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VOLUME 12, NUMBER 12, JUNE 15th, 2004

Sandy Point Holds Regatta

Holiday Weekend Is Time for Home Coming and Community Activities



The Sandy Point Regatta held on June 4-6 attracted four Class C sailboats shown above at the start of the third race. Three races were held and the overall first place winner was Bulreg.

Sandy Point celebrated the Labour Day weekend with a regatta and home coming. Shore activities complemented the racing at sea. Four Class C boats competed in three races on June 4 and 5. Ashore the people enjoyed competitions, games, food and camaraderie. A company from Freeport even offered parasailing rides. People came from Nassau and Freeport to this annual event.

The sailing boats, all from the southern Bahamas, had great sailing weather to enjoy the friendly competition. Commodore Smith of the Police Department was race chairman and coordinated three races, one on June 4 and two on June 5. The winners of the Ocean Race were

- First place *Bulreg*
- Second place *Sacrifice*
- Third place *Char's Thunderbird*
- Fourth place *Barbarian*

Overall winners were
First place *Bulreg* from Exuma
Second place *Sacrifice* from Long Island
Third place *Char's Thunderbird* from Andros

Fourth place *Barbarian* from Acklins

Awards were presented the night of June 5.

Pathfinders Offers 13 New Scholarships



Thirteen students were chosen to receive scholarships from the Pathfinders Scholarship Foundation this spring. They were hosted at a reception at Abaco Beach Resort on May 30. They will leave in the fall for schools in Nassau and in the United States. They are, left to right, Sabrina Laing, Vilene Baptist, Dawson Malone, Tia Knowles, Sarah Swain, Joshua Malone, Chervain Dean, Shane Cash, Samantha Major, David McHale and Devaughn Edgcombe. Not pictured are Miquell Miller and Mario Sawyer.

The Pathfinders Scholarship Foundation held a reception to announce the new students who have been awarded scholarships for the next school year. This time there are 13 recipients bringing the total to 43 students who are receiving assistance.

Two unique scholarships are being offered this year through the foundation. The one is funded by the organization

Feed the Poor which is represented by David Price. This scholarship was awarded to Vilene Baptist who will be attending Ramapo College in New Jersey. The other is a full tuition four-year scholarship to Shenendoah College in Virginia which is partially funded by the college

Please see **Pathfinders** Page23

Chamber Hears From Government Officers



The Abaco Chamber of Commerce invited four government officials to speak on various responsibilities of their departments. Shown above are, seated, Mr. Gary Smith of Customs, Mrs. Veronica Nairn, Labour Department, and standing, Act. Supt. Clarence Russell of the Police Department, Mr. Art Sands, Mr. Bradley Reckley and Ms. Cindy Hayworth all of the Chamber and Mr. Frederick Bonomy of Immigration. See story on page 2.

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Chamber Hears from Local Department Heads

The Abaco Chamber of Commerce began a series of three meetings which features government officers who head departments on Abaco. The luncheon meeting held on June 10 at Abaco Beach Resort was the first which heard from four department heads.

Customs' Figures Show Abaco Doing Well

Mr. Gary Smith, Superintendent of Customs for Abaco, is a native son, being the son of Cynthia and Sam Smith of Marsh Harbour. He was asked if Abaco people are shopping at home and supporting local businesses. He felt that basically local people are supporting local businesses. There is much travel abroad by Abaconians but usually they shop only for specialty items. He backed this up with statistics. The year 2001 was a banner year with 60,956 tons of cargo being shipped to Abaco by sea. The revenue was over \$27 million. That revenue includes about \$100,000 weekly which the government receives from Castaway Cay. Revenue was down slightly in 2003 but the figures for this year appear to be up. Mr. Smith felt that maybe up to 40 percent of the revenue is due to second home owners. Sixty-five percent of Bahamian revenue is from Customs.

Mr. Smith felt that Abaco is very resilient to world events. After the 9/11 event, Abaco showed a slight decrease in visitor arrivals but has rebounded very well. Revenues this year will increase partially because of increased enforcement. By next year the department will be computerized which will give Customs officers the ability to compare values of similar items.

Mr. Smith commented on his opinion of the trade agreements which are now under consideration. There will always be a need for Customs because there will always be tariffs. There will always be revenue officers whether the country puts in place a sales

tax or a value added tax. It is probable that the country will become a full member of the World Trade Organization within the next few years which prohibits barriers to trade. There will be changes in tariffs but he felt that it will be years before they are put in place.

Immigration Faces Daunting Problems

The second speaker was Mr. Frederick Bonomy, Chief Immigration Officer on Abaco. He has five officers who monitor the airports, the mail boat and the fast ferry. He realizes that our illegal immigrant problem is a very serious problem and feels that there needs to be a plan to solve the problem. No one knows how many there are but he felt that the number is at least 5000. He receives many applications for work permits for immigrants which are usually granted because of the reluctance of Bahamians to do menial work. His staff on Abaco is too limited to carry out raids. He works with the police and immigration officers from Nassau to carry out raids on a random basis.

Police Chief Urges Community Involvement

Mr. Clarence Russell, Acting Superintendent in charge of the Police Force on Abaco, was pleased to be asked to speak when there was not a crisis in the community. He explained that the department practices prevention and detection of crime. He strongly believes in community policing and described an area of Nassau which has a low crime rate because the residents there have a crime watch which is very effective. The key to reduced crime is the community getting involved and working closely with the police. The police department only enforces laws, apprehending criminals to protect people, property and visitors. It is essential to bring the offenders to swift jus-

tice.

Since the police department has prosecutors in court, the department encourages officers to become trained lawyers and there are now 30. Some are in the courts while others are in the field to prevent crimes.

Mr. Russell was very forceful in emphasizing that with economic growth and development will come prosperity and increased crime.

He shared with the group some of the frustrations that police officers face. One known drug dealer who came from another Family Island is being harboured by a relative. Mr. Russell would like to see the man leave Abaco. In another instance the police raided a business carrying on illegal operations. The float for the business was more than \$14,000 and the police found over \$100,000 in the safe. The business was shut down. However, by the next day the manager showed up with a business license and

re-opened.

The police will be getting a 36-foot boat very soon. But they realize that they cannot patrol the island with one boat. Abaco has 11 airstrips most of which are on outlying cays many miles apart.

Mr. Russell challenged Abaco to get organized and work together with the police to send a message to criminal elements considering coming to Abaco that they will not be tolerated here. Abaco people need to speak with one voice that they will not tolerate more crime on this island.

Labour Feels Training Is Crucial

Mrs. Veronica Nairn, Assistant Director of Labour, spoke about her duties. The Department of Labour maintains an employment exchange register which assists the un-

Please see **Chamber** Page 22



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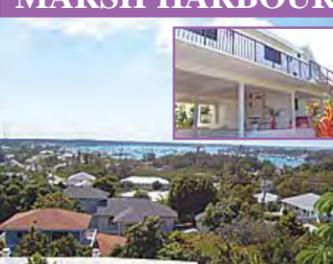
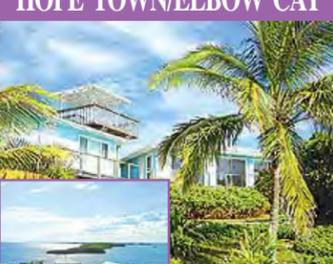
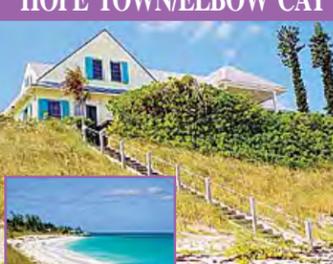
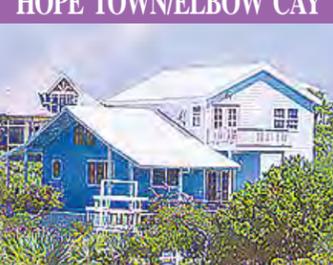
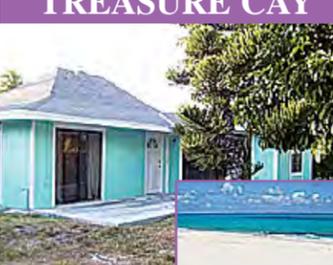
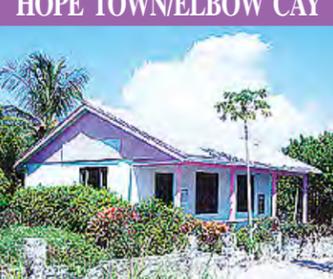
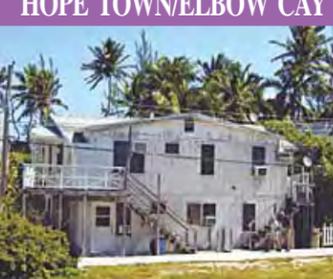
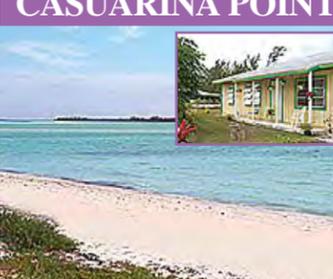
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<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"CLUB SOLIEL" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1369 Charming waterfront resort 320 ft. of harbour front 1.75 acres Two story hotel building Restaurant Marina: 600 linear ft. of dock space, 7' controlling depth, 10 boat moorings nearby Staff, utility buildings & Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040 </p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"TWIN DOLPHIN POINT" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2072 2 elevated waterfront homes Total of 8 beds 7 baths, 4 kitchens, and office Private 80' dock with 50' 'T' and 9 ft. draft Small beach & sunning area Lush 1.6 acre property Great rental history, turnkey \$2,300,000 Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>	<p>MARSH HARBOUR</p> 	<p>LITTLE ORCHARD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1768 3 bed 2 bath home 6,400 sq. ft. living space Furnished 2-car carport Beautifully landscaped 46,690 sq. ft. property Great harbour & seaviews & 360 degree views \$1,150,000 Leslie Pinder: 242-367-5046</p>
<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"TILLOO CUT" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1671 Dorros Cove Sub. 3 bed 2 bath 1700 sq. ft. traditional island home Fireplace and A/C Almost 1 acre landscaped Panoramic ocean view Private dock slip Fully furnished Excellent value Reduced \$878,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"LIME TREE VILLA" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2092 Lovely 2 bed 2 bath home Sleeping loft over living area Fully equipped kitchen 1/2 mile south of settlement Protected position at the top of barrier sand dunes Well-protected bulkhead & land on Nigh Creek for dockage \$1,500,000 Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>	<p>NEAR TREASURE</p> 	<p>BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEWS 3 minutes from Treasure Cay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2115 SPACIOUS 5.29 ACRE PROPERTY 3 bed 2 bath home 2,200 sq. ft. living space Great views of Sea of Abaco & Green Turtle Cay in the distance Partially furnished \$600,000 Leslie Pinder: 242-367-5046</p>
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<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>VILLAGE PROPERTY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1969 Commercial building may be converted to residential CBS Structure: 780 sq' Land: 2,977 sq' Views of Hope Town harbour 10,000 gallon cistern Walk to all amenities \$289,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>VILLAGE APARTMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2158 Two story apartment building with 5 units in the heart of the settlement 3 units with 1 bed 1 bath 2 units with 2 bed 1 bath Steady rental income Very good return on investment Building needs TLC \$300,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>CASUARINA POINT</p> 	<p>15 MILES SOUTH OF MARSH HARBOUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2122 1,687 sq. ft. island home 3 bedroom 2 bathrooms Carport Seaviews Opposite sandy beach Needs TLC to transform it into an ideal beach house Reduced \$130,000 Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p>

