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# The Abaconian

*Abaco's Most Complete Newspaper*



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 2, JANUARY 15th, 2004

## Seniors Compete in Boxing Day Junkanoo Four Groups Rush in Holiday Event



Green Turtle Cay held its annual New Year's Day Junkanoo celebration. The tiny community with its narrow streets is crowded as perhaps as many as a thousand off island visitors are drawn to this event. This year they organized two parades, the Junior Junkanoo group followed by the Senior revellers. Shown above are two of the young costumed participants.

*By Jennifer Hudson and Portia Jonsson*

Many spectators gathered in downtown Marsh Harbour on the evening of December 26th, Boxing Day, to enjoy the sounds of goat skin drums and cowbells, to see the beautiful and colourful costumes and to just be a part of what is truly Bahamian, Junkanoo. Adult Junkanoo groups combined for the first time for the parade. In previous years a few of the settlements have had their own parades whilst only the Supreme Dancers appeared in Marsh Harbour for the past few years.

This year the government provided incentives for the groups to expand, upgrade and combine for one larger parade in Marsh Harbour. Overcast skies and earlier showers during the day threatened the cancellation of the Senior Junkanoo Parade but they soon disappeared.

Of the six groups which registered to perform only four showed which was disappointing. Those appearing were the Spring City Rockers with the theme *Feeding the Nation*, the Green Turtle Rockers

Please see **Junkanoo** Page 2

## The Carnival Is Coming Murphy Town Park January 16 - February 1

### Everyone Enjoyed the Boat Parade



The harbour of Marsh Harbour was the setting for the annual Boat Parade on January 22 which is so much part of Abaco's Christmas season festivities. All shorelines are lined with people and the docks are full to watch the gaily decorated boats parade past followed by a spectacular fireworks show. The business community of Marsh Harbour works together to produce this anticipated event. Please see story on page 28.

## First Abaco Bird Count Was Great Success



Thirty-five people made history on January 3 as they participated in the first Abaco bird count in the Abaco National Park. They divided into groups with a bird expert in each group to identify each sighting. They counted 1900 birds of 71 species. This information, gathered annually, can provide important data on the overall health of our natural environment. See story on page 14. Photo supplied by Ron Pagliaro

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# Everyone Enjoyed Junkanoo

## Junkanoo

From Page 1

with the theme *Under the Sea*, the Little Abaco Conquers with the theme *Tainos* and the Supreme Dancers with the theme *Party Time*. Those not showing were the Blackwood Warriors and the Sandy Point Earthmovers.

Although the judging panel was different from that for the Junior Junkanoo Parade, these judges had also attended a Junkanoo workshop and the points system was the same. The only difference was that penalties were enforced in this parade.

Judging took place in the following categories: Best Overall, Music, Group Performance, Execution of Theme and Best Banner. Penalties were deducted and only one group was penalized 25 points for swapping members.

By the end of the evening it was the Spring City Rockers under the leadership of Colin Curry capturing First Place. With

less than 35 points behind the winners, the Green Turtle Cay Rockers took Second Place. Third and Fourth Places went to the LA Conquers and Supreme Dancers, respectively. Green Turtle Cay Rockers put on a delightful display with two very attractive banners depicting underwater life, excellent choreography and music, and they received the top mark for music.

Coordinator of the Junior and Senior Junkanoo Parade, Administrator Alexander Williams, said that the All Abaco Junkanoo Steering Committee will be more stringent with the rules next time. He encouraged the leaders of the groups to be open minded in competitive spirit. He said this parade was the first time in a very long time that they came together in regulated competition.

The All Abaco Junkanoo Steering Committee was formed this past summer. The Committee consists of representatives from various senior groups. It is the objective of

the Committee to promote Junkanoo and to develop it at all levels on Abaco. Mr. Williams consented to coordinate the Junior Junkanoo and organize the senior competition. He advised that Junior Junkanoo was very successful with a total of 11 schools competing and the Senior Junkanoo was keenly competitive.

The Junkanoo Committee took on this responsibility on short notice. With the assistance of senior group leaders like Mr. Colin Curry, Mr. Floyd Johnson, Mr. Churton Toote, Mr. Leslie McIntosh and others they were able to hold a one-day workshop for students and teachers which was well attended and a half-day workshop for the judges. Training was provided by

Mr. Eddie Dames of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and Mr. Arnold Bain, Chairman of the National Junkanoo Family Island Committee, who were both present for the first ever Abaco Junior Junkanoo Parade.

As an encouragement, the Committee promised to give prizes to all schools that participated. Mr. Williams informed me that the Committee is planing a party for all the Junior Junkanoo participants on January 31 when trophies and prizes will be awarded.

Please see **Junkanoo**

Page 26



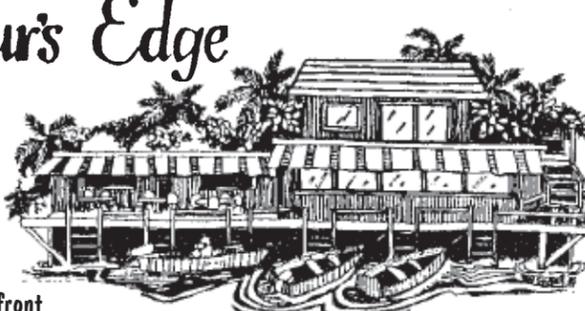
Green Turtle Cay presented this banner at the Junkanoo Rush held in Marsh Harbour on Boxing Day. The group came in second among the four groups that competed.



The Supreme Dancers from Murphy Town had elaborate costumes as shown here by the one that Churton Toote is wearing. On the right is a drummer in Green Turtle Cay which held its annual Junkanoo parade on New Year's Day.



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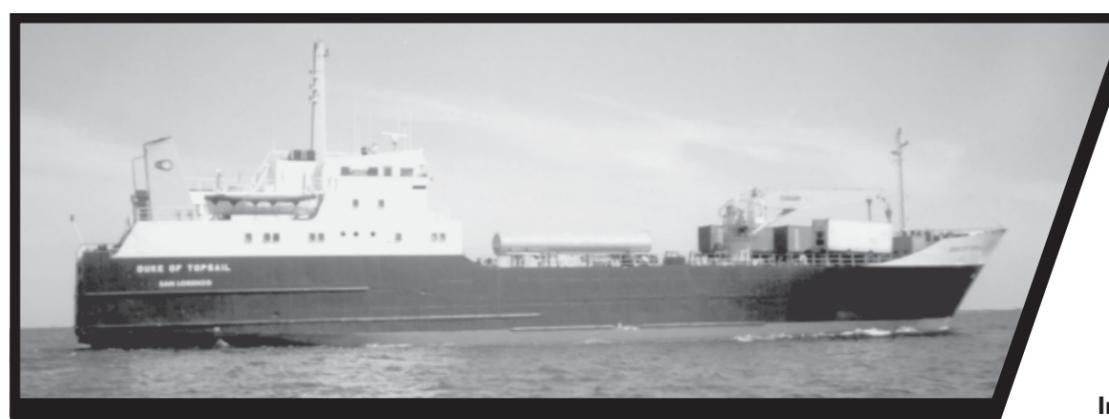
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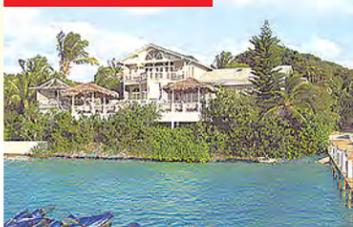
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# Closed Grouper Season Is Praised

By Jennifer Hudson

The first ever closed season for the Nassau grouper is now in effect; therefore, during the month of January no taking, landing, processing or offering for sale of fresh Nassau grouper will be allowed. This is good news for the Nassau grouper which is in danger of becoming extinct through over-fishing. January comes at the height of the spawning season for the grouper and so the ban on taking these fish during January will allow time for the fish to reproduce.

The Department of Fisheries has introduced the closed season for the Nassau grouper for only one month this year but next year will extend it to both January and February and the following year possibly longer.

What do the fishermen feel about this? Whilst there are some who are not respectful of the government's edict, the majority are very much in favour of this effort to protect the Nassau grouper but all fishermen interviewed have reservations as to the effectiveness of the plan.

Their main concern is that while there are some Bahamian fishermen who are not very disciplined, the main problem will come from foreign poachers. They feel that the government does not have enough boats to patrol the waters to ensure that people are not catching the Nassau grouper; therefore, how can the plan be monitored and enforced to stop the poachers?

Another loophole is the fact that the Nassau grouper is only one of nine species of grouper, some of which look very much alike, although an expert catching a fisherman with fresh grouper would most likely be able to tell them apart. However, I was told by a

very experienced fisherman that once the fish is skinned it is very difficult to tell the species apart and once filleted, all types of grouper are virtually indistinguishable. Therefore, if inspections are carried out, it would be virtually impossible to prove that a piece of fish is Nassau grouper.

The grouper species are as follows: Nassau grouper, red or deer grouper, Warsaw grouper, misty grouper, strawberry or yellow fin grouper, black fish or rock fish, Jew fish or Goliath grouper, tiger grouper or gag and red hind.

Although these fish vary considerably in size, their flesh is virtually the same. The Nassau grouper and red grouper, which are particularly alike, both reach a size of about 20 pounds whereas the Jew fish can reach a size of 700 pounds while the red hind stays at about four pounds. The only unique characteristic of the Nassau grouper is that it is the only species which has worms. However, as it was pointed out, these worms could easily be removed when the fish is filleted, thus removing its only real form of identification.

The general consensus among fishermen on Abaco is that they are very happy about the closed season and feel that it should be extended to cover not only January and February but November and December also as grouper begin schooling in late October. It is felt by many that this should have been implemented at least five years ago.

A closed season for crawfish has been in effect from April 1st to July 31st for many years to ensure that the species does not become extinct but some experts feel that

Please see **Grouper** Page 17

## Solomon's Held Drawings

Solomon's SuperCenter held frequent drawings in the days before Christmas with daily giveaways and hot specials. Pictured above is Mr. Charles Calma, winner of two tickets on Bahamas Ferries to Nassau with car transportation. He was presented with the tickets by Mr.

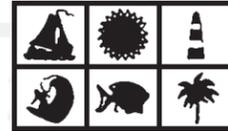


George Harris, Manager of the store. Other prizes included televisions, electronics and hundreds of dollars in gift certificates.

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# New Dock Fees Cause Concern

By Jennifer Hudson

The December 15th edition of *The Abaconian* carried an article on marine licences and fees in which was published the new rate schedule for private, commercial and industrial docks as of January 2004. The new rates include an increase for commercial docks from \$.93 per foot to \$6.13 per foot, an increase of more than 600 percent. That was the first time anyone on Abaco had heard about a hike in the dock fees as no notifications had been received and, understandably, there has been uproar amongst dock owners ever since.

Marina owners are particularly upset as the new fees will mean a huge increase in the amount they will have to lay out in dock fees each year. The owner of a marina on one of the cays stated that whereas in the past his fees have been \$1,800 per year, with this new increase they will leap to \$7,800 a year. "This," he says, "is ridiculous and the Port Authority needs to justify this action."

This is the feeling of all marina owners. They cannot understand what the government thinks it is going to achieve. The owners feel that the government has already caused a decrease in business for the marinas by increasing the cost of the cruising permit. Now they are hitting them even harder with these increased dock fees. They believe that the boaters are not going to continue coming if, on top of their raised cruising permit fee, they then have to pay increased docking fees. This is what will happen as the marina owners say they would be forced to raise the fees for boaters in order to cover this huge increase. Many marina owners feel that they will be forced to close if this new fee structure is enforced.

Management of the largest marina on Abaco, Boat Harbour, says that they will not be able to afford the new fees which would be astronomical.

One small marina in Green Turtle Cay is still trying to rebuild after being demolished by Hurricane Floyd. The owners are still paying off a loan to the Bahamas Development Bank and are horrified at these new fees which, they say, there is no way they will be able to pay.

The marina owners rightly feel that they should have been notified well in advance if a hike in fees was to take place and especially in the case of such a large one it should be introduced incrementally.

Marina owners in Marsh Harbour have met together for discussion on the matter and may possibly form a Marina Association. They have taken their concerns to the Ministry of Tourism.

As one owner stated, "The government needs to concentrate on ways to get visitors into the country to generate more revenue,

not raise taxes to deter them."

When I spoke with Assistant Port Director, Capt. Cyril Roker, concerning the hike in fees he said that no matter what the fees are they will, by law, have to be paid. So far the private dock owners have been going in to pay their fees but as yet no commercial marina owners have been in. Capt. Roker has just returned from a meeting with government officials in Nassau which he requested in order to have a full understanding of the new laws. He wishes to apologize to the dock owners for the lack of notification about the new fee schedule and agrees that they should have had proper advance warning. He further states that he

feels the public is under a misapprehension about how the rates are to be ascertained. Charges will only be made for USEABLE space. This means that any causeways do not have to be paid for. Only the finger piers where the boats actually tie up will be calculated and charged for.

Capt. Roker plans to hold meetings with all marina owners within the next four to six weeks at the latest to try to clarify the situation and will be visiting the cays to speak with owners there. "Nobody," he says, "will be prosecuted for non payment until everyone has been made fully aware of exactly how to calculate the footage."

**Civic Organizations**

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**Pilot Club of Abaco**  
Third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Central Abaco Primary, Dundas Town, 367-3457

**Pilot Club of South Abaco**  
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# Central Abaco News

## Marsh Harbour Healthy Chicken Is Offered

By Isobel Sherman

There is a small take out restaurant that sells rotisserie chicken, a healthy alternative to fried chicken. The name is Pop's Place and it is owned by Mr. Willis Weatherford, aka as Pop. Located on the corner across from Abaco Pizza, Pop's Place has become a popular place to get lunch. Reasonably priced, Pop's Place offers rotisserie chicken and also fried chicken, barbequed chicken, fries, coleslaw, macaroni salad, green salad, sandwiches as well as other menu items. On Mondays the special is barbequed ribs. Pops has the reputation for serving food fast. Open for lunch only on Mondays through Saturdays, Pop's Place has an enclosed area with picnic tables for those customers who wish to eat there.

## Real Estate Office Opens

By Portia Jonsson

Mrs. June Russell, formerly an agent with Bahamas Realty, and Mr. Gregory Graham of Nassau have teamed up to open Graham Russell Real Estate in Marsh Harbour. Mrs. Russell has three and a half years experience in real estate and enjoyed a very successful career with Bahamas Realty whilst Mr. Graham has ten years experience

working mainly in the Lyford Cay market. Also working in the office of Graham Russell Real Estate as an agent and office manager is Mrs. Celeste Pinder, who received her real estate license this past October.

Graham Russell Real Estate will work with other local realtors in addition to maintaining their own exclusive property listings on mainland Abaco and the cays.

The office is located upstairs at the corner of Queen Elizabeth Drive and Front Street in Marsh Harbour and operating hours are 9 a.m. - 5 pm. on Monday through Friday. You may contact them at 367-0100.

## Christmas Season Was a Time of Giving

By Portia Jonsson

Christmas time is the season for gift giving and many business houses in Abaco said thanks to their valued customers for their patronage during the year. Among them was Abaco Hardware Limited which held its annual Customers' Appreciation Day and Christmas raffle on December 23rd. Winners in the Christmas raffle were 1st prize - Gas Grill / Kim Smith of Cooper's Town, 2nd prize - Bicycle / Wesley Albury of Man-O-War Cay and 3rd prize - Comforter Set / Jane Bain of Sandy Point.

## Theater Will Close

By Isobel Sherman

RND Cinemas in Marsh Harbour will be closing its doors in five months leaving approximately 10 part time workers out of a job. The reason is that RND Cinemas has sold its theaters in Nassau and Freeport to Galleria. Galleria will be the sole movie operator in Nassau and in Freeport when the deal is completed in about 60 days.

Although many persons may not have availed themselves to the movies during the week, the theater was a place to go on week-ends and on Wednesday evenings when they had 2 for the price of 1 offer.

## Dundas Town Clinic Renovated

By Portia Jonsson

Renovations to the clinic in Dundas Town

have been ongoing since the latter part of last year and are now nearing completion.

Administrator Alexander Williams said that the Ministry of Health recognizes the need for health care service in the Dundas Town area which has a quite large number of senior citizens and young children. Although the building is actually in Dundas Town, the clinic will serve the residents of both Dundas Town and Murphy Town.

After numerous requests from residents, the Ministry saw fit to address the situation. The renovations are just about complete and health officials are awaiting the shipment of furniture and equipment from Nassau. Services from the

Please see **Central**

Page 7



The Dundas Town clinic is being renovated preparatory to reopening it. The new walkway with handrails will make it easier for the elderly to access the building. It is on the border between Dundas Town and Murphy Town and will serve the medical needs of both communities.



On Christmas Day the Heal Our Land group organized and cooked Christmas dinners for 200 persons in the Central Abaco area and delivered them during the early afternoon. Organized by Mrs. Kathleen Knowles, her small band kept very busy during the holidays helping in several projects. They are shown here making up the plates prior to delivery.

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**Marsh Harbour**

# More Central Abaco News

## Central

From Page 6

Marsh Harbour clinic will be extended to the clinic in Dundas Town.

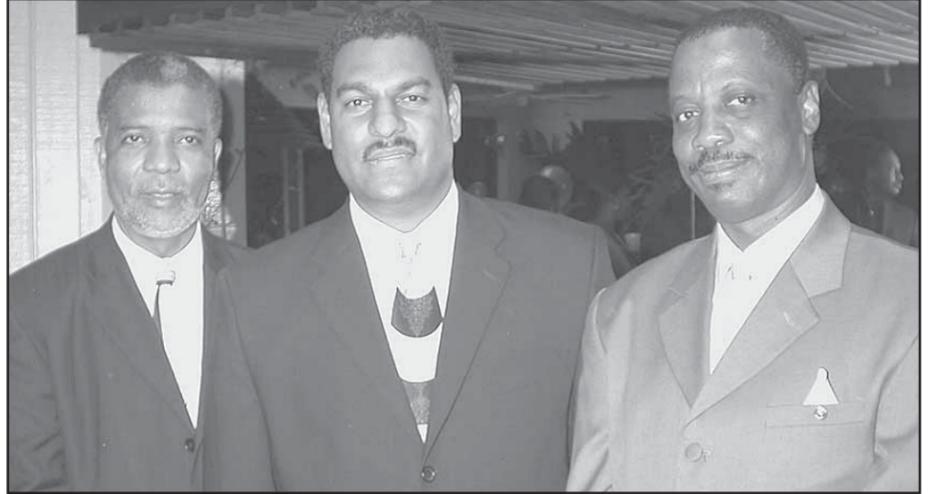
Administrator Williams informed me of the Minister of Health's concern to know that health care services are extended to everyone regardless of their residence. It is the concern of the Ministry to address the establishment of a clinic on Guana Cay and Mr. Williams has advised that this is next on the agenda.

