it is not unwarranted that we as a people seek to know the process. There is no shame in ignorance, but there is shame in knowingly staying in that state. We must take it upon ourselves to know our rights, know what we are able to do, and to do it.

The buck stops here! It stops here with me and it stops with you. It is our privilege. It is our right and responsibility. Don't neglect it, don't abuse it, use it wisely. Vote with the intent of the greater good of your country.

tuted with arms folded across my chest.

I burst out laughing when these idiosyncrasies were pointed out to me and my mind raced back to a recent episode in an Abaco bank when a teller told my friend - without blinking(!) - that she could not open a first-time bank account in the Bahamas without a personal reference from a Bahamian bank. Straight-faced without even the glimmer of a grin, we were informed that a new policy was in existence because of the money laundering laws.

"I am sorry but in order to open a bank account for the first time, you must provide a banker's reference to show that you are an established member of the community," said the teller who found nothing illogical or unusual about the statement.

"How do I get to be established if I can't open an account? I just finished college and I would like to deposit my pay checks on a regular basis," said the young woman.

The teller explained that the Bahamas was "anxious" to get off the international black-list and thus was carefully monitoring "new accounts."

"But it appears there are none," I responded. Besides, it's the "old" ones which deserve "monitoring," those whose credentials are not updated. You have all her papers, passport, job references, everything. What is the problem?" I intervened.

The teller flicked through her "papers" and agreed that they were all in order.

"Once I get the banker's reference, I can proceed," she said.

"This is getting crazier by the minute," I said to my friend who was waving a wad of bank notes in the air.

"What do I do with this?" she said. "How do I deposit it?"

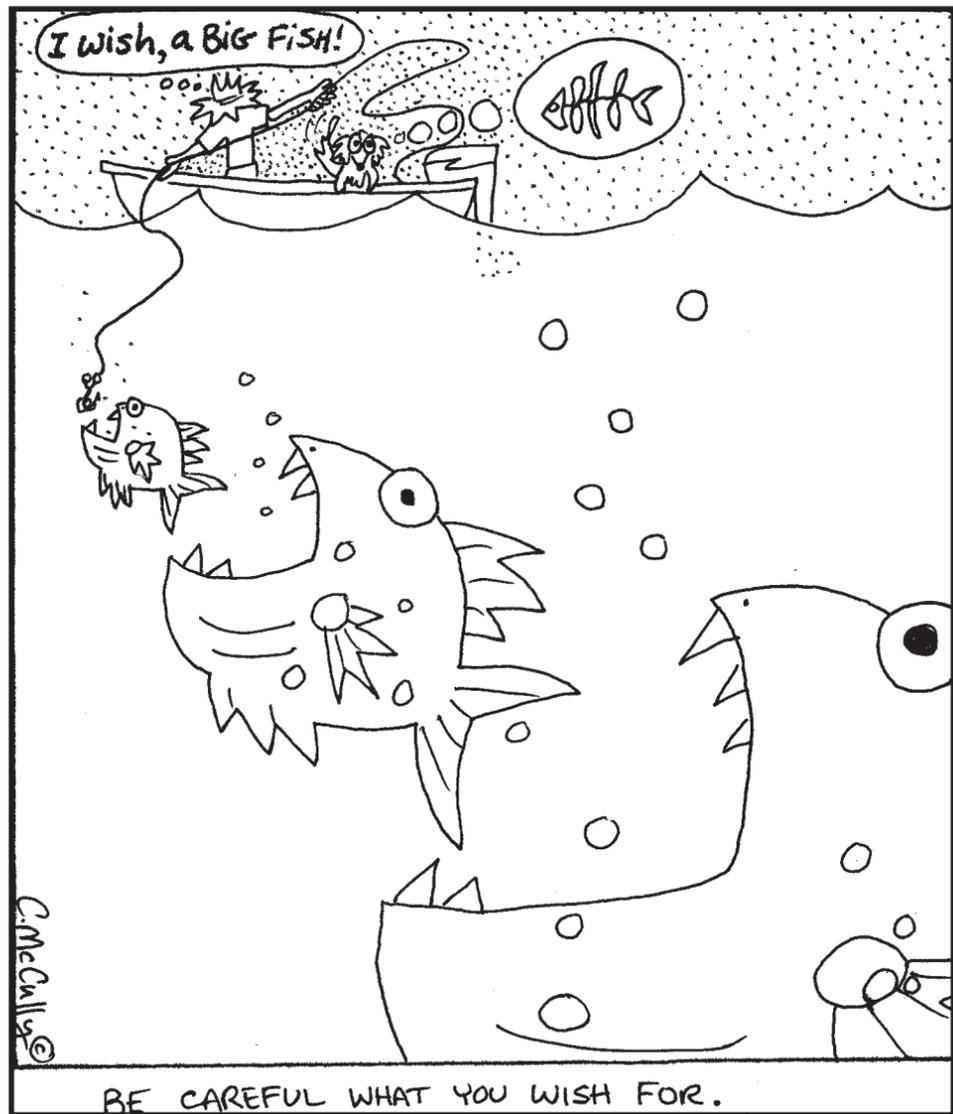
"You don't," I replied. "Just stick the whole lot under the bed."

A slight smile played around the teller's lips. I wondered how much longer she could keep up this fiasco. A muffled voice in the background, deep in the recesses of the administrative department said, "That's what I do." What a vote of confidence! The teller resumed a blank look and reverted to auto-mode.

As I didn't look like I was going to leave in a hurry, she sought reinforcements. Leaning across the counter, she drew my attention to a list of rules and regulations concerning new banking laws in the Bahamas and indeed it was right there in black and white. First time banking customers require a banker's reference!

"I think they may change that clause. People are having a slight problem with it," the teller stated. She would have won an award for "queen of the understatement" and first prize for "just doing my job" - without thinking.

"Off the record, do you find this odd? Have you ever heard of the Catch 22 syndrome?"



She shook her head and began again, "When I get the banker's ref . . ."

I didn't stay for the end of the sentence. My friend had already left and was standing outside the door putting. I got halfway to the exit, crossed my arms, stood perfectly still, looked to the left and blinked. Is it just me?

When I called a local consumer service to enquire what time service to my house was to be re-established, I was told.

"In a while."

"What does that mean?" I asked. To my mind a perfectly reasonable question.

"Shortly," came the curt reply.

"What does 'shortly' mean?" I ventured.

"Well, not long."

"What does 'not long' mean? Five minutes? Five hours? Five weeks?"

"Momentarily."

"Can I expect service this evening?"

"Oh, yes."

We are getting closer, I thought with a flicker of hope.

"Approximately when?"

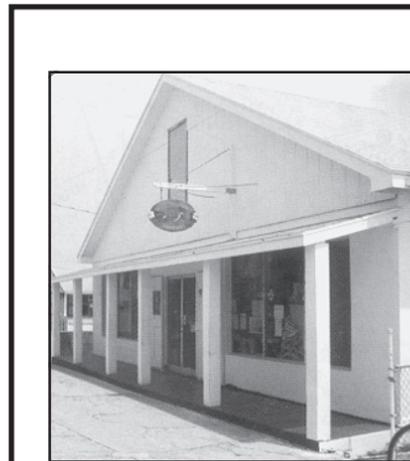
"In a while"

We had come full circle.

I cupped my head in my hands, turned to the left and blinked.

Is it just me?

Now I have been made aware of my "quirk," I am aware, too, that the blinking is becoming more frequent and my neck is suffering from a permanent crick on the left. I wonder why!



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# School News

## Spelling Bee

By Alice Bain

A primary school spelling bee was held on October 19th at the Ministry of Education Resource Center in Marsh Harbour. Students from Moore's Island All Age, Treasure Cay Primary, J.A. Pinder Primary in Sandy Point, Central Abaco Primary, St. Francis de Sales and Man-O-War school all took part.

This is the first spelling bee to have been sponsored directly by Local Government as part of Local Government Month. Chief Councillor Silbert Mills acted as "pronouncer" and contestants were judged by Sandy Walker, Ramona Bethel and Tannaz Faulkes. Senior Deputy Administrator Alexander Flowers gave an opening speech explaining the function of Local Government in which he cunningly used several of the words on the "seen" list that had been given to pupils beforehand.

All of the contestants were strong spellers and they breezed straight through the seen list. Then the competition got more heated as contestants were eliminated during the following rounds of unfamiliar words.

Both of the finalists were from Treasure Cay Primary under the tutelage of Roodatram Kawalram. First place and a \$50 prize was awarded at the conclusion of round 18 to Mirianne Brutus, who correctly spelled "commissioner." Her schoolmate, Eltisha Grant, was awarded second place and a \$20 prize. All contestants were presented with participation certificates. Mr. Roodatram sponsors and organizes a newspaper composed by the 6th grade students of Treasure Cay Primary and is presently gathering funds towards the purchase of a photocopier to be used in publishing this journal.

## Forest Heights

October has been a very busy month at Forest Heights Academy. It began with the Annual General PTA meeting on October 4. Principal Michael Meeson and the staff greeted involved parents who turned out to elect the officers for the new school year. The highlight of Mr. Meeson's address to the parents was the announcement of the addition of sixth grade to begin in the 2002-2003 school year. All of last year's officers will be returning for duty with some excellent additions. They are Co-Presidents Andy Stratton and Mike Malone; Vice-president and an executive parent representative committee of Joyce Colby, Theresa Pinder, Maureen Koepf, Churton Toote, Monica Higgs, Donna Wells and Lana Russell. Then the next day on October 5 the teachers were surprised by a wide array of cakes, flowers, thoughtful gifts and appreciative thanks from their students in honor of World Teacher's

Day.

The Falcons are also off to a soaring start as the intermediate girls defeated the Abaco Central Lady Marlins on October 10. Mashanna Russell struck out five players and hit one home run, becoming the Most Valuable Player of the game. Coach Victor and the senior boys' team were awarded their win by forfeit when ACH could not field a team. Then on October 17 the Junior girls and boys teams completed the sweep with two more victories over ACH. Desirae Lowe joined Mashanna to become high scorers. Power hitters Brandon Sweeting and Clayton Lowe were the MVP's for the boys. Well done, Falcons!

Meanwhile on October 16 Grade 11 sat their PSAT examination to prepare them for the SAT's. The results of these tests can determine what university they might attend after graduation. The next SAT's will be held at Forest Heights on December 1st.

Finally, Miss Vicki Hart is busy organizing a talent contest which will be held at 7 p.m. on November 28 in the new shaded area of the school. All students and their parents are invited to participate or just enjoy what should be an evening of high energy entertainment. Put that on your calendar!

## Fox Town School Celebrates World Teachers' Day

By Stephanie Humblestone

Fox Town School, its student body of 139, seven teachers, local guests and parents celebrated World Teachers' Day on October 5th. They came together at the Zion Baptist Church in Fox Town to pay homage to the teaching profession.

In 1994 the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation proclaimed that October 5th would henceforth be World Teachers' Day. On that day teachers would be revered and acknowledged as the backbone of learning with one of the most challenging assignments on earth - that of developing the potential of the growing child and perpetuating the quest for knowledge.

"The children at our school paid tribute to their teachers. They presented them with small gifts and wrote poems to them," said Mr. Austin Mills, Principal of the School.