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Central Abaco News

Bahamas Public Service Union March

By Jennifer Hudson

History was made on Abaco on June 4th when, for the first time on the streets of Marsh Harbour, several of the unions got together in a march led by the Bahamas Public Service Union to celebrate Labour Day. For years union members on Abaco have talked about staging a march and church service to bring together all the unions in the same way it has been done in Nassau for many years.

A church service was held on June 2nd at the Trumpet Assemblies of God Church with Rev. Carlton Dorsette, President of the Abaco Christian Council, as guest speaker, the theme being *Togetherness and the Need to Work Together Better in the Work Place*. This service, which was broadcast live on Radio Abaco, was attended by members of the BPSU, BCPOU and the Nurses' Union.

On June 4th in the first Labour Day March on Abaco, 30 members of the BCPOU and BPSU marched from Abaco Wholesale along Don MacKay Boulevard to Dove Plaza. Organizers of this march said that although the event started in a small way this year, next year the march will be greatly expanded when members of the

Teacher's Union, BEC, Batelco and the Bankers and Hotel Workers Unions will be invited to participate.

Mr. Wayne Bastian of the BPSU said that the union feels that it is time to start to ease tensions between the various agencies and corporations. They would like to see the different unions coming together in a friendly and social atmosphere during the year and start some friendly volley ball and basketball competitions.

They plan to hold a church service monthly when the various unions will join together in worship at a different church each month. The next service will be held at the St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Marsh Harbour.

Bingo, Anyone?

By Isobel Sherman

Every Friday evening beginning Bingo is held at the PTA meeting room of St Frances de Sales school. Sponsored by the Catholic Church, Bingo night is to raise funds to pay for the insurance on the buildings in Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay. Cost is one dollar a card. There are prizes and refreshments on sale so they invite the public to enjoy an evening of Bingo.

Surprise Shower

By Isobel Sherman

A surprise baby shower for Mrs.

Neulessa Major was held on June 13 at her home in Marsh Harbour. Mrs. Major has been confined to her bed for the past six months. Mrs. Major is a teacher at Central Abaco Primary School and is Youth Leader for Pilot Club International.

Raffle Winners

The Pilot Club of Abaco held its annual Spring Fling Dance on Friday May 18 at Below Decks at Abaco Beach Resort. In

attendance were Island Administrator Alexander Williams and Mrs. Williams.

A raffle was drawn and the following persons won, Jaden Albury, Shacoya Curry, Maria Bethel, Randy Key, Joy McKenzie, Greer Coleby, Tatia Chea, Christopher Pinder, Ron Lavarity, Christine Chu, Lynden Scott and Amy Mackey.

Part of the proceeds for the raffle will be donated to the Marsh Harbour Volunteer

Please see **Central**

Page 5



The disaster committees from all areas of Abaco held a meeting on June 9 to meet with the chairmen of the various sub-committees. About 45 persons attended the meeting in preparation for this hurricane season which began June 1. Present at the meeting was Mr. Carl Smith, Chairman of the National Emergency Management Agency, who spoke at length to the group. A concern was raised about the lack of trained personnel in the Mud and Pigeon Pea communities. Also in attendance was Cabinet member Mr. David Cates, Management Disaster Coordinator. Shown above is the group discussing their problems and concerns with the staff from Nassau.



The Bahamas Public Service Union and the Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union held a march in Marsh Harbour on June 4 to celebrate Labour Day. The members hope to make this an annual event and will be inviting other union members to join them. The march was organized by Roger Smith, area vice president of the PCPOU, and Wayne Bastian, Shop Steward of BPSO.

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More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 4*

Fire Department and Abaco Crash Rescue Squad Association.

PLP Chairman Calls for the Establishing Branches

By Portia Jonsson

During the evening of June 11th many Progressive Liberal Party supporters turned out to a meeting held in Marsh Harbour to

hear their party's Chairman, Mr. Raynard Rigby, discuss his desire and plans for the establishment of branches throughout Abaco.

Mr. Rigby called on South and North Abaco to work together as a family and share ideas. He stressed the importance of having branches in the communities, saying that it is critical in the success of the PLP. On that note, he recognized that the country is going through a transition and

encouraged those present to reach out to the young people. They were told that young people hold the determining vote and any branch not getting the youth involved is missing the point. Young people are a very important part of the political equation and need to know the history of the PLP. Without that history, they do not have a connection to the party. Mr. Rigby also

emphasized the need for young people to understand the struggles of the party.

The chairman went on to say that there are many doubters in the party when it comes to the Prime Minister talking on transformation. Mr. Rigby reflected on the Prime

*Please see **Central** Page 22*



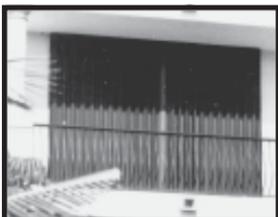
A Marine Conservation Exhibition will be on display on Abaco from June 28-July 3, 2004, at Solomon's Supercenter in Marsh Harbour. The display is a total of 48 feet long. The segment shown above depicts a mangrove ecosystem and is one of five that is part of an exhibition about marine reserves and marine conservation that is being sponsored by The Department of Fisheries, The Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation and The Nature Conservancy. A student in New Providence is pictured above viewing a mural. After being displayed in Nassau the exhibition traveled to Andros, Exuma and Eleuthera before coming to Abaco. The public is invited to enjoy the exhibition.



The Progressive Liberal Party held an organizational meeting in Marsh Harbour on June 11. Mr. Raynard Rigby, National Chairman of the PLP, spoke to the group. He urged them to organize and to develop youth organizations. There is a possibility that Abaco will form an island Council rather than be a branch of the Nassau PLP. Mr. Rigby would like to see more cooperation between North and South Abaco. Shown above are, seated, Mr. Rigby and Mr. Gary Sawyer, standing Mr. JR Albury, Ms. Gwen Martin and Mr. Ricky Smith. Mr. Sawyer is a member of the National General Council of the PLP.



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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound Shell Exhibition at Cherokee

By Jennifer Hudson

What a wonderful array of *Gifts from the Sea* that was on display at the third annual Sea Shell Show and Exhibition in the new W.W. Sands Community Centre at Cherokee Sound on Whit Monday. Approximately 200 people, not only from Cherokee and Marsh Harbour but also from the cays vis-

ited the exhibition. Since it was so well received, the organizers decided to open it again during the following Labour Day Friday holiday.

I have seen many beautiful sea shells over the years but the variety and quality of the natural shells at this exhibition were truly amazing. From the enormous to the minuscule and many unusual varieties, patterns and colours, it was really a feast for the eyes. Some were no larger than a nail head but perfect in their beauty, and the lady who

filled a basket with these minute shells and sea urchins well deserved the award she won not only for her talents in displaying the shells but for her sheer patience in collecting such a wealth of miniature beauties.

Lee Pinder is another avid and seasoned collector of shells, and she had laid out and labeled a very comprehensive display of all the different shell families which was most educational and interesting. Other exhibits included a magnificent Hawksbill Turtle which won the Best in Show award, displays of sea sponges, bottles and corals as well as coins and stamps depicting marine life. Also on display were various attractive handcrafted items, all utilising shells or a nautical theme in some way.

In addition to being a conchology exhibition, this was also a judged show and judging took place in four categories:

1. Natural shells (a. Lone shells, b. Grouping of similar shells, c. Children's entries)
2. Art work or handcrafted items made with actual shells
3. Entries of other objects from the sea excluding shells
4. Miscellaneous items which look like a shell or have shells on them e.g., jewellery or ceramics

The judges had quite a task selecting the winners but their final decisions were:

Lone Shell:

1. Triton shell - Oneisha Stubbs (aged 11 years)
 2. Jacob's cup - Evelyn Albury
 3. King Conch - Lee Pinder
- Honourable Mention: Milk Conch encrusted with coral - Evelyn Albury

Cluster of shells:

1. Mixed tiny shells - Evelyn Albury
2. Cowries - Lee Pinder

Children's entries

1. Dre Hepburn - Basket of shells
 2. Oneisha Stubbs - Basket of shells
 3. Tyler Albury - Painting of shells
- Honourable mention: Laceton Ginton - Fish mobile

Art work or handcrafted items:

1. Wreath - Evelyn Albury
 2. Large basket - Evelyn Albury
 3. Mirror - Michelle Lowe
- Honourable Mention: Shell ship - Kathy Hura; Anchor - Lee Pinder; Mobile - Kathy Hura, Soldier Crab painting - Kathy Hura

Special awards were given to Lee Pinder for her Hawksbill turtle and Joann Bradley and Lee Pinder for their sponge collection. Norma Albury received honourable mention for her tall basket.

