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VOLUME 11, NUMBER 16, AUGUST 15th, 2003

Prime Minister Opens New Port \$11 Million Project Will Boost Growth for Abaco



The new \$11 million freight dock in Marsh Harbort was commissioned by the Prime Minister, the Hon. Perry Christie, on July 28. The ceremony took place in the international warehouse. The Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin cut the ribbon in a ceremony at the administrative building. Shown here is the official opening with Mrs. Hanna-Martin in the foreground. For additional stories see page 2.

The new freight dock facility in Marsh Harbour was officially commissioned on July 28 by the Hon. Perry Christie, Prime Minister of The Bahamas. The \$11 million project, the largest capital expenditure by government in the Family Islands with the exception of the San Salvador airport, is the first container port to be owned and operated by the Bahamian government. The opening ceremony was held in the large international warehouse and was followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony at the nearby administrative building. The Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin had the honour of cutting the ribbon. The official party toured the facility and were pleased with the project.

The keynote speaker was Mr. Christie who spoke extensively on challenging the people of Abaco to expand and move ahead. He brought out that Abaco has a tremendous advantage because of its heritage and its historical connection to the United States which is our primary source of revenue by tourism. "The close ties that Abaco has with the States helps greatly. Abaco benefits from being a diverse destination, eco-sensitive and eco-rich; it sells itself," he said.

God especially blessed the country and put it next to the greatest country in the world. We must use the assets God gave us. The future looks good. More people are realizing

Please see **Port**

Page 34

Remember to Register Your Child for School

Boat Building Business Expands



Master boat builder, Mr. Willard Albury of Man-O-War, and his two sons, Don and Jamie, build the highly prized Albury Bros. boats which are locally manufactured in Man-O-War. They are now allowing these boats to be built by the Power Boats Company in Jupiter, Florida. Shown above are Don Albury, Mr. Jeff Lichterman of Power Boats, Mr. Willard Albury and Jamie Albury. See story on page 10.

Scouts Kayak to See Nature



The Sea Based High Adventure Scout program gives U.S. Scouts sailing experience during the summer on eight two-masted sailboats on Abaco waters. They fish, dive, visit communities, and, as shown above, take kayaking trips. On this trip they saw a large variety of birds and experienced the wildlife of our wetlands.

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PM Emphasizes Need for Industry

In his speech at the opening of the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour, the Prime Minister, the Hon. Perry Christie, spoke about the need of The Bahamas to process agricultural and fisheries harvests into products. He praised Abaco for its entrepreneurial spirit and encouraged Abaconians to develop more industries. "There is a history and entrepreneurial spirit here for that," he stated. "Abaco has the financial resources and the will to succeed in business. We've reached the stage now where the Bahamian must see the advantage in the processing of agricultural and fish resources into products," he said.

A study a few years ago showed that The Bahamas kept only 20 percent of every dollar earned with 80 cents of every dollar going back to the United States. "That's because we rely too much on being an import-sell, import-eat community," Prime Minister Christie said. "And so I am appealing to the entrepreneurial spirit of Abaco that I know exists to see that in this bag of produce I brought - scotch bonnet, that's our goat pepper, there are all sorts of variations in terms of pepper sauces - mango, pineapple - all sorts of variations in sauces that influence food," he said.



The Prime Minister, the Hon. Perry Christie, and the Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin, Minister of Public Works, both on the right in the photo above, are touring the administrative building at the new freight facility in Marsh Harbour. In the center of the photo are, left to right, Capt. Anthony J. Allens, Port Controller of the Port Department, Mrs. Sheila McDonald, Superintendent of Customs on Abaco, and Mr. Capt. Cyril Roker, Assistant Port Controller who will be in charge of all port affairs on Abaco.



The Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin, Min. of Public Works, had the honour of cutting the ribbon opening the administrative building at the new port on July 28. Beside her, left to right, are Mr. Perry Christie, Prime Minister, Capt. Cyril Roker, Assistant Port Controller, and Capt. Anthony Allens, Port Controller. The new office building will house five government departments including Customs, Environmental Health, Agriculture and Fisheries, Immigration and Port. Additionally, the police will have a substation there.

Minister Names New Port Officer

The Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin, Minister of Public Works, cut the ribbon opening the new administrative building at the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour on July 28. She said that there will be 20 staff members to oversee the port. The administrative building will house five other government offices.

Mr. Cyril Roker has been named director of the port and will have many responsibilities. These will include the following for all of Abaco:

- Inspection and licensing of boats
- Issuing masters licenses
- Navigational aids

- Collection of the all port revenue
- Salvaging
- Control of shipping
- Revenue from the dock
- Revenue of the port and storage
- Control of harbours and cays
- Dredging

Abaco will have a patrol craft which will be for harbour and coastal patrol.

Ms. Hanna-Martin felt that the new dock facility will greatly help in the developing Abaco's future. She recognized that Abaco is the maritime center of the Bahamas.

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ELBOW CAY - “Tahiti Hai” - Dorros Cove Subdivision - Newly renovated 4 bed 2 bath home on a 1/2 acre lot with separate gardener’s apt. Central A/C, wrap around porch, panoramic views, dock access, steps away from Tahiti Beach, and 10 minutes to Hope Town. \$960,000. Internet Ref. #1640

LUBBERS QUARTERS - “Flip Flops” - Beautiful beach bungalow on 1.19 acres with dock. Sandy white beach with breathtaking sunsets. Property has lush landscaping and nature trails. Numerous improvements. \$395,000. Internet Ref. #1851



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Damianos Realty Co. congratulates Leslie Pinder in his new role as Regional Manager for the Abacos. We wish him all the best!

Leslie Pinder
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FOREST DRIVE - Residential lots 100 ft. x 233 ft. and 104 ft. x 208 ft. Internet Ref. #1822. \$40,000 each.

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ELBOW CAY - North End - Lot #33 - Around the corner from Ocean, minutes from bayside and dock access. \$149,000. #1876

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Central Abaco News

Goombay Is Back

By Isobel Sherman

The Goombay Summer festival on Abaco is back. On August 15 the Abaco Tourist Office will offer a Goombay experience with a spectacular event at Marsh Harbour Goombay Park near the port of Marsh Harbour. Scheduled to officially open Goombay is the Minister of Tourism, the Hon. Obie Wilchcombe. The Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band and the Police Pop Band heads the line of entertainment, which includes Sweet Emily, the Fire Dancer Queen Pepper, Limbo by Obeah Man, Juggling by Excitement and Junkanoo by the Supreme Dancers. In addition Fame Production will have a native dance and fashion show. In addition to Bahamian dance and entertainment, Bahamian food, drinks and crafts will be on sale.

Construction Is Underway in Central Pines Estates

By Jennifer Hudson

According to Mr. Richard Gibbs, Manager of the Department of Housing in Abaco, land sales have been going well in the Central Pines Estates in Dundas Town. While the total number of lots sold is not presently known as some have been sold through the



This is one of several houses under construction in Central Pines Estates in Dundas Town.

Nassau office, sixty lots have already been sold outright through the Abaco office and the majority of persons already have their conveyances. Approximately ten homes are presently under construction with two very near completion.

All utilities are in except for telephone service. According to the Manager of Batelco, the telephone system on Forest Drive is not large enough to service the new sub-division so the Ministry may have to contract another company to provide telephone service.

Several churches have expressed interest in purchasing the land allotted for that purpose but as yet no sale has taken place.

Since March, twenty lots have been sold outright in Sands Cove Subdivision in Sandy Point and the conveyances are presently being prepared with building expected to begin within the next month. Electricity is currently being installed and when that is completed work will begin on the telephone service.

Creations Florist and Gift Store Opens

By Portia Jonsson

Creations Florist Gifts and Lingerie located on Forest Drive in Dundas Town opened a few weeks ago. The store, owned by Kathy Jones, specializes in fresh and silk floral ar-

rangements, wreaths, bed and bath items, toys and school supplies. The shop carries a wide selection of lingerie, cosmetics, perfumes, costume jewelry and accessories. Ms. Jones was still in process of organizing the store when I stopped by and she advised that more stock is on the way. She added that she will be offering custom made gift baskets for all occasions. Store hours are 9 a.m.- 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and the phone numbers are 367-2007 and 367-2712.

New Business Office Opens

By Portia Jonsson

Smart Business Connection, located upstairs in Doug's Place on Don MacKay Bou-

levard is open for business. Smart Business Connection is a "Business Services" oriented, one-stop shop. It is there for the out-of-town visitors, local residents and businesses that might need assistance with any of the services it offers including typing, copying, faxing, internet access, office space rental (hourly, daily or weekly), U.S. address with mail boxes, mail handling and forwarding and job placements. Domestic and international telephone calls can also be made from the office at reasonable rates.

All of these services are offered in a com-

Please see **Central**

Page 37



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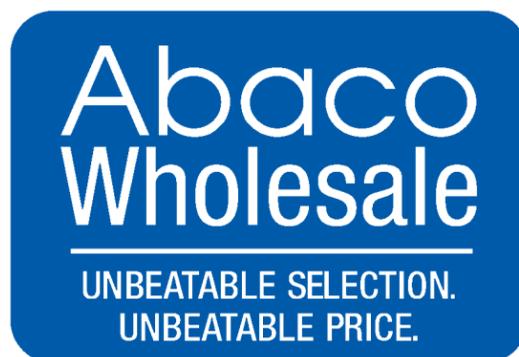
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News of the Cays

Hope Town Swim and Sport Camp

By Jennifer Hudson

One hundred and one lucky children aged from five to seventeen have enjoyed the Hope Town Swim and Sport Camp during the month of July. I was present at the final awards ceremony and it was a delight to see the proud and happy faces of the young people as they received their proficiency awards. The camp is primarily for Bahamian children but if a child has a friend visiting from elsewhere, he or she is welcome to bring them along.

The Swim and Sport Camp is the brain-child of Jim Laughlin who, along with his wife, Margie, has been running the camp for the last eleven years. Jim has been visiting Hope Town since childhood and decided one day that he wanted to give something back to the community and get to know the children better as he is a kindergarten teacher in Princeton, New Jersey, with a great love of children. Jim and his wife are assisted each summer by a team of approximately eight volunteers from the U.S., all friends of theirs who freely donate their time and skills and much of the equipment. There are a few local helpers but extra hands and eyes are always needed as there are many children who are not yet good swimmers and need a lot of extra attention. In future camps more local volunteers would be very much appreciated. Although not all children attend every day, there are normally about thirty-five to fifty kids a day involved.

Water sports, consisting of snorkeling, sailing and water volleyball, are held at Nathan's Bay, a very protected and safe area on the northwest shore of Elbow Cay, two or three days a week. On the other days the children participate in field sports and arts and crafts. All the equipment is stored in space kindly donated under a house at the bay and the young people are taught to com-

pletely rig the boats in preparation for sailing.

Anne and Mike Adair, two windsurfing instructors from Merritt Island, Florida, have been volunteering their services at the camp since its inception eleven years ago and the Calema Windsurfing School for which they work donates much equipment in the form of booms and sails for the camp. Anne says that she finds it very rewarding "as many of the Hope Town kids were scared of the water and I have been able to help them become more comfortable in the water and to help them realize that fifty percent of the beauty of the Bahamas is in the water." Anne expressed her wish for more parent participation and said how much it would mean to the children to have their parents turn up to see what they have achieved

Jim Laughlin expressed how much he enjoys coming each year to work with the children and said that he and his volunteer staff wish to extend their gratitude to the Hope Town Sailing Club for making the Swim and Sport Camp possible each year by allowing the use of their premises and allotting a small budget to assist with expenses. He wishes to express his thanks to all the volunteers who pay their way to assist, to the people who open their homes to house the volunteers and to all the business places who have been so generous to them.

I am sure that all the young people who have participated in the camps over the years would like to express their gratitude to Jim and all his helpers for opening up a new world of experiences to them. One sixteen-year-old youth who attended the camp since its inception now works for Froggie's Out Island Adventure as a snorkeling instructor. So this camp is preparing young people for future careers.

Swimming Pool Nears Completion

By Jennifer Hudson

Swimmers who have been looking forward with great anticipation to the opening of the pool in Hope Town will not have to wait much longer. The pool, located on Crown Land granted by the government in Taylor Park adjacent to the softball field, is now nearing completion. Planning was first begun in 1998 and building began in 2000 after being delayed by the devastation caused by Hurricane Floyd in 1999. However, the final phase has now been reached and the decking is being completed. The liner is expected to arrive during the first week of November and, once that is in place, all will be ready for the grand opening.

The establishment of a pool has been made possible by extremely generous donations from several prominent Hope Town businesses along with fund raising events. The final fund raiser will take place on October 11th in the form of a swim-a-thon. Andy Knowles, coach of the Swift Swim Club in Nassau and former Olympic swimmer, will be bringing swimmers from Nassau to compete in the swim-a-thon which is being organized by Linda Knowles of Lighthouse Marina. During this marathon, swimmers will swim from a location in Marsh Harbour to the Abaco Inn on Elbow Cay. Supporters will be asked to sponsor per mile and more details will be available soon.

An annual endowment of \$10,000 per year through PERC (Preservation, Environment, Recreation, Community - a 5013 Company registered in Florida) has been guaranteed for the next twenty years for the maintenance, supplies and part-time coordinator of the

pool.

President of the nine-member pool committee is Carrie Cash, who also holds the position of Head Coach of the Abaco Swim Club. The Swim Club was very active from 1986 until post Bahama Games a few years ago and Carrie says that as soon as the pool is open she will work on rebuilding the Club.

"The pool will be available to all the children of Abaco," says Carrie, "and although a small membership fee will be necessary to help pay for maintenance and chemicals, it will be affordable to everyone. The pool will be open on a scheduled basis with a fully qualified life guard on duty. Rhiannon Thomas, a newly trained water aerobics teacher will offer classes. All schools will have the opportunity to use the pool for physical education lessons and there will be times designated for family swimming."

Although there have been reservations by some people over the building of the pool, Carrie feels that it is because there are always some people who do not like change and others who were concerned as to the upkeep of the pool but thanks to the very generous annual endowment that is no longer a concern. The majority of residents are very much in favour of the pool and as a result of the hard work of the committee and generosity of the donors it will soon become a reality.

Water Aerobics Instructor Qualifies

By Jennifer Hudson

Rhiannon Thomas, a resident of Hope Town, has recently qualified as a fitness instructor and will be teaching classes in wa-

Please see **Cays**

Page 7

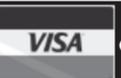


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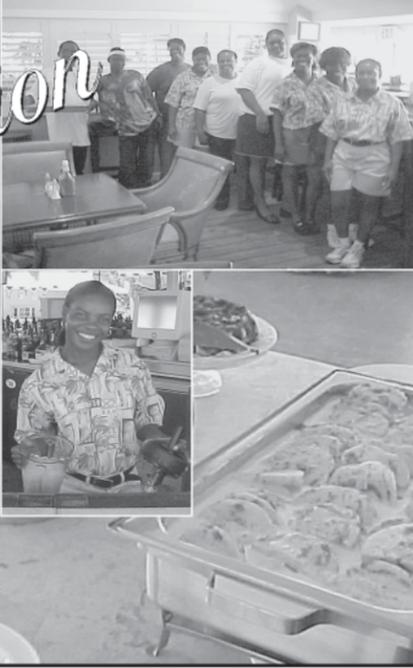
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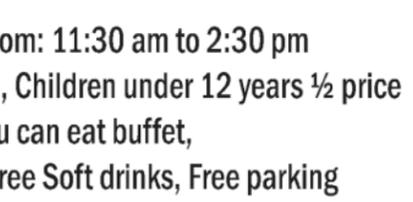
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More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 6*

ter aerobics at the community swimming pool in Hope Town when it opens later in the year.

The International Aquatics Fitness Conference, held in Fort Myers, Florida, in June included instructors from all over the world and was a very intense four-day course, says Rhiannon. Classes were held from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day and included practical classes on teaching babies to swim, senior aquatics, rehabilitation after surgery, aqua dance fun and pool karate and kick boxing in addition to classroom instruction on nutrition and physical anatomy.

Rhiannon, who is a pre-school teacher at

the Hope Town School, is a great lover of water sports in her spare time and an avid wind surfer. As a member of the Hope Town Fire and Rescue, she is a trained CPR and First Responder and attends refresher courses each year.

"Community feedback has been very positive," says Rhiannon. "Anyone can enjoy and benefit from water aerobics because it is an activity which can be participated in whatever a person's size or fitness level."

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

I have always heard that life in the islands was "laid back" . . . Well I guess I'm living on the wrong island. I'm so busy at-

tending events that I have no time to write about them. I will attempt to summarize the events of the last few months. I apologize if I forgot any exciting happenings.

School News

After a busy and exciting third term at Amy Roberts Primary, it was time for summer break. Principal Anne Bootle was honored by the Primary Principals' Association for her contribution to education. Mrs. Bootle came to the Bahamas 34 years ago. She began teaching at Cooper's Town, then moved to Treasure Cay Primary where she was principal. Mrs. Bootle accepted the position as Principal at the Amy Roberts Primary six years ago. On the day that she left for Nassau to receive her medal, the students led Mrs. Bootle in a parade to the ferry dock. In Nassau Mrs. Bootle, along with 24 other honorees, participated in a week of activities that included a reception at Government House.

After her week in Nassau, Mrs. Bootle returned to school and was surprised with a tribute organized by the P.T.A. and staff. The students paid tribute to their principal and presented her with gifts. Mr. Jackson McIntosh, a former student and former district superintendent paid tribute to Mrs. Bootle. Administrator Gary Knowles was the guest speaker. Mrs. Bootle thanked everyone for making this such a special time for her. The good wishes and gifts bestowed on her by students, parents, teachers and friends meant so much to Mrs. Bootle. Congratulations, Mrs. Bootle, we are proud to have you at our school.

After a week of end-of-year exams the students had their awards presentation and then a picnic at Gillam Bay. Grade 6 had a special farewell lunch at Pineapples. The 6th grade graduation was held on June 24th at the

Miracle Church of God. Scott Albury, Claude Cooper, Joel Reckley, Jr., Zachary Roberts and Renee Smith are moving on. Zachary Roberts was the valedictorian of the class. Mrs. Coral Johnson was the guest speaker. Good luck to the students as they move onto the secondary stage of their education.

Tiny Turtles Preschool's graduation was held on June 13th, also at the Miracle Church of God. This graduation was the beginning of the Independence celebrations as the theme was Bahamian. The 4- and 5-year olds wore Androsia outfits as they sang Bahamian songs, performed a ring play, a Junkanoo skit and told about their country. At the end of the program, Christa Sawyer, Rebecca Roberts, Lydia McIntosh, J.J. Lowe, Cole Sawyer, Tyler Schrack, James McIntosh and Christian McIntosh donned caps and gowns to receive their diplomas. These students will be moving on to first grade in September.

Fishing Tournament

The Bluff House Yacht Club and Marina hosted its First Annual Green Turtle Classic Billfish Tournament on June 8 - 12. There were three days of tournament fishing with onshore activities everyday. Debbie Smades won the tournament with her blue marlin that weighed 625 pounds. A raffle was held and the proceeds were donated to Amy Roberts Primary School. A new copier was purchased. A special thank you from the staff and students to those who donated, and especially to David and Debbie Smades. The Smades organized the raffle and Debbie donated a part of her winnings to the cause. They also arranged the purchase and delivery of the copier.

Please see Cays

Page 24



Debbie Smades, second from left, is shown here with the blue marlin she brought in during the first annual Green Turtle Classic Billfish Tournament. This fish, weighting 625 pounds, earned her first place in the tournament. She is pictured here with her crew.

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The Editor Says . . . Extending the Tourism Season



The Abaco economy has moved quietly and steadily forward during the past 40 years. Through the 50s tourism was essentially unheard of. Colyn Rees's small hotel in New Plymouth and Marcell Maury's Lodge in Hope Town accommodated a few guests but the general impact to Abaco was negligible.

With the opening of the Marsh Harbour airport in the late 50s and the Treasure Cay airport in the early 60s, our tourism-based economy began to develop. A few hearty foreigners bought land in Man-O-War followed by others in Hope Town and Green Turtle Cay. These locations were considered a bit far out by their associates back home.

The Great Abaco Beach Hotel and the Treasure Cay Hotel along with Treasure Cay's expansion by second home owners accelerated our flow of transient visitors.

The native residents of the towns on the cays did not consider themselves to be in remote locations as they grew up under those conditions and accepted conditions as they found them. The newcomers found the island settlements intriguing. A boat was essential for the new homeowners. Many of them were boating people so this suited them fine. This pattern of moderate growth continued through the 60s. A few of these houses were opened to renters in the absence of the owner.

The next decade through the 70s saw this trend increase with more homes and more visitors. More small hotels opened. In keeping with the low-key lifestyle the islands offered, the word hotel was avoided as sounding too structured, too rigid. Consequently, we were populated with lodges, inns and clubs. In the last few years several new small places have come on the scene and are comfortable calling themselves a resort. Present day marketing is probably less dependent on the name now than in the past.

During the 60s and 70s our season began in mid-December and sputtered out with the Easter holidays in March or April. Those visiting by boat were all from the north and left for home by April. Summer traffic, both by air and by water, was minimal.

Regatta Time in Abaco, designed for cruising boats, began in the mid-70s as an inducement to Florida boaters to spend their summer vacation here. Florida vacationers began discovering that Abaco had a lot to offer in the summer. It was close, it was

foreign, the weather was cooler than Florida's and the water was much cleaner and nicer - you could actually see through it.

During this period Floridians began investing in second homes which they used primarily during their summer holidays. Restaurants which struggled with marginal summer traffic were now prospering. Our summer business was beginning to look good. These summer homeowners often had their house vacant in the winter which they began offering for rent. Both our winter and summer traffic was now increasing. Abaco today enjoys a booming summer.