The keynote speaker was Mr. Ivan Ferguson, Administrator for the North, who spoke about the origin of World Teachers' Day and the importance of each teacher. He

reminded the children to hold their teachers in high regard and to always respect them. Rev. Allan J. Mills ended the tribute with a prayer.

The number of teachers world wide exceeds 55 million (one percent of the global population) teaching one billion students. The great philosopher Carl Jung said of teachers and the teaching profession, "The curriculum is so much raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and the soul of the child."

## After School Activities

By Stephanie Humblestone

Abaco's high school youth are enjoying a variety of extra-curricular activities organised by their individual schools. Aside from homework and tutoring classes, they are being given the opportunity to participate in non-academic pursuits such as music and chess.

"We are teaching our students to sight read music. Music gives them the necessary discipline for other areas such as math," said Rev. Carey of Wesley College in Marsh

Harbour. Although the school has only 40 students, its music is resonating through the community with its 20-strong band. "We perform at just about every kind of function," stated Rev. Carey.

Over the six years it has been in existence, the band has earned much respect. Most students in the school play something and grooming for the band starts as early as grade 5 with the juniors playing recorders and elementary percussion instruments.

At Forest Heights Academy music is the best attended club. Music teacher Vicki Hart encourages students attending her music club on Wednesday afternoon with a variety of instruments. The school has had an active choir for many years which performs at school functions. Other clubs offered are Spanish, which is the next most popular extra-curricular activity, chess, crafts, basket making, computer studies and tennis. The school encourages students to participate and makes special transportation arrangements for those

Please see School

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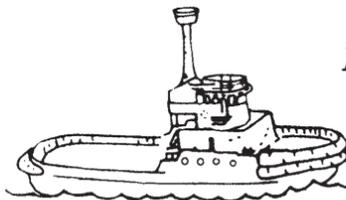
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# School News

School From Page 10

living on the cays.

Long Bay School with its student body of 118 encourages both its juniors and seniors to take part in as many as possible. "We do not have after school clubs for the elementary school but within school hours we encourage all grades to learn piano," said Principal Collie. "Every second week we have swimming for the upper school on Tuesdays after school, he added. This alternates with other sports such as volleyball and basketball. For the past month students have been taking advantage of the newly constructed swimming pool which is half the size of an Olympic pool. "We are still feeling the children out and seeing their response to the pool," he said. Also still in its infancy is a drama club which is growing in popularity.

Unlike Forest Heights Academy which has its own tennis court, Long Bay does not as yet have a facility to offer tennis to its students but all in good time. This time last year they did not have a swimming pool so they are optimistic that they will offer more and more activities to their students as time goes on.

Because after school transportation is difficult to arrange for its 450 students, some of whom live as far north as Crown Haven and as far south as Sandy Point, Abaco Central High School in Murphy Town offers a diver-

sity of clubs during school hours every Thursday between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. "This is the first year and it is really working out well. We are very excited and everyone is getting involved," said Vice Principal Huel Moss, who feels that it helps with discipline generally. Fellow-reporter with the The Abaconian, Mrs. Isobel Sherman, runs a tennis club on the school compound. Other teachers such as business teacher Beverley Rolle and French teacher Kemmit Fernander offer aerobics and modern dance respectively.

"We have members of the community coming in to assist," said Mr. Moss. A wide variety of sports such as volleyball and soccer are offered as well as more unusual options such as cosmetology and engine repairs. "As for crafts, you name it we have it," reported Mr. Moss. Mr. Alfred Dean, who directs the well renowned school choir, is currently offering a Junkanoo and Bahama club. Students learn about both traditional and Bahamian music. Abaco Central has some of the more traditional clubs such as the Red Cross, Girl Guide Rangers and the Kiwanis Key Club.

Abaco's other large high school, the 351-strong S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town, is a hub of activity on Thursday afternoons after school. Principal Mr. Leslie Rolle stated that the best attended are sporting clubs such as soccer, basketball and netball. However, there is a growing interest in chess.

The language, travel and trivial pursuit clubs are all popular. The Governor General's Award, which is akin to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme of former times, offers after school involvement in a wide variety of activities from hiking and camping to community service. With many awards in debating to their name, S.C. Bootle has a strong debating club which attracts a number of students.

Aside from creative outlets, these clubs are helping youngsters realise their potential and to identify areas of interests and strengths which may direct the course of their lives after leaving school.

## Central Abaco Primary

A memorial program was held at Central Abaco Primary honoring Mrs. Mary Cartwright, who passed away on September 24. She had taught in Abaco schools since 1969, first at the Spring City Public School, then at Marsh Harbour Primary School until it became Central Abaco Primary. The program was a tribute to her teaching and Christian influence on hundreds of our young people,

many of whom are now parents.

The program was chaired by Mr. Erskine Wells and many people offered selections and reflections. The keynote address was by Pastor Frank Penzy.

## S.C. Bootle High School

S.C. Bootle High School held a Career Day on October 22-23. This exposed twelfth grade students to many careers in a way that students could learn about details of each career. This is the fourth consecutive year that the school has held a Careers Day. People from many businesses and from government agencies made presentations explaining their work, the qualifications, education needed, benefits and remuneration. It gave the students a general idea of each occupation. The students were able to ask questions about areas that concerned them.

## Books Are Available

By Isobel Sherman  
Teachers at Abaco Central High School

Please see School

Page 20



Central Abaco Primary School held a memorial service honoring Mrs. Mary Cartwright, who taught for many years in Central Abaco. Included in the program was a dance performed by the Silent Larks group of Abaco Central High School.

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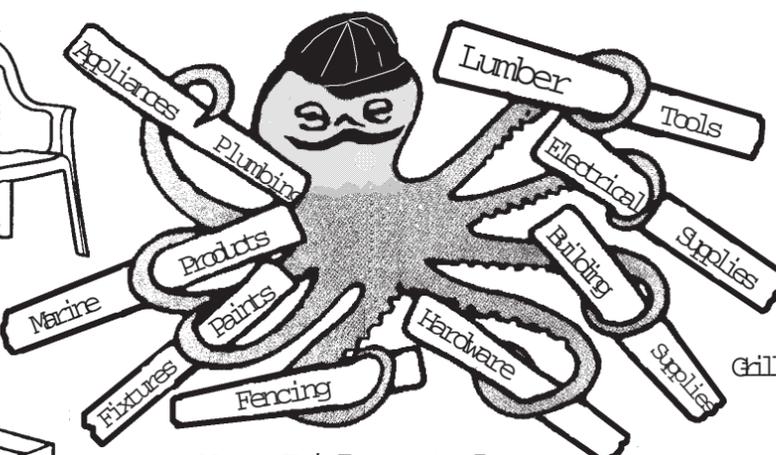


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**Ivan Ferguson**  
Administrator of North Abaco

From:  
**The Staff**

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# Central Abaco News

## Roads Are Being Paved in Central Pines Subdivision

By Stephanie Humblestone

The six and a half miles of roads in the Central Pines Estates subdivision in Dundas Town are presently receiving a coat of asphalt. "We are coming along slowly but surely and hope to have the roads completed by December 12th," said Mr. Sonny Waugh, owner of the Freeport-based contractor. He, along with on-site manager Marcel Waugh, is closely monitoring every step of the 423-lot subdivision which is being constructed in

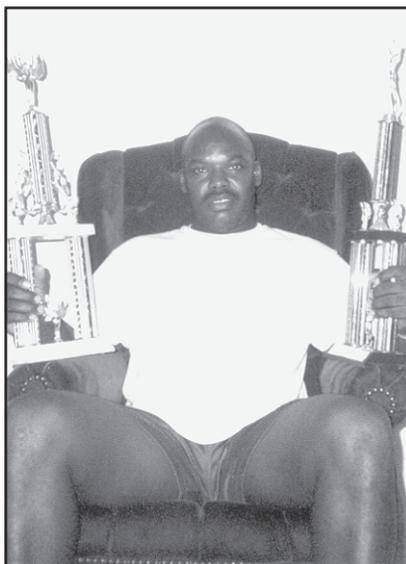
several phases.

The asphalt is a follow-up to the final grading of the roads which was recently completed. Last year huge amounts of pea-rock were transported from Freeport for the sub-base preparation. The roads are 60 feet wide as opposed to the normal 30 to 40 feet. They weave through the entire subdivision, linking all parts. Wherever possible the designers, Chee-A-Tow in Nassau have endeavoured to preserve trees and natural foliage.

Other areas of the project work are now in place. "All the electrical work will be completed by Christmas," said Mr. Waugh. Work continues to complete the development which has large lots averaging 60 feet by a



Work is progressing with the utilities in the Central Pines Estates. Workmen are shown here drilling holes for guy lines for the electric poles. The roads are prepared for the tar coating.



Kirk Thompson of Dundas Town was the overall winner of a recent domino tournament.

100 feet, some of which have commanding views.

"We still have a team of five from Nassau working on site and an additional nine from Abaco" said Mr. Waugh, who was generally pleased with the progress up to date.

### AA Meetings

The AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group in Marsh Harbour meets Mondays and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays at 7 p.m. at the clinic.



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# Govt. Finances Small Businesses

By Stephanie Humblestone

Since the September 11th terrorist attack on the United States the Bahamas Development Bank has noticed that tourist-related ventures which were either in the pipeline or underway have been put on hold by applicants. "This is to be expected. People are waiting to see what happens," said Mr. Loren Coleby, Manager of the Marsh Harbour branch which normally has as many as 10 to 15 applications a month from every sector of the community.

the number of applications for projects related to fishing, especially small fishing craft. "These are constant and the applications in before September 11th have not been abandoned," stated Mr. Coleby.

"Unlike applications for hotels or restaurants which can be anywhere from \$200,000 to half a million or more, fishing boat applicants are asking for sums of under \$30,000," he said. A new fishing boat application for a vessel of 30-40 feet has been approved for a Moore's Island resident.

Since the attack Triple J Car Rental op-

posite the Treasure Cay airport is expanding by opening a branch in Treasure Cay. The operation, which is managed by Mr. Jenson Edgcombe, has an adjoining gift shop at the airport location.

"People are applying for additional funds," said Mr. Coleby, who would like to see more entrepreneurs take the plunge and follow dreams and visions.

"Sometimes people don't like to ask about the Bahamas Development Bank in public because they do not wish to share their ideas," said Mr. Coleby, who has been speaking publicly at a series of local government meeting recently held throughout Abaco.

"At one place only one person asked a question. At another there were only five questions," he continued. Mr. Coleby encourages people to enquire about his facility which lends to ventures which are, in the company's terms, "viable." This means that they have a solid base and encompasses a productive activity.

"It is not the amount of collateral offered by the applicant," he added. The main criterion is that it is a sound business proposition and one which comes within the guidelines

of the Bahamas Development Bank.

The Bahamas Development Bank has lent its support as far south as Sandy Point for restaurants and a bonefish lodge as far north as Crown Haven where its presence is seen in a small take-away store and bonefish lodge. The enterprises which range from sewing businesses to cement mixing operations are as diverse as their applicants which hail from all over Abaco.

## National News

### Nassau Postal Workers Treated for Suspected Exposure to Anthrax

On October 21 a threat of anthrax exposure was announced in Nassau. A postal employee discovered a white substance leaking from a suspicious white envelope and notified the police. The preliminary results of testing indicated that it could have been anthrax. All persons exposed to the substance were located by the Department of Public Health and treated. However, later testing by the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, showed that it was not anthrax.