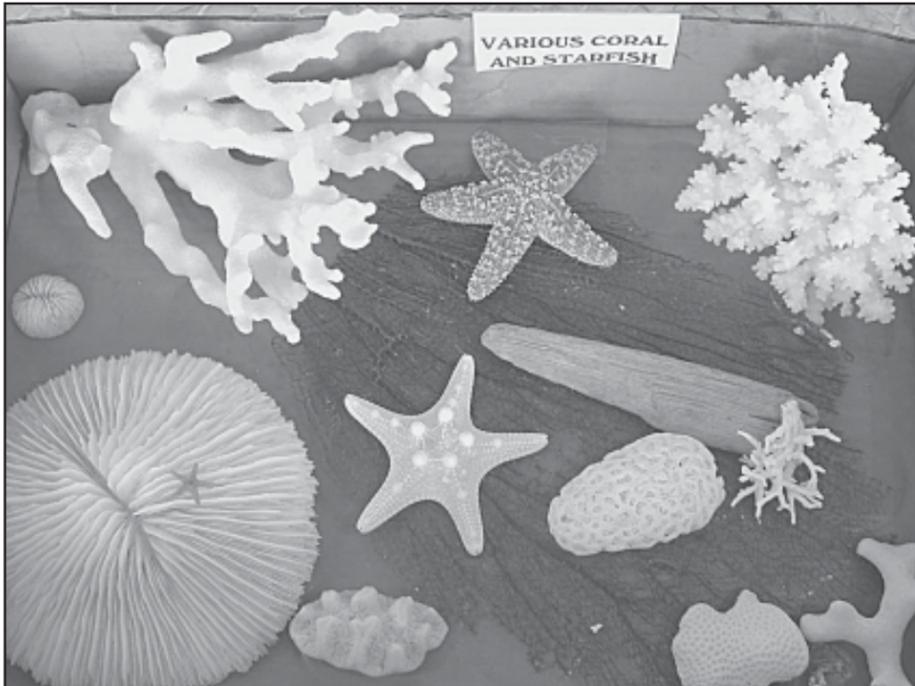
Ribbons were awarded for placements in all categories with a floating trophy of a mounted fine specimen of a Queen Conch presented for the first time this year to the winner of Best in Show.

All proceeds from the show will go to the Cherokee Primary School to assist in procuring a new tile floor.

Visitors to the show also enjoyed relaxing outside under a large shade tree chatting with friends and enjoying the refreshments which were on sale to boost the school's funds. If you missed the show this year and you are in any way a lover of beauty you should certainly plan to visit next year.

Please see **South**

Page 7



A beautiful display of shells and other marine artifacts were exhibited on Whit Monday, May 31, at the newly restored Wm. Sands Community Center in Cherokee. The show was so well attended that it was opened again on Labour Day, June 4. Proceeds from this fund raising will go to the Cherokee All Age School to help with the expense of a new tile floor that will hopefully be installed during the summer.

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More South Abaco News

South *From Page 6*

Other Community News

By Lee Pinder

New Public Toilets

It took less than a week for the builders to erect new public toilets. However, there is still a septic tank to be dug as well as plumbing and electrical work to be done. Hopefully, government will finish this public facility so that it can be utilized this summer when Cherokee's visitors are at their highest, since we attract more family visitors than the usual tourists and seasonal fishermen.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Yizel and Richard Albury, who were joined in holy matrimony on June 5th at Epworth Methodist Chapel in Cherokee with Brother Bob Cornish and Brother Daniel Sawyer officiating.

The bride wore above-the-elbow white glovelets and her dress was a strapless vision of loveliness in a floor length pure white silk organza covered with intricate designs done in seed pearls and crystal beads that shimmered as she walked down the aisle. Her matron of honour, Mailin Sands, wore a long gown of glistening pale rose pink organza as did the flower girl, Tiffany Albury. Richard's best man was Grant Sands and the groom's nephew, Landon

Albury, took his duties as ring bearer very seriously. The church was full to capacity and the reception was held immediately after the ceremony under a tent on the basketball court with seating facilities inside the new air-conditioned community center.

Best wishes to the happy couple for a long and prosperous married life together.

School News

The students held their annual end-of-the-year picnic and beach party. Everyone hiked over the hill and out to Little Bay where they were challenged to build a sand castle. The winners of the competition in the two groups (upper and lower grades) both won free lunch at Diane Sawyer's, who prepares and sells sandwiches and lunches in the settlement from her home.

The students are getting ready for their mini-fair on June 19, and we understand there are to be new games and competitions plus a cook-out and a raffle. Their goal is to raise the money they need for the new floor. So be sure to come out and join in the fun.

Before the school year comes to an end, the students will be planting another tree. This time it will be a sea grape tree and will be behind the school near the new public toilets.

There will be half-day pre-school classes for the little ones during the summer vacation to prepare them for first grade which they will start in the fall. Mrs. Joanne Bradley will be teaching the children three mornings a week, but the starting date has not yet been agreed upon.

You Don't Miss It Till It's Gone

As the electrical poles go up alongside the roadway, we try to remember in our mind's eye of how it looked before. Virgin land that has probably never felt man's footprints possibly since the beginning of time are now being dug up with giant bull dozer's, ripping up rock and trees and who knows what else to make way for progress. I know we can't have it both ways, but, oh, sometimes it is so sad to think of the natural beauty that is now gone forever and in its place stand the ugly poles and wires overhead.

Just like a digital photo a friend of ours sent us recently taken of our settlement from the vantage point of the Sand Bar dock, but with one thing missing (he removed BATELCO's tower). How sweet it is to look at that picture and remember how quaint Little Cherokee looked before progress came and thrust us into the 21st century.



The beautifully restored community center in Cherokee provided a lovely setting for the annual Shell Exhibition. Enjoying the show are Mrs. Jennifer Hudson and Mrs. Veronica Saunders.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco

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

Pilot Club of Abaco

Third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Central Abaco Primary, Dundas Town, 367-3457

Pilot Club of South Abaco

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

Rotary Club of Abaco

Mondays, 6 p.m., weekly at Anglers Restaurant, Abaco Beach Resort



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Bahamian Artist

Eddie Minnis



I'm Eddie Minnis and I'm a Bahamian artist. The Bahamas is a beautiful archipelago with a culture of its own. As an artist I try to capture some of this and share it with others through painting. I paint exclusively with a palette knife with oil on canvas. I am primarily a landscape artist, however due to my background in architecture, my paintings often feature the quaint colonial structures of our islands. I hope that through my work you can get a small taste of the incredible beauty of our islands and the rich heritage of our people.

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The Editor Says . . . Contributions and Volunteer Service



Community service comes in many flavors. Boy Scouts do their good deeds, volunteer firemen stand-by and service clubs benefit the communities with their various projects. The persons giving their time have a wide range of interests including community welfare, education, the environment, tourism, marine issues, youth development and the list goes on.

We do not think of our Local Government representatives as volunteers but that is what it amounts to. Council and Town Committee members receive a small stipend but the appointed boards function with volunteers. Being appointed to a board or being elected to a Town Committee does not diminish the volunteer aspect.

Even those in Local Government who have been chosen to be the Chief Councillor and may receive a monthly stipend in the \$500 range are essentially volunteers. The amount of time a Chief Councillor spends with his community and committees approaches a full time job, at least in Central Abaco. Very few people can afford to donate the required time. Most successful people are busy and those with time on their hands are generally not qualified to be community leaders.

Volunteers in the Local Government arena must be Bahamian, at least those on the front lines. Service clubs and other organizations are open to volunteers of every description.

Abaco is blessed with many individuals both Bahamian and visitors who donate funds to worthy causes. Some of this is done publicly with a press release and photo. Others give quietly, preferring to remain anonymous. In either case, there is a lot of money going into the greater Abaco community by local and foreign persons.

Most of the larger businesses are asked regularly for either cash or merchandise by churches, civic groups, sports associations or schools for their various causes.

The All Abaco Regatta scheduled for September will soon be requesting money. Their budget for last year was approximately \$180,000, most of which came from the Abaco community.

Throughout the year you will encounter Rotary, the Red Cross, a school or other group with volunteers outside a grocery

store in Marsh Harbour asking for donations.

Some donations filter to the communities through government partnership. Elbow Cay is getting a better road due to a \$250,000 donation by second homeowners. Elbow Cay's sand dunes were restored without any government assistance after Hurricane Floyd.

The Treasure Cay community donated funds to build and equip the clinic there. The community is currently planning an emergency building for a fire engine and other emergency services. After Hurricane Floyd, Treasure Cay property owners partnered with Treasure Cay Limited to fund a massive clean-up of storm debris throughout the resort.

Several of Abaco's volunteer fire departments have had fire engines donated by concerned second homeowners. Some of the volunteers in these organizations are foreigners living here and giving their service to the community.

Schools, particularly on the offshore cays, are constantly reaping the benefits of their nearby second homeowners. Air conditioners, computers and a variety of teaching aids are frequently donated by resident second home owners. School books and library books are another item that have been brought in literally by the ton and given to the schools.

There are several scholarship programs which are funded primarily by foreigners for the benefit of Abaco youth.

Several times a year the local Methodists host groups from the States who stay

for a week and repair one or more residences of needy persons. These people come at their own expense and receive minimal housing assistance while here, often camping in a mission hall. Another church group came this past spring and constructed the shell for an additional classroom and workshop for the Every Child Counts school in Marsh Harbour. Many churches will have volunteers come during the summer to hold vacation Bible schools for the children.

The wild Abaco horses owe their survival and improved outlook to a dedicated volunteer and a small cadre of volunteer helpers.

Community volunteers staff several museums, assist in schools and open libraries. All of this volunteer activity adds to the social fabric of the greater community.

Many people feel that if they live in an area, they have an obligation to assist, to give back, in some form. It is those people who have greatly assisted Abaco in becoming the great place that it is today.

We hope that this trend will continue as Abaco is richer with these contributions. Some donations may be small but they add up to make this a unique little community. Donated items do not have to be large to be appreciated. A couple of areas come to mind.

Opportunities exist for equipment donations as individuals and businesses upgrade their computers and peripheral equipment. Some of the displaced software and computers are superior to equipment in some of the schools or government offices. We have been in government offices and noted

stacks of floppy discs because the computer did not have a hard drive. Some of the small hard drives that many of us have discarded in exchange for larger hard drives would be a welcome addition to these offices.

The police are challenged to keep their boat operational and would welcome an appropriate partnership to help with engines. The present engines are over ten years old and malfunction regularly. The blue 32-foot police boat they are using at the present time was sent here several years ago from Nassau as a confiscated boat from the drug trade. It came without engines They retired their smaller boat and used the engines. Now a 36-foot confiscated speed boat is coming to Abaco police for patrol and community service but it needs engines.