## Town Committee Donates Chairs

By Cay Mills

On December 18th the Dundas Town Committee and its Chairman, Mr. Cay Mills, donated eight chairs to the Marsh Harbour airport in an effort to alleviate the stress that is caused by the long wait at the airport.

Chairman Mills said that it seems like the government is unwilling or unable to solve the problem that has been going on for 15 years. He hopes this small donation from the Dundas Town Committee would help ease some of the stress at this congested airport.



On December 20 Batelco treated its employees to a Christmas party held at Abaco Beach Resort. Guest speaker for the occasion was Mr. John Carey, MP and Parliamentary Secretary to Ministry of Works and Utilities, shown in the center above. On the left is Mr. Leon Williams, Chief Operations Officer, and on the right is Mr. Henry Roamer, Senior Manager of Abaco Operations.



Consumers were wooed by many businesses before Christmas. Several stores held raffles, giving prizes that were well received. Abaco Hardware gave raffle tickets for purchases of Christmas decorations and had their raffle drawing on December 23. Shown above is Kim Smith of Cooper's Town, winner of the first place prize, a fancy gas grill. The second place winner won a comforter set and the third place prize was a bicycle. Presenting the grill is Brent Bass.

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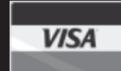
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# The Editor Says . . . Would It Be Better with Focus



Abaco has come along way in the last 40 years. This has occurred without any central planning, without a master plan, without monthly or annual meetings. We were given a big island with a scattering of offshore cays providing a sheltered seaway. The offshore cays came with their own protective reefs offering protection from Atlantic weather. It was a desirable combination.

Air transportation in the 1960s opened the island to visitors and second homeowners. Foreigners came one by one and built homes. Local services developed and expanded to provide for the needs of these newcomers. The early arrivals were a hardy bunch and did not need all the modern amenities of their times. Individual generators dotted the towns. Gas lights and kerosene lamps were common.

Green Turtle Cay and Man-O-War were two of the earliest towns to get town electricity and that was confined to the developed area of the town. Early guests to the few hotels were spared the generator ritual as the hotel took care of that. Guests in the rental houses were checked in with a generator lesson and were admonished to use it only at night.

As the area grew, so did electricity, phones, powerful outboards and the other items that our present lifestyles demand. Newer arrivals accept steady power, air conditioning and cell phones as if it was always that way. Those who lived here in the 1950s and 1960s look over their shoulder and smile at the improved standards of living we now enjoy.

Our present economic status was not planned. Additional people required more and expanded services. Existing businesses either developed as the demand grew or new ones sprang up as more demands presented additional opportunities.

Small business growth has been fascinating to watch over the years. Frequently, a service was born with the owner manager struggling to make ends meet. It was usually a family affair with the wife and frequently children helping. Good service brought more customers and the business flourished.

There are exceptions, but most businesses on Abaco began as Mom and Pop owned and operated. Most were successful. Like growing a garden, cultivating their business as the traffic increased provided an increased

yield. Help was hired and the business grew.

At no time during this past 40-year period was much thought given to the future growth of the area. At first, expansion came when it was noticed that the boat could not bring all the freight and a bigger boat was needed, or when all the merchandise the customers wanted would not fit in the shop and the building was expanded.

With steady growth, individual planning began to form. Steady increases in sales suggested next year's sales would be even bigger and preparations should be made. There were off years when growth was non-existent or marginal but the pattern has been steadily upward.

The appeal has been our proximity to Florida, the Abaco Sound and its maritime heritage and finally the island settlements 20 - 30 minutes apart by modern transportation.

It is interesting to speculate on where our economy would be if there had been an organized effort to promote growth and expansion.

Early on, the hotel industry came together with several promotion boards working with the Ministry of Tourism to encourage visitors in their respective areas. The one organization affecting Abaco which has survived is the Out Island Promotion Board. However, it is at a disadvantage by promoting a far-flung tourism empire with limited funds and diverse attractions. Abaco's hotels were and still are a heavy contributor to this promotional effort. Members cooperated in the marketing of their respective areas but did

not give much thought to growth in general.

Planning for the future is a fertile area for Abaco as we embrace modern concepts and technology. There are several groups with an eye to the future.

The revived two-year-old Chamber of Commerce is one of these. It is sponsoring speakers and conferences on a variety of topics affecting our future. Friends of the Environment has hosted several seminars on environmental issues with long term implications. A Tourism Director has just been assigned to Abaco who plans to develop projections to guide our overall tourism product into the future.

Local government would seem to be a good platform for long range planning but eight years of experience suggests otherwise. There is little continuity from one group to the next and new boards and councils seem determined to show that the last bunch had it all wrong. They are generally mired in the day-by-day mundane maintenance of their towns.

A recent business outlook presentation here by The Counsellors of Nassau showcased our development. They are hosting an investment seminar focused on Abaco in February. Elements related to our future growth will probably emerge.

Central government in Nassau has an eye on our infra-structural needs but their priorities appear to be heavily weighted by the political realities of elections. The Out Islands may be growing and groaning from government negligence, but the reality is that Nassau's quarter of a million people get first

priority.

There is strength in numbers and there is renewed interest in forming an Abaco tourism board of some type. Several past attempts failed. Abaco's diverse communities are one of many reasons for its economic success. However, this is a prime reason that a unified effort has been difficult to sustain.

The logistics are awkward for putting an island wide focus group together on a continual basis. Tourism and cultural events, several regattas, heritage days and the like are all moderately successful but face the obstacles of distance, rough weather and night boat trips for moving people around. Regular participation and sustained interest are hard to maintain.

We are ready for long range planning in several areas. A coordinated effort focused on tourism is probably a realistic goal to begin with. There is much to be gained.

We need continual development and it is coming at a faster pace than previously. Our present rate of growth is straining the ability of mom and pop to plan for the future. One redeeming factor is the broadening experiences of the children of these business people who are away absorbing ideas and concepts while they are furthering their education. These outside influences are critical as our world becomes more complicated. We cannot rely indefinitely on the benefit that Nature gave us. Sand, sea, sun and location has given us advantages, but we have to see that they continue to work to our advantage.

## Generally Speaking . . . Finding Your Path

By S. Timothy Roberts

Over ten years ago I graduated from high school in Nassau and began my search for a career and more. Because of my fondness of and skill in art, I was interested in finding a job to utilize my creative juices and eventually give me a long term career that I could enjoy.

The reality of life set in rather quickly as I went from agency to agency seeking to get my foot in at any level. It was a rude awakening of sorts. It quickly became apparent that nobody bought into the confidence I had in my skills but would have considered me if I had "papers" to prove my worth to them.

After a few months I had to broaden my horizons and look at other options. Luckily, a job opened up at The Tribune for a reporter and there I started on another search. Where did this piece of the puzzle (me) fit in - as far as it concerned the work I would do.

It has been a decade since all this took place and it is interesting where life leads. I remember learning in my high school geography class that a river wound its way down from its source, usually high in the mountainous areas in search of the lowest point, taking the path of least resistance. Life can be similar to a river.

It is not so much about me that I write all this. However, it is about thousands of Bahamians like me. We graduate from high

school not certain of what we want, bouncing from job to job to find one that "fits" us and waste much of our lives in pursuit of something specific with an arsenal of nothing in particular.

I was, unfortunately, unable financially to pursue any particular career through a college or technical institute. Maybe I never tried hard enough to get there. However, I often wish I had.

Those who did go away have returned with valuable knowledge and experience, their horizons broadened both intellectually and socially. They realize by experience that is tangible and palatable that the world is a far bigger place than we can conceive.

It is a shame to me when I meet so many young men and women who have opportu-

nity, especially those who have done well in high school, who don't aspire to make something more of themselves.

I am not saying that college is for everyone, I am certain it is not. However, it would benefit a great many more Bahamians if they'd only try.

Often the experiences and lessons learnt through college leaves an indelible impression on a young person's life. Frequently, it straightens out their life's plans and makes it easier to build a road map for their career.

College is the pencil sharpener as you write the story of your life. Take every opportunity you can to better yourself and make the path of life more clear. Work hard toward the goal of making you the best you can be. A better you helps build a better Bahamas.

## ALL ABOUT TOWN

By Isobel Sherman

### A Good Christmas

The talk around Marsh Harbour before Christmas was whether business was going to be good this season. As usual, some businesses did extremely well this Christmas while others were disappointed. John Bull had one of their best Christmases. Iggy Biggy had a good season, as did other businesses such as Abaco Treasures.

Perhaps the most competitive stores for the consumer dollar were Solomon's SuperCenter and Price Right. The competition was keen and many shoppers went between both stores availing themselves of every bargain offered. In the grocery department it was a Consumer's Paradise.

### Travel Tips

I think we sometimes take for granted the fact that we can fly to the United States from Abaco without having to travel to a different departure point in the Bahamas. With that option we need to also keep in mind that certain procedures must be followed, particularly by Bahamasair since it is a foreign carrier that flies to the United States. Many pro-

cedures have changed since 9/11 and some are still changing.

One of the rules is that all flights must close 45 minutes from departure and check in should be one and half hours prior to departure. In addition, all checked luggage as well as hand luggage is checked by Bahamasair personnel when checking in and when departing. All of this is done to comply with FAA regulations and are to ensure the safety of passengers as well as the safety of the United States.

There are a few passengers who are upset when asked to comply with these regulations. However, please stop and think for a moment. If Bahamasair did not follow these procedures, the airline could be prevented from flying to the United States no matter what the departure location and arrival destination may be. Because Bahamasair is a foreign airline, it must make very sure that they are complying with the regulations.

We should not take for granted the privilege we have on Abaco of being able to fly to the United States right from our home island. This procedure is similar for all airlines serving Abaco.

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# Letters to the Editor

## Junior Junkanoo Parade

To the Abaconian:

We would like to thank all of the school children for a very wonderful Junkanoo parade.

The themes, costumes and music were well thought out with much work and practice put into it all.

It was especially nice to see the "holiday" spirit come out - truly a gift from the educational and government community of Abaco.

Charlotte and Tod Lee

## Experience Was Exciting

Dear Editor:

If you would have told me that I would spend an entire Saturday wandering through the pine forests looking for and at birds, I would have questioned your sanity. I am a water person and spend most of my spare time looking at the world through goggles. Spending the day searching the skies with binoculars for fleeting glimpses of flying objects seems pretty silly for a person whose sole birding ability lies in being able to tell the difference between a turkey hawk and a bananaquit. But on the Saturday following New Year's off I went on a truly amazing adventure.

I was one of about 35 people who participated in the Christmas Bird Count on Abaco sponsored by Abaco Outback in conjunction with the Audubon Society. The participants were not only from Abaco but Nassau, Grand Bahama, Canada and the United States. Ron Pagliaro explained that this is an international event held all around the world in December and early January to take stock of birds in various areas. This was the first event of this kind on Abaco and was one of the reasons I volunteered to participate. I had been on one of Abaco Outback's day trips to see the Abaco parrot and really enjoyed that trip. So I figured this would at least be interesting. What an understatement!

There were five groups of seven people each assigned to a section in and around the Abaco National Park. It was our objective to locate and count as many species of birds in our given areas as possible. Sounds pretty dry till you get started. In my group there were the heavy duty professional birders who did the identification, some semi-serious birders who provided interesting details not only of the birds but the surrounding plant life, some new-to-birding enthusiasts and a non-birder like myself who did the recording. Tony Hepburn and Woody Bracey of Treasure Cay were the top of the line birders for my group, with amazing bird calls, fascinating knowledge of the animals and a way of giving you this information (after making sure you actually SAW the bird!) That made the day go fast. My favorite was the red tailed hawk which dared to be seen as he flew right in front of our car as we were moving from one location in our grid to another - a truly majestic bird.

Can't say I have been converted to birding but it certainly gave me a new appreciation of Abaco. Too often we take for granted everything wonderful and exciting in our own back yards just because it is our own back yard.

This event allowed me to meet some wonderful people, see parts of Abaco I might ordinarily have missed, actually learned something and enjoyed the learning process. I also learned I could stand on my feet all day and feel good.

Thanks to Abaco Outback for letting me see what is in my own back yard.

Ann McFaden

## Treasure Cay's Beach Problems

To the Editor:

A recent letter to your publication mentioned that a decrease in tourism in Treasure Cay was not because of any problems with the beach but probably was due to some other factors. While I believe there are many factors involved in this situation, I do not discount problems with the beach.

Over the 20 years I have visited Treasure Cay I take exception to the advertising line that Treasure Cay beach was rated one of the top 10 beaches by National Geographic. If and when National Geographic made this statement cannot be determined, and I doubt anyone would make this statement looking at the beach today.

Why not? In no particular order of significance

#1 Oceanfront homeowners building groynes in front of their property (without permission). One is built and then the adjoining property owner thinks he must have one as well. Now they extend from Windward Road Beach, around "The Point" and down to the Bahamas Beach Club. Will the groynes continue to the end of beach? At the rate they are being built, it looks possible. The groynes are often built without steps or if they are built with steps they soon become unusable due to shifting sand. Not only are these groynes unsightly, they make the beach impassable during high tide as one cannot walk around them. Homeowners, will you please at least build us safe steps?

#2 Bahama Beach Club is a new, beautiful development. But it isn't a good neighbor. They have piled up the sand on the site of their next development which looks terrible from both the beach and Treasure Cay Drive. This development supposedly is not able to proceed until the sewer and water sale is concluded. This probably is not going to happen for some time so in the meantime can we get our view back and our greenway accessibility? There are greenways on either side of this next phase of development. Let's also get rid of the garbage site behind the trailers that sit on this site. When the wind blows this garbage blows across the site and Treasure Cay Drive.

#3 Treasure Cay has grown over the past 20 years. Whereas before there were many empty lots on the beach, now very few undeveloped lots remain. No trespassing signs are posted on some lots. There are protected greenways that were established long ago for people to access the beach. Tourists and Bahamians are made to feel unwelcome on some areas of the beach. Let's be sure our greenways are kept clear and are well marked. Homeowners, please share the beach. If you live beside a greenway, please don't make it look like your property. If the greenway sign disappears, please report it to Treasure Cay Administration. This will



make our tourists and Bahamians feel that we want to share the beauty God has given us. Don't monopolize!

Treasure Cay is a gift from God. It is a treasure. Let's work to keep it that way.

A Concerned Beach Lover

## Child, Please!

To the Editor:

"Child, please, it's the Bahamas" is the acceptable phrase that explains away all the evils for poor attitudes and lack of pride of ownership and doing a job well.

My wife and I (my wife being a Bahamian) chartered through a local Treasure Cay resort a half-day bonefishing trip. Now, at this point I am not certain if the resort is responsible for the guide and his equipment or the guide contracts with this resort to supply his own boat and equipment. Either way the service or standards (pride of ownership and doing your job well) do not matter at this junction because this became the boat ride from hell.

We were scheduled to meet at the resort

at 8 a.m. We were on time, the guide walked in at 8:15. We left the resort office at 9 a.m. and began a trip around Treasure Cay looking for bait (three stops, the thud being at a local restaurant which produced a dry-up piece of conch., (conch being well known as the bait of choice for bone's. But fresh is better.)

We then arrived at the ramp where four flat boats were tied up in the mangroves. (This is where this charter should have ended and this is our fault because the condition of the boat was deplorable - "Pride of ownership"). We should have said no thanks and gone back to the resort and our car. But we have always wanted to bonefish from a boat in that in the past we have fished only from the shore and very much wanted to go by boat.

The boat was selected. Its motor would not start, and when it did start, the warning alarm for oil or water rang for what seemed

Letters

From Page 29

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# South Abaco News

## Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder  
Church News

The Women's Ministries group from the Assemblies of God Church in Cherokee met for a Christmas dinner with everyone bringing a dish of food or a dessert on December 15. The party was held in the churchyard and the weather was a bit chilly, but it didn't dampen the spirits as the ladies sang carols and played fun games. A good time was had by all.

On December 23rd members of the Assemblies of God Church put on an original Christmas Play entitled *We Have Seen* which was co-written by Peggy Albury and Kimberly Lowe. The cast was extremely large and everyone did a very good job. The play depicted the greater story revolving around Christ's birth as told in the Bible and the

church decorations depicted that starry night and included the various scenes involved. All those who came out to be a part of the evening went away having experienced the true reason why we celebrate Christmas.

Also, keeping with the season, Epworth Methodist Chapel had a covered-dish supper on December 28 in the garden at the rear of the manse. This time the weather did cooperate and a good turnout with church members coming from Marsh Harbour and Casuarina Point as well as some visiting guests from off the island. Everyone was asked to tell of their hopes for the New Year and all enjoyed the fellowship on such a sunny afternoon.

### Cherokee's Christmas Tree

This year's annual Christmas Tree gathering attracted a huge crowd with all the children kneeling under the tree, waiting

wide-eyed for Santa and his helper to hand out the gifts. Over 300 were served a ham dinner at the schoolhouse afterwards to everyone who attended.

### Mischief Makers

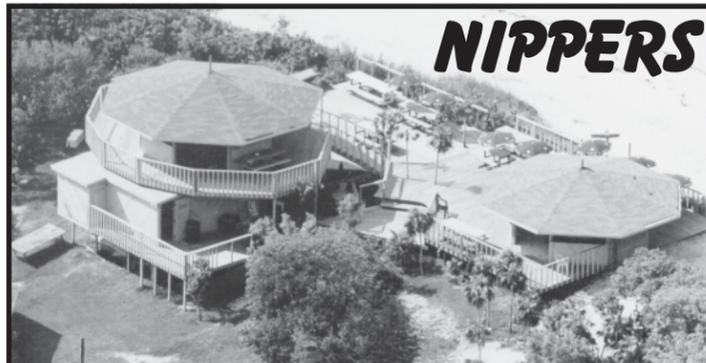
Sad to say there were several unpleasant incidents that occurred not only that night but at other times over the holidays that once more show the need for a full-time policeman to be close at hand. However, the general feeling is that, just as in the past, nothing will be done about them. But there is always something to be thankful for and that is that there are another 365 days till next year.