However, officials are advising that anyone receiving a suspicious letter or package do the following: Handle it with care, ensuring not to shake or bump it. Do not open, smell, touch or taste it. Isolate it immediately. Treat it as suspect and call the police immediately at 242-328-8477.

Characteristics which should be considered suspicious include letters and parcels

that

- Have any powdery substance on the outside.
- Are unexpected or from someone unfamiliar to the addressee
- Are marked with restricted endorsements such as "Personal" or "Confidential."
- Have no return address or have addresses that cannot be verified as legitimate.
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# Use Commonsense to Conquer Fear

## A Viewpoint

By Alice Bain

I wish the day had never come that the word "anthrax" meant anything more to me than the name of a 1980s heavy metal band. We had a scare in Nassau the weekend of October 20th. An envelope containing a suspicious white powder turned up at the Fox Hill Post Office substation addressed to a church member. It was all over the news on the 22nd - ANTRHAX IN NASSAU! Now wait a second.

A couple of points here: a) If terrorists were going to send anthrax through the mail in Nassau, don't you think they would target someone important? Someone whose death would make a real difference? I doubt very strongly that the Prime Minister, the Governor General or anyone from any embassy picks up their mail from the Fox Hill substation. And b) With anthrax in the news every day (all day on CNN), if you were a disgruntled teenager or anyone else with a beef with society, what do you think suggests itself as the quickest, easiest way to create a disrup-

tion?

Flour, cornstarch, baby powder, icing sugar and coffee whitener are all easy to come by but any hoax simply must be taken seriously because of the extreme potential for harm. Hoaxes have been perpetrated all across the United States and people have been arrested for hoaxing in countries all over the world. France has recently enacted fast-track legislation to prosecute hoaxers; make no mistake, these people are not getting off lightly. Four students in Indianapolis each face up to 18 months in prison and a \$10,000 fine for simply writing the words "This is anthrax" on a food container. This is serious stuff. Hotels and office buildings have been evacuated simply on the strength of a bit of white powder found somewhere it shouldn't be.

Huge amounts of money are being lost due to these hoaxes. Hoaxers are also feed-

ing the public paranoia, and for this it is only right that punishment be swift and severe. As of the time of writing, all tests done on the Fox Hill substance and the workers exposed to it have come back negative. It seems far more likely that this instance is the result of someone being "vex" and trying to make trouble rather than the work of a sinister cell of terrorists brewing up anthrax in a secret lab somewhere in Fox Hill. This is the Bahamas, isn't it? You can't sneeze in Walker's Cay without everyone knowing about it half an hour later in Inagua. What chance do you think that terrorists would have of keeping their activities secret? Especially in Nassau of all places, where you can't swing a cat without braining ten other people.

My mother did her weekly shopping at

City Markets that same Monday. She said when she went to get some peanuts, someone had thrown white powder over part of the mixed nuts display in that aisle. Logically assuming that it was almost infinitely improbable that someone had gotten his hands on anthrax and poisoned the nuts and that it was much, much more likely that it was flour strewn by some snotty punk who'd just been through the baking ingredients aisle, Mum picked up her peanuts, brushed them off and put them in her shopping cart. A round of applause for you, Mum, I think you deserve it. If we give in to fear, we lose control over our lives. Use your head before you panic. And if there is any poetic justice, the idiot who did this could be languishing in bed right now with a particularly nasty case of the flu.

## North Abaco News

### Cooper's Town Has Temporary Doctor

By Stephanie Humblestone

The Cooper's Town clinic has a relief doctor standing in for Dr. Francis Biney. Dr. Marie Consulta, who is originally from the Philippines, arrived on Abaco on October 4th. She worked for three months at clinics in Nassau. Prior to this she spent several years on Andros where she worked in the government clinics. She has been in The Bahamas for five years.

Dr. Consulta is enjoying the well laid out clinic in Cooper's Town, which is known for

its spaciousness and state-of-the-art design. She is enjoying her stay on Abaco and her interaction with the people of the north. She will leave on November 11 at which time Dr. Biney, who has been with the clinic for several years, will resume his position.

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# Are We Developing "Pitcakes"

By Alice Bain

Abaco has recently seen the rise of a new trend in the dog world. Pit Bulls are apparently the fashionable dog to own. Kelly O'Meara, a program manager for Humane Society International has been working with the Spay and Neuter Incentive Program (SNIP) since its inception and commented on why she was alarmed at this increase in the number of Pit Bulls on the island, and in particular, the cross-breeding seen between Pit Bulls and our native Potcake dogs.

"We did our first clinic here in February of 2000, and since then I have noticed a big difference in the 'look' of the average Potcake on the street. There is obviously more 'Pit' in them. There has been a large influx of Pits into Abaco, in the Marsh Harbour area especially.

"Pit Bulls are popular amongst Bahamians and now even "Pitcakes," Potcakes with pink noses and Pit Bull facial structure, are more desirable than the normal Potcake. The problem is the Pit Bull is a very aggressive

dog and this addition of Pit blood to the Potcake population is liable to change the character of the average Potcake on the street." Concern has been raised recently over this issue in Nassau where a woman was killed by a pack of dogs in broad daylight. The attack occurred in early September in an area where the stray dog problem is particularly bad.

"What I want to emphasize here," continued Ms. O'Meara, "is that the typical Bahamian Potcake is not naturally an aggressive dog, but that the addition of aggressive dogs to the breeding pool can turn what was once a naturally rather cowardly 'breed' into a dog with aggressive tendencies, a dog capable of attacking a human."

Pit Bulls are different even from other aggressive breeds of dog. The Pit Bull, or Staffordshire Terrier, is derived from a breed of dog originally developed over several hundred years for use in the "sport" of bull-baiting. After bull-baiting was outlawed, the dogs continued to be bred and eventually evolved into the Pit Bull we see today. These dogs are radically different from other dogs both in their psychology and their anatomy. Pit Bulls are more likely to defend themselves from what they perceive as a threat, even if that "threat" is only a child teasing it. Where another dog would run from a person throwing rocks at it, a Pit Bull is far more likely to turn on that person and bite him.

Pit Bulls do not back down or run away like Potcakes do. In addition to this, the Pit Bull has a "locking" jaw, so that when it does bite, it often cannot be persuaded to let go. There have been reported cases in which a Pit Bull has been decapitated and the head has still remained locked firmly onto the limb of the victim it was biting. Needless to say, these features make Pit Bulls much more dangerous than other dogs, and if these traits were to be passed on even in part to the local population of stray Potcakes, we would have a serious problem on our hands.

Statistics gathered over a nineteen-year period in the United States indicate that although Pit Bulls are not likely to attack, when they do attack, they are far, far more likely to fatally wound the victim. The message here is clear. The Pit Bull is a dangerous breed and as such their ownership comes with great responsibility. Dangerous breeds become much more dangerous if they are not trained

properly.

Many attacks in the United States involve Pit Bulls which have escaped from their owners' property. One escaped Pit turned up on an elementary school campus and badly bit several people before a security guard shot it to death. Often the owners of these dogs indicate that the animal was a family pet and had never shown that kind of aggression before. In fact, many nations have strict laws concerning Pit Bulls and other aggressive breeds. In Great Britain, where the ancestors of the Pit Bull originated, the dogs must be spayed and neutered (i.e. it is now illegal to breed them) and absolutely must be muzzled in public. These laws were enacted as a result of many mauling incidents in which the victims were often children. It is also illegal to export Pit Bulls from the United States although this law is obviously being flouted.

Ms. O'Meara is afraid that the character

of the Potcake may be permanently compromised by crossbreeding with Pit Bulls. "Potcakes are inherently loyal, loveable, smart and gentle. It would be a shame to see this change, and it would be terrible if Abaco got like other places, where people need to be afraid of stray dogs - I think we will be seeing more attacks in the future because of this, and I think that 'Pitcakes' will begin to fight back at humans who taunt or abuse them rather than run away. Eventually this will cause problems to the human population of Abaco. Even the sweetest Pit Bulls have been known to turn on their owners; it's in their blood. The Potcake is underappreciated by Bahamians. Americans who have adopted stray Potcakes rave about them, how loyal and friendly they are. You couldn't ask for a better dog, really." It is sadly often the case that we do not truly know what we have until it is gone.

## An Eye Opening Letter

By Isobel Sherman

On October 7 Father Stan read a letter at Mass in Marsh Harbour from France Hegburn, who works in the Ministry of Tourism's London Office. The officer had just spent time in Nassau analyzing the exit surveys from Europeans for the past year. The tourism officer had taken the time to write every church in the Bahamas hoping that the churches could assist with a problem which concerns him.

The general consensus was that persons employed in hotels, restaurants, taxi drivers and other persons employed in the tourism industry leave much to be desired. The officer went on to explain that complaints of rudeness, lack of caring, impolite, surly, unfriendly and unsmiling were universal in the exit surveys. The only positive comment was that most thought the Bahamian people on the street were very courteous and friendly.

This tourism officer is concerned that unless something is done, The Bahamas is in danger of losing tourists because of attitude. This letter is a wake up call for all of us. It was written before the events of Sept 11. Tourism is our bread and butter. Many times I hear that in Marsh Harbour we are not as tourist friendly as on the cays. Why? That is something I would like to know.



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# Researchers Use Dedicated Volunteers

By Alice Bain

Earthwatch Institute has had a presence on Abaco since 1992. Diane Claridge and Kenneth Balcomb of the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey host eight expeditions a year, each with a maximum of eight participants. So what is Earthwatch? Most Abaconians know them as "those crazy scientists who used to live down in Hole-in-the-Wall."

What do they do? Why do they come here?

Earthwatch is a Boston-based nonprofit organization which advertises for participation in approximately 160 research projects worldwide. According to Earthwatch, "...the scientific process must engage the general public if it is to change the world." Basically, the institute takes people as paying participants from all walks of life and sends them around the world to different research projects which vary widely. These range from Dolphins of South Africa through Neolithic Art of the Jordan Valley to Mexican Forest Carnivores. The principle activity of the

Earthwatch participants in these projects is to gather, correlate and enter data and while doing so, to learn about the project they are aiding, the scientific method behind the effort and the need for global conservation.

Here on Abaco, Earthwatchers do work spotting whales and dolphins for the BMS. Dr. Balcomb has worked with Earthwatch in his study of orca whales in Puget Sound, Washington, since 1987 and he and Diane Claridge extended the Earthwatch project here to Abaco five years later. "The teams are here for ten days at a time and are split into two sections, rotating time at sea collecting data and onshore doing data entry, identification work and scanning negatives," said Ms. Claridge.

Applicants must demonstrate that they are in good health and be able to swim in order to take part in the Abaco program. "We always spend an entire day orienting the new Earthwatchers to field techniques, how to search for whales and dolphins, how to record

information and what we expect of them while they are here," she continued. "This can seem a bit consuming of time, but with a well-trained team you can get a lot of work done."

The program runs for three months in the winter/spring (January, February, March) and three in the summer (June, July, August). "In the winter we get a lot more career-based people. The ages we've taken have ranged from the early to mid-20's all the way up to late 70's! In the summer we get more students and teachers," stated Ms. Claridge. "Some schools have outreach programs in conjunction with Earthwatch. They'll send teachers on the program on the condition that they integrate what they learn into their curricula. Some of these participants are funded by various foundations and have to make a

presentation in front of the school board on their return."

The Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey and Earthwatch were based at Hole-in-the-Wall up until the devastation caused by Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Since then Ken and Diane have continued their research from a base in Sandy Point. This move proved fortuitous because it put the two cetacean researchers in exactly the right spot at the right time to gather much-needed data during the mass stranding of whales and dolphins that occurred during a U.S. Navy maneuver in the Northwest Providence Channel in 2000. Access to the dead and injured whales provided the first definitive evidence that intense active sonar can maim or kill certain sea creatures.

## Every Child Counts Benefits from Florida Event

Mike and Linda Davis of Cocoa Beach, Florida, hosted a group of Abaco visitors over the Columbus Day weekend. Twenty-one "posters" to the Abaco message board (<http://abacoboard.com>) from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Colorado participated in the weekend festivities and fund raising. The festivities included a horse shoe competition, Bimini ring game, an auction for "a historic piece of jewelry" and the sale of Every Child Counts t-shirts, hats, and bags.

The proceeds of all these festivities were donated to Every Child Counts under the direction of Patty Basalone. Patty has reported that more than \$850 was donated. Every Child Counts is a special education and literacy project at the St. Francis de Sales School in

Marsh Harbour. Its mission is to provide direct assistance, training, and materials to ease the burden of those students who struggle academically, some of which are learning disabled.

Dr. Bundy and Doug Kohl provided live entertainment. The music consisted of island favorites along with a special song written by Doug to commemorate Laura and Jerry Summey's marriage vow renewal ceremony held on Guna Cay in June of this year.

The attendees provided various appetizers and food dishes. Some of the delicacies included Bahamian dishes such as conch chowder, macaroni and cheese and peas and rice. All those in attendance had a great time and look forward to the next get together. It will be even better!

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Buyers, on the other hand, may offer any price they wish for a property. If their offer is too low, it will probably be rejected by the sellers.

If a home is priced too high, no offers are likely to be received. At the same time, unreasonably low offers almost guarantee a resounding "no, thank you" from the sellers.

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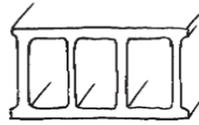
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# Local Scientist Studies Project Impact

By Alice Bain

Michelle Duplaga Bethell is an Environmental Scientist working as an Independent Environmental Consultant who resides in Marsh Harbour. This reporter met with her to discuss the concept of an Environmental Impact Assessment, what that means and why it will soon become necessary to do one for any further development on Abaco and in The Bahamas as a whole.

"Basically, we need to ask ourselves why we do not want to become like Florida," said Mrs. Bethell. The kind of development witnessed in South Florida and the Florida Keys is a particularly strong example of what can happen when development occurs at a hectic pace, disregarding the natural balance of the environment.

The beachfront in the Dade, Broward and Palm Beach county areas is almost entirely built up now. There have been various well publicized sewage leaks and spills which have closed areas of the beach area for days and weeks at a time. Also, encroachment into the Everglades swamp is strangling the flow of fresh water to South Florida, increasingly leading to droughts and water rationing for residents there.

"It's important to emphasize that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not something associated with Greenpeace or any

of the other environmental organizations," continued Mrs. Bethell. "The purpose of an EIA is to come to a happy medium between developers and the government and to minimize the environmental impact of any development done."

Environmental Impact Assessments have been required in The Bahamas for any foreign owned development for some time now. "It is not right that foreigners come and develop our islands without giving back to the community, and they certainly should not be allowed to do anything to jeopardize the overall health of our forests, reefs and aquifers."

Legislation proposed by the Office of the Prime Minister and the Bahamas Environmental Science and Technology Commission (BEST) is in the works to require Bahamian-owned companies to do these assessments for any development. EIA's are now required on a case-by-case basis for large scale developments by Bahamian companies.

"An EIA tells us more than scientific facts about aquifers and types of trees and animals in the way of a particular development. We take into account any historical, cultural and economic impact a given development will make." Whether, for example, a new runway on an airport would send airplanes in a flight pattern over a hospital or a church as well as whether the runway itself would

threaten any indigenous wildlife.

Mrs. Bethell has worked in the industry for seven years now. Since moving to The Bahamas, she has taken part in EIA's in Crooked Island, the Exumas, in the expansion of the Nassau International Airport and in an Eco Lodge Design Project in Andros. "We would like to see more landscaping with indigenous plants in the Bahamas," said Mrs. Bethell.

South Florida has recently begun landscaping on a massive scale with plants indigenous to both South Florida and The Bahamas. As an example, the cocoplum is a native species which Florida landscapers have realized does better with less water, fertilizer and pesticides than other non-native species and makes just as nice a hedge. Native species take less active care to grow and are cheaper in the long run than many common exotic

species presently used in the landscaping industry. "In addition," said Mrs. Bethell, "some of these exotics are invasive in nature and can disrupt native plant communities in natural areas by out competing them, displacing them and slowly changing the landscape over a period of time. This in the long-term can lead to a loss in bio-diversity."

"Because of the new EIA requirements, there are more opportunities here in The Bahamas for Bahamian kids interested in science and engineering," Mrs. Bethell concluded. It is valuable to have Bahamians become active in the management of future development in this country.

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## Wild Birds Protection Act Is Considered

The Department of Agriculture is considering revising the Wild Birds Protection Act to better protect wild birds. Penalties for offenders are presently not severe enough to be effective. Wild bird reserves are established but there is no protection of the birds in these preserves.

Hunting licenses are under consideration. This would generate income to help with the management of the wild bird resources and lead to the development of a database of all hunters, giving information on how many persons are hunting in each island. More information about hunters is needed to better protect the local pigeon populations on different islands.

The Hon. James Knowles, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, is concerned about the lack of effective management of bird-hunting in particular. Most hunters favor better management of this resource to allow them to enjoy the sport in the future.

Mr. Knowles commented on the extensive studies on the white-crowned pigeon

population. The studies are quite old and new studies are needed to update this data. The Bahamas has a commitment from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to help with the management of its game birds. This will provide The Bahamas with expertise by biologists who have done extensive work in the Caribbean.

One problem Mr. Knowles wants to assist with is the proper identification of birds by hunters. Many hunters are not aware of the rules and others cannot distinguish clearly between various species of birds. There are several species of ducks and doves that are protected and which hunters are not permitted to shoot. The department is developing a full-color hunters' identification guide which will help.



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Reports of Priscilla Weatherford, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robin Weatherford, and her family would like to congratulate her for graduating with honors from Forest Heights Academy in June 2001. Priscilla was salutatorian of her class and earned the BGCSE examinations with high marks.

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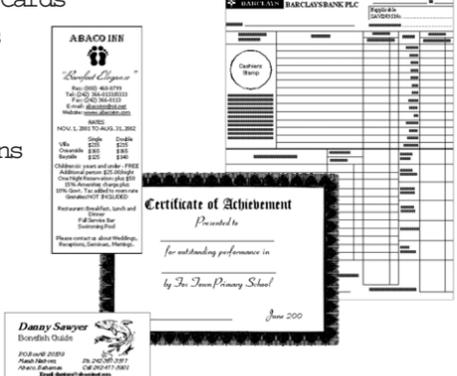
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 - Danny Sawyer (Business Card)

# Local Government at Work

Central Abaco Town Planning 22 Oct 01 Twenty applications with a total value of \$1.7 million were under consideration plus several deferred plans from previous meetings.

Several applications were deferred as the submitted documents did not give proof of ownership or lease arrangements.

A four-foot-high wall was approved with one section being ten feet in height. This is to deflect the kitchen exhaust of a neighboring restaurant.

A proposed house site on Pelican Shores was deferred pending an onsite inspection. It did not appear that there was sufficient room for the proposed building while observing the necessary setbacks.

A house plan was rejected which was proposed on a government agricultural plot. The lease documents supporting the applicant's occupancy of the land prohibited the construction of a house.

Abaco Outboards was denied permission to construct a shed roof between two containers.

An application for a duplex was deferred as architectural technicians are not allowed to design a multi-family residence.

A request to deviate from a three-bay commercial building to a triplex was deferred as it must be submitted or stamped by an architect.

An application for a two story residence of 3300 square feet prepared by an architectural technician was deferred as technicians are not permitted to design two story buildings.

An application for a pre-approved residential plan designed by the Ministry of Housing and submitted by a local draftsman on behalf of a property owner was approved.

Murphy Town Meeting 22 October 01 The meeting was postponed as a quorum

did not show up.

Central Abaco District Council 26 Oct 01 The meeting began with eight members present. A vacant seat exists due to a resignation.

After the minutes of the last meeting were read, Councillor Yvonne Key felt Council did not properly conclude the dump maintenance issue discussed at length during the September 27 meeting and the issue was still open to be resolved.

Deputy Chief Councillor Jason Swain was unhappy that the decisions of the Council were not being implemented and that the minutes did not accurately reflect Council decisions. It was not clear if he was directing his remarks about the minutes of the August 30 meeting during which a contractor appeared to have been selected for the maintenance of the dump or the September

7 meeting during which the recorded action of the previous meeting was challenged. As a result of Mr. Swain's questioning the accuracy of the minutes, Senior Deputy Administrator Alexander Flowers, who recorded the minutes of the September 27 meeting, took offense at the

accusations, chided Council members for their pettiness, bickering and childish behavior and left the meeting. Inasmuch as Mr. Flowers was representing

government as the secretary of record to Council, the meeting was dissolved without further comment.



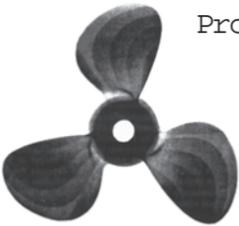
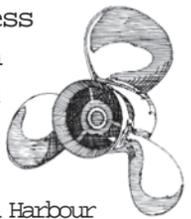
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## Health Professionals Must Register

The public is advised that all health professionals are required to be registered and licensed to practice in The Bahamas. Health professionals include the following professions: Emergency Service Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy Therapy. The Act excludes physicians, nurses and dentists who come under separate legislation and who already are governed by their own Councils. Any person who engages in the listed professions and who is not registered and licensed with the Health Professions Council is liable to a penalty fine.

In order to avoid contravening the Act and being convicted, all those persons practicing as health professionals in The Bahamas who are not registered should submit their applications to the Health Professions Council immediately.

Application forms for registration and licensing may be obtained from the Health Professions Council's Office in Nassau. For further information call 242-326-7740, 242-326-0566 or write c/o Post Office Box N.



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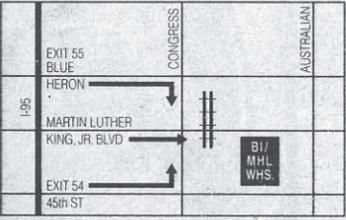
Ms. Albury has been employed at the Bahamas Electricity Corporation since 1999 as a cashier.

Ms. Albury is very committed to her work. Her attitude and deportment compliments her helpfulness in dealing with customers and coworkers alike.

The Management and Staff of BEC Abaco encourage Ms. Albury in her efforts to continue rendering consistently outstanding service.

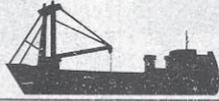
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# Police Report

As Reported to Stephanie Humblestone

Arawak Wines and Spirits in Marsh Harbour was broken into on October 11 through a window and \$330 in cash was stolen.

A Marsh Harbour resident reported on October 11 that a passport appeared to have been stolen from his house.

