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VOLUME 12, NUMBER 4, FEBRUARY 1ST, 2004

Science Conference Attracts Scientists Scientific Information Is Shared

Carnival Returns To Entertain



The carnival has come to Abaco once again to entertain both young and old. A variety of rides, games of skill and chance, food booths, music, bumper cars and a fun time are offered. The rides are different from ones here previously. The carnival is here until February 1.

The first Abaco Science Alliance Conference was held in Marsh Harbour on January 15-18, organized by Friends of the Environment. Leading scientists talked on a variety of topics, all concerning research that has been done on Abaco and elsewhere in The Bahamas. The purpose of the conference was to share knowledge with the goal of encouraging further environmental studies that will lead to sustaining our environment while at the same time allowing development to continue.

Many of the speakers have done research on Abaco and this conference allowed an exchange of information between them. The event marked a major accomplishment in the maturing of Abaco as a host of a serious scientific conference as this is the first time that a conference of this kind has been held here. It allowed interaction between the scientists and those attending the conference. It was well organized, thanks to the effort of the Friends' secretary, Mrs. Anita Knowles, and the moderator, Mrs. Kitty Clark.

Abaco and the other Bahamian islands require foreign investment and development to sustain the economy but acquiring these with the least impact on the environment should be the goal. It is important to make the studies public to keep the community and government agencies informed so intelligent and long range decision can be made.

For details see page 2

Sawyer's Market Closes

Abaco Markets Limited has reported that the company made progress last year in critical areas even though its third quarter 2003 earnings were badly affected by several factors. The company made significant headway in paying down debt by almost

\$7,000,000 from the disposition of assets and the reduction in inventory and receivables. The third quarter's earnings were not

Please see **Abaco Markets** Page 6

BEST Holds Meetings



The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission (BEST) is undertaking a study to learn what environmental issues are important to the residents. They were on Abaco for a week holding public town meetings and visiting schools to hear from students and adults. Part of the group in Marsh Harbour are, left to right, Anthony Bostwick, Wayne Cornish, Sharrah Moss and Stacey Wells-Moultrie, both from the BEST Commission, John W. Bethell and Administrator Alexander Williams. See story on page 20.

Science Conference Shares Information



A variety of participants attended the Abaco Science Conference held on January 15-17. Friends of the Environment organized the event which brought scientists here from many distant places who have done research on a variety of subjects on Abaco and in The Bahamas. Shown above is a group of students from Abaco Central High School who benefitted from the event. Local residents, Nassau environmentalists, students, other scientists and others attended.

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Conference Discussed Local Concerns

Prime Minister's Advisor Spoke at Reception

Friends of the Environment hosted a reception on January 15 at Mangoes Restaurant, the First Abaco Science Alliance Conference event with about 75 people in attendance. The casual atmosphere allowed participants to get acquainted. The guest speaker that night was Dr. Livingston Marshall, Consultant and Science Advisor to the Prime Minister, a newly created position. In this position he works with the Ministries of Education, Tourism, Environ-

mental Health, the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries, Local Government, the BEST commission, the College of the Bahamas, the Bahamas National Trust, BREEF and other environmental organizations.

Dr. Marshall spoke on the interest that government has in past and present research being done in The Bahamas. At the present time there is no overall plan to bring together the information which research is

Dr. Livingston Marshall has been appointed Consultant and Science Advisor to the Prime Minister and has been entrusted by the Prime Minister to see that the environment is protected. He is shown here talking with Ms. Catherine Knowles at a reception hosted by Friends of the Environment on January 15. The reception was the



opening event of the Abaco Science Alliance Conference held on January 15-17. Ms. Knowles is a science teacher at Abaco Central High School.

producing. This was obvious recently with the sparse scientific information available concerning the decline of grouper reserves.

Government sees everything from a different perspective than the public. Nevertheless, it needs to make good policy decisions which are practical for the common person. Scientific research is very important to government but currently very few studies are undertaken by government. Government's decisions impact locally and increasingly are becoming regional and global in nature which require good management practices.

The country is unique in that the ratio of water to land is one of the greatest in the world. Within the aquatic environment, the three big important known resources are grouper, conch and crawfish. There is not enough data at present to make informed policy. The country needs strategic planning, it needs research to make policy. Government needs to view the economy as

the environment. Dr. Marshall emphasized, "Our economy is our environment, our environment is our economy."

Government cannot be in the position of planning wisely without adequate information. Government needs input from environmental groups. Government needs to formulate ocean policy since our country is mostly water. Research is being carried on by scientists which is important but linkages need to be made to our economy if that research is to benefit the community. The community needs to realize the importance of the environment and the need to protect it. It is Dr. Marshall's job to ensure that the environment is protected.

There needs to be open dialogue and a partnership between the government in Nassau, the private sector and individuals in the community. It has to be a joint effort. Government needs community mem-

Please see **Conference** Page 12



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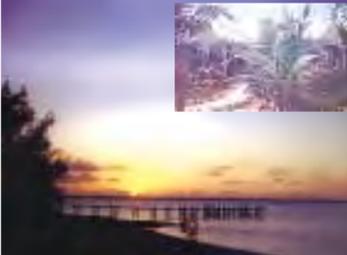


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Central Abaco News

Aluminum Can Recycling Project

On February 1 Friends of the Environment is beginning its aluminum can recycling program. Cans on Abaco dumps account for about 25 percent of landfill waste. It can take up to 200 years before an aluminum can will decompose. White plastic bins containing wire baskets for holding the cans will be located at two collection sites in Marsh Harbour.

YOU CAN HELP by smashing your aluminum cans and taking them to a collection site. At this time Friends is collecting **ONLY** aluminum soda cans and beer cans!

PLEASE, DO NOT PUT any other type of cans or aluminum foil in the bins.

Fifty-five percent of recycled cans get melted down into new cans. By saving your cans you can help save energy. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning for almost four hours or run a television for three hours.

Everyone including those living on the cays are encouraged to bring their aluminum cans to the Marsh Harbour collection sites.

If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Friends of the Environment at 367-2721 or call Monica Bianchi at 359-6166.

Collection sites in Marsh Harbour
1. Next to Sea Star Rentals on Pole Line Drive

2. The far end of the parking lot at Abaco Shopping Center (near Kentucky Fried Chicken)

Look for the white plastic bins.

Triathlon Is Planned

The Great Abaco Triathlon will be held on February 14 at Abaco Beach Resort. The Ministry of Tourism is organizing this triathlon and urges anyone wanting to participate to begin training. It will be a competition primarily for local athletes.

The triathlon is a three-part event. The participants begin with a half mile swim followed by a 15-mile bicycle ride. The concluding segment is a 3.1-mile run. Also planned is a kid's duathlon which will include a run, a bike ride and a concluding run.

The schedule will begin on February 13 with registration at Conch Inn Marina at

5:30 p.m. followed by a Pasta and Beer Party. The event on February 14 will begin at 8 a.m. with late registration and the race start. Trophies will be awarded after the race. A pool party that night at Snappas will conclude Saturday's activities. On February 15 the final activity is a trip to Guana Cay for the Nipper's Party.

The entry fee is \$15 which will include a t-shirt. For more information call the Abaco Tourist office at 367-3067.

Wedding Planner

By Isobel Sherman

Mrs. Yvonne Key is known to be a very busy lady. However, maybe it is not well known that Mrs. Key is a wedding planner, taking care of every detail involved in the Big Day.

Recently the first wedding for 2004 on Treasure Cay Beach was held on January 14. Lucinda Littleton and David Robinson of Toledo, Ohio, exchanged vows on the beach. Rev Carla Culmer presided while Estin Sawyer played love songs. Mrs. Key

and Ms. Mary Sawyer were the witnesses. After the ceremony the wedding cake made by Debbie Russell was cut and served with sparkling cider. In fact, there were spectators who saw the wedding and were invited to have some cake and cider. The bride and groom honeymooned at Regattas of Abaco

Mrs. Key hopes to plan many more weddings, those of visitors to our island and those residing here.

Abaco Youth in Action

By Isobel Sherman

Abaco Youth In Action has resumed weekly practice sessions at the basketball court in Dundas Town. All youth ages 6-14 are invited to participate. Abaco Youth In Action held a very successful soccer season at the oval of the track in Murphy Town during the fall.

Please see **Central**

Page 5



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Chocolate Covered Strawberries
White Chocolate Cheese Cake

Price per person \$38.00

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More Central Abaco News

Central From Page 4

Dance Party Will Celebrate Valentines

By Isobel Sherman

Hall's Out Island Oasis is holding *A Night under the Stars* on February 14 at the Marsh Harbour Goombay Park. Sponsored by Bacardi and Fast Ferries the night will feature Nassau DJ Shawn Baby and DJ Crank from Radio 104.5.

There will be free giveaways all night long. Another place to spend the evening of Valentine's Day.

Library News

By Isobel Sherman

Membership for students at the Marsh Harbour Community Library is on the rise. For \$4 a year students can use the books at the library, take out books and are able to use the computers and Internet without additional charge. The only charge is 25 cents for each page printed off the computer and each photocopy. For students who do not have access to a computer at home the Marsh Harbour Community Library is the answer. Students can come and use the computers to type their schoolwork. They can use the Internet for research and use the reference books.

The library is open Monday - Friday

from 3:30 - 5:30 and the computer room is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30.

The Marsh Harbour Community Library held a paperback book sale on January 17 and 18 at the library. Paperback books were sold for 25 cents. All of the books were duplicates already in the library's collection. Thanks to volunteer Linda for organizing the event. Any one wishing to donate books can go to the library Monday through Friday from 3:30 - 5:30.

New Hours

Beginning in February A-Buck-a-Book will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tues-

days and Thursdays. Volunteers and students from Every Child Counts will be available to help. Every book is just "a buck," a one dollar donation. Donations of used books are always welcome.

A-Buck-a-Book is located at the far end of Abaco Shopping Center. All proceeds got to provide help for the wild horses of Abaco. For more information about ECC call Monica at 359-6166 or Buck-A-Book call Mimi at 367-4805.

Please see Central Page 11



The Hummer Lounge is proving to be a very popular place to enjoy a drink in pleasant surroundings. The bar is adjacent to the Hummingbird Restaurant in Memorial Plaza in Marsh Harbour and has a relaxed ambient atmosphere carefully designed by Barbara Simmons. Soft music, beautifully detailed decorations and pleasant staff combine to create a very special place.



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Pan Fried Lobster

served with a white wine and vegetable cream broth,
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Desserts

Chocolate and Lemongrass Mousse

a light mousse of lemongrass and chocolate
served with a Bahamian sour syrup

or

Tropical Knickerbocker Glory

ice cream with raspberry and mixed tropical fruits

Price \$45.00 per person not including service

Abaco Markets Announces Changes

as expected and they reported a net loss of \$1,700,000 with an accumulated loss for the year of \$2,407,000. This was more than previously forecast.

New Developments

The company announced a "right sizing" of its Abaco operations by the closure of Sawyer's Market in Marsh Harbour. This came after the company's analysis of the market conditions and the growth potential for the new Solomon's SuperCenter.

"We have four locations in a limited market in terms of its size, and our analysis shows it simply does not support growth for all four locations," explains Mr. David J. Thurlow, President of Abaco Markets Limited. "This is very a difficult process and we very much regret having to close an operation and displace employees who have served the company well for many years. However, we have an obligation to our shareholders to achieve better results in the markets in which we operate."

In regards to the other operations in Abaco, Mr. Thurlow said that they will be fully integrated into the new retail and discount warehouse models. "We will continue

to grow our Solomon's SuperCenter and will rename Treasure Cay Mini Market under the Solomon's retail brand. Abaco Wholesale will be redeveloped as our discount warehouse "Cost Right" brand to give our customers in Abaco the best options in products and price," he added.

Plans for Abaco

Mr. Lowell Albury, Director of Operations on Abaco, gave details of how the company changes will affect Abaco and what the plans are for the Abaco stores. Most of the company's 108 employees gathered for the announcement that the company was going to close Sawyer's Market which would result in a number of employees being redundant. Twenty persons were employed there and the parent company absorbed as many as they could in their other operations. About 11 persons were redundant and are out of work as of January 24 when the store officially closed. However, the company is still reviewing its future requirements and is fitting in as many as possible. Several other employees were let go which included several who had been with the company for many years. Mr.

Albury described the worst week of his life when he had to tell his employees there would no longer be work.

Mr. Albury went over plans for the Abaco stores. Abaco Wholesale will be renamed Cost Right, following their brand name in Nassau and will be renovated to divide the warehouse into two areas. One area, 20,000 square feet, will become a consumer wholesale similar to what Solomon's used to be. The remainder, 30,000 square feet, will be the receiving area and the wholesale supplier for smaller shops. Orders arriving at the wholesale are shipped the next day. Work is expected to begin in mid-February and will hopefully be completed by the end of April.

Equipment from Sawyer's Market will be used in the Abaco Wholesale renovation and will also be used to upgrade the Treasure Cay Mini Market. Customers there can expect to see new freezers, new coolers and new shelving which will come from Sawyer's Market. The Treasure Cay store will be renamed using the word Solomons in it. At this time the exact name has not been decided. Mr. Albury discussed the long term plans for that

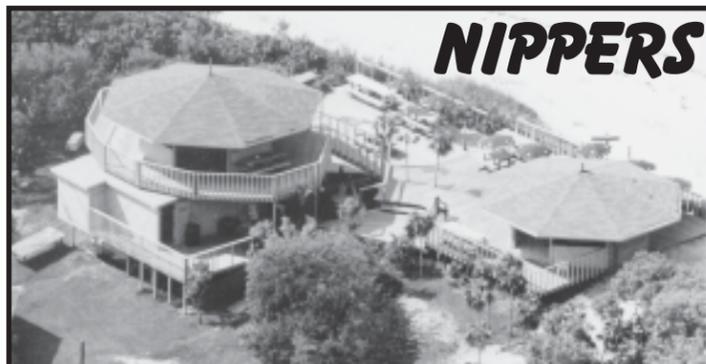
store. Plans are already drawn for a new store there, a stand-alone building which will include a deli and a bakery. The Abaco Markets Company is negotiating with Treasure Cay Limited, which is studying costs and would construct the building.

Plans still are on the table for a food court to be included at Solomon's SuperCenter in Marsh Harbour but no date has been set for construction. The food court would offer a variety of prepared foods for the convenience of its customers.

AA Meetings

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

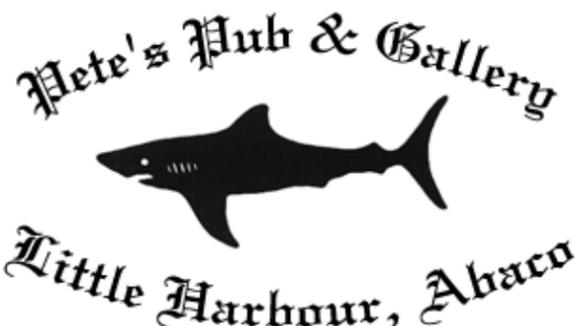
The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the library.



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- Grouper Grilled and Topped with Garlic Roasted Tomatoes*
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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Dedication of Restored Landmark

Everyone was a little disappointed that the Old School could not be utilized for the community's annual Christmas party, but hopefully all inspections will be complete, electricity turned on and any final preparations made to have the official dedication on Easter Monday, something we are all looking forward too. In fact, the grapevine tells me it's going to be a pretty big celebration, so you won't want to miss it.

Church News

Rev. Carla Culmer and the ladies of Epworth Chapel in Cherokee will be having their ninth annual Valentine's Tea on February 11th. As always there will be a

mystery "tea," a lovely door prize, fun games and the coveted china teacup which will be presented by the minister to one lucky attendee. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate as the event is planned to take place in the garden behind the manse. We hope to see all the lovely ladies there; sorry, men, no husbands allowed.

Tea Is Planned

On February 14th, Valentine's Day, the Assemblies of God Women's Ministry will host a dinner for their Valentines. It is good to see love is still alive and will be shared by all the "young" lovers in Cherokee, at least, for this one night anyway.

Upgrading the Softball Field

Government has set aside \$10,000 to upgrade the old ballpark by the Long Dock. Several loads of fill have been

brought in but much more is needed. In past years many have come out and sat on the Long Dock to watch an afternoon of softball games and it will be good to see the area brought back to life. Hurricane Floyd, years of neglect and a lack of funds has kept the area overgrown and in no condition to play on. However, with the new surface and lights so that it can be utilized during night time hours, it will give the young people (and some old ones, too) a place to meet and enjoy the sport. I think everyone is anxiously awaiting its completion.

School News

In the upper grades Tyler Albury and Cruz Turnquest have made the Honour Roll while William Pinder, Chandi Lowe, Caitlyn Albury, Lance Bethel and Dominique Chea were put on the Principle's List. In the lower grades Tyler Sawyer, Haley Sands and Terrance Albury made the Honour Roll and Oconno Cooper, Chyanne Turnquest, Drey Hepburn, Jessica and Juliet Weatherford made the Principle's List. Congratulations to all these students for a job well done.