## US Initiates New Security System

By Isobel Sherman

On January 5 the US-VISIT program took effect at 115 airports in the United States and at the pre-clearance lounge facilities in Nassau and Freeport. The program fingerprints and photographs of visitors to the United States. These measure are to better screen those people entering the United States in view of the recent terrorist threats. According to one report Bahamians using the pre-clearance facilities will be exempt from the program. However, Bahamians traveling to the United States from other departure points in the Bahamas will be subject to the new program when they clear Immigration in the United States. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Fred Mitchell, said the Bahamas government is opposed to this measure but added that these are the rules of the country so we must abide by them if we are to travel to the United States.

## It Pays to Advertise

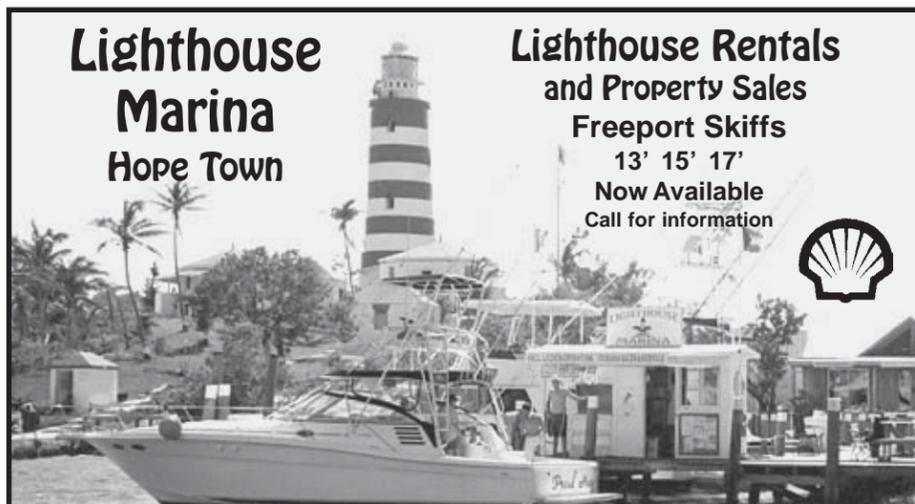


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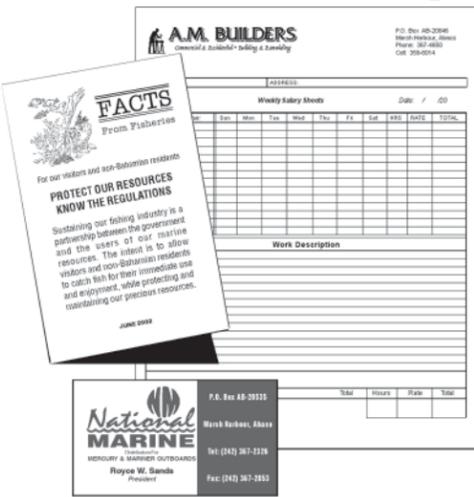
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# Church News

## Music Artists Give Inspiring Performance

By Portia Jonsson

In spite of the cold weather many persons braved the elements to hear the sounds of Larry Ford and special guest group, Valor. Mr. Ford and Valor gave an uplifting, inspiring and encouraging performance to a large crowd at New Vision Ministries on the night of December 20th. They were on Abaco from December 17th to 21st, first performing in Green Turtle Cay, then moving on to Man-O-War and finally ending their visit in Marsh Harbour. The group was asked to perform in Cherokee Sound due to a cancellation in Spanish Wells, but unfortunately, Cherokee Sound had to cancel as well.



Gospel singer Larry Ford performed concerts on Green Turtle Cay, Man-O-War and Marsh Harbour on his visit to Abaco last month. He is shown here at his concert at New Visions Ministries. He appeared along with the Valor group of singers.

Mr. Ford has traveled to the Bahamas including Abaco many times and most Bahamians are familiar with him through the Gaither music videos. From the sounds of grand opera to the stages of Southern Gospel, audiences have applauded his commanding voice.

Hailing from Lubbock, Texas, Larry Ford's music ministry has taken him from the far reaches of the former Soviet Union to South Africa and even the southern hemisphere's Spanish speaking countries. He began his recording ventures at the age of 15, and in the past few years has been featured on the Bill and Gloria Gaither *Homecoming* series of music videos. The Ford family makes their home in Ft. Myers, Florida.

Valor is a dynamic group of three young Christian men, Paul David Kennamer, Jr. (bass), John Laws (baritone) and Daniel Johnson (lead), based near Huntsville, Alabama, who enjoy a full-time music ministry performing across the United States and Canada as well as Europe.

Mr. Ford performed numerous gospel songs and hymns, as well as Christmas carols including two all time favorites, *Oh! Holy Night* and *Joy to the World*. Valor performed songs including *Walk on the*

*Water, Satisfied, Humble Thyself* and an old time southern gospel hymn, *Lay It Down*.

An offering was collected and the artists' music was on sale.

## Gospel Chapel Offers Christmas Cantata

By Jennifer Hudson

The choir of the Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel presented its annual Christmas Cantata on December 21st. The church was festively decorated with fresh pine garlands on the pews and an impressive backdrop created by one of the choir members.

The programme opened with a real show stealer when little three-year-old Michaela

Marshall delighted the audience as she sang *The Little Drummer Boy*. This was followed by a time of congregational carol singing and several solos and duets presented by the pastor and various choir members.

The Cantata was then presented by the seventeen member choir directed by Kevin Sawyer and narrated by Rowland Marshall. Entitled *Celebrate the King*, the Cantata combined selections from the productions of the three previous years in a joyful portrayal of the Christmas story in song. It was very well presented, the singing was excellent and altogether it was a delightful evening of song and praise.

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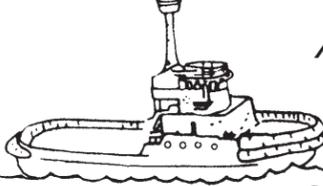
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# News of the Cays

## Hope Town All Sailors Are Invited to Race

By Dottie Shrier

The opening race for the Hope Town Sailing Club season proved to be quite a challenge for all involved. This annual Boxing Day event is raced for the H. Bowen White trophy. There were several postponements due to the intermittent storms. Weather continued to be a major factor as winds reached a velocity of 20 knots, plus rain poured in horizontal sheets, causing many to say, "Where is the mark?" and "Who said boat racing is easy?"

The post-race party created an opportunity for everyone to boast in good humour how difficult or how great it really was to

be in competition. Of the nine boats starting, seven were able to finish but all enjoyed the comradery and story swapping at the club party.

Final results were given as follows, in corrected time. First place was *Santana* skippered by Tom Boynton. Only 26 seconds later in second place was Ron Engle on *Windspirit*. Third was *Grumpy Ole Men* with Bob Knaus at the helm. Bringing up last place and winner of the Good Spirit award was *Vakuta* sailed by a jovial Frenchman La Grandiere. He is making his second solo passage around the world.

The Race Committee is now looking forward to the races scheduled for January 21 and February 4, 6 and 18. All sailors in the area are invited to participate. Register the day of the race at the Hope Town Sailing

Club house in Hope Town or call VHF Channel 66. Further details will be announced on the Cruisers' Net.

## Tahiti Beach Hosts Art and Craft Show

By Jennifer Hudson

Christmas music filled the air at the 2nd Annual Tahiti Beach Art and Craft Show held December 13th and 14th. This festive event was held to benefit the Every Child Counts School and Friends of Abaco Animals. Participants displayed a wide variety of arts and crafts adjacent to the beach while volunteers manned the bake sale. Wine and beer was donated by the Bristol Cellars Company.

Artisans exhibiting were Lori Higgs Thompson, Jeep Byers, Beth Sweeting, Hermann Schadt, Bridgette Bowyer, Linda Wiltfang, Ross Thompson, Tuppy Weatherford, Don Wood, Kim Roberts,

Sonia Weatherford, Joe Albury, Patrick Cash and two up and coming young artists Zyandric Jones and Marvin Russell. Virginia Williams displayed her native straw work while weaving purses and other items at the show.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Every Child Counts School may call 3660101 and for Friends of Abaco Animals the number to call is 3663151. For U.S. residents the donations are tax deductible. Happy New Year!

## Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

## Christmas Festivities Were Varied

2003 seems to have passed in a rush! December was the usual hustle and bustle

Please see **Cays**

Page 13



Each winter Hope Town Sailing Club organizes a series of sailboat races inviting all cruising boats in the area to join them. The first race was held on Boxing Day, December 26, with high winds accompanied by blowing rain. Shown here is the Race Committee charting the course. Left to right they are John Forster, Chairman, Jim Clein and Joe Shrier. Photo supplied by the Hope Town Sailing Club

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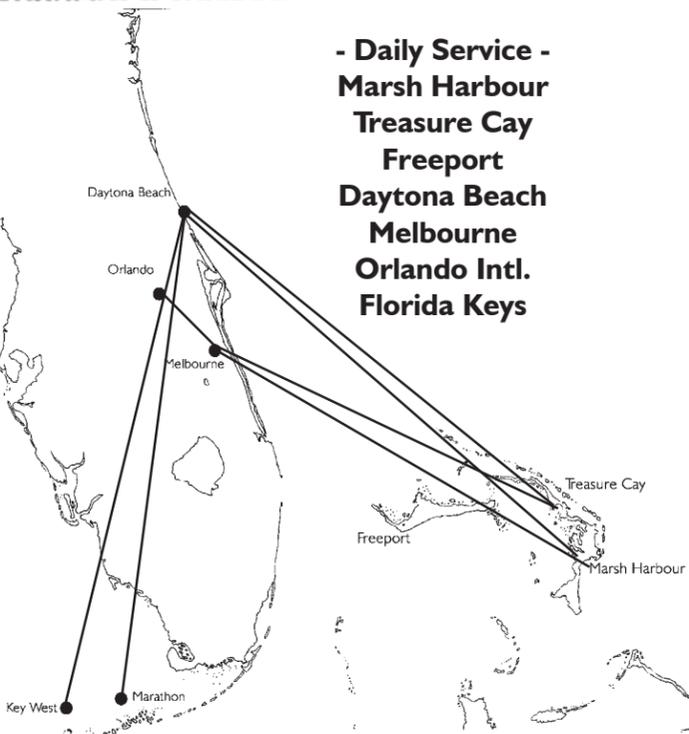
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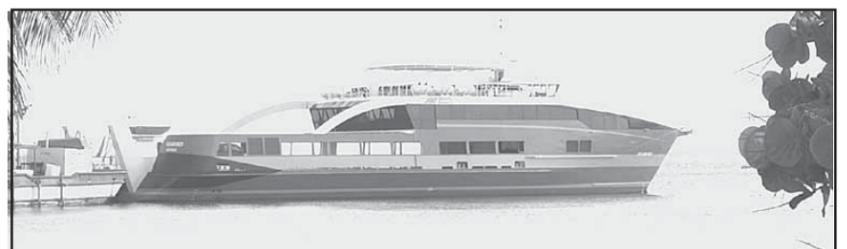
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<b>Passengers</b>		
Adult Passenger	\$90	\$50
Child Passenger under 12 years	\$55	\$30
Child Passenger under 3 years	Free	Free
<b>Other</b>		
Unaccompanied Vehicles	\$40*	\$20*
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\* Price Additional to Accompanied Passenger Vehicle Transportation Price



## Schedule - Sandy Point, Abaco

Day	Depart Nassau	Arrive Sandy Point	Depart Sandy Point	Arrive Nassau
Tuesday	8 am	11:45 pm	12:30 pm	4:15 pm
Friday	3:30 pm	7:15 pm	8 pm	11:45 pm
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# News of the Cays

## Cays From Page 12

of activities leading up to Christmas. After the quiet of September, October and November everyone is eager to be a part of our holiday celebrations. All the lights and decorations made the town look very festive.

James and Marilyn Saunders invited the children to the lighting of their beautifully decorated "Christmas Corner." There was a puppet show and then Santa made an early visit to hear Christmas wishes. He also handed out treats. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Saunders for inviting the children.

The lighting of the Community Tree was well attended. Brenda Cooper, who was celebrating her birthday, lit the tree. Again this year it rained, causing Bishop Johnny to shorten his message. But the rain did not dampen spirits as refreshments were served. Santa was there again handing out gifts to the children.

Public school was out early for the holidays, giving the students three weeks to celebrate! Amy Roberts Primary School's annual fair and raffle was held before the end of term. It was a success. Lucky raffle winners walked away with airline tickets, hotel accommodations, a bike, Game Boy, pizzas, dinners, lunches and other great prizes. The proceeds from the fair will benefit the students.

Abaco's first Junior Junkanoo was held in Marsh Harbour on December 13th. After weeks of practice and pasting it was time for the competition. Parents had made their

predictions, but it was now up to the students. Our school was the fourth group to perform and they were eager to get started.

After two laps of the primary and secondary schools it was time for the judges decision. Amy Roberts Primary won second place in their category. Considering that Amy Roberts Primary had only 40 (yes, forty) students in their group with a large part of the group as dancers, it was a TREMENDOUS achievement for them to outperform the other schools that had at least twice as many students in the group! And their behavior (as well as the other schools) was excellent.

After a day that began at noon with a ferry and bus ride and ended at 10:30 p.m. with a bus and ferry ride the students are to be commended for the way they behaved. As parents, we could not have been prouder had they won first place! Needless to say they now have Junkanoo fever and can't wait for Junior Junkanoo 2004!

### New Arrivals

Our population grew by two. Congratulations to Erin and J.R. Durrance on the birth of their first child, Gage William Scott, born on November 26th. He is the first grandchild for Leslie Sawyer and Reggae Sawyer and the first great-grandchild for Joe and Viola Sawyer.

Eugene and Debbie Lowe welcomed Steven Eugene Floyd on December 29th. Steven has three big sisters all eager to love and spoil him! Congratulations to all the proud relatives!

Christmas day was fairly quiet on the island, but the days following saw the guest rooms and houses full with visitors. Many

people visit this time of year to welcome the New Year and be a part of the Junkanoo celebration. New Year's Eve was a beautiful, clear night.

### New Year's Junkanoo

2004 came in with a bang as fireworks exploded and bells rang to welcome the New Year. On New Year's Day people lined the streets to wait for the annual Junkanoo parade. New Year's Day is a big street party and homecoming as friends greet each other. Food is available through town and it is a big party!

There were two parades this year. The Junior Junkanoo group made a short lap through town. A lot of people who were waiting at the end of Parliament Street were disappointed because the. The Junior group did not "rush" that far.

However, the main parade made a lap around the town. Many of the Junior

Junkanooers were also a part of the main parade. This year's theme was *Celebrating 30 Years* in honour of our independence. Our flag colours were prominent in all the costumes and floats.

### Sad Notes

On a sad note David Smades died on November 4th after a courageous battle against cancer. He fought hard and lived his life to the fullest, not allowing the awful disease to fully control his life. It was only in the last week that the cancer had control. He had celebrated his 50th birthday in September with family and friends. David is survived by his wife Debbie, daughters Jennifer and Heather, his parents, siblings and other relatives and friends.

A visitor to our island, Jules Haley, died suddenly on December 13th. After a break-

Please see **Cays** Page 24



A new fire truck arrived for Green Turtle Cay. Shown with the new truck is Fire Chief Junior Roberts.



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# Christmas Bird Count Draws a Crowd

By Ron Pagliaro

Thirty-five human participants and some 1,900 individual birds stood up to be counted on January 3rd, 2004, to mark the first Annual South Abaco Christmas Bird Count. Christmas bird counting is a 100-year-old tradition that started in response to the over-hunting of birds for sport and ornamental feathers in the late 1900s. Instead of hunting and shooting birds, we hunt and count them.

Over time, yearly trends in bird species numbers may help scientists assess the status of bird populations on the island. This will aid policy-makers in making decisions about how to correctly manage essential habitats for our game species - the White-crowned pigeons and endangered endemic species such as the Bahama Parrot and White-cheeked Pintail (Bahama) ducks. In addition to this, the Christmas bird count is a fun way to spend a day in the bush, promote bird conservation to the larger community and increase awareness for this in-

teresting hobby.

Christmas counts are conducted according to strict guidelines by the National Audubon Society to ensure consistent data collection. The Abaco Count consisted of five teams of seven persons each group dispersed throughout a circle formed by a 7.5 mile radius around a central point. The circle, situated just to the south of "the Y" outside the Abaco National Park in South Abaco, contained roughly 177 square miles of pine forest, coppice and mangrove estu-



The Bahama Woodstar Hummingbird is an endemic bird species found only in the Bahamas archipelago. On Abaco this hummingbird is most likely found in pine forests of South Abaco and on the outer cays. This photo was taken on the Christmas Bird Count by Bubba Scales of Gainesville, Florida.

### Comments on the Bird Count

Hi, Ron,  
We certainly had a great experience birding on Abaco and participating in the island's first Christmas Bird Count. It was exciting to be a part of the important conservation effort you and other environmentalists on the island are doing. We hope the data from all the teams will help illustrate the need for greater protection of the Park. We look forward to participating in a future Abaco CBC.  
Good birding!  
Tom and Judy Gire

ary. Each team must stay within its boundaries so as not to double count birds. Team members count throughout the day covering as much of their area as possible.

In all, some 1,900 birds were counted covering 71 different species which range from parrots to warblers ducks and wading birds. While the number of species counted on Abaco is a bit lower than counts conducted in Freeport and New Providence, the total number of individual birds was much higher. This is to be expected, as other island counts occur in developed areas which tend to attract more migrant birds to dumps, gardens and wetlands. The South Abaco count, however, produced much

larger numbers of endemic birds. Our endemic species are birds which are unique to wilderness areas of the Bahamian pine and coppice forests. This is important because these are the birds that are most critically in danger of extinction due to habitat loss, pollution and frequent fires.

