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VOLUME 11, NUMBER 21, NOVEMBER 1ST, 2003

Proposed Health Scheme Is Explained

Dr. Perry Gomez Speaks to Chamber on Commission Recommendations

Seniors Enjoy a Day at the Movies



About 100 senior citizens were treated to a movie, *The Fighting Temptations*, laughing and enjoying being pampered. This is the fifth year that the Department of Social Services has treated them as part of their Senior Citizen's Month program.

By Portia Jonsson

In recognition of Senior Citizens' Month during October the Department of Social Services treated senior citizens to a day at the movies. Buses loaded with excited and anxious seniors, from Crown Haven in the north to Moore's Island in

the south, arrived at RND Cinema for their viewing of the comedy movie *The Fighting Temptations*. This movie was selected by RND Cinemas because they felt it was most appropriate and did not contain anything offensive. *The Fighting Temptations* was a "hit" in the United States and also a "hit"

with the seniors who all said they thoroughly enjoy it and laughed a lot. In addition to the movie, everyone received beautiful gift bags from the Department of Social Services.

The Abaco Chamber of Commerce invited Dr. Perry Gomez to address members on October 23 on the recommendations being made to government concerning a national health-care scheme. Dr. Gomez heads the Blue Ribbon Commission, a diverse group representing many areas of expertise selected to study health-care systems worldwide and make recommendations to government. The Commission is committed to find a program best suited to the country. Government will consider its recommendations. If it is satisfied with the suggestions, government will authorize further studies to establish cost estimates before it puts any program in place.

The Blue Ribbon Commission was set up in August 2002 so it has been working on a national health insurance scheme for more than a year. Its goals were specific:

- To find a stable system for funding a scheme
- To have more equity in health care
- To achieve universal coverage

Prior to the election in 2002 the PLP proposed putting into place a system which would give better medical coverage to everyone in the country. At present the country spends approximately \$330 million on health care. Of this about \$140 million is through private doctors and clinics while the government spends \$164 million through their hospitals and clinics. Ten years ago government's expense was only \$54 million.

Please see **Gomez**

Page 2

GTC Students Visit Abaco Park



Fifth grade students of the Amy Roberts Primary School in Green Turtle Cay recently visited South Abaco, seeing parrots and swimming in a Blue Hole. This was part of their conservation studies. See story on page 12.

Texaco Pirates Win Championship



The Texaco Pirates were presented with trophies for winning the Abaco Softball Championship. Although having to play all regulation league games in Cooper's Town, they came through victorious. See story on page 4.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Nov. 5 Guy Fawkes - GTC | Dec. 6 Christmas Bazaar - MH |
| Nov. 18 College Fair - MH | Dec. 5-7 Craft Show - MH |
| Nov. 22 Cancer Auction - MH | Dec. 13 Junkanoo - MH |
| Nov. 29 Box Car Derby - HT | Dec. 22 Boat Parade - MH |
| Nov. 30 Art Show - HT | |

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Universal Health Care Is Goal

Gomez

From Page 1

The Commission made several conclusions:

- Government cannot continue paying more each year for health care.
- Charging at the time when people receive health care will discourage people from getting the medical help they need.

ceive health care will discourage people from getting the medical help they need.

- Getting external funding is not an option. The Bahamas is considered a wealthy country so cannot get donations.
- Only 50 percent of Bahamians have private health insurance coverage. Private coverage is too expensive for most lower

income people.

- A national health insurance scheme would be mandatory, everyone paying according to his ability to pay.

The Commission recognized that this last option appeared to be the best. All first world countries with the exception of the United States have some form of social health insurance program. It would not be for profit but would have government sharing the risk among all the people of the country. It would make medical care comprehensive and affordable and would have no exclusions. Dr. Perry emphasized that health care is a right, not a privilege.

The present system is not sustainable. Government cannot continue to subsidize health care as costs are escalating each year. The average household in the country is now paying about 8.5 percent annually on health

care. The Commission anticipates that the program it is recommending will cost no more than 8.5 percent. This expense will be divided between employers and employees, much as National Insurance expense is absorbed by both employers and employees. The program will include air ambulance service for the Family Islands and will allow for health care outside the country with the approval of a board in Nassau.

The proposal recommends working in tandem with National Insurance. Although the monies would be kept separate, the same offices could process the health system payments.

The Commission will present its report to government in December. If government accepts the proposal, it would be another 18 months to two years before it would be implemented.



Dr. Perry Gomez, Chairman of the Blue Ribbon Commission to recommend a universal health program, spoke to the Abaco Chamber of Commerce on October 23. He is shown above on the right, accompanied by several other members of the Commission. They are, left to right, Ms. Veronica Rolle, Ms. Vilma Thompson-Curling and Ms. Etoile Pinder, a health economist with PAHO who is the chief technical advisor of the Commission.

Winter Visitors Are Returning

By Jennifer Hudson

Some of our very welcome winter residents have already begun returning to our shores. On the evening of the October 13th Heroes Day holiday a beautiful flock of snowy white heron winged its way from the colder climes of North America over the Sea of Abaco in the direction of Marsh Harbour in search of a nice lake to inhabit

as their winter home. It was a magnificent sight as hundreds of these elegant birds stood out in striking contrast to the dark grey rain clouds covering the sky.

We look forward to seeing more winged winter residents arriving soon as well as the always very welcome second home owners and other visitors of the human variety.

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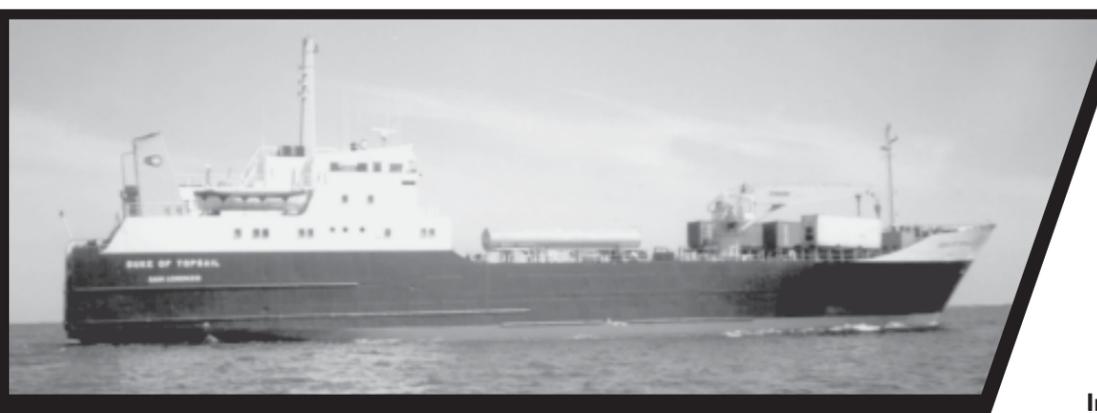
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News of the Cays

Man-O-War

Pirates Win Championship

On October 11 the Texaco Pirates were presented with their trophies for winning the pennant with a 17 and 1 record and the trophies for winning the Abaco Softball Championship, defeating the Joe's Generals in a back sweep, taking the series four games to two out of the best seven. Fred "The Skipper" Cornish took home the trophy for the League MVP, Michael Baillou took home the home run trophy and Haziel McDonald finished it with a plaque for Manager of the Year.

The team is mostly composed of Man-O-War players along with some from Marsh Harbour and Black Wood.

Mr. Gary Sawyer of Abaco Petroleum, a sponsor of the Texaco Pirates, was presented with the pennant trophy. He is shown in the front of the team. Andrew Albury was presented with the Championship trophy. He is a team member and also a sponsor of the team. The Texaco Pirates had a great year and the team is looking forward to softball in the coming year. They would like to thank all the sponsors and fans who helped to make this year a success.

Guana Cay

The road leading northwest out of town is finally being paved. The Caribbean Asphalt Company from Nassau has been working on the main road and side roads for the past eight months to pave about two miles of road. They had much preparatory work to make the road bed acceptable. They have used a portable hot mix machine to put down a sheet of asphalt that should last about 40 years if it is not abused. The finished coat-

ing measures one and a half inches thick. The main road is 16 feet wide while the side roads are 10 feet wide. Digging trenches across the road, spilt oil, or allowing tree roots to grow under the road will all destroy the paving.

The paving should be completed within a couple of weeks. Most of the company's equipment has already been returned to Nassau. The company had a team of 13 men here to do the work. Mr. Trevor Cleare, the company owner, explained that most of his company's work is for the government and has included airport runways and roads in several Family Islands. He would like to have more work here while he is still on Abaco.

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

The past weeks have been quiet on Green Turtle Cay. Many of the businesses use this time to renovate and prepare for the holidays. The weather is becoming very pleasant and the holidays of 2003 are now a memory.

Over the next few weeks we will see many of the homeowners back on the island. This is also the time that we see many of our winter boaters arriving. It will be interesting to see if the cruising permit increase keeps many or any at all from spending the winter in the Bahamas. There have been some very unpleasant exchanges on the website Boycott Bahamas. Only time will tell what impact the increase and the website has on Abaco.

Hurricane Isabelle kept us all guessing and some people made some preparations. However, we were spared a direct hit. There was a lot of erosion caused by the pound-

ing seas and high tides. As the waves broke, the salty spray in the air looked like fog in areas near the ocean. The fishermen lost a lot of their crawfish habitats. Hopefully, we will be watching for cold fronts and not the tropics for the next six months!

Guy Fawkes Event Scheduled

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee will have a Guy Fawkes Fund raiser on November 5th. The committee is working with the Abaco Tourist Office and the Key West Festival committee to organize a heritage festival to be held next May on Green Turtle Cay. The proceeds from this fund raiser will be used for that event.

It has been many years since we observed Guy Fawkes Day. This used to be an annual event when I was a child (ALL those years ago). Guy Fawkes Day celebration was a part of our British ancestry. Guy Fawkes had tried unsuccessfully to blow up the House of Parliament in England on November 5th, 1605. He was jailed and executed in 1606. Each year after that effigies of Guy Fawkes were made and burned on November 5th. Here on GTC parents

helped their children make "guys" from old clothes. In the evening after a contest or a dance through the streets, the "guys" were burned. Guy Fawkes Day was the beginning of the holiday celebrations. After this night caroling in the streets would begin. We called it "Marching" because drums were used to make music. As Christmas neared some people would go caroling before daybreak. The sound of singing early on a calm, dew-soaked morning are some of my fondest holiday memories. Some

Please see **Cays**

Page 5


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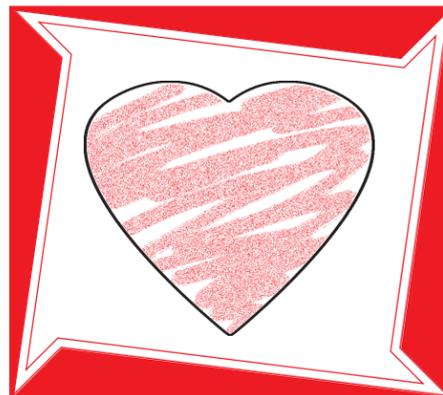
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More News of the Cays

Cays From Page 4

people now consider it disturbing the peace! A few attempts over the years were made to revive the holiday "marching" tradition but were never successful! More sophisticated and technical things to do! Hopefully, the Guy Fawkes evening will be a success, and, we can make it an annual event!

School Events

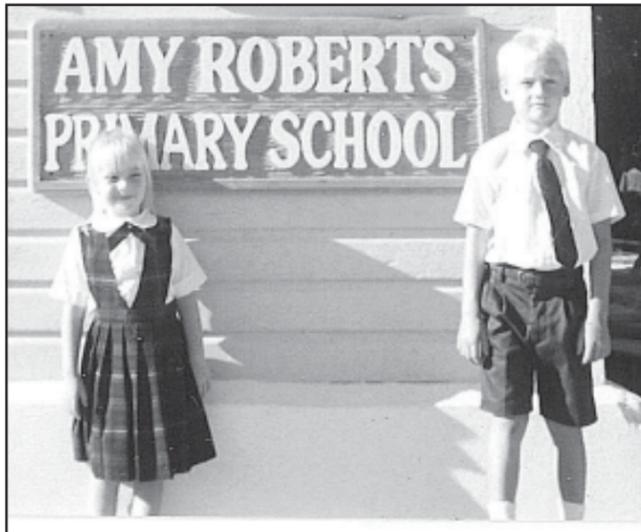
Amy Roberts Primary School will hold its annual Fund Raiser and Raffle on November 29th. It is a week earlier this year. It is hoped that with the Thanksgiving holiday, it will draw a large crowd. There will be the usual home cooked food, games, prizes and the drawing of the raffle. Be sure to get in on the raffle and hopefully win one of the great prizes!

The students of Amy Roberts Primary are all excited about Junior Junkanoo! They are practicing every Saturday in preparation for the first Abaco Junior Junkanoo to be held on December 13th. Mr. Floyd Johnson is the man in charge. He is teaching them to paste their costume. With other volunteers, they are learning to beat the drums, shake cowbells and dance to the beat. We are proud of their effort!

Mrs. Coral Johnson has joined the staff of Amy Roberts Primary. She is teaching the third and fourth grades. We are especially happy to have another teacher at the school because this allows the first and second grade to be taught as individual classes. The combining of first and second grade was a big concern at the beginning of the school year.

We realize that in many Family Island schools these grades are combined. In some

cases there is only one teacher for six grades. But we don't consider it "lucky" to have another teacher posted to our school. Quality education is what every child deserves! Family Island students want to achieve high academic standards, go to college and qualify for top jobs. It is time for parents on Family Islands to voice their concerns! Mrs. Johnson's husband is our local police officer. They are very nice people and we are pleased to have them in



Rebecca and Colby are Amy Roberts' great-grandchildren! They can trace their roots back nine generations on Green Turtle Cay.

our community.

The sixth grade of Amy Roberts Primary had a very successful souse breakfast fund raiser. The parents were very supportive helping to make it a success. The funds will be used for the 6th grade's field trip to Nassau in May.

The children are all excited about Halloween. Ghosts, goblins and super heroes will take to the streets seeking candy! The Jolly Roger will host a Halloween party for the adults who would like to dress up and have a good time!

The weeks leading up to the holidays will pass in a blur as there is usually so much going on around town it is hard to believe that 2003 is almost over!

Hope Town

Think You're King of the Hill?

On November 29 Hope Town will present the 7th Annual Big Hill Box Car Derby sponsored by Bristol Cellars and Red Bull. They are inviting racers for Junior and Senior categories to compete in speed and slalom races. Racing starts at noon and trophies and prizes will be presented at the conclusion. Refreshments and t-shirts will be for sale. Music will be by DJ's Rock Around the Clock. Transportation from the post office dock will be provided. All proceeds will go toward youth sports of Hope Town. For more information contact Patrick Stewart at 366-3139 or Stafford Patterson at 366-0023.



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Marine Census Is Underway

Studies are being made on some of the marine species which are important to our economy. Nassau grouper, crawfish, conch, bonefish and snapper are being studied in a long term project to see how the levels of each of these species is faring. On October 15 Craig Dahlgren, science director of the Caribbean Marine Research Center, made a slide presentation to a group of interested persons in Marsh Harbour. He is based at Lee Stocking Island in Exuma and is part of the group doing this study.

Grouper

Grouper matures normally in four to five years; however, sometimes it can be up to nine years. They live more than 20 years. The Nassau grouper is threatened throughout the Caribbean except in The Bahamas. The unusual fact about grouper is that they aggregate in the winter during full moon cycles to spawn. Sometimes these aggrega-

tions can have tens to 100 thousand fish. A single fish can spawn millions of eggs, the larger fish spawn more eggs. Fish travel hundreds of miles to the aggregation sites. The eggs are one millimeter long and within about 40 days the larvae grow to one inch or more. At this stage the larvae are carried by currents and they drop to the bottom to become post larvae fish. They are carried by tides into shallow water nursery areas. They prefer seaweed beds and live in the creeks until they are two inches long. They then roam until they locate a suitable reef for them to live on. This roaming period can take from a couple of weeks to as long as 10 months. The young fish are vulnerable to predators while many others die of starvation.

Previous studies have shown that aggregation populations vary greatly from year to year. Peak years can be followed by sev-

eral years with very poor numbers. In order to maintain healthy populations of adult grouper, it is important to allow the aggregations to continue without over-fishing at these crucial times.

Crawfish

The spiny lobster or crawfish has a similar life cycle. They are in the larvae developmental state for three to nine months. At eight to nine months they resemble a leaf and are transparent except for their eyes. They are carried by currents in the post larvae state for about four to five months. When they settle to the bottom, they live in the sea grass and algae and gain their pink coloring within a week. They fully mature in three years. During the period until they reach several inches long they are susceptible to changes in the water temperature and infection. For these reasons and the fact that no one knows what they eat, it is difficult to raise them in fish farms.

The Recruitment Studies

The studies which are being done throughout The Bahamas will attempt to gain more information about the populations of each species to know better how to maintain sustainable numbers. This obvi-

ously includes protecting the habitats that the young of the species uses until they are large enough to survive on the reefs. The scientist first decide at what stage in the life of these fish that they will study and in this case they have chosen the post larvae stage. In order to have meaningful data, they have to collect specimens. The program which Mr. Dahlgren is involved with is collecting data from nine different areas from Turks Island in the south to Abaco in the north.