This trend continued throughout the 80s and 90s with more homeowners, more rental guests and more cruising boaters. This growth was eventually noticed and we have seen more commercial marinas, inns, cottages and condominiums appearing, owned by both Bahamians and foreigners.

Over the years, September and October

have remained as our problem months with almost no visitors. Most of our visitors leave during August and are not replaced by another group until mid-November. During this period many of the smaller inns, clubs and lodges close, using this time for renovations and staff vacations. Many restaurants also close during these fall months.

However, a trend is developing whereby some of these same restaurants are choosing to remain open during the fall. This is true in Hope Town and Marsh Harbour and perhaps in other locations. This suggests that there may be an increase in visitor activity in the fall months. The ten restaurants in Hope Town and the ten in Green Turtle Cay are not able to survive on their native resident population.

Perhaps our marketing has improved, or maybe people are more comfortable now being only an hour from Florida by air. In any event, visitor traffic in our fall months

may be increasing.

This trend should be examined and expanded. Our fall weather is delightful and the towns are not crowded. Current weather forecasting gives enough notice for most people to work around the few hurricanes developing in these fall months.

Green Turtle Cay is working to promote a fall Heritage Festival in conjunction with their sister city, Key West. The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture is going to capitalize on the September All Abaco Regatta and market it as an Abaco sporting event to draw visitors. Efforts such as these are commendable and take several years to develop meaningful results. However, we will not get results if we do not begin the effort.

Year-round tourism needs to be our goal. Empty rooms, houses and marinas do not produce revenue or jobs. Whether people are in hotels, inns, lodges, boats or rental houses, it all means activity and employment.

Generally Speaking . . . There Is Always an Answer

By S. Timothy Roberts
Part 2

This situation is quite a dilemma, but it has a solution that we just need to seek hard after. The situation I speak of is of the Haitian's illegal immigration "problem," and there are indeed solutions.

We need not rehash all the problems posed by the situation surrounding the Haitians, their migrating here and their living and working conditions. We need to strive for answers to this situation.

First, we need to deal with the massive influx of boat loads of illegal immigrants that are entering our waters on continual basis. There are moves being made already toward that end. The government is strengthening the Royal Bahamas Defense Force's position down in Inagua with an upgraded base and new boats. We need to ensure that as many boats as possible can be stopped before they get close to our shores.

It is my understanding that The Bahamas has an Embassy in Haiti whereby Haitians may obtain legal documents to enter our country. Maybe we should look at what is involved in obtaining permission to travel to The Bahamas and simplify it within reason so that they may come here, but also so that we can track them once they arrive.

We should make the document they receive an extremely important document. In order for them to travel inter-island, it must be checked. In order for them to get a job, it must be checked. The obvious problem that comes to mind is how will this be enforced, and who will enforce it? This is a problem we need to deal with.

A major round up ought to be made of those who are here without proper papers. If there are employers who don't want "their Haitian" in that round up, they need to acquire for them the legal papers. This process should be simplified as much as possible, and again, adjusted within reason.

I have heard a suggestion that some of the wealthier businessmen could possibly purchase land for housing for the Haitians that work for them. They would properly section off lots that the Haitians could buy and build on legally and according to building codes.

Efforts need to be made to ensure all working Haitians pay National Insurance fees as many benefit from the free services of the government clinics.

The building going on in the Mud, Pigeon Pea and all other Haitian communities, as Prime Minister Perry Christie said on his visit to the areas, "must stop right now! I will not allow a community of this nature to exist in the middle of Marsh Harbour."

Yet the building continues and it is known

that it continues. It must be stopped. The Haitians who are here legally must be made to adhere to our laws and our taxes. If they want to be here, they need to integrate in all ways, not in ways that are convenient just for them.

There is no malice in my heart for the Haitian people. We are all here by God's grace, we all have purposeful and meaningful lives. The problem is not the Haitian people, it is that they exist here illegally and are not trying to find legal status nor follow our laws, codes and tax structure.

We need to work together to solve what can only become a crisis if nothing is done about it. We need to strive for a solution and stop talking about the problems.

All About Town

By Isobel Sherman

Parents, Do They Care?

In a recent conversation with Mr. Huel Moss, Vice Principal of Abaco Central High School, the ongoing problem of many parents was discussed. I daresay the majority of parents do not take an interest in their child's schoolwork. It seems that the problem gets worse each year. No school should need a policy that if parents do not pick up report cards, the student cannot return. But unfortunately, that is the only way many parents will get them. During the school year the majority of parents do not check on their child's schoolwork. Mr. Moss stated that the school does all it can to make a child do his work. But if there is no support from the parents, then it is almost a hopeless situation.

Education does not seem to be a priority and neither Mr. Moss nor myself can understand why this is the case on Abaco. There has to be a solution to the problem. In the early 1990s there was a very active parental concern about the high school. What has happened since then is a mystery. No matter how many times the staff at the high school talks about it, no matter how many ways we use to get the parent involved, at the end of the day there are only a few parents who are really interested in the education of their child. It is very difficult to change a child's attitude toward education if the school is not getting the full backing of the home. Until that happens, the school is fighting an extremely difficult battle.

Tourists Leave Early

The last two weeks in July have been a mixed bag tourist-wise. While most tourist-related businesses in Marsh Harbor and the cays report that the first two weeks of July

were busy, many report that business was down from the previous year. However, they were happy with the number of tourists. The last two weeks of July have been a mixed bag with some Central Abaco businesses reporting going from very busy to just about dead, others reporting a slow down and others saying it is normal for this time of year. Reasons for the drop include the hurricane season, the hot weather, 9/11 and the economy in the United States. What we all must remember on Abaco is that visitors and second homeowners contribute greatly to our economy.

Local Realtors are reporting an excellent summer with an increase in the sales of houses and property over previous summers.

What is there to look forward to? With the presidential election in the United States next year and the world situation, only the experts can venture a guess and I am no expert.

Precautions

Florida has more persons hit by lightning than any other place in the world. The Bahamas, being so close to Florida and having similar weather, must heed safety precautions to prevent injury from lightning strikes. Already this year in Abaco one person was struck by lightning while talking on the telephone. First of all, lightning can strike when the storm is as far as 10 miles away.

There are certain safety tips to protect you from getting struck by lightning. When you hear thunder in the distance and you are outside especially on the beach or in the water, get in a protected place, preferable indoors.

I can remember being in a swimming pool

Please see **Sherman** Page 37

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Photo credit: Tuppy Weatherford for parrot & lighthouse on page 1

Reporters/Writers: Theresa Pinder, Anita Rolle, Isobel Sherman

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Letters to the Editor

Regular Interruptions of Power Supply in Sandy Point

Dear Sir:
I ask that you incorporate the following into your next edition of the Abaconian.

I have many concerns about the direction we seem to be headed in Sandy Point. I would like to put the following questions to our government, our local government and the Bahamas Electricity Corporation:

- Who is looking out for the people of Sandy Point?
- Why are we paying good money for bad electricity service?
- How is it there is no problem disconnecting the power when a bill is not paid but when BEC generators do not function, there is a problem with re-connection in a timely manner?
- Why isn't the Government Clinic in Sandy Point equipped with a back-up generator?

On July 23 the power supply was interrupted in some areas of Sandy Point including the Government Clinic. My mother, who is recuperating from a massive heart attack, suffered a seizure and I sent for the local nurse who immediately responded. However, her services were severely limited due to the fact that there was no power at the Clinic. I have to ask which century are we living in? Are we moving forward or backwards?

The situation could have ended much worse than it did. I feel like something must be done fore someone loses their life.

I understand that the previous generator that was moved from Sandy Point was taken to another settlement on Abaco where they were without power for some time. This should not have happened. The power supply is interrupted on a regular basis now and it is ridiculous. We have no problem if the power is cut for service or maintenance but to lose power from approximately 7 p.m. to 11:05 p.m. for a belt is unacceptable.

Therefore, if someone can address these concerns, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Francis Fox.

Concerned member of the community of Sandy Point

Cruising Permit Discussed

Editor,

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Seven Seas Cruising Association, an organization with about 4,500 members world-wide, and the members are cruising sailors. A great many of them visit the Bahamas regularly. Speaking for the SSCA and for myself, personally and as a cruiser, I want to register my surprise and dismay at the \$300 cruising permit fee. I know for a fact that our members spend large sums of money at many of the shore side facilities in the Bahamas each year, and in a significant number of cases the total annual amount far exceeds the \$300 fee - in connection with such things as food, diesel and other fuel, dockage, visits to hotels and restaurants and resorts and many other things. However, we are receiving nearly unanimous indications that these members will be seriously rethinking or cancelling their plans to visit the Bahamas, especially in the light of a \$300 fee, and also in light of the fact that the typical cruising sailor visitor has plans to be there for a month or perhaps less - in many cases just a few weeks. The \$300 is just exorbitant in terms of having to pay that to go and spend even more, or at least significant sums, as contributions to the Bahamas economy and business community. Many thanks for reading and considering this message.

Roger H. Jones, SSCA Treasurer

Viewpoint on Sport Fishing

Editor,

I just received the July 1st issue and felt compelled to search through the issue for your E-mail address to enable me to share

this impression with you electronically while the fire of outrage still burned bright. As far as I am concerned, the people responsible for the killing of such a magnificent creature as the 814-pound marlin shown on your cover should not only be ashamed of themselves, they should be arrested and fined, not rewarded with adulation, publicity and trophies.

I know this will never happen. I'm angry, not mad.

This beautiful, giant marlin certainly deserved the right to live out its life, secure in its own habitat, where it would never dream of bothering a single highly evolved human being. I am not a spokesperson for any wildlife preservation group, but I felt a strong sense of personal outrage at the sight of the photograph and I wanted to share that feeling with the editor and publisher of the newspaper. Maybe if it had been buried on page 38, it wouldn't have seemed so important. Maybe.

I'm not suggesting that you have done anything wrong, and I'm not asking that you not report the news and happenings on Abaco. I guess I'm asking that *The Abaconian* might want to consider the possibility of spearheading a pro-life position on the subject. Or at least fostering a dialog with your readers. Maybe other people felt the same way I did when they saw the photo. Maybe they just muttered to themselves and forgot about it because it was just "business as usual". Wouldn't it be interesting to find out?

Maybe I'm a minority of one. Maybe not. Maybe others will speak out once the question is raised? Maybe this is important because as a person ages the value of life increases geometrically? Could this be as simple as an issue of supply and demand/value? As the supply dwindles, the value sky-rockets.

This is not the sort of letter I would have written when I was age 18. Now that I've started receiving Social Security checks it seems my perception of the world around me has altered. I notice things previously overlooked as trivial.

Do you think it's trivial? You probably didn't give it a value judgment at all when you decided to put it on page one. Just business as usual, right?

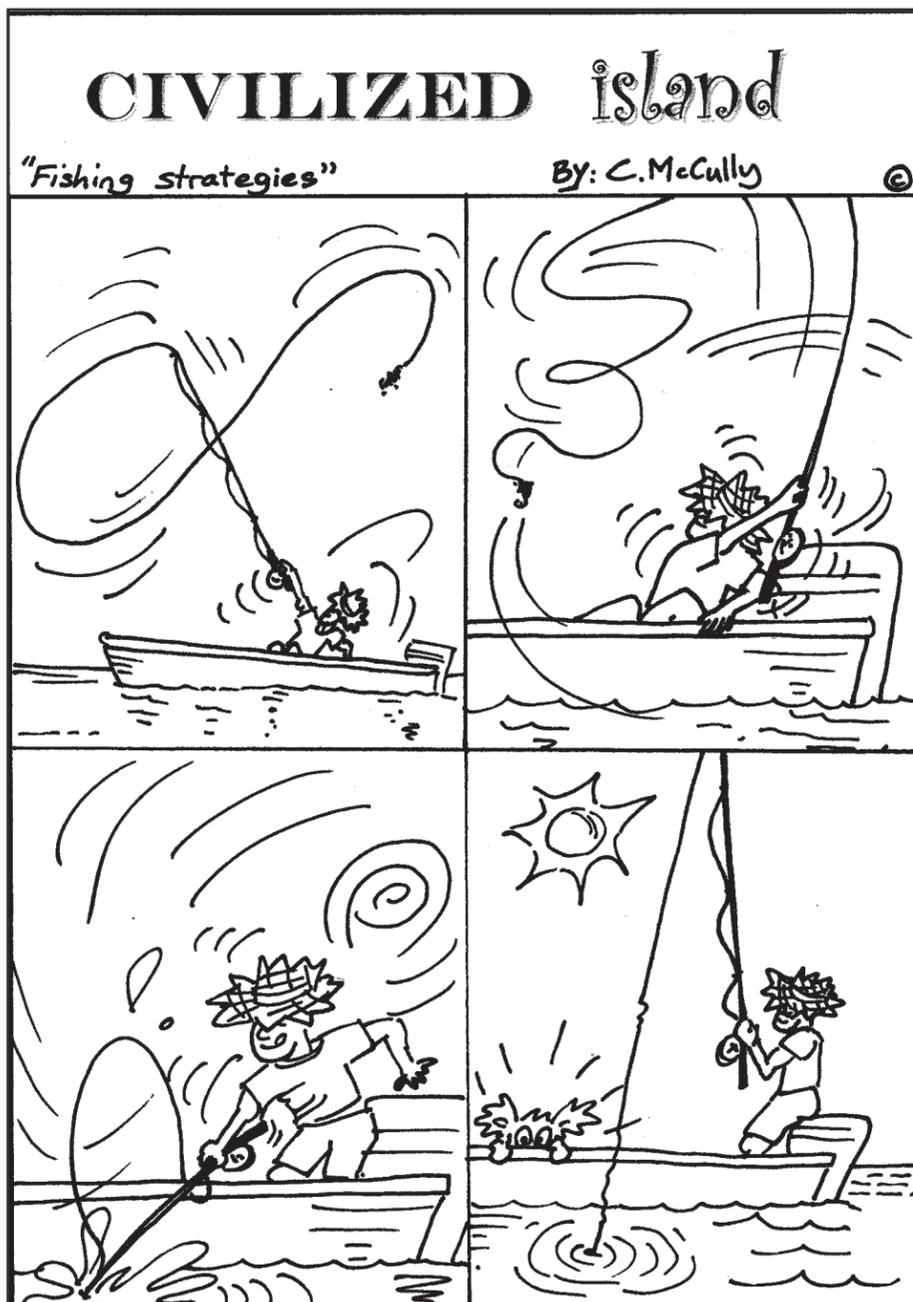
Barton Brownstein
Currently of Hollywood, FL,
formerly resident of Abaco

Cruising Permit Viewpoint

Editor:

I am writing to you today because I seem to remember you were involved with the development of commerce there. As you are probably aware, there is a massive movement to boycott the Bahamas by Americans and Canadians over the increase of the customs fee to \$300 for a cruising permit each time we enter Bahamian waters.

It seems that at least some of the Bahamians feel we are taking hoards of sea life and leaving no compensation. From what I have seen during my winter cruise in Abaco, this



is just not the case. This was our first visit, however, and we have no idea what might go on in the summer months or on the other islands of the Bahamas. I can easily understand how problems might be much different in Nassau, for example. Maybe you could suggest an Abaco Only Cruisers Permit with an optional instead of mandatory fishing license. This way the over-fishing concern could be addressed through a per head fishing license fee.

We cruised all the way from New Orleans, Louisiana, to visit Abaco, paid \$100 to enter which we felt might be justified because we know that piles of paper work cost money. Anyway, we did not fish at all but enjoyed the local seafood at the restaurants on Abaco and the Out Islands. We properly disposed of our trash at the marinas where we paid dockage. We respected everyone and felt that we were quite welcome. Between restaurants, dockage (mostly at Conch Inn Marina), fuel and entertainment, we spent several thousand dollars during our seven-week stay on Abaco.

We have a 50-foot vessel, but it is a

trawler style and a little over 20 years old. The point is that although it is a big boat, it is not a "mega yacht."

We are just average people who saved and saved to take the trip of our lifetime. A \$300 entry fee is not a small matter, it is a week's wage (after tax) for me. Remember that we only get 50-60 percent of the money we make because we pay taxes on money earned. We are double disadvantaged tax wise when spending in the Bahamas. Canadians are triple disadvantaged because it takes 1.6 of their dollars to buy one American dollar to spend in the Bahamas. It might be like asking you to pay a \$1,000 entry fee every time you enter the US.

The point is that except for the relatively small group of truly wealthy, it is very expensive to enjoy the Bahamas. I would hope that the Bahamian government is not trying to keep out everyone but the very wealthy. I believe that we all have something to share

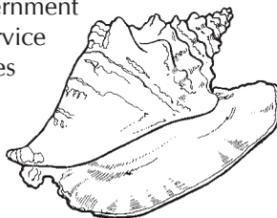
Please see **Letters**

Page 36

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Aug 03

Man-O-War Upholds Boat Building Tradition

By Alice Bain

Willard Albury, fifth of seventeen children, is the product of 200 years of boat-building experience on Man-O-War Cay. He began building wooden boats with his father 45 years ago. He took over his father's business in 1960, and in 1984 made the move to fiberglass, in part because, as he said, "You couldn't get good wood any more. We made the frames of Abaco Madeira and used to make our own planks from native pine to go round them."

His father, Maurice Albury, started building small sponging boats in the 1920s for sponging trips that would often run as long as six weeks. "One of the first boats I built with him, I remember, had poisonwood ribs!" said Mr. Willard. "We'd also build small boats on spec to sell and take them up to

Cooper's Town or Fox Town to sell them. We would get about two pounds for a boat—that's about six dollars. We'd go bushwhacking for a tree with the right crook for the ribs, maybe go to Marsh Harbour and go south on a truck. It worked out nicely when Owens Illinois came in—they cleared the roads, and sometimes we borrowed one of their chainsaws to cut the ribs."

Monroe Warren, a doctor from Chevy Chase, Maryland, brought the Alburys their first power tools in 1960. Before this time they did everything by hand. "I have a brother named Warren after him," says Mr. Willard. The tools were housed in a 20-foot by 28-foot building, and most of them are still there to this day. The building has been extended twice and now is being extended again and consolidated with another, formerly separate office

space. Inside are rolls of different types of fiberglass and a bewildering assortment of tools, old and new. Mr. Willard pointed out the first power tool that they bought for themselves, a reconditioned bandsaw that they got in Miami for \$1800. Across the road next to the harbour is another building where hulls for the famous Albury Brothers fiberglass runabouts are fabricated.

To build the fiberglass boats, Albury Bros. begin with a positive hull "plug" made of

wood and covered with fiberglass. This is used to make the negative mold which is also made of fiberglass and wood. The inside of the mold is extremely smooth so that the finished boat hull will release easily from it. To make a boat, the polyester gelcoat is first sprayed inside the mold—so the boat is started from the outside in. After this finish is dry,

Please see **Boats**

Page 11



One of the Albury Bros. boats is being completed in the Man-O-War boat yard. These quality boats are in demand for their workmanship and seaworthiness.



Albury Bros. boats are highly prized for their seaworthiness and strength. They are produced at this boat yard in Man-O-War by Mr. Willard Albury and his sons, Don and Jamie. The boats will now also be produced by Power Boats company in Jupiter, Florida, using the same molds and careful attention to details as they do in Man-O-War.



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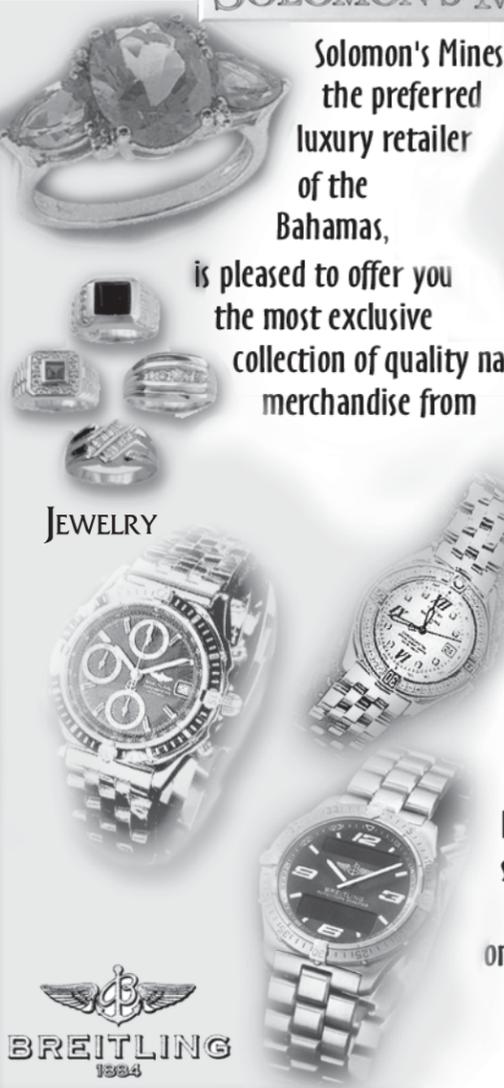
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Quality and Seaworthiness Are Main Traits

Boats From Page 10

the builders add fiberglass a couple of layers at a time. The hull is built up to 3/8-inch on the topside and 3/4-inch on the bottom.

After it's popped out of the mold, a strip of wood for fastening the top edge is added, also a motor well, a raised section for storage, some stiffeners on the bottom of the hull and a gas tank. Then the console is built and installed (all the Albury Brothers runabouts

are center console), a stripe is added to the hull and the bottom sanded well to receive a paint job. It takes the builders four to six weeks to complete a 23-foot boat from start to finish, and the yard produces ten or twelve boats a year. Orders are taken a year ahead of time, but not longer than that—and there is always a waiting list. Albury Brothers boats come in 18.5-foot, 20-foot and 23-foot lengths. The 23-foot boat is the most popular hull size.