This is an area where some community help would be appreciated. In this case we must point out that a donation is not a payment for clemency or a pardon and any help would have to be through proper channels as would any donation to a government facility. A piece of equipment can be accepted easier than a financial donation.

Finally, memorials are beginning to appear as legacy donations from some of our older residents who are leaving the area and want to say thanks to the communities they are fond of. These may be substantial scholarship funding, a library or other permanent addition to the community.

The combination of volunteer service coupled with small and large donations make a winning combination for the greater Abaco community.

All About Town

By Isobel Sherman
Where Are They?

On the Whit Monday holiday weekend a Little league baseball tournament was held at the ballpark in Murphy Town. Players ages 9 to 14 from Freeport came to Abaco to play the teams from Abaco Youth in Action. Games were played on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Abaco Youth in Action did a fantastic job readying the field for play and put up tarpaulins over the bleachers as well as a tent where they sold refreshments. Originally there were to be two sites for the games but the decision was made to play all games in Murphy Town.

What was disappointing was the lack of support by parents in Abaco to watch their children compete. The competition was not really about winning since Freeport has organized baseball starting at age 6 but one of exposure so that the players on Abaco will grow in their baseball skills. Very few parents were out at the games but many parents traveled from Freeport to see their children play.

Every Saturday Abaco Youth in Action has close to 100 kids out playing and this

programme has grown steadily since its inception last year. However, very few parents watch or even assist in the program. The future is our young people. There has always been the cry that there is nothing constructive for the young to do. This is an excellent program and let us realize that for it to continue and grow more help is needed. Parents, come out and support your children.

Ten Thousand Steps

The latest jargon in physical fitness is 10,000 steps per day. Not a totally new concept, walking 10,000 steps a day the experts say will make you healthier, help with weight control and lower cholesterol and blood pressure as well.

Most experts feel the average persons walks 6,000 steps per day in normal living so the challenge is to add 4,000 more steps a day. It is easier said than done. Since April when I purchased a pedometer I have tried to walk 10,000 steps a day and I have not done it yet even with long walks. I have to find additional time to do the increased walking and also the will power to sustain it once I make the 10,000 steps.

The Surgeon General in the United States is advocating the 10,000 steps a day. Studies as early as 1960 in Japan showed that woman who walked 10,000 steps per day were much healthier than their counter parts who did not. I must resolve to keep up my efforts to reach 10,000 steps.

Fisheries Officers Find Crawfish



Fisheries Officers Carroll Laing, Wayne Cornish and Leon Pinder are patrolling Abaco waters looking for illegal activities. Here they have found a boat with crawfish. The captain and crew will face court proceedings as the season for crawfish does not open until August 1.

The Abaconian

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Contributors: Rayallen Fredericks, Lee Pinder

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Letters to the Editor

Concerned for the Environment

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter with sadness of heart, a Bahamian born and bred, as I watch the slow and it seems inevitable destruction of our incomparably beautiful Bahamaland. On June 10 a barge and excavator belonging to Abaco Tug & Transport arrived at the Eastern Shores community beach bay at the dock of a second home-owner. On June 12 we watched with nausea as the small tug engine was used to blow a 100-foot long by six-foot wide channel from the existing dock with its attached boat lift out to deeper water. This muddied the bay and surrounding water for the better part of the day on Saturday. Numerous species of burrowing organisms, sea urchins, crabs in the disturbed sand were surely killed. The *Thalassia testudinum* sea grass bed habitat which stretches across the bay was cut down the middle. In addition, the approximately 40-foot wide by 100-foot long barge sat on the sandy bottom for almost one week, high and dry at low tides. This certainly did harm underneath its footprint, further damaging this fragile and once untouched bay.

District Council officials provided information that the permit had been approved by the local Port Authority and sent on to Nassau for final approval and the permit was actually in hand of the second home-owner. Is this not the same old story which we always hear? "Oh, its too late, they already have the permit." What about the other line that gets bandied about? "Well, we know it's probably a bad idea, but they are second-home owners. We must do all we can to keep them happy?" What is so puzzling about this man's application is that he owns property on the north shore as well, and as obviously he has a boat lift installed, a suggestion to him by Port Authority that he be given permission for said dock on the north shore should have been a fair compromise. This way the bay on the south shore could have remained untouched, and the home owner could still have had boat access to his property without having to undertake the costly and fruitless dredging of the south bay.

I want to know who is looking out for the interest of our environment. Who is sitting on a board with any thought for the future of our islands and their continued ecological health? Some might say, "Oh, that's only one little dock and one little channel." True...but if every single application is treated in this way, what will Abaco look like in 50 years? Will it then be in such a state that no self-respecting "second-home owner" will even want to live here? I think it boils down to something called cutting off your nose to spite your face.

Abaconians, it's time to get involved. We can no longer sit idly by as more and more change occurs in our pristine sea. Large

projects and small, such as the one highlighted above continue to be made without proper discussion, environmental impact studies and public awareness and input. Make your opinion known. Write your Local Council, Member of Parliament, even the Prime Minister, whatever it takes. Join groups such as the Bahamas National Trust, Friends of the Environment and other global organizations that try to make a difference. It can only start with YOU.

Sad in Abaco

We Don't Want Development

Dear Editor,

My wife and I and our family have been coming to Guana Cay and Abaco for almost 10 years now, and it is without a doubt our favorite place in the world to be. In fact, we had been planning to purchase a home on Guana Cay this year so that we could spend more time there. But with the proposed development of Bakers Bay with a casino, a 200-slip marina, a golf course and million dollar homes, we've decided that we need to put our plans on hold while we wait to see if this disastrous development is allowed to proceed by the current government in Nassau. If it is allowed, then we, along with many others I suspect, will take our dollars elsewhere.

We love Guana Cay and Abaco and choose to spend our dollars there precisely because these things do NOT now exist there. There are plenty of places to go for large hotels, casinos, golf and expensive homes, but fewer and fewer places to go where things are small, natural, simple and friendly, like on Guana Cay.

To think that a small group of investors interested only in making money would be allowed to develop a project that would have such an adverse impact on Guana Cay is unthinkable. We sincerely hope that it will be allowed to remain the lovely island paradise that it is today, and that many more generations to come will continue to enjoy its unique beauty and tranquility.

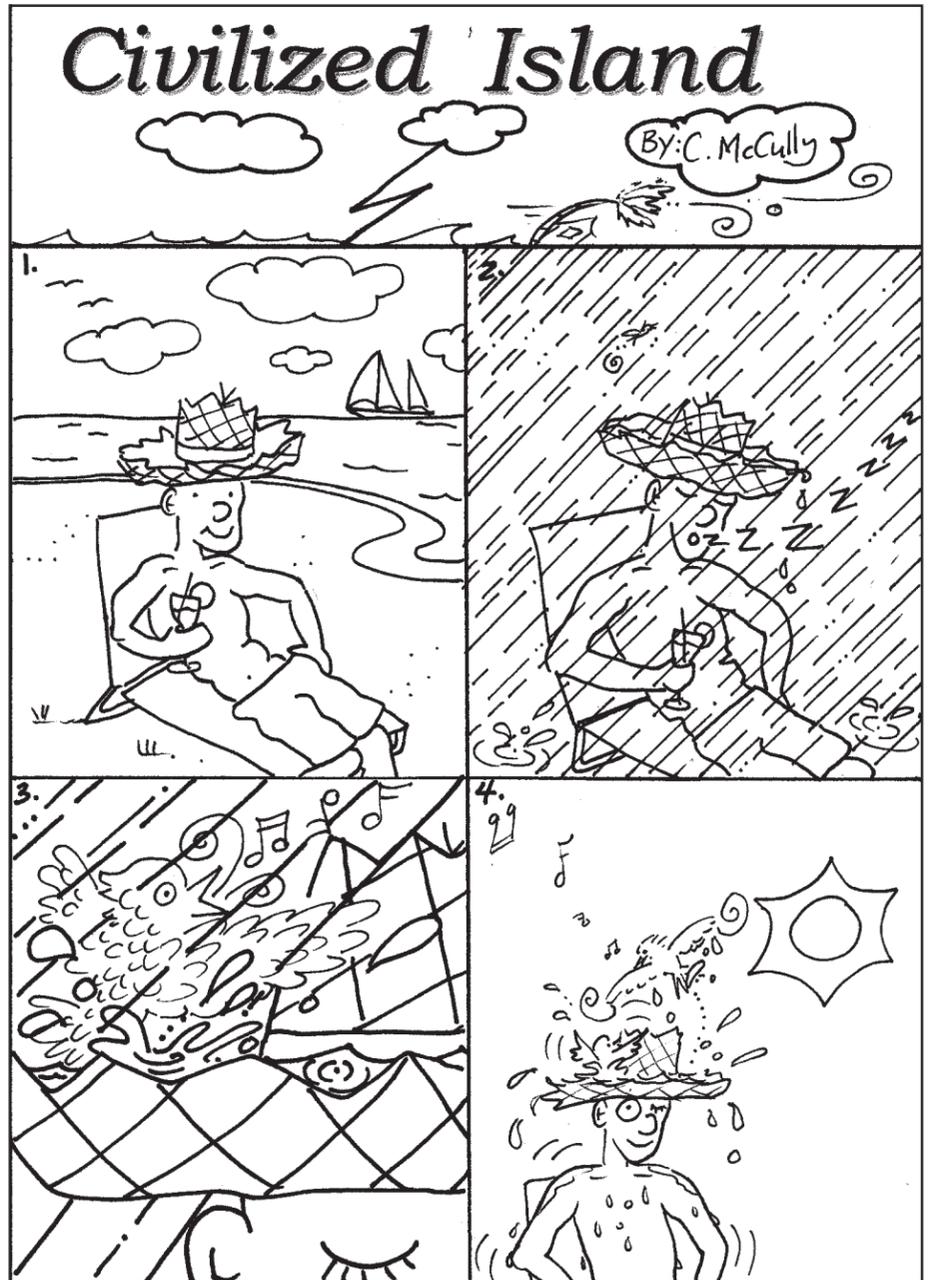
Thank you.