The method they are using is to put out collectors and check them regularly. The photograph on this page shows a collector. Creatures of all kinds are attracted to the mats on the plastic frames and take up residence. Three times per month, three days before a new moon, on a new moon and three days after the collectors are raised and a count is made of the post larvae fish they find. Friends of the Environment is assisting Mr. Dahlgren on Abaco. Lory Kenyon and Lester Bethel have put out 12 frames, three frames in each of four locations, in the Angel Cays area. Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales, second homeowners on Lubbers, will be collecting the data.



Mr. Craig Dahlgren is shown with a fish collector. It is a contraption to provide shelter for a variety of sea life. The collectors are being used to attract young Nassau grouper and crawfish so they can be counted. Abaco has a dozen of these in the Angel Cays which will be counted three times monthly, giving an idea of the population of these two very important natural resources that our economy depends on.



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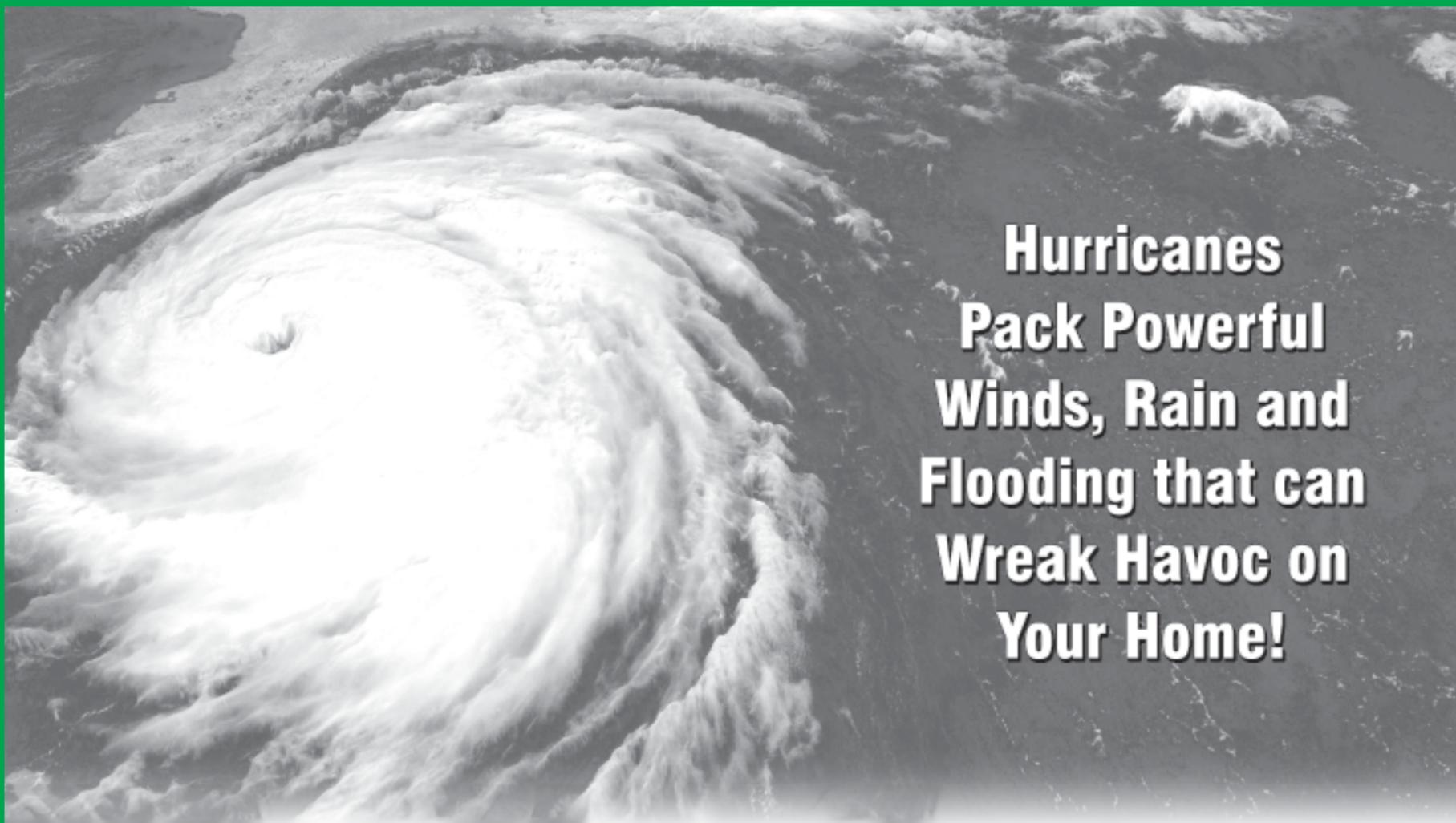
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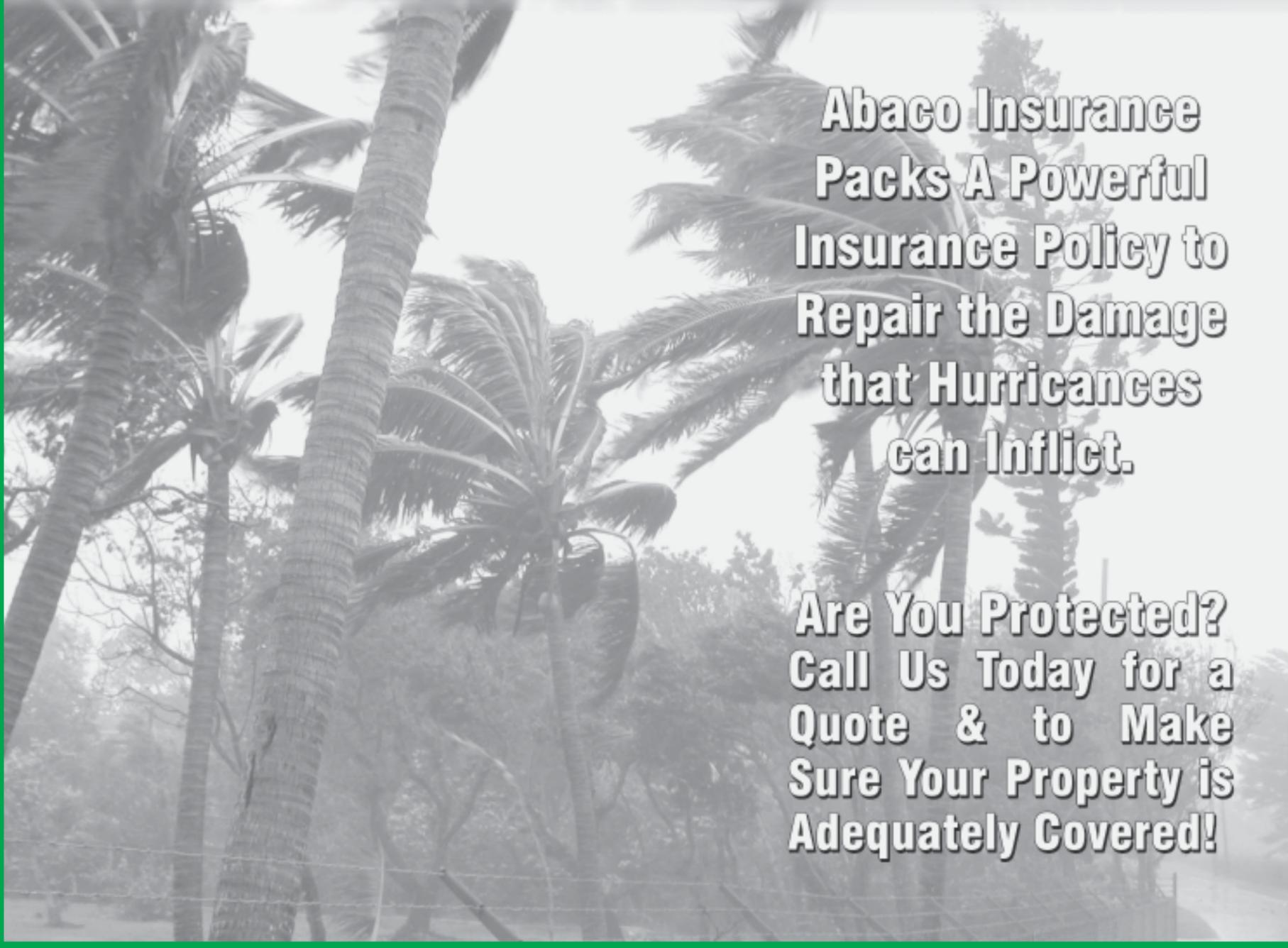




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The Editor Says . . . Changes Come with Persistence



The Local Government Act requires that a public town meeting be held at least once a year by the Town Committee. It would take some research to find when the last one was held in Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town or Murphy Town. The meetings that have been held in these three towns have been inconsequential in substance and poorly attended.

We attended one in Cooper's Town several years ago in which three persons made up the audience listening to the seven Town Committee members.

A recent meeting in Guana Cay brought out about 25 persons who were concerned about their town and had ideas for making improvements.

A similar meeting held in Hope Town a week ago was attended by 50 or more residents who were definitely not satisfied with either their Committee members or the attention being given them by central government. They were quite spirited and vocal in making their needs known. A year had passed since the last public meeting was held in Hope Town.

One of the Committee members apologized for a decision the Committee made in authorizing the installation of speed bumps. Any persons who might have been in favor of the bumps were either absent or squirming in their seats, hoping they were not noticed.

The problem of the bumps is not entirely resolved. It appears that all the bumps may be removed except for one at the school and that one may be modified to be more vehicle friendly.

Another sore point was the poor condition of the island roads which took a beating in Hurricane Floyd and have been left to deteriorate further. Traffic by cars, golf carts and trucks has increased over the years, imposing further wear and tear on the minimal pavement. The heavy trucks limp through the holes, causing even more damage while the golf carts and automobiles suffer as they try to navigate the hazards.

Except for resolving the problem of the speed bumps, the chorus of complaints did not get immediate results. The officials attending got a definite message that all was not well. Unsatisfactory answers were not

accepted and officials were often obliged to promise better answers the next time. They attempted to diffuse the issues and bring answers the next time.

A varied group of department heads accompanied the Island Administrator to Hope Town. They were questioned about many problems bothering the residents. They included Environmental Health for garbage and pollution, Police for traffic and other law infractions, Works for road conditions, Port for marine issues, Inland Tax Collection for property taxes and other revenue concerns.

Residents and officials generally conceded that these public meetings should occur much more often so the problems and frustrations are more manageable.

Man-O-War Cay is planning a similar town meeting soon and can be expected to provide a exchange between the residents and officials from both local and central government.

Locally elected Town Committees are the link between communities and central government but they often not aggressive enough when making requests of central government departments and agencies in Nassau.

The exchange of complaints and answers between the residents and officials is a healthy exercise. Government needs to know the needs and perceptions of the communities. Funding and resources may not be available for everything needed but the multitude of voices from the floor can certainly put some perspective on the different issues.

Local government may not be perfect but it is an improvement on the old system where all decisions were made in Nassau. Town meetings are a wonderful way to get public opinion into the heads of those making the decisions.

We need experts at the national level for international trade agreements to guide us on the decisions required, the FTAA and WTO for instance. Nassau assistance at the local level is often needed with technical aspects, recommendations on approved methods and legal issues. However, basic community problems concerning schools, garbage, traffic control and other town problems should be assessed and implemented at the local level once legal and other issues are complied with.

Local Government in Central Abaco is

suffering from poor attendance by members, both elected and appointed. Residents are frustrated and feel their local governing situation is beyond hope and have given up trying to make the system work to their benefit.

We are not sure what drives some towns to demand service and attention from their elected persons while others merely grumble but take no active role in the process. This is a shame as much can be accomplished collectively.

Town residents in the central Abaco towns can get a lot accomplished but they must hold their elected representatives accountable. Grumbling on the street will not get the job done. More town meetings should be held with local representatives taking the heat as they did in Hope Town. Changes can come but may not be immediate. Changes will come eventually if people keep pressuring for change.

Those elected, appointed and responsible for administering the area can look forward to more sessions of dissatisfaction. Hopefully, central Abaco will join ranks with those exerting pressure for change and positive action.

Generally Speaking . . . *A Balancing Act*

By S. Timothy Roberts

I remember once visiting my grandparents on Great Guana Cay in early summer when I was about eight years old. It's probably one of the finest memories of childhood and family that I can remember. Playing ball with my uncles and cousins, going fishing with Pa Ulrich - catching turbot, grunts and porgies - and eating stewed turtle with dough prepared by Ma Eulah. Life was so simple and uncomplicated, and families enjoyed each others visits.

Much time has passed since those happy and fun days of my youth, though I could hardly be considered old either at the fledgling age of thirty. With that passing of time it seems all simplicity has passed away in so many ways.

Times have certainly changed and we have all changed in different ways, whether for the better or the worse. Life has be-

come more hectic and complicated. Those moments of relaxing fun have faded into obscurity, and pure family time has become harder to find. Even families change, and time seems to have drawn those ties further apart rather than closer together. And as much as it seems rudimentary, it seems again that the simplicity of relations has given way to the complication of life.

It is the way of life we are told. Every year time speeds by faster and faster. I am convinced we make ourselves busier and busier and with the loss of time (so to speak) we find everything becomes more complicated to keep up with.

What is the cure for this dilemma? How can we get back to simple living, to fishing and fun with family and friends?

The clutter of a success-driven society brings with it so much pressure, and it is hardly inescapable. Rather it is like a snow-

ball rolling downhill gathering speed, size and strength as it goes. So how do we avoid it?

It boils down to prioritizing life. Family comes first and therefore any time we can make should be made for them. We also need time for rest and relaxation. God created the heavens and the earth in six days, and as a model for all creation, on the seventh day He rested. Likewise, we, too, need time for our bodies to recoup its energies and strength. Our minds also need similar relaxation in order to continue functioning reasonably.

In a nutshell, we live in an overworked world which drains the life blood from us all. Our only weapon against this is to force ourselves to find time and balance our lives. Ultimately, we can regain some semblance of simplicity and balance to life.

ALL ABOUT TOWN

By Isobel Sherman

Violence and Children

The shocking news that four boys ages 11-13 were charged with manslaughter in the disappearance of Jake Grant, the first boy on Grand Bahama to go missing, sent shockwaves through the island. Many persons believe that children of today are violent by nature. Television, movies and video games have been targeted as the reasons for this upsurge in violence. Some have suggested that children believe that what they see on television actually happens in

the real world and to some extent they are correct.

However, there is this shadow of doubt that keeps coming into my thoughts. Why? I grew up watching cowboys and Indians on television shooting each other with guns and bows and arrows. I watched Donald Duck turn red and lose his temper many times. I saw my classmates put on guns and holsters and play cowboys and Indians. I saw them play army, too. I saw the three Stooges when Moe kept hitting Curley in the head. All these things were violent; yet somehow the majority of my generation survived. We did not all become killers.

Growing up I heard violence in the real world. I heard my mother and father have terrible arguments with what I call word violence. To be honest that type of violence upset me.

Yes, I think there is too much violence on television and in the movies and on certain video games. However, to me the bottom line of whether or not your children are exposed to this lies with the parent. Monitoring what your children watch and even listen to in music has to be a must.

Our society is becoming violent. Look at the rise in domestic violence. To me that is far more harmful than video games. I know many will disagree with me and have sound arguments against what I think.

To me movies, television shows and video games are mostly just making believe. The opposite of the so-called violent shows can be the family situation comedies and television shows. How real are those shows like Rules for Dating, Bill Cosby Show or Power Rangers? No one in the real world lives that way either.

This is a discussion that ends up being only a matter of opinion and also a matter of resolve of what parents want their children to see or play with.

What is important is that responsible adults whether a parent or not must try to steer our children in the path that violence's in the real world is wrong. We are all Our Brothers keepers.

Missing Children

Each day children in the United States and other countries are reported missing or abducted. The National Center for Missing Children was established in the United States to provide a common ground where all missing children can be reported and to provide a database on each missing child. Until last May we in the Bahamas probably never really thought about children going missing. But then the five boys missing in Grand Bahama happened, a wake up call

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Letters to the Editor

Response to Timothy Roberts

Re: Article in the October 1, 2003 issue.
I totally concur! In fact, it's been on my mind to suggest such an article. The Treasure Cay airport is the same disgrace. The first Bahamas impression anyone sees (curb appeal) and confirming their expectation of all the natural beauty including their people. That's the entrance.

Now in these days of heightened security with a two-hour prior check-in time for flights, the surroundings don't entice a come back. In other words, it could be a great visit, but the coming and going don't encapsulate this. The exit . . .

This could go further in curb appeal. Some businesses have done it, others need to. Could be just a coat of paint / clear the junk / planting some natural floral. A beautification / community on-the-cheap program. HOME PRIDE! Enhance / Match the God-given natural beauty that Abaco offers.

I have been though Nassau, Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay airports. As you say, it does apply to all of them.

Barbara Brehaut, Island homeowner

BEC Apologizes

The Editor,
Dear Sir,

You carried a letter from me in your October 1st issue in which I related a bad experience my wife had on the phone with an unknown individual at BEC. The letter also came out in the Tribune on October 2nd.

Well, let me tell you, around 11 o'clock that same morning, October 2nd, I got a call from a BEC representative who assured me that the manager had not, in fact, gotten my letter of complaint which I had hand delivered to their office on or around August 22 and that all hell was breaking loose supposedly as a result of my letter to the editor.

I was further assured that it was not the policy of BEC to tolerate such behaviour from their employees and an apology was offered on behalf of BEC which I accepted and thanked the caller very much for. Quite frankly, I was impressed! And I am not easily impressed, believe me.

Further to that, I have just received today, October 7, a letter from BEC Abaco informing me that an investigation is being launched into the whole affair and that "...under no circumstances..." will an experience like mine (my wife's actually) be "acceptable nor tolerated by the Bahamas Electricity Corporation."