There are several different weaves of fiberglass. After the gelcoat inside the mold goes four layers of "chop mat," which is a thin fiberglass cloth made of short fibers of glass, a bit like felt. After this is a layer of "woven roving," another layer of chop mat and another roving layer. The bottom is built up to double thickness in this manner. For the consoles Willard uses "biaxial" fiberglass weave which does not pull diagonally like normal weave and is stiffer and stronger.

house is provided with large fans, and wherever men are working there is always a fan blowing air on them.

Albury Brothers boats ride smoothly. Willard shapes the hull plugs by eye, drawing on his experience with building wooden boats. Seahorse Boat Rental's owner Deb Patterson attests to the popularity of Albury Brothers boats. "It's like a Mercedes on water," she says. "We have more people request Albury Brothers boats than any other of the four types of boats in our fleet. The boats ride exceptionally well. They are solidly built and require extremely low maintenance. I've heard customers describe them as 'magic carpets'."

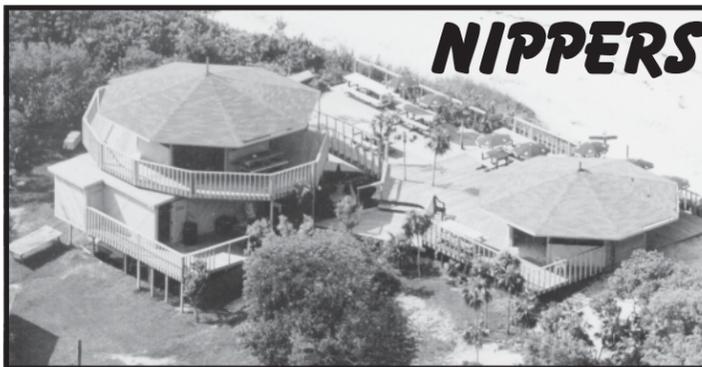
Fiberglass is, of course, a legendarily obnoxious substance to work with. "You get used to it," said Mr. Willard. "Some of the guys like to use talcum powder in the creases of their elbows and it helps some, but the biggest thing is not to perspire." The glassing

Abaco Boats Will Be Built in Florida

An Abaco company is expanding its production by allowing its product to be produced in the United States. The Albury Bros. boats will soon be in production in Jupiter, Florida. Power Boats, a company in Jupiter, is now undertaking to build the identical boats in Florida. Mr. Jeff Lichterman of Power Boats has made all the arrangements to duplicate the molds and will produce them there. This will increase the production of these boats as this venture expects to produce 10 boats yearly in the 20-foot and 23-foot sizes beginning with the 23-foot size. This will help alleviate the demand for these boats as they are highly prized for their seaworthiness and smooth ride. They are very well built with a good underbody. They have

much thicker glass and gel coats than normal production boats.

Power Boats is a boat dealership located in Riviera Beach, Florida. They have been negotiating since February and now have duplicates of Willard Albury's boat molds in Florida. Mr. Albury will receive a royalty on each boat that is produced. The recommended outboard is a 200 HP to 225 HP on the 23-foot boat while the 20-foot boat is nicely powered with a 115 to 150 HP engine. The price in Florida will be similar to the cost here when duty on materials is considered. Mr. Lichterman is eager to produce the boats as there is such a demand for this quality boat.



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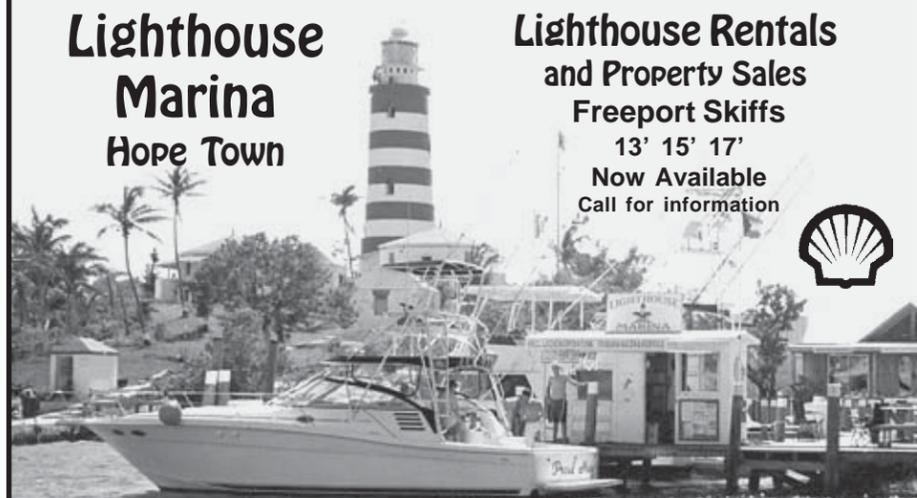
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Program To Study Parrots Begins

A meeting organized by Friends of the Environment for the general public was held on June 26 at the Anglican Hall in Marsh Harbour to introduce the program which is now underway to study the Abaco parrot and its danger of extinction. The topic of the meeting was *The Bahama Parrot on Abaco: New Challenges and Needs*.

Mr. James Wiley of the Maryland Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit of University of Maryland is very knowledgeable about parrots in the Caribbean. He is spearheading the projects. He outlined some of the problems that the Abaco parrots face.

These include habitat destruction, invasive species that have been introduced, feral animals, hurricanes, forest fires and predators such as hawks and owls. There were 32 species of parrots specific to the West Indies. These included macaws, Amazona parrots and parakeets. Some of these are extinct and many others are threatened with extinction. The Abaco parrot is particularly vulnerable as it nests in the ground, making it susceptible to predators such as feral cats, rats and raccoons.

One of the women who will be on Abaco for part of the study is Caroline Stahala, who

is with the U.S. Geological Survey of the North Carolina State University. She spoke of the five subspecies of Cuban parrots of which our Abaco parrot is one. At one time they were common throughout The Bahamas. Now they are found only on Inagua and Abaco. The female parrots are in danger for about three months, from the time they lay two to five eggs each and incubate them for about one month through the time the young fledged which is at about two months of age. The

parrots nest at about the same time that the pine trees produce pine cones. The pine cones are very important in the diet of the parrots as they are high in protein which the young fledglings need.

Gina Mori from Lima, Peru, is working on parrot research. She is a graduate student at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, with a Master of Science degree and has selected the Bahama parrot as her research topic.



A program is being developed to study the Abaco parrots which are being threatened by introduced animals. A meeting held in Marsh Harbour was designed to inform Abaco people about the plans. Shown above are the organizers and include, left to right, Ms. Gina Mori, a graduate student with the Abaco parrot as her research topic, Mr. Pericles Maillus, a naturalist from the Bahamas National Trust, Ms. Caroline Stahala, another graduate student who will be doing field work, Mr. James Wiley, spearheading the project, and Mrs. Erin Pagliaro, Chairman of the Friends of the Environment.

The Nature Conservancy Advises Friends

Members of The Nature Conservancy met with Abaco representatives of Friends of the Environment to discuss their goals and programs. The Nature Conservancy is an international conservation and preservation organization which assists local groups and governmental groups with their programs. On Abaco was Ms. Eleanor Phillips, who is their Program Director in The Bahamas, and Mr. Paul Hardy from their headquarters, who is concerned with training and partnership. The reason for their trip to Abaco this time was to work with Friends to strengthen their organization and help them identify their goals.

At this time the Nature Conservancy is in partnership with the Department of Fisheries, the Bahamas National Trust and BREEF in developing plans for the national parks in

Exuma and Andros. These plans are made in conjunction with local people. The plans for Exuma will include revenue generating programs to make them less reliant on outside funding. They will work closely with ANCAT, an organization on Andros similar to Friends here on Abaco.

The Nature Conservancy will be making recommendations and will help with the education concerning proposed marine reserves which will be set up to provide a way of restocking the surrounding areas.

Their expertise will be valuable as studies of the Abaco parrot are developed and organized. These studies are a joint effort of

Please see **Friends**

Page 13

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Wildlife Biologist Assists Parrot Project

By Jennifer Hudson

Dr. Thomas H. White, a wildlife biologist with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, spent the first week of August on Abaco assisting the Friends of the Environment with their parrot conservation project. His job while here was to initiate the second phase of the demography project trapping parrots and attaching radio transmitters in order to track their movements around the islands.

Dr. White has had wide experience working with parrots as he has worked as a member of the Puerto Rico Parrot Recovery

Project both in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic for the past seven years where the Puerto Rican parrot is the most endangered in the entire Caribbean. His task on Abaco was to offer technical assistance to the parrot project here, which is a joint effort between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, North Carolina State University and Abaco Friends of the Environment. This has involved the very difficult task of catching the birds and then putting small radio transmitters onto the chicks and adult females. In the first four days of his visit he was able to tag thirteen chicks and three adults and in-

structed Caroline Stahala, a graduate student from North Carolina State University, in how to tag the birds. Caroline will be on Abaco for a year and a half and her target is to tag a total of twenty-five chicks and fifteen adult birds. Each transmitter consists of a tiny collar containing a brass cylinder with a radio transmitter. Each bird's transmitter has a separate frequency. Ms. Stahala will tune into a different frequency to locate each specific bird.

The radio transmitters are being used to determine the survival of the chicks and adults and to track them as they begin moving out of the forest once the breeding season is over

in order to determine which are going to be the significant areas for the parrots. "It is important," states Dr. White, "for Friends of the Environment to have empirical rather than theoretical data when making decisions regarding long term planning for the conservation of the parrots."

Both Dr. White and Ms. Stahala wish to stress that the radio transmitters cause no ill effects or mortality to the parrots and the birds very quickly get used to wearing them. These devices have been used very successfully in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Mexico.



The Nature Conservancy works with conservation groups around the world, advising and assisting them in organizing. Ms. Eleanor Phillips, left, who is with TNC in Nassau, met with the Directors of Friends of the Environment to work out plans for their projects. Talking with her were Mrs. Erin Pagliaro, center, and Ms. Lory Kenyon on the right.



Researchers on Abaco are carrying out studies to give much important information about the status of the parrots which are unique to Abaco. They are, left to right, Dr. Thomas White, wildlife biologist with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Ms. Caroline Stahala and Ms. Jana Mori, both graduate students working on the project. The parrots are being adversely affected by feral cats and will be further threatened as racoons spread throughout Abaco from the north where they are now common.

News

From Page 12

the Bahamas National Trust, US Fish and Wildlife Department, U.S. Geological Sur-

vey, the University of North Carolina and University of Maryland. There is concern now that the raccoon has been introduced to Abaco and is moving from North Abaco into the central part of the island.

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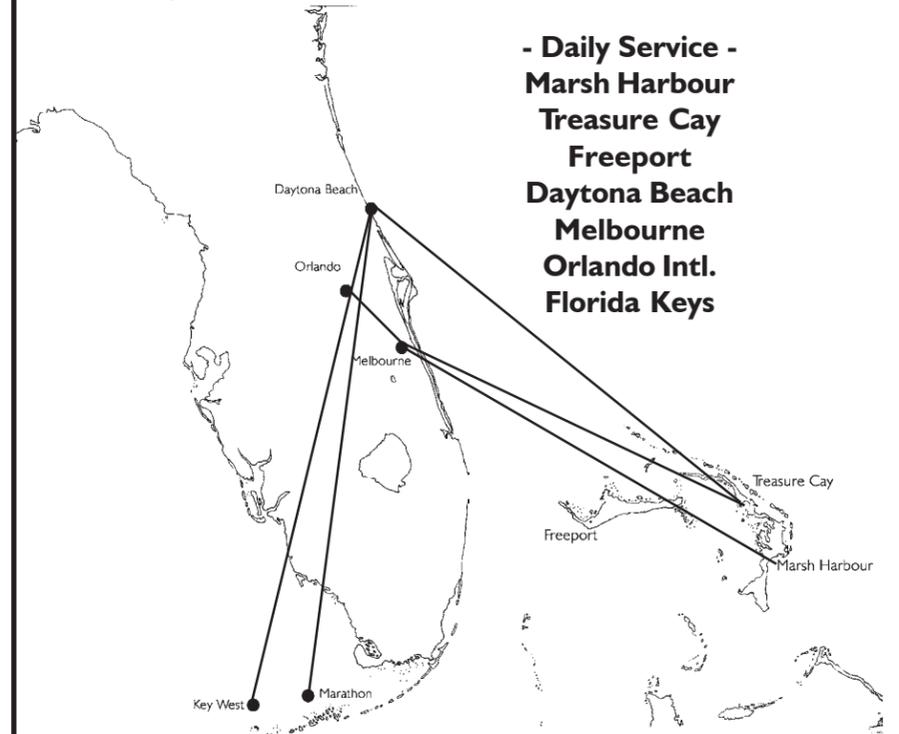


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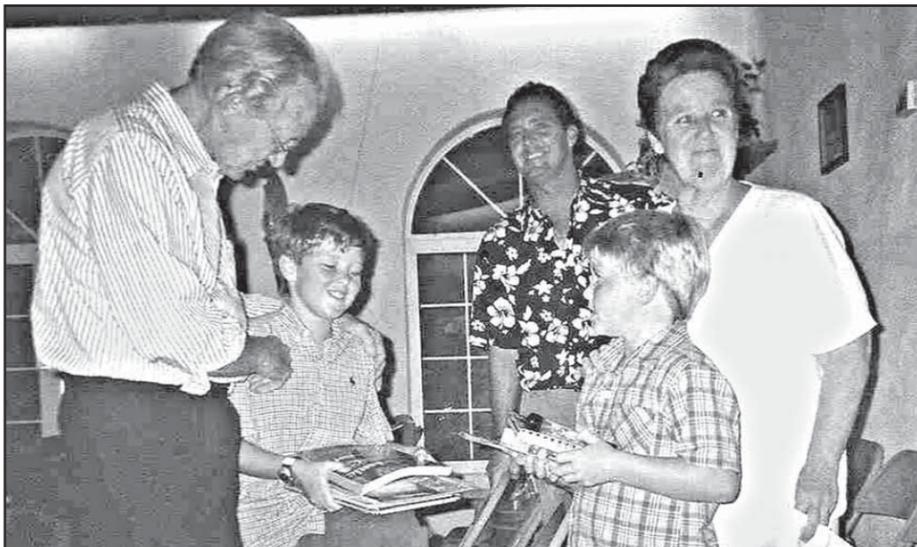
School News



Mrs. Suzanne Bethel, former Hope Town School principal, presented the Memorial George Gallup Award for Educational Excellence and Improvement for 2003 to Stephanie Sweeting and T.J. Baldwin. Shown above are, left to right, T.J., Stephanie, Mrs. Candace Key, Principal, and Mrs. Bethel.



The Abaco Principal's Association recently held a luncheon at Mackerel's Restaurant to bid good-bye to Mr. Michael Meeson, Principal of Forest Heights Academy, and Mrs. Gae Meeson. They are returning to their native Australia after many years of educational service on Abaco. The picture shows former District Superintendent Jackson McIntosh, Ms. Anne Bootle, Principal of the Amy Roberts School, Ms. Felamease Sawyer, Curriculum Coordinator, Mr. Meeson, Mrs. Candace Key, Principal of the Hope Town School, and Mr. Hezekiah Dean, present District Superintendent. Missing from the photo is Mrs. Meeson.



Guest speaker for the Hope Town School Awards Night program was Mr. Patrick Bethel, former principal at the school. He is shown visiting with three generations of Alburys. He taught Mrs. Belle Albury, shown on the right. In the middle are Tim Albury, Miss Belle's son, with his two sons. Photos on this page by Candace Key

Remember to Buckle Up

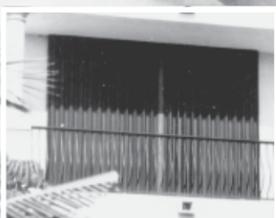


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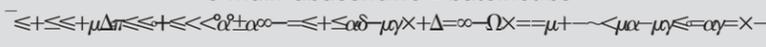
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Club News

Pilot Club Member Attended International Convention

Raquel Sweeting, a member of the Pilot Club of South Abaco, joined more than 1100 Pilot members from all over the world at the Pilot International Convention held in Reno, Nevada, on July 9-12. In addition to business meetings and workshops, convention attendees took part in the Foundation Walk, a fund raising event held to increase awareness of brain injury and brain injury prevention. Convention attendees took part in a banquet and installation of Pilot International officers.

Members of Anchor Clubs, the youth division of Pilot International, took part in an onsite service project during the convention, collecting hundreds of books and stuffed animals for sick and disadvantaged children in Reno. Anchor members also participated in workshops addressing youth and volunteer issues.

Founded in 1921, Pilot International is a service organization of volunteers working together to improve the quality of life in communities throughout the world. The organization's focus is helping persons with brain-related disorders and disabilities through education, volunteerism and financial support.

This year the Pilot Club of South Abaco is proud to announce ten new members for the year, bringing the total club membership to 27.

The executive committee includes President Raquel Sweeting, President Elect Stanley



Ms. Raquel Sweeting, left, President of the Pilot Club of South Abaco 2003-2004, is pictured with the President of Pilot International, Alayna Schaffer of Denver, Colorado.

White, Treasurer Valeria Lightbourne, Secretary Stanya White, Operations Director Claudia Pinder, Co-director Projects Committee Penny Bain, Co-director Projects Committee Nicholas Roberts, Co-director Fund raising Committee Darphinette Bain, Co-director Fund raising Committee Mildred McKinney and Youth Director Alice Williams.

The Pilot Club of South Abaco would like to thank the communities for supporting the club and our fund raising events.



Once again the Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club held its annual Fan Club and distributed 35 fans to many elderly and shut-ins in Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town and Murphy Town. This program was started last year to help these people get through the heat of summer. The club would like to thank the Department of Social Services for its help in locating many of the recipients. The photograph is of Sid Dawes and Rex Albury of the Scurvy Few presenting a fan to Mr. Harold Smith of Dundas Town.



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People in the News

Scotia Bank Has New Manager

By Jennifer Hudson

Ms. Cleola A. Cooper took up her new position as Manager of Scotia Bank, Abaco Branch, during the last week of July. She has been with Scotia Bank for 22 years, mostly on Grand Bahama but also in Nassau, Andros and Long Island before coming to Abaco. This is the first Family Island where she has worked at an already established branch, previously having been responsible for setting up the branches on Andros and Long Island.



Ms. Cleola Cooper

Ms. Cooper is looking forward to the challenge of working with the seventeen employees at the Abaco Branch as the branch she transferred from had only seven employees. Ms. Cooper has traveled widely abroad but traveling for the bank has given her a better appreciation of Family Island life and she finds each of the islands to be unique. Whilst in Long Island, she graduated from the Bahamahost programme, which she recommends as an invaluable programme for anyone wishing to widen his or her knowledge of the Bahamas. She feels that she will really enjoy her time in Abaco as it has slightly more of a city flair than many of the islands while still retaining its Out Island character. She is a very outdoor person and particularly enjoys fishing and tennis but is also an avid reader.

Earlier this year her first motivational and inspirational book, *Enjoy the Abundance of God*, was published. She had been working on it for the past three years. Ms. Cooper, who enjoys trying to encourage people along the journey of life, plans to attend Zion Baptist Church in Murphy Town. She is the mother of three sons, the youngest of whom resides with her on Abaco.

Ms. Cooper lives by her philosophy, "To do all the good I can, to all the people I can, as long as I can, because life is so short," and attributes her success to "putting Christ first."

Scout Sails with U.S. Scouts

By Isobel Sherman

Abaco Boy Scout Latario Moss became the first Abaco Boy Scout to enjoy a seven-day sail on the *Pellucid*. He joined seven scouts from St Louis, Missouri, on August 4 to sail. Each year Sea Base of the Boy Scouts of America High Adventure Programme operates eight sailing boats including the Man-O-War- built schooner, the *William H Albury*, during the summer. Boy Scouts from all over the United States come for a week of sailing and learning skills required for sailing. This year some Scouts came from Alaska to the sailing programme.

Each year the Sea Base schedules an activity which includes the Boy Scouts from Abaco. This year a camp-out was held in the yard of Sandra Evans on August 2-3. Twenty Boy Scouts from the United States joined the Scouts from Abaco for this weekend event.

The Sea Base High Adventure Program has grown each year and is one of the most popular High Adventure Programs that the Boy Scouts of America run each summer.

Abaco Man Is Sentenced

Hubert Frankie Bethel of Marsh Harbour and Renardo Ricardo Major of Nassau were sentenced in the Supreme Court in Nassau on July 29. They were charged with conspiracy to commit armed robbery and kidnaping. Mr. Bethel was sentenced to 12 years on the first count and eight years on the second count. Mr. Major got 10 years on the first charge and seven for the second.

Both men conspired to kidnap Mr. Floyd Sawyer of Treasure Cay for ransom. They were both found guilty and convicted on June 24 by a 12-member jury. Mr. Sawyer was kidnaped at gun point when he left his house early in the morning. He was blindfolded, handcuffed, transported to a lonely beach where he was left handcuffed to a coconut tree.

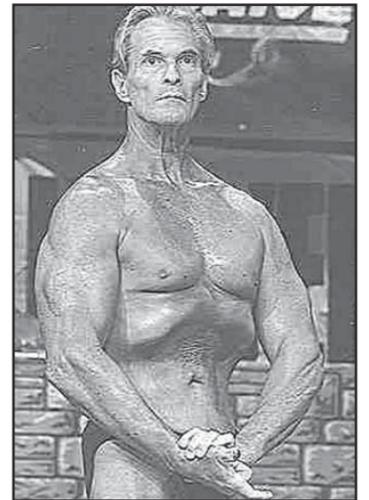
The men demanded \$3 million in ransom by phone to Mr. Sawyer's son in Marsh Harbour who contacted the police and began arranging for a transfer of money at a bank. During the day the amount they demanded was reduced significantly. The police were able to track the men down and took them into custody later the same day. They found

and released Mr. Sawyer at the beach unharmed.