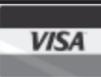
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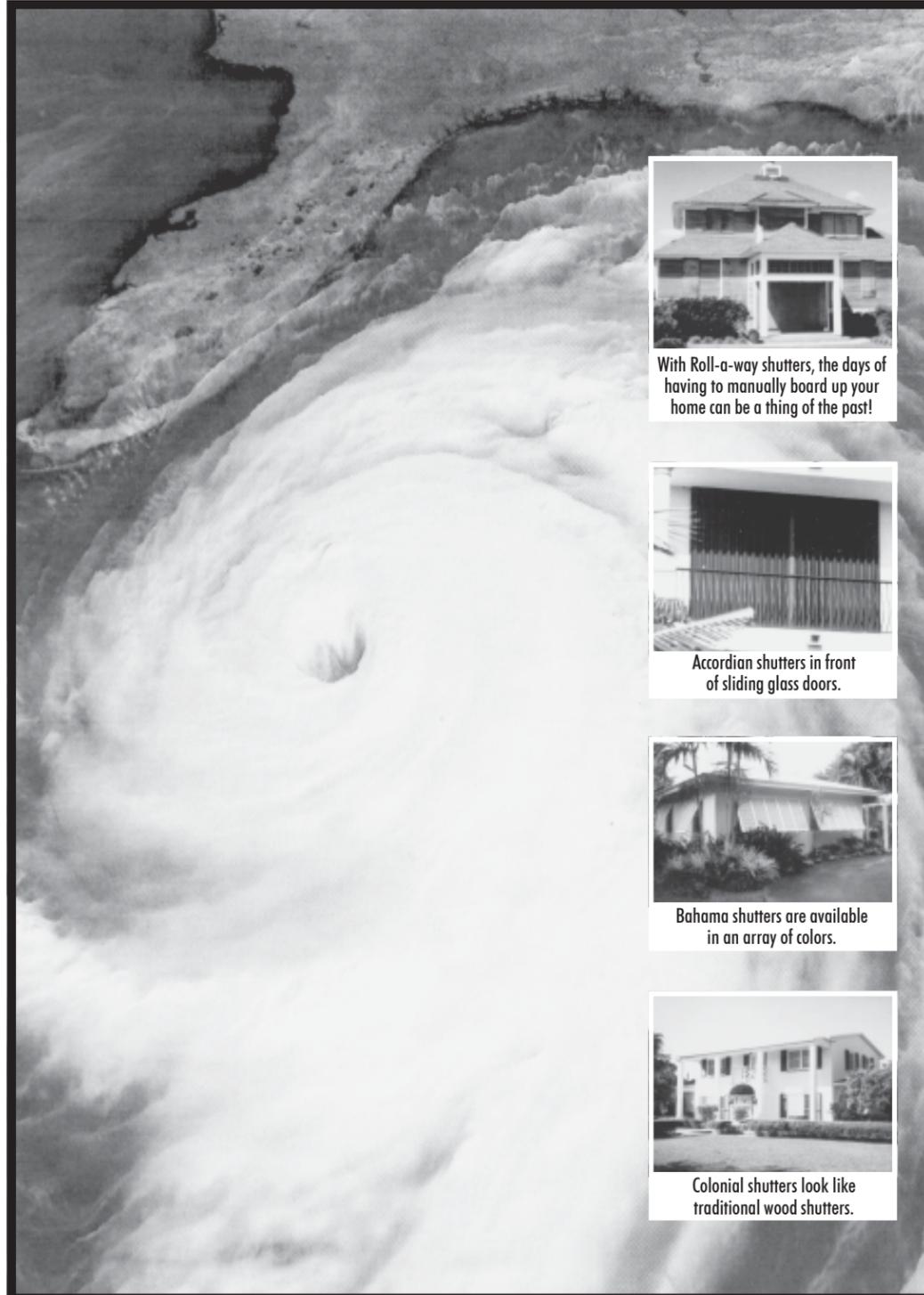
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The Editor Says . . . A Pro-active Approach to the Future



Another milestone has been established for Abaco - the recent Science Alliance Conference. Credit must be given to Friends of the Environment that put the program together and staged it in the cavernous New Vision's auditorium. Fifteen scientists with diverse interests came to Abaco to present a summary of their studies and these persons are believed to represent only a few of the many studies underway. Friends of the Environment hopes to make this event bi-annual in even-numbered years with the next one in 2006.

A similar environmental symposium has been held on San Salvador in odd-numbered years for the past 20 years and is hosted by a research group based there.

We all concede that we are selling sea, sand and sun. We found it here, we accept it and without much thought we assume it will be this way forever. This may be true for the sun as we are limited in our ability to screw it up. However, the sand and sea are showing signs of stress from contending with us.

Fires and hurricanes produce immediate changes but nature heals the wounds from these apparent disasters. The changes we cause are slow to appear and can be very difficult to arrest or heal. Some of these changes are now causing concern.

Abaco's success with tourism and the resulting strain came about in an low-key way. Two pioneer hotels that come to mind are the New Plymouth Inn which began in 1954 and the Hope Town Harbour Lodge which opened several years later. Neither made a big impact on the environment or on tourism in general. Our transient visitors and our second homeowners have grown in numbers and are mostly scattered throughout Central Abaco. It would be difficult to point to any one group or area and lay the blame for our problems. It is easy to blame others but a lot of our problems have been brought on by ourselves.

For example, boaters are frequently blamed for the poor water quality in our harbours and certainly they make their contribution. However, studies in the Florida Keys have shown that most of the water

pollution there originates from shore based facilities even though they have proper septic tanks. It is probably the same here. The Department of Environmental Health in Freeport has begun studies in Marsh Harbour which in time, may lead to answers.

Initial visitor traffic in the 1960s was sparse and the sand and sea were here for the taking. In 1960 Hope Town's garbage fit on a barge 10 to 12 feet square and was towed out into the ocean just beyond the northern point and dumped overboard. Some of it sank on the reef, some drifted out to sea and some came back on the beach.

At that time the beach was not valuable and not used to any degree, so it did not matter. You could not fish from it, you could not launch a boat from it and it offered no protection in bad weather. It was the influx of visitors and changing property values that caused the beach to be viewed differently.

The importance of the beach is now taken to the extreme at Winding Bay where the developer scours the beach daily. It is now two miles of a pristine sandy beach, picture postcard perfect, without a blemish. However, we are told that the normal assortment shore birds have left as there is no longer any seaweed or other flotsam to scavenge.

Smoke and fumes from burning garbage at town dumps were tolerated for years.

Fumes from the dumps in years gone by were annoying but did not contain significant amounts of strange chemicals and pollutants. Selective burning helped, that is, burning when the wind took the fumes in the least populated direction. Development has increased to the point where calm days may be preferred and then only heaven knows where the offensive fumes go.

Marsh Harbour's huge dump is beginning to come under neighborhood pressure. When it was moved to its present location in the 1980s, it was considered well out of town. BEC took the hint and located its generation plant nearby. Today both are in the backyard of an expanding residential development. Moving the dump elsewhere is in the serious planning stages and may happen later this year or next year. Present plans are to barge Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay garbage to the Abaco mainland for disposal at this new site. Those responsible for the expansion of BEC's generation plant should be studying their long term options.

Growth and economic success changes community values, perceptions and outlook. With progress, development and a better understanding of our surroundings, the standards of a generation ago are no longer acceptable.

Within a few days of the Science Alliance Conference, a second environmental group

visited most areas of Abaco. The BEST Commission (Bahamas Environmental, Science and Technology) sent representatives to listen to the environmental problems and concerns of each town. To our knowledge public attendance was minimal, nine in Cooper's Town and six in Marsh Harbour. This was a fact-finding mission to be carried on throughout the Bahamas getting concerns of the residents. A summary will be given to government for possible action or remedy. Some U.N. funding may even be possible.

Friends of the Environment, the BEST Commission and concerned residents are all to be commended for their involvement in bringing issues to our attention and lobbying to bring about action by relevant government agencies.

The Science Conference has brought Abaco to a new level of consciousness. We are no longer a passive group of settlements accepting our lot in life without questioning. We are becoming a proactive society determined to keep our island in as pristine as possible while realizing that development will bring changes. We are thinking for ourselves and we are making a conscious effort to control our situation. We are taking responsibility for our communities and are becoming informed so future decisions can be meaningful. Abaco is maturing in a very healthy way.

Generally Speaking . . . A Balancing Act

By S. Timothy Roberts

There is a word known to everyone around the world. In fact, this word has even been dubbed the "international language" of the world.

The word "love" has many meanings. Of all the words in the world no other evokes such strong emotions, nor probably has there been a word that so much has been done in behalf of except the name of God.

It is a word that describes many different yet essentially similar feelings. The Greeks have four different words to describe the love we have in different types of relationships; the feelings between man and wife are different than the feelings between a mother and daughter or of that of two friends.

Then there is God's love which is unconditional, not meritorious and given without reserve. There is no greater love than this.

Today this word regrettably has become very vague in meaning and shallow in practice. It is probably the most abused word in relationships across the world and yet the most sought for and most desired.

In two weeks we'll celebrate a day set aside just for love. Yet this observance does not hear the cry of those who hunger for true love throughout the world. Just as there are many financially needy, there are just

as many or more who need love.

On Valentine's Day we often give those we "love" a gift. Maybe we give some chocolates, flowers or something with hearts on it. Some spend hundreds of dollars to prove their love on this day. Yet true love cannot be given in a single day.

There are 365 days in the year (366 in a leap year like this one). No matter the budget, if you give true love from your heart to another's, then it would not matter how much money was spent.

Here are three gifts that will stand the test of time and commercialization: Time is a gift that can be given that is costly and can never be taken back. Your heart is a unique gift that no one else can give and is

most precious to you. And your attention and care that is greatly appreciated by the one you give it to.

As tradition may dictate, by all means spend Valentine's Day the way you always have, but make this one better. Aside from all the standard rhetorical and over-commercialized things you may give, say or do, try giving that special someone your heart honestly and humbly now and forever.

If, indeed, you love that special someone in your life, they will be thrilled, I am sure, with the extra gift you give. In a world scarred with divorce and hatred, let us individually make a difference one life or one couple at a time.

ALL ABOUT TOWN

Setting the Record Straight

By Isobel Sherman

It has happened again. The carnival has disrupted the physical education programme at Abaco Central High School. The school has no PE facilities of its own so for over 20 years it has used the facilities at Murphy Town Park.

Last year the carnival caused the school to cancel inter house sports and inter school sports. This necessitated Abaco being given a special dispensation for students to compete in the National Track and Field Meet because the criteria was to qualify at an inter school sport meet. PE classes could not be taught properly last year when the carnival was here. The track and the field were damaged by the carnival.

Now this year, despite valiant efforts of Chief Councillor Cay Russell, Principal Benjamin Stubbs and Physical Education teacher Elva Davis, the powers that be again allowed the carnival to set up on the track oval in Murphy Town. Their reasoning was they came earlier than last year. That still is hampering the physical education

programme and the track and field teams practices.

The bottom line is that it seems no one cares. The reasoning is that many children cannot visit Disney World; but instead they can go to the carnival. That is like someone wishing to eat at Gray Cliff in Nassau, one of the most expensive restaurants in the world, and instead eating from a take away. There is no comparison.

Mrs. Davis is trying to get her Junior Track and Field Team ready for some meets including a meet in Freeport in the near future. Now she faces trying to practice without a track. This is an up and coming Junior Track and Field team which may have future National Champions.

As part of inter school sports and inter house sports hurdles are to be added and the only way a person can practice hurdles is on the track.

For the sake of the students and the physical education programme I hope the carnival does not extend its stay. I also hope

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Letters to the Editor

Batelco Needs Competition

To the Editor,

On 12 January 2004 Batelco disconnected hundreds of residential and business telephone services on Abaco for so called non-payment. To my knowledge no one had received an invoice from Nassau on this date. I did receive my telephone bill on 15 January 2004, three days after the fact. The post mark from Nassau was 31 December 2003. Is it our fault that it takes 15 days for mail to come from Nassau? I think not!

Why did Batelco mail out the November telephone bills on 31 December 2003?

These disconnections caused numerous problems for the residents of Abaco and were uncalled for.

When I went to Batelco to have my service reconnected, I explained that I had not received an invoice. The response was, "It's your responsibility to come into Batelco and pay if you don't get your bill on time." I have a "big problem" with that! Why should I pay for an invoice that I can't check? Furthermore, I have better things to do than stand in line at Batelco to see what I owe!

A telephone company provides service and ALL of us are customers. Somewhere along the line Batelco has lost sight of "customer service."

The government needs to allow competition for Batelco. I wonder how many customers would switch telephone service if that happened? However, it never will because Batelco is still owned by "we own" government.

Bill Thompson

Ed Note: A further complaint. We have receipts for paying the charges for six telephone lines on December 12. However, we were not given credit on our statements dated December 22. Ten days later and we still did not have credit. Fortunately, we had only one line turned off, one which they credited our payment to the wrong account.

Another Abaco Airport Complaint

To the Editor,

Today is 19 January 2004 at 5 p.m. It has been raining non-stop since 11 a.m. this morning.

I picked someone up from the Marsh Harbour airport at 2:15 p.m. That airport is a "disgrace." This government, the last government and any future government ought to hang their heads in shame if they saw what I did at that airport today. Five commercial airplanes on the ramp at the same time, the inadequate (maybe 1000 square foot) terminal departure area was full, immigration and customs (maybe 600 square foot) area was full. Passengers running through the rain. Baggage left out in the rain. People exiting customs directly into the downpour welcomed by puddles (small ponds) of water to stand in. "Welcome to the Bahamas!"

The Marsh Harbour airport is the third busiest airport in this country. Our visitor arrivals/departures are constantly increasing. How are we going to handle the number of arrivals/departures when Winding Bay and other big projects on Abaco are complete?

Wake up! What are you waiting for? Give us our tax dollars back and build a new airport terminal!

Bill Thompson

In Recognition of Our Mighty Neighbor

The Editor,

Due to a higher level of disorganization than normal and the fact that I sometimes cannot get my clock off Bahamian time, I was not able to get this to you in time for Christmas. However, I feel the subject is

one of great importance and I hope you will allow me to share it with your vast reading audience. I must apologise, but brevity will not lend itself to this subject.

As our most festive time of year has just passed, I feel it necessary to remind us all that there are those individuals serving in a military campaign against terrorism who did not make it home to their families for Christmas. In fact, some of these people will not be coming back to their earthly homes at all. As far as I am aware, there have not been any Bahamians killed in action, thanks be to God - Jehovah that is.

So, why is this so important to us as Bahamians? Well, for starters, the fact that there are a number of Bahamians serving in both the United States and United Kingdom armed forces should be of absolute interest and concern to us. Secondly, the very fact that this conflict took place at all should be of interest to us because we are dependent completely upon outside help, and therefore if the U.S. suffers defeat - which is highly unlikely - then we would be in for a great deal of grief ourselves, whether we agree with the actions of the U.S. or not.

I completely support the Bush administration in this military action. It should be immediately obvious that Saddam Hussein had no intention of taking the United Nations seriously. You would think that ten years of laughing at the U.N. would have signaled to them how unaffected Saddam was by their supposed sternness. Thus, it fell upon the U.S., who had the most to lose in a continued instability in the Middle East, to go after some of the "bad guys." Had the UN done their job in the first place, or had other major UN member nations joined the U.S. in turning up the heat on Saddam, perhaps we would not have seen this war come about.

The problem with the detractors of Mr. Bush is not that they oppose the war so much - because dissent is an absolutely essential ingredient in a democracy - but it would appear as if they just don't want to see Mr. Bush succeed. I mean, God forbid that a conservative president should leave behind a legacy of responsible, and thus successful leadership. That kind of attitude really is very sad because success in the present thrust against terrorism will make the whole world a safer place. Safer for liberals - sorry I meant to say progressives - and safer for conservatives.

A similar but much less serious situation is my own feelings about the PLP whom I did not support in the last election. Even though they seem to be stumbling around in the dark, I can honestly tell you that I do not want them to see them implode. I would much rather see them "get it together" and then be voted out of office next election, or better yet, get it together and make this a Bahamas that is better for everyone. Who knows, if they do get it together, I might



even vote for them next time around.

Anyway, speaking of my respect for Mr. Bush brings to mind another man who made difficult decisions on the war on terror. Tony Blair's involvement in this campaign was not a very popular decision for him at home in England, but one which I believe will prove to exonerate him and Mr. Bush in the long run. It would seem that strong, decisive leadership scares a lot of people in this brave new world in which we live. It would also seem that since WWII, the tenacity of "Westerners" has softened. In this regard I am forced to offer a bit of advice. Wake up people!

Weapons of mass destruction have not been found thus far in Iraq, but enough evidence of association with terrorists has been established. And in any event, the humanitarian perspective alone of this war justifies its execution. That's not only because I tend to lean a little "right of the center" either. Allow me to explain.

When Bill Clinton decided to send troops into Haiti some years back, I was very sup-

portive of that move although I wasn't a fan necessarily of Mr. Clinton. However, what separates Mr. Bush from Mr. Clinton is the belief that the people of Iraq will not simply be abandoned, as were the people of Haiti, after the military is finished "mopping up" the radicals. Of course, this remains to be seen. If the Bush administration does fail in following through in Iraq, then I shall be one of the first to condemn them for it. Not to worry, I am not so full of self that I believe what I think makes the slightest bit of difference in the gist of our human experience. It is still my prerogative, however, to sound off as the mood strikes me. That's THE greatest commodity we possess as free people.

It is very comforting to me to know that the greatest nation on earth - the United States of America - sits just 180 miles to the west of where I live. It is also of further reassurance that there are those individuals

Please see **Letters** Page 21

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School News

COB Office Now Open

The Abaco office of the College of the Bahamas is now open Monday through Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bertram Mills is the person coordinating the Abaco branch of the school. The phone number is 367-2877.

OAS Grant Will Fund Programme

By Isobel Sherman

The Ministry of Education has received a \$185,000 grant from the Organization of American States to fund a mentoring programme for new teachers and young

teachers. The programme would match these teachers to experienced and motivated teachers who have been in the profession for awhile. With the implementation of the programme it is hoped that many new and young teachers would remain in the teaching profession as many of them leave after serving a few years in the teaching profession.

Seminars Assist Teachers

By Isobel Sherman

Three seminars for high school teachers were held on January 20 at the Learning Resource Center in Marsh Harbour. Subject officers from the Ministry of Education held the seminars in all of the secondary schools in Abaco. Mrs. E. Darling held a seminar for art and craft teachers of both BGCSE and BJC art and craft examinations. Ms. S. Williams held a seminar for science teachers at the secondary level. The third seminar was conducted by Ms. A. Dames in mathematics for teachers of both BJC and BGCSE exams.

Teacher Passes Away

By Isobel Sherman

Mr. Kenneth Owen, a teacher on Abaco

for over 30 years, passed away on January 14. Mr. Owen taught Abaco Central from the time it was in Spring City and in the years following when the school moved to its present location. Later he taught at Moore's Island School. Upon his retirement from public service he taught at Forest Heights Academy and at St Frances de Sales before he retired.