A business on Lubbers Quarters reported on October 12 that an employee was poisoned by a juice by another employee. The victim was taken to the Government Clinic in Marsh Harbour and later flown to Nassau for further medical

treatment. The suspect was arrested, interviewed and later charged.

The Reflection Restaurant and Bar in Crown Haven reported a break-in on October 12.

A woman in Hard Bargain, Moore's Island reported on October 15 a break-in through a window and the theft of a Lucky Way suitcase containing clothing, passport and other items totaling \$1200.

A man riding his bicycle on October 15 in Marsh Harbour's Mudd area was struck in the face, arm and back by a blue baseball bat by an acquaintance.

A Pelican Shores resident

reported on

October 15 that her purse was stolen from her parked vehicle. Items valued at \$349 were taken.

A Spring City man was arrested on October 16 for stealing items from two vehicles he had just cleaned for a Cherokee Sound man. The stolen items were valued at approximately \$200.

Central Convenience Store in Dundas Town was broken into on October 17 through a forced door.

J & J Electrical Shop on Stratton Drive in Marsh Harbour reported a theft on October 17 of a cell phone and cash

with a total value of \$360. Named was a suspect living in Spring City.

The police arrested a Spring City man on October 17 for possession of marijuana. A new LP gas tank worth \$200 was stole on October 23 from the truck shop at the S. (Bootle High School in Cooper's Town.

A Little Abaco contractor working Crown Haven reported on October 24 the following items stolen from a home construction site: six buckets of joint compound, two exterior doors and one window with a tot value of approximately \$720.

## Visitors Slowly Returning

By Isobel Sherman

September and October are usually very slow months for visitors on Abaco despite the events of September 11th. However, in the last two weeks signs of visitors returning are evident as one walks about the business district of Marsh Harbour. One lady sailed her boat from Ft Lauderdale and intends to stay for the whole winter. She told me she was so happy to be back in Abaco, away from all of the fears

in the States.

Abaco's winter visitors are a combination of persons coming by plane for a few weeks, second home owners who come for the winter and boaters who may come for the entire winter or part of the winter. Many persons in Abaco are predicting that we will have a good winter season.



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# More School News

School From Page 11

in many instances ask students to buy text books for their courses so the student can do the work and succeed in the course. Many of the books are available in Marsh Harbour at Abaco Treasures. George Allbury orders the books from Nassau making it easy for parents to purchase them. The problem is that there are many books that have not been purchased.

Parents, your children need the books. Money may be tight but there are times when parents have to sacrifice for their children. Come now and care about your children and buy them the books that they need.

## Abaco Central High School

By Isobel Sherman

### Clubs Are Successful

The concept of scheduling a period a week for clubs at Abaco Central was started this term. Every Thursday from 2-3 p.m. students, all students of the high school are engaged in club activities. Each club has two teachers as advisors. The clubs were formed to meet students' interests as well as teachers' interests.

Some of the clubs are Key Club, McGuyver Club, a maintenance club, small

engine repair, crafts, aerobics, modern dance, volleyball, soccer, tennis, baseball, Red Cross, Junkanoo, computer club, science club, real music, cosmetology, (this has Florence Stuart as the leader) and Girl Guides.

### Quadrangle Is Being Landscaped

The quadrangle at Abaco Central High School is being landscaped. Loads of dirt mixed with sand were delivered and spread this past week in the quadrangle. An area has been identified to have a concrete slab for assemblies. Sod has been planted and hopefully it will catch. It has two things against it: this is the beginning of the dry season and secondly the footprints of students

### Vita Malt Basketball Tournament set

The Annual Vita Malt Classic Basketball Tournament for high schools is scheduled to be held over mid term break in Freeport. S.C. Bootle High School coached by Paul Satten will be playing on Pool A. The Abaco Central Marlins coached by Charles Poitier will be playing in Pool B. Good luck to both teams in this annual tournament.

### Students Paint Signs

Last spring art students at Abaco Central High School made street signs against littering. Ms. Cavell Macdonell, art teacher last

year at Abaco Central High School, presented a proposal to the local District Council to design and construct 12 anti-littering billboards. The Council endorsed the project providing plywood and lumber necessary for the work.

Two of the billboards have soda cans nailed to the boards spelling the words STOP. All signs read Students Against Littering. These signs have now been finally put up in places in Dundas Town, Murphy Town and Marsh Harbour. The sign at the entrance of Central Abaco Primary School on Forest Drive has a young man kicking a soda can and the message is Let's Kick The Habit!

The students who worked on the billboards include Dexter Gay and Darron Smith (Grade 9), Dion Smith and Edward Sawyer (Grade 8), Waseela Rahim and Louise Ashail (Grade 12), Omar Archer and Rashid (Grade 11)

along with Mr. Jeff Mills and Mr. Gerrard Thomas who provided woodwork

### Class Writes Letters

The English Language class of Mrs Nadene Beneby at Abaco Central High School wrote letters to President George Bush of the United States expressing their sympathy over the events of September 11th. The letters were delivered to the U.S. Embassy in Nassau by Senior Master Huel Moss, Jr. to be forwarded to the White House.

### PTA Meets

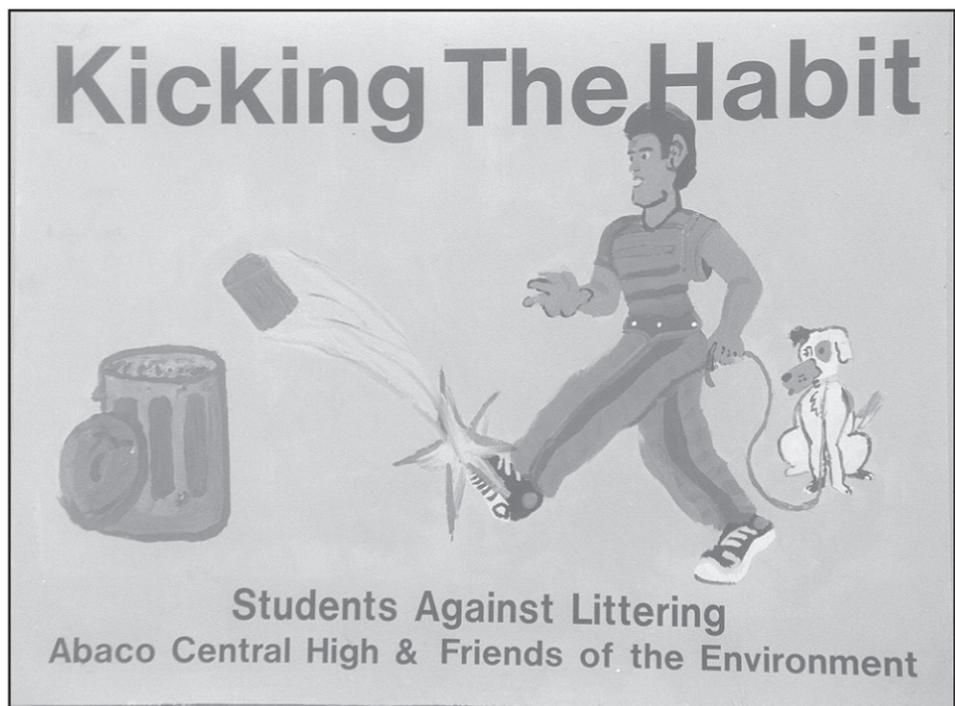
The Abaco Central High School PTA met on October 22nd. Not many parents came to the meeting. Mr Leonard Edgecombe, President, gave the parents a report on the reno-

Please see School

Page 22



Abaco Central High School held a Careers Day event on October 23. A variety of business people and government employees spoke to interested students. Shown above is Mr. Geraint Thomas, a teacher at the school who described careers in mechanics and engineering.



Shown above is an anti-littering sign recently erected in the Central Abaco area. This sign was painted by Dexter Gay, now a 10 th grade student at Abaco Central High School.

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*Mini-auction*

*in aid of*  
**Jenetta Lowe's**  
Medical Expenses.

**Location: Yamaha Park**

**Date: Saturday, Nov. 10th, 2001**

**Time: 11 a.m. until**

**Tickets available at**  
**Bahamas Family Market**

**Ph: 367-3174**

**Menu:**  
**Assorted Dinners**  
**Conch Salad**  
**Etc.**

## PRO FREIGHT

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1 (305) 688-6772



# Visitors' Guide

Airlines • Boats • Bikes • Cars • Carts • Restaurants • Taxis • Services

Bahamas area code 242 applicable to all phone numbers, unless shown otherwise



Emergency Services	
Police (Marsh Harbour)	367-2560
Marsh Harb. Volunteer Fire Dept.	367-2000
Hope Town Volunteer Fire Dept.	VHF Ch 16
Trauma One Ambulance Service	367-2911
Dundas Town Fire Dept.	367-2935 or 4935
Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc	VHF 16 or 366-0282

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers	
Plus extra for each passenger above two	
• Marsh Harbour Airport to:	
Renny Dock (to / from airport)	\$12.00 + \$3
Abaco Beach Hotel	\$10.00 + \$3
Airport to Conch Inn	\$10.00 + \$3
Harbour View	\$10.00 + \$3
Golden Harvest	\$10.00 + \$3
BYS	\$12.00 + \$3
Dove Plaza	\$10.00 + \$2
Marsh Harbour	\$10.00 + \$3
Stop light	\$10.00 + \$3
Western Auto	\$ 6.00 + \$2
Dundas Town	\$10.00 + \$3
Government Dock	\$10.00 + \$3
Ambassador Inn	\$10.00 + \$3
Murphy Town	\$14.00 + \$4
Pelican Shores	\$14.00 + \$4
Eastern Shores	\$15.00 + \$4
Spring City	\$15.00 + \$5
Gov. Clinic	\$ 6.00 + \$3
Treasure Cay B	\$55.00 + \$ 5
Airport Treas. Cay B	\$65.00 + \$ 5
Little Harbour	\$80.00 + \$10
Cherokee	\$80.00 + \$10
Snake Cay	\$35.00 + \$10
Big Mangrove	\$50.00 + \$10
Casuarina Point	\$60.00 + \$10
Bahama Palm Shores	\$70.00 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100.00 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135.00 + \$10
• Marsh Harbour Ferry dock to:	
Great Abaco Beach	\$ 2.00 + \$2
Abaco Towns	\$ 2.00 + \$2
Conch Inn	\$ 2.00 + \$2
Wally's	\$ 2.00 + \$2
BYS	\$ 2.00 + \$2
Jib Room	\$ 5.00 + \$2
Stop Light	\$ 6.00 + \$3
Dove Plaza	\$ 6.00 + \$3
Government Dock	\$ 7.00 + \$3
Government Clinic	\$ 9.00 + \$3
Western Auto	\$ 9.00 + \$3
Renny Dock	\$ 9.00 + \$3
National Insurance	\$ 9.00 + \$3
Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour	
No children under three years to be charged.	
Unaged pets will be charged as passengers	
Luggage \$50 each over four, Surf Boards \$3.00 ea.	
• Northern Abaco	
T. Cay Airport to Treasure Cay	\$14 + \$6
TC Airport to Brooks	\$10 + \$5
TC Airport to Highway Liquors	\$10 + \$5
TC Airport to Renny dock	\$5 + \$3
TC Airport to Bahamas Star	\$14 + \$6
TC Airport to Mowey	\$14 + \$6
TC Airport to Sand Banks	\$20 + \$5
TC Airport to Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
TC Airport to Black Wood	\$14 + \$5
TC Airport to Fire Road	\$25 + \$5
TC Airport to Cooper's Town	\$30 + \$5
TC Airport to Cedar Harbour	\$45 + \$5
TC Airport to Wood Cay	\$50 + \$5
TC Airport to Mount Hope	\$55 + \$5
TC Airport to Rox Town	\$60 + \$5
TC Airport to Crown Haven	\$65 + \$5
TC Airport to Marsh Harbour	\$65 + \$5
TC Airport to Marsh Harbour RT	\$65 + \$5
TC Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$55 + \$5
TC Hotel to Joe's Creek	\$25 + \$5
TC Hotel to Sand Bank	\$16 + \$5
TC Hotel to Mowey	\$10 + \$5
TC Hotel to Brooks	\$7 + \$5
From TC Hotel to All Areas N. of TC Airport Add \$10	
Waiting Time \$12 Per Hour	