Body Builder Wins Again

On June 28 in Freeport, Grand Bahama, Arthur Elden from Man-O-War won the over-50 masters division and placed second in the open light-heavy weight division in a competition. One week later on July 5 in Nassau he placed 3rd in the masters over-40 and won the open super middleweight division.

In 1958 at the age of 16 Arthur Elden picked up his first weights and bodybuilding would be his life long sport. At 17 and training under the national swimming coach, Mr.



Mr. Arthur Elden

Please see **People**

Page 34



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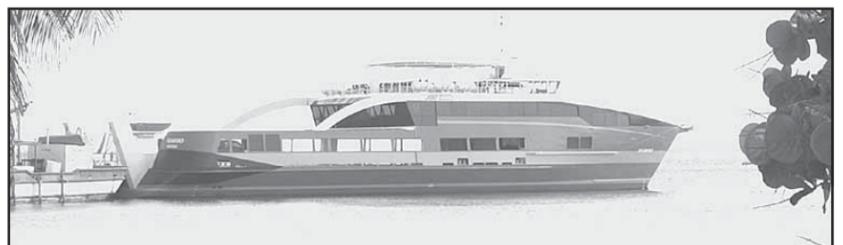


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Adult Passenger	\$90	\$50
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Child Passenger under 3 years	Free	Free
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National News

New Ferry to Offer Service to Florida

The operators of a 50-mile-an-hour ferry between Fort Lauderdale and the Bahamas have announced a new ferry service between Port Everglades and Freeport which is expected to begin daily trips on November 1. Bahamas Florida Express expects the prices to begin at \$129 round trip.

The Bahamian-owned company will use a 900-passenger vessel called the CAT, chartered from Bay Ferries of Nova Scotia. The CAT will leave Florida around 4 p.m. and arrive at Grand Bahama Island around 6 p.m.

The 320-foot ferry will operate only during the winter months as it is in service between Maine and Nova Scotia during the summer months. It is expected to bring winter visitors to the hotels in Freeport.

The owners of Bahamas Florida Express have put up \$5 million to start the service. Mr. Craig Symonette is chairman of Bahamas Florida Express.

Mutton Production Will be Encouraged

Five and a half million pounds of mutton were imported into The Bahamas in 2000 and was augmented by 130,000 pounds of locally produced mutton. Eyeing the potential to produce over five million pounds to satisfy local demand, the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) is working with farmers to increase domestic production. The existing market for mutton is in the neighborhood of \$6 million per year.

BAIC has recently stated that they are in discussions to build two slaughter houses on Abaco, one on Andros and one on Long Island, perhaps with private sector involvement.

These slaughter houses would provide for packaging, inspection and grading of meat products for local consumption.

Incentives will be offered to farmers related to land acquisition and technical assistance to increase the domestic production of this meat. In the Bahamas mutton is the meat of either adult sheep or goats.

New Phone Service Will Begin

DigiTel Networks, a new telephone company offering fixed long distance and local wireless telephone service and mobile data services, has completed the first phase of preparation to its launch on January 1st, 2004. Engineers have been working with the parent company, Systems Resource Group, to locate sites for radio antennas for service on New Providence and later on Abaco and Grand Bahama. Construction of new towers will be limited because of their environmental policy. Rather, they will take advantage of high buildings and existing Batelco radio masts. Their network will have the capacity to deliver a whole range of services, including voice, data and broadband through a network of wireless towers.

The Systems Resource Group has been a successful data communications company in The Bahamas for the past 13 years. The company has a 15-year telecommunications license effective on January 1, 2004, to offer the first and only competitive voice service to Batelco in the country.

The Public Utilities Commission issued the license as a first step in the government's deregulation of the telecommunications sector. Systems Resource Group was judged to be the "most meritorious" of the final three companies that reached the final bidding process.

Anti-Bahamas Web Site Was Launched

By Isobel Sherman

There may be problems ahead for Abaco in tourism particularly boating. The recent increase in the fees for cruising permits has many boaters angry. A website was launched www.boycottbahamas.com for boaters to air their concerns about the increase and to advise boaters to go elsewhere. The website tells boaters to make a difference and to abstain from cruising the Bahamas and go elsewhere.

As of July 1 cruising permits went to \$150 for boats up to 35 feet and \$300 for boats

over 35 feet, a huge increase.

Abaco has to be concerned because many of our tourists are boaters. Nassau does not have the number of boaters we have. Bimini, Grand Bahama and Walkers Cay get weekend boaters and this could adversely affect them as many boaters do not want to pay \$150 or \$300 every time they enter the Bahamas for a few days. Sources in the hospitality industry say that hopefully government will reconsider this decision. We as Abaconians must help visitors and encourage a rethinking of this decision. According to the website most boaters would not have minded a \$25 or \$50 dollar increase. They could understand that.

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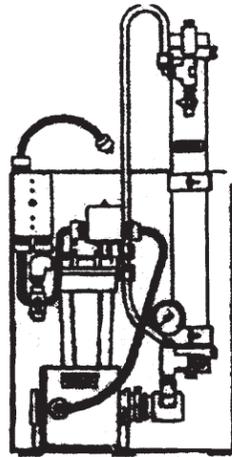
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- ★ **Bahama Palm Shores** - Elegant 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,000 sq.ft. home. with 1 bedroom, 1 bath detached cottage/apartment on double lot over 2/3 acre Near beach - Auxillary Generator. #AB87 - **\$430,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour - "Pelican Point"** - 3 bedroom, 3 bath home - 1 bedroom, 1 bath garage apartment - 2 Acres -private dock - Fabulous Views. - Furnished # AB67 **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Cove Estates - "Laura's Hideaway" -Duplex - 2 -2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, plus efficiency, 3 separate living units - great location, excellent rental income, furnished. #AB44 - **\$187,500.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shores - "Beach Point House" - 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,500 sq.ft. home. 1,200 sq.ft. of verandahs and decks. 3/4 acre on Sea of Abaco - Two complete living units, Beach Great views. #AB89 - **\$1,450,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - "Spinnaker Point" - 3 bedrooms - 3 baths - 1,320 sq.ft. Home, Private 50' Lay-along Boat Dock, Tastefully furnished and fully equipped # AB93 - **\$595,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shores - "Lookout House" - 4 bedroom, 3 baths - 1,600 sq.ft. on sea-to-sea 3/4 acre. New addition and renovation. Natural foliage - Private dock - Fabulous views - Furnished. #AB91 - **\$1,120,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Lightbourn" - Commercial - Almost 2 Acres - Prime Queen Elizabeth Drive Location, near stoplight - 3,600 sq.ft. Store or warehouse. # AB - AB99 - **\$1,400,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Commercial - over 1/3 Fenced Acre - 2,160 sq.ft. Showroom/Office/Warehouse Building - Perfect for service business or wholesaler - AB110 - **\$290,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Villa Douglas" - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedrooms - 3 baths - 2,650 sq.ft. Home, Upper and Lower Covered Verandas, Garage - Private Dock, Boat Lift - Beautifully Furnished. #AB71- **\$1,320,000.**



Derek A. Lee, BRI
Broker

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"Ceylon's Isle" - "Rosewood"

Man-O-War Cay - 2 1/2 Acres Sea-to-sea. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,920 sq.ft. residence. 1 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath guest complex on beach. 259' of beautiful Sea of Abaco beach. Lush landscaping, a myriad of fruit trees. Fully furnished and equipped. Superb Views. # AB111 - **\$3,700,000**



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Murphy Town

Murphy Town - WHY RENT? 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath home. Centrally Located. Newly Completed and ready for immediate occupancy. Great Value. #AB107 **\$142,000.** For qualified first home buyers **\$135,000.**



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Elbow Cay - Dorros Cove - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,600 sq.ft new home, on almost 1/2 Acre overlooking Tahiti Beach. Private boat slip. Superb views and great proximity to beach and docking facilities. Fully Furnished # AB83 - **\$840,000.**



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"Sunset Point Resort"

Marsh Harbour - Busic Bay - 8 Unit Bonefishing resort, with fifty seat Lazy Parrot Restaurant and Bar. Central Air-conditioning. Fresh water swimming pool. Excellent investment opportunity. AB100 - **\$901,000.**



"Harbour View Villa"

Marsh Harbour - Pelican Shores - 5 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath, 5,500 sq.ft. centrally air-conditioned home on approx. 1 acre with 115' of harbour frontage. Swimming Pool. Private dock. Great Harbour Views - beautifully landscaped #AB106 **Price Upon Request.**

Great Guana Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay and North Abaco

- ★ **Great Guana Cay - "Plum Loco"** - 3 bedroom, 2 bath - 1,228 sq.ft. home - on almost 1/2 acre with 100' of beautiful beachfront. Tastefully Furnished and fully equipped - #AB97- **\$752,000.**
- ★ **Great Guana Cay - "Aquarium"** - Boat Harbour Area - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq.ft. Home. Great Elevation, Superb views - Fully Equipped. #AB98 - **\$345,000**
- ★ **Green Turtle Cay** - Family Residence - 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath -2,265 sq.ft. living space on two floors on 1 1/2 secluded acres. # AB35 - **\$945,000.**
- ★ **Green Turtle Cay - "Surcouf"** - 2,130 sq.ft. home on 1/4 acre - 2nd floor, 2 bedroom, 2 bath - separate 1st floor apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath Across road from beach. Good rental income potential. Furnished - Ready for Occupancy - #AB86 - **NEW PRICE \$585,000.**
- ★ **Leisure Lee - "Leisure's Rest"** - 3 bedroom - 2 full baths, plus 2 -1/2 baths - 2,700 sq.ft. home beautifully landscaped. Fully Furnished. # AB84 - **\$350,000.**
- ★ **Treasure Cay - "Chameleon Bay"** - 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,478 sq.ft. Home. 150' of Treasure Cay Beach-front - over 1 1/2 acres. # AB95 - **\$925,000.**
- ★ **Treasure Cay - "Honey's Home"** - 3 bedroom, 3 bath - 1,600 sq.ft. home - 2/3 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal Private Dock with Boat Lift - Great Canal and Sea of Abaco Views. # AB66 - **\$765,000.**
- ★ **Treasure Cay "Oceana"** - Elegant Beach-front home 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 1,690 sq.ft., 1 bedroom, 1 bath 400 sq.ft. guest house. Garage. Beautifully landscaped and furnished. #AB92 **\$1,590,000**
- ★ **Treasure Cay - "South View"** - 3 bedroom, 2 bath Home. - Canal-front Location - Great Sea of Abaco Views, Good family home - Fully furnished. # AB30 - **\$340,000.**
- ★ **Sand Banks Creek - "Dannie's Den"** - 2 bedroom, 2 bath new home + 80' Waterfront - Almost 1 1/2 wooded acres. - Private Dock - # AB73 - **\$395,000.**



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Appraiser

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Based in Elbow Cay



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NEW PRICE

"North Star"

Great Guana Cay - Crossing Bay - 2 bedroom, 2 bath - 2,750 sq.ft. home with 1,100 sq.ft. of open deck - on 2.6 acres with 255' of beautiful Ocean beachfront. Fabulous Ocean and Sea of Abaco Views #AB94 - **NEW PRICE \$995,000**



NEW LISTING

"Plover's Nest"

Green Turtle Cay - Coco Bay - North End 1 bedroom, 1 bath - charming, compact home on 2 1/2 acres - Sea-to-sea - 130' Ocean Frontage and 130' Coco Bay frontage - Private Dock - Furnished #AB109 - **\$995,000**



NEW LISTING

"On De Sound"

Green Turtle Cay - Black Sound - 3 bedroom, 3 bath - 3,000 sq.ft. home on .83 acres. - 180' of waterfront. 1,200 sq.ft. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage - 320 sq.ft. studio. 195' of private dock - fully equipped.- Great Rental - #AB108 - **\$1,390,000.**



NEW PRICE

"Son Burns"

Treasure Cay - 4 bedroom - 3 bath - 2,160 sq.ft. home on two floors, 750 sq.ft. of open sundeck on upper level, 750 sq.ft. of porch on lower. - almost 3/4 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal - Private Dock - Fully Furnished. # AB72 - **\$575,000.**

☆ VACANT LAND ☆

- ☆ **PRIVATE ISLAND - "Carrington Cay"** - 1.4 Acres - Near Leisure Lee - #AB5147 - **\$375,000.**
- ☆ **Bahama Palm Shores** - Beachfront Parcel - 100' wide - over 450' deep - over 1 Acre. Land Cleared for Building. 34' x 26' Storage Building - Pump House - Stairs to Beach - # AB5150 - **\$211,000.**
- ☆ **Cabbage Cove** - 1/3 Acre - Sea of Abaco Beach-front Building Sites - Mid-way between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay - # AB5142 - **\$118,000.**
- ☆ **Elbow Cay** - "Marnie's Creek" - 1/2 acre hillside building sites, a private dock slip for each parcel. Fabulous Sea of Abaco views - # AB5114 - from: **\$230,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay Area - "Madierra Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. # AB5143 - **\$395,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Coco Sound" - 28 prime residential buildingsites - between Coco Bay and White Sound from 1/4 - 1/2 acre. # AB5090 - from: **\$59,000.**
- ☆ **Man-O-War Cay** - "L.U.A. Tract" - Over 1 Acre - Sea-to-Sea - Private Dock - AB5153 - **\$645,000.**
- ☆ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Lot # 48 & # 49 **SOLD**
- ☆ **Sand Banks Creek** - One Acre plus - Wooded lots with over 90' of water frontage on Bay - 3 miles south of Treasure Cay Limited Number Available. # AB5069 - from: **\$63,700.**
- ☆ **Tilloo Cay** - "Thompson Tract" - 7 acres. - sea-to-sea, good elevation - for great Sea of Abaco and Ocean views - can be divided into 2 - 3.5 acre parcels. # AB5113 - **\$965,000.**



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Union Leaders Met with Members



On July 3 executives of the Bahamas Public Service Union met with local union members. Shown above are, left to right, Mr. Synida Dorsett, BPSU secretary, Mr. Rudolph Stubbs, Vice President for the Northern region, and Mr. John Pinder, President of the Bahamas Public Service Union.

Three executives from the Bahamas Public Service Union met on July 3 with local members of the union to bring the local membership up to date on the ongoing negotiations with government concerning their promised \$1200 lump-sum raise.

Members and the executives were upset that government is delaying the payment, which would total \$24 million, until December of this year while able to fund other items the union considers less important. The leadership suggested a general work stoppage may be required to get government's attention.

Other issues concerned the new performance rating imposed on all government employees and its impact to the employees.

Questions were raised about employees in the islands handling multiple jobs within a department but being paid for the lowest category. Nurses complained about being on duty 24 hours but not compensated for the hours worked.

Mailboat Tragedy Claims Four Lives

By Isobel Sherman

On August 1 close to 200 persons were on the mail boat *M/V Sea Hauler* traveling to a regatta in Cat Island when that boat collided with the 178-foot freighter, the *United Star* at 1:30 a.m. in waters just south of Eleuthera. Four persons died when a deck crane collapsed due to the collision. About 20 persons were injured and were air lifted by the U.S. Coast Guard helicopter to Nassau for medical treatment. The injuries were not life threatening. The ferry *SeaWind* was in the area and took many of the remaining passengers back to Nassau.

No persons were reported missing but the situation was confusing as several mail boats as well as helicopters rescued passengers. Even though no one was found in the sea, the Coast Guard conducted a sea search for several days following the inci-

dent. Accounting for survivors was further complicated as there was no passenger manifest listing those on board.

The 98-foot *Sea Hauler* ordinarily sails weekly between Nassau and Cat Island. It is owned and captained by Mr. Allen Russell of Cat Island.

A special commission has been set up to investigate the mishap. The mail boat captain, passengers and others are being interviewed.

All excursions by mail boats have been suspended until the full investigation is complete. New regulations will be put into place which will improve the safety of travel on mail boats. These will include proper training and licensing of mail boat captains and adequate life rafts and life boats. The officials feel that the crew should be trained in fire fighting and life saving techniques.

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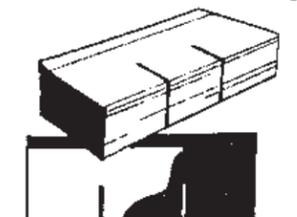
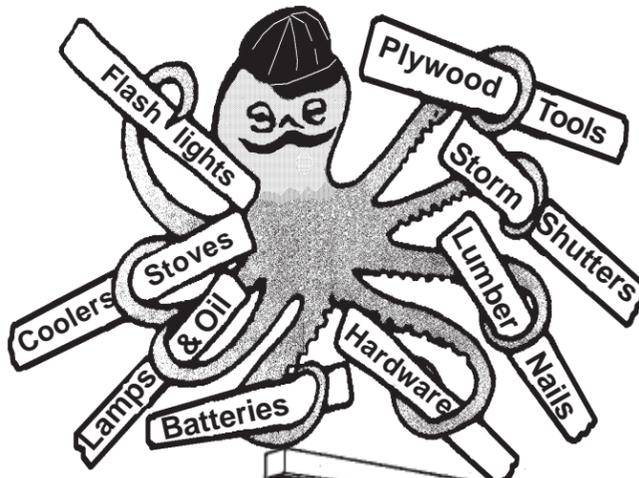
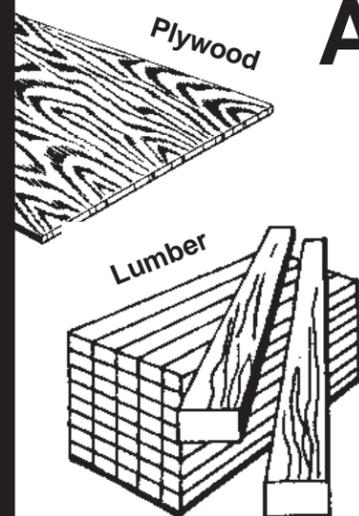
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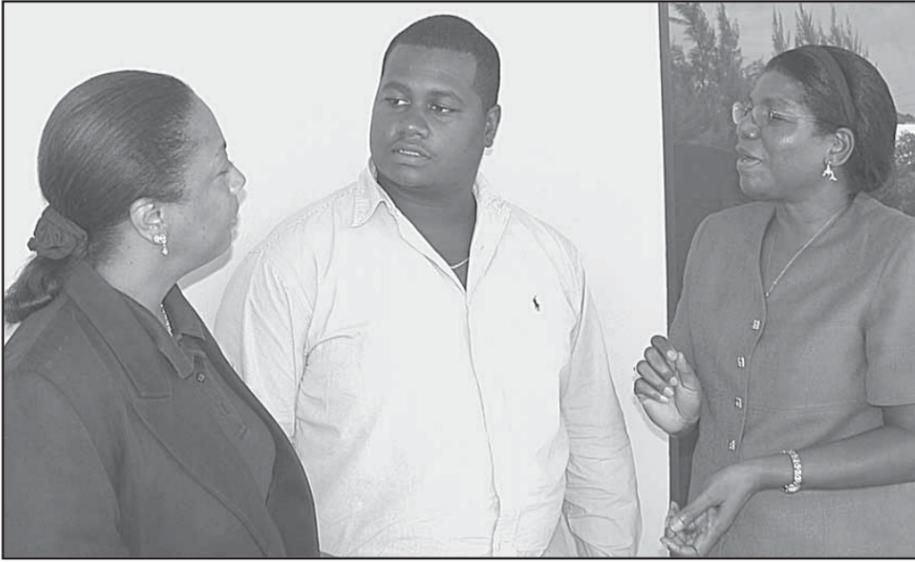
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Preparedness Experts Explain Procedures



Officials from the National Disaster Preparedness Committee held a meeting in Marsh Harbour on July 15 with officials here to discuss the need for every community to be prepared for emergencies. Shown above are, left to right, Ms. Gayle Outten Moncur from the National Disaster Management Committee, Mr. Jason Roberts, Chief Councillor for South Abaco, and Ms. Beryl Armbrister representing several organizations including the U.S. Aid for International Development, the U.S. Office of Disaster Assistance and the Latin American Caribbean Office.

Local disaster management persons met July 15 with top disaster management persons from Nassau in the local government

office in Marsh Harbour. Although disasters are thought of as hurricane initiated, they can occur from many events and with a great

variety of intensities. A disaster may be quite localized and not of a national consequence.

The Nassau team impressed on the local group that more must be done in the area of advance preparations as opposed to reacting to a situation that just happened.

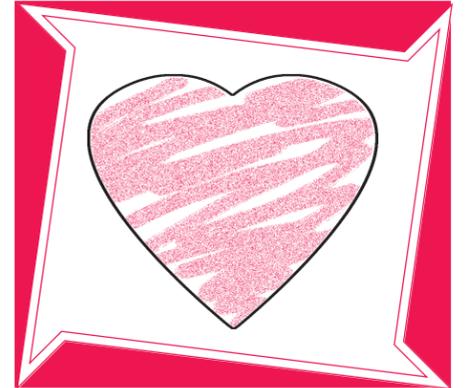
The need for careful selection of disaster staff was discussed. Disaster management persons must be both interested and have the time for the commitment. Those involved must be able to think on their feet and make decisions while out in the field. In the aftermath of a disaster, quick and sometimes hard decisions must be made without the benefit of normal protocols.

The group was told that communities must take much responsibility for adequate shelters and the restoration of shelters when damaged from those seeking shelter.

With approaching storms, more effort may be required to evacuate persons in low coastal areas and that building codes may need re-

gional variations. For example, areas subject to coastal or storm flooding may need different specifications than buildings on higher ground.

The group gave very practical advice in making assessment and in handling a variety of disasters.