Congratulations and thank you to all of the participants for making this event a success. Special thanks to Solomon's SuperCenter, Rowan Higgs Shell and Friends of the Environment for their generous contributions to make this count possible. For information on participation in next year's Christmas Bird Count or tours to visit the Abaco National Park, call 367-5358



## The Abaco Chamber of Commerce

Invites you to hear  
The Hon. Sen. James Smith  
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11:30 a.m., Thursday, January 29  
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And no one knows the heartache as we try to carry on  
Our hearts still ache with sadness and secret tears still flow  
What it meant to lose you no one will ever know  
Our thoughts are always with you, your place no one can fill  
In life we loved you dearly; in death we love you still  
There will always be a heartache, and often a silent tear  
But always a precious memory of when you were here  
If tears could make a staircase, and heartaches make a lane  
We'd walk the path to Heaven and bring you home again  
Our family chain is broken now and nothing seems the same  
But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again  
- By Connie Dyer

You will always be in my heart, Nicky. - Shanna



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## Club Holds Remote Controlled Sailboat Regatta



The newest sport on Abaco is the competition between remote controlled sailboats. Ten boats competed in the Marsh Harbour Sailing Club R/C Boxing Day Regatta. The boats were raced in the protected harbour of the Abaco Club. Photo supplied by the Club.

Ten sailors gathered at the Abaco Club boat basin for the 2004 Remote Control Boxing Day Regatta. Brisk breezes kept the competitors on their toes. Jim Kaighin edged out Randy Key in the last race to win the regatta. Ross Albury showed he was not to be taken lightly by winning the 4th race. Thanks to Hugh and Sylvia Cottis for keeping the scores and running the starts.

The next regatta is planned for the end of January. For more information on remote control sailing or for the upcoming Homer Lowe sunfish regatta planned for Summer 2004, contact Jim Kaighin at 367-3086.

Results for the 2003 Boxing Day Regatta sponsored by the Marsh Harbour Sailing Club follow:

One throwout(t)	race 1	race 2	race 3	race 4	race 5	race 6	total
Jim Kaighin	1	t-3	1	3	1	2	8
Randy Key	2	1	2	2	2	t-3	9
Dave Lowe	3	2	4	t-dnf(8)	5	4	18
David Muloch	6	5	3	t-6	6	1	21
Ross Albury	t-9	7	5	1	3	5	21
Liann Kaighin	4	6	7	4	4	t-dnf(8)	25
Robert Key	5	4	6	dnf(8)	t-dnf(9)	dnf(8)	31
Lenore Muloch	8	8	t-8	5	7	7	35
Greg Cottis	t-dns(10)	dns(9)	t-dns(9)	7	8	6	39
Duran Lowe	7	t-dns(9)	dns(9)	dnf(8)	dnf(9)	dnf(8)	41

## Bahama Star Farm Hosts Christmas Party



A Christmas party for 120 children was held for the workers of Bahama Star Farm in North Abaco on December 22. The organizers of this annual event provided many substantial gifts for the children which included bicycles and other highly prized gifts. Santa shown here found time to distribute the gifts and was a very popular person as can be seen by the

smiles on the children's faces. The Bahama Star Farm personnel in Florida accepts donations for several months leading up to Christmas. These donations come from the Ft. Pierce and Vero Beach area in Florida. Brian Weaver, General Manager of the Bahama Star operation in Florida, assisted by his wife Pam, coordinated the effort. The farm employs about 140 persons, mostly Haitians and some Bahamians.

## Cookbook Is a Treasure

By Portia Jonsson

The Treasure Cay Community Center has published a cookbook *Recipes to Treasure* which features a fine collection of 435 recipes from Treasure Cay cooks, their friends and neighbours and includes original artwork by local artists.

You can purchase *Recipes to Treasure* at the Rose Mary Roberts Library in the Community Center and at several other locations in Treasure Cay for the price of \$20. All proceeds will go to benefit the Community Center projects.

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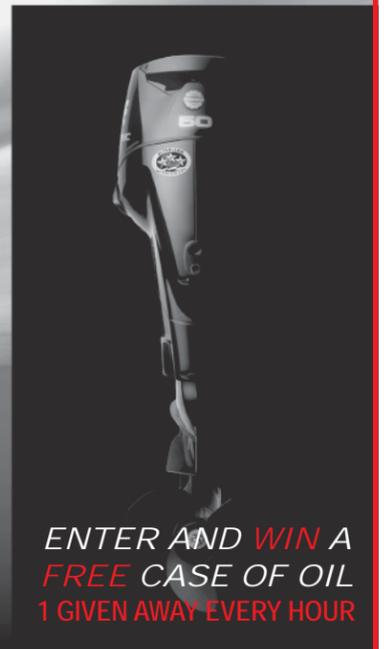
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Pineapple Beach House - Custom ocean front home on sandy beach, 4 b/3 b, open kitchen and great room on second floor w/ balconies for incredible views, completely furnished, freshwater pool. Detached garage offers additional 1bed/1 bath studio. Rental history available, great buy.

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#### ATLANTIC HORIZONS

Custom Timber Peg ocean front home, views of Tilloo Cay and beyond. 3B/3B, spacious kitchen open to great room, large wrap around deck with pool, and private dock slip at Tahiti Beach.



Price: **\$1,500,000**

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**"OCEAN HOUSE"** Incredible parcel of property with 2 bedroom, 2 bath home located on the Atlantic Ocean in historic Hope Town Settlement. 74 feet of ocean front on long white sandy shore. The house has open floor plan with large kitchen and great/dining room, vaulted ceilings, good rental history.

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**"LITTLE ORCHARD"** - Island home located in Buttonwood Bay, 3bd/2bth, fully furnished, central a/c, wrap around decking. Full 1 bed/1bath apartment below (rental income of \$800/month) Enclosed large workshop, 30kw generator, 3 phone lines, cable TV. Lot fully landscaped with mature fruit trees

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**CENTRELINE ROAD**, central Elbow Cay - three contingent lots, b/t 9-10 thousand sq. ft. each. Multi-zoned, residential or commercial, ideal spot for small business. Call Greg Roberts for details.

### ELBOW CAY

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# Abaco Police Hosts Christmas Parties

By Portia Jonsson

On December 23rd the Abaco Police Department held a Christmas Party and Fun Day at the Murphy Town park for the less fortunate children in our community.

Inspector Clarence Russell said that all year round the Police have been tied up with various tedious tasks and serious Police duties. But he is very proud to announce that throughout the year 2003 the entire community of Abaco has been totally supportive of their efforts at bridging the gap between the community and local law enforcement.

Historically, the Royal Bahamas Police Force hosts an annual Police Children Party. Last year they sought to build upon that tradition and include in their festivities some

of the unfortunate children in their celebration who might have otherwise not get to enjoy the Christmas holidays.

The children were treated to gifts, eats and drinks along with games, music, dancing, face painting and a fireworks display. But I am sure the highlight of the day, and many of the kids would agree, was the ride around the track on the police motorcycles. There was a very impressive turnout of more than 150 kids and not only one but two Santa Clauses.

Inspector Russell added that he and the officers of the Abaco Police trust that the community continues to lend them support as they strive for excellence and a crime free society throughout the year 2004. He wishes God's blessings to everyone for a



Santa was popular at the Police party in Sandy Point for the children of South Abaco. He is shown here surrounded by them. Santa had gifts for all of them.



The Police Department on Abaco gave parties in North Abaco, Central Abaco and South Abaco providing food, drink, games and gifts for children. The highlight for many of the children was a ride on one of the police motorcycles around the Murphy Town track. Santa Claus visited at each of the parties.

prosperous New Year and thanks the Abaco community for their support on behalf of the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Paul Farquharson; Assistant Commissioner for Grand Bahama and the Northern Region, Mr. Ellison Greenslade; officers and members of the Abaco Police District, and his family.

The Abaco Police in Sandy Point and Cooper's Town hosted Christmas parties for the children in their community which were also well attended. An estimated 500 kids turned out in Cooper's Town and over 150 in Sandy Point.

## Grouper

From Page 4

the season should be extended to cover the whole of March and August also as the crawfish are still spawning at those times. One crawfisherman, when asked his views about the closed grouper season, replied that they should close the grouper season for four months as they do the crawfish season because if the crawfishermen have to suffer for four months, then the grouper fishermen should have to suffer the same amount of time.

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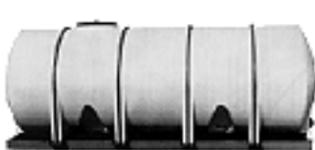
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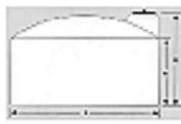
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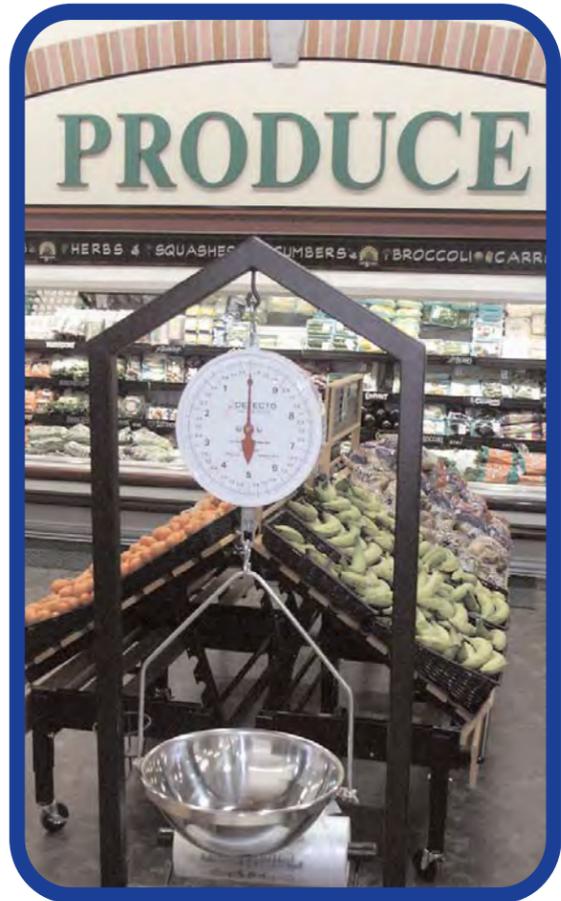
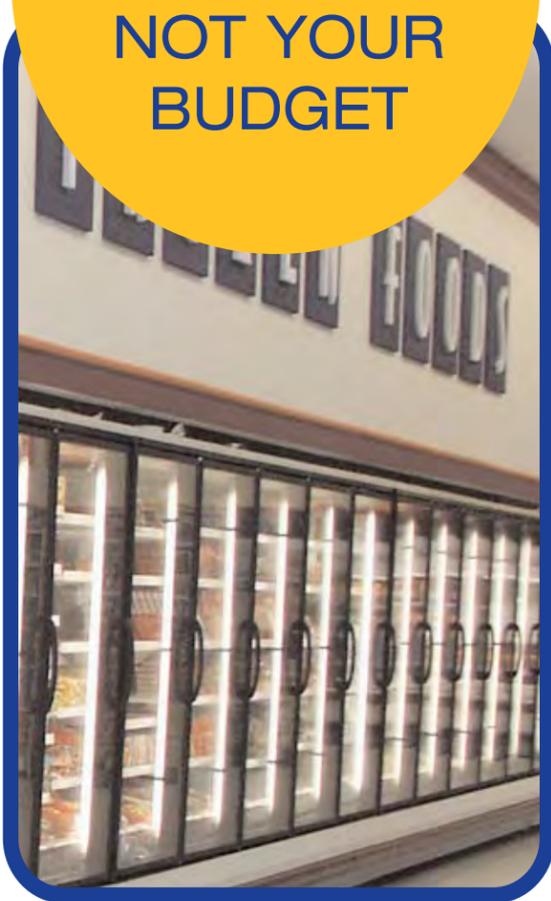
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## ★ HOMES ★

### Marsh Harbour, Central Cays and South Abaco

- ★ **Bahama Palm Shores** - Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath - 1,300 sq.ft. home. with 1 bedroom, 1 bath detached cottage/apartment on almost 1/2 acre lot. One Block from beach, two minute walk. #AB76 - **\$225,000.**
- ★ **Bahama Palm Shores** - Elegant 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,000 sq.ft. home. with 1 bedroom, 1 bath detached cottage/apartment on double lot over 2/3 acre Near beach - Auxillary Generator. #AB87 - **\$430,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour - "Pelican Point"** - 3 bedroom, 3 bath home - 1 bedroom, 1 bath garage apartment - 2 Acres -private dock - Fabulous Views. - Furnished # AB67 **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Cove Estates - "Laura's Hideaway" -Duplex - 2 -2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, plus efficiency, 3 separate living units - great location, excellent rental income, furnished. #AB44 - **\$187,500.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shores - "Beach Point House" - 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,500 sq.ft. home. 1,200 sq.ft. of verandahs and decks. 3/4 acre on Sea of Abaco - Two complete living units, Beach Great views. #AB89 - **\$1,450,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - "Spinnaker Point" - 3 bedrooms - 3 baths - 1,320 sq.ft. Home, Private 50' Lay-along Boat Dock, Tastefully furnished and fully equipped # AB93 - **\$595,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shores - "Lookout House" - 4 bedroom, 3 baths - 1,600 sq.ft. on sea-to-sea 3/4 acre. New addition and renovation. Natural foliage - Private dock - Fabulous views - Furnished. #AB91 - **\$1,120,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Lightbourn" - Commercial - Almost 2 Acres - Prime Queen Elizabeth Drive Location, near stoplight - 3,600 sq.ft. Store or warehouse. # AB - AB99 - **\$1,400,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Commercial - over 1/3 Fenced Acre - 2,160 sq.ft. Showroom/Office/Warehouse Building - Perfect for service business or wholesaler - AB110 - **\$290,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Villa Douglas" - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedrooms - 3 baths - 2,650 sq.ft. Home, Upper and Lower Covered Verandas, Garage - Private Dock, Boat Lift - Beautifully Furnished. #AB71- **\$1,320,000.**



**Derek A. Lee, BRI**  
Broker

Joined H.G. Christie, in 1996.

Chairman  
Abaco Chapter  
Bahamas Real Estate Association.

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**NEW LISTING**

"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**



**NEW LISTING**

Murphy Town

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



"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.**



**NEW LISTING**

"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.

Based in Man-O-War Cay

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**Kathleen Albury, BRI**  
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**NEW PRICE**

"North Star"

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



**NEW LISTING**

"Plover's Nest"

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

## ☆ 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.**



**NEW LISTING**

"On De Sound"

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



**NEW PRICE**

"Son Burns"

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



**Chris Plummer, BRI**  
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie, in 2000.

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# Night Time Vandals Strike Nine Businesses

Thieves were busy during the night of December 29 at the Marsh Harbour airport and surrounding area. Seven businesses were broken into and vandalized. The pattern was similar with doors forced or windows smashed and interior offices vandalized.

Abaco Petroleum Distributors, the Texaco fuel distributor for Abaco close to the airport round-about on Don MacKay Boulevard, was entered through a forced back door. Its office was ransacked with files and records dumped on the floor as the thieves searched for valuables. Approximately \$800 was stolen in funds collected for a charity. A pickup truck was taken and later found at the ball park in Marsh Harbour adjacent to the Mud settlement. It had been driven through the fence and abandoned with the doors left open.

RND Cinemas theater was broken into through a restroom window and the cash register was stolen. The manager's office was locked but the thieves apparently left when they set off the alarm while attempting to enter this office.

The Zig Zag hanger was entered through a smashed window and the office was trashed with file and desk drawers emptied on the floor. A newly painted aircraft and another plane in the hanger were written on by a marker with a message suggesting the Mud Dogs were responsible. Whether they were to blame or this was a ruse to thwart the investigation is unclear.

Cherokee Air suffered a broken window and the inside of the building was trashed thoroughly. A \$2,500 microfilm reader was broken and \$1800 was stolen. Another reference to the Mud Dogs was written on a

computer screen.

Further in the airport grounds Abaco Air was similarly broken into. The large aircraft door on their hanger was pried open and the inside door leading to the office area had the dead bolt hammered open. Several offices inside had their files and drawers dumped on the floor.

Keys were taken belonging to Pilot Edrick Symonette, who was away on a flight. His car was driven into the locked gate close to the main airport terminal parking area, apparently with the car lights off. The gate was destroyed and the front of the car suffered extensive damage. However, the gate did not open and the thief drove

the car back to the Abaco Air parking lot. A police patrol found the destroyed but unyielding gate around 2 a.m. The gate and the break-in were discovered again in the morning when Louise Malone went to work and called police.

The Airport Lounge adjacent to the terminal parking lot was also broken into. A window was smashed and a small amount of liquor and money was taken. The pattern was similar with drawers and cabinets emptied onto the floor.

Forest Heights Academy close to the Texaco office had the glass on their front

Please see **Break-ins** Page 33



During the night of December 29 thieves broke into six businesses in the airport area, trashing offices and stealing vehicles and money. The car shown here, belonging to Capt. Edrick Symonette, was driven into a gate and damaged extensively.

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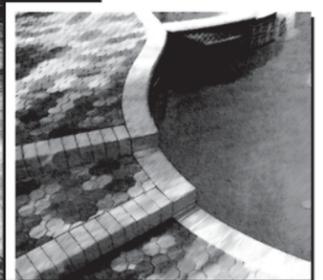
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# School News

## Ramapo College Visits

By Isobel Sherman

Mrs. Rita Tepper, Director of International Recruitment for Ramapo College in Mahweh, New Jersey, paid a two-day visit to Abaco on January 6 and 7. She met with about 25 students and numerous parents at the Learning Resource Centre in Marsh Harbour. Her goal is to give a scholarship to an Abaco student to attend Ramapo College. In order to qualify the student must have SAT of at least 1160, a GPA above 3.0 or five BGCSE Examination passes in academic subjects of C or better and a GPA of 3.0 and above.

Mrs. Tepper had a video presentation and then answered questions. After the meet-

ing she met with individual students and parents.

Mrs. Tepper announced that Ramapo College would deduct \$2000 from the first year's tuition of Bahamaian students entering the college this fall.