Abaco Marinas	
Slips Rel. Price	
Walker's Cay Marina 7 - F 353-1252	
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	5 - F 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	3 - F 365-4271
Black Sand Marina	5 - 365-4531
Other Shore Club	12 - F 365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10 - F 365-4033
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Cay Marina 150	F 365-8250
Man-O-War	
Man-O-War Marina	25 - F 365-6008
Marsh Harbour	
Boat Harbour Marina	183 - F 367-2736
Conch Inn	7 - F 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36 - F 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52 - F 367-2700
Mangoes	29 - F 367-2366
Triple J. Marine	24 - F 367-2163
Abaco Yacht Haven	7 - 367-3079
Hope Town	
Hope Town Marina	16 - F 366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways	366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6 - F 366-0154
Sea Spray	24 - F 366-0065
Spanish Cay	
Spanish Cay Marina	75 - F 365-0083
Guana Cay	
Guana Beach Resort	22 - F 365-5133
Orchid Bay	32 - F 365-5175
Boats coming from U.S. can clear at Walker's Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour.	

Air Lines Serving Abaco	
Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale	367-5599
Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale	367-2800
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau & W Palm B	367-2095
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Bth	367-3415
Discover - Orlando	
Golden Airlines - Ft. Lauderdale	954-359-8020
Island Express	367-3597
Lynx Air International - Ft. Lauderdale	954-772-9808
Major Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
Twin Air - Fort Lauderdale	365-8677
USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bth	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Abaco Air Charters	*367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	*367-2089
* Local charter companies serving S. Florida and within the Bahamas	

Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted					
Albury's Ferry Service					
Marsh Harbour to Hope Town 20 minute trip					
†7:15 (M-F)	9 am	10:30	12:15 pm	2 4	5:30
Hope T. to Marsh Harbour 20 minute trip					
8 am	9:45	11:30	1:30 pm	3 4	†5 (M-F)
Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War 20 minute trip					
10:30 am		12:15 pm (M-Sat)	2:30 (M-Sat)	4	5:30
Man-O-War to Marsh Harbour 20 minute trip					
8 am		11:30 (M-Sat)	1:30 pm	3:15 (M-Sat)	
Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay & Guana 30 minute trip					
†6:45 am	10:15		1:15 pm	3:30	5:30
Guana & Scotland Cay to Marsh Harbour 30 minute trip					
8 am		11:30	2:30 pm	4:45	
Fare • OneWay / Round Trip Adult \$ 8/\$12 Children \$4/\$6					
Charters any time • Phone 367-3147 or 365-6010 VHF Ch. 16					
Hope Town and Man-O-War ferries leave from Crossing Beach					
Guana Cay and Scotland Cay ferries leave from Conch Inn					
† Workman's special Mondays thru Fridays from Crossing Beach					

Green Turtle Ferry					
Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport • Daily					
8 am	9	11	12:15pm	1:30 3	4:30
Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay • Daily					
8:30 am	10:30	11:30	1:30	2:30 3:30	4:30 5
One way adult fare \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$11					
Additional to some destinations • Charter any time					
Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 VHF Channel 16					

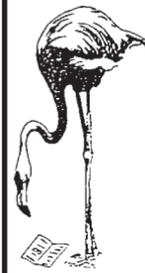
Abaco Adventures	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Daily	10 am Sunday 12 noon
Guana Cay to Treasure Cay - Daily	4 pm Sunday 3 & 5 pm
Fares One Way \$10 • Round Trip \$20 • Charter any time	
Phone 365-8749 VHF Channel 16	

Medical Services	
Marsh Harbour	
Abaco Medical Clinic	367-4240
Abaco Family Medicine	367-2295
Government Clinic	367-2510
Treasure Cay	
Cobett Clinic	365-8288
Sandy Point Gv. Clinic	366-4010
Green Turtle Cay Gv. Clinic	365-4028
Cooper's Town Gv. Clinic	365-0300
Hope Town Gv. Clinic	366-0108

Dive Shops	
Marsh Harbour	
Dive Abaco	367-2787
Abaco Beach Dive Shop	367-4646
Hope Town	
Dave's Dive Shop	366-0029
Froggies	366-0024
Guana Cay Dive shop	365-5137
Man-O-War Dive Shop	365-6013
Treasure Cay JIC Divers Down	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendal's Dive Shop	365-4411
Green Turtle Divers	365-4271

Bonefish Guides			
Sandy Point		Cherokee	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286	Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Nicholas Roberts		Will Sawyer	366-2177
Derrick Gaitor		Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133	Noel Lowe	366-2107
Vernal Burrows		Junior Albury	366-3058
Kendall White		Hope Town	
Anthony Bain	366-4107	Maitland Lowe	366-0133
Floyd Burrows	366-4175	North Abaco	
Links Abbey	366-4335	O'Donald McIntosh	
Valerio Lightbourne		Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Ricky Burrows	366-4233	Ornell Russell	365-0125
Marsh Harbour		Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Jay Sawyer	367-3941	Edward Rolle	365-0024
Justin Sands	367-3526	Green Turtle Cay	
Terance Davis	367-4464	Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
		Jeff Suvane	365-4040
Man-O-War		Ricky Sawyer	365-4261
David Albury	365-6059		

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
† Provides ride from town	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only	
Marsh Harbour	
Anglers	367-2158
C&G Restaurant	\$ 367-3227
Conch Inn Bistro	\$\$\$ 367-4444
Daily Bread (lunch)	\$
Eligees	\$ 367-4657
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Jib Room	\$ 367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken	\$ 367-2615
Snack Shack	\$ . + 367-4005
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Mavis Country Kitchen	\$ 367-2002
Pop's Place	\$ . + 367-3796
Spadill	\$\$\$ 367-2498
Shakees	\$ . + 367-3535
Snack Shack	\$ . +
Subway	367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Dundas Town	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Murphy Town	
Lazy Parrot - SC Bootle Hwy	367-5331
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn Closed	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Boat House	\$ 366-0065
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Club Soleil Closed	\$\$\$ 366-0003
Harbour's Edge	\$ 366-0087
Hollywood Temptations	
H T Harbour Lodge	Closed 366-0095
Munchies	\$ . + 366-0423
Rudy's Place	\$\$\$ 366-0062
Man-O-War	
Era's Place	\$ 365-6187
Pavilion Closed	Closed 365-6185
Hibiscus Closed	365-6380
Guana Cay	
Coco Paradise	365-5197
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Maid Cafe	\$\$\$ 365-5137
Floyds	365-5133
Treasure Cay	
Florence's Cafe	\$
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Island Boil & Sports Bar	\$ 365-8849
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	365-8654
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	Closed 365-4271
Laura's Kitchen	\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$ 365-4625
New Plymouth Inn	\$\$\$ 365-4161
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Roster's Rest	\$ 365-4066
Wrecking Tree Rest.	
Harbour Café (ferry dock)	\$ . + 365-8635
Sandy Point	
Big J's	\$ 366-4020
Ceishas	366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$ 366-4120
Rickton Bonefish Lodge	366-4477



Rentals	
Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts	
Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Concept Boat Rentals	367-5570
Laysue Boat Rentals	367-4414
Pier One Boat Rentals	367-3587
Power Cat Boat Rentals	367-4620
Rainbow Boat Rentals	367-4602
Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars	367-4643
Rich's Boat Rentals	367-2742
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	367-2513
Sea Star Car Rentals	367-4887
Wilmar Car Rentals	367-4970 or 367-4313
Green Turtle Cay	
Bay Street Rentals	477-5300 365-4070
C & D Cart Rental	365-4084
D & P Cart Rental	365-4656
Dimmie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
New Plymouth Cart Rentals	365-4188 or 4149
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts	477-5497
Shell Hit Cart Rentals	365-4188
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Guana Cay Cart Rentals	365-5016
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6059
Island Treasures Cart Rentals	365-6072
Water Ways Boat Rent	367-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals	366-0292
Dave's Dive Shop Boat Rentals	366-0029
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
Sea Spray Resort Boat Rentals	366-0065
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Alison Car Rent	365-8193
C & C Boat Rentals	365-8582
Claridge's & Chris's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat & Cart Rentals	365-8465
Resort Cart Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749

Tours & Excursions	
Marsh Harbour	
Sand Dollar Tours - by van	367-2189
Abaco Outback - by kayak	
Hope Town	
Froggies - by excursion boat	366-0431
Treasure Cay	
Abaco Adventures - by kayak	365-8749

# More School News

School From Page 20

ventions in the Computer Room. Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, Principal, addressed the parents and answered questions. An election of officers was held which returned all officers for another year. Mrs. Ena Mae Parker was elected Chaplain.

## Careers Day Proved to Be Informative

Careers Day was held at Abaco Central on October 23 and 24th. Aimed at grade 12 a variety of careers were showcased with guest speakers speaking on various careers and post secondary educational institutions.

Mr. Hugh Cottis spoke on careers in education, Mr. Hines of LIID spoke on civil engineering, Mrs. Jackie Henfield talked on cosmetology, Mr. Thomas on auto mechanics, Mrs. Hanna came from the Bahamas Baptist College, Juanette Stuart spoke about her alma mater, Florida Memorial College, Mr Roger Kelty explained about Lyford Cay scholarships, Mr. Dave Ralph spoke on journalism, Mr. Gentry Morris on insurance, Nurse Knowles on nursing, Lasonya Missick

on banking, Mr. Donald Rolle on Batelco, Mr. Beneby on BEC, Vanria Lightbourne on law, Mr. Loran Coleby on Bahamas Development Bank and Ms. Nettica Symonette on the hotel industry. In addition there were speakers from Success Training College, Immigration Police and Customs.

## Applications Should Be Sent Now

For those wishing to attend a college or a technical school next year the applications should have already been filled out and mailed. However, I know that is not the case. If you have not sent them in, get the applications, fill them in, request your transcript and mail them. You can download them off the Internet if need be. Application forms for Pathfinders scholarships will be available by November 1st. These will be sent to the high schools or you can request a form from Kathy Weldon, Abaco Pathfinders, Hope Town, Abaco.



At their monthly meeting in October the Abaco Central High School PTA elected officers. The parents were satisfied with the officers from last year and re-elected the complete slate. Shown above are, l. to r., President Leonard Edgecomb, Assistant Treasurer Augustine Williams, Treasurer Jerry Cornish, Assistant Secretary Ms. Femandar and standing is Chaplain Ena Mae Parker.