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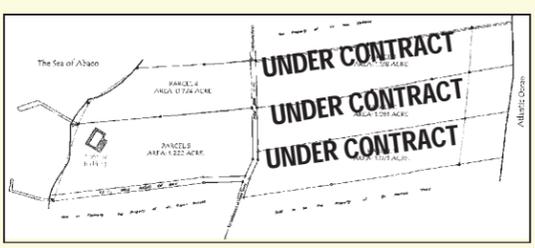
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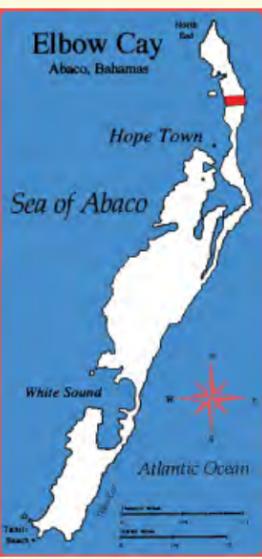
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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 7

News Around Town

A tragic boating accident clammed the life of a visitor to our island at the beginning of the summer. The accident happened off the government dock shortly after dark. It appeared that the dinghy collided with a Boston Whaler. The victim fell from the dinghy. After a search around the dock, his lifeless body was pulled from the water. It was a sad start to the summer boating season.

A fund raiser was held at the basketball court on May 31 with the proceeds to be used to purchase updated fire equipment. There were games to play and good food to enjoy. The highlight of the day was a "beauty contest." It was a tough decision with such "beauty" and "brains!" After much consideration, the "queen" was chosen. Miss Wreckin' Tree, Willamena, was declared the winner. The event was successful and the fire committee is in the process of purchas-

ing a new fire truck suited to a small community.

Festivities

The 28th Annual Regatta Time of Abaco got off to a great start with the annual Cheeseburger In Paradise party on Fiddle Cay on July 3. The first race in the series was held on July 4th. After a day of racing the participants enjoyed the annual awards party at Settlement Point sponsored by William Brewer and Bristol Cellars. The awards for the first race were also presented. The anchorage off Settlement Point was filled with participating and spectator boats and the town was bustling with activity.

Independence decorations and Bahamian flags went up all over town as we prepared to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Independence. The administrative buildings were draped in patriotic colors, utility poles were decorated and a countdown clock ticked away the days and hours to July 10th. An ecumenical service was held at the Miracle Church

of God on July 6th and featured a combined church choir. Administrator Gary Knowles read an Independence message from the Governor General, Dame Ivy Dumont. There were prayers for the nation and a message was delivered by Father Dwight Rolle. On July 10th a flag raising ceremony was held at Quincentennial Park. Officer Johnson raised the flag as Joel Reckley sang the national anthem. On the evening of July 11th a cookout was held at the basketball court. There were games for the children and adults. A trivia contest had everyone trying to remember the way we were in 1973. It was an enjoyable evening for all.

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee has been formed to organize a weekend festival for May 2004. Many of us will remember the first Island Roots Festival with our sister city, Key West, Florida. With the help of the Abaco Tourist Office, the committee is planning a weekend of cultural ac-

tivities to attract "relatives" and friends from Key West as well as other islands and states. It is hoped that this will be an annual event.

Newcomers

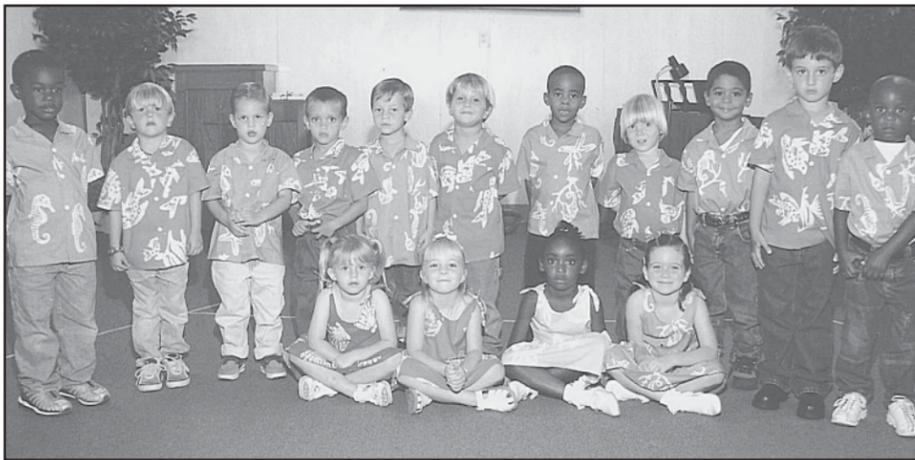
It is nice to welcome four new babies to our community! (Even if they are a few mouths old?) Amelia McIntosh welcomed a daughter She'nell Travett on April 18. Tavius is happy to have a baby sister.

Adrian and Kristina Lowe welcomed their first child, Conner John, on April 18. Conner is the first grandchild for Una and Larry Lowe and Leonard and Mary Lowe.

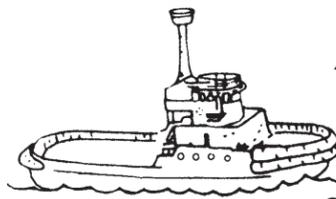
Troy and Nicole Lowe welcomed twins, Benjamin Aidan and Hannah Nicole on April 29th. Christopher got a baby brother and baby sister at the same time! It has been quite a few years since we had twins in our community, so everyone was really excited for Troy

Cays

From Page 25



The children completing their work at Tiny Tots Pre-School in Green Turtle Cay are pictured above. They will now move on to first grade next month. Photo by Annabelle Cross



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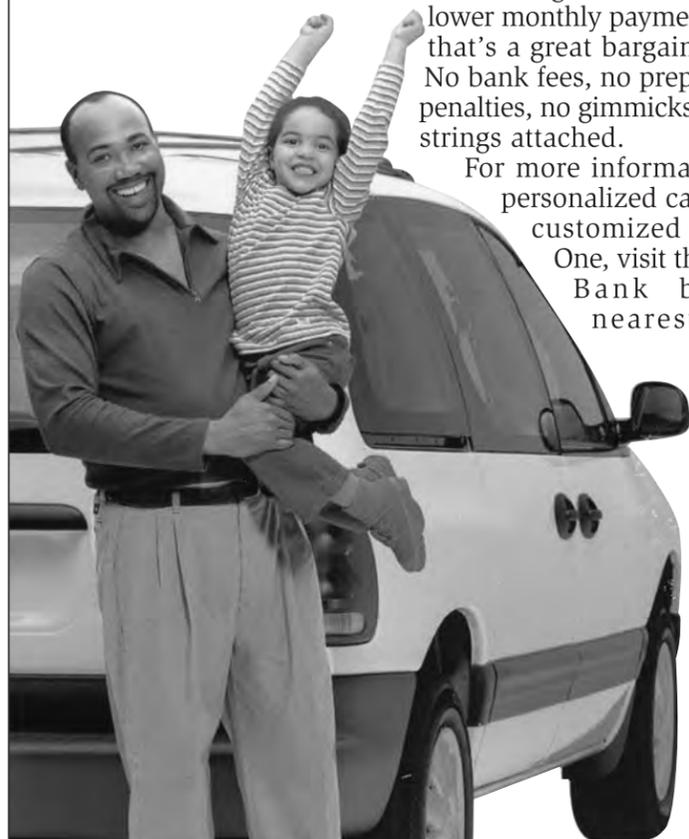
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News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 24*

and Nicole.
 Congratulations to all the parents, siblings and grandparents.

Other News

The 2003 - 2004 crawfish season is off to a start. The fishermen spent the last few weeks of July preparing for the season. It was busy around town, as many visitors come over to take part in the first week of the season. The weather hasn't really helped. July was a dry month, but we've had rain and thunderstorms almost every day since August 1st.

It was sad to learn that Diane Parker-Diaz and her niece died as a result of the Air Sunshine crash in July. Even though many of us did not know them personally, it is at times like this that we realize how small Abaco is. We all knew someone related to them.

More sad and shocking news came on August 2nd when we learned that Evangelist Lemon Neilly had died in his sleep. Mr. Neilly was from Spanish Wells, but known all over the Bahamas. In his early 60s, he appeared healthy. He visited Green Turtle Cay a few times each year to speak at the Gospel Chapel or simply to visit friends. It is hard to believe that we will not be seeing him again. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Ivorene, and their son, Ryan, and his family.

On a happier note, congratulations to Clifford and Rene Charlson who were married in a beautiful ceremony at Bluff House on July 12th. Friends and relatives traveled from the U.S. to be a part of their special day. They have been visitors to our island for many years and many of their local friends helped celebrate their wedding. A lovely reception followed the ceremony and the Gully Roosters provided entertainment into the night. Of course, they chose to honeymoon on Green Turtle Cay!

As August flies by, it is time to start preparing for the new school year. Some students have already returned to college, while others are enjoying their last weeks of vacation. Megan Sawyer and Matthew Lowe are joining the list of local students off at college. Good luck to all! Congratulations to Ian Bethel who graduated with a BA degree in marketing. Ian will return to Florida this fall to continue his employment. Ian is the son of David and Kathleen Bethel.

It has been a busy year so far. It will quiet down in a few weeks as school starts and our visitors return home. Hopefully, it will also be quiet weather wise. It's the time of year when we pay attention to the weather updates! Hopefully, the next few months will pass without incident!

Bahamas Award Scheme's Summer Program Was Held on Abaco

By Isobel Sherman

As part of the Governor General's Youth Award Scheme, young participants must complete an exhibition on one of the islands of the Bahamas each summer. This year 103 youth who are part of the Governor General's Youth Award Scheme traveled to Abaco to complete their expedition. The Base Camp was at Abaco Central High School. The camp began on June 29 when the participants were bused from Sandy Point where they landed from Nassau via the *SeaWind* ferry. For their first three days all of the participants followed a routine to prepare them for their longer expedition in South Abaco.

The Governor General's Award Scheme has three levels. The beginning or entry level is the Bronze, the middle level is the Silver and the top most prestigious level is the Gold. During the three days at Base Camp the Gold learned map making and prepared maps for their hike. The silver also prepared maps for their hike and the bronze learned first aid and prepared for their hike.

The base camp had 10 supervisors and 13 leaders which included a medic and a chef. The school campus provided a meeting hall and separate areas for male and females to sleep. Each of the three days was filled with

activities including exercise as well as games.

On July 2 those vying for the gold award left the base camp. They were bused to Schooner Bay where they hiked and camped out until they reached Hole-in-the-Wall which is about a 25-mile hike. They carried all provisions for the hike except for water. A water truck followed to refill their water bottles when needed.

On July 3 those earning their Silver Award were bused to Crossing Rock where they began their hike and camp out until they reached Hole-in-the-Wall. The Silver hike was about 20 miles in length. Finally on July 4 those working toward their Bronze Award were bused to the beginning of the Hole-in-the-Wall road where they hiked to Hole-in-

the-Wall, a hike of 15 miles.

The ending point for this expedition was the Sandy Point Primary School. The whole group departed from Sandy Point on July 9 via the Bahamas Ferry *SeaWind*.

Mr. Jim Richard, a teacher at S.C. Bootle High School, is the director the Governor General's Youth Award Scheme on Abaco. The award scheme, formerly called the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, allows young people to work toward for bronze, silver and gold awards through service, physical feats and learning certain skills.

The group at S.C. Bootle High School is quite active and Abaco Central is reviving the program which was very active a few years ago.

Register Your Child for School

By Isobel Sherman

Once again Huel Moss, Vice Principal of Abaco Central High School has issued a plea for parents of new students to the high school to register their child and for returning students to re-register. So far very few have done so. The registrations are needed in order to be able to know the number of classes and home rooms will be needed for the new

school year.

If you are one of the over 100 parents who has not picked up your child's report card during June from the school, be aware that unless you pick up the report card before September 1 your child will not be admitted for the new school year. The school office is open daily from 9 a.m. until noon Monday through Friday until school opens.

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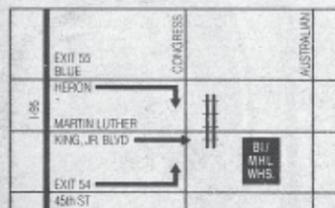


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Obituaries of Relatives and Friends

The funeral service for **Clyde Paul Bain Sr.**, 64, formerly of Crossing Rock was held on August 2 in Nassau and interment was in Nassau.

He is survived by his wife Margaret Bain; daughters Barbara Carroll, Marlene Bain and Vanessa Bain; sons Phillip, Francis and Clyde Jr.; stepchildren Chareice, Tyrone, Portia, Sophia and Monica Sears; daughters-in-law Paulamae, Mona and Natasha Bain; sons-in-law Leonard Carroll and Pedro Bain; sisters Leanz Pople, Stelletha and Barbara Johnson; brothers James, John, Barry Johnson and George Bain; aunts Lottie Roberts, Manvella Walker, Zelda Neely, Clementina Dames and Corrine Penn; uncles George Bain and Eric Nichols; sisters-in-law Una Flowers and Sylvia Gibson; brothers-in-law Thomas, Lunnon Sears Jr. and Pople; cousins; and many other relatives and friends.

Gordon Benjamin Lowe, 53, of Marsh Harbour passed away on July 26. His funeral was on August 2 at the Epworth Methodist Church in Cherokee Sound. Rev. Carla Culmer officiated assisted by Pastor Daniel Sawyer. Burial was in the Public Cemetery in Cherokee Sound.

He is survived by his wife Flora Lowe;

adopted mother Modina Hepburn; sisters Mavis and Carolyn; brothers Brady and Noel; sisters-in-law Louise, Bernadette, Liz, Cleola, Gertrude, Winfred and Inez; brothers-in-law Bateman, Alan, Abram and Estin; nephews Bill, Royce, Michael, Gordon, Douglas, Christopher, Scott, Jamie, Greg, Jerod and Mickey; nieces Jackie, Laurel, Beth, Rosy, Denise, Michelle, Lou Ann, Melanie and Heather; nephews-in-law Albert, Roger, Gary and Colyn; nieces-in-law Fay, Martha, Verna and Maureen; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Ileene Douglas**, 41, of Dundas Town was held on August 2 at St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town. Rev. Carla Culmer officiated assisted by Bishop Clifford Henfield, Pastor Stanford Symonette and Pastor Lennis Cornish. Internment was in the Dundas Town Public Cemetery.

She is survived by daughters Stacy Anderson and Sabrina Sawyer; son Alonzo Williams; grandchildren Deneisha Sawyer and Acacia Anderson; sisters Min, Evelyn Henfield, Olive Forbes, Laverne Maynard and Kariss Gray; brothers Allen and Min. Nehemiah Saunders, Ruel Smith, Sultan Sands, Anthony and Steve Douglas; broth-

ers-in-law Bishop Clifford Henfield and Rev. Cecil Forbes; sisters-in-law Debra Mae and Jacqueline Douglas, Venetta Saunders, Vernie Smith and Almeta Sands; aunts Ileen Mackey, Rebecca Simms, Dendelia and Modena Hepburn; uncles Arnold Hepburn and Samuel Davis; nieces and nephews; nieces-in-law; nephews-in-law; and many other relatives and friends.

Terence Murphy, a Guana Cay resident, died on June 27 after a short battle with cancer. He was 66. He had been a resident of Abaco since 1996, first living on Dickie's Cay, Man-O-War, then on his catamaran at the Marsh Harbour Marina while building his dream home on Great Guana Cay. Before moving to the Bahamas, Mr. Murphy was a pilot for Delta Air Lines for 25 years.



Mr. Terence Murphy

He was an avid sailor, sailing in many parts of the world including Abaco. Terry was also a writer, a poet and a musician. But most of all, he was a de-

voted husband, father, and son.

He was married to Sherry Young for 27 years. He leaves behind two daughters, Karen and Leigh Murphy, and a granddaughter, Meghan, all of Florida.

Terence Murphy was interred with full military honors including a 21-gun salute in the Florida Keys, where he lived for 20 years before retiring to the Bahamas. The family requests that all donations in his memory be made to Trauma One or S.N.I.P.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco

Tuesday, 7 p.m., weekly at Mackerel's Restaurant, Dundas Town, 367-5932

Pilot Club of Abaco

Third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Mackerel's Restaurant, Dundas Town, 367-3457

Pilot Club of South Abaco

Last Thursday, monthly, J.A. Pinder School, Sandy Point, 366-4001

Rotary Club of Abaco

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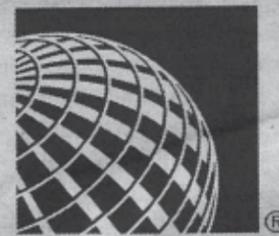
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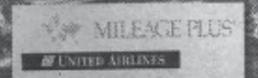
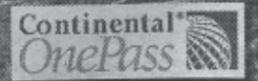


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Bahamas Dev. Bank Celebrates 25 Years

By Portia Jonsson

Parliament passed the Bahamas Development Bank Act in 1974 in response to the cries of the prospective Bahamian entrepreneurs for financial assistance to go into various types of businesses. After several years of planning, the government-owned Bahamas Development Bank opened for business on July 21, 1978, with capital of \$2 million and five employees.

The Bank assisted Bahamians by lending in the areas of fisheries, agriculture, tourism, transportation, manufacturing and service industries. The Bank has been mandated to provide financing for economically viable projects that:

- Create employment
- Utilize Bahamian materials and resources
- Reduce imports and increase exports
- Introduce new technology and skills
- Promote prosper-

ity for all Bahamians

The Bank's mission statement is as follows: *To finance economically viable small and medium enterprises in a suitable manner, to foster economic expansion and diversification.*

Over the years the bank continued to assist Bahamians by lending for approved enterprises and opened its second branch in 1986 in Freeport, Grand Bahama, and on the 21st July, 1999, it opened its third branch in Marsh Harbour. The bank, although it has only three branches, has given financial assistance throughout the entire Bahamas. The demands were greater than expected in the earlier years so the bank had to secure funding from the following sources: The Caribbean Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Economic Community, the Central Bank of the Bahamas and the National Insurance Board. The bank, in short, borrows to lend as it is not a commercial bank and thus does not have savings, chequing or fixed deposit accounts. Thus, its sole purpose is to lend to Bahamians who contribute to the industrial and commercial development of the Bahamas.

In July 2003 the bank had over 990 loans

in its portfolio with a value in excess of \$45 million. Of this total, the Freeport Branch had 188 loans valued at about \$6.5 million and the Abaco Branch had 84 loans valued about \$5 million.

Throughout the years the bank has had its struggles, the main one being delinquent (bad) loans. But even though it has this problem, it was felt that there have been many good loans and projects that have contributed greatly to the development of the Bahamian communities.

Over the period of its 25 years' existence hundreds of Bahamians have been assisted with their businesses, which have employed thousands of Bahamians with well over \$100

million of loans granted by the bank.

On Abaco evidence of the bank's assistance abound in Grand Cay, Moore's Island, Crown Haven, Treasure Cay, Sandy Point and Hope Town, financing fishing boats, mail boats, small hotels, farms, restaurants, bakeries, car rentals and laundromats to name a few.

The bank is proud of its accomplishments and is open to assist all Bahamians at any of its three branches, in Nassau, Freeport and Abaco. The Abaco branch is located upstairs in the Garnet Archer Plaza in Marsh Harbour.

The Bahamas Development Bank continues to live up to its slogan by *Building Bridges to the Future.*



Mr. Loran Coleby is the manager of the Bahamas Development Bank branch on Abaco.

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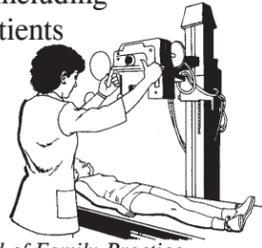
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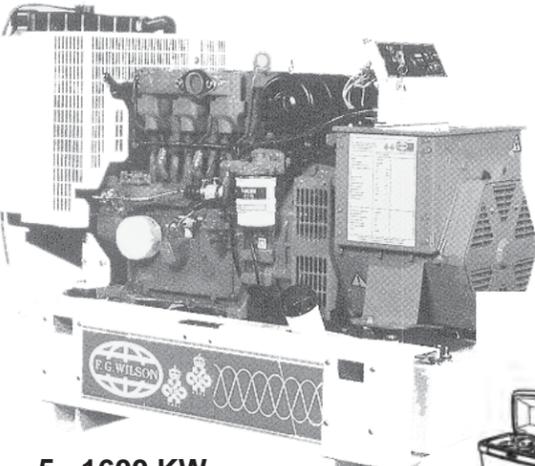
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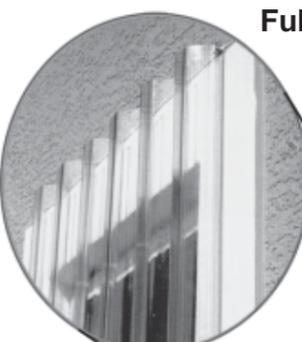


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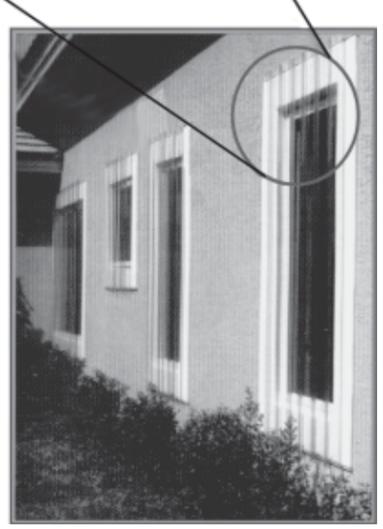
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Abaco Offers Intriguing Land Adventures

Visitors to Abaco are drawn to the beaches, quaint settlements on the outer cays and various water-oriented activities. Lesser known activities include nature and historical trips throughout the island.

Blue holes are scattered over the length of Abaco. The larger of these solution channels are 50 or more feet in diameter and often 100 or more feet deep with fresh water on top becoming brackish and salty at the lower levels. Many are easily accessible by road while others require a hike through the woods. Several of the blue holes are in the water and require a dive guide.