I do not know the manager of BEC Abaco, Mr. Benjamin R. Beneby, personally. However, I do appreciate his attention to this complaint, and I have to say that I think he is a stand-up guy in that he actually responded, and in writing. To Mr. Beneby and staff, I would like to say thank you for your attention to this matter, and please know that I am not an unreasonable person. Sometimes enough really is enough, and in this instance it is they who happened to be on the receiving end of an undesirable situation. Undesirable situations however, can be turned around.

I would like to encourage all Bahamians to demand professional behaviour from all levels of government and privately employed personnel. It is not good enough to bitch and complain about things if we are not willing to try and do something about fixing them. That is not to say that I have fixed anything in my complaint to BEC. In spite of this, it is important for Bahamians to go on record with their grievances. If enough of us say to the powers that be that we are not satisfied with the status quo, then maybe, just maybe, things will start to change. I hope I'm not being exaggeratedly optimistic.

Sincerely,
William (Billy) Roberts

In Defense of the Dogs

Surely, Marc Bainard's letter in your last paper was in jest or perhaps he just needs to check his pulse. We live in a country with a huge population of homeless dogs, and it is well known internationally that Bahamians do not treat these dogs with the compassion nor the respect that they deserve.

The poor starving "Royal Bahamian Potcake" is neglected and abused, surviving in the streets by raiding garbage cans. Many times I have seen kids hurling rocks and drivers aiming cars at these innocent creatures. It is common for them to be poisoned and regularly their dead bodies line our streets. I constantly find the kids tormenting confined animals for their pleasure and the current fad is to own a "really bad" dog whose killer instinct is baited by feeding them docile dogs. I am often dismayed by the fear that the natives demonstrate upon seeing a pet canine and ask myself why? These dogs have no rights and are simply reacting to their abusive treatment. In order to protect us from this "dog problem," some of our people should be placed in the pound. Ghandi said you shall know a nation by the way they treat their animals. Need I say more?

Notorious Buster Russell

Misinterpreted Letter

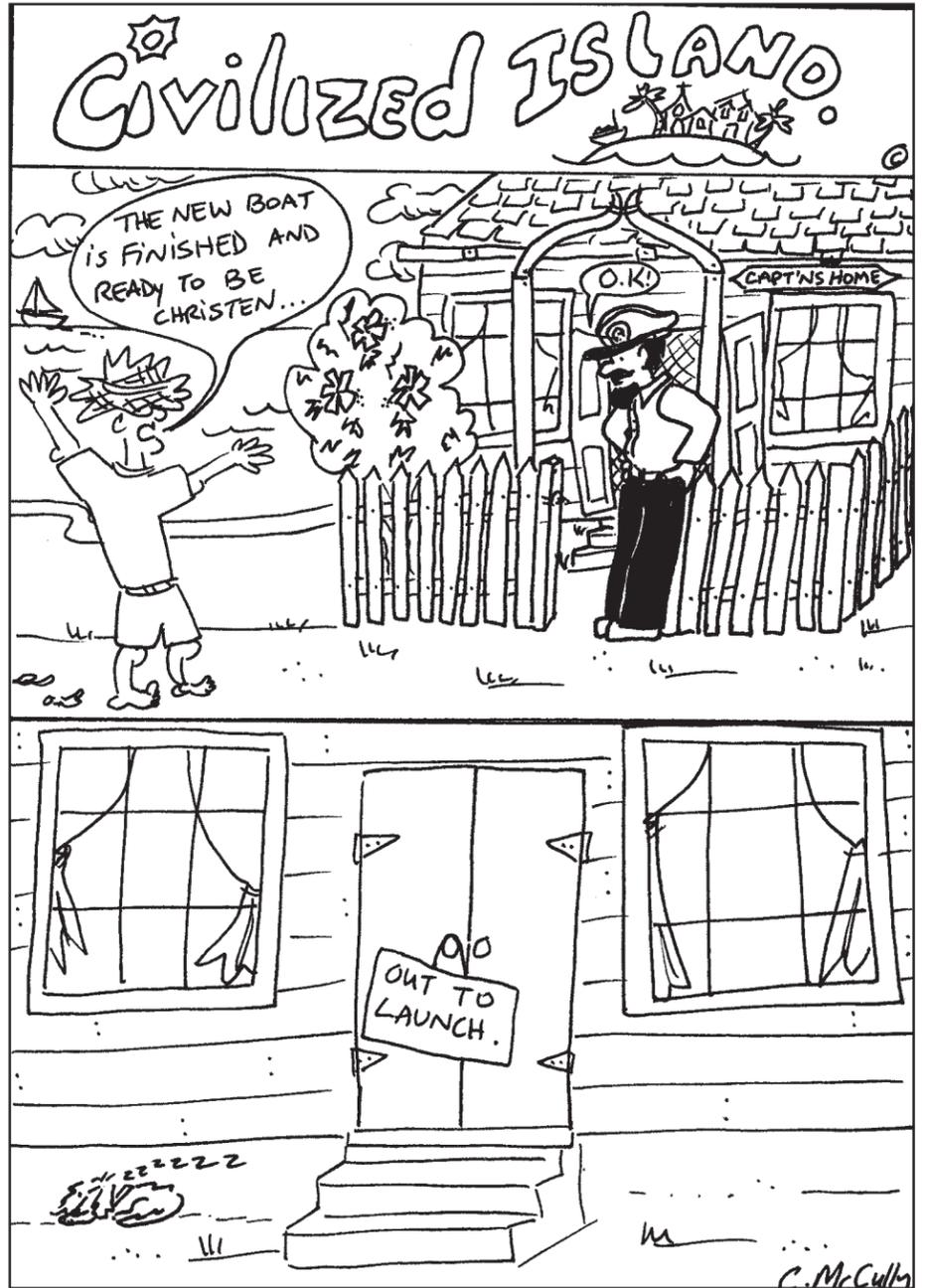
Dear Editor,

There appears to be some confusion regarding my letter to the editor in the last issue of *The Abaconian*. The intent of my letter was to express my concern about canine attacks on our population, especially our children. This letter was prompted by treating four dog-bite victims in my office over the last month. Two victims were visitors, two were young children, one requiring evacuation to the USA for plastic surgery.

Confused readers are advised to reread the letter, aware that the villains are pitbulls and other vicious breeds imported from the United States and now breeding here and "mixing it up" with our local Bahamian potcakes.

I realize that some readers felt that the letter, in fact, was directed toward the Haitian community. Nothing could be further from the truth. Since my first visit to Haiti in 1971, I have enjoyed assuming missionary positions in this special land. Just in the last six months, I have traveled to Haiti four times. I am a past honorary consul of Haiti for the states of Virginia and North Carolina. If my letter truly was calling for deportation of all Haitians, I guess I better start packing my bags. My mother is Haitian. It is a sad commentary that a letter regarding a dog problem could be misinterpreted as a diatribe against the Haitian people.

Those familiar with my often tangential writing style may have been looking for a deeper message in the letter. If there is a



deeper message, perhaps it asks: have we reached a point where canines are treated with more compassion and tolerance than some of our fellow human beings?

Marc Binard

Let's Stop the Begging!

Dear Editor,

I noticed in your last issue of this fine paper an article from Isobel Sherman called *How to Talk to Your Children*. The story said that parents in the Bahamas living on Islands other than Grand Bahama must be aware that what is happening on Grand Bahama with missing boys could happen on any island. Parents know where your children are at all times especially the older ones. Well, I know where a lot of the Abaco Central High School students are and shouldn't be. They are going around town BEGGING PEOPLE FOR MONEY. We as locals are used to this but the tourists who come here to visit SHOULD NOT have to deal with 8-15 kids all over them BEGGING for money, I don't care what it is

for. So, if the parents and teachers are supposed to know where their kids are, PLEASE keep them home and not on the streets BEGGING for CASH.

Concerned Citizen

Elbow Cay Roads Are Bad

To the Editor,

Hope Town or Elbow Cay has been famous throughout the world for its candy striped lighthouse. But it is now famous for the worst roads in The Bahamas, due to the Bahamas government for 35 years of neglect. People come from all over to build and live in homes, some worth as high as \$2 million.

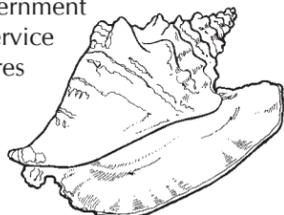
Hope Town generates large amounts of revenue for the government, and we get zero dollars back to build and maintain our roads. Since 2000 I estimate \$10 to \$15 million in construction materials have come to this island alone. Not one dollar has been spent on the roads. This is only construction alone. What about gas taxes, hotel taxes, li-

Please see **Letters** Page 15

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Central Abaco News

Christmas Bazaar Is Planned

By Portia Jonsson

After a four-year absence the Christmas Bazaar has been resurrected by a group of Marsh Harbour ladies. This long awaited festive event plans to be filled with new and exciting ideas, fun and games and loads of holiday cheer. All the Christmas fun will begin at 11 a.m. on the morning of December 6th at the Marsh Harbour Goombay Park. The park will be transformed into a holiday village with an anticipated 41 booths.

In addition to the usual fair games there will be a bouncing castle for the kids, petting zoo, bingo, darts games, face painting, punch board, hoop-la and white elephant stall which will include plants. Arts and craft items, clothing, gift baskets, toys and much more will also be on sale. For all those with a sweet tooth cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones and ice cream will be

available as well. A variety of all your favorite Bahamian dishes like conch salad, fried chicken, curry chicken and fried fish will be sold.

Santa Claus will be making a special appearance during the day and kids will be able to have a photo taken with him. Christmas and Bahamian music will be provided by a DJ throughout the day, but school and church choirs are welcome to come and entertain and be a part of this wonderful event.

The organizers of the Christmas Bazaar are asking businesses to decorate their properties in time for this event. Christmas trees will be placed at the airport's roundabout and Yamaha Park. Christmas carol singing will take place on the evening of November 28th. Persons are asked to volunteer their time and join in the singing in an effort to bring spirit into the land.

Booths for the Christmas Bazaar are still

available and deadline for registering is November 8th. Registration forms can be picked up from Mrs. Justina Winder at Smart Business Solutions above Doug's Place and Mrs. Brenda Sawyer at Abaco Petroleum Limited or you may contact Mrs. Melissa Roberts at 367-2908 or Mrs. Yvonne Key at 367-2243. Booths are on sale for \$75. All the proceeds from the sale of the booths will be donated to assist Sybil House, the Every Child Counts Learning Centre and Goombay Park.

The organizers felt that there was a need for Christmas spirit in the community, and it is their hope that the public will join them in this venture and support this joyous event.

An Old Home Will Be Brought Down

By Jennifer Hudson

The small yellow wooden home nestled behind the bushes on Don MacKay Boulevard just south of Computer Creations and Beacon's Book Store is soon to be demolished. This house, which has stood since the early 1950's, was the home of the late Cuthbert Albury and his father. It stands on land known as Key's Tract which is an area of 220 acres granted by the Queen to Nathan Key 100 years ago and it was the first house to be built in that area. When this house was built, Marsh Harbour consisted only of Front Street which extended from the current Police Station to Mangoes and Back Street which is now Queen Elizabeth Drive. The house was really considered to be "in the sticks" and there was only a six-foot path through the bush connecting it to Back Street. Wild boars used to be hunted in the area and would come right up to the door. A few years later a second house, which now houses the Com-

puter store, was built 50 feet away and was called the "Cat House." It was firstly a night club and was then used as a home before its present use as a store. Marsh Harbour began to move out towards this area in the early 1960s after the airport was constructed and a road led through the area.

It is sad to lose yet another piece of history for there is a definite charm to these quaint old houses but, unfortunately, as befalls many wooden structures eventually, this old house has fallen prey to termites and cannot be saved.

Are You a Vegetarian?

By Isobel Sherman

Are you a vegetarian Abaconian or a vegetarian visitor? Smile - a vegetarian store is coming to downtown Marsh Harbour. Long Bay School on Forest Drive has had a vegetarian store on their premises since they opened but now they are moving the store to one of the new stores in the old Loyalist Shop building. Only vegetarian items will be sold there.

Realtor Takes the Big Step

Brent Cartwright will be opening his own real estate office in Marsh Harbour this month. He began his career in real estate over five years ago with the Mike Lightbourn/Coldwell Banker realty company and has proven himself to have that driving force that makes a successful realtor.

"I could not be more thrilled," Brent said of his new venture. "I have all the experience I need now after opening and running the Coldwell Banker office here in Marsh Harbour for over five years. I look forward to applying all this experience and knowl-

Please see **Central**

Page 11



Mr. Cuthbert Albury's old house on Don MacKay Boulevard, the first to be built out of the old town of Marsh Harbour, will soon be torn down. Built in the late 1950s, it is past being salvaged.

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More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 10*

edge of real estate on Abaco to my own company. I'm sure it will be a success."

His new office will be located above Sea Star Car Rentals adjacent to Solomon's SuperCenter and he can be reached at 367-0080.

He is shown holding one of his yard signs in the form of a house that he is sure will be an eye catcher.

Unique Art Studio Opens

By Jennifer Hudson

ARTORIGINAL, the working art studio



Harriet Thompson has recently opened her own art studio where she does her unique pine straw needle work, making baskets, bowls and decorative items. On display is her art work along with the work of other artists.

of the Basket Lady, is now open in the former Agape Dental Office behind Memorial Plaza. Not only is this a working studio where one can go and watch the Basket Lady at work, but also a small but interesting art gallery displaying art for sale by talented local artists.

Here Harriet Thompson displays and sells her unique pine needle creations. What began as a hobby has, over the past six years, developed into a thriving business. Harriet combines beads, sea glass, driftwood, shells and rafia with Abaco pine needles to create beautiful baskets, vases, platters, handbags and Christmas tree ornaments which are uniquely reflective of The Bahamas. This talented lady now makes her own handmade ceramics for use in her basket weaving and has added a line of jewellery. Commissions and special orders are available on request and a brochure is available at the studio.

The Basket Lady's work is sold in art and craft shops in Nassau, Exuma and Bimini as well as Abaco and Harriet is delighted to now have it available at ARTORIGINAL, her own studio in Marsh Harbour. The studio is open Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and on Saturdays by appointment. Harriet

can be contacted at telephone 367-3293 or at basketlady@batelnet.bs.

Eventually, it is the Basket Lady's hope to bring well known artists to Abaco to conduct workshops to encourage young people to take more interest in art and to receive guidance and nurture for their talents.

Bellevue Now Has Technician

By Jennifer Hudson

Bellevue is announcing that they are now selling Gateway and Dell computers and have a service technician on hand five days a week. The technician specializes in computers, cash registers, typewriters, fax machines and copy machines and services most major brands.



Kathy O'Kelleher of Bellevue Business Depot is shown selling raffle tickets to Immigration Officer Ervin McPhee. That company donated a computer for the raffle to help with the medical expenses of Mr. Hugh Cottis. The drawing will be held in December.

Fund Raiser for Hugh Cottis

By Jennifer Hudson

A very successful Steak Out was held on October 18th at the Anglican Parish Hall to raise funds to assist with the medical expenses of Hugh Cottis, who has been receiving treatment both in Nassau and the United States for a stroke suffered in June. The sum of approximately \$10,000 was raised in a wonderful community effort by the friends of Hugh Cottis. This group consisted of several community organizations such as the Rotary Club of Abaco, the Cancer Society Abaco Branch, the Kirk of the Pines, Boy Scouts and other individuals who are proud to be friends of Hugh Cottis and

wanted to show their support for a man who has done so much for others.

Radio Abaco was live at the scene and did much to advertise the event. In addition to the sale of steak dinners, there was an auction of cakes, pies, cases of tangerines and a beautiful fragrance basket by "auctioneer" Pat Bethel

Please see **Central** Page 15

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More School News

Amy Roberts School Students Learn About Conservation

By Jennifer Hudson

A group of twelve grade five students from the Amy Roberts School on Green Turtle Cay have recently been studying conservation in school and on October 20th were able to get a first hand experience of what they had learned. These lively nine and ten year olds were very excited to make the trip into Marsh Harbour where they were

taken on a tour of the conservation sights in South Abaco by Ron Pagliaro of Abaco Outback accompanied by their Headmistress, Mrs. Anne Bootle and German visitor, Britta Heller.

According to Ron, the group made a very early start into the coppice north of the Abaco National Park where the parrots are back in their wintering grounds. The children were educated on the distribution and range of the Bahama parrot and taught to identify it by its colours. Many children, stated Mr. Pagliaro, have seen parrots in

cages which may be of all varieties and colours and they think that these are all Bahamian parrots. However, by the end of the trip all the children knew the colour distribution of the white, green, blue and red of the Bahamian parrot. They were lucky to see a total of between 15 and 20 parrots and enjoyed observing them feeding on the berries of the fig and poison-wood trees through binoculars courtesy of Abaco Outback.

The group was then taken to the Abaco National Park where they were shown the parrots' breeding grounds and some of the holes they nest in.

After that it was time for fun as they headed to the Blue Hole where, after being fitted out with life jackets, they swam in its waters and ate their picnic lunches.