Interest seemed keen. While on Abaco Mrs. Tepper also met with Kathy Weldon of Abaco Pathfinders. She planned to visit Freeport and Nassau before returning to the college.

## Reminder

By Isobel Sherman

Those students who are applying for an Abaco Pathfinder Scholarship must submit their applications by February 1, 2004. The deadline for those who wish to apply for

the Shenadoah University Scholarship through the Abaco Pathfinders Scholarship and have not done so have missed the deadline of January 15, 2004.

## St. Francis de Sales Christmas Concert

By Portia Jonsson

Under The theme *The Joys Of Christmas*, St. Francis de Sales Catholic School held its Christmas Concert 2003 at the church on December 12th. The very lively program featured congregation sing-alongs of Christmas hymns and carols and presentations from all the grades.

The school's drama department, just recently formed, gave its first theatrical performance which was a Christmas musical play and the high school's Spanish class performed a special Spanish song.

Closing out the concert was the Kindergarten class which brought the crowd to its feet with a very colorful and exciting Junkanoo performance.

## Prime Time Recipient

By Isobel Sherman

Hillary Rutter, a 2003 graduate of Abaco Central High School, has received a Prime

Time full scholarship to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She departs this month to join other Prime Time recipients form Abaco Central, Shaquiera Adderly and Keora Brown along with Theresa Pinder, a graduate of Forest Heights.

## Goodbye

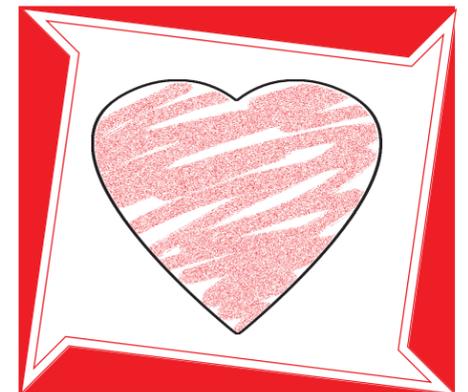
By Isobel Sherman

Abaco Central High School students and staff had to say goodbye to Huel Moss, Jr .

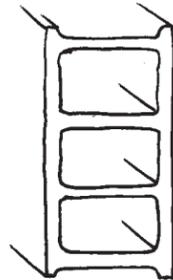
Please see **School** Page 23



St. Francis de Sales honors top students each month. The group above are the outstanding students for November. They are, front row left to right, Jacob Doyle - grade 1, Mabery Wilmore - Pre-K, Keonte Nightingale - Pre-K and Marvin Cash - K. Behind, left to right are Marquis Knowles - Grade 5, Joel Reckley - Grade 7, Rickanta Smith - Grade 3, Eden McIntosh - Grade 10, Cameron Siewruk - Grade 4, Stephen Pedican - Grade 9, Stefan Subbs - Grade 2, Nekhira Saunders - Grade 8 and Charmile Adderley - Grade 12. Missing from the photo are Adeisha Pinder - Grade 11 and Ahmad Johnson - Grade 6.



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# More School News

## School From Page 22

When school reopened on January 5 Mr. Moss learned that he had been transferred to South Andros High School in Kemps Bay as the Principal and he had to report on January 12.

Mr. Moss came to Abaco Central ten years ago as the biology and marine biology teacher. He is responsible for the vibrant marine biology programme, the only

one in the Bahamas which features SCUBA diving instruction as part of the programme. In fact, Mr. Moss and Kay Politano of Abaco Dive Adventures collaborated on the SCUBA portion of the course as Mrs. Politano teaches that portion.

Mr. Moss was Abaco Central's first Teacher of the Year and represented Abaco that year in the National Teacher of the Year Award. He was made Master Teacher and appointed as Vice Principal three years ago. He has been responsible for organiz-

ing many of the programs at the school and in the community. He has led students to become proactive in the protection of the environment and had teams of students to clean up places such as Snake Cay, Crossing Beach and the dock site on the Shell Road in Murphy Town.

### School Busing from South Abaco

By Jennifer Hudson

Senior school students in South Abaco do not have the convenience of attending a school in their area since numbers do not warrant the construction of a government high school there. A total of 79 students are bussed in each day from Sandy Point, Bahama Palm Shores and Crossing Rocks

and 12 from Cherokee. The largest proportion, approximately 45 five students, attend Abaco Central High School.

Two buses are contracted by the government to take the students into Marsh Harbour, one takes students to the Central Abaco Primary School and Abaco Central High School while the other services St. Francis de Sales School, Agape Christian School, Forest Heights Academy, Wesley College and Long Bay School.

Primary school students in Sandy Point are able to attend the J.A. Pinder School, while primary students at Crossing Rocks are able to attend school there. According

Please see **School** Page 24



The Kindergarten class of St. Francis de Sales School closed out the school's Christmas Concert with a very exciting Junkanoo performance.



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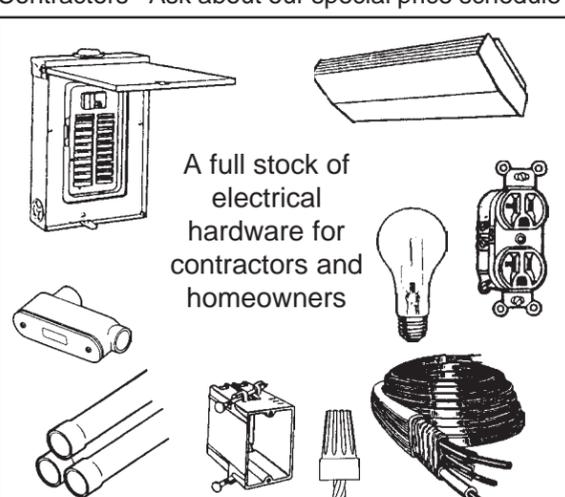
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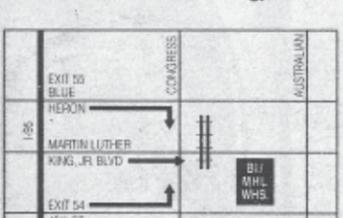
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**Cays**

From Page 13

fast with friends he sat to rest at the Poet Office porch. It was there that he died. Efforts to revive him were in vain. He had been a frequent visitor to the island and was known in town.

Mr. Vertrum Lowe has kept the tradition of boat building alive in his family. His father, Albert Lowe, built many beautiful model ships. After Albert's death, Vertrum decided to keep the tradition going. The boats are built to scale with attention paid to every little detail. His workshop is in his back yard just behind Curry's store and is open to the public.

A few weeks ago Mr. Lowe had the honour of being visited by our Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Fred Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell was looking for a special gift to present to South African president, Thabo Mbeki on his visit to the Bahamas. A three-masted schooner model was chosen and Mr. Lowe crated it and shipped it to Nassau. It was presented to President Mbeki as a gift from the Bahamas. As Abaconians we should all be proud to know that a small part of Abaco is now far away in South Africa.

Congratulations to Mr. Lowe for having the honour of having his work chosen. Mr. Vertrum is the older brother of artist Alton Lowe.

My only resolution for this year is to keep current with Green Turtle Cay events for *The Abaconian*. Hopefully, it won't be like those resolutions involving diets and exercise! Again, Happy 2004!

**School**

From Page 23

to Mr. Hezekiah Dean, District Education Officer, the Ministry of Education is working towards obtaining an extra teacher for the Crossing Rocks School. In past years several parents opted to send their primary aged children to school in Marsh Harbour, but the majority now send their offspring to school in their home settlement except for some parents who work in Marsh Harbour and prefer to have their children at school here.

Primary school students from Spring City and Snake Cay are bussed into Marsh Harbour and, along with the few from Sandy Point and Crossing Rocks, constitute 25 students from South Abaco attending Central Abaco Primary School.

When surveyed about their feelings at having to undertake the hour long 50-mile ride to and from school each day the consensus among the students was one of complete acceptance. The students had no complaints at having to rise at 6 a.m. each day to be ready in time to catch the 7:30 bus. (All except a grade two child from Agape School who, at the age of seven, finds getting up at that early hour a little difficult). Most of the children find time to eat breakfast which is a good thing.

The students do not seem to find the hour long journey tedious. The older students often read or do some of their homework studies while the younger students say they enjoy listening to music and taking snacks to eat on the bus. According to the bus driver, the students, though sometimes a little noisy, are well behaved and he has no problems on the busses.

A bus collects the students outside their respective schools between 3 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. each afternoon so that even the children from the furthest settlement of Sandy

Point are home by 4:15 p.m. That gives them plenty of time for homework and some relaxation. Students from Abaco Central High School say they receive about one

hour's homework per night so they never have to work overtime on weekends to catch up on assignments and have plenty of time for fun.



Students from South Abaco arrive by bus at their various schools in the Marsh Harbour area in time for the beginning of each school day. These students attending Abaco Central High School do not mind the one hour trip each way from Sandy Point. They arrive home by 4:15 so they have time for other activities.

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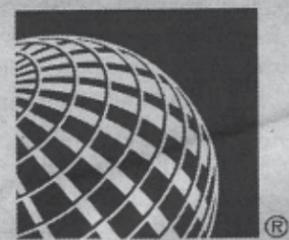
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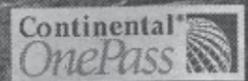


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# Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral service for **Charles Bertram Cooper**, 61, of Cooper's Town was held on Jan 2 at the Church of God Cathedral in Cooper's Town. Bishop Archilus Cooper officiated assisted by Deacon Jenson Edgcombe and Elder Clayton McIntosh. Interment was in the Southside Gardens in Cooper's Town.

He is survived by sons Bertram, Chris and Travolta Cooper and Uhenessy Kemp; daughters Kara Bowleg and Sabrina Cooper; stepchildren Charlotte Collins, Janette Stewart, Kevin Marshall and Ricardo Wignall; grandchildren Carey Bowleg and Regan Kemp; sisters Cleotha Edgcombe, Sheila Adderley and Vernie Smith; brothers Joseph, Bishop Archilaus, Hartman, Henry, Eric and Samuel Cooper; nieces, nephews, grandnieces; grandnephews; mothers-in-law Ludell Hanna and Leothra Pagan; son-in-law Carlton Bowleg; daughter-in-law Samantha Kemp; sisters-in-law Estella, Macy, Lillian, Vivian and Netta Cooper; Corine Hanna, Nannette Conyers, Flossie Symonette, Louise Hanna, Lavenia Bernard and Rosalie Jones; brothers-in-law Medius Edgcombe, Neville Adderley, Rudy Smith and Jeff Hanna; god children and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Leader Cleveland Sawyer**, 93, of Fox Town was held on January

4 at the Zion Baptist Church in Fox Town. Rev. Dr. Allen Mills and Rev. John McIntosh officiated. Interment was in the Fox Town Public Cemetery.

He is survived by adopted sons Reginald, George, Michael McIntosh, Leroy Thompson, Lenwood and Kirkwood Darville; adopted daughters Alzona Rolle, Martha Cleare, Izalene Thomas, Virginia Curry and Majorie McIntosh; grandchildren Estell Gibson, Collins Rolle, Jewel McIntosh, Narvo McIntosh and Dargo McIntosh; great-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; sons-in-law Kermit Rolle and Gordon McIntosh; daughters-in-law Princess McIntosh, Ulrica McIntosh, Lorraine Thompson and Lavinia Darville; and many other relatives and friends.

**Ynes Maria Newbold**, 84, passed away on December 1, 2003. Her funeral was held in Nassau on December 5 and interment was in Nassau.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Roy Newbold, Sr., daughters Loree Sawyer and Sharon Roberts; son Roy Newbold, Jr.; sons-in-law Bert Sawyer and Dave Roberts; daughter-in-law Maggie Newbold; granddaughters Donna Albury, Maria Albury, Tammy Albury, Tina Russell, Candace Nottage and Melissa Roberts; grandsons Terence Roberts and Carlisle Newbold; grandsons-in-law Barry Albury, Leslie Albury, Vandel Albury,

Bryce Russell and Timothy Roberts; granddaughter-in-law Kim Roberts; great-grandchildren Bruce, Robert, Beckie, Clive, Albert, Donavon, Nita, Lauren, Lynsie and Dillon Albury, Miranda and Christopher Nottage, Richard Newbold, Timothy Vincent and Oswald Roberts; great-great-granddaughter Autumn Albury; sister Nevis Roberts; sisters-in-law Leona Pyfrom, Dorothea Thompson, Johanna Newbold; brothers-in-law Gladstone Newbold, Roscoe Thompson and Lamar Cooper; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Lewis Menza Dames**, 81, of Moore's Island was held on January 10 at St. Matthew's Baptist Church. Pastor Geneva Williams officiated assisted by other ministers. Interment was in the Public Cem-

etry in The Bight.

He is survived by his wife, Aremonta Dames; daughters Margaret Jones and Leotha Reckley; son Atlee Davis; daughter-in-law Michell Davis; sons-in-law Eddie Reckley and Roger Jones; nieces Rosetta, Beverly Dean, Prescola, Natalie, Ethelemae, Rosemary, Kathleen, Louise, Jessiemae, Beverly, Laura, Sebrina, Maria, Desiree, Elemitta, Inez, Ruth, Margaret and Betty; nephews, Jerome, Ike, Mervin, Milton, Tommy, Robert, Cecil, Joseph, Edmun, Harry, Philip and Ervin; sisters-in-law Manerva, Emily and Tesha; brothers-in-law Leon Smith and Pleasant Dames; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; grandnieces; grandnephews; and many other relatives and friends.



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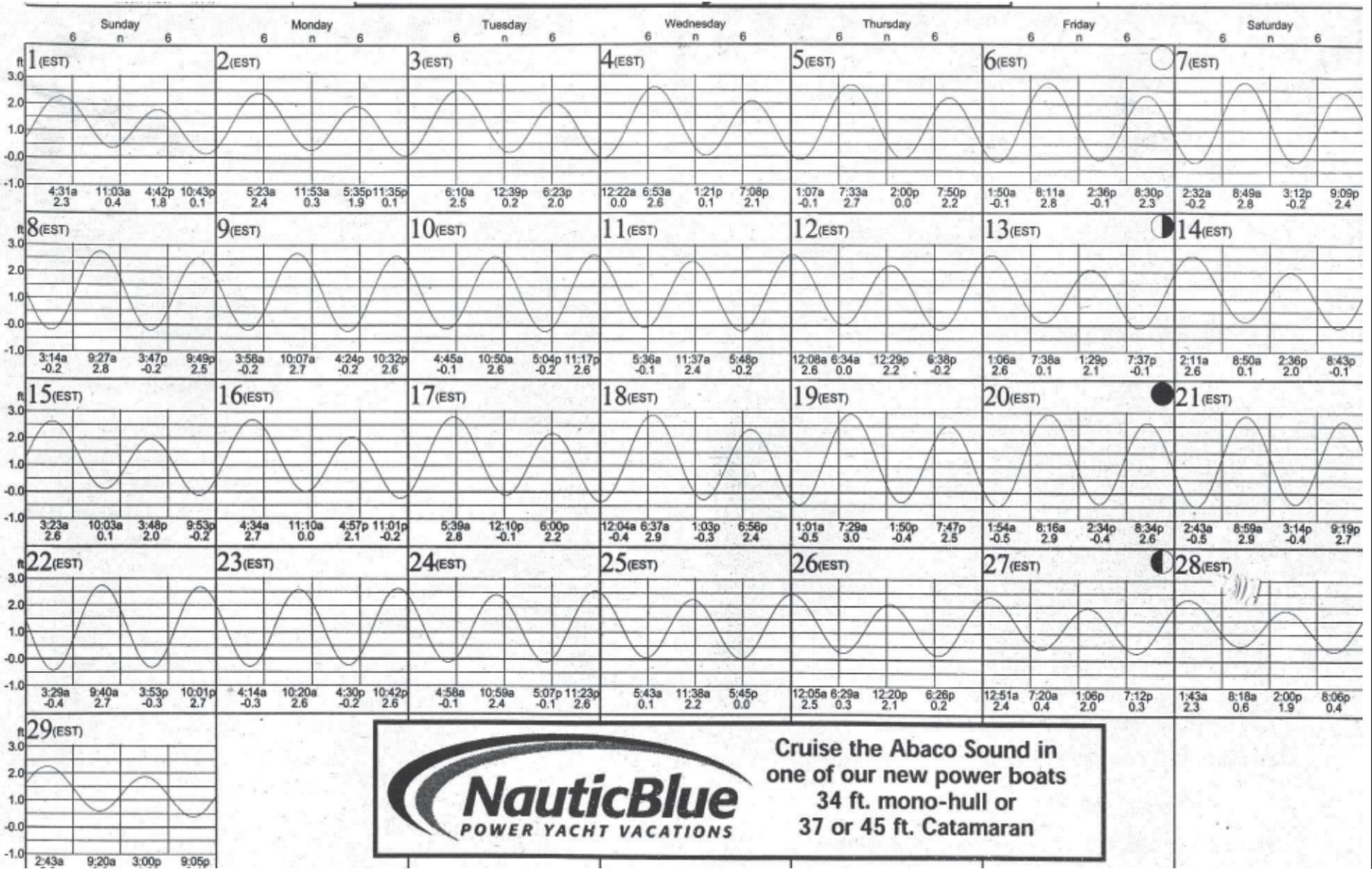
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## Art Show Will Feature Abaco Artists

By Jennifer Hudson

The seventh annual Art Show at the Abaco Beach Hotel will take place this year on January 31st and February 1st. The show will be open to the public on those days between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Invited guests will have a preview during the evening of January 30th.

Between 25 and 30 artists are expected to show their work and this year for the first time it is to be a juried show. Only fine art will be on display and a panel of three will preview the work to ensure that this criteria is met. Over the past few years crafts have been seeping into the show and it is felt that this show should hold true to being only a show for fine art as it has al-

ways been advertised as such.

A craft show was held in December and another will be scheduled in a couple of months so the crafters will have plenty of opportunity to display their work at those times.

Each different type of fine art e.g. painting, jewelry, fabric art, carving and sculpture will be displayed in its own separate section.

It is the aim of the Abaco Beach Hotel to ensure that this show will be of the highest quality. Any artist still wishing to participate is invited to call Kevie at the hotel. The deadline for entries will be one week prior to the show.