Larry and Lola Martin

Treat Clerks with Courtesy

Dear Editor,

I write this letter in an effort to clear up a misconception that appears common in the workplace today. As a man who has worked in retail and services for the past 17 years, I have had many experiences with customers, both pleasant and irritating alike. During my 17 years, I have done my best to provide courteous and efficient service within my industry to both the pleasant and irritating customers alike. However, I find that in the year 2004 it is becoming very hard to maintain a polite level of professional-



ism with the attitudes we clerks are receiving from customers today.

Often times dealing with the public today is like dealing with small children in a preschool. Like little children, if a customer hears a policy or practice explained to them which they don't like or agree with, they will often call a clerk rude and look for ways to damage his reputation with his employer and members of the community. This amounts to little more than Joe running to tell the teacher when Sally called him a dum-dum. This practice could often be avoided if customers today would listen as clerks try to explain company policies to them and show a little understanding even if things don't go their way. Yet, my colleagues and I have been cursed, reported to management and even hit with racial slurs simply because we are unable to accommodate a customer's request at a particular time.

As acknowledged by a recent customer of mine, this is a small community and rude customers will often have to return

to the stores and clerks where they have complained and been so troublesome. How do these customers expect to be received when they return after actions such as those described earlier? Sure, we try to do our best, but the image of the last unpleasant encounter is often fresh in the clerk's mind. Yet, if our level of service suffers because of these past experiences, we clerks are labeled as rude. But I ask, where did it start?

As with any relationship, both sides need to work together in order to get along well. As a clerk, I would suggest to the Abaco consumers that if you want great service when you enter a store, it would help if you entered with a kind and pleasant attitude and not act like a two year old if you are unable to get your way. Trust me, you will be met half way. And to those pleasant customers, thank you for making a clerk's day at work more enjoyable.

Barry Humphries

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Oct 01

Pastor Holds Final Service of Celebration

Grand Finale Reach Out To Live

By Jennifer Hudson

The Grand Finale of *Reach Out To Live* was held on May 30th at Central Abaco Primary School. This service was in celebration of the day when, on May 30th fifty years ago, Rex Major surrendered his life to Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour at Faith Chapel in Marsh Harbour.

Moderator for the service was Ted Seymour, a lay missionary and President of Ark Ministry, a publishing entity based in Florida, who is a personal friend of Rex Major and who has been instrumental in assisting him with public relations throughout his ministry. The programme was a varied one of celebration and praise encompassing prayers, Bible readings and musical items by Van Fowler, Mrs. Danelle Seymour and the Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel Choir.

Three of Mr. Major's students, Jack Albury, Nadeen (Campbell) Beneby and Astrid Stratton, reminisced on their days in school under the tutelage of Rex Major. Jack Albury made some very humorous comments but also spoke most sincerely of how grateful he is to Mr. Major for persuading

him to return to school to complete his education after he had "graduated" himself before time.

Mrs. Beneby spoke of how Mr. Major, whom she described as a "Paragon of Learning," initiated his students to a world of reading and writing and introduced the Bahamas and Senior Cambridge Leaving Certificates into the school's curriculum.

Astrid Stratton's memories were heartfelt and moving as she read a letter from a former student which, she said, echoed all her own feelings. She described the morning after Rex Major's conversion when he stood before his students with a radiance in his face and told them of his decision to serve the Lord.

Mr. Major then came to the microphone with expressions of gratitude in which he expressed his "sincere and grateful appreciation for the very valuable contributions made in his life during his tenure as Headmaster at Marsh Harbour Public School 1953-1956." He paid tribute to people such as Capt. Leonard Thompson, who was responsible for bringing him to Abaco, families who had welcomed him into their home and provided his meals, people who had provided spiritual guidance and some outstanding school board members. Each was

presented with a certificate of appreciation (some posthumously).

When it came time for Mr. Major to speak, he was introduced as "The Billy Graham of the Caribbean." Instead of preaching at this service, Mr. Major instead reminisced. He began by expressing his appreciation to all persons and businesses who had played any part in so generously assisting in the Reach Out To Live Rallies and then thanked all people present for attending the service.

His reminiscences took him back to when he was 14 years and first

heard a Scottish preacher at a gospel meeting in his home town on Long Island. "The preacher captured my interest," said Mr. Major, "but I did not give myself to the Lord." It was not until three years later in Marsh Harbour that the Rev. Lehman Longenecker reaped that seed and brought it forth. "We must go out and carry the Gospel," he continued. "Pastors are busy competing for church members while other souls are out there perishing."

Mr. Major described his father's disappointment on his resignation from his headmastership and how he tried to change his son's mind but to no avail. However, some years later his father gave his life to the Lord as a result of his son obeying God. Mr. Major said his father told him that he converted and his whole world became changed because "he had watched his son and the boy is a changed man."

Mr. Major wanted to leave this word with the congregation; "The way I was is not the way I am," and he likened the change to that of the Apostle Paul who had formerly persecuted but became a changed man due to the grace of God. "Forgiveness is for all," he stated, "but only those who come and receive are forgiven."

His closing words were, "I trust that these days have been a blessing to you," and his hopes were also that "some of the young people I have spoken to in school assemblies over the past few weeks will feel moved to give their lives to the Lord."



Capt. Leonard, right, brought Pastor Rex Major to Abaco initially to be Head Teacher at the Marsh Harbour All Age School. Here Mr. Major is recognizing Capt. Thompson for his commitment to his community.

The Marsh Harbour Public School was the only school in which Mr. Major ever taught and so, "That is why my love for these students is so strong," he said. In November there will be a student reunion weekend here in Abaco when he would like all his former students to be present and he is asking for any of his former students who are now living away to return for this reunion.



Pastor Rex Major, left, and Mr. Patrick Bethel reminisced about the days when Mr. Major was Head Teacher at the Marsh Harbour All Age School. Mr. Major's last service of his month long celebration was held on May 30.

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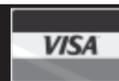
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Methodist Youth Do Volunteer Work

By Jennifer Hudson

Throughout the summer several groups of young people connected with various Methodist Churches in the United States will arrive on Abaco to spend time volunteering as part of the Methodist Habitat programme. Groups of young volunteers first began visiting Abaco in 1992 to assist in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew. For a few years after that visits were sporadic but since the advent of Hurricane Floyd with its widespread devastation, the volunteers have been coming on an annual basis. They spend their time painting and repairing homes for needy members of the commu-

nity. Each year a list of senior citizens and people in need is given by the Department of Social Services to Rev. Carla Culmer, organizer of this programme on Abaco, who then selects the persons in most need to receive the aid of these young people.

The Tennessee Youth Group from the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Church was the first group to arrive for this year on June 4th for a stay of one week. This group of eight young men and women of high school and college age were led by Beth Morris, Conference Coordinator for Youth Activities in Tennessee, assisted by the Rev. Jason Brock.

These young people who are members of various churches throughout Tennessee were selected from amongst many hopeful volunteers, all of whom were required to submit an application.

During their week on Abaco the group did an excellent job of replacing woodwork and trim and completely repainting the outside of the home of a senior citizen in Murphy Town.

As a requirement of the Methodist Habitat programme each volunteer donates \$100 which is used to purchase all the necessary equipment and supplies, and they also provide their own food. The group stayed in Dundas Town at the St. Andrews Methodist Church hall where they said, "Rev. Carla Culmer and church members showed them great hospitality." They also enjoyed the

friendliness of Mr. Sonny Cornish, who acted as their bus driver.

At the end of their week on Abaco which these young people described as "awesome!" they said how much they had enjoyed their whole experience here. They felt satisfied that they had been able to get their project completed within the week and yet also had time to explore some of Abaco. Their unanimously favourite spot was the Treasure Cay beach.

Rev. end Culmer reports that she has been able to arrange for several more groups to continue this type of work throughout the summer until the end of July and she is also planning for a group to run a Vacation Bible School in July which will be available to all young children in the community free of charge.

Viewpoint Celebrating Fathers

By Portia Jonsson

On Father's Day, June 20, we celebrate the men in our lives. Not just our dads and the fathers of our children, but all the men who have made a positive impact on a child's life.

Men who play an active role in their children's lives stimulate all aspects of development: emotional, academic, behavioral and social even when those men don't live in the same home as their children. Men in our lives matter, whether he's a husband who lives at home, an ex-husband who lives on another island, a stepfather, a grandfather, an uncle or a mentor in the community.

Men lend a sense of self-control. They model their work ethic. They make us laugh

and help us develop a sense of humor. Men teach self-reliance, self-confidence, discipline, independence and the ability to deal with frustrations, large and small. They help their daughters understand how to relate to men and the meaning of trust and intimacy in all relationships. They help their sons understand what it means to be a husband and a father and a man.

This Father's Day let us remember the father's role. Let us actively engage him in this day-to-day process of parenting. Let us stand back so he can take charge and do things his way once in a while. Let us see his parenting style as a complement - and not an opposition to our own.

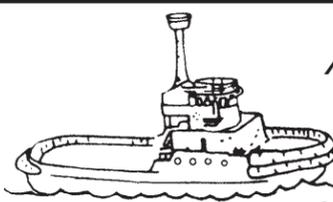
Let us celebrate our fathers and honor them for making a difference in our world.



A work group of young people from Tennessee are repairing houses in Central Abaco. The groups come for a week at a time to paint and repair houses for needy who cannot do the work themselves. They are high school and college aged young people.

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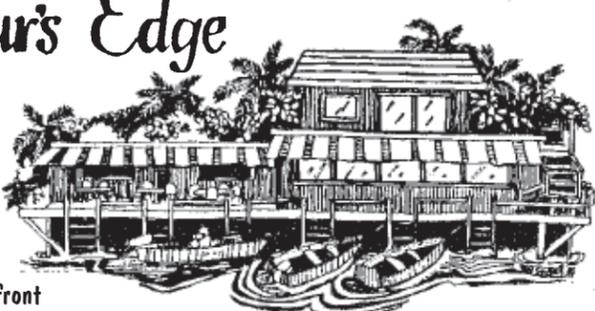


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June Brings Out Beauty in Nature



Native Abaco orchids are beautiful as shown above. These lovely lavender orchids are just one variety of some 20-odd varieties growing in coppice areas, usually close to shore. These bloom annually in June and is the largest of the native orchids here.