These well behaved young students were eager to tell of all they had seen, such as hummingbirds and mocking birds in addition to the parrots which they said "made a lot of noise." They also enjoyed visiting the Crossing Rocks School where they were

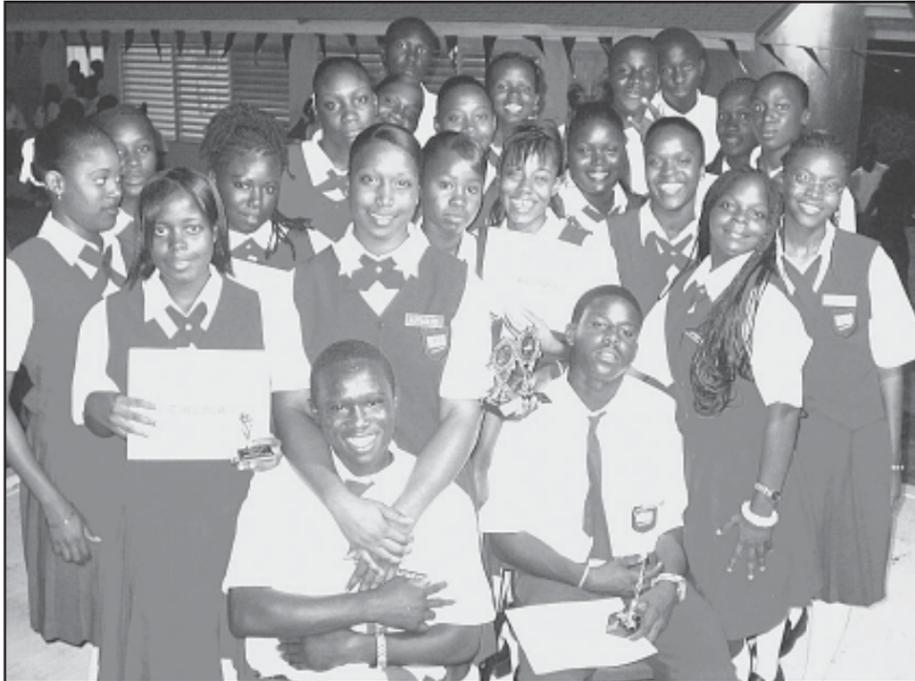
given a tour of the classrooms and saw the children at work.

College Fair

The Second Annual College Fair is looking to be better than the first one. So far 18 colleges, universities and vocational schools have agreed to participate in the fair slated for November 18 at New Vision Ministries. The College Fair is being sponsored by Abaco Central High School and the committee is meeting regularly to ensure the success of the fair. Members of the Committee are Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, Principal of the school, Mr. Fritz Bootle Jr., Mr. Ricky Smith, Ms. Raquel Gaitor, Ms. Phillipa Farrington and Ms. Isobel Sherman. Some of the first time participants are Acadia University in Nova Scotia, Nova Southeastern, University of Nebraska at Kearney and Kaiser College.

All interested Abacoins are invited to attend the fair from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at

Please see **School** Page 13



Awards night at S.C. Bootle High School was held on October 20. Over 200 awards were given out for academic achievement, exemplary behavior, most improved and good attendance records. Many parents watched proudly as the awards were presented. Shown above are the prefects for this school year, many with trophies and certificates of accomplishment.



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--	--

Main Course Selection

Roast Rib of Beef
Glazed with English Mustard and served with a Natural Gravy and Horseradish

Roast Turkey
served with a Dried Apricot and Cilantro Couscous, Cranberry and a Turkey Jus

Glazed Ham
Glazed with a Corn Syrup, Paprika, Orange and Brown Sugar and Baked

Sides
CORN WITH MILK AND HONEY

Dessert Selection

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More School News

School *From Page 12*

New Vision Ministries. Parents are encouraged to attend this fair with their students so they can speak directly with the college representatives. Any high school students who may be interested in going away for further education are invited to attend.

Open House

By Isobel Sherman

Long Bay School in Dundas Town held its First Annual Open House on October

23. A brief opening ceremony was held at noon to officially open the event. The school assembled outside the secondary school building. Mr. Isaac Collie, a member of the Board of Directors, gave a brief address to the students telling them how proud he was of them and the work they were displaying.

The displays of the secondary students were held in the multi-purpose room where each department displayed the students' work. The Art Department displayed a va-

riety of drawings and paintings. The Science Department had students ready to demonstrate different experiments. The Social Studies Department had an impressive display of Bahamian culture.

At the primary level and preschool level each grade had an attractive display of the work they did since September.

In addition, parents were given written progress reports by the teachers and a newsletter was distributed.

Long Bay School operates using the guidelines for education of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Professional Days

By Isobel Sherman

Under the theme *Overcoming Barriers for Life Long Learning*, the Abaco District of the Ministry of Education held Professional Days on October 21 and 22 at Central Abaco Primary School. Teachers from all government schools and many private schools gathered to hear presentations.

The opening ceremony on Tuesday morning included Mrs. Lenora Black who gave a talk on motivating today's learner.

Please see **School** *Page 36*



Students of Long Bay School displayed their work at the Open House held on October 23. Their displayed art work shown great talent. Their lessons in the sciences and in social studies demonstrated their learning. Students were on hand to recreate the scientific experiments they had done in class.



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ABACO INN CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2003

DATE	EVENT
NOVEMBER 5TH	"BONFIRE NIGHT" THE BURNING OF GUY FAWKES
NOVEMBER 27TH	THANKSGIVING DINNER
DECEMBER 22ND	OPEN HOUSE CAROLING
DECEMBER 25TH	CHRISTMAS DINNER
DECEMBER 31ST	"TROPICAL MASKED BALL"

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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Honorarium for the Elders

Social Services Department is celebrating our senior citizens by recognizing the eldest persons in our community this month. Mr. Daniel Whitney Pinder, 88, a lay-preacher in our Methodist Church for over sixty years, a father of three sons, a widower and a man of strong faith, he lives

alone and still goes on without complaint. Mrs. Annis Irene Sawyer, 87, a Christian woman widowed for almost 20 years, also lives alone and takes care of herself. She raised two sons and over the years has had a hard life but her spirit will never grow old.

We could all adopt a page from their book of life. Their aches and pains must be many, but their complaints are few and you will find them both sitting in their regular seats

in church every time the doors are open. We, too, want to honor them both and trust they will live for many more years.

School Cookout

A very successful cookout was held on August 25 on the school grounds. The menu choices were curry or souse; they also served Una's "famous" conch fritters and

the usual accompanying sweet sweets. The goal is to raise funds to re-tile the school-room floor which is in a deplorable state. The headmistress, Michelle Lowe, and the PTA members would all like to thank the community for their support of this project.

Please see **South**

Page 15



Thanks to a generous donation of a defibrillator from Guana Rescue, the Sandy Point Government Clinic is now capable of providing advanced cardiac life support. The defibrillator, a device to shock the heart back to life, is complemented by a complete "crash cart." This fully stocked cabinet includes a complete array of emergency cardiac drugs and equipment to resuscitate victims of cardiac and respiratory arrest. Heart attack victims will be comforted to know that the equipment and trained personnel are available to provide this important service in Sandy Point. The photo shows Dr. Marc Binard demonstrating the use of the defibrillator to Sandy Point's Dr. Marie Consulta and Head Nurse Estelle Pinder. The brave volunteer is Sandy Point resident George Roker.



Sandy Point used some of its park improvement money to buy a timer clock for its basketball court. A few years ago the Sandy Point Royals won the Abaco Championship, then went on to win the National Championship. They hope to reclaim that title. Shown above are, left to right, Chief Councillor Jason Roberts, Stanley White, Sandy Point Town Committee Chairman Robert McKinney, Deputy Town Committee Chairman Julie Green, Administrator Jolton Johnson, Coach James Green, and Pastor Erskine Wells.

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WE CLOSED SUNDAYS

Central *From Page 11*

which raised a substantial sum.
 Bellevue Business Depot had raffle tickets on sale for the IBM Netvista computer they donated for the cause and which will be raffled in December.

Mrs. Jackie Estevez, President of the Rotary Club of Abaco and one of the organizers of the event, wishes to thank Price Right for their generous assistance with the purchase of steaks and the "open account" facility they extended to the organizers, to Mr. Lyndon Davies and his committee and to all members of the entire Abaco community who helped.

Mr. Cottis continues to make steady progress towards recovery and has been receiving electrode therapy every day for a couple of weeks. After a brief return home to regain some strength, he will be returning to the United States for further treatment. We all wish him well.

Monument Put Back

By Isobel Sherman

The Independence monument which was on the round-about by the Marsh Harbour freight dock has been returned to the small park at the new Marsh Harbour Port, just a few feet from where it resided for many years. Thanks to Yvonne Key who secured a safe place for the monument while construction of the port was going on.

South *From Page 14*

Whenever the need arises, the people of Cherokee always come through.

It Stinks

We received another visit recently from "the mosquito spray" truck. Yes, it stinks, but it works. And take it from someone who hates mosquitos, I'm more than willing to

put up with a few minutes of wrinkling my nose to finally get a night of peaceful sleep without hearing an aggravating buzzing in my ear from a pesky little nuisance.

Visiting Preacher

On October 26 Epworth Methodist Chapel welcomed back a native-son. Mr. Whitney's eldest son returned to speak at the church he grew up in. Sydney Pinder's first job was as a schoolteacher in Green Turtle Cay, where he married a local girl, Margaret Pinder. They have made their home in Nassau for many years now where he is a faithful lay-preacher at Ebenezer Church. We in Cherokee have been fortunate to have had Sydney deliver many powerful messages to us over the years since he moved away and has often been invited to speak on special occasions in the community. When the news is circulated that Sydney will be preaching, the pews fill up. He speaks with authority, yet he speaks from the heart, something that is rare in this day and age. We are proud to call him one of our own.

Letters *From Page 9*

cense and inspection for motor vehicles? It is a shame to all the people who live here and the tourists who visit this island.

Also, the former government, the FNM, gave Cable Bahamas licence to provide cable television to The Bahamas. After all these years we still have no cable television to the north and south ends of the island of Elbow Cay. And unless the PLP puts pressure on them, we probably will never have it.

I would like to put the present government on notice. Beware! The tourists are our number one bread winners. We cannot afford to lose them. Some of them are already saying they will never come back.

Worried Bahamian
 Hope Town resident

Baker's Bay Sailaway Benefits Two Groups



The Great Baker's Bay Sail Away was held on August 31 with over 200 people attending. The funds raised were divided between Abaco Rage (Christopher Lightbourne receiving) and Friends of the Environment (Erin Lowe-Pagliaro receiving) donated by Bill Albury from Snappa's Grill and Chill, the organizer. Each organization received \$1000 dollars. For more info call Little Bill.

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Abaco Outlook Is Great

By Jennifer Hudson
Develop a Financial Plan

This article completes the articles of the recent Abaco Business Outlook seminar which covered a wide variety of factors affecting the economy of Abaco.

Mrs. Betty Roberts, who has been employed in the banking business for over 23 years and currently serves as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of S.G. Hambros Bank and Trust (Bahamas) Limited, gave an overview of *Investment Strategies and Portfolio Management*. Mrs. Roberts is an Abaconian, having been born in Hope Town where she still maintains a second home.

Her advice was, "Never put all your eggs in one basket. Personally build an investment strategy and balance your portfolio."

"Private banks are more amenable to looking at unusual businesses these days," she said. "So if you have an idea, do it! You can join with people overseas and get them to put money in banks in the Bahamas. Use banks and rich people to finance business ventures. There are new plans out now to be looked into with no risks to capital."

On speaking of retirement, Mrs. Roberts stated that the Bahamas will soon be experiencing a dramatic increase in the number of seniors. Business owners should consider retirement pension plans for their employees.

Get Involved!

Mr. Michael Albury is a successful Abaconian with a keen business acumen. He holds interests in several prominent businesses in Abaco, is President of the Chamber of Commerce and is a member of various preservation societies. In closing out the highly successful Abaco Business Outlook Conference, he stated, "Abaco always holds its own and I see economic stability for Abaco for years to come. There is a strong diverse population here willing to do whatever it takes to make it work."

He then closed with excellent advice to carry Abaco to even greater heights. "What now?" he asked. "Think about your children. Get involved, join service organizations, attend fund-raisers and teach children to respect the efforts of others. LET US GET INVOLVED."

Abaco Air Celebrates 30 Years

By Portia Jonsson

This year Abaco Air is celebrating 30 years of service to the Abaco community and 20 years under the present management. When business began many years ago the company had only two aircraft. Today Abaco Air has four twin-engine aircraft, two nine-passenger Britten Norman Islanders and two six-passenger Aero Commander 500's. These aircraft are very reliable and service daily scheduled flights to Nassau and two weekly flights to North Eleuthera. Charter services to the United States and all other fam-

ily islands are also available.

Beginning December 1st two daily flights on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Marsh Harbour to Moore's Island will be reinstated due to popular demand.

In an effort to thank their many loyal customers for their continuous support over the years and give something back to them, Abaco Air will be introducing a new rewards programme for frequent flyers on scheduled flights. In addition, half price on scheduled flights for children under 12 will also be introduced.



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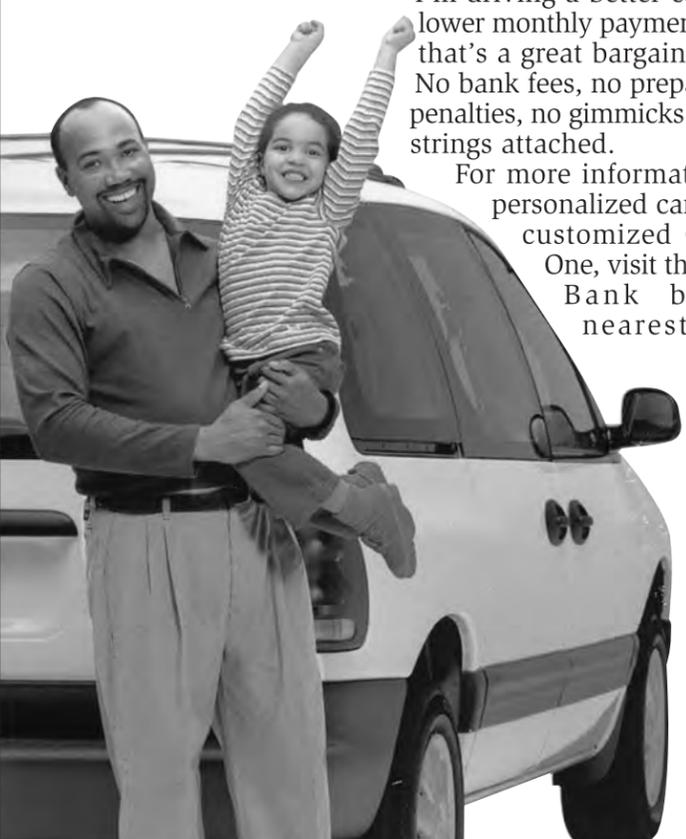
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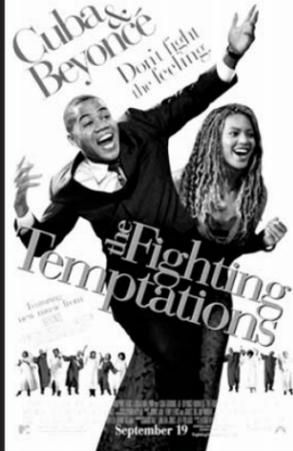


OUT OF TIME



UNDERWORLD

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OUT OF TIME - Romantic Thriller

THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS - Family Comedy

UNDERWORLD - Suspense/Horror

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Club News

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco Installs New Officers

By Anita Rolle

Mr. John Pintard was inducted as President of the Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco for 2003-2004 on October 11th at Mackerel's Restaurant in Dundas Town, Abaco. President John in his remarks promised a more active and energetic year for Kiwanis on the island.

Also installed were President-Elect Mrs. Anastasia Seymour, Treasurer Mr. Desmond Hepburn, and Secretary for 2003-2004 Ms. Anita Rolle. The newly installed officers will serve on the club's Board of Directors. On hand were Kiwanians Beatrice Moxey and Administrator Gary Knowles, who also serve on the club's Board of Directors. Immediate Past President of the club is Mr. David Knowles, who will continue to serve on the Board for the next year. Ms. Bertha McPhee, an employee of the Department of Environmental Health, was named Kiwanian of the Year for the Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco.

Preceding the installation, a leadership education conference was held for the club,

facilitated by District Lieutenant Governor Eddie Williams, Administrative Secretary Roy Davis and Lieutenant Governor-Elect Bertram Pinder, where emphasis was placed on the continuous education of all club members.

Performing the official installation ceremony was Lieutenant Governor Eddie Williams who encouraged the new officers to take the club to higher heights, encouraging youth participation and increased membership.

Mr. Pintard will be serving as club president on the worldwide Kiwanis leadership team with newly elected Kiwanis International President Robert L. Moore of Miami, Florida. Kiwanis International's major service focus, a program called *Young Children: Priority One*, will continue during 2003-04.

Kiwanis International includes 8,400 clubs with 290,000 members in 85 nations. Last year Kiwanis clubs worldwide donated more than \$100 million and almost six million volunteer hours for community service projects.

Anchor Club Promoted Road Safety Month.

By Jennifer Hudson

October is Road Safety Month and every year the members of the Anchor Club of Abaco Central High School do their part to assist in heightening public awareness on this important issue. These young people are very concerned about the dangerous driving habits on the roads and want to do what they can to try to help make the roads a safer place for all.

To this end, on October 18th a group of

six young people from the Anchor Club were at the traffic light distributing leaflets, which they had made, to all motorists who stopped at the light. They admonished anyone who rides a bike, motor bike or skateboard to "always wear a helmet" and they want all people to remember "Road safety is everyone's business and one life lost is one too many!"

Members of the Anchor Club will be presenting their Brainminders programme to the Central Abaco Primary School, then later to various Sunday Schools. This programme teaches young children, through the medium of skits, various aspects of road safety such as how to cross the street safely.