Born in Wales, Mr. Owen is survived by his wife Catherine, daughter Anghared, son Llwellyn and numerous relatives and friends. The funeral service was held on January 24 at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church.

Mr. Owen touched the lives of many Abaconians.

Abaco Central High Students and Teachers Attend Conference

By Isobel Sherman

Seven students from Abaco Central High School as well as three teachers attended the Abaco Science Alliance Conference on January 15-18 held at New Vision Minis-

Please see **School**

Page 11



A Miss Junior Abaco Central High competition will be held on February 7 at RND Cinema in Marsh Harbour. The pageant, coordinated by Miss Karen Hanna and Mrs. Jackie Johnson, will have nine girls from Grade 7-9 vying for the title of Miss Junior Abaco Central High. The contestants are shown above, kneeling left to right, Ashley Carroll, Iesha Knowles, Tyisha Murray and Serenity Murray. Standing left to right are Apige Swain, Shantell Nesbitt, Jaime Rose, Bianca Albury, and Kayrell Levarity. Tickets for the pageant are on sale at the high school or from the contestants. Proceeds are to aid school funds. Tickets are \$10 prior to the pageant and \$15 at the door the night of the pageant.

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More School News

Central

From Page 5

School From Page 10

tries. Hosted by Friends of Environment, the topic was *A Conference to Share Scientific Knowledge of Abaco and The Bahamian Environment*. Mrs. Zally Chu, Mrs. Michelle Bailey and Miss Catherine Knowles attended the conference along with eleventh grade students, Karis Edgecombe, Dwayne Jones, Felicia Stuart, Tannique Pratt, Latario Moss, Colyn Swain and twelfth grader Dashinek Charlton. The students represented geography, marine biology and biology classes.

Assistance Would Be Appreciated

Abaco Central High School is appealing for assistance for their International Day which will be held in March. Most helpful would be lending items for display from the various countries and donations of food items indigenous to the particular country. Visitors and second home owners from other countries who wish to assist please call or visit the school. The number is 367-2334. Help from the United States and Spanish-speaking countries is especially needed.

Standing Up

Chief Councilor Cay Russell has been giving his assistance to Abaco Central High School. A few years ago he obtained much needed science lab equipment. He coached the basketball team when the school had no one else to coach.

This past week he took on the task of trying to prevent the carnival from setting up at the Murphy Town Park. He may not have succeeded but he helped tremendously in bringing this situation to the forefront. Maybe his effort as well as the efforts of Principal Stubbs and PE teacher Mrs. Davis will insure another location will be found for any future carnivals. Thank you, Mr. Russell.

Huel Moss Day

February 20 is going to be called Huel Moss Day at Abaco Central High School. He will return to be honored by the students on that day for his 12 years of service to the school. Mr. Moss was appointed principal of South Andros High School and assumed duties on January 12, 2004. Abaco Central's loss is South Andros High School's gain. Since Mr. Moss had to leave Abaco Central in one week, Mr. Benjamin

Stubbs, Principal, thought it best if the school honored him properly by planning a day for him and asking him to return to the school. A special assembly will be held that day for Mr. Moss.

Finally, a Math Teacher

The long awaited additional math teacher for Abaco Central arrived on January 26. Ms. Cindy Lowe has been transferred from CC Sweeting Junior School in Nassau. Born in Cooper's Town, Ms. Lowe was given a rousing welcome by the administration, teachers and students of the school. The math department has been short one teacher since Mr. Jonathan Laverick left last June to return to Botswana.

Nail Salon Opens

By Portia Jonsson

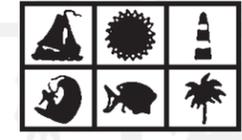
As the name might suggest, Pretty Hands and Feet is a nail salon recently opened on Queen Elizabeth Drive next to the Fire Department. In addition to manicures, pedicures, nail tips, sculptured nails and nail airbrushing, Pretty Hands and Feet provides hair braiding as well as Swedish and therapeutic massages by Lounette Albury. Salon hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pretty Hands and Feet is owned and operated by Jackie Williams, who has over nine years experience in the nail business. Give them a call today at 367-0126.



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Topics Were Varied at Science Conference

Conference

From Page 2

bers and the average citizen to provide information. The community needs to realize the importance of the environment and the need to protect it.

Research results need to be made available to all parties. Government is considering setting up an institute to bring research findings together. A suggestion is that there be a centralized data bank in the library at the College of The Bahamas where papers can be cataloged and made available.

Dr. Marshall commented on the LNG (liquid natural gas) proposals for pipelines to carry natural gas from terminals in The Bahamas to the United States. The State-side companies are driving hard for this. The BEST Commission has the responsibility to advise government on such projects and has made its decision, but it has not been made public yet. He stressed that there are four components which affect decision on this industry: the environmental, social, economical and political aspects. All of these must be taken into account, but he felt that the industry could be managed with minimal damage to the environment.

Diversity of Plant Life Was Studied

Dr. Ethan Freid, a professor at the University of Tampa, is an expert at plant identification. He spoke at the Abaco Science Alliance Conference on the diversity of plant life, specifically in the Abaco National Park in the south of Abaco. This is one of the studies with a goal of protecting the Abaco parrot. He had two goals: one was to identify new plants and the other to identify the vegetation in the national park.



The presenters at the recent Abaco Science Alliance Conference are shown above. They are, left to right, Kathleen Sullivan-Sealey, who spoke using satellite images to map coastal areas and reefs, Casuarina McKinney with BREEF, Lynn Gape with Bahamas National Trust, Nancy Elliot on wasps of Abaco, and Ethan Freid on vegetation diversity. In the middle row are Michael Vincent, who presented on the Brazilian pepper, David Smith on dragonflies, Serge LaRiviere on predation of birds by mammals, Henri Grissino-Mayer on tree rings and Neil Sealey on coastal erosion. In the back row are Joseph O'Brien, who presented on the effects of fire on pine forests, Dr. Susan Jacobson planning for Abaco National Park and Stephen Thompson on the fish of blue holes.

Most of the vegetation is the same on Grand Bahama and Abaco. But he has identified and collected about 40 species that

were previously unknown on Abaco. He has concentrated his effort in the Abaco National Park for several reasons. It is a

protected area that he can come back to do

Please see **Conference** Page 13



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Raccoon Control Was Topic of Concern

Conference From Page 12

follow up studies, the logging roads left from the 1960s gives easy access to the area and it will give information necessary to the sustained survival of the Abaco parrot. He identified several land types in the park including two blue holes, fresh water ponds, coastal saline ponds, pine land with ephemeral ponds and wet pine lands.

Dr. Freid divided the area into a grid which allowed him to mark specific areas which he examined closely. This gave him

data as to the number of species and their prevalence. He studied the pine trees, actually measuring 4719 trees. He has just completed the field studies. He will now analyze the data and make vegetation maps. He expects to return to do more work in the coppice areas.

He was appalled by the amount of trash he encountered including soda cans and shot gun shells. He collected up many bags of trash, helping to clean up our environment.

Dr. Serge LaRiviere on the left brought four types of raccoon traps which he is showing to David Knowles, Agriculture Officer on Abaco. Dr. LaRiviere presented at the Abaco Science Alliance Conference and talked with groups of hunters in Central Abaco and North Abaco about controlling raccoons recently introduced on Abaco. Abaco has never had a predator of this type, and the raccoon will destroy ground birds, ducks and the Abaco parrot if allowed to spread unchecked. Three kinds of traps



shown hold the animal live and would not harm dogs or cats if they were accidentally caught. Some are more appropriate for use in town while others would be better for remote locations. He also had one type which would cause instant death. That type of trap would have to be placed where other animals would not have access to it. He will be returning to Abaco in March to initiate a program to stop the raccoons' progress south and to begin getting the population under control. Raccoons have become a real nuisance in North Abaco.

Consultant Spoke on Raccoon Control

Dr. Serge LaRiviere gave a talk on the predation of birds and bird eggs by mammals. He is a research advisor in animal control with the Delta Waterfowl Foundation in Quebec. He explained that birds are quite vulnerable particularly those that nest on the ground. In some areas birds are faced with extinction because of nest predation. All mammals will eat eggs if they are strong enough to break the shell. The predation of eggs is the single most important factor in declining bird populations. Many birds protect their eggs by nesting in tree tops, cliffs or tree hollows. To increase egg survival, programs sometime have to be developed to control the predators or other methods of providing safety such as providing artificial nest sites that are less vulnerable.

Factors which contribute to egg predation include introduced species, habitat changes, fragmentation of habitat or agricultural development. On Abaco the problem is the introduction of raccoons. Raccoons are very adaptable and are a nuisance everywhere they inhabit. They carry disease including rabies and easily co-exist with

humans. Some call them the mammalian cockroach.

Dr. LaRiviere was on Abaco to make recommendations regarding the control of raccoons. They are a major threat to all ground birds including ducks but particularly the Abaco parrot. The parrot is a ground nesting bird which makes the adult females as well as the eggs at risk. He feels strongly that they must be kept where they are and not be allowed to spread further south. They are in Little Abaco and they have been seen south of Leisure Lee. Their numbers must be greatly reduced. Dr LaRiviere is not sure that they can be completely eradicated but it will be a continual problem to keep their numbers under control. There is no estimate as to their numbers but they are already a real nuisance to residents in the north, especially to farmers. He recommends a variety of methods to control them. He will be returning to Abaco to begin a program of control.

Future issues of *The Abaconian* will have additional articles on other topics covered by the Science Conference.



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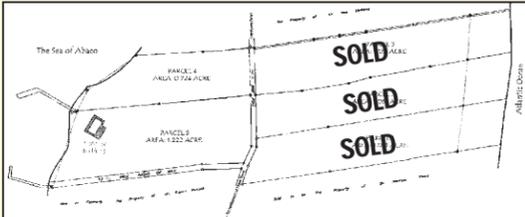
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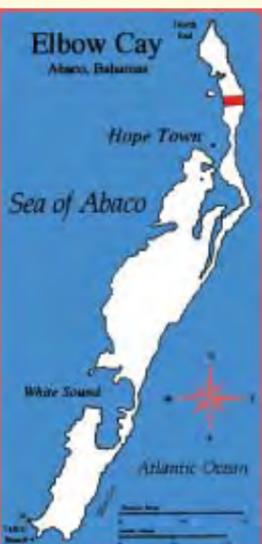
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Shoe Repairer Extraordinaire



Bob Ferguson in his workshop

By Jennifer Hudson

Mr. Robert (Bob) Ferguson spends much of his time in his little cobbler's shed behind his house in Spring City. Now 89 years old, Mr. Ferguson shuns the idea of machines, preferring to do all his work by hand and he produces first class work.

The story of how Mr. Ferguson came to mend shoes is a rather interesting one. He was born in Hard Hill, Acklins, and moved to Abaco in 1937 to work at the J.W. Roberts Saw Mill Company where he helped build the railroad. During the next 37 years Mr. Ferguson worked between Abaco, Grand Bahama and North Andros with the Abaco Lumber Company, National Container and later the Owens Illinois Company.

While working for the lumber mills, Mr. Ferguson and his fellow employees found that their shoes were constantly wearing out due to the very rough terrain. In 1937 there were no bulldozers, so the men had to beat paths through the bush and fill the holes with rocks in order to form some sort of a road. Trudging over this very rocky ground all day was very hard on their shoes. No sooner did they get a new pair of shoes than it was worn out. Money was scarce. In order to do something to alleviate this situation Mr. Ferguson tried repairing shoes for himself and his friends.

The planer mills operated using eight-inch-wide leather belts. When these were too worn to be used any longer by the mill, Mr. Ferguson would use the leather to mend shoes. He used a regular knife which he kept very sharp to cut the leather and Mr. Augustus Cash ordered tacks and glue for

him. Mr. Ferguson never received any instruction in shoe repair but gradually honed his skills, repairing many pairs of shoes for the workers over the years.

In 1974 Mr. Ferguson retired to Spring City and began his little shoe repair business at his home where, to this day, he still proudly does everything by hand. At one time he ordered his leather from England but now family members purchase all his supplies in Miami.

The work Mr. Ferguson does is first class. Recently my husband and I both had a pair of shoes repaired by Mr. Ferguson and we firmly recommend him; his workmanship is superb.

People send him shoes for repair from the length and breadth of Abaco including the cays and sometimes even from Nassau. A short while ago the owner of Wilson's Shoe Repair in Nassau, having heard of Mr. Ferguson's excellent reputation, came to Abaco to ask if he would repair shoes for him. He wanted to send over shoes from Nassau and employ Mr. Ferguson in Abaco to repair them. Mr. Ferguson, however, declined the offer, preferring to work at his own tempo.

Anyone wishing to have shoes repaired by Mr. Ferguson may contact him at 367-7127.

Viewpoint

Cable Bahamas Should Keep Public Better Informed

By Jennifer Hudson

It is not only my opinion but that of several people I know that Cable Bahamas needs to become better organized and keep its subscribers better informed as to its programming (or non-programming !)

As I write, at least four channels are off the air, two of which, A&E, Channel 25, BBC World and Channel 40, are channels I myself particularly enjoy. Hopefully, these will soon come back on but it is annoying when one tunes in to watch a particular programme and cannot watch it because the screen is blank. We still have to pay the same fees whether we are able to watch the programmes or not.

Some channels, however, have been taken off permanently as the contract has run out with those stations and, according to Customer Service at Cable Bahamas, are not going to be renewed.

Just before Christmas Cable Bahamas introduced the "set-top box" to Abaco enabling subscribers to receive more channels by purchasing a box and signing up for various packages. I do not know what, if any, other channels have been changed in these packages but in the "Home Pak" the Ovation Channel has been replaced with Bravo.

This is disappointing to people like myself who particularly enjoy the classical music and ballet programmes that the channel offered. While Bravo is a good "arts" channel, it shows mainly movies. Therefore, anyone purchasing a box hoping to be able to view some nice classical concerts has been short changed..

I feel that if Cable Bahamas was going to be changing its programming in January, consumers should have been given advance warning as to what changes would be made before making their decisions as to what packages to purchase just a month or so earlier. Who knows, within the next few weeks more programme changes may be made and several more people may lose their favourite channels. When I spoke with Customer Service about this, they agreed that consumers should be given advance warning of changes. I wonder if they will think to do so in the future.

When I asked if any other changes are planned, I was told that as of February 1st, two fee changes will take place. The reconnection fee will be increased from \$35 to \$37.50 and the cost of running an additional line to a house will increase from \$15 to \$20.

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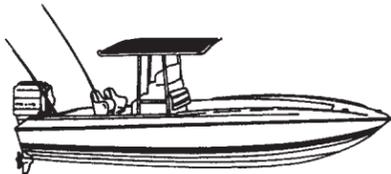
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Man-O-War Gets Defibrillator



Man-O-War Fire and Rescue was the recipient of a Christmas gift this year of a Lifework Defibrillator from Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Schroeder of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is a device that evaluates the heart rhythm of victims of sudden cardiac arrest as a result of heart attack, allergic reaction or drowning. According to Dr. Schroeder, "If

required, the AED is capable of delivering an electrical charge that may extend the life of a cardiac arrest victim until medical assistance can be obtained. Kim Arbuthnot, RN, from College Park, Maryland, is donating training on the AED to a select group. Fire Chief Roy Russell remarked, "Although we hope we never have the need to use it, the AED is an important piece of equipment for the benefit of the MOW community." Dr. and Mrs. Schroeder are second homeowners on Man-O-War Cay. They spend the majority of their time in the U. S. where they operate Schroeder Fire, Inc., a company specializing in fire and explosion analysis.

Update on Ministry of Housing Subdivisions

By Jennifer Hudson

Four families have now taken up residence in their new homes in the Central Pines Subdivision and between 15 and 20 additional homes are presently under construction. Of the 423 lots, 136 have been sold outright, 73 are being paid on and two are awaiting financing. The Ministry of Housing is still awaiting word from Nassau regarding when telephone service will be taken to the area.

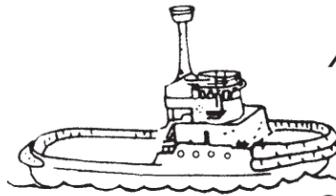
In Central Pines the original law stated that only one lot could be purchased per family. However, the Minister has now stated that families will be allowed to purchase two lots.

No homes have yet been completed in the Sands Cove Subdivision at Sandy Point but five are now under construction. Of the 98 lots available, 26 have been sold and 16 are being paid on. Though not yet connected, all utilities are already in this subdivision including telephone service.

The new Murphy Town Subdivision has been sold out for quite some time and eight or nine families are already in residence.

Mr. Gibbs, Office Manager on Abaco, stated that there has been some talk of expanding the Spring City and Crossing Rocks subdivisions. This may possibly take place later in the year but so far no date for commencement has been announced.

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Chief Councillor for Central Abaco Is Detained



The van belonging to Chief Councillor Cay Mills is shown being towed to the police station. This occurred on January 14 when Mr. Mills attempted to stop the carnival containers and trailers from getting into the Murphy Town Park area to set up. Mr. Mills was concerned that the adjacent high school students would be unable to continue their track practice because of the carnival. However, the carnival has been careful to keep their equipment off the track. Since they are not open during the school day, the students are able to continue using the facility.

By Jennifer Hudson

On January 14th Chief Councillor for the Central Abaco District, Mr. Cay Mills, was taken to the Marsh Harbour Police Station where he was detained.

The incident which led to his detainment occurred at the Murphy Town Park where the carnival had begun to arrive and set up in readiness for its opening to the public. Many people look forward to the arrival of the carnival each year at the Murphy Town Park for the fun and relaxation it affords them.

The persons in charge of bringing the carnival to Abaco had the necessary let-

ter of approval from the appropriate authorities. However, Mr. Mills was annoyed that he personally had not been asked for permission and decided to prevent the carnival employees from getting on with their job of setting up the rides. He blocked the entrance to the park with his car, then padlocked the gate.

The police were called to the scene, immediately arrested him and took him to the Marsh Harbour Police Station where he was detained. His car was towed away from the scene by a wrecker. He was released on bail later that night.