Obituaries of Family and Friends

Bert Harcourt Weech, 83, passed away on June 1 in Jacksonville, Florida. His funeral and interment were in Jacksonville. Rev. Weech was born in Currant, Eleuthera, but he grew up in Nassau. He carried out evangelistic work throughout The Bahamas as well as other countries. He began two small Family Island newspapers, the

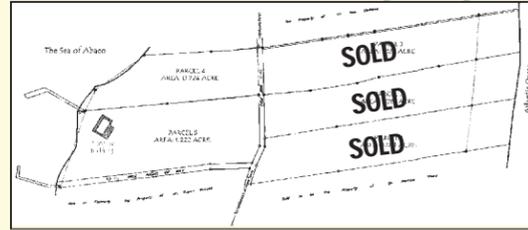
Eleuthera Sun and the Abaco Sun-Times.

He is survived by his wife, Carol White Weech; sons Kevin Bert Weech and Terrell Duane Weech; daughters Marla Weech and Twila Weech Wezensky; grandson David Jester as well as extended family on New Providence, Abaco and Eleuthera.

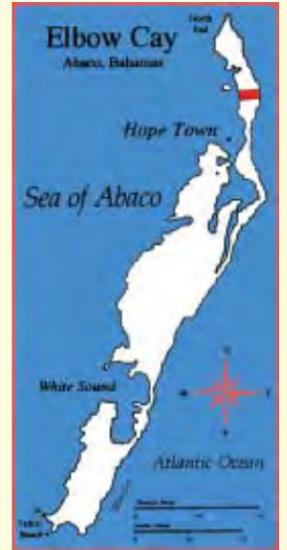
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News of the Cays



The government dock on Guana Guana is in bad disrepair. One government engineer felt it was in such a bad state that it should be closed. However, it is the main dock in the town and is necessary for those using the ferry or receiving freight. The pilings were put in many years ago although the dock was not completed until years later. It is the understructure which is in such a bad state. It is the only dock in town with a deep enough draft to accommodate the freight boats and ferries.



There is almost no government land on Guana Cay which limits the amount of land available for parking. The local people have made a parking area near the government dock on private land donated by developer Kent Smith.



Every morning workmen go to the cays on ferries. This is the usual crowd on the ferry to Guana Cay and Scotland Cay, averaging 85 men, while another ferry goes to Scotland Cay with a smaller load.

Hope Town Past Students Hold 50th Reunion

By Isobel Sherman

On June 5 former students of Hope Town All Age School celebrated their 50th reunion at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge. One hundred seven former students, friends and spouses came from all over the Bahamas to celebrate this event. Special honorees for the evening were Margaret and Patrick Bethel; Mr. Bethel was their teacher 50 years ago.

Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening was Yvonne Key, who was instrumental in putting the reunion together. Several former

students took part in the program and Mr. Bethel thanked them and wished them all well.

Mrs. Key contacted all of the class members. Only one member, Hank Lundgren, could not be located. Seven students had passed away. They were Pat Malone, Willie Bethel, Joan Russell, George Stewart, Charles Malone, Christine Bethel and Sandra Johnson.

Junkanoo Group Is Formed

A Junkanoo group has started in Hope Town and is preparing to have its first

Please see **Cays**

Page 15



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More News of the Cays



Hope Town's roads are being repaired and resurfaced. Cleare's Heavy Equipment / Caribbean Asphalt has set up a hot mix plant on the cay and is preparing the surface for the hot mix.



Seeing paving company trucks carrying the hot mix to surface the road is a great sight to the residents of Elbow Cay, who have waited for a very long time to see their roads repaired

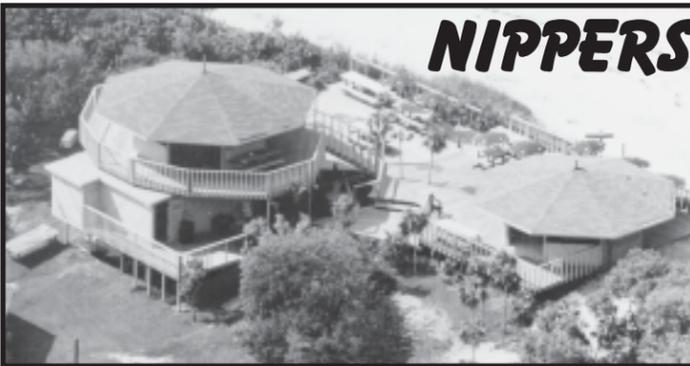
Cays

From Page 14

Junkanoo Rush on July 10th at the ball park during mid day. The group, which is growing, is meeting weekly to prepare and prac-

tice. They are appealing to the public for support in getting supplies and instruments.

The group appreciates support it has received from Snappas, Bellevue Business Depot and individuals assisting the group.



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People in the News

Hugh Cottis is Honoured by The Cancer Society

By Jennifer Hudson

Mr. Hugh Cottis was selected by the Board of Directors and members of the Cancer Society of the Bahamas as an honoree at their 3rd Annual Ball which was held in Nassau on May 29th under the distinguished patronage of Sir Orville and Lady Turnquest.

Mr. Cottis received the Susan Andrews Award for his dedicated and untiring efforts on behalf of the Abaco Chapter of the Cancer Society of the Bahamas. In 1990 he was a founding member of the Abaco Chapter and became President in 1995, a post which he still holds. He is well known for his contribution in the field of education and dedicated service to the community through several other clubs and service organizations.

As President of the Abaco Chapter of the Cancer Society he has worked tirelessly to build up the branch and raise funds through various events and raffles to assist the cancer sufferers of Abaco with donations towards travel and medical expenses. Through his efforts the Cancer Society of Abaco has donated large amounts to the Cancer Caring Centre in Nassau for an Abaco room where Abaco cancer patients will be able to reside whilst undergoing treatment in Nassau. The Abaco Chapter of the Cancer Society of the Bahamas is the most active chapter of all the Family Islands and is second only to New Provi-



Mr. Hugh Cottis

dence in the amount of money it raises for cancer caring.

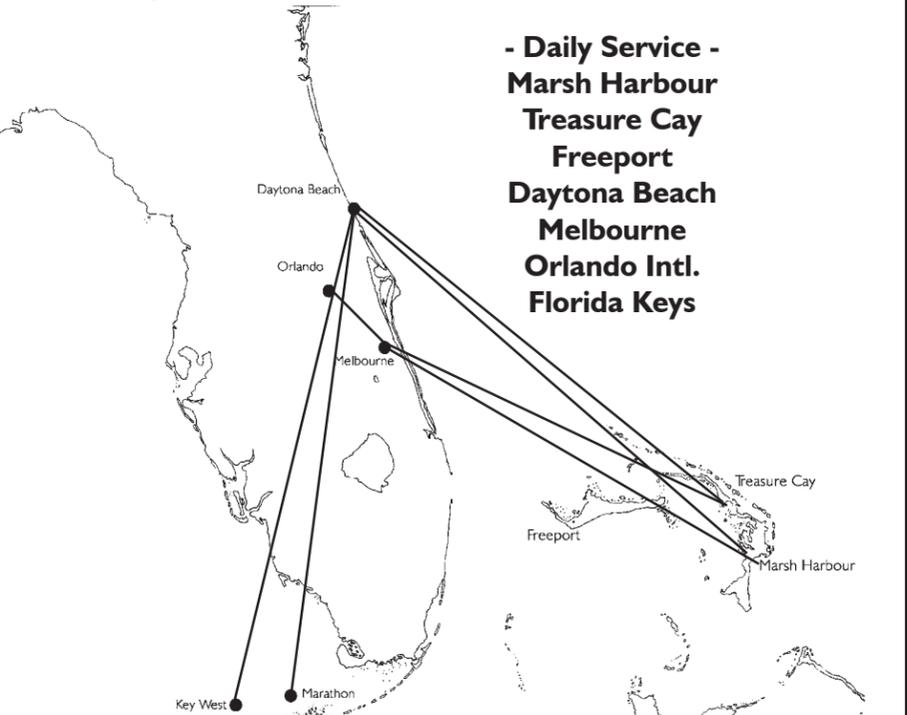
Mr. Cottis, who traveled into Nassau with his wife, Sylvia, to receive this award, said that it was a memorable evening with the Radisson ballroom impressively decorated in the Cancer Society's colours of green and white. "I feel very honoured to have been recognized in this way but I really feel that this award should be shared with all the members of the Abaco Cancer Society," said Mr. Cottis.

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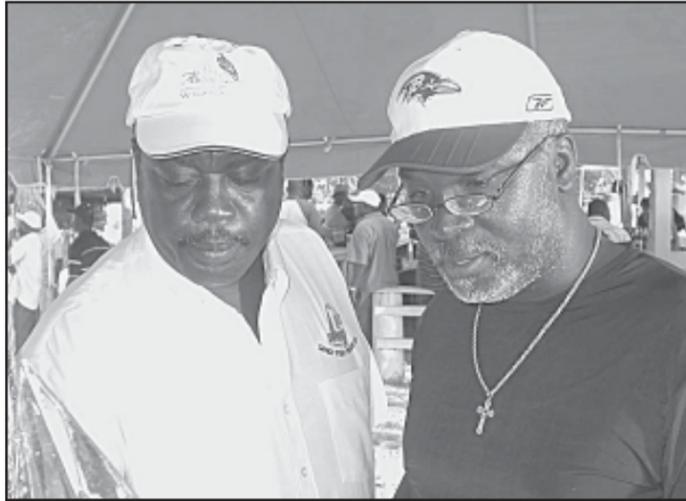


The beach makes it easy to keep cool and comfortable.

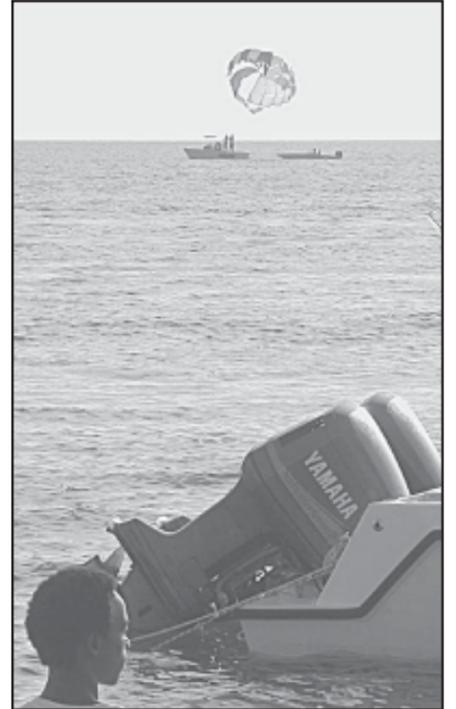


While waiting for the boats at the first mark, a fish pot is discovered and brought up. This one was empty.