## Guana Harbour Grocery



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Royal Harbour - Immaculate turn key home in Marsh Harbour features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large open living, dining and kitchen area, 10' ceilings, lovely landscaped yard and fantastic views. \$35,000



Guana Cay - Quaint cottage in the heart of Guana Cay settlement features 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, lovely landscaped yard, new windows and air conditioning. \$19,000



Recently reduced - Spectacular bay front home on Guana Cay with protected deep water dockage. Well built 3 bedroom 2 bath island style home on large landscaped waterfront lot with excellent views of the Sea of Ann. \$50,000



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Bahama Palm Shores -  
2 side by side lots \$12,000 each  
2 side by side lots \$15,000 each  
Cherokee Sound - "On the big hill" 4 ocean view lots all with beach access. Call for details.  
Green Turtle Cay - 2 bedroom vacation rental cottage overlooking White Sound. Fully furnished, central A/C, turn key \$355,000  
Green Turtle Cay - Various lots Prices start at \$55,000  
Green Turtle Cay - 2 bed, 2 bath villa with full size kitchen. This is an income producing property. Owner wants a partner and will sell 50% of his investment. Call for details.  
Guana Cay - 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom home in the heart of Guana Cay settlement. \$195,000  
Little Harbour - Gorgeous ocean front acre lots, electricity available. Call for details  
Man-O-War Cay - The last 15 acres on the northwest tip of Man-O-War known as Corn Bay. This property features 2 houses, 2 guests cottages, a boat basin with docks and four gorgeous beaches. There is ample room for additional houses on this property. Call for more details.  
Marsh Harbour - 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartments for sale. Call for details

Marsh Harbour - 3 bed, 2 bath home centrally located. Extensive outdoor patio with cozy pool, central A/C, roll down shutters. \$325,000  
Marsh Harbour - Established harbour front restaurant for sale. Turn key, income producing, ready to serve. Great price  
Marsh Harbour - 3 bed 2 bath home on a beautiful landscaped lot. Fully furnished. Best price in town  
Marsh Harbour, Great Abaco Club - vacant residential water front lot in private gated community \$300,000  
Marsh Harbour - residential / commercial building centrally located in Marsh Harbour. Ideal for starter home or professional business. \$175,000  
Treasure Cay - Banyan Beach, beach front, multifamily lot with 200' beach front. Ideal for condo development. Call for details  
Treasure Cay - Lots Starting at \$80,000  
Treasure Cay - Elegant 3 bed 3 bath beach front home, completely renovated in 2000. Shows as new. Call for more details  
Treasure Cay - 2 lots opposite golf course. \$25,000

Call today to list your property with us or inquire about our many listed properties. Located one building east of Memorial Plaza.

P.O. Box AB 20900,  
Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

Green Turtle Agent  
Chris Farrington - 242-365-4465

# Imported Wasp Hopes to Control Mealy Bug

By Anita Rolle

Between January and July 2001 the Department of Agriculture imported and released approximately 25,000 wasps. These wasps are host specific meaning that they prey only on their specific target which in this case is the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug.

The Pink Hibiscus Mealybug introduced itself into the Caribbean in 1994 and has gradually crept into the Bahamas. In November 2000 it was found in the Marathon area of New Providence and has since spread within a three-mile radius. The bug produces a heavy white mealy or cotton-like material on leaves, stems, branches and flowers similar to other mealybugs. The eggs and immature stages of the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug are pink or orange and should be easy to recognize.

The mealybug is believed to attack about 200 species of plants. However, according to sources at the Department of Agriculture, more commonly devastated in the Bahamas are hibiscus, mango, pigeon peas, bougainvillea, croton, soursop and the oleander plants. Damage to plants consists of lunched leaves, malformed flowers and fruit and abnormally small fruit which often fall off prematurely.

Control by chemical means has been

proven ineffective as it is virtually impossible for sprays to penetrate the coating of the pest, hence the biological approach has been used by the Department of Agriculture. The wasps released by the Department target ONLY the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug into which they lay their eggs.

Continuing surveillance of the pest is being done throughout New Providence and the

Family Islands to find sites of new infestations. The public is urged to report any signs of suspicious plants. The pest spreads rapidly and is spread by contact. As an example, if a ladybug lights on an infected plant and moves on to another plant, the second plant can easily become infected. Gardening equipment can also be a source of spreading the pest. Therefore, it has been suggested that

persons should refrain from moving plant material and clippings from one point to another but rather destroy materials on site.

For additional information on the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug or any other plant pest, the public is welcome to contact the Department of Agriculture in Marsh Harbour at 367-2240 or in New Providence at 242-322-7859.

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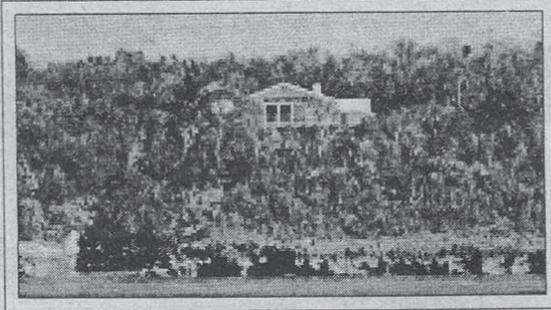
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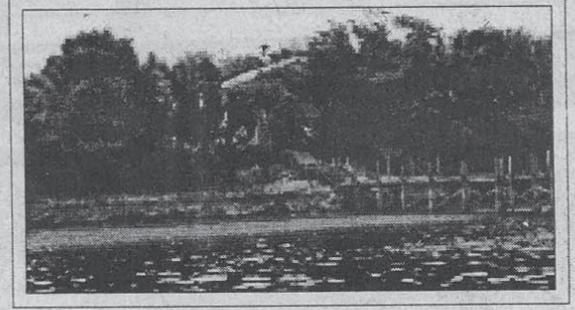
"South View"

Treasure Cay - 3 bedroom, 2 bath Home - Canal Front Location - Great Sea of Abaco Views, Good family home - Fully furnished #AB 0030 - \$340,000.



"Yellow Jack"

Elbow Cay - Lucayos - 2 bedroom - 2 bath home 1/4 Acre Lot - Fabulous Sea of Abaco Views. - Furnished # 3709 - New Price - \$495,000.



"West Point"

Lubbers Quarters - 2 bedroom - 2 bath home. .287 acre land - Good Elevation - Private Dock - Furnished - Excellent Rental History. #AB 0008 - \$465,000.

- ★ **Elbow Cay** - White Sound Area - "Aunt Pat's Bay" - Lot #5 14,914 sq.ft. - Great Elevation #AB 5068 - \$225,000.
- ★ **Elbow Cay** - White Sound, "Sand Dollar" - 3 bedroom, 3 bath Luxury Home - 3/4 acre land - swimming pool, beautiful Custom furniture, Great elevation, Superb Ocean Views #AB 0003 - New Price - \$1,450,000.
- ★ **Elbow Cay** - White Sound Area - 6.13 Fabulous Acres - perfect for development or elegant estate - # 3697 - \$1,820,000.
- ★ **Elbow Cay** - Marnie's Landing - "Savannah Hill" - 3 bedroom, 2 bath Luxury Home - almost 1/2 acre land - Superb Sea of Abaco Views #AB 0022 - \$965,000.
- ★ **Great Cistern** - "Rivendell" - 110' of beach-front on Sea of Abaco 2 bedroom - 2 bath home. Superb Views of the sea and the cay. #3672 - \$319,000.
- ★ **Great Guana Cay** - Boat Harbour area, 1/3 Acre Building Site - 35' Elevation spectacular ocean views - #3610 - \$95,000.
- ★ **Great Guana Cay** - Boat Harbour - "Susan's Cove" - 3 1/4 acres - Two bedroom, one bath home - Separate double-bed apartment, High elevation - great views of Sea of Abaco. Private Dock - Good development Potential. - #3609 - \$990,000.
- ★ **Great Guana Cay** - "Oceanfrontier Hideaway" - mini-resort Beach-front - 6 unique 2 bedroom, 1 bath, rental log cabins - 2,000 gal/day Watermaker - Central location #AB 0026 - \$1,275,000.
- ★ **Green Turtle Cay** - 104' x 80' Building site - #3619 - \$86,000.

- ★ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay - Beautiful 2.68 acre building site. sea-to-sea, between Coco Bay and the Ocean. Good elevations for spectacular views - Dock. Fabulous beaches on sound & ocean. # AB 5067 - \$650,000.
- ★ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay - 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. 2.68 Acres sea-to-sea between the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay - Swimming Pool - Dock - Wonderful sea breezes and super views. #AB 0007 - \$900,000.
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# More Students Continue Schooling Away

This is a listing of additional students who are away colleges and technical schools.

Angelo Bowe is in his first year at the Bahamas Technical Vocational Institute where he is studying air conditioning and refrigeration.

Angelo is the son of Yvonne Sanders and George Bowe of Wood Cay. He is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.

Johnell Curry is in her first year at New England Tech in West Palm Beach, Florida. She is studying computer technology.

Johnell is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School and is the daughter of Birdie McIntosh and Jonathan Curry. She earned a perfect award, a principal's award and several other awards and certificates.

Calea Laroda is in her second year attending the College of The Bahamas. She is maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Calea is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School and is the daughter of Wendy and Clint Laroda of Treasure Cay.

Charmair Laroda is attending the City College in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where she is maintaining a 4.0 GPA. She is studying journalism and broadcasting.

Charmair is the daughter of Wendy and Curt Laroda. She is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town.

We regret that the wrong information was reported in a previous listing.



Nicole Lundy is in her first year at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama. She plans to major in finance and business administration.

Nicole graduated from Freeport Anglican High School where she was very active in Interact, Junior Achiever, Student Christian Movement, the Adventist Youth, a debating and key club. She graduated with high credits. She is the daughter of Elaine and Phillip Lundy.

Enrique McIntosh is in his first year at the Bahamas Technical Vocational Institute where he is studying accounting.

Enrique is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Enid McIntosh of Wood Cay and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.

Neja Rolle has begun her first year of college at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau. She is majoring in primary education.

Neja is the daughter of Sandra Rolle of Cooper's Town and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.

Teon Rolle has begun his first year at the Bahamas Technical Vocational Institute in Freeport, Grand Bahama, where he is learning the welding business.

Teon is the son of Cetal Curry and Stanley Rolle of Mount Hope and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.

Shakera Simms has started her first year at Bahamas Baptist College in Nassau. She is hoping to become a veterinarian.

Shakera is the daughter of Jackie and Theresa Simms of Cooper's Town and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.

Additional information has been provided about two students who were previously listed. Shivani Lachman was given a Golden Key award. Vashti Lachman has declared a double major, biology and psychology. Both Lachman sisters are on the Dean's list.

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Tilloo Cay - 2500 sq. ft. home, central air, 3 acres property sea to sea, nicely landscaped, dock. \$985,000

Marsh Harbour - Water front 4 bed / 3 bath house, dock / boathouse / 2 acres, beautifully landscaped, standby generator, 2 car garage, swimming pool, fully furnished. \$1.9 million

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Marsh Harbour - Business for sale. Excellent net return on investment. Call for info

# Memories of Marsh Harbour 's Past



These two photos show buildings in Marsh Harbour from the past. On the left is the old library building which was destroyed by a hurricane in 1932. On the right is the old Methodist Church on the water front next to the Union Jack dock which stood there until the late 1960s. The children may be two of Millard Russell's children. These photos are courtesy of Mr. Jack Lowe.