First Caribbean International Bank Held Reception



By Jennifer Hudson
In December the First Caribbean International Bank, Bahamas Ltd. held its first official function since its merger. A Customer Appreciation Reception was held for its valued customers at Mangoes Restaurant. Several members of bank staff were present along with Ms. Sharon Brown, Managing Director of the Bank who was visiting from Nassau. Ms. Brown is on the

board of the First Caribbean Bank of the West Indies which is based in Barbados and also the Cayman Board. The merger of Barclays and CIBC banks in the Bahamas is well under way and the finalized merger is earmarked for completion in March 2004. The first stage, dubbed Customer Day No. 1, when signs and uniforms changed, took place recently and Customer Day No. 2 will be the day on which the systems completely merge. From then on customers will be able to carry out ALL their banking at any First Caribbean International Branch. Fourteen countries are changing over; some have already completed the merger which is due to be finalized in all countries by April 2004. Shown here are Ms. Brown on the right talking with Mrs. Penny Vaughan of Mangoes Restaurant and Marina.

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Bombardier Introduces New Outboard



Test rides were offered by Bombardier when they introduced their new Evinrude outboard engines. A variety of sizes of engines were demonstrated. Factory officials were present to present the engines. The event was held at the Abaco Beach Resort on January 19 -21.

Bombardier dealers of Abaco held a presentation of the new Evinrude E-TEC engines at the Abaco Beach Resort on January 19 - 21. Dealers throughout the Bahamas attended along with three engineers and designers of the engines and four representatives of Bombardier Latin American Caribbean. It was a three-day event culminating on January 21 with a slide show and introduction to the new engines. For any-

one who wished to test the engines, there were nine boats with a range of engines on the water and many took advantage of this. The new motors are environmentally friendly, fuel efficient and priced competitively. A raffle was drawn every hour on the last day and the winners of a case of outboard oil included Mr. J. Williams, Joshua Lowe, Eileen Hodgkins, Peter Russell and Kent LeBoutillier.

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Viewpoint Celebrating Love

By Portia Jonsson

Every February across the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones all in the name of St. Valentine. There is no special day to celebrate our love, nor is there any reason to celebrate it only one day of the year. Each day we should celebrate love in one way or another.

I show my children that I love them by hugging and kissing them. I chase and coral toys throughout the house, each day. I make special treats for my family to indulge.

I love them for being themselves, for their personalities and the love they have for me. I love them for the times we share together each day. I love them for the help they give me each day, the thoughts they make happen. I love them for being by my side, supporting me through my endless endeavors.

We love our families and friends for all sorts of reasons, and we love them for no reason at all. So celebrate love today, tomorrow and always.

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

* Price Additional to Accompanied Passenger Vehicle Transportation Price



Schedule - Sandy Point, Abaco

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Magical Musical Moments Concert Will Benefit ECC

By Jennifer Hudson

An evening of *Magical Musical Moments* will be presented on February 7th at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Anglican Parish Church Hall in Marsh Harbour and will benefit the Every Child Counts School.

This programme of beautiful music will include some well-loved classics such as Ravel's *Bolero* and *The Lord's Prayer* and songs from the shows *Porgy and Bess*, *Cats*, *Ragtime* and many others. Performing will be Jennifer Hudson, Joan Moss, Bryan Thompson and the Je'sus a capella vocal group. An additional feature will be the Young Musician's Showcase in which one or two up and coming music students will be presented.

Jennifer Hudson is a violinist of many years experience who began learning to play the instrument at the age of seven years. She studied in England and was the recipient of several awards at a young age and has also played for royalty. She played in two symphony orchestras in the London area before coming to The Bahamas and forming the Bahamas Concert Orchestra in Nassau. Now happily residing in Abaco she plays for many weddings all around Abaco.

Joan Moss has thrilled many with her beautiful soprano voice. She comes from a musical family and studied at the McGill Conservatory of Music in Montreal, Canada. She has sung in many churches and cathedrals

and is presently a soloist with the St. Francis de Sales Church.

Bryan Thompson possesses a rich tenor voice. He studied music at Beloit College, Michigan, and has sung in numerous shows with the Nassau Operatic Society. Though now a resident of Marsh Harbour he still *Magical Musical Moments Concert Will Benefit ECC* operates a musical company 'HighGrove Productions' in Nassau. Bryan will thrill the audience with his rendition of 'To Dream the Impossible Dream' from 'Man of La Mancha'.

The Je'sus Quartet is always a favourite with audiences. The melodious voices of these four talented gentlemen: Gentry Morris, Baritone; Anderson Alcime, Tenor; Kevin Sterling, Tenor and Basil Been, Bass, blend flawlessly into one harmonious sound. Their performances are always full of life and fun. Each of these very talented singers will also delight the audience with individual selections. Who can ever forget the wonderful rendition of 'Old Man River' by Basil Been in the last 'Magical Musical Moments' concert?

Tickets for this event priced at \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under twelve may be purchased at the following locations: The Brass and Leather Shop in the Abaco Shopping Plaza and Beacon's Book House on Don McKay Blvd.

Children Say "Thank You" for Gifts



The Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club annually has a major drive to collect games and toys for distribution to the children of Abaco. Shown here are the happy faces of a few of the children in Little Abaco who received toys. They want to say "Thank you" to the Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club from all the children whose Christmas was better because of their kindness. Photo by Leon Pinder

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Club News

Rotary's PolioPlus Campaign

By Jennifer Hudson

It is a staggering and exciting fact that, since 1988, polio cases throughout the world have dropped by 99.8 percent, thanks in substantial measure to Rotary International's significant financial contributions and mobilization of volunteers. Rotary's top priority is the eradication of this destructive disease by 2005, its 100th anniversary year.

In 1985 the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, Rotary International pledged \$120 million to buy polio vaccine in support of a global effort to immunize the children of the world. Through the immensely successful PolioPlus campaign, Rotarians raised \$247 million.

By 1988 progress in controlling polio was so great that the World Health Organization resolved to eradicate the disease which has killed and paralyzed children for 5,000 years. With Rotary's encouragement, the largest public health initiative in history began.

Rotary is now the major private-sector partner in the global team which includes the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thanks to Rotary and its global partners the world is on the threshold of eradicating the polio virus that has destroyed so many lives and more than two billion children have now been immunized.

The biggest obstacle to victory in the battle against polio is financial. Despite the enor-

mous resources already committed, more money is urgently needed to buy vaccine and deliver it to children in the few remaining countries where the polio virus still circulates.

Towards this end the Rotary Club of Abaco has pledged \$6,000 by 2005 and are well on the way to realizing that amount thanks to the generosity of Abaconians who are putting their contributions into the specially marked five gallon bottles the following business locations around town:

The Great Abaco Beach Resort, Bristol Cellars in Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay, Royal Bank of Canada, both branches of the First Caribbean International Bank, Commonwealth Bank, A&K Liquors, Scotia Bank, Burns House, Diamante Dental, Auskell Medical Clinic and Harbour's Edge Restaurant and Harbour View Grocery in Hope Town.

Any other persons who would like to place a collection bottle in their place of business are asked to phone Bill Schweizer at 367-4479.

Rotary would like to express its appreciation to business owners for their cooperation in making this fund-raising drive possible and to the people of Abaco for so generously donating. More money is still needed so let us all continue to help fulfill

the promise of polio eradication by 2005 and deliver to all children everywhere a lasting and special gift - a world free of polio!

Look for the bottles with the Rotary International label: HELP STOP POLIO NOW! Just 12cents a day can save a child from paralysis or death.

Rotary Club Plans Benefit Golf Tournament

By Portia Jonsson

The Rotary Club of Abaco will be staging its third annual Golf Tournament on January 31st at the Treasure Cay golf course. It is anticipated that this event will draw some 72 golfers of varying expertise. This expectation stems from the success of last year's tournament which provided both

fun and challenge for all skill levels.

This year's prize for the first hole-in-one will be a 2003 Suzuki XL7 car. Other prizes for closest to the pin on the front nine and closest to the pin on the back nine will include a round trip to Florida and tickets for two aboard Bahamasair. Door prizes will be given during dinner at the Spinnaker Restaurant in Treasure Cay following the golf tournament. More than 65 persons are expected to attend.

The Rotary wishes to acknowledge with thanks the generosity of those individuals and businesses that make this tournament possible.

The proceeds from this tournament will benefit Every Child Counts Learning Center and other Rotary charities.



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Please see **Letters** Page 21

that a search for a new venue for the carnival will begin immediately. The only other solution is to give Abaco Central its own physical education facilities.

No Difference

According to Patti Toler of the Cruisers' Net, there seems to be no difference in the number of boats coming into Abaco even though the cruising permit has been raised to \$300. Patti has heard that some 70 boats are waiting in Palm Beach to make the crossing when the weather is more favorable. She said the weather since November has made crossing the Gulf Stream difficult. She feels the boaters will still keep coming to Abaco which is a good thing for Abaco, despite the increase in the cruising permit fee.



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BEST Is Surveying Problems of the Family Islands

The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission (BEST) is preparing a study of local concerns throughout the Bahamas and getting suggestions on possible solutions.

Ms. Sharrah Moss and Ms. Stacey Wells-Moultrie spent a week on Abaco visiting schools and holding community meetings in several towns to discuss concerns. Abaco was the first Family Island they visited.

They will be traveling through the islands, then compiling the information for submission to government in September. After an assessment of needs the Commission is hoping to receive funding from the United Nations.

Concerns in Cooper's Town included

- The need for a fisheries no-take zone in North Abaco
 - Open the causeway connecting Little Abaco to allow movement of water and marine life into the stagnant south side area.
 - Restrict air boats which are destroying bonefish flats.
 - Concerns were raised over the practicality of the proposed island-wide dump site which will be approximately 50 miles away.
 - Raccoons are destroying agricultural crops and becoming a nuisance to residential garbage.
 - Haitian fishermen are thought to be breaking conch and dumping the empty shells back in the water rather than the accepted practice of bringing the shells ashore.
- Those attending agreed more enforcement and stronger penalties are needed. It was suggested that a lack of jobs has forced many persons to take undersized or protected fish, conch or crawfish in desperation to support their families.

The main topics brought up at the meeting in Marsh Harbour included

- The illegal burning at dumps. In the case of the Central Abaco dump, the dump is not far from the well field. On the other side of the well field is the airport.
- The lack of long range planning. The new well field for Central Abaco is along the Great Abaco Highway, effectively restricting Marsh Harbour's growth to the south.
- The continual expansion of Haitian settlements was another concern. Their communities impact negatively on our environment. Although their labour is necessary to our economy, their squatter settlements grow, creating garbage and presenting other sanitation and health issues. It was agreed that all must work in harmony to bring the problem under control. It is now beyond the scope of local authorities.
- The water quality of the Hope Town harbour and the Marsh Harbour harbour is a concern. The group talked about the causes of the pollution which has caused both harbours to be dead. The group was unaware of any shore-side pump-out facilities on Abaco. The new freight dock in Marsh Harbour has an acceptance pipe for boat sewage but is not capable of pumping the boat's tank. Most boats do not have the ability to pump out their own holding tank. This is normally a shore-side function provided by marinas.

It was concluded that there are too many problems and not enough money.

Visits were made to the off-shore cays and South Abaco documenting resident concerns in those areas.

Police Awarded Officers



The Royal Bahamas Police Force of Abaco held its annual Christmas party on January 17 in Marsh Harbour. The party included a ceremony honouring outstanding officers. Shown above is Insp. Cleophus Cooper on the left receiving a plaque from Actg. Supt. Clarence Russell in the center. Looking on is Woman Sgt. Gaynell Johnson. Mr. Russell is the officer in charge of the Abaco District. Mr. Cooper is in charge of the detective unit on Abaco but is being assigned to Nassau soon. All the officers enjoyed a holiday feast of ham, turkey, chicken and a complete bar. The party was held at the home of ASP Godfrey Ferguson in Marsh Harbour.

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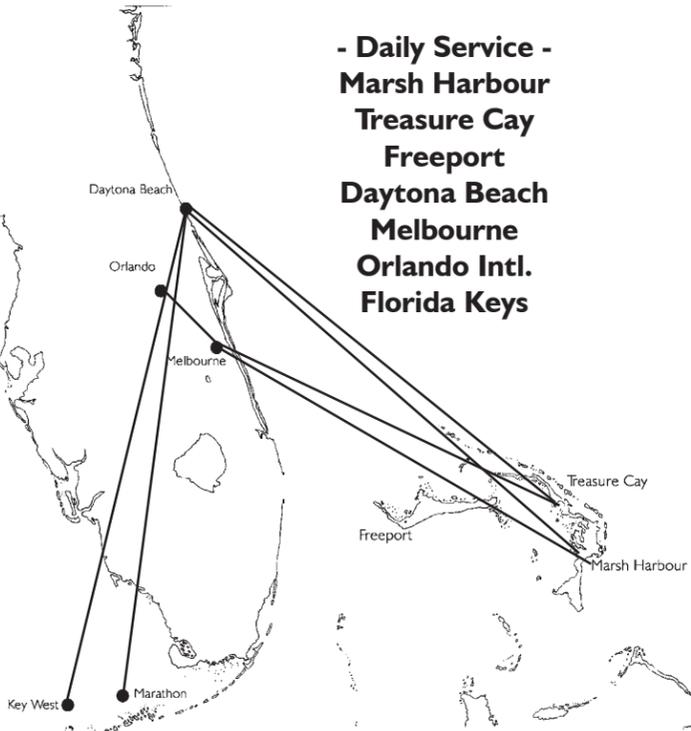
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More Letters to the Editor

Letters *From Page 9*

who live in that country (many Bahamians amongst them) who would pack up and march off to war, and thus possible death, in a moment's notice when they believe that their safety and security, which is also our safety and security (and indeed of every peace loving nation on the earth for that matter) depends upon their ability to do their jobs effectively. And by the way, I will gladly have my fingerprint and photo taken in order to secure my privilege of traveling to the United States.

The United States didn't become the great nation she is necessarily by the threatening words of presidents or from political posturing, but rather because of a people who were, and are still, willing to put their lives on the line for their brothers and sisters. Some of these brothers and sisters are not even American. In fact, right now, many of them are Iraqis and other Arab peoples of the world. You cannot convince me, in spite of the many biased news reports to the contrary, that the majority of Iraqi citizens are not overjoyed to be rid of Saddam Hussein, who will not be referred to as the former President of Iraq in this letter, but rather as the ruthless and murderous dictator that he is. Political correctness be damned!

I believe that the Americans, the British and their allies have made an honorable effort and sacrifice in liberating the people of Iraq. They obviously have made a statement to other would be problem makers in the region with their willingness to act decisively. To be sure, the U.S. and U.K. are not completely without blame for their actions in military conflicts of the past. However, I will leave the judgement of leaders of the past to the One who will judge us all, and I believe that He is pleased in the way in which this conflict was executed, namely, that innocent lives were protected as far as it was humanly possible. Anybody knows

that innocent lives will be lost in a military campaign. However, anybody who knows anything about history will know that never before has there been a "cleaner" war fought.

If the motivation on Mr. Bush's part to go to war with the radicals in Iraq was anything less than the most sincere, he will have to answer for that. We could argue the politics all day and night long. However, I am very confident that we will see stabilization come to Iraq. So, in this spirit, I wish for a real conclusion to hostilities in Iraq and the Middle East in general. Those whose eyes have been opened know that peace is coming. First, a temporary, man-made peace and then real PEACE!

May God bless the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States and the United Kingdom and their allies. Theirs is a very important and dangerous job. For too long it has also been a thankless job. So, let me go on record as saying a very big THANK YOU to all of those men and women who are risking their lives daily to

make the world a safer place, but a much greater level of compassion is needed for the families of those whose loved ones have been killed in action thus far. I pray God's comfort upon them. It is important for them to know that their loved ones died doing an honorable thing.

Finally, I leave you with the following words from Abraham Lincoln: "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves." That could be applied to us who enjoy freedom but are not willing to risk our lives to offer it to those who are oppressed by vicious dictators like Saddam Hussein, and it could apply to people like Hussein himself who denied freedom to his own people. I will leave that call up to a Higher Authority.

Sincerely,
William (Billy) Roberts
**Phone Problems for
Bahama Palm Shores**

Dear Sir,
I intentionally refrained from launching any discourse of a negative nature during the recent holiday season. Negativity, although it is necessary to talk about sometimes and although it is impossible to avoid all of the time, still does tend to become tedious. However, the holidays are past, and unfortunately, there is a bit of negative business that I feel is necessary to share with the public at large, and hopefully you will accommodate me to this end.

The residents of Bahama Palm Shores (I am one of them) have been waiting for some time now for the arrival of regular phone service from Batelco via a cable that was run from Marsh Harbour all of the way to Bahama Palm Shores.

This cable has been installed now for several months, and "test phones" were even placed in a few homes. Batelco was right on the verge of normalising phone

Please see **Letters** *Page 22*

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 23

service, but it seems that there are those pathetic, small-minded individuals who will not allow us to have our phones. They have chosen to use our cable as target practice. In fact, as far as I am aware, the cable has been "shot up" (as in gunfire) now on at least three different occasions.

One has to wonder what the motivation is for such childish destructive behaviour. I have formulated about three or four different possibilities, but I cannot put any credence to any of my theories. My only hope at this stage is that I can actually be the one to catch this person or persons red-handed. If it is not for me to have that privilege, then the next best thing is for this person or persons to accidentally shoot themselves or each other on their next adventure in search of defenceless telephone cable in Bahama Palm Shores. This will then save the cost to the taxpayers, and the aggravation to us for a bothersome court case. It's a win - win scenario, don't you think? One can only hope.

Sincerely,

William (Billy) Roberts

To The Member of Parliament for South Abaco

Dear Editor,

Just prior to the 2002 general election, I confronted the Member of Parliament for South Abaco concerning a scandal involving several major seafood companies. The companies were permitted to bring in captains and crew from the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica to run their fishing boats. Some of the boats would have divers fish for lobster while others were using large fish traps in about 600 of water. They were

fishing completely around Abaco and Grand Bahama for grouper and snapper. A lot of the buoys for these pots would break away in strong storms. The pots would continue to trap fish and lobster, and they would keep dying until the pots decayed away.