On October 31st Club members will have their own version of "Trick or Treat" in the form of "Trick or Can" when they will be collecting canned goods for the elderly people of Central Abaco. At Thanksgiving they will be hosting the older folks to lunch and distributing the canned goods to them.



Anchor Club members handed out fliers at the traffic light in Marsh Harbour reminding motorists to observe road safely rules.



Members of the Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco recently took part in a Leadership Education Conference. Immediately following the conference, the 2003-2004 board was officially inducted. Seated l-r Mr. John Pintard, Club President; Mr. Eddie Williams, District Lieutenant Governor; Ms. Anita Rolle, Club Secretary. Standing l-r Mr. David Knowles, Immediate Past President; Island Administrator for North Abaco Mr. Gary Knowles; President Elect Mrs. Anastasia Seymour; and Ms. Beatrice Moxey.

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Students Given Dental Health Talk

By Portia Jonsson

Primary and high school students at St. Francis de Sales School received life long lessons in dental health care during a presentation on October 14th from Mrs. Janet Ferguson, Dental Hygienist at Agape Family Dental Clinic, and her two assistants, Camille and LaToya. The objective of this presentation is to help give school children an understanding of the importance of good oral hygiene.

They may be so busy with school, athletic and social activities that it's difficult to find time to brush. They also tend to eat a lot of junk food. Combine the two and you've got a situation ripe for dental decay. Not surprisingly, this is the time when many children develop a lot of cavities.

Good oral health is not difficult but it takes both child and parent to make it happen. Good oral health should begin in infancy. Reducing sugar in the diet, careful brushing and regular dental care can greatly reduce the risk of cavities. Tooth decay is

the major cause of tooth loss in children.

A demonstration of what happens to our teeth if we neglect to floss daily was staged. Students were taught the importance of flossing as well as the correct way to floss.

As parents, we need to instruct, monitor and motivate our children on good oral hygiene. We can help with our child's dental care by using a child-size toothbrush with soft bristles, selecting a fluoride toothpaste and using a pea-sized amount on the toothbrush after every meal and before bed. If the child swallows the toothpaste, this small amount should not hurt him. Once all the primary teeth are in, begin flossing your child's teeth. When the child is ready teach him or her to floss before brushing. Remember that regular replacement of toothbrushes contributes to maintaining a consistently high level of oral hygiene.

This presentation was one of the many activities held during the month of October in recognition of Dental Health Month in The Bahamas.

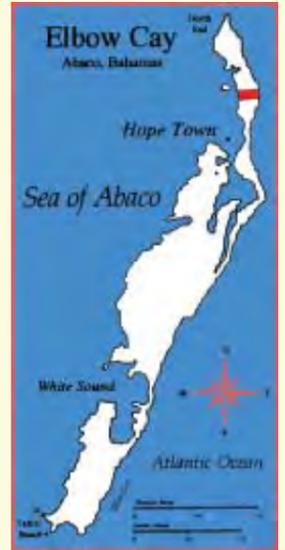
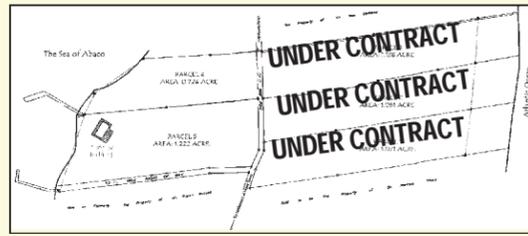


Good oral health was the topic of a special program presented by Agape Family Dental Clinic at several area schools. Shown above are Camille and LaToya assisting Mrs. Janet Ferguson, who organized the program.

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- Casuarina Point!** Walk to 8 Mile Beach! Nice 13,000 s.f home site. Good investment. Close to bone fishing. #7159 \$15,000
- Guana Cay!** 2/2 cottage just steps from the beach. Screened porches, tile floors, observation deck. Good rental. #7900. \$391,050
- Heart of Hope Town!** Superb opportunity. Gillam Street. 1920 Loyalist-type house, and commercial building. Potential for restoration. #8155. \$286,000
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- Marsh Harbour!** Building site near Boat Harbour and all amenities. Build commercial or residential. #6351 \$120,000
- Marsh Harbour!** Landmark property. 6 unit self-catering inn on 1 plus acres of prime real estate. Room to expand, great investment. #7432. Serious inquiries only, please.
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List #8295

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- Little Orchard.** 2 bed/1 bath apartment, furnished, washer/dryer, A/C. First, last & references. Call for details.
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Large land size allows for expansion. Wrap around porches, tiki bar, hot tub, water systems, fully equipped and furnished!

List #7867

\$1,500,000

Viewpoint

Bahamian Flags at Half Mast

By Jennifer Hudson

I wonder if any other people who frequently drive past the new Port Authority building have noticed four flags flying at half mast for the past several months. Does it give anyone else the same uneasy feeling it gives me to look at them? Since flags are traditionally flown at half mast on the death of some dignitary or famous person, it is rather disconcerting to see them constantly flying so. The flag on the conventional flagpole by the main door is flying proudly at the top of its staff while the other three look very sad. It is incorrect to have flags flying

thus for no appropriate reason. It is obvious that these flags were put there for the Independence celebrations in July and the lamp poles were a convenient place to attach them. However, because the lamps take up the rightful place of the flags at the top of the pole, the flags had to be placed a good way down.

While it is nice to be patriotic and use flags to celebrate national occasions, perhaps the Port Authority could erect a couple more traditional flag poles so that their flags do not have to continue flying at half mast.



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Obituaries of Relatives and Friends



Darline Doane, 84, of Essex, Connecticut and Man-O-War Cay died peacefully in her home on

October 1. She is survived by her husband, Robert, of 61 years; her five children, Timotha Doane, Linda Crown, Deborah Dempsey, Robert L. Doane, Jr., and John Doane; seven grandchildren and one sister.

In their retirement years, Darline and Bob enjoyed their winter home on Man-O-War Cay and sailing their 27-foot Tartan, *Bonnie Lass* as members of the Hope

Town Sailing Club. Darline frequently played the organ during services at the Church of God on Man-O-War. She volunteered as a tutor at the Man-O-War School and tried to start the Man-O-War drum and bugle corps with donated drums and bugles. Darline and Bob's home was always open to passing cruisers and visitors to Man-O-War. Darline will be remembered for her love of music and unbounded generosity.

A memorial service will be held this winter on Man-O-War Cay. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the First Congregational Church's Marjorie Sands Memorial Scholarship Fund at P.O. Box 237, Essex, CT 06426.

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Motor bike with rider	\$110	\$60
Bicycle with rider	\$100	\$55
Passengers		
Adult Passenger	\$90	\$50
Child Passenger under 12 years	\$55	\$30
Child Passenger under 3 years	Free	Free
Other		
Unaccompanied Vehicles	\$40*	\$20*
Vehicles over 5 ton gross	POA	POA

* Price Additional to Accompanied Passenger Vehicle Transportation Price



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Friday	3:30 pm	7:15 pm	8 pm	11:45 pm
Sunday	3:30 pm	7:15 pm	8 pm	11:45 pm

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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 - Auxilary 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

Joined H.G. Christie, in 1996.

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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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"Lady Bug Loft"

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.**



"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. Fully 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.**



Margot Lee
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie, in 1998.

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"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**



"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**



"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.**



"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.**



Chris Plummer, BRI
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Joined H.G. Christie, in 2000.

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Gary Sawyer Clarifies *The Abaconian's* Article on Dundas Town Texaco Station

My name is Gary Sawyer, President of Abaco Petroleum Company Limited. We distribute Texaco products throughout Abaco, from Fox Town to Sandy Point. As president of our company, I feel obligated to reply to what I consider an unfair attack on our company's integrity as a corporate citizen of this community through allegations and innuendos in an article that appeared on pages 10 and 11 in *The Abaconian* of September 15, 2003. The article (which is reproduced here for the readers' benefit) appears under the byline of Ms. Portia Jonsson, and features statements made by Mr. Cay Mills, Chief Councillor of Central Abaco Local Government District and Chairman of the Dundas Town Township Committee, in which he expresses disapproval of the construction of a Texaco gas station and convenience store on Forest Drive in Dundas Town.

"As Chairman of the Dundas Town township (sic), I hope the owners are not using their political muscle to try to deceive the residents of Dundas Town for their own personal greed," Cay Mills.

I am not interested in attacking Ms. Jonsson or *The Abaconian*, as I am fully committed to freedom of the press in our Bahamian democracy. I must say, however, that it would have been a better mark of responsible journalism if the paper had contacted me or another company spokesperson to air a response to Mr. Mills's charges.

I also would not be replying to the article at all had it not been for the following statement made by the Mr. Mills in the last paragraph of the article:

"As Chairman of the Dundas Town township (sic), I hope the owners are not using their political muscle to try to deceive the residents of Dundas Town for their own personal greed."

Clarifying the Issue

If Mr. Mills were just a regular citizen shooting off his mouth, I might be inclined to say he was making a cheap political shot and leave it at that. But he holds two very responsible positions in this community through trust placed in him by the voters: Chief Councillor and Chairman of the Dundas Town Township Committee. His words carry more weight than even he perhaps realizes. Gary Sawyer

It is a matter to be taken seriously when he publicly suggests that this major investment of \$700,000 to \$800,000 in the Dundas Town economy came about because of political manipulation, deception and greed. It is also reckless for a leader in his position, who should be concerned with all aspects of his community's development, including its economy, to respond in such a manner to such an undertaking for development.

We do not mix politics with business. We are committed to safety and environmentally sound engineering.

What Are the Facts?

But let the record speak for itself.

Abaco Petroleum has been in operation in Abaco for seven years. The company has emerged as a leader in the distribution of petroleum products from Fox Town to Sandy Point because of the following principles and practices:

- We do not mix politics with business. It is well known what my political affiliation is. I do not hide that. I believe in a democracy people should be able to freely express their political affiliation. But we do business with people of all political persuasions. If our company allowed politics to interfere with our business, we would lose valuable customers and employees. Besides, we have had 10 projects

approved under the previous government and only two, including the one in Dundas Town, approved since the change of government in May, 2002.

- We are committed to safety and environmentally sound engineering. Our record of safety speaks for itself. It is another reason we do not allow politics to enter into the process of project approval. Plans for the Dundas Town station were drawn up by a professional engineering firm and submitted to Town Planning Board of the Central Abaco District, which passed the project on to the Ministry of Works for review and approval. It is the Volatile Section of the Building Control Unit of the Ministry of Works which approves service stations based upon sound engineering and safety considerations. Abaco Petroleum uses the latest technology for efficiency and safety in the construction of service stations to which it delivers products. In the case of the Dundas Town station, we're using the PetroFirst system, which means everything — tanks and pumps — are placed under the canopy. There are no pipes around the property. Pipes are the major cause of leakage that can cause ground water contamination or explosions. The vent system also goes up through the canopy to minimize exposure, and the tanks are double-walled to minimize leakage.

- Abaco Petroleum is committed to empowering Abaconians economically. We do not seek to own service stations, but to work in partnership with owner-operated stations — providing delivery of fuel and petroleum products. Our business is distribution, not ownership of property. Mr. Leland Simms of Murphy Town is the owner of the Dundas Town Texaco Station and Tall Pines Star Mart convenience store. If we were "greedy," as Mr. Mills suggests, we would want to own everything. Furthermore, we believe in expanding economic opportunities to communities throughout Abaco, not just in Marsh Harbour. That's

why we are pleased to see this investment in Dundas Town in this growing community on Forest Drive near the new subdivision and schools. We hope it will give impetus to further economic development in the area, including in Murphy Town.

- Abaco Petroleum believes in giving back to the community through charitable donations. We are one of the most robust corporate donors in Abaco to sports and youth development, which Mr. Mills knows of firsthand, the Fire Department, Trauma One, churches and schools all over the island, hurricane relief efforts such as after Hurricane Floyd, etc. We cannot be faulted for not sharing in the upliftment of and caring for our communities — not what you would expect from those characterized by greed.

- Mr. Cay Mills is the only member of the Dundas Town community who has come to complain to me about this project; no one else has.

Further Clarifications

I would like to highlight and respond to some other areas of criticism presented in the article:

Mr. Mills charges that it is "disrespectful to go ahead without notifying the Dundas Town Committee. A project of this magnitude should have been brought to the attention of Dundas Town residents."

We do not presume to tell the town planning committee how it should conduct its business. Once we submit the plans and proposal to town planning, it is up to that body to follow whatever procedures it deems necessary to inform or involve the affected community. Mr. Mills has already suggested that we used politics to receive approval. He cannot have it both ways. If, as a local government leader, he has ideas about how

to involve the community in the approval process, he should pursue such reforms in the proper time and place, not use this new development as a battering ram.

Mr. Mills charges that:

- The service station is in a residential area;
- There is already a gas station in Dundas Town and this one could have been placed in Murphy Town;
- The station will be in a school zone next to the new subdivision, making the area congested; and
- The station would be on an "accident prone" corner where there was a fatal traffic accident some months ago.

The station and convenience store will be on a site that was a convenience store that went out of business. It was already commercial property. I have already discussed the safety aspects. The other gas station, Shell, is even closer to residences on the front street. As to putting it in Murphy Town, the survey conducted concluded that this growing commercial and residential area in Dundas Town would be an ideal location for a business such as this. No one puts a business where it is not likely to succeed. Besides, residents and transients would benefit greatly from the station and the store being so conveniently located in their community.

As to the tragic traffic accident, that had nothing to do with the station, as it did not even exist at that time. Experience would also suggest that having more business traffic would probably make drivers more cautious while traveling through that area.

At the time when Mr. Mills spoke with the owners, the tanks were not in the ground and he finds it peculiar that they would be digging until two o'clock in the morning.

This is whining and clutching at straws; it makes Mr. Mills seem like a professional complainer with nothing better to do. If he had asked the workers why they were digging so late, he would have experienced a lesson in commitment to high-level efficiency in business and to getting the job done on time, something the Bahamian economy can use more of. Mr. Barry Kemp of Quick Welding, who is responsible for installing this project, had a window of opportunity to use the digging equipment of H&W Heavy Equipment and Construction Service while it was in transit from North Abaco to a job near Cherokee. To wait for its return would have delayed the project by perhaps weeks. The equipment arrived at Dundas Town in the evening to depart the next morning. The workers worked through the night to excavate the hole for the tanks.

Company Pride

I am proud to say that Abaco Petroleum Company Limited is a Bahamian company owned and operated by native Abaconians that has provided seven years of outstanding service to this community. We have shown by example that Bahamians can be successful in business and contribute greatly to their economy, and to the advancement of their community and country. We are always ready to help empower new Bahamian entrepreneurs, and to serve our people through community involvement and philanthropy. We do not mix politics with business; we do not cut corners on safety.

Finally, Abaco Petroleum would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank All Abaconians for their generous patronage and support of our company over the past several years. We look forward to a continuing relationship of mutual respect and service in which you inspire and encourage us to work even harder to be the kind of corporate citizen you wish to see thriving in this community.

This statement of clarification is paid for by Abaco Petroleum Company Limited.

Committee Chairman Speaks Out

Reprinted from *The Abaconian*, pp 10 - 11, September 15, 2003

By Portia Jonsson

Dundas Town Chairman Cay Mills is not happy with the construction of a new gas station in Dundas Town. A few months ago while in Toronto, Canada, he called Administrator Williams about the project because concerned citizens of Dundas Town were complaining. Mr. Williams was asked to put a halt to the project and send the decision about the gas station to the community for the people to have a say about what was going on. Mr. Williams declined to do so. Back in January of this year when the proposal for the gas station was posted, nothing came from Town Planning to the Town committee so Chairman Mills thought the project was scratched.

Mr. Mills has spoken with the owners of the project, Mr. Gary Sawyer of Man-O-War Cay and Mr. Leland Simms of Murphy Town. As Chairman of Dundas Town, he cited a few reasons why the project would not be appropriate in Dundas Town. Firstly, it is disrespectful to go ahead without notifying the Dundas Town committee. A project of this magnitude should have been brought to the attention of Dundas Town residents. Secondly, the service station has concerns on both sides, the highway and the side street. It is located in a school zone and adjacent to the biggest subdivision in Abaco, Central Pines Estates. Mr. Mills feels that with the addition of the service station this area would be congested.

Additionally, the service station is located on the corner where there has been one traffic fatality for the year and continues to be accident prone. Mr. Mills stated that Dundas Town already has a service station and asked why not put it in Murphy Town as there is no service station in Murphy Town.

On August 18th Mr. Mills went to the Environmental Health Department. At that time no site plan had been brought in for Environmental Health to verify if Texaco was putting all the safety mechanisms in place. Mr. Mills wanted to find out how hazardous it would be to put a service station in a residential area with a sick baby born with a breathing problem living just feet away from this project. He then proceeded to the Ministry of Works to find out if they had a site plan of this proposed service station and what safety guidelines they were taking. Mr. Mills was informed that nothing was taken to the Ministry of Works.

At the time when Mr. Mills spoke with the owners, the tanks were not in the ground and he finds it peculiar that they would be digging until two o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Mills wanted to add one final note. "As Chairman of the Dundas Town township, I hope the owners are not using their political muscle to try to deceive the residents of Dundas Town for their own personal greed."

Woods Fires Need to Be Managed

By Jennifer Hudson

Recently a team of persons from the United States Forestry Service was on Abaco to do an assessment on proactive fire management for the pine forests. This assessment was carried out by the Forestry Commission in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, The Nature Conservancy, the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, Friends of the Environment and the Bahamas National Trust.