Ruins from a century or more ago can be viewed by those willing to get off the beaten

path. Cotton, sisal and logging operations have all left their marks on the island landscape and can be explored when knowing where to look. Stalking our native parrots, birds and butterflies is another lesser known activity.

Taking advantage of these and other outings is Abaco Outback, owned and managed by the husband and wife team, Ron and Erin Pagliaro. They are licensed boat captains and have put their boating experience to use with kayak trips in the extensive creeks south of Marsh Harbour as well as other land adventures covering the length of Abaco.

Ron is a certified birder by the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and the Bahamas National Trust. Additionally, he is certified with

the American Birding Association which endorses his bird tours. He is one of only two persons in the Bahamas holding the ABA certification.

A trip with Ron and Erin to the Hole-in-the-Wall lighthouse is a delightful day adventure with several side trips along the way. A small group left Marsh Harbour at 6:30 one morning and got off the highway and onto the forest logging road less than an hour later. In the park forest we intercepted Caroline Stahala, parrot researcher, who led us on foot into a nesting area.

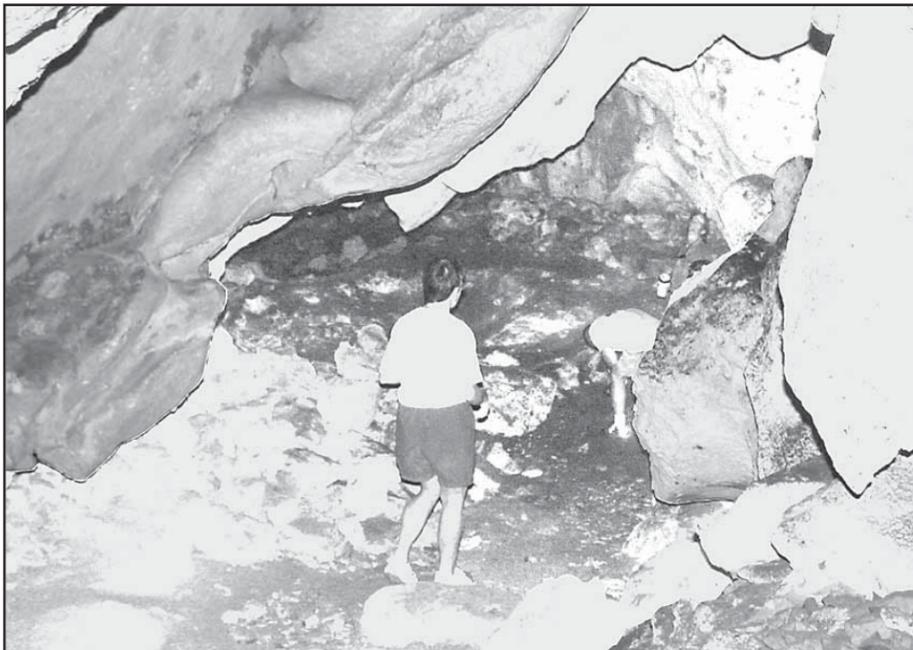
These parrots are unique as they make their nests in underground crevices. This has raised concerns about predation by raccoons, feral cats and land crabs. The birds have accommodated themselves to the land crab threat but naturalists are nervous about the long term effect of cats and raccoons which are recent additions to the forest. Ms. Stahala is one of several researchers studying various aspects of the Abaco parrots.

Several miles off the highway, the four persons accompanying Ron and Erin were shown two parrot nests with young in each nest. The intrusion was skillfully managed and the two adult birds in nearby trees were not visibly upset. One of the group was making a professional video presentation in which the parrots were prominently featured.

While hiking in the parrot area, Ron set up his powerful birding telescope and gave the group close-up views and descriptions of the parrots and other native birds. The scope brought the birds within an arm's length. Close-up photographs could be taken by placing camera lenses against the telescope eye piece.

Leaving the parrots, Ron took the group about an hour farther to the south end of the island. This drive was slow over the rough road. The road is passable with patience and occasional branches scraping the vehicle

Please see **Adventure** Page 29



This is one of the cavernous rooms about 100 feet from the entrance of a cave near Hole-in-the-Wall. One member of the group had a floodlight to illuminate the interior of the room.

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Parrots, Caves and Lighthouse All Beckon

Adventure

From Page 28

sides.

Throughout the air conditioned ride, Ron or Erin identified butterflies, native shrubs and various birds. The Cuban emerald hummingbird and the Bahama woodstar hummingbird were frequently seen flitting about the wild flowers.

The final mile of the trip was on Soldier Road which was originally a wagon trail connecting the lighthouse with an earlier settlement two miles west. This was the slowest portion of the trip. For the last 500 feet, the group we were asked to walk to lighten the load on the car as it crawled over the rough road ending at the light station.

The lighthouse was commissioned in 1836

and is showing its age. The buildings are now locked and shuttered but there were many photo opportunities of the lighthouse, support buildings, the keepers' residences and the rocky barren coast.

The remoteness of the site is striking. This was not considered a hardship post as the surrounding land provided opportunities not found at many isolated stations such as gardening or hunting in the nearby coppice. Supply ships would visit semiannually leaving the two keepers and their families alone until the next supply visit.

In our age of convenience, it is hard to imagine a ship anchored off with a line high in the rigging connected to a high point on the shore. Supplies and persons would be winched across the sea hanging on this line

in a breeches buoy. In rough seas, supplies and persons making the trip often got dunked as the line alternately tightened and loosened as the ship rolled.

When sea conditions were agreeable, a tender could bring supplies close to the rocks and be hoisted ashore by a shore-side boom. At other times supplies were off loaded in a cove two miles to the west and carried back to the light station. The road was pushed to the site in 1968 which eliminated the tedious boat operation.

The light was automated in 1995 and now operates with a solar panel and batteries, without the need for light keepers. The Bahamas Defense Force maintains the actual

Please see **Adventure** Page 30



The lonely sentinel at Hole-in-the-Wall keeps its vigil nightly, guiding the shipping on the Abaco side of the North West Channel. Since 1995 when it was automated, the signal is powered by a solar panel and batteries, and the buildings are shuttered.

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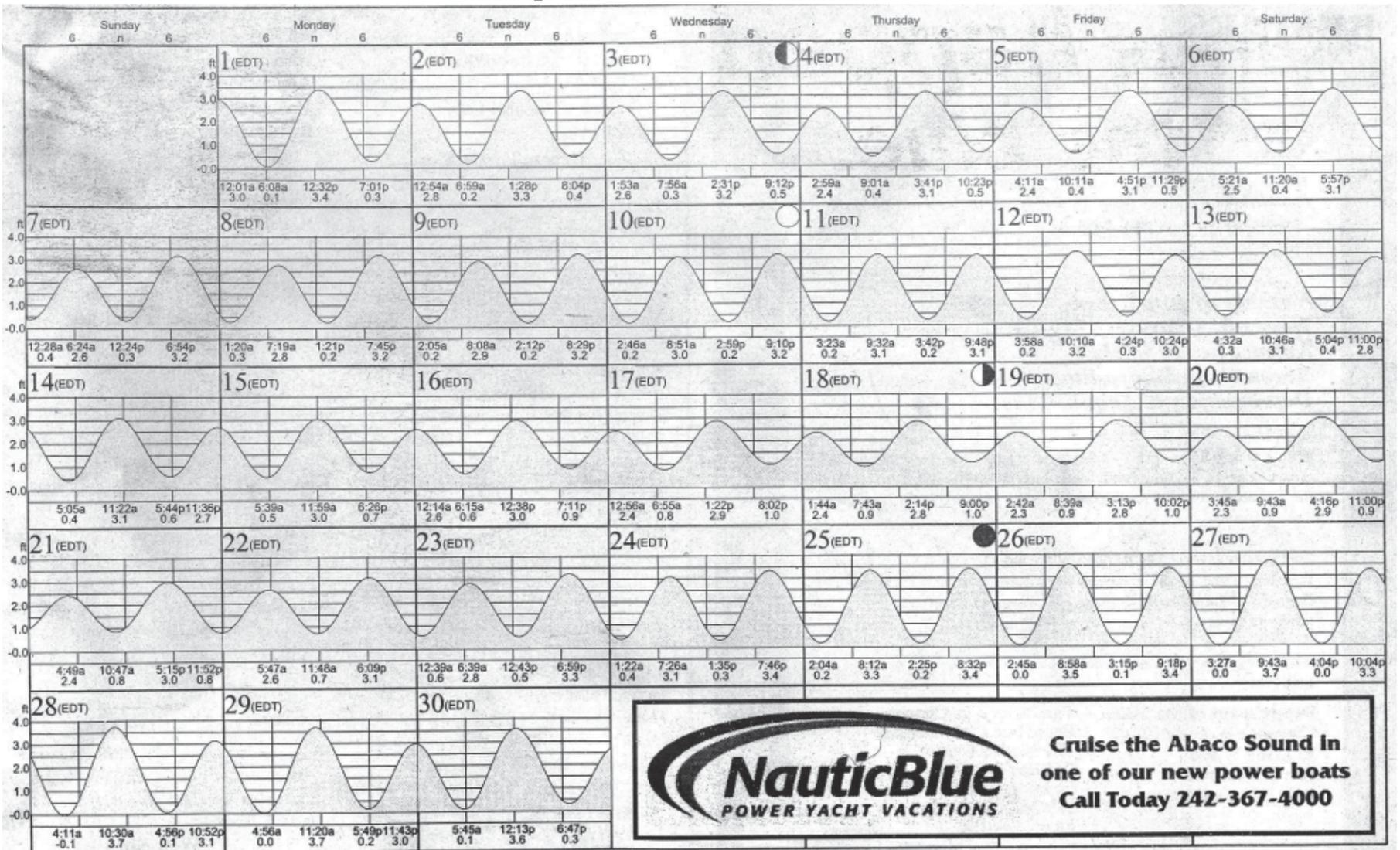
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Birds, Butterflies and Blooms Are Bountiful

Adventure From Page 29

light while the Antiquities, Monuments and Museums Corporation is responsible for the buildings and grounds. The Bahamas National Trust and other environmental groups are interested in restoring the buildings and using them in conjunction with the 22,000-acre adjoining parrot park.

At the base of the lighthouse, Erin opened her wicker basket and we were treated to a delightful buffet lunch complete with a tablecloth. We had a choice of breads, meat, sandwich accessories, chips, fruit and trail mix. It was an elegant lunch for such a remote location.

After lunch, the group took the concrete path to the shore where the supplies were landed. Steps cut in the rocky shore, cement pads and remnants of anchor posts are all

that remain at the landing site. The group got part way to the actual "hole-in-the-wall" which is a large hole through a massive rock spit defining the southerly end of Abaco. The seas picked up with an oncoming rain squall and pounded the rocky shore. Wisely sizing up the oncoming rain, the group retreated to the shelter of the buildings and skipped seeing the actual "hole." Sweet seagrapes were ripening and were thoroughly enjoyed on the short hike back to the shelter of the abandoned buildings.

After the rain passed, the group was taken to a nearby cave with a prominent entrance 100 feet off Soldier Road and with a secondary entrance several hundred feet away. This is an area of sink-holes connected by natural passageways and crawl spaces. The cave entrance is a 20-foot diameter sinkhole in the coppice floor. A crude ladder gave easy access to the cave floor about 12 feet below the surface where passageways lead in several directions.

Flashlights were provided so the group could watch their footing and see bats roosting in high ceiling crevasses. One of the group was filming the adventure and had a bright dive light that gave near daylight illumination to the caverns and passageways - almost like being in a U.S. park cave with electric



Carvings in a rock in a cave near Hole-in-the-wall are intriguing. The sailboat is similar to those in use in the 1800s while the carved date is 1450. The rock could tell us interesting stories if it could communicate.

Please see Page 39

No Changes in U.S. Visa Policy for Bahamians

By Isobel Sherman

With new visa laws coming into effect in the United States, the U.S. Embassy in Nassau announced that the changes will not affect Bahamians. Presently, a Bahamian can travel to the United States from Nassau and Freeport with only a valid Bahamian passport and a police certificate. Bahamians leaving from all other airports must have a current visa.

The Embassy has put new procedures in place which should eliminate the long lines, a real nuisance in the past. Visa applications are processed from 8 to 11 a.m. on Mondays through Thursdays. Applicants must present a valid Bahamian passport, police record, one photo, a properly filled out application, a \$100 processing fee and a current job letter. The visa drop-off system is available only to those under 16 or over 60 or those whose visa has expired within the past 12 months. The Embassy suggests that Bahamians get their visas well

ahead of any travel plans

The Embassy has made special arrangements for students who wish to study in the United States to get their study visas. They can take all their documents to the Embassy on Tuesdays between 1 and 4 PM.

Visa policies have been changed due to increased security in the United States since the events of 9/11.

U S Visa Holders

Will Face Scrutiny

Foreigners entering the United States will be fingerprinted and have their photo taken beginning in January 1, 2004, in tough new security measures. The new measures are aimed at identifying and tracking foreigners in the United States.

Initial reports suggest that arrivals at the Miami International Airport, which is the busiest in the U.S. with five million visitors annually, will experience slight delays as their fingerprints are compared with information in a huge computer database.



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Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

Bank Apartments 3 apts 365-4105

Bluff House 8 rm 20 cott 365-4200

Chris Plummer 3 hse 365-4648

Coco Bay Cottages 4 cott 365-5464

Green Turtle Club 34rm 365-4271

Island Properties 26 hse + 365-4409

New Plymouth Inn 9rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties 13 + 365-4234

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4rm 10cott.365-5137

Coco Paradise 8 cott 365-5197

Donna Sands 12 hse + 365-5195

Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106

Harbour View Haven 365-5028

Ria-Mar Rentals 5 + 365-6241

Sea Shore Villas 365-5028

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133

Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003

Elbow Cay Prop 43 hse + 366-0035

Hope T Harb Lodge 22 rm 366 0095

Hope T Hideaways 50 hse + 366-0224

Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030

Island Colours + 366-0290

Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154

Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366-0266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key 30 hse + 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hue 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048

Ria-mar Rentals 9 + 365-6241

Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82rms 367-2158

Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719

Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980

Great Abaco Club 12 hse + 367-4151

Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10rm 366-4477

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18rm 6hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111

Island Dreams 45 hse + 365-8507

Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

General for Abaco

Listings for the entire island

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576

Web Sites

- with general Abaco information
- www.abacoinet.com
- www.abacoinfo.com
- www.abacos.com
- www.go-abacos.com
- www.oii.net
- www.bahamas.com - Min. of Tourism

BUSINESS Establishment SURVEY

The Department of Statistics is conducting its *Annual Business Establishment Survey* from **April 15 until the end of September**. The Survey requires that businesses and institutions provide the following information;

- 1 Number of employees
- 2 Wages & Salaries
- 3 Annual hours worked
- 4 Revenues & Expenditures
- 5 Depreciation & Acquisitions

The data generated from survey is used to measure each sector's contribution of national output, and provide information essential to the estimation of national income and the gross national product of The Bahamas.

So if you are involved in the production of goods and services, you can help contribute to our national income by completing the Annual Business Establishment Survey questionnaire accurately and in a timely fashion.

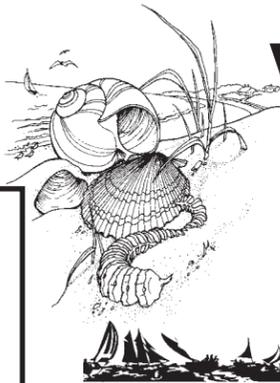
All survey questionnaires should be returned to the Department of Statistics.

Department of Statistics
Clarence A. Bain Bldg.
P.O.Box N 3904
Tel: 326-4604/2
Fax: 325-5149

The Officer-In-Charge
Department of Statistics
The Regent Centre
P.O.Box F 42561
Freeport, Grand Bahama
Tel: 352-7196
Fax: 352-6120



Help Your Sector And Our Nation's Progress



Visitors' Guide



Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Abaco Chamber of Commerce
367-5822 • Fax 367-5823
abacochamber@abacoinet.com

Area code 242 unless listed

Emergency Services	
Police (Marsh Harbour)	367-2560
Fire - Marsh Harb. Volunteer Fire Dept.	367-2000
Fire - Hope Town Volunteer Fire Dept.	VHF Ch 16
Ambulance - Trauma One - Marsh Harbour	367-2911
Fire - Dundas Town Volunteer	367-2935 or 4935
Man-O-War Fire & Rescue	365-6911
Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc	VHF 16 or 366-0282

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers Plus extra for each passengers above two	
Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:	
Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr	\$12 + \$3
Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market	\$10 + \$2
Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto	\$ 6 + \$2
Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Murphy Town to Shell Sta	\$14 + \$4
Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house	\$14 + \$4
Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house	\$14 + \$4
Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house	\$16 + \$5
Great Cistern	\$20 + \$5
Spring City	\$15 + \$5
Snake Cay	\$35 + \$10
Treasure Cay	\$60 + \$10
Casuarina Point	\$60 + \$10
Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores	\$70 + \$10
Little Harbour or Cherokee	\$80 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135 + \$10
Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore	\$ 2 each
Jib Room	\$ 3 each
Golden Harvest	\$5 + \$3
Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock	\$ 6 + \$3
Government Freight Dock	\$ 7 + \$3
Gov.Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance	\$ 9 + \$3
Mother Merle restaurant	\$10 + \$3
Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour	
Children under three - free • Uncaged pets - as people	
Luggage \$.50 each over four, Surf boards \$3.00 ea.	
Between Northern Abaco Airport and:	
Treasure Cay, Bahamas Star, or Moxey	\$14 + \$6
Bronks or Highway Liquors	\$10 + \$5
Sand Banks	\$20 + \$5
Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
Black Wood	\$14 + \$5
Fire Road	\$25 + \$5
Cooper's Town	\$30 + \$5
Cedar Harbour	\$45 + \$5
Wood Cay	\$50 + \$5
Mount Hope	\$55 + \$5
Fox Town	\$60 + \$5
Marsh Harbour or Crown Haven	\$65 + \$5
Marsh Harbour Round Trip	\$85 + \$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 Moxey	\$10 + \$5
TC Hotel to Bronks	\$7 + \$5
From TC Hotel to All Areas N. of T.C. Airport Add \$10	
Waiting Time \$12 Per Hour	

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

Tours & Excursions	
Kayak • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
Birding • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
Reef • Abaco Beach Dive Center • MH	367-4646
Reef • Dive Abaco • Marsh Harbour	367-2787
Reef • Abaco Dive Adventure • Marsh H	367-2963
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0024
Kayak • Abaco Adventures • Treasure C	

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

Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted

Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6010 • VHF Ch. 16						
Marsh Harbour to Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach						
7:15 (M-F)	9 am	10:30	12:15 pm	2	4	5:45
Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 (M-F)						
Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach						
10:30 am	12:15 pm (M-Sat)	2:30 (M-Sat)	4	5:30		
Return 8 am 11:30 (M-Sat) 1:30 pm 3:15 (M-Sat)						
Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay & Guana 40 min. from Conch Inn						
‡ 6:45 am	10:30	1:30 pm	3:30	5:30 (min \$40)		
Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 pm						
Fare • OneWay / Round Trip Adult \$10 / \$15 Children \$5 / \$8						
‡ Workman's special Mondays thru Fridays from Union Jack Dock						

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

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Wed & Sat 10 am, return 5 pm	\$25
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Sun 11, 12:30, 4, return 11:45, 3 & 5	
Treasure C. to Man-O-War & Hope T - Thur 10 am, return 3:30	\$35
Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -	
Crown Haven Abaco to McLean's Town - Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm	
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm	
Fare \$40 one way • \$80 round trip • Children half fare	
For information call Grand Bahama 353-3093 or Abaco 365-2356	
Bus serves Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.	

Bahamas Ferries Between Nassau & Sandy Point under 4 Hr.	
Wednesday	Lv Nassau 9 am Lv Sandy Point 1:30 pm
Friday & Sunday	Lv Nassau 3:30 pm Lv Sandy Point 8 pm
Adult fare \$90 RT, 50 OW • Call for rates on cars, trucks and cargo	
Call Sandy Point 366-4119 • Marsh Harbour 367-5250 • Nassau 323-2166	

Abaco Marinas			
	Slips	Fuel	Phone
Walker's Cay			
Walker's Cay Marina	75	F	353-1252
Green Turtle Cay			
Bluff House	45	F	365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32	F	365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15		365-4531
Other Shore Club	12	F	365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10	F	365-4033
Treasure Cay			
Treasure Cay Marina	150	F	365-8250
Man-O-War			
Man-O-War Marina	26	F	365-6008
Marsh Harbour			
Boat Harbour Marina	183	F	367-2736
Conch Inn	75	F	367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36	F	367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52	F	367 2700
Mangoes	29	F	367-2366
Port of Call	24	F	367-2287
Abaco Yacht Haven	7		367-3079
Hope Town			
Hope Town Marina	16		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 Customs at Walker's Cay, Spanish Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour			

Dive Shops - Marsh Harbour	
Dive Abaco	367-2787
Abaco Beach Dive Center	367-4646
Abaco Dive Adventure	367-2963
Hope Town	
Dave's Dive Shop	366-0029
Froggies	366-0431
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Divers	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendal's Dive Shop	365-4411
Green Turtle Divers	365-4271
Guana Cay Dive Shop	365-5178
Man-O-War Dive Shop	365-6013

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
Wilmac 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
Donnie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
New Plymouth Cart Rentals	365-4188 or 4149
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts	477-5497
T & A Cart Rentals	375-8055
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Guana Cay Cart Rentals	365-5016
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6059
Island Treasures Cart Rentals	365-6072
Ria-mar Golf Cart Rentals	365-6241
Water Ways Boat Rent	357-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals	366-0292
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
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
Cas's Carts	365-8771
Claridge's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749



Everyone reads The Abaconian.