I was concerned for our fishing industry and our fishermen.

The response I got from the M.P. for South Abaco was this: "Well, Tennyson Wells was in charge of Fisheries for a short time and anything could have happened during that time." Bear in mind, at the time the M.P. provided this faulty information was during the same time that Mr. Wells severed ties with the FNM party due to the party's arrogance and corruption. The M.P. wanted to shift the blame on a former party colleague.

I telephoned Mr. Wells and spoke with him briefly about this. He said, "I know nothing of this action taking place." He could not believe that the Member of Parliament for South Abaco would try to make false accusations against him.

We all know that Mr. Wells is a "no nonsense" kind of fellow and a people's man. He proved that by running as an Independent candidate and received a landslide victory. Well done, Mr. Wells!

We all know that after the 2002 elections, the matter was brought to light, and the previous Minister of Immigration, who did hold Fisheries under her portfolio, was responsible for this.

So I'd like to ask the M.P. for South Abaco a question. How come, when you knew someone in your party was engaged in illegal practices, you had to try and place the blame on someone who was no longer in your party?

M.P. for South Abaco, why all of a sud-

den, you are so concerned about fisheries in the Bahamas when during the time the FNM was in power, you had to keep a zip on it. Was it that you just did not care, or you were strictly for your party and not the Bahamian people. You are clearly in the "shadows," shadow minister.

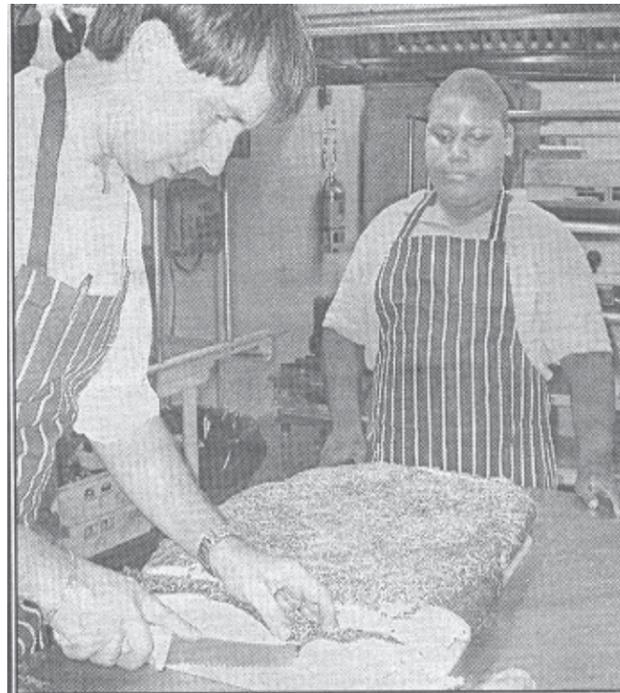
I must thank Mr. Christie, our Prime Minister, and the Hon. Alfred Gray, Minis-

ter of Fisheries, for the fast action taken to protect our Fishing Industry. I am so proud that you dealt with the situation concerning the Korean boats so swiftly.

This demonstrates that the PLP is the people's party. We are so proud of you. Keep up the good work. Thank you.

Peter Sweeting

Intern Learns Kitchen Skills



In November 13-year-old Alonzo Williams, a student at Every Child Counts Learning Centre, began an internship at Mangoes Restaurant under the direction of Head Chef, Nick. Every Child Counts has established an internship program at the school to afford the students a real life work experience. The program's goal is to place each student in an area that he or she enjoys and will gain experience. Alonzo is the first student to be placed. Although he was very excited to be starting work, he was nervous as well. He will be at Mangoes for one hour a

week after school throughout the school year and be given an employee number and card for "punching in and out." Alonzo will learn to work with utensils, make different types of dishes and gravies, research recipes and cooking styles from around the world and gain on-the-job skills. He said he loves to cook and eat and hopes to be a chef when he grows up. Alonzo was quick to point out that his grandmother is Mother Merle.

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Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

General for Abaco

Listings for the entire island

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576

Web Sites

with general Abaco information

www.abacoinet.com

www.abacoinfo.com

www.abacos.com

www.go-abacos.com

www.oii.net

www.bahamas.com - Min. of Tourism



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MY BABY'S DADDY - Comedy



BIG FISH - Drama



PAYCHECK - Action/Adventure



CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN - Family Comedy

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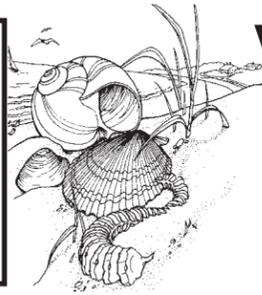
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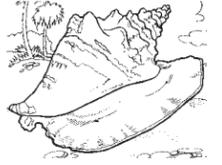
SOUND

COMING IN FEBRUARY 2004

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Visitors' Guide



Restaurants • Services • Transportation

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

Area code 242 unless listed

Emergency Services	
Police (Marsh Harbour)	367-2560
Fire - Marsh Harb. Volunteer Fire Dept.	367-2000
Fire - Hope Town Volunteer Fire Dept.	VHF Ch 16
Ambulance - Trauma One - Marsh Harbour	367-2911
Fire - Dundas Town Volunteer	367-2935 or 4935
Man-O-War Fire & Rescue	365-6911
Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc	VHF 16 or 366-0282
Fire - Green Turtle Cay Volunteer	365-4133

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

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

Air Lines Serving Abaco	
Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale	367-5599
Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale	367-2800
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau & W. Palm Beach	367-2095
Bimini Island Air - Ft. Lauderdale	954-938-8991
Calypso Air - Ft. Laud & W Palm Bch	954-3594191
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
Island Express - Ft. Lauderdale	367-3597
Major's Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
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	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
Kayak • Abaco Adventures • Treasure C	365-8749



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

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

Abaco Adventures	
• Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16	
Treasure Cay to Man-O-War/Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm	
\$25 OW \$35 RT	
Treasure Cay to Guana - Sun 12 Noon, return 3 \$20 OW \$25 RT	
Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -	
Crown Haven Abaco to McLean's Town -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm	
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm	
Fare \$40 one way • \$80 round trip • Children half fare	
For information call Grand Bahama 353-3093 or Abaco 365-2356	
Bus serves Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.	

Bahamas Ferries	
Between Nassau & Sandy Point under 4 Hr.	
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, omissions or corrections to our attention	

Abaco Marinas			
	Slips	Fuel	Phone
Walker's Cay			
Walker's Cay Marina	75	F	353-1252
Green Turtle Cay			
Bluff House	45	F	365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32	F	365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15		365-4531
Other Shore Club	12	F	365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10	F	365-4033
Treasure Cay			
Treasure Cay Marina	150	F	365-8250
Man-O-War			
Man-O-War Marina	26	F	365-6008
Marsh Harbour			
Boat Harbour Marina	183	F	367-2736
Conch Inn	75	F	367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36	F	367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52	F	367 2700
Mangoes	29	F	367-2366
Port of Call	24	F	367-2287
Abaco Yacht Haven	7		367-3079
Hope Town			
Hope Town Marina	16		366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways			366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6	F	366-0154
Sea Spray	24	F	366-0065
Spanish Cay			
Spanish Cay Marina	75	F	365-0083
Guana Cay			
Orchid Bay	32	F	365-5175
Boats coming from U.S. can clear Customs at Walker's Cay, Spanish Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour			

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

Rentals	
Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts	
Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Concept Boat Rentals	367-5570
Laysue Boat Rentals	367-4414
Pier One Boat Rentals	367-3587
Power Cat Boat Rentals	367-4620
Rainbow Boat Rentals	367-4602
Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars	367-4643
Rich's Boat Rentals	367-2742
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	367-2513
Sea Star Car Rentals	367-4887
Wilmac Car Rentals	367-4970 or 367-4313
Green Turtle Cay	
Bay Street Rentals	477-5300 365-4070
C & D Cart Rental	365-4084
D & P Cart Rental	365-4656
Donnie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
New Plymouth Cart Rentals	365-4188 or 4149
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts	477-5497
T & A Cart Rentals	375-8055
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Guana Cay Cart Rentals	365-5016
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6059
Island Treasures Cart Rentals	365-6072
Ria-mar Golf Cart Rentals	365-6241
Water Ways Boat Rent	357-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals	366-0292
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
Sea Spray Resort Boat Rentals	366-0065
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Alison Car Rent	365-8193
Cas's Carts	365-8771
Claridge's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749



Everyone reads The Abaconian.

Bonefish Guides	
Sandy Point	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286
Nicholas Roberts	
Derrick Gaitor	
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133
Vernal Burrows	
Kendall White	
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Floyd Burrows	366-4175
Links Adderly	366-4335
Valentino Lightbourne	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233
Marsh Harbour	
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Justin Sands	367-3526
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-6059
Cherokee	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Randy Sawyer	366-2284
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0133
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Green Turtle Cay	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff 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	
Marsh Harbour	
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	\$ 367-4460
Snack Shack	\$ + 367-4005
Snappas	\$ 367-2278
Subway	\$ 367-2798
Wallys	\$\$\$ 367-2074
Dundas Town	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Mackerals	367-5932
Hope Town	
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
Man-O-War	
Pavilion	\$ 365-6185
Hibiscus	365-6380
Guana Cay	
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Mermaid Cafe	\$\$\$ 365-5137
Orchid Bay	365-5175
Treasure Cay	
Florence's Cafe	\$
Coconuts	
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	365-8654
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	\$\$\$ 365-4271
Laura's Kitchen	\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$ 365-4625
New Plymouth Inn	\$\$\$ 365-4161
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$ 365-4066
Sundowners	365-4060
Wrecking Tree Rest.	

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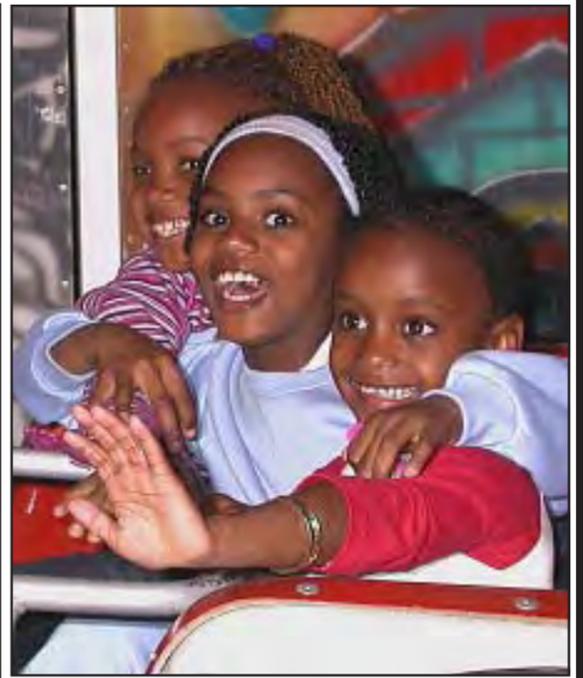
The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3, FEBRUARY 1, 2004, SECTION B

Carnival Brings Big Smiles



The carnival brings smiles of happiness and screams of delight as the children experience new sensations on the variety of rides that the carnival offers. Thousands enjoy the experience, not only children but also adults who find the rides as well as the games irresistible.

Remember These Dates

- Art Show - Abaco Beach Resort - Jan. 31 thru Feb. 1
- Junkanoo Awards - Goombay Park - January 31
- Rotary Golf Tournament - Treasure Cay - Jan. 31
- Musical Moments Concert - Parish Hall - February 7
- Triathlon - Abaco Beach Resort - February 14
- Man-O-War Flea Market - February 14

3 Angel Broadcasting Network Holds Rally at Seventh Day Church



The Seventh Day Adventists held a rally in Marsh Harbour on January 22. Representatives of the television channel The Three Angels were featured. They are shown here on during the service. They were met at the airport by tourism officials and leaders leaders.

By Jennifer Hudson

The Seventh Day Adventist Church in Marsh Harbour was host to a very successful rally under the banner *Beaming*

God's Truth Worldwide on the evening of January 22nd. Members of the Sev-

Please see **Rally**

Page 12

Minister Wisdom Opens Store



Price Busters, a new store in Marsh Harbour, held its Grand Opening on January 24. On Abaco for the occasion was the Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, the Hon. Neville Wisdom. He is shown here on the right with his brother, Jerry Wisdom, on the left who owns the store. Jerry Wisdom's son is in the center.

By Portia Jonsson

Price Busters celebrated its official Grand Opening during a ceremony held at the store on January 24th. Attending this event were the Hon. Neville Wisdom, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, three-time Olympic medallist Mrs. Pauline Davis-Thompson and innovator of Price Buster stores Mr. Craig Walkine.

Mr. Walkine started the Price Busters business in Nassau back in 1992. It was his goal to have 10 stores in 10 years and today there are 14 stores. He looks forward to being here on Abaco for many years.

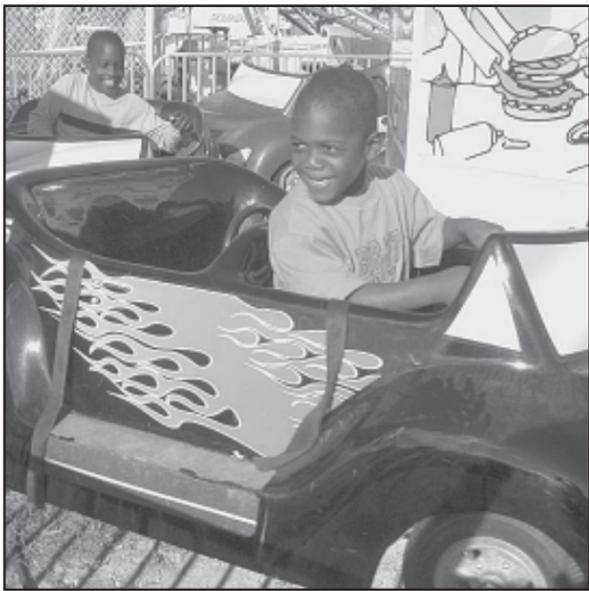
"It's like being on vacation and making money at the same time," were the words of Mr. Jerry Wisdom, who thanked his family, friends, staff and customers for their continuous support. He considers the customers at Price Busters to be family. He advised that Price

Busters will be doing new and innovative things on Abaco. Mr. Wisdom dedicated his business to his parents, the late Walter and Dorothy Wisdom and sister, the late Andrea Wisdom.

Officially opening Price Busters store was Mr. Wisdom's brother, the Hon. Neville Wisdom, who wished God's blessings on every business in Abaco. The Minister said after looking around the audience he was amazed to see so many talented athletes in attendance. He pointed out Jerry Wisdom's participation in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City in the long jump, Craig Walkine's outstanding performance in basketball, Government High School's Middle Distance Runner Don Cornish, and last but not least three-time Olympic medallist, Mrs. Pauline Davis-Thompson.

Please see **Price Busters** Page 17

The Carnival Entertains Abaco Youth



The children of Abaco are thrilled with all the rides and excitement of the carnival. Many rides along with snacks keep them happy for hours. The group on the left are from Green Turtle Cay in a photo taken by Annabelle Cross.



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Valentine's Dinner Saturday, February 14, 2004

Six course dinner starts 6:30 pm \$48

Appetizer

Vol au Vent - puff pastry shell filled with shrimp & lobster in a creamy white wine sauce.

Soup du Jour

Vichyssoise - leek and potato soup with fresh cream and chives served cold

Salad

Mixed Greens, red onions, cherry tomatoes, mandarins, bacon bits, sugared walnuts and a walnut oil dressing

Entree Selections

Lobster Thermidore: Delicious Abaco Lobster Tail cooked to perfection with sweet bell peppers, Bermuda onions & spices in a white wine sauce and baked in the shell. Served with mushroom n' rice and fresh asparagus tips.

Pepper Filet: Tender juicy filet mignon served with lobster, whipped potatoes topped with garlic shrimp, bearnaise sauce accompanied with fresh asparagus tips.

Shrimp: with a hint of curry, cooked in coconut milk, mango, ginger chips, plantains & jasmine rice served in a cocitos shell.
Grilled French Rack of Lamb: Encrusted with honey and herbs, served with mint jelly, whipped potatoes and fresh asparagus tips.

Dessert

Chocolate Wafer Basket filled with coconut and pineapple ice cream, topped with cranberry citrus sorbet and fresh berries.

Petits Fours & Coffee

Reservations required
Ph: (242) 366-0095 or VHF Ch. 16

Adults as Well as Children Enjoy the Carnival

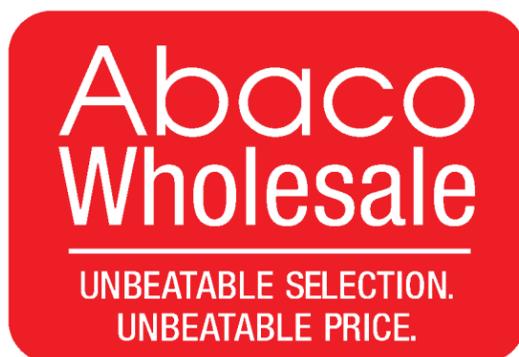


During the time that the carnival has been on Abaco, it has attracted thousands of fun-loving people who have a great time. These scenes show some of the happy faces.



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Min. Wisdom Discusses Our Youth and Sports Programs

By Portia Jonsson

During the Hon. Neville Wisdom's brief visit to Abaco on January 24th I was able to sit down with him and hear about his Ministry's plans for the development of sports, youth and culture in Abaco.

Min. Wisdom said that under the former administration the Youth Office on Abaco was closed. After consultation and examination his Ministry has concluded that an error in judgment was made. This error has disrupted the focus that the government should have on national development. Without the focus on sports development, including facilities, program development and cultural identity, we end up with a challenged society. Hon. Wisdom said he aims to reinstate the presence of a Youth Office in Abaco. Because of financial constraints, his Ministry will need to start off with a small operation headed by a multi-talented officer who will be able to address areas of concern.