## More Security May Be Required

By Isobel Sherman

According to Henry Woods, Bahamasair Operations Manager, the airline has received a communication from the US Department of Home and Security informing them that planes flying in United States airspace may have to have armed air marshals on them. Not all flights would have to have

a marshal but the possibility does exist that some flights in the future may have to have marshals on them so Bahamasair must begin to formulate a plan since the country has no trained air marshals. The government of the Bahamas is in close communication with officials in the United States on all matters pertaining to security.



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## Junkanoo

From Page 2

The Minister of Youth Sports and Culture, his Permanent Secretary and Deputy Director of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture along with the Chairman of the National Junkanoo Family Island Committee have been invited to attend this event to give their support and announce plans for future development of Abaco. The Minister declared that the Junior Junkanoo in Abaco is on par with that in Nassau.

The All Abaco Junkanoo Steering Committee is still looking for donations to assist with prizes for the schools and hopes those who can afford to donate will assist. Mr. Williams said the Committee has identified a few glitches to be improved upon and feels that the public is very receptive and cooperative.

Although it was felt that the Boxing Day Parade was not as spectacular as the Junior Junkanoo Parade, it was nevertheless enjoyed by both visitors and residents and it is hoped that this will now become a tradition on Abaco and that it will grow each year.

## Boxing Day Senior Junkanoo Results

### Best Banner

1st	Spring City Rockers	146 pts.
2nd	Green Turtle Cay Rockers	132 pts.
3rd	LA Conquers	90 pts.
4th	Supreme Dancers	36 pts.

### Best Overall

1st	Spring City Rockers	490 pts.
2nd	Green Turtle Cay Rockers	463 pts.
3rd	LA-Conquers	461 pts.
4th	Supreme Dancers	160 pts.

### Music

1st	Green Turtle Cay Rockers	503 pts.
2nd	Spring City Rockers	474 pts.
3rd	LA-Conquers	436 pts.
4th	Supreme Dancers	188 pts.

### Group Performance

1st	Spring City Rockers	482 pts.
2nd	Green Turtle Cay Rockers	469 pts.
3rd	LA-Conquers	421 pts.
4th	Supreme Dancers	159 pts.

### Execution of Theme

1st	Spring City Rockers	489 pts.
2nd	Green Turtle Cay Rockers	469 pts.
3rd	LA-Conquers	415 pts.
4th	Supreme Dancers	156 pts.



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Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030

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Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366-0266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key 30 hse + 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

### Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hue 366-3121

### Man-O-War

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Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719

Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980

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Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

### Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

### Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

### Spanish Cay

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

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### Web Sites

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www.bahamas.com - Min. of Tourism



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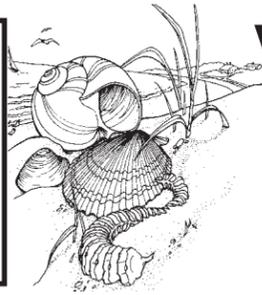


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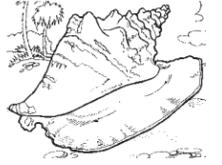
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Fire - Marsh Harb. Volunteer Fire Dept.	367-2000
Fire - Hope Town Volunteer Fire Dept.	VHF Ch 16
Ambulance - Trauma One - Marsh Harbour	367-2911
Fire - Dundas Town Volunteer	367-2935 or 4935
Man-O-War Fire & Rescue	365-6911
Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc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

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

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers Plus extra for each passenger above two	
<b>Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:</b>	
Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr	\$12 + \$3
Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market	\$10 + \$2
Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto	\$ 6 + \$2
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Spring City	\$15 + \$5
Snake Cay	\$35 + \$10
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Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores	\$70 + \$ 10
Little Harbour or Cherokee	\$80 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135 + \$10
<b>Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:</b>	
Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore	\$ 2 each
Jib Room	\$ 3 each
Golden Harvest	\$5 + \$3
Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock	\$ 6 + \$3
Government Freight Dock	\$ 7 + \$3
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Sand Banks	\$20 + \$5
Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
Black Wood	\$14 + \$5
Fire Road	\$25 + \$5
Cooper's Town	\$30 + \$5
Cedar Harbour	\$45 + \$5
Wood Cay	\$50 + \$5
Mount Hope	\$55 + \$5
Fox Town	\$60 + \$5
Marsh Harbour or Crown Haven	\$65 + \$5
Marsh Harbour Round Trip	\$85 + \$5
TC Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$55 + \$5
TC Hotel to Joe's Creek	\$25 + \$5
TC Hotel to Sand Bank	\$16 + \$5
TC Hotel to Moxey	\$10 + \$5
TC Hotel to Bronks	\$7 + \$5
From TC Hotel to All Areas N. of T.C. Airport	Add \$10
Waiting Time	\$12 Per Hour

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American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau & W. Palm Beach	367-2095
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Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
Golden Airlines - Ft. Lauderdale	954-359-8020
Island Express - Ft. Lauderdale	367-3597
Lynx Air International - Ft. Lauderdale	954-772-9808
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Southern Air - Nassau	367-2498
Twin Air - Fort Lauderdale	365-8677
USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Yellow Air Taxi - Ft. Lauderdale	954-359-0292

Local charter companies serving Bahamas & S. Florida

Abaco Air Charter	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-2089

Tours & Excursions	
Kayak • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
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	
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0431



Ferry Schedule	
Departure times shown • Daily unless noted	
<b>Albury's Ferry Service</b> • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6010 • VHF Ch. 16	
<b>Marsh Harbour to Hope Town</b> 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach	
7:15 (M-F)	9 am 10:30 12:15 pm 2 4 5:45
<b>Return</b>	8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 (M-F)
<b>Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War</b> 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach	
10:30 am	12:15 pm (M-Sat) 2:30 (M-Sat) 4 5:45
<b>Return</b>	8 am 11:30 (M-Sat) 1:30 pm 3:15 (M-Sat)
<b>Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay &amp; Guana</b> 40 min. from Conch Inn	
‡ 6:45 am	10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45 (min \$40)
<b>Return</b>	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	
<b>Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport</b>	
8 am	9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30
<b>Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay</b>	
8:30 am	10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
One way adult \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$12 Extra to some destinations	

Abaco Adventures	
• Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16	
<b>Treasure Cay to Ma Hope Town</b> - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm	
\$25 OW \$35 RT	
<b>Treasure Cay to Guana Cay</b> - Sun 12 Noon, return 3 \$20 OW \$25 RT	
<b>Pinder's Ferry Service</b> Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -	
<b>Crown Haven Abaco to McLean's Town</b> - Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm	
<b>McLean's Town to Crown Haven</b> - 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.	
<b>Bahamas Ferries</b> Between Nassau & Sandy Point under 4 Hr.	
Tuesday	Lv Nassau 8 am Lv Sandy Point 12:30 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	

Please bring errors or omissions to our attention

Abaco Marinas		
	Slips Fuel	Phone
<b>Walker's Cay</b>		
Walker's Cay Marina	75	F 353-1252
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>		
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
<b>Treasure Cay</b>		
Treasure Cay Marina	150	F 365-8250
<b>Man-O-War</b>		
Man-O-War Marina	26	F 365-6008
<b>Marsh Harbour</b>		
Boat Harbour Marina	183	F 367-2736
Conch Inn	75	F 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36	F 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52	F 367 2700
Mangoes	29	F 367-2366
Port of Call	24	F 367-2287
Abaco Yacht Haven	7	367-3079
<b>Hope Town</b>		
Hope Town Marina	16	366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways		366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6	F 366-0154
Sea Spray	24	F 366-0065
<b>Spanish Cay</b>		
Spanish Cay Marina	75	F 365-0083
<b>Guana Cay</b>		
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
<b>Hope Town</b>	
Froggies	366-0431
<b>Treasure Cay</b>	
Treasure Divers	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>	
Brendal's Dive Center	365-4411
<b>Guana Cay Dive Shop</b>	365-5178
<b>Man-O-War Dive Shop</b>	365-6013

Rentals	
<b>Bikes &amp; Scooters • Boats • Cars &amp; Carts</b>	
<b>Marsh Harbour</b>	
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
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>	
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
<b>Guana Cay</b>	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Guana Cay Cart Rentals	365-5016
<b>Man-O-War</b>	
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
<b>Hope Town</b>	
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
<b>Treasure Cay</b>	
Alison Car Rent	365-8193
Cas's Carts	365-8771
Claridge's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749



Everyone reads The Abaconian.

Everyone reads The Abaconian.

Bonefish Guides	
<b>Sandy Point</b>	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286
Nicholas Roberts	
Derrick Gaitor	
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133
Vernal Burrows	
Kendall White	
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Floyd Burrows	366-4175
Links Adderly	366-4335
Valentino Lightbourne	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233
<b>Marsh Harbour</b>	
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Justin Sands	367-3526
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
<b>Man-O-War</b>	
David Albury	365-6059
<b>Cherokee</b>	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Randy Sawyer	366-2284
<b>Hope Town</b>	
Maitland Lowe	366-0133
<b>North Abaco</b>	
O'Donald McIntosh	
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff Survance	365-4040
Ricky Sawyer	365-4261

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
‡ Provides ride from town	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only	
<b>Marsh Harbour</b>	
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Conch Crawl	\$ 367-4444
Gino's	\$ 367-2002
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Hibiscus Cafe	\$ 367-2782
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
<b>Dundas Town</b>	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Mackerals	367-5932
<b>Hope Town</b>	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Club Soliel	366-0253
Harbour's Edge	\$ 366-0087
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ + 366-0423
Rudy's Place	\$\$\$ ‡ 366-0062
Sea Spray	\$\$\$ ‡ 366-0065
<b>Man-O-War</b>	
Pavilion	\$ 365-6185
Hibiscus	365-6380
<b>Guana Cay</b>	
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Mermaid Cafe	\$\$\$ 365-5137
Orchid Bay	365-6175
<b>Treasure Cay</b>	
Florence's Cafe	\$
Coconuts	
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	365-8654
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>	
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
<b>Sandy Point</b>	
Big J's	\$ 366-4020
Nancy's	
Oeishas	366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$ 366-4120
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge	366-4477

## Two Boating Accidents Occurred at Night

### Five Men Were Rescued in North Abaco

By Jennifer Hudson

Two brothers are in serious condition in the Intensive Care Unit of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Nassau after a boating accident in North Abaco. At approximately 11 p.m. on December 28 a 30-foot foreign owned speed boat driven by Terrance Davis with five men, all relatives, on board hit a reef as it was returning to Marsh Harbour from Florida. All occupants were badly thrown about the boat. Fortunately, one of the men had a cell phone with him which he used to call the police station in Cooper's Town as the VHF radio on the boat was not working. Some people from Fox Town went to their aid and took the men to the Cooper's Town Clinic for treatment. Two of the men, Marlin Simms and Carlson Bootle were unhurt. Quincy Penn received shoulder injuries while brothers Terrance and Hank Davis received severe facial injuries. All three injured men were airlifted to Nassau at early Monday morning, December 29. Hank Davis received further surgery to his face on January 8th.

All persons on the boat are residents of Murphy Town except for Quincy Penn who resides in Spring City. The boat is awaiting shipment to the United States for repair.

### Woman Was Thrown Out of Boat

Another boating accident occurred about 8 p.m. on January 9 in the waters off Marsh Harbour. A 35-foot boat traveling from Elbow Cay to Marsh Harbour hit the rocks off Sugarloaf Cay throwing one of the passengers out of the boat. The boat stalled, then restarted and sped off. Persons on Eastern Shores, Sugarloaf Cay and Matt Lowe's Cay heard the crash. The 54-year-old woman in the water swam to shore and screamed for help. She notified her rescuers that two others had been in the boat, and she assumed they were thrown out of the boat also. BASRA was notified and organized a search for the two people and the boat.

When the boat was finally located, it was on the boat lift at the Pelican Shores residence of the owner, Mr. Chris Baughman. The two missing people, Mr. Baughman and his 84-year-old mother, were at the house. All three people were examined by doctors in Marsh Harbour. The woman thrown out of the boat had superficial wounds. The elderly woman was flown out that night because of injuries.

Search boats on the scene were from several islands including Elbow Cay, Man-O-War, Guana Cay, Sugarloaf Cay and Marsh Harbour. BASRA coordinated the rescue efforts.

## Boat Parade Attracts Hundreds

By Jennifer Hudson

Crowds gathered all around the harbour of Marsh Harbour on the evening of December 22nd to watch the 10th annual boat parade. Eleven boats this year delighted the onlookers with their Christmas lights as they motored several laps around the harbour. All radiated a warmth and cheerfulness with a bright Santa and a nativity scene adding an extra touch.

The parade was followed by the usual firework display which was even bigger and better this year in celebration of the tenth year of the parade.

The fireworks were supplied by Fireworks Unlimited from Nassau. It took two men from that company two days to set up the large display on a barge provided by the Abaco Tug and Transport assisted by Mr. Colin Albury. As usual the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department was standing at the ready on the barge and on a boat in the harbour to render assistance if needed.

Several months of preparations were put into the organization of the parade by the hard working committee of Chad and Ginnie Sawyer, Tom and Linda Leffler and Cindy Hayworth. They would like to thank the people of the community for their support and their generous donations which keep the boat parade going from year to year and provide the spectacular fireworks displays. Any money left after expenses is donated to the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, to Crash and Rescue and to Citizens Against Crime organizations.

The Boat Parade was started ten years ago by Barbara Gorda, who was the organizer for the first two years. After she left, the organization was taken over by Chad and Ginnie Sawyer and the parade has continued to take place every Christmas except for 1999 when Hurricane Floyd caused the cancellation of many activities that year.

This year the parade was held a little closer to Christmas than normal since the tide determines the day on which it can be held.

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web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com



Brent Cartwright



**Tilloo Cay** - #1021 Two adjacent parcels of waterfront land located just south of the Castle offering great elevations and deep water just offshore for a private dock. The northern lot offers 100' on the water and is offered at \$190,000 and the southern lot offers 90' with larger building area and is listed at \$199,000.



**Coral Point** - #1007 Over one and a half acres of elevated waterfront land near Great Cistern with foundation and walls poured to belt course for three bedroom home to overlook the Sea of Abaco. Finish the approved plans or modify to complete as you wish. Land runs 140' + on the water by 400' + deep. \$280,000 GREAT PRICE



**Treasure Cay 1024** - Two bed, 1 bath condo overlooking marina features new kitchen, furnished, pool, tennis courts, lots of storage, great rental, beach and golf nearby. \$175,000



**Guana 1019** - Two new adjacent cottages in settlement. Each with 2/1.5 on two floors. \$200,000 ea. or \$347,000 for both.



**Elbow Cay 1003** - 2/2.5 guest house on large lot, Approved plans for main home with 3/3.5. Sea views and private. \$474,000 **Reduced to \$399,500**



**Bahama Palm - 1060** Prime location beachfront lot with over 100' of frontage on one of Abaco's finest beaches. CALL TODAY! \$89,900

**Regattas 1002** - 2/2 furnished ground floor condo unit, Pool, tennis courts, beach, and spacious covered patio.

**Bahama Palm Shores - 1065** Interior vacant lot on hill with electricity and short walk to beach. \$15,000. Other lots available

**Marsh Harbour 1028** - Two harbour front lots, Elevated and deep water. \$225,000 & 325,000

**Marsh Harbour** - Select residential home sites and commercial properties ready for building

**Scotland Cay** - Two adjacent hilltop lots close to the marina with fantastic ocean views. Call for details

**Guana Cay** - A selection of oceanfront, beachfront and inland hilltop lots with shared dockage available. Call for info.

**Guana 1041** - Two cottages on the Sea of Abaco. 2/2 1400 sq. ft., private dock, tasteful decor. \$732,250 each

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

web site: [www.aisleofpalmrealty.com](http://www.aisleofpalmrealty.com)

### NOTICE ESTATE OF VIOLA E. COTTMAN

(a.k.a. VIOLA ELLEN COTTMAN)

late of the Settlement of Marsh Harbour, Abaco,  
The Bahamas, Deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that persons having claims or demands against the above should send their names, addresses and written certified particulars of the debts or claims undersigned on or before 22nd January, 2004 and if required, to prove such debts or claims, or by default be excluded from any distribution. After the above date the Executrix will distribute assets having regard only to the proved debts or claims of which she shall have had notice.

AND NOTICE is hereby given that all persons indebted to the said Estate should make settlement on or before 22nd January, 2004.

ALEXIOU, KNOWLES & CO.

Attorneys for the Executrix

Stratton Drive

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, The Bahamas

OR

St. Andrew's Court, Frederick Street Steps  
P. O. Box N4805

Nassau, Bahamas

# More Letters to the Editor

Please see **Letters** Page 9

like forever. Then a 48-quart cooler was produced which became the seat for two adults for the remainder of this ride (no pad) and I say ride because we were taken on a 20-minute boat ride to look for bones.

But we were told by the guide on arrival at one location that bones are hard to catch and difficult at this time, December. And it was low tide and the wind was blowing the water off the flats. He wasn't sure that we would be able to return through the channel that we used to leave from. So "what do you think you want to do?" was the question.

We said "Let's give it a try for awhile a see what the results could be." Well, the guide poled into very shallow water were he had to go over the side to push the boat, thereby making a great deal of noise and turning up a great cloud of mud (attitude). It was than agreed upon to end this boat ride and return to the mangrove ramp, which, by the way, was at 11:15.

We were back at the resort front desk by 11.45. Oh, we actually got underway at 9:40 a.m. on a half day trip which was to end at 1 p.m. Also, when we returned to the ramp, a question was asked of the guide by the young lady sent to return us to the resort, "Where did you fish today? The guide replied which I did not hear. But the young lady's reply to the guide I could hear. And it was, "Child, there's no water there and you know it, everyone else went south." (I learned later from some of the locals that there is more water southwest from the ramp at low tide.)

At a great risk of being attacked by my wife, I paid this resort for the trip. My wife then did something very surprising. She tipped the guide, just see his reaction. The look on his face was indescribable. The guide took the tip right in front of the owners of this resort, who, by the way, never inquired as to how the trip had gone or if we had a great time on our first boat bonefishing trip in the Bahamas.