Bonefish Guides	
Sandy Point	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286
Nicholas Roberts	
Derrick Gaitor	
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133
Vernal Burrows	
Kendall White	
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Floyd Burrows	366-4175
Links Adderly	366-4335
Valentino Lightbourne	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233
Marsh Harbour	
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Justin Sands	367-3526
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-6059
Cherokee	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0133
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Green Turtle Cay	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff Survanace	365-4040
Ricky Sawyer	365-4261

Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper
(Based on dinner entree range)

‡ Provides ride from town
+ Picnic tables & restroom only

Marsh Harbour	
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Backstreet Cafe	367-2782
C&G Restaurant	\$ 367-3227
Conch Crawl	\$ 367-4444
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Henry's Jerk Center	\$ 367-5959
Hummingbird	\$\$ 367-2922
Jamie's Place	367-2880
Jib Room	367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch)	367-2615
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Mavis Country Kitchen	\$ 367-2002
Pop's Place	\$ + 367-3796
Sapodilly's	\$\$\$ 367-3498
Sea Shells	\$ 367-4460
Snack Shack	\$ + 367-4005
Snappas	\$ 367-2278
Subway	367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Dundas Town	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Mackerals	367-5932
Murphy Town	
Lazy Parrot - SC Bootle Hwy	367-5331
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Boat House	\$\$ 366-0065
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Carlton's Island Grill	\$\$ 366-0253
Harbour's Edge	\$\$ 366-0087
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ + 366-0423
Rudy's Place	\$\$\$ ‡ 366-0062
Man-O-War	
Pavilion	\$ 365-6185
Hibiscus	365-6380
Guana Cay	
Coco Paradise	365-5197
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Mermaid Cafe	\$\$\$ 365-5137
Orchid Bay	365-6175
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	

Jail Restoration Project Is Proposed

By Dexter Russell

Founded by Loyalists in the late 1780s, Marsh Harbour began its life as a small fishing and farming village, inhabited by a few families who chose to leave Carleton, the original Loyalist settlement on Abaco located near present day Treasure Cay. These Loyalists were American colonists who had sacrificed all they had for "King and Empire" during the American Revolution and fled to various British colonies after they lost the war and America had been given its independence. Each family received a land grant for being loyal to the crown and etched out a living in the hard Abaconian soil and from the sea. The next two hundred years left Marsh Harbour relatively unchanged. Generation

after generation clung to traditional family values and beliefs. Each generation left behind a story to tell, a lesson learned from experience.

Under the leadership of Mr. Gurth Russell, President of the Marsh Harbour Sporting Association, a project has been initiated to preserve the legacy left behind by the generations of men and women that have called Marsh Harbour "home."

This undertaking will begin with the restoration of the old local jail located behind Memorial Plaza and to use it and the adjoining public property to create a museum and park to document our community's colourful past and honour those who have greatly contributed to the town. As it stands now, the jail is rap-

idly deteriorating and unless restoration is undertaken soon, it will be another historic building lost to the pages of history. The group is currently in the process of seeking government approval in order to restore the building and use the property for the purposes described above, and once approved the group plans to immediately begin restoration. Mr. Tim Neil, architect, and Mr. George Riviere, surveyor, have both been instrumental and highly helpful in this process by volunteering their services in drawing up the plans for the remodeled jail and grounds.

It is the group's dream to see this park become an attraction to both locals and tourists alike, where visits by local schools will allow our community's youth to see what Marsh

Harbour was like in the past and instill in them pride of their colourful heritage. Other projects are being considered for preserving our town's past, as Marsh Harbour currently has no visible record of its past.

However, without the support of the entire community, this and any other future projects of preserving our town's past will fail. A project such as this requires not only finances but time as well. Volunteers will be needed to help with the restoration and eventually to staff the museum and park. The group believes that this project can create a community spirit that Marsh Harbour has long been without.

For more information, please contact the Marsh Harbour Sporting Association, P.O. Box AB-20585, Marsh Harbour, Abaco.



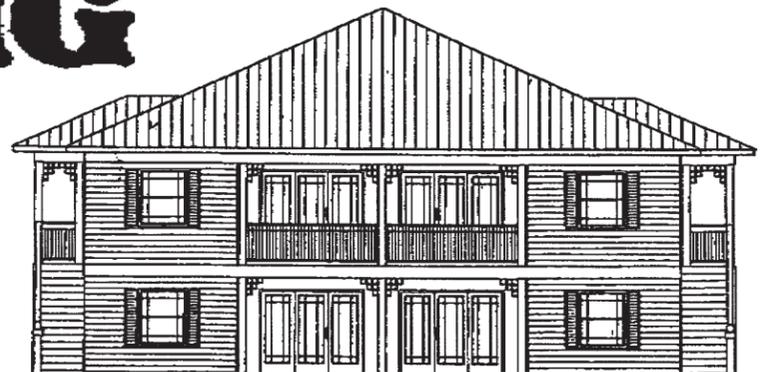
This is a picture of the Marsh Harbour jail as it looked in the 1950s and 1960s when it was still in use as a jail. It and the rock wall surrounding it have slowly fallen into disrepair.



This is the jail as it looks today with walls crumbling and a very large ficus tree growing in the middle of it. However, remnants of the old stone walls are there and with modern building products the old building can be restored to be a reminder of the town's past.

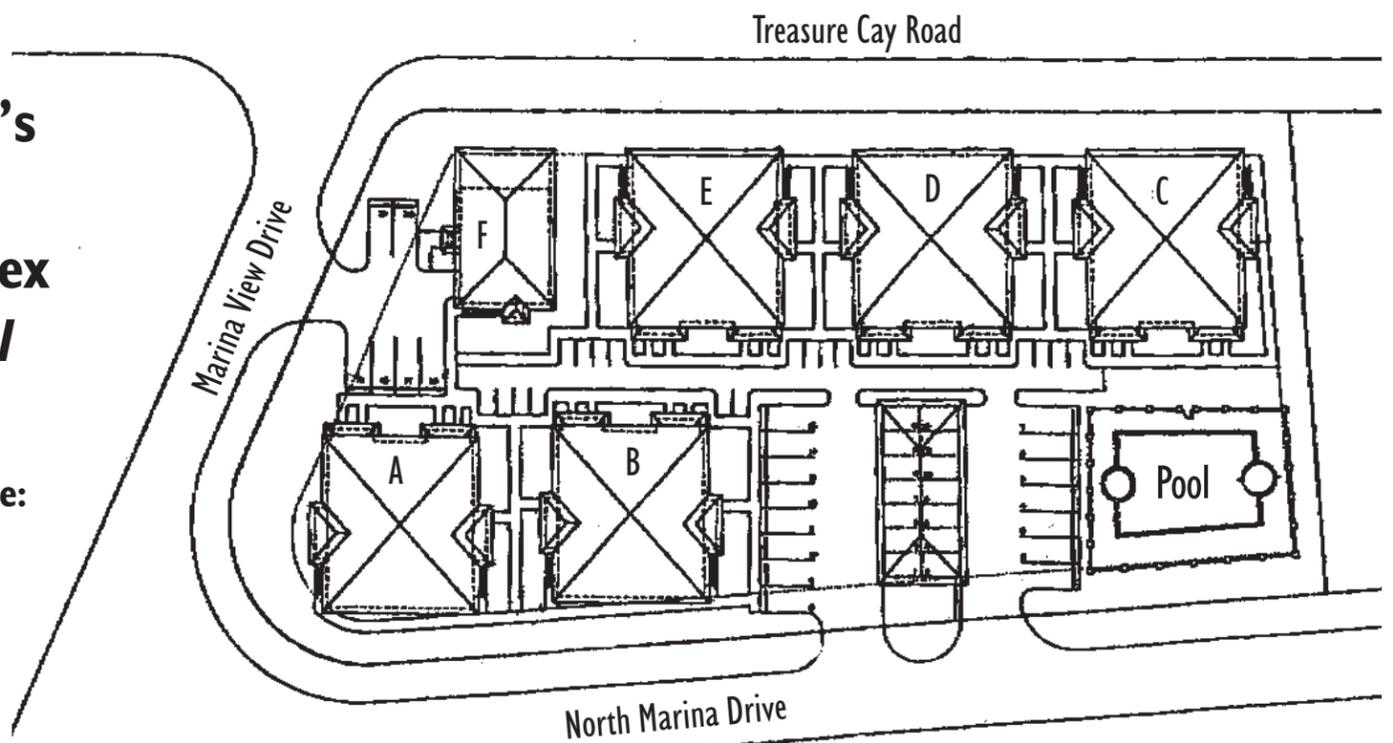
Treasure BANDING

- 5 building 20 condominiums across the street from Bahama Beach Club.
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Treasure Cay's
Newest
Condo Complex
On site pool

- Preconstruction prices are:
ground floor \$298,000
second floor \$329,000



Contact your local broker or visit the job site for more information.

Church News



The Methodist Church in Dundas Town has had a series of groups come from the United States this summer to hold vacation Bible schools and to do repairs to homes of needy in the area. Shown above is a group of Bible school youth out on a clean-up of streets.

Church Service Held for Adventure Scouts

By Jennifer Hudson

On August 3rd a group of Boy Scouts from Abaco and the United States were guests of honour at a special service held at the Kirk of the Pines Presbyterian Church in Marsh Harbour. The Scouts were worshipping there on the eve of their sailing trip on the Abaco tall ship, the *William H. Albury*.

Taking part in the service were three Scouts from the 1st Abaco Scout Troop accompanied by District Commissioner of Scouting, Sandra Evans, and nine Scouts aged from 14 to 17 years with three leaders from St. Louis, Missouri. The service began with

the Parading of the Colours and continued with a nautical theme in keeping with the pursuits of their week ahead at sea. Rev. Stapleton spoke of St. Paul's voyages and of his deep faith even in the face of shipwreck. He read a poem written by Audrey Malone of Hope Town, who is the niece of the late William H. Albury of Man-O-War in which she described feeling the spirit of her uncle during the first day she had ever sailed on his boat one year ago.

The St. Louis Scouts are members of a very closely-knit troop and are Arrow Scouts, having participated in many challenging activities together such as mountaineering in

the Rockies, survival training and sailing.

The visiting Scouts, who arrived in Abaco the previous day, spent two nights camping in Commissioner Evan's garden before leaving on Monday along with the Abaco Scouts for their week of adventure on the *William H. Albury* as part of the Bahamas High Adventure Sailing Program.

A Bit of History

By Isobel Sherman

This year The Methodist Church is celebrating the 300th birthday of John Wesley, its founder. A Methodist Church was formed

in Marsh Harbour in 1843 when a class of 14 came together, according to Mrs. Nadene Beneby. A wooden chapel was built by the dock in Marsh Harbour in 1855 and was replaced in 1888 and again in 1927-28. In 1928 the membership was 38. Mrs. Beneby recalled that many persons shaped the history of the church. These included Capt. Beecher Archer, Mr. Norman Archer, Mr. Wilson Archer, her father, Pastor Peter Campbell, her brother, Rev. Carl Campbell and Rev. Emmit Archer.

- BEC has begun tree trimming to protect the power lines. BEC cuts and trims for maximum protection to the electric lines during storm conditions.
- Please report any threatening trees or branches you are concerned about.
- Property owners are advised to trim their own trees if they have special trimming requirements.

Be careful - power lines are dangerous.

BEC will offer assistance on request. Call our emergency numbers for assistance or to report problems.

Phone 367-2727 • 367-2846 • 367-4667

Emergency Shelters for Central Abaco

Updated List
Safest Shelters

Central Abaco Primary School
Marsh Harbour Church of Christ
Abaco Central High School

For moderate storms
St. Francis School - all buildings
Every Child Counts building

For short term shelter
Anglican Parish Hall

- All shelters may be used immediately after a storm.
- The list is reviewed and upgraded periodically.

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HURRICANE Related Tips

Should a hurricane strike, with full cooperation from the public, BEC is confident of its ability to restore services promptly.

Below are tips that should be taken seriously, in the event of passage of a hurricane:

- 1. Remove Television Antenna With extreme Care.** Strong winds may cause it to come into contact with powerlines, and this can result in death or very serious injuries.
- 2. Disconnect all electrical equipment in your house** with the exception of a small lamp to alert you when the power is restored.
- 3. Beware of fallen wires,** particularly if they have fallen in puddles of water. Stay away from such puddles of water. Do not touch fallen or over-hanging wires of any kind under any circumstances. This could result in serious injuries. **Report all downed lines.**
- 4. Do not touch a tree** or any object which is in contact with power lines, including trees.
- 5. Please call the emergency telephone numbers** or the police emergency numbers immediately to report a fire, sparking power lines or other life threatening situations. Otherwise, do not call BEC's emergency numbers. Instead, listen to one of your local radio stations.
- 6. Do not touch a downed power line.** If you see one, please report it to the Bahamas Electricity Corporation's Emergency Department, phone 367-2727.
- 7. If you need to dismantle a building** that has an existing power supply, please contact BEC first.
- 8. Do not attempt to cut trees** which may have blown onto or near to power lines. Contact BEC to assist. Also, do not attempt to pick fruit from such trees, especially when they are wet.

BEC Emergency numbers
367-2727
367-2846
367-4667

- Under storm conditions BEC will stand by on VHF radio Channel 16 .
- Stay away from trees which are in contact with power lines. Bring these to our attention immediately.
- If you experience any unusual electrical conditions during a storm (unusual bright or dim lights, or fluctuating power) turn off appliances and electronic devices until normal service is restored.
- Turn off your main switch if storm conditions cause flooding inside your house. Stay out of water which may be in contact with electricity.
- During storm conditions BEC will endeavour to maintain the electricity supply for as long as possible. However, our main consideration is the protection of human life and the preservation of our operating plant.

Port Will Stimulate Growth

Port *From Page 1*

that the Bahamas is a safe and secure place to visit and live. This results in second homes and resorts. People living here full time are integrated into the economy. We must work together with others from other countries. The Bahamas presents excellent investment opportunities.

Mr. Christie emphasized Abaco people are enterprising and have a strong entrepreneurial spirit. Abaco can play an outstanding role in the revenue of the country. Now Abaco is poised to do more with the new dock which will allow for further growth. He asked those attending to forget politics, work together and focus on what can improve our lives.

He continued that Abaco has a long history of success in agriculture, tourism and fisheries. Now the challenge is to come together to get more Abaco people involved in tourism. This island has a profound economy. It is sensitive to environmental concerns. Abaco must not miss opportunities but must move forward driven by Abaconians. The private sector is bullish and this aggressive spirit has made Abaco what it is today with government providing the infrastructure.

"If we could take some of the energy," Prime Minister Christie said, "and focus on the challenges in front of you and get some models of black Abaconians and white Abaconians not just smiling and laughing and working together, but owning things together in greater numbers, moving ahead. We must sometimes "minimize these very strong politics you all have down here sometimes," he said.

He said that government is considering many developments. By January the cash flow from some of these projects will kick in which will boost the economy. The government will be working harder to collect revenue. It hopes to put in place a regime which will enable government to be more efficient in collecting revenue.

Mr. Christie briefly mentioned the Marsh Harbour airport saying that a new or newly refurbished airport must come. The economy here makes it a necessity. It is not gift or promise. He hopes to soon be talking of the airport. Mr. Christie said that cruise ships may go to Sandy Point in the future. Deep water near its airport would allow a port with sufficient depth for cruise ships.

He urged the group to tell government what should be done so there can be stronger ties between government and the people. His government is committed to move forward so people can have a better quality of life.

People

From Page 16

Neville Hall, he was told he had to decide if he wanted to be a swimmer or Mr. America because in those days weight training and other sports were not accepted but in recent years it was proved that weight training improved the athlete in all sports. Forty-five

years later veteran bodybuilder Arthur Elden is still entering competitions.

Arthur plans to enter three or four competitions in Florida this year. So far this year Arthur has picked up six trophies, three first places, two second places and one third place.

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Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool
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Bldg 4 Upstairs 2 bed / 2 bath, boat slip \$194,000
Bldg 5 Upsta **SOLD** th, boat slip \$194,000

MARINERS COVE

Townhouse Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool
Garden/Pool View 2 bed / 1 bath \$113,000
Marina View 1 bed / 1 bath beginning at \$91,000
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Ocean Villa Subdivision
2 bed / 2 bath **SOLD** n location with pool view \$260,000
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APARTMENTS

Rock Point four-plex, 2 storey CBS apartment building, each level has 2 full apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen. Great rental investment. Must see. \$350,000

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Ocean front luxury units with lagoon pool / waterfall
2 bed / 2 bath octagonal house \$356,000

BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

New luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 2 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features Starting at \$425,000 Plus 14% closing

BRIGANTINE BAY ESTATES

"Sea Cliff" newly completed 2 storey CBS home fully furnished. Living / dining / kitchen downstairs, bedrooms upstairs. Direct greenway access to Treasure Cay beach **MOTIVATED SELLER** \$431,000

"Sableau Soleil" Canal front with dock. Island simplicity home, 3 bed / 2 bath, detached garage with half bath. Waterfront view from master bedroom and open concept living / dining / kitchen. \$430,500

WINDWARD BEACH

"Seaclusion" Ocean front CBS house, 2 bed / 2 bath plus detached 20' x 30' 2-car garage with extra bath. House has wonderful view as well as prevailing tradewinds \$800,000

LEEWARD BEACH ESTATE

"Blue House" One-of-a-kind beach front home designed by the Architect / Owner for family and beach living. 5 bed / 4 bath, large living / dining area with modern kitchen, wrap-around deck. Many, many extra features. \$2,100,000

SANDPIPER BEACH

"Top of the Rock" situated on two elevated ocean front lots with natural and tropical gardens. Main house 1 bed / 1 bath with detached 2 bed / 1 bath guest accommodations plus additional 400 sq. ft. entertainment / bunk house efficiency. Great holiday beach property. \$2,100,000

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CASUARINA BEACH/OCEAN BOULEVARD

"Toad Hall" Package deal. Extra large ocean front lot with unlimited opportunity for building your dream home. Directly behind is your present main home on its own lot. Two storey with 4 bed / 3 bath upstairs and large living / dining / kitchen down stairs. Detached double garage with 1 bed / 1 bath guest apt. above. \$1,292,000

"Sea Grapes" Directly on the ocean modern CBS fully tiled 3600 sq. ft. home on extra large lot with 215 ft. ± frontage. Features 3 **SOLD** / 3 1/2 bath, fully equipped kitchen / dining / living / dining area (open concept). Two bedrooms / living / dining / kitchen all face ocean side and have direct access to beautiful garden and beach. Garage and utility in main house with additional detached garage / work shop / storage. Grounds fully landscaped with irrigation / sprinkler system. **MOTIVATED SELLER** \$1,600,000

"Serenity" A real "Estate" property. Modern 4 bed/4.5 bath, 5600 sq. ft., two storey CBS home with incredible ocean views. Upper level extra large, open concept living/dining/kitchen with outdoor covered balcony and master en-suite bed/bath. Lower level 2 bed/2 bath, lounge, wet bar plus additional bed/bath and double garage. Property has two fully landscaped lots with 290 feet ocean front. Special property with many, many additional features including 2 bed/1 bath caretaker's cottage. \$3,800,000

GALLEON BAY CANAL / ESTATES

"Safe Harbour" Canal front with excellent elevation. Octagonal 825 ± sq. ft. garage / efficiency guest house with plans for main house. Dock with power in place. Must see. \$369,000

"Laguna" brand new canal front, octagonal home, fully furnished, 3 bed / 2 bath, modern open concept, living/dining/kitchen plus partially covered deck. Perfect island retreat for some lucky family \$676,500

"Island Times" 2500 sq. ft. modern spacious 3 bed / 2 1/2 bath, living/dining/kitchen opening onto covered patio facing waterfront. Double garage / utility. Extra adjacent lot. Total frontage 108 ft. \$830,250

"Seaductress" / "Harbour's Edge" Modern CBS 3 bed / 3 bath home including private entry suite, pool, 80 ft., full serviced dock, 2 car garage including two vehicles. Exceptional location and view. Many more features, must see to appreciate. **MOTIVATED SELLER** \$1,200,000

"Lot Fifteen" Canal front, newly completed and designer furnished dream house. CBS 3 bed / 2 bath 3,000 sq. ft. with double garage. Fully landscaped with irrigation system. Many extra features. \$915,000 + 14% closing

VACANT LOTS AVAILABLE

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Little Harbour Reports Bovine Attack

**Sub-titled:
Wild Cows Moving South**
By Barnyard

Once again the peaceful calm of Little Harbour has been shattered by a vicious assault. The settlement, still recovering from the brutal murder of long-term resident Duckie and the subsequent acquittal of Buster by reason of insanity, was again shocked to learn of yet another assault. Little Harbour chief of police Jimmy Lawe confirmed that the assault occurred late on the evening of August 2, shortly after the finish of the infamous Little Harbour dinghy race. The most disturbing fact regarding this assault was that the assault was not canine but BOVINE.

Cherokee resident Angus Sawyer, obviously still in a state of shock, gave this first-hand account. "Well, I was going home after the Little Harbour dinghy race, driving real slow up the road watching the bush so maybe I could pick up a few crabs or a couple of

boards on the way home. Dinghy race makes a man hungry for these things, you know. Anyway, I see this rustling in the bush and I'm thinking, this has got to be the biggest crab I ever seen, and let me tell you, I seen some big ones in my day! I can almost taste it I'm so hungry. Real quiet like, I pull over to the bush and wait.

"My truck, I like to call her Bessie, she's idling smooth and I'm shining my torch on the bush from the cab when I spot these eyes, eyes like I never seen on a crab. Big and red, they were staring right at me, real menacing you know. So I turn off my torch, a crab with this kind of size, I don't want no part of. Then I smelt it, a sweet smell like fresh cut grass. Then I swear I hear a voice, 'Got milk?' I swear it says. Then I see another rustling in the bush and I hear another voice, 'Eat more chicken!' it says.