The Minister acknowledged the urgent need of a sporting facility on Abaco and advised that in this regard, he has requested the Sports Department in his Ministry to identify green spaces on which some sports



and recreation can be carried out. Secondly, he has presented members of the community with a master plan for a complex

where all sporting activities excluding swimming can be held. With regard to swimming, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture has provided financial support to the swimming pool in Hope Town. The establishment of a sporting facility in Abaco is a joint effort between local residents and the government.

Last year a Talent Search Committee, chaired by Mrs. Margaret Albury, was formed. The Committee is responsible for identifying talent and advising the Ministry how that talent can be advanced. Min. Wisdom said he was informed by a P.E. Teacher in Grand Bahama of an 11-year-old student on Abaco running the fastest time in the country. Therefore, he has asked the committee to come to Abaco to search

for the next Pauline Davis-Thompson.

He advised that parents and P.E. teachers should not wait in recommending such talent to the Ministry. Depending on the sport, athletes as young as 8 years are being sought. In October last year the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture held a conclave on Eleuthera where a complete analysis of the physical challenges of sports were discussed. Mr. Wisdom said he wants to ensure that Abaco gets what it is due and solicits the cooperation of Local Government.

With regard to youth development on Abaco, Min. Wisdom said he is trying to encourage young people to think about what they want for their island. He is consulting with youth and their parents about a National Youth Service in the Bahamas. In addition, the government is reviewing a plan which calls for the increase of .02 cents to .04 cents on gasoline to help fund youth, sports and culture projects.

Emphasis within the Ministry is also being placed towards the establishment of youth bands. Any youth group on Abaco

desirous of starting a band can get funding from the Ministry. The Ministry is wanting to ensure that these groups are registered with them. The Compliance Department within the Ministry requires that every registered group submit a copy of their constitutional, budget and financial records. If the group is unable to produce these, the Ministry can assist with this. Churches with youth groups should also register.

Lastly, the Minister spoke about culture. Culture on Abaco is a challenge for his Ministry because there is no director here. The Minister said he met with the Abaco Junkanoo Committee to discuss the way ahead. He challenges cultural authorities on Abaco to write to the Ministry and let them know of their presence here. Min. Wisdom advised that he will be revisiting regattas and homecomings on Abaco and all other islands because he is finding that these events are nothing more than drink-outs.

Please see **Wisdom** Page 18



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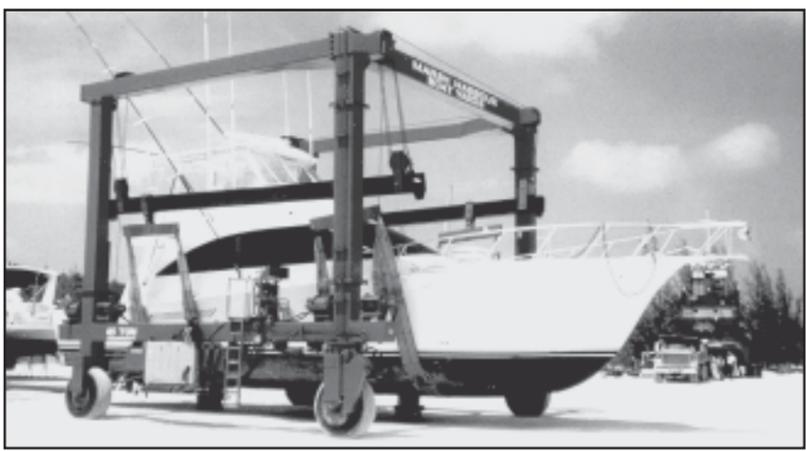
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- Blister prevention & repair
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- Hydraulic hoses and fittings
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Scouting News



Members of the 1st Abaco Cub Pack are shown being at their Investiture in December. Basic knowledge regarding the establishment of the Scouting movement and recitation of the Cub law, promise and motto are required. From left to right: Yaelle Sawyer, Hanna Hayworth and Jacob Doyle. Missing is Luca Silvester.

On January 10 the 4th Abaco Scout Troop of Crown Haven hosted the 1st Abaco Scout Troop of Marsh Harbour at a joint meeting and hotdog roast. Plans for the coming semester include kayaking, the traditional dinner commemorating the birthday of the founder of the Scouting movement, Sir Robert Baden-Powell and a clean-up of the Blue Hole at Treasure Cay. This year, the Seabase sailing trip will be undertaken by the female members of the groups. Plans are still underway for a *Cookin' with Scouts Abaco* cookbook. Money raised at the Christmas craft fair was used to help a Scout leader in need.

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We have made every effort to recognize the many individuals and organisations supporting this cause.

If we have inadvertently forgotten a name, we sincerely apologize.

Your kind contribution has been greatly appreciated.

Best Wishes for the New Year

The Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club meets monthly, the first Wednesday of each month at noon at Mackerel's Restaurant

Viewpoint A Missive From the Frozen North

By Alice Bain

It's January, and I live in Chicago now. I was on Abaco, all too briefly, back in December. I had four and a half days there, during which time I managed to visit most, but not all of my family and friends (to those of you I did not manage to visit, I apologize, but my time is always short these days). It has been hard, moving to this northern city and adjusting to the different weather and the hectic pace of life.

The temperature outside my apartment windows, according to the local weathermen, is nine degrees Fahrenheit. Our high today was twelve. Unable to stand my claustrophobic studio apartment any longer, I suited up in fleece and down and went for a walk in the park. The sun was bright and warmed the south sides of all the buildings, but the wind was like knives on my face. There were other people walking in the park, too, some with dogs on leashes, some jogging and one man taking photographs. The joggers do not smile or nod their heads at you as they slog by over the icy paths. This is a big city, and we are not expected to know each other.

I did talk to the man with the camera, though. He was down by the breakwater taking pictures of the grey-green swells coming in off Lake Michigan that were crashing into the icy shoreline in great fountains of spray. The lake is immense, stretching as far as the eye can see. Little chunks of ice ride into the inner corners of the harbours, driven by the wind. Farther out an unbroken swath of white at the horizon indicates that at least a portion of the lake's surface has frozen up. There is no smell of salt in the air.

I still find this terribly disconcerting; before I came to Chicago I had never in my life seen so much fresh water all in one place. Fresh water is the stuff of life—precious, rare and to be hoarded in tanks and bottles. Chicagoans take water for granted. When I moved here in 2002, the city was still in the process of installing water meters—apparently many businesses and residences were still paying a flat rate for as much as they could use.

During my December trip to The Bahamas I talked to a few Midwesterners who were in The Bahamas for the first time. They

all commented about the taste of the salt water, how bitter it was and how they didn't understand how people could stand to swim in it all the time. To me, born and raised on islands, salt water has always meant clean water, ocean water that rides around the globe in great swirls and vortices, the lifeblood of our planet. If something dirty is put into an ocean, the ocean will do its best to clean it (though admittedly we are now taxing it to its limit). If something dirty is put into a lake, it festers. When I was ten and cut my foot horribly while walking through a mangrove swamp on Andros, I rinsed the wound out immediately with clean salt water from the bay and it healed up quickly.

Salt water is full of life, so many different fish and birds and plants. This lake water is homogenous; the little silver fish that swim in it all look the same, and no weeds wash up and down in the swells. All the shells on the beach seem to be from the same type of tiny mussel—there is none of the beach combing variety one finds on Bahamian coastlines. I look at Lake Michigan and all I can think is, if it ever got hot enough for me to swim in that thing, I'm sure I'd come out with an ear infection.

It's nine degrees outside, though, and ice is forming on the insides of my windows. If I hold my hand up flat, the side that is facing the windows is noticeably colder. The apartment itself is warm enough and I have a heating pad draped over my feet, but I can feel how tenuous the effect is, as if I were taking a red pencil and scribbling over a blank white piece of paper, trying to change the color of the paper. The paper shows through the cross-hatchings, and the cold lies outside my windows, blank and solid. We only doodle our little comfort zones within it.

On Abaco, in the swelter that is August, I got the same impression in reverse when I went into air-conditioned buildings. The heat, though, never seemed so impersonal. It envelops you, tells you to ease your pace, take it slow, lie in the shade and avoid the brilliance that falls from the sky like a blast of trumpets. The Chicago winter sits on this city like a block of marble, and we scurry like ants from hole to hole underneath it. If we were to stay still too long, the cold would crush us, snuff out our little flames

and claim us, turn us hard and solid. It happens, occasionally. An elderly woman, so I've been told, died one year when her heat went out in the middle of a deep cold like the one we have now. She was found, frozen solid, kneeling to pray at the side of her bed.

I'm almost done with this city. I will finish my two-year graduate course this coming June. It will be late spring here then, people wearing shorts and tee shirts, although the weather will not yet be warm by Bahamian standards. I will come home again, although I have decided to stay one more year in the U.S. to take advantage of the work permit associated with my visa. I miss my home.

It's true that nobody in Chicago will bother to gossip about you, but people on the street here do not look at each other, don't generally talk to each other, don't hail each other, don't care. In the course of some work I'm doing for my thesis I've been re-reading back articles from *The Abaconian*, and I am struck by the fact that for every catastrophe that hits the island or its settlements, there is a great outpouring of community spirit. Abaconians argue amongst themselves, but when it comes to the crunch, they stick together and help each other. Here in Chicago, people die old and lonely and unnoticed, uncared for. If community is our salvation, then Abaco is strong.

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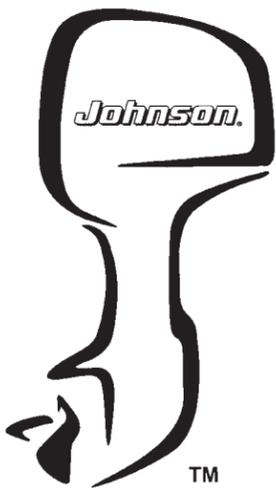
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Teacher Ken Owen Was Remembered

By Jennifer Hudson

Many heartfelt testimonials were spoken at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Kenneth Lloyd Owen, which was conducted by Archdeacon Moss from Freeport on January 25th at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Marsh Harbour. This was a touching service for a man who had touched the lives of so many young people not only throughout the length and breadth of the Bahamas but throughout the world.

"Teacher Ken Owen (TKO)" began his teaching career in his home country of Wales and eventually taught in Europe, Africa and America before settling in the Bahamas and teaching on Andros, Mayaguana, Sweetings Cay, Moore's Island and several schools in Marsh Harbour. He taught in The Bahamas for more than 35 years and shared with the people his love for

music and education.

Speaking of how Mr. Owen had impacted their lives were teachers, administrators, politicians and students.

Mr. Owen met and married his wife on Moore's Island and they produced two children. He was intensely Bahamian but also remained intensely Welsh and his Welsh roots were acknowledged in the music for which the Welsh people are known. A traditional Welsh Lullaby, *All Through the Night* was sung by members of the Abaco Central High School staff and everyone stood to attention for the playing of the very moving Welsh National Anthem. Mr. Owen's casket was flanked by two Welsh flags.

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National Notes

Labour Plan for Immigrants

By Isobel Sherman

According to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Fred Mitchell, the Bahamas government is going to develop a labor plan for the employment of Haitians by setting up labor offices in Haiti. The idea is to stop Haitians from applying for work

permits in The Bahamas when they have entered the country illegally. It has been suggested a system like was in place for Bahamian workers when they worked contracts in the United States might work.

There is concern that the unrest in Haiti at this time will result in a greater influx of Haitians to both The Bahamas and the United States.



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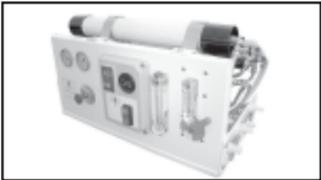
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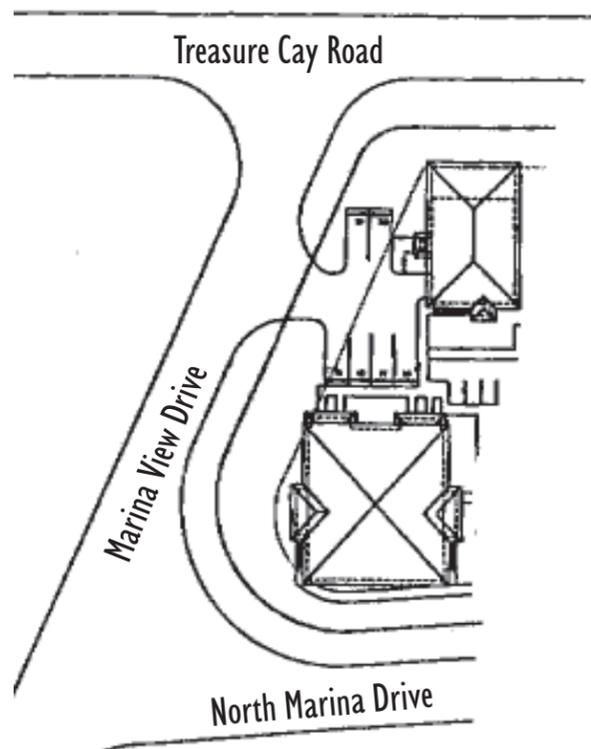
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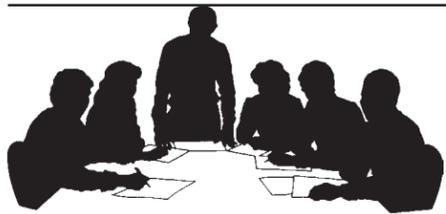
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Murphy Town 1 Dec 2003

Committee members planned a town-wide clean-up for December 13 and were hoping for a broad base of volunteers to assist. Committee members want to target furniture, appliances and other large bulky items.

A community Christmas party is being scheduled for December 20 at Coconut Bay park.

Defective street lights still concern the Committee. Even with seven Murphy Town residents employed at BEC, many lights remain unlit.

A town meeting is scheduled for January 12 at the Burial Society Hall. One item to be discussed is the planned community center on the Forest Drive community lot leased to the town by Crown Lands.

Town Planning - Cen. Abaco 1 Dec. 2003

The meeting began with a long discussion about a proposed apartment development on the Key's Tract in Marsh Harbour. The property owner, a foreigner, received permission from the Foreign Investment Board to build a garage and storage building. However, the plans presented to Town Planning Board were for five apartments.

The owner has been told to stop construction. Low walls for retaining soil and

for landscape purposes have been built although these were apparently not included in the original application.

A community member who lives in the affected area and the Chief Councillor were invited to give Board members their opinions on the situation.

The width of the access road was noted as varying in width on different plans as 20 feet, 16 feet and 12 feet wide with 12 feet being too small for access to an apartment complex.

Administrator Williams reminded the Board members that they are a regulatory body and not an enforcement agency. Any dispute must be settled in court or by appeal.

The partially constructed shelter at a take-away on Crockett Drive was debated and the permit was denied. Reasons were a lack of parking and setback requirements have not been observed. The location is on a busy curve, adding other complications.

A night club was approved on Don MacKay Boulevard near Pinewoods Nursery.

Other applications were of a residential nature and were approved. The nine applications before the Committee totaled \$2.2 million in estimated completed value.

Dundas Town Committee 8 Dec. 2003

The completed bathroom facility at Ocean View Park was discussed extensively. The

Local Government at Work

building has separate toilets for men and women and a small storage room. Concerns were raised over the completed cost of \$30,767 and where the Committee will find funds to pay the approximately \$4,000 still due contractors and others.

Chairman Cay Mills felt the final cost was excessive. Others noted that for the amount of money spent, the storage room was too small for use as an office and larger than necessary for a storage closet. Enlarging the room would have allowed for a Town Committee office or other use.

Administrator William told the Committee that central government had allocated \$6,000 to the two Central Abaco Districts with \$1,000 going to each town for Christmas street cleaning, Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay.

Members discussed their new responsibility to maintain the Central Pines subdivision and the need to include figures in next year's budget for garbage and roadside maintenance.

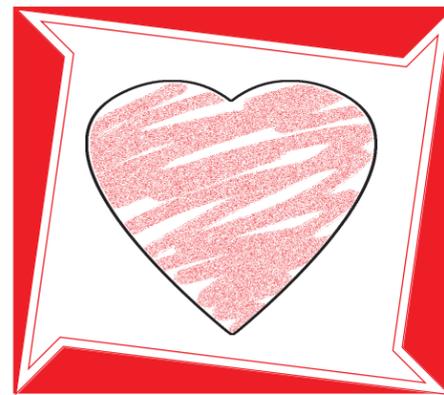
Five hundred dollars was spent to fix the carburetor on the fire truck which was

thought to be excessive. However, the fire engine is still out of service because the gas tank leaks and must be replaced. Chairman Mills wondered if the town would be better served if the truck was given to the Marsh Harbour volunteers who seem to be more motivated to maintain their equipment.

Administrator Williams suggested the truck be put under police control and reactivate the volunteer brigade.

Chairman Mills would like to see ven-

Please see **Local Govt.** Page 9



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More Local Government at Work

Local Govt.

From Page 8

dor stalls at the three Dundas Town waterfront parks used for fish fries and other activities to extend tourism into Dundas Town.

Port Authority, Central Abaco Dec 11, 03

One residential dock on Eastern Shore in Marsh Harbour had been publically posted for consideration and was approved.

The Port Authority in Nassau did not object to range lights on shore for the shipping channel leading into the freight dock in Marsh Harbour. However, Captain Cyril Roker, Assistant Port Director, said Nassau wanted the existing channel markers maintained.

Town Planning, Cent. Abaco 16 Dec, 03

This meeting had been scheduled for the previous day but a quorum was not formed. Twenty-three applications were on hand totaling \$3.9 million. Fifteen plans were of a residential nature, four were for churches or church expansion and four others were for commercial buildings.

All items were recommended for approval while three separate applications for Beraca Baptist Church on S.C. Bootle Highway behind Cove Estates were deferred pending a routine review by Environmental Health.

Licensing 8 January 2004

This was the first meeting by the Licensing Authority since October 23 and a large backlog of applications were tabled.

Coops Place, a daiquiri stand beside Island Breezes Motel in Marsh Harbour, had faced intense scrutiny last fall and the license had been deferred. They later obtained from the police a peddler's license to sell alcoholic beverages. The police department is the authority governing peddlers.