Parasailing proved to be a popular pastime at the Sandy Point holiday weekend. The location is perfect for water sports and community events and the town is located along a beautiful long beach.



Mr. Roderick Bowe, Administrator for South Abaco, and Mr. Philip McPhee, Commodore of The Bahamas Boat Owners' Association, are shown admiring the trophies which were later presented to the racing sail boat captains.



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Bahamas Red Cross Officers Visit Abaco

By Portia Jonsson

The month of May was Red Cross month in The Bahamas and to this end the President of the Bahamas Red Cross, Mr. Gerald Sawyer, and the Director General, Mrs. Marina Ginton, visited Abaco to meet with the local member group. Red Cross members from as far north as Fox Town and as far south as Sandy Point attended the meeting held at the Central Abaco Primary School.

During this meeting various topics were discussed including the seven fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the organization and structure of the Bahamas Red Cross, services offered, the budget and the need to form youth groups in our schools.

Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality are the seven fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Humanity: The International Red Cross

and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavors to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

Impartiality: It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavors to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

Neutrality: In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

Independence: The movement is independent. The national societies must always maintain their autonomy so that they may

be able to act in accordance with principles of the movement.

Voluntary Service: It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

Unity: There can only be one Red Cross, one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

Universality: The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.

The Bahamas Branch of the International Red Cross began its work in 1939 under the British Red Cross. The Bahamas Red Cross was recognized by the government as a national society through a Bill passed in Parliament in 1975. The Society was later recognized as the 123rd Member of the International Red Cross on December 16th, 1976.

The Central Council represents the Society as a whole and is its highest body. It meets in an ordinary session annually and is chaired by the President. An Executive Committee carries out the policies and directives of the Central Council and meets once each quarter. A Management Committee advises and gives guidelines to the Director General on administrative procedures. The Financial Committee is responsible to the Executive Committee for the disbursements of funds, the annual budget and auditing of finances.

Many people simply look at the Red Cross as a group needed only in times of disaster but the Bahamas Red Cross is more than that. They provide many services

throughout the Bahamas that are determined by the needs within the various communities. These services include meals-on-wheels, home help service, school milk scheme, disaster and emergency relief assistance, rental of medical equipment, training, first aid service, junior Red Cross/Red Cross youth, after school program for youth, Bahamas Red Cross Centre for Deaf, prison visits and assistance to refugees.

The budget for the Bahamas Red Cross is approximately \$500,000 a year. For the last three years they have been working at a loss and according to Mr. Sawyer, they are only functioning because of the good graces of the Royal Bank of Canada.

The main fund raisings in Nassau come from an annual fair, an annual raffle and an annual ball. Monies are also raised in the sale of Christmas cards and through donations and membership fees.

It is hoped that Abaco will one day have a branch or center opened here. Mrs. Ginton encouraged the formation of youth groups in our schools. She also advised that elections should be held every year and officers should be eligible to serve for only two years straight. There should not be one person in the same position forever. This will help to bring about new ideas.

Mr. Sawyer and Mrs. Ginton traveled to Abaco to show their moral support for our Abaco member groups and to lend words of encouragement. They thoroughly enjoyed the interaction and visit and thanked everyone for efforts.

For more information on the Bahamas Red Cross or if you are interested in becoming a member please contact Ms. Barbara Johnson at 367-3898.



Bahamas Red Cross officers were on Abaco last month to encourage local Red Cross members. Shown here are Mr. Gerald Sawyer, President of the Bahamas Red Cross; Mr. Sarone Kennedy; Disaster Officer and Training Officer; Ms. Barbara Johnson, President of the Abaco Branch of Bahamas Red Cross; Mr. Willard Cooper; Assistant Disaster Officer; and Mrs. Marina Ginton, Director General of the Bahamas Red Cross.

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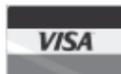
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Police Crime Report

[Due to staff re-assignments within the police department, incidents for some dates are missing.]

In mid-February the Internet Café in Marsh Harbour was broken into. The safe was opened and a large sum of cash was taken, alleged to be in the low six figures. Additionally, the daily float, believed to be in the low five figures, was taken.

A car caught fire on May 11 at sunset near the Abaco Big Bird Poultry Farm. The vehicle valued at \$1,000 was totally destroyed and was insured by its Spring City owner.

A Dundas Town man with an outstanding Warrant of Arrest was apprehended on May 11 on Bay Street in Dundas Town.

A glass entry door was smashed at the Marsh Harbour office of the Abaco Club on Winding Bay during the night of May 19.

Auskell Clinic in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of May 20 and a portable radio and CD player were taken.

Four youth aged 15 - 17 were arrested at Abaco Central High School for fighting on May 20 in mid-morning. They were residents of Spring City, Dundas Town and Murphy Town.

A Dundas Town man was beaten after midnight on May 22 while at a night club in Marsh Harbour. Three men from Marsh Harbour's Pigeon Peas area were subsequently arrested.

The Marsh Harbour clinic treated a Dundas Town man for a stab wound inflicted while at a Marsh Harbour night club during the evening of May 22. He was sent to Nassau for further treatment and is believed to be in stable condition.

A resident of the Mud called the police on May 22 to report a man with a gun outside his house threatening to kill him. He and his mother were assaulted and his house was damaged. A man living in the Mud was later arrested for the offences.

A woman living in Sweeting's Tract, Marsh Harbour, had four tires punctured by her ex-boyfriend who also damaged her bathroom door. This occurred on May 23.

Three men were arrested on May 23 in Hope Town and turned over to Immigration officers for immigration infractions.

A Murphy Town man was arrested while at the ferry dock in Marsh Harbour on May 23 on murder charges.

Electronic World in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the weekend of May 29 and a CD player, a digital camera, two automobile CD players and four digital watches were stolen valued at \$1185.

A Piper Aztec crash landed on the Walker's Cay airstrip on June 1 and was damaged extensively. There were no passengers on board and the pilot was not in-

jured.

A Cedar Harbour man had his cell phone stolen on June 2 while shopping at the M & M grocery store in Fox Town.

A Treasure Cay man was put in fear of his life on June 2 while at a bar there by death threats from a man he knew.

A Pigeon Peas woman was thrown into the water while attending a beach party at Bahama Coral Island. Her cell phone was damaged during this June 3 incident.

A pickup truck parked at the Treasure Cay ferry landing had the driver's door window smashed during the night of June 3. Nothing was taken.

A Fox Town house was broken into on June 4 in the early evening and \$112 was stolen.

Sheba's Boutique on Moore's Island was broken into during the weekend of June 5 and \$45 was stolen.

Someone smashed a hole in the roof of Out Island Internet in Marsh Harbour, entered the premises and stole \$600 during the night of June 6 or 7.

Someone broke into a house in Spring City on June 6 and stole jewelry valued at \$700.

A Dundas Town man suffered minor cuts on his arm during an argument over the assailant's girlfriend. This happened about

midnight on June 8.

Two underage youth from the Mud and two from the Pigeon Peas section of Marsh Harbour were arrested on June 11 for fighting on Forest Drive. They were later released into the custody of their parents.

A Murphy Town man was arrested on June 12 for causing harm.

A Hope Town man was arrested on June 12 for driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

A Dundas Town man had a window on his pick-up truck damaged by his wife after they had an argument.

A pickup truck had the windshield damaged sometime after midnight on June 12 while parked at a night club on Don MacKay Boulevard in Marsh Harbour.

A Treasure Cay gas station had a break-in during the night of June 12. Taken were gasoline and diesel fuel valued at \$2013, a \$96 case of oil and sun glasses worth \$125.

Sea Star Car Rentals on Nathan Key Drive in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of June 13 but nothing appeared to have been taken.

A woman living in the Mud reported on June 13 that her ex-boyfriend from Snake Cay came to her house and threatened to kill her. This has been ongoing since they broke up eight months ago.

Corrections

We regret that in the June 1 issue of *The Abaconian* the caption under a picture of young surfers did not identify Ali Boyce, who is third from the left.

We also incorrectly stated the GPA of Shaquale Jones, which should have been 3.95

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Viewpoint Looking Back Now

By Lee Pinder

Over 200 years of private use of the land where many generations of Cherokee families have kept field, hunted and used for their personal recreation is now coming to a close.

Yellow Wood, Winding Bay and The Bluff have been almost an exclusive area to Cherokee people up until very recently due to its geographical location on the island of Abaco and unique positioning near Cherokee. It is a natural habitat to the white-crown pigeons and morning doves and also flocks of Abaco parrots have been known to feed there. The wild boar wander through the underbrush and the illusive land crabs dig their holes there, not to mention the many gifts from the sea and native fruits of the land.

This land has literally been Cherokee's private food store supplying its residents with seasonal lobster, crabs and pigeons for their stewing pot and an occasional sweet potato thief and ever-present, destroyer of their vegetable gardens, wild hogs (which for some was their only supply of fresh meat to add to their daily diet.)

All these benefits will now become a thing of the past. The parrots, white-crowned pigeons and wild boar we hope will relocate to a less inhabited part of Abaco, but the land crabs will have to be completely done away with because it wouldn't do for a horse to step in one of their holes and break a leg. The few farmers who are left will all have to find other less prolific plots of land to cultivate and the native fruits are now barred to us by "No Trespassing - Private Property" signs.

Before the tarred main road was cleared into the settlement of Cherokee in 1986,

getting to this area was not easy going. A farmer or hunter had to take a shallow water skiff through the creek or walk the track road which was little more than a three-foot wide path hacked through the bush over a two or three mile journey. The fishermen could go outside around the point to the open ocean, sometimes at risk to their personal safety.

Awhile back Cherokee was described in a magazine article as "rising from the doldrums," describing our circumstances, but not necessarily intended as a compliment. Is progress always better? Maybe and maybe not. Over the years I listened to various people recall their childhood or heard "storytellers" indelibly imprint on my thinking the true message of a memory they chose to share. These little snippets of history often reveal some of the worst of times even though they now seem to be a magical time and remembered fondly.