Finally; we travel to Abaco three or four times a year to visit with my wife's family and friends in Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour. We have fished on Eleuthera and Bimini for the past 15 years and have always been treated very well by all the Bahamian people and friends we know. But I could not let this encounter go without letting our views be known. It was just a case

of "Let's get the tourist," and no problem. And forget about doing a good job or let's have some pride of ownership of the equip-

ment that is used in our chosen profession. We will be back to Abaco. But bonefishing will not be on our schedule. Not with

that certain resort or guide, at least. Regrettably, Neil and Deborah Shelley

Brokers  
Anne Albury

(242) 365-8538 Ph



## Treasure Cay Properties - Offered by Treasure Cay Specialists

### ROYAL PALM

Canal Front Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool  
Phase I 3 bed **SOLD** ft. wide slip \$302,500  
Phase II 2 bed **SOLD** wide slip \$315,000

### ATLANTIS

Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool  
Bldg 4 Upstairs 2 bed / 2 bath, boat slip \$224,000

### MARINERS COVE

Townhouse Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool  
Marina View 1 bed / 1 bath \$113,000

### VILLAS

Beach Villa Subdivision  
Garden villa 2 bed / 2 bath extra features \$157,300

### ROCK POINT

Apartment four-plex, 2 storey CBS building, each level has 2 full apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen. Great rental investment. **MUST SEE!** \$350,000  
"Pilot House" Two storey home with commanding view down the Sea of Abaco. Upstairs 2 bed / 2 bath with living/ dining/ kitchen/ utility. Downstairs 1 bed / 1 bath efficiency. Boat ramp to garage, ocean side decks plus many other features. \$1,080,000

### TREASURE HOUSES

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

### BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

New luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 3 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features Starting at \$475,000 Plus 14% closing

### BRIGANTINE BAY ESTATES

"Sea Cliff" newly completed 2 storey CBS home fully furnished. Living / dining / kitchen downstairs, bed rooms upstairs. Direct greenway access to Treasure Cay beach **MOTIVATED SELLER** \$369,000

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

### LEeward BEACH ESTATE

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

"Trident"/"Turquoise Seas" You cannot be more "on the beach" than in this special home. Offering 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath in the main house with detached garage / bed / bath / attic plus storage. Vast deck oceanside with widow's walk. WOW! \$2,520,000

"Cross Winds" Split level CBS home extra large lot across from 2 beach greenways. Private. Master bed/ bath suite upstairs. Lower level 2 bed / 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/ dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1 bed/ 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus! Plus! Plus! \$984,000

### VACANT LOTS AVAILABLE

- Windward Beach / Oceanfront beginning at \$150,000
- Canal Front beginning at \$99,000
- Golf Course / Interior beginning at \$25,000

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Mailing address: P.O. Box AB22183, Treasure Cay, Abaco, Bahamas • E-mail: [tcrealestate@oii.net](mailto:tcrealestate@oii.net)

### SANDPIPER BEACH

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

### CASUARINA BEACH/OCEAN BOULEVARD

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

"Another World" This name gives you an idea of this special family island beach home. 5 bed/ 5 bath CBS house on world reknown Treasure Cay beach with many features/ extras including a van and golf cart. A real "MUST SEE" \$1,440,000

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

"Titzl House" Located on Ocean Blvd., spacious CBS, 2 bed/ 2 bath home, patio off living/ dining/ kitchen, airy Bahama room, mature landscaping. Priced to sell **PRICED TO SELL!** \$215,000

### GALLEON BAY CANAL / ESTATES

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

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

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

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

### WINDWARD BEACH

"Seaclusion" Ocean front CBS house, 2 bed / 2 bath plus detached 20' x 30' 2-car garage with extra bath. House has wonderful view as well as prevailing tradewinds \$738,000

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Dr. Kelvin Gipson - Foot Doctor  
January 23, 2004

Dr. Elaine Lundy - General Practitioner  
January 24, 2004

Dr. Frumentus Leon - Obstetrician /  
Gynecologist  
January 24, 2004

Ms. Sonya Artwell - Ultra Sound Tech  
January 24, 2004

Ms. Kim Scriven - Audiology  
Hearing aids, hearing testing  
January 28, 2004

Dr. Gregory Neil - Plastic Surgeon  
February 7, 2004

For Appointments Call 367-0020

## New Car Is Won at Raffle



A new 2003 Daihatsu Terios SUV was the grand prize of a raffle offered by Price Right in Marsh Harbour. Owner Chad Sawyer is shown giving the keys to the vehicle to Gaylene Higgs of Marsh Harbour, who had the winning ticket. The drawing was on December 24 and the excited winner rushed to the store when she learned that she had won the car. She proudly drove it home that same night after

Mrs. Belinda McIntosh very kindly licensed it for her after the drawing. Mr. Sawyer has had a series of promotions which have been very popular with his customers. For each of the past four months he has raffled off \$500 worth of groceries. During the next few months the store will offer even more prizes which include a cruise for two, a vacation at Disney World for four and another vehicle. The drawing for the car will be on July 9 of this year. Marsh Harbour shoppers now have two excellent supermarkets to shop in, both offering a large variety of basic foods, meats and butcher shops, fresh produce, delis and specialty items.

## The 2003 Christmas Season Was Good

By Jennifer Hudson

Hoteliers and retailers in Marsh Harbour and the cays are very happy with the 2003 Christmas season which proved to be a busy and profitable one. Hope Town and Green Turtle Cay in particular were buzzing with visitors which also kept the ferry operators busy and happy.

Although the hotel in Treasure Cay was only one quarter full during the season, other hotels enjoyed an occupancy rate of 80 to 95 percent while Bluff House was able to boast an occupancy rate of 100percent.

A large part of the Christmas celebration revolves around food which kept the

restaurants happy. All restaurants reported an extremely good turnover, even busier than expected with a lot of large family groups. Wait staff were pleased that the visitors were tipping generously.

The gift stores all reported that sales were up from last Christmas and people were buying more higher priced items than in previous years.

One store owner stated that this was their best year within the last four years which, hopefully, indicates that tourism is recovering well from the devastating blows of the past few years and augers well for Abaco's future.

## Public Notice Illegal Construction

The Department of Public Works in conjunction with the Police Department will be intensifying their patrols of Pigeon Peas, The Mud, Sand Banks and other like areas. All residents of these areas should be aware that illegal construction will not be tolerated by the government and any infractions will be dealt with to the full extent of the law.

Avi Gouvenman Depatman de Travay Piblik ansamn ak depatman Police va fe patrouy pi r èd nan Pigeon Peas, The Mud, Sand Banks é lot plas yo ki minm jan. Tout residents nan plas sa yo doue Konprann Gouvenman sa pa va tolere konstriksiyon Illegal yo é va jije moun net atout laloua.

Department of Public Works

## Magical Musical Moments 2004



St. John's Anglican Parish Hall

Don MacKay Blvd.

Saturday February 7th - 7:30 p.m.

Adults: \$15

Children under 12: \$5

Benefitting Every Child Counts School

## Treasure LANDING

TREASURE CAY, ABACO

- Three bedroom two bath units  
approximately 1,500 square feet in each unit
- Limited cart storage available

### Treasure Cay's Newest Condo Complex

across the street from Bahama Beach Club

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

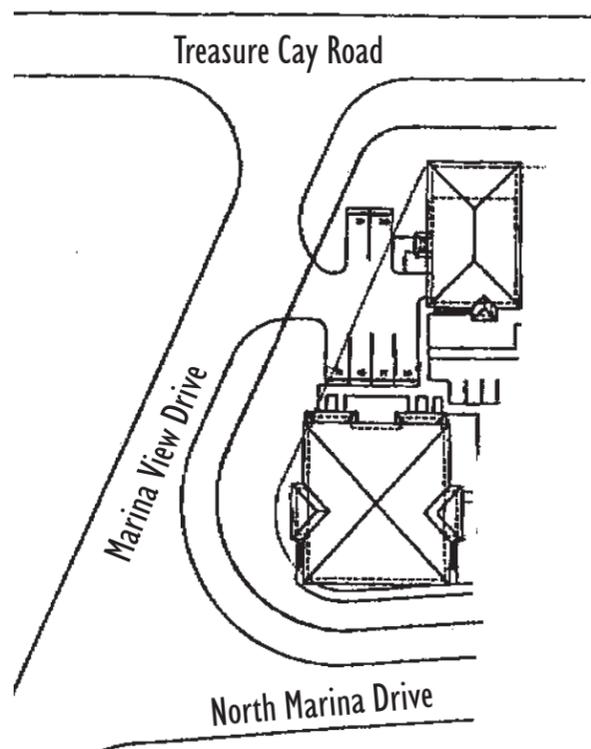
Local phone: 359-6241

or call 305-979-8200

Email: [hquin@bellsouth.net](mailto:hquin@bellsouth.net)

Web page:

[www.treasurecaylandings.com](http://www.treasurecaylandings.com)



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

Marsh Harbour Office



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Hope Town Representative



Ainsley Harrison  
Hope Town, Abaco  
Phone 242 366-0338  
Email:  
ainsley@mlrealty.net



Elbow Cay - #5017 A 3 b/2 b home on ocean front lot. Open floor plan, has views of the cool blue Atlantic Ocean. Features private pool, spacious decks and a 12 KW generator. \$955,000



Orchid Bay - #5056 A beautiful development in the post-card pretty town of Guana Cay. Amenities include tennis, pool, on site restaurant and marina. Bay front lots, beachfront lots and interior lots featuring elevations are available. Don't miss the chance to own your piece of Paradise. Call for details.



Bahama Palm Shores - #5069 Lot available in Section 1, with a completed foundation for a 2 bed/1 bath house. Great deal for a starter home. \$35,000



Cherokee Sound - #5083 3 bed/2 bath home in clean tidy settlement. Has utility room, large kitchen, sunken living room, mini split A/C, well-kept lawn, work shop and storage building. House comes with a dock slip on the creek. \$360,000



Man-O-War Cay - "SunSplash" #5082 4 bed, 3 bath island home beauty. Situated on 1.189 acres this home features lots of privacy, Bahamian-built furniture, close to town and includes a guest cottage. Watch the sunrise every morning from the extensive patios and enjoy the views of the turquoise Atlantic Ocean. Step off this property and sink your toes in soft powder white sand. This home was built by Man-O-War carpenters who are known for their great building skills. A rare and unique offering. Here is your chance to own a piece of paradise. \$1,970,000



extensive patios and enjoy the views of the turquoise Atlantic Ocean. Step off this property and sink your toes in soft powder white sand. This home was built by Man-O-War carpenters who are known for their great building skills. A rare and unique offering. Here is your chance to own a piece of paradise. \$1,970,000



Marsh Harbour - "Pelican Shores Beauty" #5078 2 bed, 2 1/2 bath home. Imagine owning this beautiful house along with its beautiful view. This home offers an open ceiling with fir wood throughout, also boasts of ceramic tile and a spacious kitchen with an open floor design for entertaining friends and family. Enjoy the tranquil view of Fanny Bay as well as the Sea of Abaco. Watch the sunset on your very own dock which can accommodate a small boat at high tide. Enjoy a walk over the lovely white bank at low tide. Experience living at its best when you are the proud owner of this elegant home. \$940,000.



Guana Cay - 3 b/2 b home with views of the Sea of Abaco. Private dock and lovely landscaped yard. \$650,000  
Casuarina Point - NEW LISTING! Two adjacent lots on the canal, set back on the waterway, protected and private. Call for more details!  
Yellow Wood - Vacant lot, call for details.  
Casuarina Point - vacant lot close to beach. \$17,000  
Bahama Palm Shores - Vacant interior lot in fast growing community, beach access for all lots. SOLD  
Man-O-War - Vacant interior lot in town and close walk to beach.  
Pelican Shores - Elevated harbour front lots available, one of a kind location in Marsh Harbour. Starting at \$225,000  
Sand Banks - vacant property on the highway to Treasure Cay, motivated seller, bring offers. Call fore details

Hill Creek - 4.8 acres with 50' + elevations and 100' of waterfront. \$130,000  
Guana Cay - Half acre lots, ocean and hilltop interior lots. All lots have beach access. Call for pricing  
North Abaco, Fire Road - Starter home for sale. 2 beds, 1 bath, views of the sea. \$30,000  
Guana Cay - 4 b/2 b house with a self contained apartment with 2 b/1 b, on lovely Boat Harbour. Gorgeous views of the sea, features private dock. \$699,000  
Leisure Lee - Best priced canal lot. \$45,000  
Boat Harbour - Gorgeous views of the sea, features private dock \$699,000  
Bahama Coral Island Vacant interior lot in growing subdivision. Short drive to Marsh Harbour. Financing available. \$15,000



Long Beach - #5084 A magnificent beach lot in a development about a 30-minute drive South of Marsh Harbour. Runs approx. 100' +/- on the beach. US\$65,000



Great Abaco Club - A vacant canal front lot with views of the Sea of Abaco. Situated in private, gated community and has the most canal frontage in the community. Enjoys the amenities of the nearby hotel. UNDER CONTRACT



Casuarina Point - #1392 Lovely canal front home with 3 bedrooms and 1 bath. Features a Bahama room, screened-in porch, large, well kept, landscaped yard, with tool shed and storage building. A bone fisherman's paradise. UNDER CONTRACT



Sandy Point - #5072 One and a half story house with 3 beds/ 2 baths. Also utility room, garage and boat house. Sits on two acres of lovely beachfront property. An ideal area for those who love bonefishing and deep sea fishing. Call today! \$450,000



**Green Turtle Cay Office**  
Chris Farrington - BRI  
Office (242) 365-4695 Fax (242) 365-4697  
Email: chris.f@batelnet.bs  
P.O. Box AB 22758, Green Turtle Cay, Abaco



Treasure Cay - #1322 Three bedroom two bath home near beaches and golf course. Fully furnished with all amenities. \$265,000 Reduced



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

Historic Club & Inn - #5077 Located in the heart of a story book Colonial village, this 150-year-old landmark has been meticulously maintained in its original décor. Consisting of 10 guest rooms, 40-seat restaurant, lounge, pool and patio. A rare find that will allow you to enjoy a lifestyle reminiscent of the old days. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is offered at \$1,780,000 New Listing!  
GTC High on a Bluff - waterfront 1/3 acre elevated lot affords spectacular vistas of the Sea of Abaco and breathtaking sunsets. Located near resorts and marinas, this is a must see. \$338,000 New Listing!  
GTC Beachfront - 1/2 acre lot located virtually on the Atlantic beach. \$210,000

Two Beach Houses on Gillam Bay - #2047 These two separate properties are located on the beach at Gillam Bay. One consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, an upper level apartment and two guest cottages. The other property consists of 3 bedrooms 3 baths. Call for price. New Listing!  
GTC n view Lots - two 1/3 acre lots overlooking the Atlantic. Elevated with great views 200' ft. from the beach. \$95,000 each.  
GTC Nice Neighbourhood, ready for building! Cleared lot with fruit trees near to beaches, park and a public dock. \$45,000  
Greenway Canal Lot - Treasure Cay with splendid unobstructed views of the canal. \$35,000 Owner says sell!

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## A "Shocking" Situation

By Jennifer Hudson

I wonder how many people have been zapped while shopping in Solomon's SuperCentre, Marsh Harbour. I know I am not the only one as I have witnessed others jump back after attempting to remove canned goods from the shelf. Since these mini shocks have been happening to me for several weeks now, I decided it was time to approach management about what is happening.

Mr. George Harris, Manager, must have received numerous enquiries as the minute I approached him he asked me if I had got shocked. He explained that over the past few weeks management has done all in its power to try to rectify this "shocking" situation. Several electrical inspections have been carried out and results show that the shocks are not caused by AC/DC current and are thus not dangerous. It was determined that they are

the result of static electricity in the air caused by the dryness of the atmosphere in the store.

Several measures are being taken to try to alleviate the situation. The shiny surface has been removed from the flooring tiles and is being replaced with an expensive anti-static covering. Also, a door is being fitted over the present open front entrance so that the atmosphere inside the store can be better regulated.

Amazingly, Mr. Harris can touch anything in the store without ever being shocked. So the reason some people are shocked and not others is rather a puzzle. Maybe some people give off more static than others.

Mr. Harris wishes to apologize to his customers and wants them to know that everything possible is being done to rectify this unusual and sometimes rather uncomfortable situation.

## Students Are Pursuing a Higher Education

Several students have begun their college careers this month. We are proud to list them.



Vanessa Bethel is beginning her college work in a college in Denmark, South Carolina. The school specializes in teacher education.

Vanessa is the daughter of Donna Sands and the late Odell Bethel of Hope Town. She graduated from a school in Nassau where she was on the honor roll, was Deputy Head Girl and a school prefect. She wrote for the Nassau Guardian and had her

poetry published in several books. She was accepted by several schools before accepting a full scholarship for the school in South Carolina.



Alonzo Roberts is attending the Bahamas Technical Vocational Institute in Freeport, Grand Bahama where he is studying office systems adminis-

tration.

Alonzo is the son of Elizabeth Cornish of Murphy Town and is a graduate of Abaco Central High School.

## Bahamas Tourism Is Ranked

The Bahamas has been ranked the 11th most expensive tourist in terms of per night room rates. The study measured indicators for more than 200 countries worldwide. The study ranked the Bahamas in the 105th spot

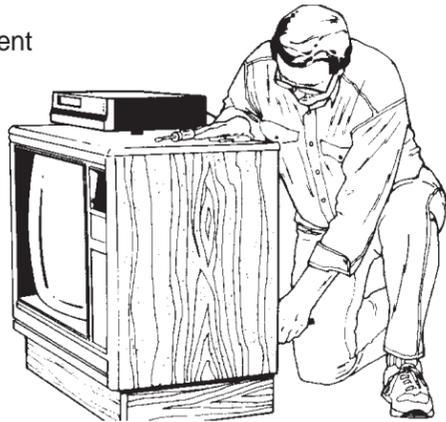
for price competitiveness. Because of high labour and utility costs and low productivity, the resorts in this country had a low profit rate.