This January meeting began by examining and questioning the laws allowing the police to issue liquor licenses to roadside stands. Portions of laws were read defining peddler's stands as temporary structures intended for the roadside sale of items grown, prepared, cooked or crafted by the vendor. Although the owner of Coop's Place was able to show that a building permit had been approved, members questioned the validity of this as they could not find any evidence in Town Planning minutes to support this permit.

The Marsh Harbour members felt the issuance of the peddler's license for alcoholic beverages circumvented the Licensing Authority's mandate to control such sales. An earlier request for a liquor license by another applicant across the street had

been denied. For similar reasons, the Marsh Harbour members felt they were following the same reasoning in denying this more recent application.

The police will now be asked to clarify its position on issuing a liquor license to a roadside stand. The structure in question appears to be of a permanent nature which board members felt must come under their jurisdiction.

Applications which had been posted for the November 8 and December 4 meetings were then considered. Neither of these meetings was held due to a lack of a quorum.

A citrus juice processing facility in the Butler building near Spring City was passed after much discussion on whether the ownership was entirely Bahamian. Documents supported Bahamian ownership and approval was given.

A proprietary club across the street from Abaco Hardware was rejected.

A food take-away in Murphy Town was rejected. Several applications were deferred as the required inspections had not been completed. A bottled water facility in Dundas Town was rejected as being inappropriate in the intended building.

A proposed convenience store in one unit of a residential triplex was deferred as it

was felt that the Murphy Town Committee should be consulted. It would not have been allowed in Marsh Harbour but members were not clear on Murphy Town's position.

Routine annual renewals for restaurants and bars were generally approved with a few being deferred as the required inspections had not been completed.

Murphy Town Comm. 14 January 04

Committee Chairman Cubel Davis, Jr. proposed that the town garbage contract be tendered in February and chosen in March. This would allow a new contractor three months to mobilize and begin service on July 1 at the beginning of the new budget year. He also wanted to award the contract for two years as opposed to the ordinary contract period of one year. He felt one year was not sufficient time to recoup equipment expenses.

Administrator Williams stated that government has allowed garbage contracts to be for a two-year period. However, they must not extend beyond the elected council's term of office. He also supported the proposal to tender this in February.

Members complained again that the town street lights are not being repaired although

Please see **Local Govt.** Page 10

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More Local Government at Work

Local Govt.

From Page 9

seven BEC employees reside in Murphy Town.

Discussions are ongoing for the restoration of the Coconut Tree Park and improvements to the South Side landing. A quotation has been requested from BEC for providing power to the South Side dock for range markers and area lighting. Fishermen and other boaters have asked for range lights to assist in returning after dark.

The proposed community center on Forest Drive was discussed extensively. Members were told that this project is beyond the scope of local government's authority. A town improvement committee must be formed to work on this, outside the framework of local government even though some of the same people may be involved.

Administrator Williams told members that Central Abaco has been given \$28,000 by Nassau to be shared between the three towns and they should consider their pri-

orities for their share.

Some of the contractors cleaning roadsides are not performing satisfactorily, and their contract conditions will be discussed with them.

A town meeting is being scheduled for early February to discuss the community center and other issues.

Hotel Licensing Cent. Abaco 21 Jan 04

This is the first meeting since August 20, 2003, as a quorum could not be formed for previous attempted meetings.

The floating hotel docked in Marsh Harbour remains without clear status. Information suggested that it will register with the Port Authority and operate as a charter boat.

Only two hotels in Central Abaco are current in remitting their collected six percent hotel tax. A form letter went to all hotels from the Administrator giving delinquent hotels until February 16 to bring the arrears up to date. It was noted that customs and other concessions granted hotels do not apply to delinquent properties.

Hotel inspectors from Nassau will be on

Abaco on February 8 - 15 with representatives from Tourism, Works, Environmental Health and the Fire Department. All hotels will be inspected.

A joint workshop for the Hotel Licensing Boards on Abaco is being considered to give them an understanding of their role.

Rental houses throughout The Bahamas are under study by government. Hotels complain that the rental houses undercut their prices and are not competing fairly as they do not collect a room tax as mandated for hotels. Other issues concern inspections and quality control. It is believed that there are more beds available on Abaco in the rental

houses than in the hotels. It was felt that government has an obligation to protect premises that are licensed. Licensed hotels in Central Abaco are:

- Abaco Beach Resort
- Abaco Towns by the Sea (Regattas)
- Ambassador Inn Motel
- Bustick Bight
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ELBOW CAY

FLAMINGO VILLAS

Fabulous Villas located at the mouth of Hope Town Harbour. These 2 bed/2 bath villas are beautifully furnished with West Indian decor throughout. A dip pool is shared and surrounded by open decking. Sold fully furnished, totally turnkey, rental history.

Price: \$1,870,000

ELBOW CAY

HOMES & LAND

"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.

Price: \$1,300,000

"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

Price: \$532,500

"DORROS COVE"
Lot #18 hillside, ocean view, electric and telephone in place, ready to build - **\$151,500**
Lot #21 hilltop, Sea of Abaco and ocean views, private dock slip at Tahiti Beach - **\$233,000**
Lot #23 hilltop, Sea of Abaco, ocean & Tiloo views - **SOLD**

"MARNIES LANDING" - Private marina community at the southern end of Elbow Cay offering 1/2 acre lots with views of the Atlantic Ocean, Sea of Abaco, or both. Each lot comes with private dock slip at the marina, homesites staggered for optimal views.
Starting at: \$230,000

"MARNIES LANDING" LOT #7B- Rare opportunity to buy not only one of the most beautiful 1/2 acre lots in Marnies with panoramic views, but also have 2 private dock slip **UNDER CONTRACT** to 60'

Price: \$325,000

PRISTINE OCEANFRONT PROPERTY, secluded, private North Elbow Cay. **Lot #54 109'** white sandy ocean front - **\$495,000**. **Lot #53 121'** white sandy ocean front - **\$495,000**. Combine both lots for incredible parcel of 1+ acres of ocean front. Call Greg Roberts for details and appointment to view.

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. Lots starting at \$60,000. Call Greg Roberts for details.

ELBOW CAY

CASA LUISA

Custom built 3 bed/2 bath island home. 2200+ sq. ft. one lot away from Atlantic, ideal rental or second home. Open floor plan, second floor master suite with ocean views, cable, phone, central a/c, offered exclusively, and shown by appt. only.

Price: \$630,000

JOE'S CAY

3+ acre private cay, undeveloped, accessed from Elbow Cay, located in White Sound, great elevation, deep water for dock, rare opportunity, serious inquiries only, shown by appointment.

Price: \$1,756,000

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

Starting at: \$89,000

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★ HOMES ★

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 - "On De Sound"** 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.**
- ★ **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 Beachfront - over 1 1/2 acres. # AB95 - **\$925,000.**
- ★ **Treasure Cay - "Son Burns"** - 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.**
- ★ **Treasure Cay "Oceanica"** - 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 **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **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 - **NEW PRICE \$355,000.**



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Kathleen Albury, BRI
Estate Agent
Appraiser

Joined H.G. Christie, in 2003 after five years of Real Estate experience.
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Chris Plummer, BRI
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie, in 2000.
Based in Green Turtle Cay

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 - Auxiliary 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 **SOLD**
- ★ **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** - "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.**
- ★ **Murphy Town** - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath home. Centrally Located. Newly Completed and ready for immediate occupancy. Great Value. #AB107 - **WHY RENT? \$142,000.**



"Honey's Home"

Treasure Cay- Windward Beach Road - 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. **Furnished #AB66 - \$765,000.**



"Surcouf"

Green Turtle Cay - 2,130 sq.ft. home on 1/4 acre - 2nd floor, 2 bedroom, 2 bath - separate 1st floor apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath Across road from beach. Good rental income potential **Furnished - Ready for Occupancy - #AB86 - NEW PRICE \$585,000**



Derek A. Lee, BRI
Abaco District
Managing Broker

Joined H.G. Christie, in 1996.

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"Point of View"

Elbow Cay - Dorros Cove - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,500 sq.ft. residence with 2 bedroom, 1 bath - 1,100 sq.ft. guest house. Southeastern point of island. Swimming Pool - Private boat slip. Superb ocean and cay views. Fully **Furnished - # AB112- \$2,100,000.**



"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**



"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.**



Commercial

Marsh Harbour - Commercial - over 1/3 Fenced Acre - 2,160 sq.ft. Showroom/Office/Warehouse Building - Great for service business or wholesaler - Good relocation property for businesses expanding into Abaco from Nassau or Freeport. **AB110 - \$290,000.**



"Blueberry Hill"

Marsh Harbour - Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 970 sq.ft. residence with 2 rental cottages. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Centrally located but good privacy. Fully **Furnished. Swimming Pool. Great Income Producer. # AB115 \$347,000.**

★ 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 Beachfront 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 - "Madiera 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.**
- ☆ **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.**



"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**



"Sunset Point Resort"

Marsh Harbour - Bustic 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.**



John Cash, BRI
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Joined H.G. Christie, in 2000.

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Church News

Rally From Page 1

ent Day Adventist Church and visitors from other churches filled the sanctuary to listen to speakers Linda and Danny Shelton and vocalist Darrell Marshall. The Sheltons are owners of the television station 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network). This network, which can be viewed on Channel 57, not only preaches the gospel but advocates healthy lifestyles for all through its health and food programming. This station

has a wide viewer base on Abaco and many Abaconians were excited to hear these speakers that they have enjoyed seeing on television. Also in attendance was Dr. Leonard Johnson, President of the Bahamas Conference of Seventh Day Adventists and President of the Northern Bahamas Mission. The rally team spent the previous evening in Nassau and were scheduled to fly to Grand Bahama for another rally following their visit to Abaco. It was stated that the year 2003 saw a significant growth

of Adventists in The Bahamas.

Linda Shelton opened the rally by encouraging people to seek God's direction. Her husband, Danny, recalled how he was at one time a carpenter when he received God's call to begin a television ministry. He spoke of the wonders of technology enabling a signal to be beamed 22,300 miles into space and how technology these days enables the gospel to be spread. He went on to tell of the millions of people who have recently been converted to Christianity throughout the world and especially in such countries as Russia and India. He gave a message to the congregation; "God has a reason for you."

At the end of the evening people were

able to purchase tapes and CD's recorded by Darrell Marshall and his accompanist, Tommy Shelton.

Church members spent the ten days prior to the rally busily constructing walls, painting, cleaning, gardening and generally getting their church ready for the visit of the rally team. Several members of the Abaco community pitched in to assist the members of the church when they saw the efforts they were making to not only beautify the church property but also the surrounding neighbourhood. Businesses and private individuals kindly donated many of the supplies needed for this beautification. The

Please see **Church**

Page 13



Ground breaking ceremonies took place on January 11 for a new church building for Change Ministries of Marsh Harbour. Change Ministries is the church begun by Pastor Samuel Cornish, who has a rapidly growing membership. The location for the new church will be on Forest Drive west of South Side Road. Shown here is Bishop Clifford Henfield on the left with Pastor Cornish. Change Ministries now meets upstairs at Dove Plaza.

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On Green Turtle Cay:

- **The beach:** • 1.46 acres on Atlantic Ocean. 135' on beach. \$480,000
- **Two one-third acre lots** on Bight O Bay beach. 90' frontage. Close to town and public dock.
- **Fourteen lots** across from Bight O Bay Beach. Water front on Inner White Sound. 1/2 acre and up. Starting at \$78,650
- **Quiet waterfront:** 1.35 acres on Black Sound, with dock, close to beach. \$650,000
- **A jewel of a home** with pool set high on a bluff overlooking Sea of Abaco. One acre of property stunningly landscaped with wooden walkways and decks. Six buildings set out in "pod" arrangement. 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath. Wicker and rattan furniture throughout including pieces by Tommy Bahama. \$1.98 million
- **Ocean Beach:** 1/2 acre lot on high ridge with gorgeous ocean view. Many fruit trees. Five minute walk to beach. Reef close enough to swim to. \$72,000 gross
- **White Sound:** NEW one-year-old furnished 3 bedroom 2 bath home within short walk of public dock, major resort, bay beach and ocean beach. Tile floors. A/C throughout. Satellite TV. Sleeps ten. Good rental history. Screened in porch. Private secluded 1/2 acre of property. \$680,000
- **Four Three inland lots** within 5 minute walk of waterfront and public dock. \$47,200 ea
- **1/2 acre lots** within 5 minute walk of public dock, water front and Green Turtle Club. \$60,000-\$70,000 each
- **Bluff Harbour** Furnished private home. Three bedrooms, three baths plus caretaker cottage. 2000' water front. Secluded. One acre. Boat ramp and dock site. Needs repair.
- **Stunning new home** Interior still under construction. All materials on site to complete. Truck. 2 bed 2 bath. A/C throughout. Views of ocean, Guana Cay and Sea of Abaco. \$575,000 ONO
- **Four unit income producing** 2 bed 1 bath apartment complex. Fully furnished. Water views. Dock. Laundry. Two years old \$700,000 plus closing

- **Green Turtle Estates:** 1/2 acre only 125 feet from ocean beach. Firm \$183,000
- **North End:** NEW! Stunning furnished hilltop, 3 bedroom, 2 bath hom with fireplace, perched 35 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Vaulted ceilings. 125' on ocean. Panoramic views of ocean through French doors, 3000 squ. ft. under roof plus 1,000 sq. ft. of screened-in porch. W/D, A/C in master bedroom plus ceiling fans throughout. One acre. \$1.42 million gross
- **Secluded two-acre parcel** with house stretching from Bluff Harbour to the Sea of Abaco. Over 1000 feet of water front. Stunning views. Two bedrooms / 2 baths. New protected dock on Bluff Harbour. Gazebo on Sea of Abaco. 30,000 gallon cistern. Stand-by generator. Many mature trees. Garage. \$3,000,000
- **NEW! The Beachouse Parcel** 1.5 acres with 110' on Gillam Bay Beach. Fully furnished rental propety with excellent rental history. Parcel consists of Beach house (3 bedroom, 2 bath); Studio apartment (sleeps up to 4 people); Bungalow I (sleeps up to 4 people); Bungalow II (sleeps up to 3); and a spacious garage/workshop with electricity and concrete floor. Many mature trees with lush landscaping abound. US \$1.85 million plus 7.5% to close
- **NEW! Osprey Nest** 180' on Gillam Bay Beach. 3/4 Acre. Two rental units with a total of 3 Bedroom and 3 Baths; 2 full kitchens; 2 liv/dining room areas plus decks. Large Wash-house with garage and workshop. CAN sleep up to 7 people. Within 1 mile of town. Excellent rental history. US \$895,000 plus 7.5% to close

Munjack Cay:

- **One-quarter acre on beach,** 125' frontage. \$183,000

Little Ambrigris Cay:

- **10 acres.** Dock material on site. Beautiful beach. High hill. \$515,000 gross

Abaco Main Land:

- **100' on the Sea of Abaco** x 200' Near Fire Road. B\$59,000
- **110' of Sea of Abaco** x 200' with new nearly finished block 2 bedroom 2 bath house. Near Fire Road. B\$177,000

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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.

REDUCED #1003 Best priced home on Elbow Cay - 2/2.5 home on 17,000 sq. ft. lot. Offers sea views, central A/C, cypress tongue and groove walls and plans for a main house of 4,000 sq. ft. with 3/3.5 on two levels with wrap around patios. A MUST SEE \$399,500

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.

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

NEW LISTING - Guana Cay Settlement - 2/1 home in the heart of Guana Cay. Cozy and well kept. Short walk to beach and harbour. Offered \$185,000

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

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

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

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More Church News

Church From Page 12

landscaping in front of the church has certainly enhanced the area.

Church Now Has Wheel Chair Ramp

By Jennifer Hudson

St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town is now wheelchair accessible thanks to the generosity of the Men's Fellowship Group. The men clubbed together to purchase all the materials, then donated their time one Saturday morning to build a wheelchair ramp. The outside ramp has been completed and the men are now ready to donate their energies on another Saturday morning to build a ramp inside the church between the outer and inner doors.

The idea for the ramp took seed in the minds of the Men's Fellowship Group af-

ter they heard a talk at the church by Dr. Marion Crayton, a final year seminary student at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., whose special ministry is with the disabled. She recently spent two weeks on Abaco working with the students at the Every Child Counts School. During her talks to several church groups she stressed the need for disabled people to be brought out more into the community and provisions be made for them to lead fuller and more fruitful lives.

There is already one wheelchair bound person who attends St. Andrews Methodist Church, so the Men's Group decided to make it easier for that member to attend the services. They hope that other churches and places in the community will begin to make their premises wheelchair accessible and thus more friendly towards the disabled.

Ground Breaking

By Jennifer Hudson

A ground breaking ceremony took place on January 11th for the new church building of Change Ministries. This church, which is to be erected on a site in Murphy Town, is scheduled for completion by the end of this year. Measuring 80 feet by 120 feet, it will seat 400 people and is slated to be state-of-the-art.

The pastor of the church is Pastor Samuel Cornish, who acted as moderator for the ceremony. Several church members were in attendance. Following an exhortation to church members by Bishop Clifford

Henfield to be faithful in their tithing for the new building, the soil was turned by Pastor Samuel Cornish. Bro. Terrel Russell unveiled the sign announcing the site of the church and the service concluded with a prayer of dedication by Bishop Henfield.

Change Ministries began in September 2002 with eleven members. The membership has now grown to 150 persons, the majority of whom are young people. There is a very active youth ministry here with youth groups, fellowship meetings for young men and two Praise Dance teams.

Until the new church building is complete, Change Ministries services will continue to be held at Dove Plaza.