The team's main object was to assess the logistics for a Fire Management Initiative Project. A project of this nature has already been carried out in Florida, and Abaco is being assessed as the initial site for a possible programme in the Bahamas. Eventually, it is hoped to begin programmes on Grand Bahama, Andros and New Providence, areas where pine forests are in abundance.

This programme would involve managing of the forests by the use of fire IN A PRESCRIBED WAY. No burning has as yet been done or will be done until all assessments and training procedures have been completed. This is an extremely important venture and the team wants to sensitize people to the need for fire UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS.

Presently, forest fires are set indirectly by humans in several ways e.g., throwing down lighted cigarette butts, burning garbage too close to scrub or leaving glass bottles where they heat up under the intense sun and ignite surrounding vegetation. As we all know, forest fires occur quite frequently on Abaco, and too frequent burning does not allow new seedlings time to grow. Various levels of maturity are needed in the forest for it to be a healthy forest.

The aim of fire management is to have

small, low intensity fires to consume the bulk of the fuel load. There is much natural fuel on the forest floor in the form of leaf litter, pine needles, dead branches and rotting and wasted trees. This, building up over time, can cause catastrophic wild fires. Properly trained people can reduce the load of fuel by prescribed, controlled burning so that wild fires will not destroy mature forest, parrots, hogs and other wild life. It will also protect urban interface areas such as schools, airports and residential areas.

Pine trees are one of the few natural resources we have in the Bahamas besides salt and fish and must be protected for future generations. This very valuable resource which is a provider of timber and fuel is presently not being managed.

Although the Commission recognizes that the fire department does an admirable job in fire fighting, the fire fighters have actually had no official training in the management of forest fires. Local persons will be properly trained for this. Four representatives from the Bahamas National Trust have already been to Belize for initial training which is the first step in the programme. Another aim is to educate people so that burning for hogs (which, though not legal, is a common practice in Abaco) can be done in a controlled way that is safe.

Similar projects have been underway in the United States for about 50 years and, although the programme at first met with some controversy, it has achieved very good results. All national parks use prescribed fire in one way or another to protect their natural resources. The U.S. Forestry Service team will be returning to Abaco next year to continue their studies and pinpoint potential sites which will be advantageous for all areas of conservation and wild life.

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October Was Older Persons Month

October was declared Older Persons Month by the Prime Minister, Mr. Perry Christie. The Social Services Department on Abaco recognizes the oldest citizens of each community on Abaco.

Sandy Point



Mrs. Delores Pinder recently celebrated her 87th birthday. Originally from Eleuthera, she was married to James A. Pinder of Pinder's Point, Grand

Bahama. They lived in Sandy Point for many years. She is an excellent cook and is active in her church. Although not blessed with any children of her own, she was mother to many.

Crossing Rocks

Mr. Israel Williams, Sr., 75, was born to the late Julier and Dennis Williams. Mr. Williams has nine children, six boys and three girls, 34 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren. He has one sister Enamae Williams of Crossing Rocks. He continues to farm and enjoy his life and influence the lives of others.

Mrs. Ninvelle Walker, age 92, was born to the late Minner and James Henry Roberts. She was married to the late "Uncle Buck" as he was normally called. She was blessed with 14 children, 12 girls and two boys, 34 grandchildren and 50 great grandchildren, two sisters and two brothers. Even though she is blind, she remains very active. On December 10 she will be 93 years. May God continue to bless Mar Missie as she continues to mold lives in the community of Crossing Rocks.

Hope Town



Mrs. Mariah Lowe, 82, was born in Hope Town and was married to Mr. Dewitt Lowe for 66 years. He passed away earlier this year. The couple had seven girls, four live in Marsh Harbour, one in Hope Town, one in Georgia and one is deceased. She has seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and one great, great-grandchildren. Mrs. Lowe remains active, traveling between Hope Town and Marsh Harbour weekly. She has always had the

reputation of being an excellent cook and is still actively cooking.



Bishop Franklin Lonty Russell, 77, was the son of Charlotte and Ronald Malone. He has been active in his community serving as police officer,

member of the Board of Works and as undertaker. He attends the Methodist Church where he is an usher.

Murphy Town

Mrs. Melvase Mitchell, 87, was married to Bishop Harold Mitchell. They had four children. She is an active member of the New Birth Ministry in Marsh Harbour.



Rev. Roland Swain, 77, was married to the late Pleasant Mitchell. They were blessed with 16 children. He is now married to Mary Hunt Swain. He was

the first Supervisor of the Road Traffic Department on Abaco, a position he held

for 16 years. He is active in the Friendship Tabernacle Church and is the oldest minister on Abaco. He was elected the first president of the Abaco Christian Council. Rev. Swain was the District Superintendent of the Bahamas Evangelical Association for six year and is now Overseer for all the Evangelical Creole churches in the Bahamas.

Dundas Town



Eldarado Ward, 88, was born at Old Place to Hilton and Marion Curry. She attended the Old Place All Age School where her grandfather was the

principal. She was married to John Ward and had six children. Four daughters are still alive as well as a step daughter, numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren as well as three great-great-grandchildren. She moved to Dundas Town in 1941 when Old Place was relocated. She helped build the old Dundas Town School, the old

Please see **Seniors**

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Oldest Seniors Are Honored

Seniors

From Page 24

teacher's residence the post office and the nurse's residence by "beating rocks and toting lime." She and her husband were farmers and sometimes walked from Dundas Town to Bustick Bight where they would spend several days "in the fields." They would have to carry back the produce on their heads. They "cut quarry and beat rocks to build the main road in Dundas Town."

She has been a member of the Dundas Town Burial Society as a "Sick Committee" for over 50 years. She still attends the sick at age 88 and sleeps at their homes at night when she's "on duty" An avid gardener, people often say she gets things to grow on rocks. She has a green thumb. She loves flowers, baking and does all her household chores. She has been a member of St. Andrews Methodist Church for more than 59 years. She is still actively involved in the choir and prayer band and sometimes she even walks to church.



Harold Smith, 86, was born to Nathaniel and Delrona Smith in Old Place. He moved to Dundas Town when Old Place and Cornish

Town were relocated after severe hurricanes in 1932 and 1936. When the town was moved, he was not married and houses were allotted to families. He was allowed to bid for one of the government scheme homes "ten by twenty" as he said that he was the first man to raise a cutlass to cut the foot road for the settlement. He helped as a carpenter in building the houses.

He was a crewman on the Arena, a one-masted sail boat that plied between Nassau and Abaco, He was a mate on the Frezil that was captained by Mr. Charles Sawyer exporting crawfish from Abaco to West Palm Beach. He has been a sexton at St. Andrews Methodist Church for over 50 years.

Man-O-War



John Emerson Albury, 84, known as Mr. Emerson, is a master at the art and craft of wood-working. He completed his first boat

as a young teenager and spent much of his life as a shipwright with the William Albury Shipbuilders. He helped complete countless vessels. In later years he constructed homes for second homeowners. Recently he has been crafting furniture, particularly beauti-

ful rocking chairs. He continues to be a pillar in that community.



Mrs. Rowena Lois Sands, 85, was born in Hope Town but grew up in Man-O-War. She was married to Basil Augustus Sands and the couple had seven children, all of whom live on Abaco. She now has eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She keeps busy doing her own housework and keeping in touch with many friends.

Cherokee Sound



Mrs. Annis Sawyer, 86, was married to Hamilton Sawyer who passed away in 1985. She is the mother of one child, has two grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She is a member of the Methodist Church. She was a homemaker while her husband worked as a fisherman and later as a road cleaner, a job which her grandson now does.



Mr. Daniel Whitney Pinder, 87, was married to Kathleen Pinder for 57 years. He is the proud parent of three sons, Sydney, Hartis and Rex, all in Nassau. He has seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He worked as a boat builder in his youth, then farmed to support his family. He has been active in the Methodist Church for many years.

Marsh Harbour



Flossie Belle Albury, 79, was the daughter of Milton and Sadie Albury. She was married to J. Wilson Albury and they had eight children. She now

has eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Mrs. Albury has had struggles in her life including having a daughter with a disabling disease and a husband she had to nurse for many years. She has a strong faith which has sustained her throughout the years.



Anderson Stewart Stratton, 79, was born to Dr. Robert Stratton and Mrs. Lilah Annette Stratton. He is married to Lily M.

Stratton and they have five children. He has had a varied life, becoming a successful seaman, fisherman and a licensed captain. He was very knowledgeable of the outdoor flora and fauna of The Bahamas.

He learned woodworking and boat building. Then he and his brother went into the crawfish business. They later began several very successful businesses including Sea Breezes Hardware Store, Marsh Harbour Shipping Company and Sea Breezes Heavy Equipment construction company, Thirty years ago he and his sons and son-in-law established Marsh Harbour Exporters and Importers, a seafood exporting business. He has had many honours including a British Empire Medal.

Casuarina Point

Mr. Hilbert Burrington Pinder, almost 85, has been very active for his entire life. He is a farmer entrepreneur and a philanthropist. He still manages the Rocky Farm Nursery which supplies plants for his nursery in Nassau, shipping large quantities of plants on a regular basis. He brings Christmas joy to many homes and businesses as he grown thousands of poinsettias which everyone will enjoy next month. He wants everyone to know that he has been living for Christ for 43 years and advises everyone to "Trust in Jesus."



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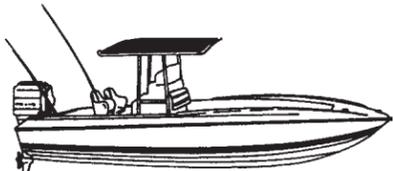
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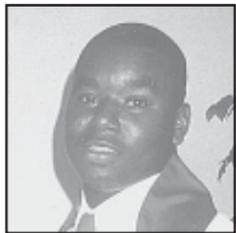
Andrew Albury is in his first year at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida.

Andrew is the son of Linda and Danny Albury of Green Turtle Cay and is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.



Tamara Burrows is in her first year at Success Training College in Nassau where she is studying computer science.

Tamara is the daughter of Charlie Burows and Dennalee Curry of Cooper's Town and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.



Barnard Curry has begun college at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau and is majoring in accounting.

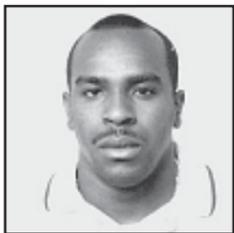
Barnard is the son of Wilfred and Edora Curry of Cedar Harbour. He graduated from S.C. Bootle High School where he was the valedictorian. He was awarded an Abaco Pathfinders scholarship.

Deidre Curry is in her first year at New England Tech in West Palm Beach where she is working toward an associate degree in computer business management.

Deidre is the daughter of Jackie and Christine Curry of Mount Hope. She is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School where she received a High Flyer award.

Felicia Curry is in her second year at New England Tech in West Palm Beach where she is studying computer networking and technology. She was on the Dean's list for the last quarter with a 4.0 GPA.

Felicia is the daughter of Christine and Jackie Curry of Mount Hope and is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School.



Renardo Curry is in his first year at Florida Metropolitan University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He has his associate degree from his studies at Success Training College in Nassau and Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach. He is studying finance.

Renardo is the son of the late Mispah Curry and Lucian Curry. He finished high school in Freeport, Grand Bahama.



Juliette Deal is in her second year of college and is attending the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida, where she is studying Interior Design

Juliette is the daughter of Kathleen Frederick of Guana Cay. She attended Abaco Central High School.



Elizabeth Eldon is attending Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida. She is taking general

courses until she decides if she wants to study law.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Stephen and Jackie Eldon of Bahama Palm Shores. She is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.



Samantha Gaitor is in her second year at Broward Community College

studying to be a dental hygienist. She is in a three-year program.

Samantha is the daughter of Harold and Carolyn Gaitor of Moore's Island. She lived with Minalee and Charles Bodie in Murphy Town to attend school in Marsh Harbour. She graduated from Abaco Central High School and attended the Bahamas Vocational and Technical Institute in Nassau. She was awarded an Abaco Pathfinders scholarship.



Harriet Gomez is in her last year of studies to receive a Master's degree in forensic science at the University of Central

Oklahoma in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Harriet is a graduate of Abaco Central High School and is the daughter of Venable Gomez and Eulamae of Murphy Town.



Shenika Hepburn is in her second year at Florida Hospital College in Orlando, Florida, where she is taking a pre-med

course.

Shenika is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hepburn of Crossing Rocks.



Zyandric Jones is in his third year at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau where he is studying art and

Please see **Students** Page 27

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Marsh Harbour, Abaco

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Western End Potter's Cay Dock
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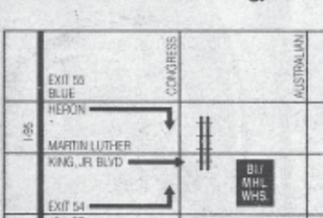
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Schools Abroad Beckon Students

Students

From Page 26

design.

Zyandric is the son of Patrice Rolle of Murphy Town and Zyandell Jones of Dundas Town. He is a graduate of Abaco central High School.

Nquania Knowles is in her second year at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau where she is majoring in secondary education. Last year she maintained a GPA of 2.35.

Nquania is the daughter of Brenda Russell of Treasure Cay and Joe Knowles of Nassau. She is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.

Denero McIntosh is attending the University of the West Indies in St. Augustine, Trinidad. He is working toward an Associate degree in pharmacology.

Denero is the son of Jackson and Iva McIntosh of Dundas Town. He graduated from Government High in Nassau.



Wesley McIntosh has transferred to Derry Institute of Technology in Orlando, Florida, where he is studying computer engineering. He received an Associate degree from Success Training College in Nassau.

Wesley is the son of Vernika McIntosh and Earklin McIntosh of Green Turtle Cay. He graduated from S.C. Bootle where he was the head boy.



Rashida Murray is working toward her Bachelors degree at Louisiana State Louisiana in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where she is studying psychology. She received an Associate's degree in criminology from the College of the Bahamas in Nassau.

Rashida is a graduate of S.C. Bootle High School and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Murray of Treasure Cay. She was awarded a Prime Time Scholarship which is a full scholarship, paying all tuition, board and room expense and even transportation between the school and Abaco.

Shavanna Murray began her studies at New England Tech in West Palm Beach, Florida where she is studying computerized business management. She is working toward an Associate degree.

Shavanna is the granddaughter of Agatha Russell of Crown Haven. She graduated from S.C. Bootle High School.



Sherise Latoya Rolle is in her second year at the College of the Bahamas in Nassau where she is studying nursing.

Sherise is the daughter of Freeland and Sharon Rolle of Cooper's Town. She is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.



Taryn Russell is in her third year at the University of Havana in Cuba where she is studying accounting.

Taryn is the daughter of Whitfield Russell and Dorolyn Wilmore, both of Murphy Town. She is a graduate of Abaco Central High School. She is on a Cuban government scholarship.



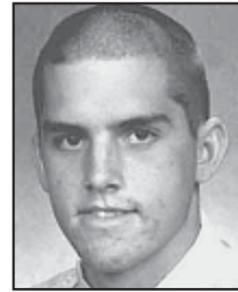
Hilary Rutter has begun her college work at Hartlepool, England, where she is studying law and accounting.

Hilary is the daughter of Geoffrey Rutter and Edith Sims. She is a graduate of Abaco Central High School and has an Abaco Pathfinders Scholarship.

Alexis Sawyer is in her first year at the College of St. Benedicts and St. Johns University in St. Joseph, Minnesota, where she is studying elementary education.

Alexis is the daughter of Emalin and

Santina Sawyer of Dundas Town. She is a graduate of Abaco Central High School.



Lyle Sawyer is attending Florida Tech in Melbourne, Florida, where he is taking a general course.

Lyle is the son of Marty and Kimberley Sawyer of Marsh Harbour and is a graduate of Florida Air Academy. He enjoys being a pitcher on the school's baseball team.



Raquel Smith is in her first year at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau, where she is studying accounting and music.

Raquel is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Smith of Marsh Harbour. She is a graduate of Abaco Central High School.

Please see **Students**

Page 30

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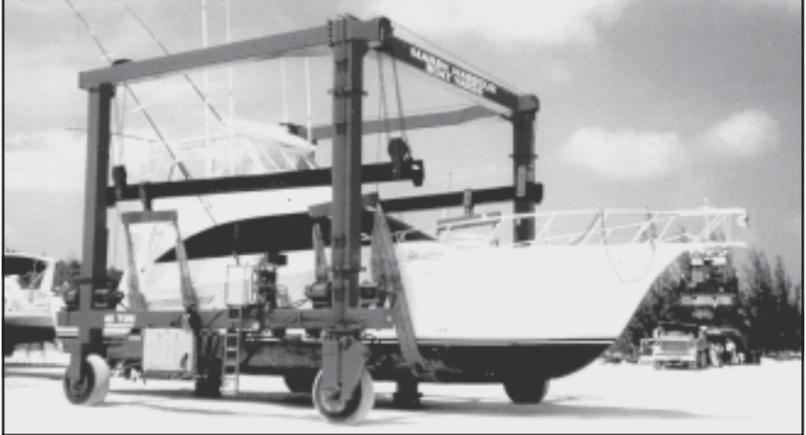
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Service between Freeport and Marsh Harbour

Day	Times			
	Depart FPO	Arrive MHH	Depart MHH	Arrive FPO
Friday thru Monday	7 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:30 a.m.
	4 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	5 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday	7 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:30 a.m.

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Local Government at Work



Hotel Licensing 15 Oct 03

Only two members were present so the meeting was not held but hotel tax collections were discussed informally.