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### Repairing:

Radio, TV, VCR & Audio Equipment  
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TEL: 367-2830

## ABACO

You can now find your favourite newspaper

## The Tribune

Nassau and Bahama Islands' Leading Newspaper

and your favourite magazines at these great locations:

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# Classified Advertisements

## Houses and Apartments - For Rent

Minimum for 3 lines in one issue \$9  
Picture and 4 lines \$25  
Additional lines at \$2 per line  
Display classified \$18 per column inch  
We can take the photo within the Marsh Harbour area or use your photo.  
Call 242-367-2677 Fax 242-367-3677

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR RENT



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

### RENTAL HOUSES AND APARTMENTS

**BAHAMAS VACATIONS** 100+ private Out Island homes, resorts, villas for rent. Free listing. Call 1-800-462-2426  
<http://www.bahamasvacations.com>

**Great Abaco Club** - luxury vacation rentals with all resort amenities. Ph. 242-367-4151  
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**Great Cistern** 3 story furnished 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath, central A/C, cable, phone, storage and generator houses, all around decks overlooking water. Phone 367-5867

**Hope Town Specialist** A collection of upscale homes with pools, private docks, etc., ideal for special occasions, reunions, honeymoons. Hope Town Hideaways 242-366-0224 or [hopetown.com](http://hopetown.com)

**Marsh Harbour** hill top apartments, 2 bed/1 bath, central A/C, fully furnished. Call 367-2951 or 366-0347 after 5

### RENTAL HOUSES AND APARTMENTS

**Marsh Harbour Sweeting's Village**, 1 bedroom apartment, furnished, electricity & water included. Call 367-2107

**Marsh Harbour weekly rental** "If you love shopping with us, you'll love staying with us" at Iggy Biggy Bungalows. Brand new 1 or 2 bdrm beautifully furnished villas. For info call 367-3596 on Abaco or (561) 207-6870.  
[www.iggybiggy.com](http://www.iggybiggy.com)

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**Need Qualified Help?**  
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**A low cost ad like this can bring fast results**  
**Call 367-3202 Fax 367-3201**

### RENTAL HOUSES AND APARTMENTS

**Treasure Cay** 3 bed 2 bath on Brigantine Bay canal, pool, dock, lush landscaping, 2 min. walk to world's best beach. Very affordable long-term rate. Call 477-5056.

### Simmons Place Rentals

- Apartments
- Office Space
- Store Front

**Barbara M. Simmons**

Phone 242-367-2922

East Bay Street, Marsh Harbour, Abaco  
[simmonsplace2002@yahoo.com](mailto:simmonsplace2002@yahoo.com)

## Abaco Youth in Action Begins Basketball Season

The Abaco Youth in Action will begin basketball practice on January 17th, 2004, at Ocean View Park in Dundas Town. This program is for young people ages seven to 14 years and develops good sportsmanship, team cooperation while teaching the principles of various sports.

The program is a spin off of a Youth in Action program organized by Mrs. Elva Davis in Freeport who now teaches on Abaco. She was at the Freeport Primary School for 14 years before transferring here to teach Language Arts at Abaco Central High School. She assists with the physical education program at the high school also because she loves sports and development

of our young people.

The program relies on volunteers who donate their time, energy and necessary funding to help the youth develop into better citizens. The Grand Bahama groups has assisted with equipment and supplies.

The winter program will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon each Saturday morning and will run for eight weeks, climaxing in March with a tournament. There will be three leagues and perhaps a fourth if have enough girls come out.

The program is opened to all boys and girls and is free of charge. The categories are Pee Wee, ages 7-9; Mini, ages 10-11; and Junior ages 12-14.

### Break-ins

From Page 20

door smashed but nothing appeared disturbed inside. A small patch of dried blood on the floor outside the door suggested someone got cut and may have changed their mind about proceeding further.

Although the mangled gate leading to Abaco Air was found in the early morning hours, the break-ins were found by employees arriving to work that morning 7:30 - 7:45 a.m.

Two more buildings were broken into that same night in Murphy Town. The Shell fuel depot three miles from the airport was broken into by the front door being pried open. The office area was trashed with files and cabinets opened and the contents scattered about. Nothing inside was broken or

vandalized. It was later discovered that a pair of safety boots and several shovels had been taken. The intruders apparently climbed over the barb-wire-topped chainlink fence to get into the compound.

A common fence separates the Shell compound from the adjacent Abaco Block and Concrete yard which employs a night-time security person. He went off duty at day-break shortly before 7 a.m. Its office was broken into after he left but there was no vandalizing except for broken door locks. Nothing of consequence was taken.

These two break-ins in Murphy Town followed the pattern seen at the airport intrusions and appear to be the work of the same persons although this is not definitely known.

# Classified Advertisements

## Houses and Land - For Sale

Minimum for 3 lines in one issue \$9  
Picture and 4 lines \$25  
Additional lines at \$2 per line  
Display classified \$18 per column inch  
We can take the photo within the Marsh Harbour area or use your photo.  
Call 242-367-2677 Fax 242-367-3677

### PROPERTY AND HOUSES FOR SALE



**Sea Grape Realty**

Victor R. Patterson  
Memorial Plaza  
P.O. Box AB 20123

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas  
Tel: 242-367-2749

E-mail: seagraperealty@hotmail.com

**Elbow Cay:** Lot on Centerline Road, 90' x 100,' good title. \$75,000

**Elbow Cay:** Acre in Back Creek, access to water. \$80,000

**Tilloo Cay:** Two lots on Sea of Abaco, 100' wide, approx 250 feet long, deep water, hill top views. Please enquire.

**Lubbers Quarters:** Hillside acre with private dock slip and utilities. \$120,000

### LIVE YOUR DREAM AT



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Enjoy the life style you deserve . . .

Waterfront lots with private boat slips in a secure gated community starting at \$250,000

Call 242-367-4151 or Fax 367-4152  
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### Green Turtle Cay

**Ocean Beach Lots (North End),** 1+ acres with good elevation from \$245,000

**Coco Bay Lots,** 81 feet on beach from \$170,000

**Bit Bay Ocean Lot** 8.26 acres from ocean to Inner White Sound, good elevation and protection from sea, spectacular views. \$1.6 M.

On the internet at www.bahamasinvest.com or call 365-4271

**Dundas Town** Incomplete, unfurnished hill top house 3 bed / 2 1/2 bath, w/ carport and wash-room. Lot #17. Call 367-5209

### PROPERTY AND HOUSES FOR SALE

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**Superb Eastern Shores** offering: 30,000 square feet sea to sea, dock, guest house, elevation, fireplace, widow's walk. MUIST SEE \$975,000

**Immaculate Regattas retreat:** 2 bedrms/ 2 baths, oversize condominium, quiet building, move-in condition, pool, tennis, beach. \$265,000

**Treasure Cay Jewel:** Superior location, construction and design. 130' beach front. \$1.9m

**Pelican Shores Prestige:** Approximately 1 acre, 104' on protected harbour. \$599,000

**Cove Estates Rarity:** Immaculate family home plus 1/2 acre adjacent lot. Won't last. \$373,500

**Little Orchard Treasure:** Huge main home plus two apartments, Sea of Abaco view \$545,900

**Bahama Coral Island:** Great starter lot or invest for retirement. \$9000

**Elbow Cay's Best Houses and Land,** rentals and sales, Hope Town Hideaways. Call 242-366-0224 or fax 242-366-0434. On the internet at www.hopetown.com

**Great Cistern** 3 story furnished 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath, central A/C, cable, phone, storage and generator houses, all around decks overlooking water. Phone 367-5867

**Guana Cay** 3 bed / 2 bath with rental guest apartment. Call 242-365-5113 or e-mail fsands02@hotmail.com

**Little Harbour** - beautiful ocean view, 2 story, 2 or 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, living & dining room, large game room with wet bar, ceramic tile and carpet, 3 large decks including 1 screened, central air, UV water purification system, electricity to home, plus 12.5 KW back-up generator. \$499,900. Call 242-366-3515 or 477-5198

**Little Harbour** - Great ocean view furnished cottage, 2 air conditioned bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, screened porch, spacious outside decks with landscaped yards. Full kitchen with all amenities, metered electric power and 7000 gal. cistern. \$250,000 Call owners in US at 850-230-8212 or 242-366-3515 in Little Harbour to see cottage.

### PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE

**Sandra Evans, BRI**

Multiple-listing Broker  
sandra@abacorealtor.com

East Bay Street  
Marsh Harbour, Abaco  
Ph: 242-367-2365  
www.abacorealtor.com



**Royal Harbour Beauty:** Level cleared site, most desirable location in great area. \$69,800

**Hot Hot Guana Cay:** Hill top lots with shared dockage, views in every direction. \$65-\$72-\$80,000

**Secluded Hill Top:** 1 acre homesites with stunning views and Sea of Abaco access. \$58,800

**Bahama Palm Shores:** Family homesite in best developed area. \$21,000

**Bahama Palm Shores:** View properties. \$20,000

**Cabbage Point:** Pristine, water front, ecological preserve, low-impact home. Only \$118,000

**Income producer:** Easily finished, quality construction duplex, power, pretty views. \$118,000

**Commercial Enterprise:** Prime location, full occupancy, recently renovated. \$517,200

**Little Harbour** water front 2 story, 3/2 beautifully furnished and landscaped, large decks with screened porch. Superb views. Mooring incl. By owner. 242-366-3509  
fineart@abacoinet.com

**Lubbers Quarters** near Hope Town, water front house, below appraisal, views, dock, fully furnished, rental history, owner. 242-366-3100, www.sandybottoms.com

**Lubbers Quarters** 2 bed / 3 bath house, private boat slip, 3 story furnished on the hill. Good rental history. By owner. Ph. 359-6506 or 321-768-9642  
www.oceanviewcottage.com.sale.html



**Man-O-War** 2 bed/2 bath, fully furnished, central air, 500 feet from beach. Must see. Call 365-6518

**Marsh Harbour** 3 bed/2bath furnished home. Large yard w/fruit trees. \$250,000. Call 367-5503 or 357-6561

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For condition of sale and any other information contact Ms. C.A. Cooper or Ms.T. Rolle at 367-2141.

### BIDS ONLY

#### Treasure Cay

Vacant land  
10,000 sq. ft.  
Lot #65 BL #167

#### Dundas Town

Vacant Land  
10,810 sq. ft.  
Lot # 21

#### Murphy Town

Vacant Land  
11,277 sq. ft.  
Lot #78B

#### Murphy Town

Commercial building  
6,500 sq. ft.  
Lot #70

#### Murphy Town

3 bed, 2 bath  
Newly repaired  
10,000 sq. ft.  
Lot #67

#### Murphy Town

Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath  
11,232 sq. ft.  
Lot #78

#### Marsh Harbour

3 bed, 2 bath  
Prime business location  
Queen Elizabeth Drive  
Lot size 7400 sq. ft.

#### Dundas Town

L-shape apt. complex  
3 - 2 bed, 1 bath units  
9,000 sq. ft.

#### Dundas Town

Area for small shop  
Lot #18B

#### Dundas Town

1/2 acre, 2 storey  
4 bed, 2 bath, family rm  
Lot #25

#### Murphy Town

Incomplete duplex  
one unit completed  
comprising 2 bed, 1 bath  
6,900 sq. ft.  
Lot #60

#### Murphy Town

Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath  
7440 sq. ft.  
Fairly new structure  
Lot #3

#### Murphy Town

Duplex 2 bed, 1 bath  
and 1 bed efficiency  
8900 sq. ft.  
Lot #68

#### Bahama Coral Island

Vacant land  
10,890 sq. ft.  
Section #3 Block A Lot #1

**Marsh Harbour Duplex,** 2 bed 1 bath on Crockett Dr. Call Mr. Malone at 367-2044 days

**Marsh Harbour, Sweeting's Tract,** 100' x 100' lot, good elevation. \$30,000 Call Don 365-6149 (nights)

**Scotland Cay** home, Sea of Abaco waterfront Lg 3bed/3bath, modern CBS, just remodeled, great view, dock, 35' marina slip, landing rights, completely furnished \$910,000. By Owner: 561-746-3337 or 242-367-5432 signal33@bellsouth.net

**Treasure Cay** two lots, canal or ocean view, financing available. Call 365-8749

**Treasure Cay House** Priced for Quick Sale, 2 miles south of Treasure Cay. Good location, Good view, Good price. Call 365-8028

# Two Venues Host Junkanoo Parades



Colorful elaborate costumes, a rhythmic beat and dancing all characterize Junkanoo. This year residents and visitors were treated to three showy parades, the Junior Junkanoo competition and the Senior Junkanoo competition, both in Marsh Harbour, and the annual Junkanoo parade in Green Turtle Cay. Enthusiasm for Junkanoo has been revived and children and adults all look forward to the next time they perform.



**NOW**

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**FREE DELIVERY**

Open Monday thru Saturday - 8:00 am to 5:30 pm  
Offering over 50 selections of Wines  
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## NEW! Lubbers Quarters

A Rare Offering! Home site on the Sea of Abaco with sandy beach on the eastern side of the island. Close to 10,000 square feet with 70 feet of waterfront. Nicely vegetated. Lovely views of Tilloo. This property borders a right-of-way that will never be developed.

List #8459

\$227,545

### Select Properties

- NEW! Marsh Harbour.** Super 2 bed, 2.5 bath family home. Custom built, T & G paneling, tile floors, master suite w/spa bath, gourmet kitchen. List #8551. \$250,000
- Man-O-War.** 36,000+ s. f. sea-to-sea property with 2 bed/2bath main house, 2 guest cottages. 150' frontage on harbour w/deep water dock. Fully furnished. List #8211. \$995,000
- Guana Cay.** Home site just steps from the gorgeous Atlantic Ocean beach. Perfect for small vacation cottage. #8348. \$50,000
- Treasure Cay, Windward Beach.** Gorgeous 18,000 s. f. home site on Sea of Abaco. Well priced! #8335. \$125,000
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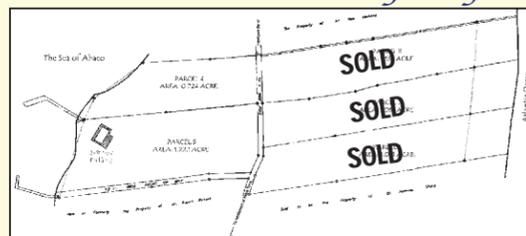
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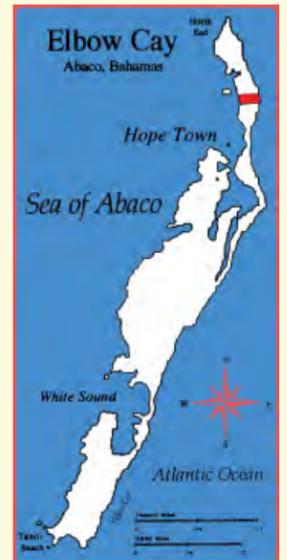


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# Visitors Affected by Chaos at Marsh Harbour Airport

By Jennifer Hudson

Chaos began at the Marsh Harbour International Airport early on Saturday morning January 3 as dozens of people tried unsuccessfully to leave the island. Both Continental and Bahamasair were running somewhat late and had overbooked their flights. One family from Asheville, North Carolina, who were booked to leave Saturday morning on Bahamasair to West Palm Beach, were bumped off the flight owing to overbooking. They were finally told that they would be put on a flight to Nassau and from there would have to travel home via Orlando, Houston and Atlanta which would mean that they would not arrive home until 11 o'clock the following night! They were offered no compensation or food and to make matters worse, their luggage had been lost by Bahamasair for two days on the way over here. It is not at all surprising that they were extremely angry and vowed that they would never return to the Bahamas despite having had a wonderful holiday in Hope Town.

The major and ongoing problem though was that of Air Florida which caused chaos to reign for two days, January 3 and 4. Only

one of their fleet of planes was operational which caused huge backups of customers at the airport for both days of the weekend. The terminal was jammed with wall to wall people who could hardly move and had no idea whenever they would be able to leave.

On Saturday there were two agents at the Air Florida desk trying to cope with the situation but one of the young ladies became overwhelmed by the problem and quit, leaving the other to soldier on valiantly on her own for the two days.

Once it was determined that the situation was really serious and no relief was in sight, the Ministry of Tourism and the Police Department were called in to assist. Ms. Jeritzan Outten, the new Director of Tourism on Abaco, went to the airport where she remained for the two days with members of her staff trying to alleviate the situation in whatever ways they could. Ms. Outten was in touch with Air Florida in the U.S. trying to work with them to determine what could be done.

By 8 p.m. on Saturday night there were still 30 passengers left stranded at the airport. These people were taken to the Abaco Beach Hotel for the night. Again the fol-

lowing day the scene was much the same. Some people were in the airport terminal for twelve hours from 10 a.m. until they were finally taken to the Abaco Beach Hotel at 10 p.m. Up until that time Air Florida in the U.S. was still promising that a flight would be coming for them any minute.

Ms. Outten was very pleased with the support received from the Departments of Police, Customs and Immigration and the airport staff who, she said, did all in their power to help the stranded passengers by buying them food and drinks and providing free transportation to the hotel in their vehicles. Police Officer Bartlett even worked for a while behind the Air Florida counter trying to sort things out. The Abaco Beach Hotel provided rooms for 30 people on the Saturday night and 21 on the Sunday night and the staff of the hotel were extremely helpful in making the passengers feel welcome and comfortable. One of the boat owners invited them onto his boat for refreshments and provided a very enjoyable evening for these people who, according to Ms. Outten, expressed very high praise for the kindness shown to them by so many Bahamians.

While there are always a few people who take the attitude that they will not return, the majority we hope will return due to the great hospitality and assistance which they greatly appreciated.

This was a very unfortunate situation just as our tourist industry is trying to recover from the effects of 9/11 and a very slow U.S. economy but, hopefully, due to the helpfulness of so many, this will not have too much of an adverse effect on this very delicate industry at present.

Ms. Outten has requested a full report from Immigration, Customs, airport management and the Abaco Beach Hotel which she will forward to the Civil Aviation Department and the Ministry of Tourism in Nassau to make them fully aware of the severity of this situation. She will also be sending a strong letter to Air Florida from the Ministry of Tourism. "This must not be allowed to continue," says Ms. Outten. "There are other operators who can be contacted to provide more reliable service."

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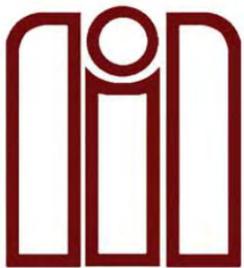


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