"Then the attack starts. First, I feel this hard slam on my front bumper, well, where it used to be anyway. Then I feel a hard slam

from behind, then more and more slams from behind until I am rattling around in my cab like a loose nut.

"Finally, I'm thrown clear but then I see my poor Bessie, my poor old truck, just being ravaged by these savage black beasts. Yeah, there are all around my truck, got her wedged in. Big horns on all of 'em but most especially the biggest one who is half riding in the bed and pounding with all he can. Tore the bed and my rubber liner all to pieces.

"I was laying there in a daze. Then they spot me lying in the bush and they start to stampede me. I figured I wasn't no good to Bessie so I get up and run for my life. I made my escape into the bush where I hid all night. I went back the next day and, well . . ." His body racked with sobs, Angus was having trouble finishing the story.

"I never seen such a mess. I couldn't even

recognize Bessie. All broke up in pieces. Smearred with what looked like half chewed cud. You know, this year I lost my wife, then my dogs and now this. You can always train a new wife and find a faithful dog but try to find a good truck around here, now that just can't be done."

When asked what type of beast could commit such a travesty, Sawyer's response was immediate. "It was them wild cows, that's who done this. And let me tell you, when I get me some new shotguns, I'm gonna kill every one of em."

Pleading for calm in the settlements of Cherokee and Little Harbour, Jimmy Lawe promised a full investigation. His response when asked if perhaps Buster, who had been seen at the dinghy race earlier, could be the instigator behind the assault.

"Udder nonsense."

Distressed Property For Sale

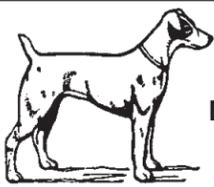
1. Property #51, 15,600 square feet, Murphy Town Crown Allotments with stone house, Murphy Town, Abaco
2. Property #55, 6,900 square feet, Murphy Town Crown Allotments with stone house Murphy Town, Abaco
3. Property #54E, 6,500 square feet, with foundation, off the front street Murphy Town, Abaco

Persons interested in purchasing any of the above properties should send their bids in writing to:



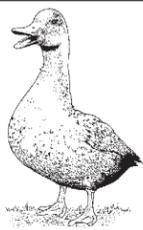
The Manager
Bahamas Development Bank
P.O. Box AB 20956
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
BAHAMAS

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



A Heart Felt Thank You

To all who supported the first
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Special Thanks to



- Brenda Claridge and "P.O." Mertz of Sapodilly's
 - Ray Ketay of Hope Town Harbour Lodge
 - Pete Johnston of Pete's Pub and Gallery
 - Patty and Bob Toler of the Cruiser's Net
 - Aubrey Clarke III Esq. of the Landing (Ret.)
 - Toby Strong AKA "Red Jacket"
 - Tim Neil and, of course
 - **Buster**, whose insatiable passion for poultry made all this possible
- Through everyone's generous support, over \$10,000 was raised to help support 20-year-old Serena Hardy's brave battle against lymphoma.
- With Deepest Appreciation - Marc P. Binard, M.D.

- Mike Malone
- Kim Roberts
- Paul Wujack
- Art Sands of Bristol Cellars



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TILLOO - #5019 - Two adjacent waterfront parcels, 1.75+ acres in total, and features elevations with views of the Sea of Abaco. Northern lot has 100' +/- of waterfront and is offered at \$192,000. Southern lot has 92' +/- of waterfront and offered at \$216,000
Call for more details!



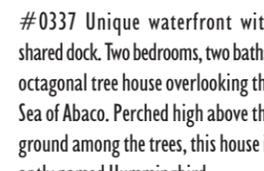
Man-O-War - #0331 - Gorgeous well kept residence with 3b/3b in postcard pretty settlement, features modern kitchen, dance studio, breathtaking views and much more. 3,200 sq.ft of living space. Guest cottage on property and steps away from the beach -
Call today \$1,610,000



Elbow Cay - #5017 - Lovely 3/2 home on oceanfront lot. Features landscaped grounds, open floor plan with views of the Atlantic, ensuite master bath, central A/C, and more. Also boasts of lovely pool, spacious decking, and a 12kw generator. Don't miss this opportunity \$955,000



#1322 Three bedrooms two bathroom modern home located in Treasure Cay near to beaches and golf course. Immaculately cared for home with all the modern amenities such as central A/C, cable etc. Offered at \$295,000



#0337 Unique waterfront with shared dock. Two bedrooms, two baths, octagonal tree house overlooking the Sea of Abaco. Perched high above the ground among the trees, this house is aptly named Hummingbird.
\$275,000



UNDER CONTRACT
#0333 Waterfront estate in White Sound, Green Turtle Cay. Two bedrooms, two baths, master bath has a spa. The modern interior consists of two dining areas, an island counter bar, living room and kitchen. All rooms enjoy a magnificent view of the harbour. Offered at \$850,000



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Bahama Palm Shores - interior lot in fast growing **UNDER CONTRACT**
Guana Cay - Gorgeous beachfront property available. 100' X 700' deep \$349,000
Guana Cay - two vacant waterfront lots, in the lovely Orchid Bay. **SOLD**
Guana Cay - Beachfront lot, 70 x 250 \$240,000
Casuarina Point - vacant lot available, close to beach. \$17,000

Bahama Palm Shores - Call about our many listed properties in this fast growing community. Starting as low as \$15,000
Man-O-War - Vacant interior lots, in town and close walk to **UNDER CONTRACT**
Casuarina Point - 3/1 canal front home, sea walled, dock, boat house. **DRASTICALLY REDUCED** \$229,000
Guana Cay - 4/2 home with 2/1 apartment, on magnificent ridge, private dock, great rental history. \$699,000
Leisure Lee - Best priced canal lot. \$45,000
Guana Cay - Elevated lot with bay and ocean views, private dock slip on boat harbour. Fantastic **UNDER CONTRACT** \$90,000

Pelican Shores - Elevated harbour front lots available, one of a kind location in Marsh Harbour. Starting at \$225,000
Hope Town - new 2/2.5 home, on 17,000 sq. ft lot, with approved plans for main house, bay views, ready for occupancy. \$474,000
Marsh Harbour - 3/2 home in Cove Estates, huge kitchen, spa **UNDER CONTRACT** \$185,000
Marsh Harbour Regattas - NEW LISTING downstairs unit with tennis court view, fully furnished, great price \$249,900
Hope Town - NEW LISTING three story island home, 3 beds/3 baths, walk-in closet, open floor plan, second floor verandah with views of the sea, central A/C and is only 3 years old! \$785,000

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More Letters to the Editor

and can find enjoyment in visiting one another.

I have been a small business man, too, and know how hard it is to economically survive and truly feel saddened by what a boycott would do to the businesses in Abaco.

I do not know if you remember when our government levied a 10 percent luxury tax on new boats purchased in the United States, but it put most of the boat builders in bankruptcy. Our government thought that "sticking it" to the wealthy would not be noticed. However, most boat owners are very astute when it comes to money matters and protested. Thus, the most able to pay the tax instead boycotted the boating industry until the tax was repealed. When it was all over, much more revenue was lost than a 10 percent tax could have ever generated. Many boat builders were never able to recover.

Americans, including me, are accustomed to getting something for the money we spend and feel that a \$300 cruising fee is simply taking advantage of the situation rather than compensation for services rendered. Two of my cruising friends and I were planning on returning to Abaco this winter but instead are talking about getting together in the Florida Keys.

If for some reason you are not yet familiar with the boycott effort, I will be glad to

send you website info.

Thanks for your understanding and hope your input can make changes for the better.

Lee

Project Will Honor Audrey Sattem

Dear Friends,

Greetings. My dear wife, Audrey, passed away on February 25, 2003, of cancer. I would like to thank all who helped in any way to ease the burden and pain.

I teach at S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town. We would like to establish a computer lab in the business department to honor Audrey's life, who was a professional secretary extraordinaire. These computers would greatly help the school children of North Abaco. Our goal is 30 computers.

If you could help provide a computer or part of a computer system, please contact the Amoury Company direct in Nassau at 242-322-2733 or call me at home at 365-4079. Thanks for considering this. If you can help, please make sure we know your name and address so we can properly thank you and recognize you by name in the new computer lab.

Audrey's favorite verse is I John 5:13.

God bless you and thanks!

Sincerely,
Paul Sattem

Moore's Island Holds Home Coming Festival

By Portia Jonsson

The Culture Park in Hard Bargain, Moore's Island, was the place to be over the Emancipation Day holiday weekend. Residents and descendants of Moore's Island celebrated their 7th Annual Homecoming Festival from July 31st through August 4th. Lots of young people from all over Abaco, Freeport and Nassau descended on the small cay to join in the festivities. Persons were transported to Moore's Island by boats leaving from Sandy Point and South Side dock in Murphy Town. The festival officially started with a church service at the Zion Baptist Church on the evening of July 31st. Another service was held at the church on the morn-

ing of August 3rd. In addition to the usual festival fun, there were basketball and volleyball games. A dominoes tournament was staged with over 30 persons participating. A boat race and gospel concert were also planned but were canceled due to the rain.

Ms. Lillian Laing, Chief Councillor, said the festival was a big success and believes everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time. A meeting was held on August 6th in Moore's Island in an effort to form a Homecoming Committee for next year. Organizers for this year's festival were Daniel Davis and Alonzo Knowles.



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2100 sq. ft. Warehouse next to the Abaco Water Bottling plant. Not being divided. This fenced-in area has electric and phone. Great site for light manufacturing, assembling, warehouse, whatever. 2100 square feet for just \$1400 per month. Call Michael Albury at 367-2951 or 359-6658

Sherman *From Page 8*

in Florida and thunder could be heard in the distance. A hotel employee told all to get out of the pool and to get indoors because lightning could strike even with the thunder in the distance. It may be hard to believe but lightning has struck persons on the beach when no thunder was heard.

Stay indoors during the storm and turn off all electrical appliances and unplug them. Refrain from bathing, doing the dishes or using water. Remember, water is a conductor of electricity and the lightning can travel through the water just as it can through the electrical wires in your home. Do not use the telephone during a thunderstorm. If caught outdoors, do not seek shelter under a tree as these are tall and can attract lightning.

Lightning strikes are real and dangerous. They can kill or injure person's seriously, many times leaving lasting damage. We can't make the lightning go away but we can take precautions and teach our children safety tips to avoid lightning strikes.

Are Government Schools Ready?

Students in government schools return to school on September 1. The question is: Have repairs been done over the summer months and are the schools ready for the hundreds of students who will enter on September 1?

In Central Abaco the high school will not

be in tiptop shape as no work has been done over the summer months. The grass was mowed once when the school was used as base camp for the Governor Generals Award Program. Shutters are missing on some windows, which have allowed three break-ins into the typing room over the summer. There will be a serious chair and desk shortage once again. Enrollment is expected to be close to or maybe over 500 students and there are not even 400 chairs and desks at the school.

The track oval in the adjacent park, which is used by the physical education classes, has grass almost waist high. Maybe in the remaining two weeks work will begin and the repairs and care-taking jobs will be finished by the time the students begin the new school year.

Teens and Parents

A recent survey in the United States refuted a conception which has been the norm for many years. About 75 percent of the teenagers surveyed said they get along well or extremely well with their parents or guardians. Only three percent did not get along with their parents. The majority would rather hang out with their family than with their friends. Family members are the role models, well ahead of entertainers and sports figures. The Horatio Alger Association did the survey of one thousand teens in April and May. This survey refuted notions that teen are rebelling against the authority of their parents and guardians.

Central *From Page 37*

fortable and friendly atmosphere, bridging the gap and connecting all businesses and individuals in a global market one customer at a time. Office hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday. The telephone is 367-

5177. Smart Business Connection is owned and managed by Ms. Justina Winder, former owner of Subway Restaurant in Marsh Harbour.

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BEC Continues with Improvements

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation continues to upgrade its infrastructure on Abaco. Mr. Benjamin Beneby, BEC General Manager for Abaco, recently discussed some of the improvements that are being done on Abaco to give residents better service.

BEC has done a great deal of work on the electrical system in Treasure Cay. Summer is a time of very high electrical demand. Any single failure within the system during this period is apt to trigger additional disconnects in various parts of their distribution network. If the company has breakdowns, it puts a strain on the entire system. Treasure Cay residents have benefitted by work done with improved service and lower prices since taking over that system. On November 2 of last year, the community was connected to the main generators in Marsh Harbour. Two of the generators previously there will be used for standby service. One has been overhauled and is in place while the other one has remaining work to be done. The system still lacks a transformer. It was damaged in January during installation and had to be sent away for repairs. It is expected back soon and will give redundancy to the system. They have put in new electrical circuits. These upgrades are costing approximately \$750,000 at the power station itself. A lightning strike on the

4 of July holiday weekend knocked out a primary transformer causing several days of chaos to residents and guests.

Switch gear for Treasure Cay is being replaced to tie the standby generators into the system. This will cost an additional \$180,000. There was damage remaining from the 1999 hurricane and the company is gradually improving the old system. The Windward Beach and some poorly maintained areas of Treasure Cay have been improved.

In Marsh Harbour and the cays, the process of completing the ring system is underway. When completed this will give the cays two separate feeds. A new circuit is installed from Marsh Harbour to Lubbers Quarters and Elbow Cay. When completed the cays, Guana Cat, Scotland Cay, Man-O-War, Elbow Cay and Lubbers Quarters will be part of a ring system with three feeds from Marsh Harbour. The old original line to Man-O-War will be deactivated but will remain in place for emergency use.

BEC is putting a sub-station in Guana Cay which will be linked by cable with Man-O-War and Hope Town. The cable to complete the ring is ordered and is hoped to be completed by late fall or early winter. Improvements to complete the ring will cost about \$2 million. All the infrastructure is in place

except for the cable.

The company is putting in equipment so Central Abaco and the cays can be monitored in the control room at the generating station and switches can be opened and closed remotely from the power station.

Improvements in North Abaco include upgrades to the 70-mile primary line to Crown Haven and to the line into Treasure Cay and to Green Turtle Cay. Automatic re-closers have been put on the line to Green Turtle Cay and the line north Cooper's Town and beyond. These open if there is a problem and reclose automatically. If they trip a second time, they remain open requiring a manual service inspection. However, they can re-

store service for many routine interruptions. Two similar re-closures are on order for the line into Treasure Cay and to Crossing Rocks

BEC now has two extra bucket trucks. The company proposes to have the old one refurbished. This means that they can go ahead with regular low-demand maintenance as well as tend to the maintenance needing more immediate attention. They have worked to repair street lights. Although the repair of streets is a visible thing, BEC must do a lot of regular maintenance to the system which is not visible.

Public roads in towns must have street

Please see **BEC**

Page 39



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Elbow Cay and The Abacos, Homes and Property

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PINEAPPLE BEACH HOUSE



Premier designer home on beautiful sandy beach. Features 4B/3B, large open kitchen on second floor, great

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Price: \$1,500,000

HOMES & LAND



"JOE'S CAY" - 3 Acre private undeveloped cay accessed from Elbow Cay, located in White Sound, great elevation, deep water for dock, rare opportunity, serious inquiries only.

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"LITTLE ORCHARD" - Island Style home, 3bd/2bth located on 2 lots 90X158ft. each, central a/c, fully furnished, wrap around decks (upstairs) Downstairs has a 1bd/1bth furnished apt. w/central a/c (rental income \$800 per month). Fully enclosed workshop, 30kw generator, 3 telephone lines, cable TV. Lots are fully landscaped with mature fruit trees and citrus. A must see!

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Price: \$151,500

"MARNIES LANDING" - Private marina community at the southern end of Elbow Cay offering 1/2 acre lots with views of the Atlantic Ocean, Sea of Abaco, or both. Each lot comes with private dock slip at the marina, homesites staggered for optimal views.

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Price: \$325,000

"EAST VIEW" - Located on Lubbers Quarters Cay. Development faces the Sea of Abaco across from Tilloo Cut and Tahiti Beach. Beautiful sunrises. Each homesite comes with a dock slip at the private marina. Great investment opportunity.

Starting at: \$89,000

VILLA JUNKANOO



Custom home in private marina community facing the Sea of Abaco. Turn-key 4B/4B, open kitchen, dining

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Price: \$1,300,000

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BEC *From Page 38*

lights. However, local government has to authorize new installations and pay approximately \$350 for the routine installation of each one. If poles or transformers are required, the initial cost is higher. BEC accepts responsibility for the electricity used by the street lights.

BEC is not responsible for lighting in parks or recreational areas. They do assist in the maintenance of these facilities and will invoice for any repairs. Monthly electricity used for a park or recreational area is billed to the responsible authority, local government, community association or sports group as appropriate.

Under special circumstances BEC may

install electricity in some new or developing residential areas at BEC's expense. When someone purchases property in that pro-rated area, they must pay their pre-established share of the initial cost.

One of the three generators removed from Treasure Cay has been refurbished and is now on line in Sandy Point. Extending the line from Crossing Rocks to Sandy Point is has been considered but would cost about \$1 million. It is not being actively considered at this moment.

The merits of installing a land line into Winding Bay and on to the Yellow Wood section of Cherokee is being assessed. This includes a study of taking power into Little Harbour. Much of this hinges on government's commitment to the Winding

Bay project.

BEC management is satisfied with their capacity at this moment but carefully watching Abaco's development in terms of BEC's ability to provide the necessary power to keep up with this growth.

Adventure *From Page 30*

lights.

Near the entrance but in a dark area was a flat area about the size of a home TV screen. Engraved in the rock was a period schooner, perhaps from the 1850's with the date 1450. The date is before Columbus's arrival and the schooner is of a style used after Columbus. Bored light keepers or guano collectors may have passed the time by etch-

ing the rock. It all adds to the adventure.

The two-hour ride back to Marsh Harbour was uneventful. Several heads were nodding during the one-hour crawl out of the woods to the paved road. Ron and Erin kept those with their eyes open updated on the island's history and the flora and fauna.

Ron and Erin are competent guides and the day passed easily. The picnic lunch at the lighthouse setting was a worthwhile event on its own.

Abaco Outback's kayak adventures are closer to home and are equally interesting.

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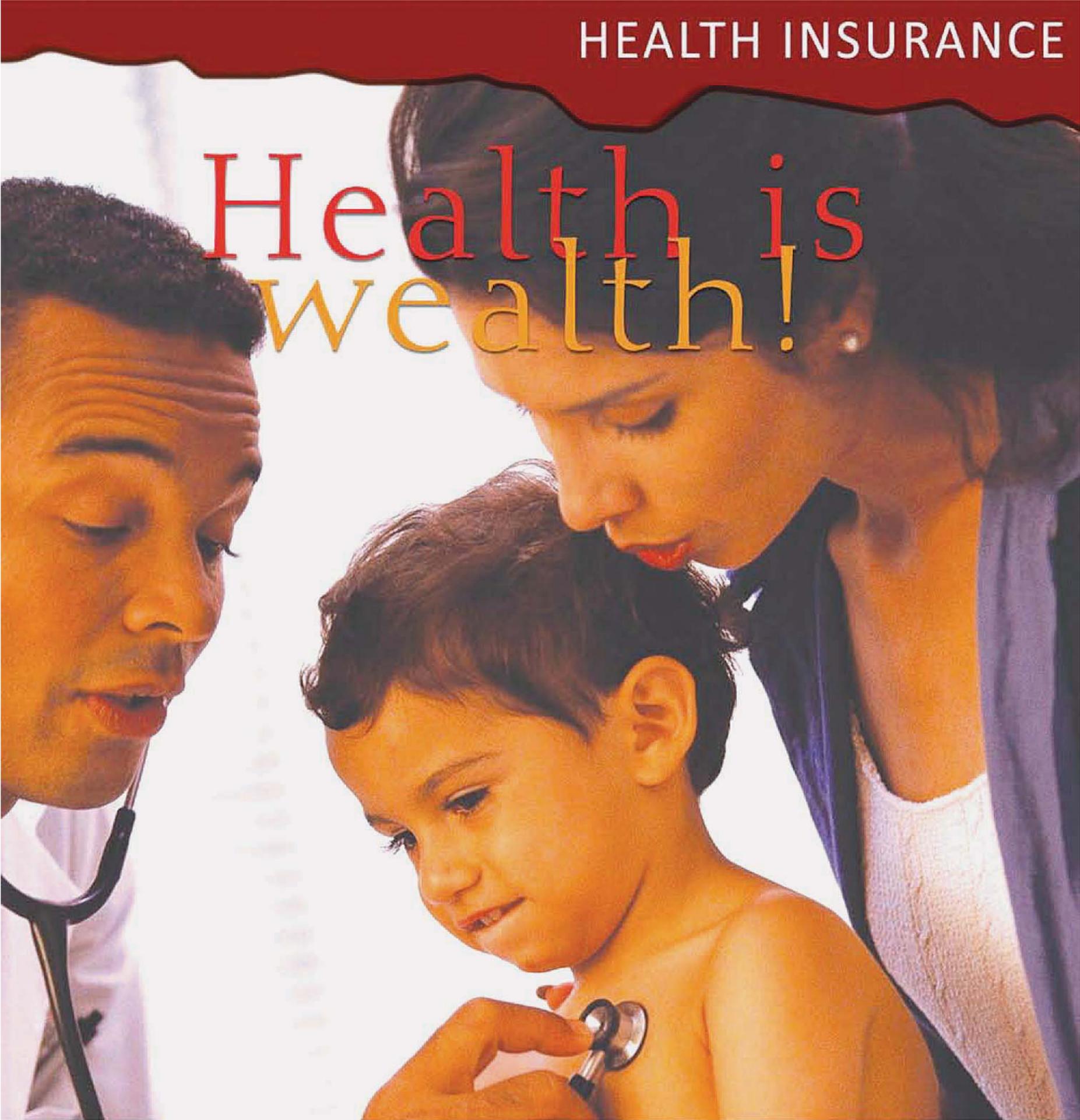


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