A 6 percent tax is imposed and collected from hotel guests which must be submitted to government by the 15 th of the next month. The monthly amount varies from several hundred dollars for the smaller hotels and may approach \$20,000 for larger properties during peak months.

It was noted that of the nine licensed hotel properties in the Central Abaco District Council's jurisdiction only one is current in remitting the hotel tax payment to government. Two hotels are two months delinquent, two more are four months delinquent, one is seven months overdue while

three have not ever submitted this tax.

Port 16 Oct 03

Only three members were present which did not constitute a quorum so the meeting was not held.

Marsh Harbour 21 October 2003

Members asked how the wrecked truck on the Spring City highway could be removed. It had been stolen and left abandoned where it crashed into a power pole. It was noted that its removal is underway.

Over three acres for long-term parking may be available at the airport in the wooded area west of the present terminal extending to Abaco Air. Further inquiries will be made to Civil Aviation concerning this potential parking site.

The restricted entrance to the Sweeting tract was discussed. The approach is being widened but the road is severely restricted

where it passes through the cut in the hill. Safety issues were raised over traffic volume generated by the two existing churches and a third church underway at this bottleneck.

Committee member Emory Curry thanked the committee for sending to the informative local government seminar held recently in Freeport.

A request had been made for a speed bump on the road to the ferry dock where a fence and sharp curve restrict vision and traffic is frequently in a hurry to catch the ferry. A similar request was for a bump at the top of the hill leading to Pelican Shore where the curve and a hill restrict vision. A study will be requested of Works in Nassau using their expertise to find speed control solutions.

Notice will be given to remove a derelict house on Marsh Harbour's front street. The abandoned house is being used by vagrants to the detriment of the neighborhood.

Extensive discussions centered around golf carts being on the Marsh Harbour roads. Questions arose as to legality, safety, traffic nuisance and hazard, etc. No conclusion was reached but it was felt that the

slow and small golf carts were not compatible with the growth and commercial atmosphere of Marsh Harbour.

Questions of the status of a cemetery for Spring City disclosed that the Ministry of Housing has obtained a 100 acre plot in the Spring City area to develop into residential lots. Inquiries will be made to see where a cemetery could be located.

Deputy Chairman Yvonne Key presented several issues to members for their general knowledge and to be recorded in the minutes.

- A contract for \$4760 was given to E & B Waste to clean and restore the dump to acceptable standards. E & B Waste divided the job roughly in half assigning the bulldozer work to a subcontractor and retaining the payloader work. Due to manipulations by the Chief Councillor, the subcontractor received the entire payment.

- An outstanding invoice to Sunshine Trucking for \$687 is still unpaid although Council records show a check was issued for this service.

- The lack of a shop license for

Please see **Local Govt.** Page 29



The wrecked pick-up truck on the Spring City road has been an eyesore for some time. The Marsh Harbour Spring City Town Committee has been working to get it hauled away. It was a stolen truck which crashed into a power pole.

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Proceeds from the sale of booths will go to assist Sybil's House,
Every Child Counts and The Goombay Park.

Local Govt. *From Page 28*

Solomon's Abaco was brought to the Committee's attention. On change of ownership from the Solomon's Nassau group to Abaco Market, the new owner should have applied for a license to continue the business. This was never done.

- Issues arose over a 100 by 100 foot lot being developed by a foreigner on the Key Tract who proposes to put several residences on the lot. Questions concerned proof of ownership, a lack of oversight by Town Planning, lot density, appropriate approval by the Foreign Investment Board and the fact that foreigners are restricted to only one residence.

- A situation at Central Abaco Primary School was presented where some janitresses and teaching staff leave their assigned staff posts to cook and sell lunch to the students at noon in the Tuck Shop. Students are often left in unattended classrooms when teachers leave to prepare the food. Private school lunch vendors supplying lunches to the students complain that they are not always allowed access to the school.

Licensing 23 October 2003

The Board passed many applications pending approval by the other bodies such as Works or Environmental Health. There was discussion about the daiquiri liquor stand outside Island Breezes in Marsh Harbour. The recommendation from Nassau was that it be turned over to the Commissioner of Police for a peddler's license. However, a couple of members questioned why the Police would be involved in issuing a liquor license for a structure on the side of a road. They felt that the structure was permanent, not in the category which applies to a peddler. The matter was deferred until the applicable law could be examined.

Two Abaco Nurses Are Recognized

The Minister of Health, Sen. Dr. the Hon. Marcus Bethel, awarded many nurses for outstanding service. Included in this group were two from Abaco. A Special Service Award went to Mrs. Vely Carey, Clerk, at the Cooper's Town Government Clinic and to Mrs. Monique Pinder, Staff Nurse at the Hope Town Clinic. The award ceremony was held in Nassau.

Dr. Bethel commented on the successful preventative program which was implemented throughout the country. Recently the department has achieved almost 98 percent immunization coverage and has gained both regional and international recognition for its outstanding service.

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These Students Value Higher Education



Kirk Thompson began his studies last April and continues at New England Tech in West Palm Beach where he is studying electronics and micro computers.

Kirk is the son of Kirk and Rosemary Thompson of Dundas Town. He is a graduate of Abaco Central High School.



Shakelah Thompson continues her college work at Florida Memorial College in Miami, Florida, where

she is studying computer science and business.

Shakelah is the daughter of Lorraine and Leroy Thompson of Marsh Harbour. She is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.

Addendum



Valencia Edgecombe was on the Provost's list last year with a GPA of 3.89. She has earned numerous grants and awards. She

is an aspiring writer who has received commendations from a literature society and has had her writing published in school publications. She is also involved in mission work. We regret that we did not have the correct GPA for Valencia in the October 15th issue.



These students were listed in the October 15 issue but without photos. They are, left to right, Seranno Baillou, Angelo Bowe and Valentino Carey.

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+ agents who have multiple cottages and houses

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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 34 rm 365-4271

Island Properties 34 hse + 365-4047

New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties 13 + 365-4234

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott.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 hse 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048

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Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

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Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

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Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111

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Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

Wood Cay

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www.abacoinfo.com

www.abacos.com

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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

Medical Services	
Abaco Medical Clinic Marsh Harbour	367-4240
Abaco Family Medicine Marsh Harbour	367-2295
Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic	367-0020
Marsh Harbour Medical Centre	367-0049
Government Clinic Marsh Harbour	367-2510
Corbett Clinic Treasure Cay	365-8288
Government Clinic Cooper's Town	365-0300
Government Clinic Green Turtle Cay	365-4028
Government Clinic Hope Town	366-0108
Government Clinic Sandy Point	366-4010
Government Clinic Fox Town	

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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
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Crossing Rocks	\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135 + \$10
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Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore	\$ 2 each
Jib Room	\$ 3 each
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Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour	
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Black Wood	\$14 + \$5
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Green Turtle Club	32 F 365-4271
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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
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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	29 367-2366
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
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Guana Beach Resort	22 F 365-5133
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Major Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
Southern Air - Nassau	
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USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852

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Cherokee Air Charters	367-2089

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Kayak	
Birding * Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
Evening dinner cruise • Dive Abaco • Marsh H.	367-2787
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0024
Kayak * Abaco Adventures • Treasure C	

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Marsh Harbour to Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach						
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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	5:45		
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	5:45 (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 Man-O-War/Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$25 OW \$35 RT	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Sun 12 Noon, return 3 \$20 OW \$25 RT	
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	29 367-2366
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 Adventures	367-2963
Hope Town	
Froggies	366-0431
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Divers	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendal's Dive Center	365-4411
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
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



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Restaurant Guide

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
‡ Provides ride from town	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only	
Marsh Harbour	
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
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-5pm)	367-2615
Mangoes	\$\$\$ 367-2366
Gino's	\$ 367-2002
Pop's Place	\$ + 367-3796
Sapodilly's	\$\$\$ 367-3498
Sea Shells	Closed Until Jan 2004
Snack Shack	\$ + 367-4005
Snappas	\$ 367-2278
Subway	367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Dundas Town	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Mackerels	367-5932
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	\$
Coconuts	
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Island Boil & Sports Bar	\$\$ 365-8849
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	365-8654
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	\$\$\$ 365-4271
Laura's Kitchen	\$\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$ 365-4625
New Plymouth Inn	\$\$\$ 365-4161
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$\$ 365-4066
Sundowners	365-4060
Wrecking Tree Rest.	
Harbour Café (ferry dock)	\$ + 365-8635
Sandy Point	
Big J's	\$ 366-4020
Nancy's	
Oeishas	366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$ 366-4120
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge	366-4477

Governor General Awards Scheme Is Active on Abaco

By James Richards

In a ceremony held on 22nd. May at the Church of God, Cooper's Town eleven ambitious young people from the S.C. Bootle High School were presented with Bronze Awards from the Governor General's Youth Awards Scheme. His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, and husband of Her Majesty the Queen began this award in 1956.

Today, the award is found throughout the Commonwealth and other countries under various names. These name changes have been encouraged by the international body in order to make the scheme personal to each particular island or area.

The scheme aims to develop the qualities of self-reliance, confidence, initiative and social awareness by participation in four areas of activity - service, expedition, skill and physical recreation- at three levels: bronze, silver and gold. Each level demands greater perseverance and commitment and encourages all young people regardless of their background or personal circumstances. The patron of the Award in the Bahamas is Her Excellency Dame Ivy Dumont, Governor General of the Bahamas, the personal representative of Her Majesty the Queen.

The programme opened with a welcome by the M.C for the evening, Mr. James

Richard, the Island Coordinator for the Governor General's Youth Award on Abaco. He gave an insight into some of the activities and hours required to complete the Bronze stage. "The young people," stated Mr. Richard, "are usually drawn into this scheme by the excitement of the expeditions. Each hike is 15 miles with one night spent in the bush. Cooking is done over an open fire, the hikers are required to carry everything on their backs, and they learn to work as a team. Before embarking on a hike, the young people receive instruction in the practical skills they are likely to need e.g. first aid, compass use.

However, in addition to the hikes, the youngsters must do a physical activity (any sport) one hour a week for three months and a community service for the same amount of time. Some clean their church or the schoolyard or they may choose to help an elderly person with shopping.

Finally, a skill must be learned for six months. In this area the young person will work along with an adult learning a skill such as boat building, sewing or cookery." Before the young people embark on an expedition, which will teach them teamwork and survival skills, they received counseling from Mr. Richard. So far seven of the Bahamian Islands have been explored as part of the

scheme. Mr. Richard ended by saying how very proud he is of all the participants.

After the singing of the National Anthem, expertly led by Mrs. Leazona Richard, Unit Leader at the S.C. Bootle High School, Dr. Davidson Hepburn, former Ambassador to the United Nations and present Chairman of the National Council, Governor General's Youth Award, took the stage to make the presentations. Dr. Hepburn stated that it would be of great concern to him if there were no one to carry on the scheme and encouraged parents to get their children to continue in the scheme so that they can eventually obtain their gold awards and become the leaders of the future. He commented that it is very pleasing to see so

many young men in the programme.

The Awards, consisting of a pin and a certificate, were presented to Krystal Armbrister, Arnelle Augustin, Marco Cooper, Gordon Dean, Stephanio Edgcombe, Evonne Josue, Delvano McIntosh, Lashanti McIntosh, Michael McIntosh, Joan Pinder and Delvin Pritchard.

Before giving a final vote of thanks, Ms. Denise Mortimer, National Director of the Governor General's Youth Award, gave some informative details about the scheme, which involves five million young people in one hundred countries throughout the

Please see **Awards Scheme** Page 33

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Awards Scheme *From Page 32*

world. She said how much she hopes to eventually expand the programme to include the whole of Abaco.

Presently, there is only the one unit at S.C. Bootle High School as the unit at Abaco Central High School, which was led by Mr. Hugh Cottis, sadly terminated upon his retirement. A plea was made for adults to come forward to assist in this programme. A donation of time can be made to help the young people learn skills or monetary donations may be made to help purchase tents and other equipment.

There is a great need for programmes such as this to encourage young people to be their best and the organizers are to be highly commended for their dedication to this extremely worthy cause.

After the ceremony a reception was held in the church hall but not before the students received a final word of encouragement from Ms. Mortimer to now strive for the next level. This year the silver award expedition for the whole of the Bahamas will be held on Abaco and will consist of a two-day trek along the coastline from Crossing Rocks to the lighthouse at Hole-in-the-Wall.

HIV/AIDS Is on the Decrease in The Bahamas

While in Marsh Harbour on October 23 Dr. Perry Gomez, a knowledgeable physician from Nassau, discussed the situation of HIV/AIDS epidemic in The Bahamas. He is pleased that for the past six years there has been a decrease in the number of newly diagnosed cases of HIV/AIDS. The United Nations reports that The Bahamas, within the population ages of 15-49 years, has an infection rate of four percent compared to six and a half percent eight years ago. Dr. Gomez credits the drop in new cases as a result of long standing education and behavior change. The incidence of sexually transmitted diseases has also dropped significantly, again due to the increased use of condoms. The rate of STD's and HIV/AIDS infections are related in that persons having STD's are more easily infected with HIV/AIDS.

Another indicator that the infection rate is down comes from the blood donor information. A few years ago .85 percent of donated blood was rejected because of being tainted with HIV/AIDS. That figure is now at .04 percent.

In this country 25 percent of the HIV/AIDS infected people are among those of

Haitian descent. Because of AIDS there has been a resurgence of tuberculosis. This is another threat which has been hard to get under control. At present there are about 65-70 tuberculosis new cases confirmed yearly.

The medication necessary for AIDS patients is very expensive and the government could not afford to offer it to the general public. The government has had a program of providing necessary drugs to combat HIV/AIDS for pregnant women for some time. This has also had an positive effect on insuring a drop in the infection rate. However, the government is making a greater commitment to helping all patients.

Former President Bill Clinton visited The Bahamas in his campaign to bring about more awareness of the severity of the AIDS problem. With his assistance, The Bahamas is now getting some of the necessary generic medications from India. This has brought the treat-

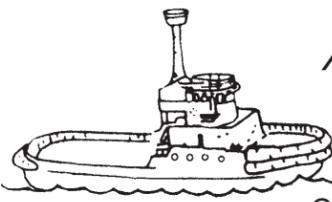
ment cost for individuals down from \$1500 monthly to \$350 monthly per patient. It allows the government to be able to offer the medicines to more patients. In December 2002 government was providing drugs for under 300 patients. With reduced drug costs, 1200 persons are now receiving medication. These medications have to be taken for the rest of the patients' lives.

AA Meetings

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

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

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Police Crime Report

A Man-O-War woman had the door of her truck broken while parked at Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour during the night of October 10. A \$50 set of jumper cables was stolen.

Two Haitians of Treasure Cay were charged on October 14 by Grand Cay Police for having crawfish over the bag limit and fishing with a Honda compressor and other forbidden apparatus. They were apprehended of PawPaw Cays by Fisheries officers.

During the night of October 14 the clinic in Moore's Island was robbed of \$347 in cash. There were no visible signs of forced entry.

A Murphy Town woman reported that between October 8 and 15 someone entered her house through a window and stole \$408 in cash, a \$250 DSS satellite card and two

gold rings worth \$635. An individual is assisting in the investigation.

A Crown Haven woman was assaulted and threatened by her baby's father on October 15. He was subsequently charged.

A Spring City resident was hit in the head by a bottle while at the basketball court on October 15.

Kula's Grocery Store in Treasure Cay was broken into on October 16 and a \$6 roll of quarters was stolen.

S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town reported that their administration office was broken into during the night of October 16 but nothing appeared to have been taken.

The Island Boil Restaurant on S.C. Bootle Highway near the Treasure Cay ferry landing caught fire from a deep fat fryer about 11 a.m. on October 16. The \$350,000 build-

ing and accompanying disco nightclub were totally destroyed.

Fifty empty drums were observed on a truck leaving the BEC plant on S.C. Bootle Highway on October 16. It was later found that the drums had been paid for.

A Burns House liquor store in Marsh Harbour had a window smashed during the night of October 16 but nothing appeared to have been taken.

A Fox Town resident reported that someone he knew smashed five windows on his house on October 16.

A house on Crockett Drive in Marsh Harbour had a window broken and a computer stolen during the night of October 16.

A resident of the Mud in Marsh Harbour was arrested on October 18 for threatening a customer in a food store with a butcher knife.

Two Police Earn Promotions

By Jennifer Hudson

In an interview on Radio Abaco, ASP Russell announced that the recent promotions of several Police officers nationwide included two members of the Abaco Police Force. Receiving a promotion from Constable to Corporal were Corporal Ramon Bartlett and Corporal Deanza Cash.

ASP Russell described Marsh Harbour as now being a city which, obviously, requires more personnel on the force to deal with the problems encountered by a rapidly growing population. Marsh Harbour now has a woman Police officer in the Community Police section as well as a woman Police officer who deals with sexual offences. There are now more Police Re-

servists on the force as several Reservists who have not been active for some time have been re-enlisted.

It is planned, stated ASP Russell, to open Police Stations in more of the smaller communities such as Cherokee.

He praised the Abaco people for their support of the Police and says that Abaco differs from most of the islands which have fallen prey to crime, as the people of Abaco want to keep their island and its cays free of crime. He urged people to always take sensible precautions against offenders, especially at Christmas time when some people are not willing to work for what they want and think they can just take it from others.