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EXCLUSIVE LISTING



Guana Cay Subdivision



Only 6 lots remaining in a 15 lot subdivision in Guana Cay for sale exclusively by Abaco Real Estate Agency. The property is located approximately 1 mile south of Guana Cay's main settlement and is accessible by golf cart or by boat. Amenities include: community dock, graded roads, all lots surveyed, subdivision runs from sea to sea. All lots have fabulous views of the Sea of Abaco or the Atlantic Ocean. Average lot sizes ar 21,000 sq. ft.
Offered from: \$110,000

Scotland Cay Waterfront



New Exclusive Listing - Scotland Cay ¾ Acre ± waterfront. Only parcel on S. W. Side with fabulous white powder beach, great elevations and breathtaking views. This property won't last.
Offered at: \$695,000

See additional listings below or on our website.

Royal Harbour - Marsh Harbour lot #26 consisting of 14,583 sq. ft. Offered at: \$117,000

Escape Hatch - Newly furnished and fully equipped 2 bed/2 bath condo unit at Regattas of Abaco in the heart of Marsh Harbour. Features island motif decor, brand new GE appliances, central A/C, porch overlooking garden and harbour views. Offered at: \$252,000

Dorros Cove - Elbow Cay lots #39 & #40 offered as one parcel. Approx. 220' X 220' fabulous unobstructed ocean views. Offered at: \$310,000. Will consider selling separately for \$160,000 Each 110' X 220'

Leisure Lee - Deep water protected canal lots, approx. one-acre in size with average water frontage of 100 ft. Offered from: \$60,000 Interior lots from \$25,000

Marnie's Landing - Elbow Cay 15 lots ½ Acre ± with private boat slips from: \$280,000

Marsh Harbour - New Exclusive Listing near Crossing Beach/Ferry Dock 2 Acres ± residential with 196' waterfront. Offered at: \$599,000

Sugar Loaf Cay - 2.6 Acres ± waterfront on Sugar Loaf Cay Lot #7A. Great investment. Offered at: \$260,000

White Sound - Elbow Cay - Interior lot 100' X 378' great Atlantic views. Offered at: \$168,000

Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral service and interment for **Priscilla Ann Burrows**, 84, of Crossing Rocks was held on January 17 in Nassau.

She is survived by children Clifford Dean, Sidney Bain, Marion Smith-Pratt and Minera Butler-Sunders; grandchildren Quincy Smith Pratt, Kenyan Butler, Christopher Jr, Patrick and Victoria Pratt, Mandisa Parkinson and Naaman Butler, Priscilla Bain, Addina Boyd-Johnson, Royann, Sandra, Rochelle and Michelle; great-grandchildren Nijee and Debari Butler, Quincy Jr, Taquan and Jahquincyia Smith Pratt, Marvin Johnson, Keith Walker, Jeffinique Nottage and Elsie Bain, Justin Nottage, Latonia, Ashantia, Raulnell and Festus; brothers Edmund and George Burrows; sisters Madeline Major and Maria Dorsette; numerous nieces and nephews; sons-in-law Christopher Pratt Sr. and Philip Saunders; daughters-in-law Beulah Walker-Bain and Mavis Miller-Dean; brothers-in-law Percy Major and James Dorsette; sisters-in-law Shirley, Alice and Maria Burrows and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Kenneth Owen**, 72, of Marsh Harbour was held on January 24 at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Marsh Harbour. Rev. Dr. Earl Hepburn officiated assisted by Catechist Benjamin Pinder. Interment was in the Dundas Town Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Catherine Owen; daughter Angharad Owen; Llwellyn Owen; sister Sylven Davies; brothers-in-law Bryn Davies, Leon Swain, Errol Curry, Boris Delancey and Linky McQueen; sisters-in-law Beth Owen, Mavis McQueen, Virginia Curry, Rose Rolle, Fredrica Gardiner, Cola Swain, Ettamae Swain and Era Gibson; daughter-in-law D'Adra Owen; nieces Lesley, Hillary and Dee Delancey, Christine Pinder, Sylvia, Petline and Emaline Green, Caroline Swain, Edith and Stephanie Davis, Dianne Rolle, Adamae Deveaux, Victoria Archer, Jean Owen, Carys, Sioned, Teleri and Rhian Davies; nephews Zane Delancey, Shane Sturup, Sinclair Swain, Steffan Curry, Cecil, Roger, Jace, Uriel and Roy Delancey, Kenneth, Dennis and Gareth Owen, Gareth, Iwan, Arwel and Gethin Davies; grandnieces; grandnephews; his family in Wales; and many other family and friends.

Josilia Clerisier, 38, of Marsh Harbour passed away on January 18.

She is survived by her husband Seleson Odeus; children Joanna Clerisier, Denise, Wendy and Merlene Odeus; mother Charitable Antoine; father Josieus Clerisier; sisters Panous Clerisier, Josette Anouse, Lisele, Suzanna, Roseandrea and

Delagrace; brothers Lavaner, Johnny, Basien, Aliece, Baliece and Velieus; aunt Rose Antoine; uncles Jean, David and Mark

Antoine and Shodius Valsaint; cousins Alberti, Rosina, Bernice, Versilia, Beverly, Charlencia, Carlene, Monica, Christine,

Shayshe, Billy, Frederick, Kenny and Maxon; and many other relatives and friends.

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Treasure Cay Properties - Offered by Treasure Cay Specialists

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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" On **OFF THE MARKET** ch front home designed by the **OFF THE MARKET** 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

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

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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



In Loving Memory Of Natanya Gaitor 1987-2002

Natanya's left us now, that's hard to say.
You never know what happens and what comes your way,
She had a smile like no other, that will make your heart feel right
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She was special to us, she was loved by many,
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Hope Town Representative



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



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



Orchid Bay - #5056 A beautiful development in the postcard 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



Man-O-War - #9999 Vacant property in the heart of postcard pretty cay. Within close walking distance of a beach, grocery store, restaurants and other conveniences.

S O L D



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



Marsh Harbour - Pelican Shores - #5078 Lovely 2 bed 2 1/2 bath home in one of the most desired locations. Features open living area, ceramic tile through out, laundry room and a private dock. This home commands a gorgeous view of the sea of Abaco. FANTASTIC LISTING! \$940,000



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



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



Man-O-War - #0331 Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 bath island beauty comprising 3,200 sq ft. with all modern day features. Features include Corian counter tops, six-burner stove, dance studio, hobby room, wine cellar, barbeque pit and much much more. Relax on the large wrap-around decks and take in the breathtaking views of the turquoise Atlantic Ocean. Property includes guest cottage with 2 beds and 2 baths and ocean views as well. The well landscaped lawn adds charm to this lovely home. Only steps away to a white sandy beach. The lucky owner of this home will have an island paradise. \$1,610,000



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.

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

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

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

Boat Harbour - Gorgeous views of the sea, features private dock \$699,000

Bahama Coral Island Vacant interior lot in growing sub-division. Short drive to Marsh Harbour. Financing available. \$15,000



Treasure Cay - 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath waterfront home with swimming pool. Tastefully furnished and tiled throughout. This is a must see. Offered at \$633,000



Green Turtle Cay - #0333 Two bedroom / two bathroom house with a dock. The modern interior consists of two dining areas, an island bar, living room and kitchen. All front rooms overlook the 150' dock and harbour of White Sound. This is the last available deep water property on White Sound, Green Turtle Cay. \$850,000



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



Green Turtle Cay - #5077 Located in the heart of a story book Colonial village, this 150-year-old landmark has been meticulously maintained in its original decor. Consisting of 10 guest rooms, a 40-seat restaurant, lounge, pool and patio. A rare find that will allow you to enjoy a lifestyle reminiscent of the old days. Offered at \$1,780,000



Green Turtle Cay - High on a bluff, 1/3 acre waterfront lot boasts spectacular views of the Sea of Abaco and breathtaking sunsets. Near resorts and marinas. \$338,000

Green Turtle Cay - 1/2 acre lot virtually on the Atlantic Beach. \$210,000

Green Turtle Cay - Ocean view lot 200 ft. from the beach. \$95,000



Treasure Cay #1322- Three bedroom two bath home near beache and golf course. Fantastic home in a great location. Fully furnished and ready to enjoy. Offered at \$265,000



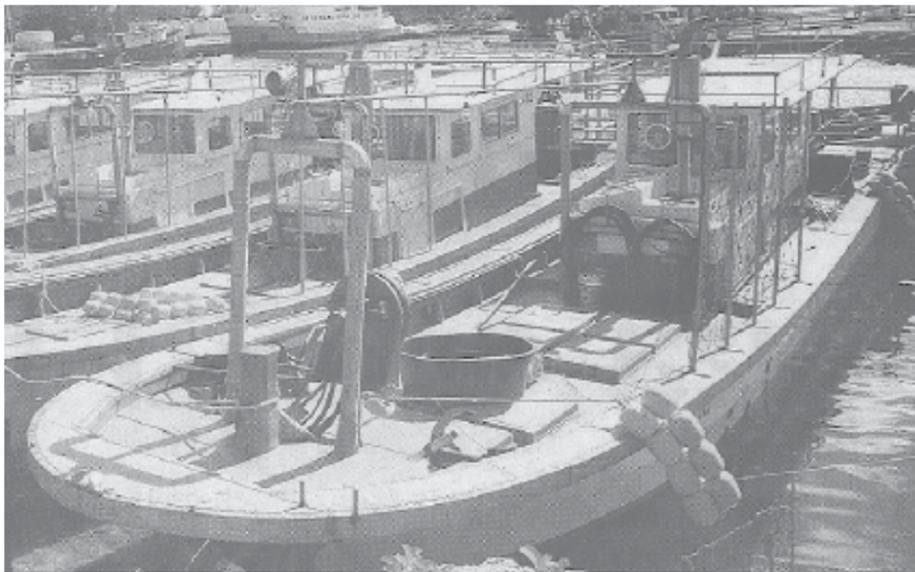
Green Turtle Cay - #0272 Island getaway perched high on a bluff overlooking the Sea of Abaco. Three bedroom three and one half bathroom comprising 3,289 sq. ft. of living area and plenty of decks leading to and surrounding the swimming pool. Fantastic sunsets await you at this brand new home. Offered at \$1,980,000

Green Turtle Cay - near beach and public dock 1/4 acre lot cleared and planted with fruit trees. Only \$45,000

Treasure Cay - one lot behind greenway and canal. Great builder's lot with views of canal. \$35,000

Treasure Cay - Lot near golf course and beach. \$25,000

Korean Fishing Boats Are Docked

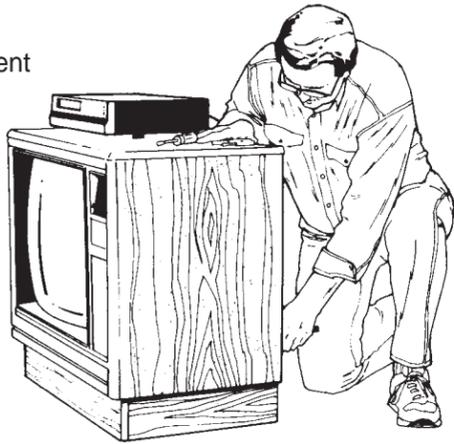


This photo shows the 45-foot fishing boats that were brought into the Bahamas from Korea. They have become very controversial and it is not clear yet whether they will be released or not. A Bahamian company has arrangements to fish for live fish to be shipped back to Korea. The boats were accompanied by a 94-foot mother ship which would have processed the catch out at sea. Discovering that Bahamian law does not allow fish processing at sea, the mother ship has been converted into a fishing vessel. A Bahmian company now claims to own the boats and a few Koreans have been retained to teach advanced fishing methods to Bahamian crews. The last word was that the boats were impounded at Morgan's Bluff, Andros, after being released by Customs. Many feel that the type of fishing these boats would do would quickly deplete our fisheries resource. The Koreans want to teach Bahamian fishermen how to fish to make the industry much more profitable.

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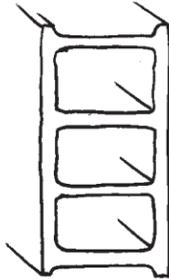
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 Picture and 4 lines \$25
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Great Cistern 3 story furnished 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath, central A/C, cable, phone, storage and generator houses, all around decks overlooking water. Phone 367-5867

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

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

Marsh Harbour one bedroom apartment. Ideal for single person. Contact 367-2373 for details.

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Phone 242-367-2922
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Marsh Harbour Sweetings Track 2 furnished apts. each 2 bed / 2 bath, includes gas and water. \$1100 month. Call 367-3667

Treasure Cay 2 bed / 2 bath villa, long term rental, furnished, ceramic tile. Located on Solomon's parking lot. Call 365-4105

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

Olympian Gold Medalist Visits



Mrs. Pauline Davis-Thompson, three-time gold medalist in the Olympics, was on Abaco to assist with the opening of the Price Busters store in Marsh Harbour. She gave autographs at Price Busters the previous day and is shown here with two of her admirers, Faneisha Archer on the left and Lynzandria Archer on the right.

Price Busters

From Page 1B

Minister Wisdom emphasized the need to encourage entrepreneurship and economic development of our country. He wished to suggest to Bahamians that we can do great things for the Bahamas in business. He advised all in attendance to think big. The sky is the limit and Bahamians should not box themselves in. The Bahamas needs some big thinkers.

**Remember
Ads in
The Abaconian
Bring Results**

Congratulations



Caralee Bethel for being accepted at the **Academy of Healing Arts** in Lake Worth, Florida, where she will study cosmetology.

She is the daughter of **Sylvan & Emily Bethel** of Guana Cay and the granddaughter of **Donald & Carolyn Lowe** of Marsh Harbour.

Caralee Graduated from Agape Christian School in May 2003 on the Super Honor Roll with a 3.85 GPA.

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

Bita 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

Bahama Palm Shores 3 lot parcels, Lots 5, 6 & 7, Block 22, Section 4, short walk to beach. \$30,000. Call 242-554-8411

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

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 water front, 3/2, decks, screened porch, furnished. By owner. 242-366-3509 or finart@abacoinet.com

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Immaculate Regattas retreat: 2 bedrooms/ 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

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

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.

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

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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

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

"My Island Home:" excellent value in Artists' Colony. 3 bed/2 bath, huge covered deck, great elevation and spectacular view. \$279,000

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

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)

Marsh Harbour Sweeting's Village Lots for sale 100' x 100' \$25,000. Call 367-5978

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

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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

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

Marsh Harbour

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

Dundas Town

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

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

Double Banana Stalk Is Unusual



This very unusual banana plant was grown by Silbert Sawyer of Marsh Harbour. It has two stalks of bananas growing on opposite sides of the tree. Usually when a banana plant produces two stalks, they are "twins," both growing out of the same side of the tree. Mr. Sawyer, originally from Cherokee Sound, has always been very successful in growing plants. He and his wife grow fruit, then produce delicious jams, jellies and preserves under the name of Esther's Kitchen.

Wisdom

From Page 1

He plans to add more culture and sporting events to these festivities. He is also concerned about the food and music being

served and played at the regattas and homecomings. Visitors should be exposed to our native cuisine and music. Bahamians should be proud of their culture.

Congratulations 'Ash'!
 Congratulations go out to Ashley Cash of Green Turtle Cay. Not only did she make the Dean's List for the 2003 Fall Semester at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Georgia, she also reached another milestone in her life on New Year's Eve. She got engaged to Matthew Driggers of Soperton, Georgia, who also attends VSU. A June wedding is planned at Green Turtle Cay.

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Friday thru Monday	7 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:30 a.m.
Tuesday thru Thursday	4 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	5 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
	7 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:30 a.m.

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For more information call
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 Ph 242-352-5778 • Fax 242-351-5693 Freeport
 majorsair@coralwave.com

NOTICE!

This is to notify the public that as of January 10th, 2004 I, Sondra L. Muratori, am not responsible for any debts or charges made by Daryl Muratori.

Thank you.

The following persons have recently applied for Bahamian Citizenship as posted in the Nassau newspapers. This may not be an inclusive listing.

Name	Residence	Date
Clerveau, Aramene	MH	26 Nov 03
Lubin, Eronne	MH	2 Dec 03
St. Germain, Johnson	MH	11 Dec 03
Petit-Frere, Odese	HT	11 Dec 03
Delemagilot, Magdeline Rose	MH	22 Dec 03
Furman, John Bernard Jr	MH	19 Jan 04

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- See page 9 for information

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90 Jeep Wrangler, good running order. \$6000 OBO ph 367-0124

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95 Chevy Astro Mark III conv. van, fully loaded, runs great, custom velor seats, dual AC/heat, 17" rims, 2 batt, 140 amp. alt, \$4K + stereo, 9", 7" TV-DVD/VCR, surr sound. Asking \$20,500 OBO Ph 365-8248 or 359-6126

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21' Contender, 1998, 150 HP Mercury, T-Top, VHF, AM/FM Cassette, XM satellite GPS, fish finder, trim tabs, trailer, excellent condition. Duty paid. \$25,000. Call Jim 803-478-4764.



22' Mako 224, 1985, T-Top, VHF, Color recorder, GPS, Stereo, 1997 Mariner (Merc) 225 HP, 350 hrs, aluminum trailer, excellent condition. Duty paid. \$18,900. Call Jim 803-478-4764

BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



23' Seacraft Sportfish, 225 Merc, view at Lighthouse Marina \$18,500 OBO Call 367-3596

23' Seacraft 1986, 200 Yamaha, excellent cond, Bimini top, depth finder, new paint. 365-8895 after 5 p.m.



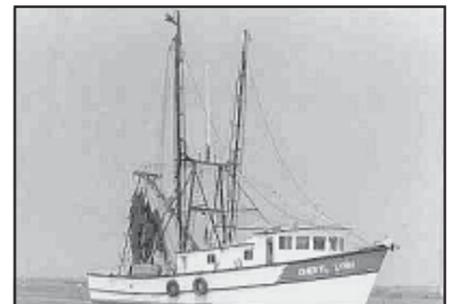
24' Boston Whaler Outrage, '94, twin 200 Yamahas, side dive access door. DUTY PAID \$25,000 OBO Call 359-6342

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32' Classic Bristol CB Sloop, shoal draft, Recently refitted with Awlgrip, new sails, new standing and running rigging, new jib furler, new self-tailing winches and new Yanmar 27 HP diesel. DUTY PAID. Asking \$22,000. Call Tony Bennett, 366-0339 or Ted Krafft 366-0005



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