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# More News of the Cays

Cays From Page 6

Knowles replied confidently, "All wetlands are protected by law." Mr. Knowles was also taken to task by a local animal lover who asked what could be done about the dangers of pit bulls. "What are you doing?" he was asked pointedly. After explaining the rights of the individual to have any breed of dog as long as it is properly confined, he finally advised the lady to write to her local government representative. Inspector Adderley, seeing that the lady was not satisfied with the answer, came to the rescue with, "Agitate for legislation."

Another confrontational question concerned the perceived ineffectiveness of Immigration officials to round up illegal aliens. "You will see. My department will put its foot down," replied Mr. Ferguson.

Mr. Flowers ended the evening by thanking all those present and urged the community to have more town meetings so that issues of concern are able to be addressed and ironed out.

Other government officials present included Mr. Ivan Ferguson, Administrator for North Abaco; Mr. Leon Pinder from the Department of Fisheries; Mr. Silbert Mills, Chief Councillor for Central Abaco; Mr. Jackson McIntosh, District Superintendent; Mr. Stanley White, Chief Councillor for the South; Inspector Adderley and Sergeant Adderley from the Royal Bahamas Police Force; and Mrs. Suzanne Bethel, Chief Councillor for the Hope Town District.

## Green Turtle Cay Service Is Planned

By Stephanie Humblestone

The churches of Green Turtle Cay are coming together on the basketball field on November 4th for a memorial service for the victims of the recent terrorist attacks in the United States.

The ecumenical service, which hopes to draw crowds from all over Abaco, is being

organised by Bishop Johnny Lowe of the Miracle Church of God and Island Administrator Ivan Ferguson. Together they have formed a committee comprising heads of all four churches in Green Turtle Cay, Anglican, Methodist, Gospel Chapel and Miracle Church of God. Helping put the wheels in motion are local government representatives and a large body of the community.

Anglican Minister, Rev. Kenneth McKenzie, will officiate. "We are bringing all the churches in Green Turtle Cay together to form a community choir. The children of the Amy Roberts All Age School will sing and the Wesley College Band will participate," said Bishop Lowe who says that, weather permitting, there will be candlelight procession from the basket ball court to the Quincentennial Park.

Among the invited dignitaries are Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, Prime Minister of the Bahamas, and delegates from the U.S. Embassy in Nassau.

"There will be a condolence book for the public to express their sentiments in. This plus a love offering will be sent to President Bush," continued bishop Lowe. Part of the offering will be sent to the victims of the fire which destroyed the straw market in Nassau last month.

## More Funding Needed for Roads

By Stephanie Humblestone

While awaiting funds from the Central Government of the Bahamas to implement major improvements to the roads in the centre of Green Turtle Cay, work has been underway on side roads. "We have placed directional signs outside of town," said Mr. David Bethel, Chairman of the Green Turtle Cay Town Committee.

Earlier this year Mr. Bethel announced that Nassau had approved new measures which would streamline traffic in town and provide increased safety to motorists and pedestrians alike. "We are still awaiting funds for the new one way system that is for

Parliament Street to be one way going west and Bay Street one way going east," said Mr. Bethel, who added that street signs to that effect are now ready.

As always money is the key issue. "We are hoping that homeowners and local businesses will assist so that we can complete the project," said Mr. Bethel. He stated that the 16-foot-wide 2.8-mile stretch between the Green Turtle Club, Coco Bay and Bluff House is at the quarry and fill stage and needs to be tarred.

Mr. Bethel pointed out that the crux is on local input and that, if funds were forthcoming, Green Turtle Cay could have a \$30,000 road for \$150,000. "We could work with government to get the job done quicker," he said.

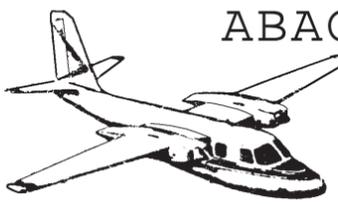
Improvements to the settlement roads have been sanctioned by Mr. Brenzil Rolle, Director of Road Traffic in Nassau. Mr. Rolle visited Green Turtle Cay the beginning of this year and offered some practical suggestions which included the location of road signs. Mr. Bethel verified that Road Traffic had extended funds for improvements to the roads in town. In 1997 all the roads in New Plymouth were upgraded and resurfaced. Bay

Street, in the heart of town, was widened last year.

Although modern signs and paved roads may be felt by some to be incongruous with the settlement which has been deemed a historic cay, the expansions and improvements have been done in the light of public safety and as such have been generally accepted by the community.

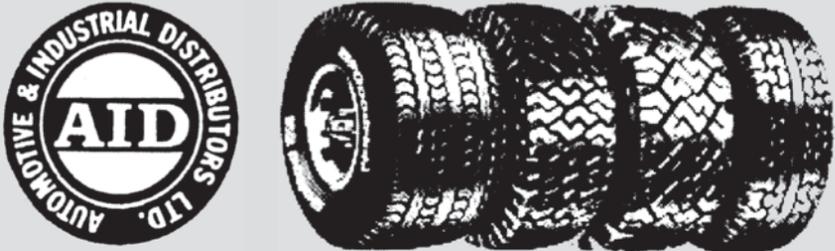
Green Turtle Cay has fast become an up and coming tourist destination with an increasing number of motorized vehicles. The number to date is 300 which includes cars, trucks, vans, 75 golf carts and many scooters and bicycles.

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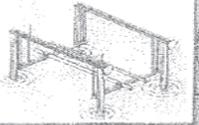
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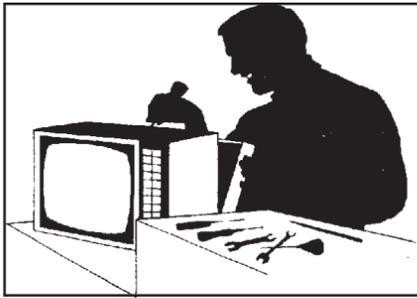
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Church From Page 1

ing attributes they should strive for which included a good character, integrity, a right attitude, humility and a good team leader.

Youth March for Jesus

On October 27th youth from Unity Baptist Church in Treasure Cay and St. Thomas Baptist Church in Wood Cay assembled in the parking lot of Abaco Shopping Centre in Marsh Harbour for a Youth March for Jesus. The march began with prayer and was led by a sound system on a truck. The youth marched through the center of Marsh Harbour and continued through Dundas Town and Murphy Town proclaiming that not all youth are lost.

Unity Baptist Church with Pastor Edward Laroda has been holding a youth convention since October 24. The convention ended October 25.

### Obituaries

#### Friends and Family

Jennie Bernette Cash, 81, passed away after a long illness on October 16. Her funeral was on October 19 at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town with Mr. Vernon Malone officiating.

Mrs. Cash nee Malone was predeceased by her husband Thomas Marton Cash and oldest son William Cash. She is survived by son Gary of Luxembourg and Nassau, daughters Joy McClure of Huntsville, Alabama, Kay Russell of Marsh Harbour and Gloria Knowles of Casuarina Point, daughter-in-law Anne Cash, sons-in-law Kenaz Russell and Frank Knowles, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great, great grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.



Most blue herons build their nests in the mangroves on Man-O-War. This protective mother chose a poisonwood tree for her nest.

Photo by Chramain Allbury

"If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man."  
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An enthusiastic and energetic couple is needed as Assistant Managers for an exclusive fishing resort on a remote private island in the Bahamas. Male candidate will maintain and charter 28 ft offshore boat, manage bar and tackle shop, schedule / manage 12 flats fishing guides and perform other duties. The female candidate will manage the kitchen, payroll, guest relations, reservations, general office duties and see to other responsibilities. Requirements: educated, computer literate, excellent communication skills, boating and fishing experience, conservative appearance. No children, drug free environment. On site housing provided. Benefit package. This hands-on position calls for a demanding work schedule. Excellent opportunity for the right couple. Submit resumes for both candidates with photos to:  
 1100 Lee Wagener Blvd., Suite 326  
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315 USA  
 NO TELEPHONE CALLS

### VEHICLES FOR SALE



Always a good selection of cars, vans & trucks. Pre-owned quality vehicles, competitively priced at Marsh Harbour Auto Sales. Ph. 367-2111

### VEHICLES FOR SALE



1996 Chevrolet S-10 extra cab sport side Pick up, 2.2 liter, yellow and white custom paint job, AM/FM/CD player, A/C, \$12,000 Call 477-5950

1985 GMC R/V Van, sleeps 2, with stove, refrig & pottie, in good condition. DUTY PAID. \$4900. Ph. 242-367-7248 Fax 972-723-0291



1973 Kenworth Tractor head. Asking \$5,000. Ph. 367-7004 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### BOATS & MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE

2 Used Mercury Engines, all with electric start and power trim, 50 HP \$3000 (15 hrs.), 50 HP \$1900. Call 367-2326

Mercury 150 HP Optimax Mint condition, only 130 hours, just serviced, warranty till August 2002, full gauge set, control and cables, 2 SS props, 2 new 1000 cranking amp batteries, oil tank. \$8000 Ph. 366-0135

Two 140 HP Johnson Outboards, 1992, approx. 1500 hours each. Engines, gauges and controls \$2500 OBO. Tel / Fax 242-365-6480

12' Inflatable Nova Marine Hard bottom, 30 HP Evinrude, low hours, good condition. \$2500. Call 242-365-6129

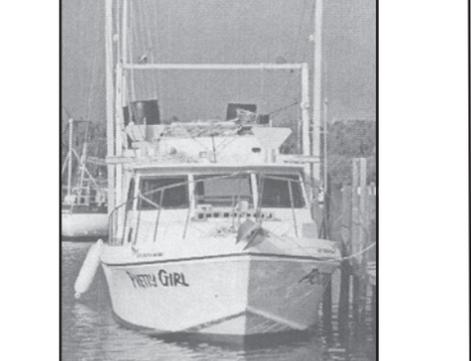
### BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



25' Grady White Cuddy Cabin 1988 w/twin 225hp Evinrudes, hard top, 120 gal main & 80 gal aux. fuel tank. Fresh & saltwater washdown. \$27,500 O.B.O. Call 359-6610

25' 1988 Grady White Sailfish w/ 225 Mercury, less than 200 hrs. Fuel 120 gal main, 80 gal aux. 25 gal fresh water, marine head with macerator, sink and shower, hard top, enclosed with new curtains, search light, VHF, walk around cuddy cabin, sleeps 3 V berth & portside bunk, 2 bilge pumps \$31,900 OBO Call 365-6052

37' Endeavour 1980 sloop-rigged sailboat w/ Perkins 104, 40 HP diesel, currently moored near Marsh Harbour Marina. DUTY PAID. Bahamian registered. \$30,000 OBO Call 367-2269



38' Delta Off Shore Fiberglass, 260 HP 3208 Caterpillar engine, turbo charged, 12 KW Northern Lights generator with Luggar engine, 275 gal water, 550 gal diesel, 400 gal gas, 5000 lb freezer, stabilizers, radar, GPS, VHF, small chest freezer, fridge, stove with oven, sink, hot water heater, head with shower, air conditioner, sleeps 6. Ready to go. Asking \$69,500 Call Peter Sweeting at 365-6035

# Happy Holidays!



*We thank our valued customers for your loyalty and support throughout the past 25 years!! We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*



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