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- **Quiet waterfront:** 1.35 acres on Black Sound, with dock, close to beach. \$650,000
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- **Ocean Beach:** 1/2 acre lot on high ridge with gorgeous ocean view. Many fruit trees. Five minute walk to beach. Reef close enough to swim to. \$72,000 gross
- **White Sound:** NEW one-year-old furnished 3 bedroom 2 bath home within short walk of public dock, major resort, bay beach and ocean beach. Tile floors. A/C throughout. Satellite TV. Sleeps ten. Good rental history. Screened in porch. Private secluded 1/2 acre of property. \$680,000
- **Four Three inland lots** within 5 minute walk of waterfront and public dock. \$47,200 ea
- **1/2 acre lots** within 5 minute walk of public dock, water front and Green Turtle Club. \$60,000-\$70,000 each
- **Green Turtle Estates:** 1/2 acre only 125 feet from ocean beach. Firm \$183,000
- **Green Turtle** 3 acre inland lot within five m of the beach. \$53,000 gross
- **Windsong Vil** \$275,000

- **Bluff Harbour:** Furnished private home. Three bedrooms, three baths plus caretaker cottage. 2000' water front. Secluded. One acre. Boat ramp and dock site. Needs repair.
- **North End:** NEW! Stunning furnished hilltop, 3 bedroom, 2 bath hom with fireplace, perched 35 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Vaulted ceilings. 125' on ocean. Panoramic views of ocean through French doors, 3000 squ. ft. under roof plus 1,000 sq. ft. of screened-in porch. W/D, A/C in master bedroom plus ceiling fans throughout. One acre. \$1.42 million gross
- **NEW!** Secluded two-acre parcel with house stretching from Bluff Harbour to the Sea of Abaco. Over 1000 feet of water front. Stunning views. Two bedrooms / 2 baths. New protected dock on Bluff Harbour. Gazebo on Sea of Abaco. 30,000 gallon cistern. Stand-by generator. Many mature trees. Garage. \$3,000,000
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ABACO SCHEDULE

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DAYS	Depart Nassau	Arrive MHH.	Depart MH	Arrive Nassau
Daily	8:30am	9:00am	9:10am	10:00am
Tues, Wed	4:15pm	4:45pm	4:55pm	5:25pm
Fri, Sun	4:15pm	4:45pm	4:55pm	5:45pm

TREASURE CAY SCHEDULE

DAYS	Depart Nassau	Arrive TCB	Depart TCB	Arrive Nassau
Daily	8:30am	9:20am	9:30am	10:00am
Fri, Sun	4:15pm	5:05pm	5:15pm	5:45pm

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Treasure Cay - Best priced lots available on Windward Beach and Galleon Bay. Some lots are suitable for a dock. Prices start at \$72,000.



Marsh Harbour Duplex - Two 2/1 apartments with a 1/1 efficiency in the rear available for sale. Fenced-in yard, and furnished. Motivated Seller! **REDUCED \$170,000**



Lubbers #0350 This interior vacant lot that comprises of 10,195 sq. ft. sits in Abaco Ocean Club on the ever so lovely Lubbers. Lubbers is a short boat ride away from the mainland of Marsh Harbour. \$45,000

Green Turtle Cay Office
 Chris Farrington - Agent



Office (242)
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 Fax (242)
 365-4697

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 P.O. Box AB 22758,
 Green Turtle Cay, Abaco



Green Turtle Cay White Sound #0333- Water front house, 2B / 2B, master bath has a spa. The modern interior consists of two dining areas, an island counter bar, living room and kitchen. All front rooms enjoy a magnificent view of the harbour. Offered at \$850,000



Treasure Cay #1322- Three bedroom two bath modern home near beaches and golf course. Immaculately cared-for home with all modern amenities such as central A/C, cable etc. Offered at \$265,000

Green Turtle Cay Island getaway perched above the crystal clear waters, overlooking the Sea of Abaco, this 3B / 3 1/2B estate comprises a total of 3,289 sq. ft. of living area and over 2000 sq. ft. of wooden decks leading to and surrounding the pool. Beautiful sunsets await you at this brand new island getaway. \$1,980,000

Green Turtle Cay - Nice Neighbourhood - cleared lot with fruit trees, near beaches, park and a public dock. \$45,000

Treasure Cay - Greenway Canal Lot - with splendid unobstructed views of the canal. Owner says sell! \$35,000

Treasure Cay - Two storey, income producing, 2b/1b apartment building with studio apt. downstairs, (two 1b/1b additional apartments possible). Located on beautiful Ocean Blvd. Beach and golf course are minutes away. First time home owners qualify for stamp duty exemption. Price \$245,000



Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club - Vacant property available in a gated community, this lot has the most canal frontage and is the largest lot in the development. \$239,500



Leisure Lee - #0178 Vacant canal front lot in growing development. Over 12,000 sq. ft. Dock at your own property and walk a short distance to a community beach. \$45,000



Hope Town #5004 Charming 3/3 three story home, large master bedroom with walk-in closet on second floor, presents sea views, large TV room. Situated in North End. Call today!



Marsh Harbour - #0234 Two acres of lovely vacant residential property situated in High Rock near Crossing Beach. This property runs on the Sea of Abaco and boasts of views of the surrounding cays. Also features some elevations. Don't delay.



Man-O-War Cay - #0331 Elegant home with 3 beds and 3 baths. Features a modern kitchen, large dining and family room with views of the turquoise ocean. Spacious outside decking gives ample room for relaxing and catching the cool island breezes. Also features a guest house with 2 beds and 1 bath. Many more extra features. A MUST see! Call today for an appointment to view.



Tilloo Cay #5019- Two adjacent water-front 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 water-front and is offered at \$216,000. Call for more details.



Guana Cay #0271 4/2 home with a 2/1 apartment situated on a magnificent bluff presenting sea views of the Sea of Abaco. This home has a fantastic rental history. Also features a private dock. \$699,000



Orchid Bay - #0195 Lovely vacant lots available in this gorgeous new development. Interior lots and bay front lots available. Features tennis courts, nice pool, restaurant on the premises. All lots have beach access. Lots are moving fast. Behind arrow in photo above. Call today for prices.



Long Beach - Vacant lots available in this lovely subdivision. Long Beach is approx. a 35minute drive south of marsh harbour. financing available. Call Today.



Marsh Harbour - NEW LISTING #5050 Prime commercial property comprising of 13,300sq. ft. with large building in great condition. Can be occupied as a retail store, office space, and more. Conveniently located. \$299,000



Guana Cay - #5038 2 bedroom 2 bath home with central A/C, screened-in porch, adjacent to resort property. Great rental potential thru the resort with rights to use the resort's amenities. Fantastic offering. \$260,000

Casuarina Point - NEW LISTING! Two adjacent lots on the canal, set back on the waterway, protected and private. Call for more details!

Casuarina Point - vacant lot available, close to beach. \$17,000

Bahama Palm Shores - Call about our many listed properties in this fast growing community. Lots selling fast. Call today!

Man-O-War - Vacant interior lot, in town and close walk to beach

Guana Cay - Half acre lots, ocean and hilltop interior lots. All lots have beach access. Call for pricing

Hill Creek - 4.8 acres with 50' + elevations and 100' of waterfront-\$130,000

Leisure Lee - Best priced canal lot. \$45,000



Guana Cay - Half acre lots that present ocean views, some interior hilltop lots available as well as ocean front. All of these lots have beach access. Don't miss out on this opportunity.



Guana Cay #0195- Lovely beach-front property available on one of the prettiest beaches in Abaco. Runs approx. 100' on the Atlantic and is close to town. Call today



Marsh Harbour - #0167 Charming, well kept home in Cove Estates with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. This home features a large fenced-in yard that is well manicured, central A/C, spacious kitchen and living area. Also features a separate TV room. Master bedroom includes walk-in closet and make-up vanity in addition to the comfortable bath. This is a GREAT priced listing! \$233,000



Casuarina Point - #1392 2 bedroom 2 bath home in excellent condition. Sits on the canal and features a dock, 4-car garage, screened-in porch and peaceful island style living. This property is definitely a bonafisherman's paradise. A lovely beach only a short walk away, providing a calm swimming area. \$229,000

Pelican Shores - Elevated harbour front lots available, one of a kind location in Marsh Harbour. Starting at \$225,000

Hope Town - Ocean view estates 1/3 acre, vacant lot with sea views and beach access, quiet area. \$99,000

Sand Banks - vacant property available on the highway to Treasure Cay, motivated seller. Bring offers. Call for more details

Elbow Cay - gorgeous 2/2 home on ocean beach with pool set in large deck overlooking the Atlantic. \$1,200,000

Fire Road, North Abaco - Starter home for sale. 2 beds, 1 bath, views of the sea. \$30,000

Yellowwood - vacant lot now available, call for more details.

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More School News

School From Page 13

Rev. Carla Culmer, a Methodist minister, presented the topic *Integrity and Credibility, Impersonal Leadership*. Mrs. Violet Stubbs, Education Officer for Pre-Schools on Grand Bahama, gave a presentation on healthy living. The final presentation of the first day was *Standard Operating Procedures* presented by Mrs. Rena Glinton from the Ministry of Education.

The second day of the workshop was devoted to the national examinations BJC and BGCSE for secondary school teachers. The presenter was Mr. Lionel Sands, Assistant Director of Education Testing and Evaluation. Mrs. Glenda Rolle, Senior Edu-

cation Officer for Family Life presented *Family Life Education and Health* to teachers from grades 1-9.

Teachers of grades 4-6 had Mrs. Vanria Jack, Education officer, presented *Preserving Our Heritage* and Mrs. Althea Grant, Social Studies Education officer presented Social Studies GLAT to teachers of grade 3 and 6.

Professional days are a requirement in each district of the Ministry of Education sometime during the school year.

Stage Was Donated

The stage that was used for the grand opening of Solomon SuperCenter is now at Abaco Central High School. Mr. Ken Roberts, a teacher at Abaco Central High

School, facilitated the kind donation. Since Abaco Central High does not have an auditorium, the quadrangle is used for assemblies. Many times speakers go to the second floor so students can see them. With this large stage it will be possible to have a better viewing area of assemblies. Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, Principal, wishes to thank Solomon SuperCenter, Abaco Markets Ltd., for its kind donation.

Dollars for Scholars

Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, principal, wishes to publicly thank ZNS Dollars for Scholars for the two computers donated by ZNS to the school. He also would like to thank Mr. Gary Sawyer of Abaco Petroleum for donating six computers to the ZNS Dollars for Scholars Programme. Mr. Stubbs told this writer that it is businessman like Mr. Sawyer, who will allow students in our government schools to stay abreast of the 21st Century.

Council Has Done Work on Schools

By Isobel Sherman

The Abaco Central District Council is responsible for the physical upkeep of the government schools in Central Abaco. In an interview with Chief Councillor Cay Mills he gave an update on what the Council has done this current school year.

The Central Abaco Primary yard that faces Forest Drive has been cleaned. The

grass in front of the school and in the yard has been mowed. Eleven classrooms were painted. Some operators for the windows were found. Mr. Mills says there is a problem because they do not know where the contractor bought the windows so more operators cannot be obtained. Many of the operators are missing. Ceiling fans were repaired and eleven new ceiling fans installed in the classrooms. Ten new locks were installed on doors to classrooms and a place for janitresses was found that gives them a separate lounge. Previously they were using the staff room.

At Abaco Central High School two lawnmowers were bought to cut the lawn and playing fields. An additional yard man was hired. Window operators were repaired and louvers for the windows were replaced. Pedestrian gates have recently been installed and he expects that a repair to a leaking roof will soon be finished. Mr. Russell said that more fans are needed at the high school and there is a need for security personnel.

For both schools he would like to have a shaded area with benches so the students have somewhere to sit outside. He would like to see an auditorium built for the high school and says fund raising is needed for this.

Mr. Russell says Abaco Central High

Please see **School** Page 37



Abaco Central High School is working to develop more school spirit. On October 20 a special assembly emphasized school spirit. Many teachers dressed as students for the day and Student Ciotti Cooper was principal for the day which he found very tiring and stressful.

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Office space available down town in Marsh Harbour. Call 367-2042

More School News

School From Page 36

School is special to him. Over the years he has tried to assist whenever possible by getting sporting equipment donated and even some science equipment donated. Now Mr. Mills would like to see if he can get some computers donated as he feels there is a great need for computers to be in every classroom.

School Spirit Assembly

By Isobel Sherman

On October 20 Abaco Central High School held its first school spirit assembly. The brain child of Ms. Raquel Gaitor and Mrs. Elva Davis, the idea was to improve school spirit. In an effort to do this, many teachers dressed as students in school uni-

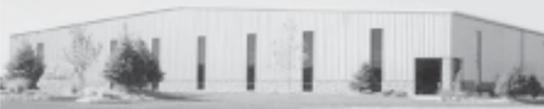
form. These teachers conducted the assembly with Ms. Gaitor leading the way with chants and trivia questions for the students. Each grade level did a cheer or chant to show school spirit and 2003 graduate Lachrisser Dean gave a lively rap-type talk to the students to encourage school spirit.

Ciotti Cooper, a grade 12 prefect, was selected by Principal Stubbs to be principal for the day. Mr. Cooper arrived dressed sharply in a suit and spent the day doing the principal's job. At the end of the day a very tired and stressed Ciotti said to many teachers and to Mr. Stubbs that he does not know how teachers and administration can do this job every day.



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Sherman

From Page 8

for all parents especially those who have children in the 11-14 year old bracket.

Why? Many times if a child this age goes missing we think he has just run away but statistics from experts in the United States on missing children refute this idea. They state that many times these children know whom they are going with even if it is not a family member abducting them. That means there has to be some sort of trust for the child to go. In at least 50 percent of the cases which do not involve member of the family but an outsider, the child is in the 11-14 year old age bracket. Common sense would say these children know better but as someone said, statistics do not lie.

So, to safeguard our children, we must be aware of where they are, what time they will return and keep an open line of communication with them.

All parents and responsible adults must try to prevent anymore-missing children from happening in this country.

Children's Identification Will Begin

By Isobel Sherman

Beginning in Nassau a national programme will be launched for the safety of our children. One of the components will be a family DNA home kit which will help in finding missing children. Digital Access Control Systems will spearhead the programme in conjunction with the US FBI, American Football Coaches Association and the National Center for Missing Children in the United States. This center has a database for all missing children.

The home DNA kit will allow parents to have information stored to give to authorities in case their child goes missing. The kit includes a recent photo of the child. A set of fingerprints, a written profile of the child and, if they wish, a DNA sample. According to Digital Access President, if a child is abducted in the Bahamas, ends up in the United States and is still alive when he is 17 or 18, and he either gets in trouble with the law or goes to obtain a drivers li-

cense, his fingerprint would still be in the database of missing children and his profile would come up that he was reported missing from the Bahamas.

Mr. Robinson stated that the Royal Bahamas Police Force and the Ministry of National Security have given positive re-

sponses for these kits. The kits are sold to the parents but it is hoped that corporate sponsors would be found to defray the cost.

It is hoped that this programme, completely voluntary on the parent's part, will become available throughout the Bahamas. Already meetings in Nassau and Freeport have been held.

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for progressive retail establishment in Marsh Harbour. Duties require heavy lifting, shipping and receiving. Must be computer literate and flexible to work sales. Job requires organizational skills. Please send resume to: Manager, P.O. Box AB 20121, Marsh Harbour, Abaco

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Don MacKay Blvd. near Airport
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Ricardo Miller,
Pharmacist

Hours 9 am - 6:30 pm
Sundays 10 am - 4 pm
Ph/Fax 367-2544

Cell 554-8183
Dove Plaza, Marsh Harb.

HELP WANTED

Officer Worker Needed. Opportunities for upward mobility possible for the right person. People skills and flexibility a must. Live-in position possible. Please respond by telephone between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily at The Bluff House Beach Hotel in Green Turtle Cay @ 365-4247

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

93 Toyota Camry. Call for price. Phone 367-2326 days

95 Toyota Camry LE, CD player, car cover. Asking \$11,000 ONO Call 367-2333 (d) or 365-6058 (n)

97 Suzuki Swift, 4 door, A/C. \$3500.
100 cc motorcycle \$800. Call 367-4643

BOAT WANTED

WANTED good quality houseboat, medium to large, must be in the Hope Town - Marsh Harbour area. Will pay up to \$30,000. Outboard motor preferred. Must be water tight top and bottom. Call 366-0291

BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE

Wave Runner Seadoo, Bombardier, two man, excellent cond, cover, low hours. Can be seen at Scotland Cay \$2,950. Call 375-8226 or 561-738-0996

15' Boston Whaler with 40 HP Yamaha \$3500
21' Aquasport 150 HP Yamaha \$4000
21' Grady White no motor \$1000 Tel 367-5415

21' Wellcraft, no motor, good shape, with trailer, Bimini top, cushion, radio. \$4000 OBO 365-8633 Gilles

BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



22' Aquasport CCP Model 1986, hydraulic steering, T-top, VHF, cushions, large fish box, 150HP Evinrude. \$10,500. Call Island Marine at 366-0282 or 366-0280



22' Aquasport CCP Model, hydraulic steering, stainless steel Bimini top, VHF, cushions, large fish box, 150HP Evinrude. \$9,250 Call Island Marine at 366-0282 or 366-0280

23' Slickcraft with 200 HP Yamaha. Low engine hours. Runs great. \$10,000 OBO. May be seen at Lighthouse Marina. Call 360-0194



25' Grady White sailfish powered by 2/ 225 Evinrude ram ficht, 120 hrs. each. DUTY PAID. Excellent condition. Must see. Ph 367-2598



42' Uniflight Sportsfisher "Ol Smoothy" Twin diesel, 1 engine needs work, many extras. Located at Treasure Cay Marina L dock. \$40,000. Call 365-8093 or 250-652-2478

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