We can never really go back and try to preserve yesterday; it is an impossibility. But remembering and continuing to retell the old stories make them that much more valuable. These stories serve to guide us and feed us when we are hungry for understanding. With our modern lives so transfixed with television, computers and cell phones, most of us can appreciate a look back to a simpler life.

So, are we gaining or losing? Who can say? But, will it be different? You bet! The Abaco Club now being built on our doorstep at Winding Bay will bring many changes to our lives in Cherokee; hopefully, it will only enhance our surroundings and bring good things to Abaco. However, there is a bit of satisfaction in knowing that they can never take away our memories.

Second Murder Suspect Is Charged



A second person has been charged in the death of Jermain Thompson, whose body was found in a blue hole on April 9. Omar Knowles of New Providence was charged in the Magistrate's Court in Marsh Harbour on June 7 after he was arrested in Nassau. Previously, Ian Knowles of Murphy Town was charged with Mr. Thompson's death. The body, wrapped and bound with duct tape and chains and fastened to a cement block, was discovered floating in a blue hole near Bustic Bight. The body was recovered with the assistance of Mike Parotti of Murphy Town. Mr. Knowles is shown on the left outside the court room in Marsh Harbour.

Bahamasair Will Impose a Surcharge

By Isobel Sherman

Bahamasair recently announced that they will be adding a surcharge to all tickets effective immediately. This is due to the rising cost of fuel. On all domestic flights the surcharge will be \$6 for each segment or \$12 for a round trip. For international flights a \$10 surcharge will be charged for each segment.

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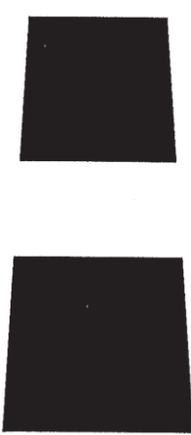
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Summer Programs for Kids

By Portia Jonsson

Summer is here, school is out and the question at hand is: What are you going to do with your kids? The biggest question is how to keep them safe and happy while you work during the summer months. Fortunately, there is a slew of wonderful programs for children of all ages this summer.

The Cyber Learning Center is hosting a summer program at their school offering mathematics, reading, handwriting, computers and tennis. A maximum of 24 students will be allowed. The program began June 14th and will go until July 30th. The times are 9 a.m. - 12 noon or 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. For further information call 367-5757.

Power Builders Vacation Bible School will be held at Abaco Central High School. Classes begin July 5th to July 30th, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. for children ages 9-13. There is a \$25 weekly fee per child and lunch will be provided everyday except Thursdays. A limit of 30 students will be accepted. Applications forms may be collected from and sub-

mitted to Ms. Farrington at Abaco Central High on or before June 30th. For more information call 367-2334.

The Assemblies of God will be staging its annual Bahamas Youth Camp at Camp Abaco. The Youth Camp is divided into three groups: Junior Camp for ages 7-9 from July 5th - July 10th, the Intermediate Camp for ages 10-12 from July 12th - July 17th and the Teen Camp for ages 13 and up from July 19th - July 24th. Special features will include quizzes, puppet shows, stories, inspiring services, camp choir, swimming, games, gospel films, skits, athletic events and great meals. For applications and more information call 366-3021 or 477-5144. Applications should be mailed to Camp Abaco, P.O. Box AB-20595, Marsh Harbour, Abaco.

Many churches like St. Andrews Methodist and Marsh Harbour Seventh Day Adventist put on Bible schools during the summer holiday. Check with them for more information and details concerning dates and times.

7th Graders Salute Their Fathers

Thanks Dad

Thank you, Dad

Thank you, Dad, for taking me in and raising me. Thanks for teaching me how to shoot pool and brake. Dad, thanks for always being there for me and having my back when I needed you to. I also want to thank you for putting up with some of my grief and bad behavior. Thank you so much for helping me and cheering me on in school. I do very well because you give me the confidence to go to school everyday with the highest and hardest work that I can do. Thank you for just being the best dad you can be. I love you. Happy Father's Day.

Love, Scott Spraker, Jr.

My Daddy's Great

I love my daddy because he is special to me and he is a good father. I love my father because he loves me and he cares for me. He is a fun dad. He can be strict at times but I love him. My dad is there for me, that's why I love my dad.

Love

Felisa Sawyer

Why I Love My Grandfather

I love my Grandpa because he took me in. He had an extra mouth to feed and he

did because he cared. He made sure that I was not starving. He's still working hard making sure there's food on our table, clothes on our backs and shelter over us. He loves me and I love him. He is a very hard working man. He is a strong man inside and out. Secondly, he is a true friend, a grandpa. Anytime I see his face, he makes me feel overjoyed. So Happy Father's Day. I love you, Grandfather.

Gregory H. Deal

Police Officers Train on Computer



Three Abaco Police officers are receiving computer training in using a crime management system. WPC Karoleann Darville spent one week teaching Cpl. Bartlett, Sgt Leon Wilchcombe and PC Roy Knowles to use a program which is tied into several offices in Nassau including the hospital, vehicle information at Road Traffic and crime data in the Police Department. This system will allow the police to be much more thorough and will make for a superior police force.

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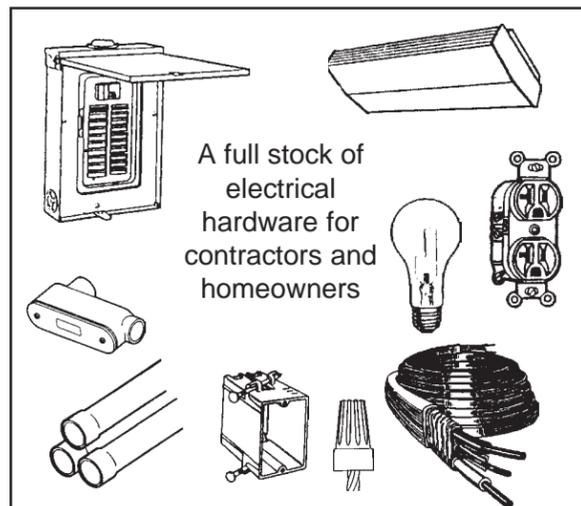


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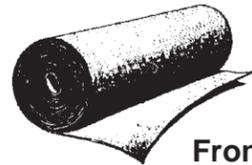
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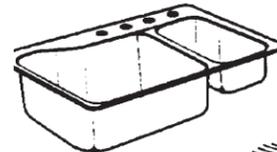


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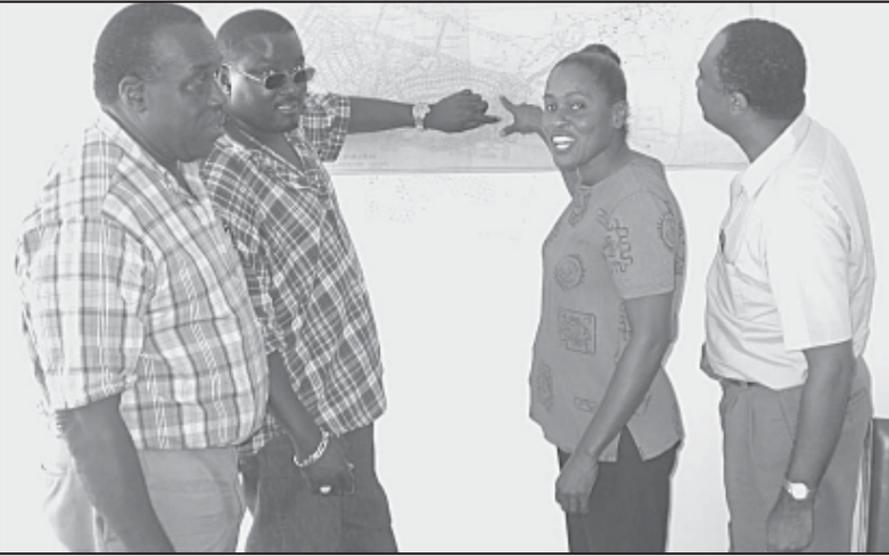
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Central Pines Sales Are Reviewed



Mr. Strachan and Mrs. Greta Culmer review available lots in the Central Pines Estates with Mr. Gibbs, local housing officer on the left, and Mr. Melviin Seymour, Permanent Secretary with the Ministry of Housing on the right. Two hundred fifty lots have been sold of the 423 total. Seven families are now living in the subdivision and there are 150 lots still available. Twenty-three of these have been offered to individuals and the Ministry is waiting to see if they are accepted. Two mini shopping malls have been proposed to service the growing area and are being discussed. The Ministry of Education has 12 acres reserved in the middle of this subdivision but they have not announced their plans for this property. Possibly this would be used for a College of the Bahamas campus extension. The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute is considering a site for a potential trade school. Mr. Seymour reviewed applications with Mr. Gibbs and brought letters of acceptance for distribution. While here he toured the Central Pines subdivision and the new subdivision in Sandy Point.

College Life Means New Beginnings

By Portia Jonsson

This year about 135 students are graduating from high schools throughout Abaco. Many of them will be heading off into the wonderful world of higher education. That means: College. College is a lot different from high school and their freshman experience will definitely make an impression of them. As the college quest has drawn to a close so a new journey begins, and the big questions are already looming: "What will college be like? Can I handle college life? Will I fit in?"

Going to college is a time filled with anticipation, some anxiety and wonderful discoveries. A student's first year of college can be very difficult. Suddenly they have to leave their family and friends and be "alone in the world." Because of that, adjusting can be a challenge. Adjusting means dealing with a multitude of issues such as separation, anxiety, homesickness, independence, displacement, dating, sex, money management, laundry, roommates, changing values, grades, parental expectations, time management and more.

Most colleges offer some kind of orientation or advising program either during the summer before registration or just before

the semester/quarter begins. Going to college means learning the rules of a new culture and the orientation program will help them make the necessary adjustments by introducing them to many aspects of campus life.

These tips will help make freshman year at college a little easier.

- Shop early for the best selection of used books.
- Expect to feel lonely, frightened and isolated, but don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Understand that support systems are essential for survival.
- Try not to eat alone for the first few weeks. Realize that college is not a contest. Learn at your own pace.
- Understand your college's policies and code of ethics.
- Ask questions of the faculty. Remember no question is dumb question.
- See your advisor on a regular basis.
- Maintain a positive attitude.
- Remember that success is largely dependent on motivation and determination.

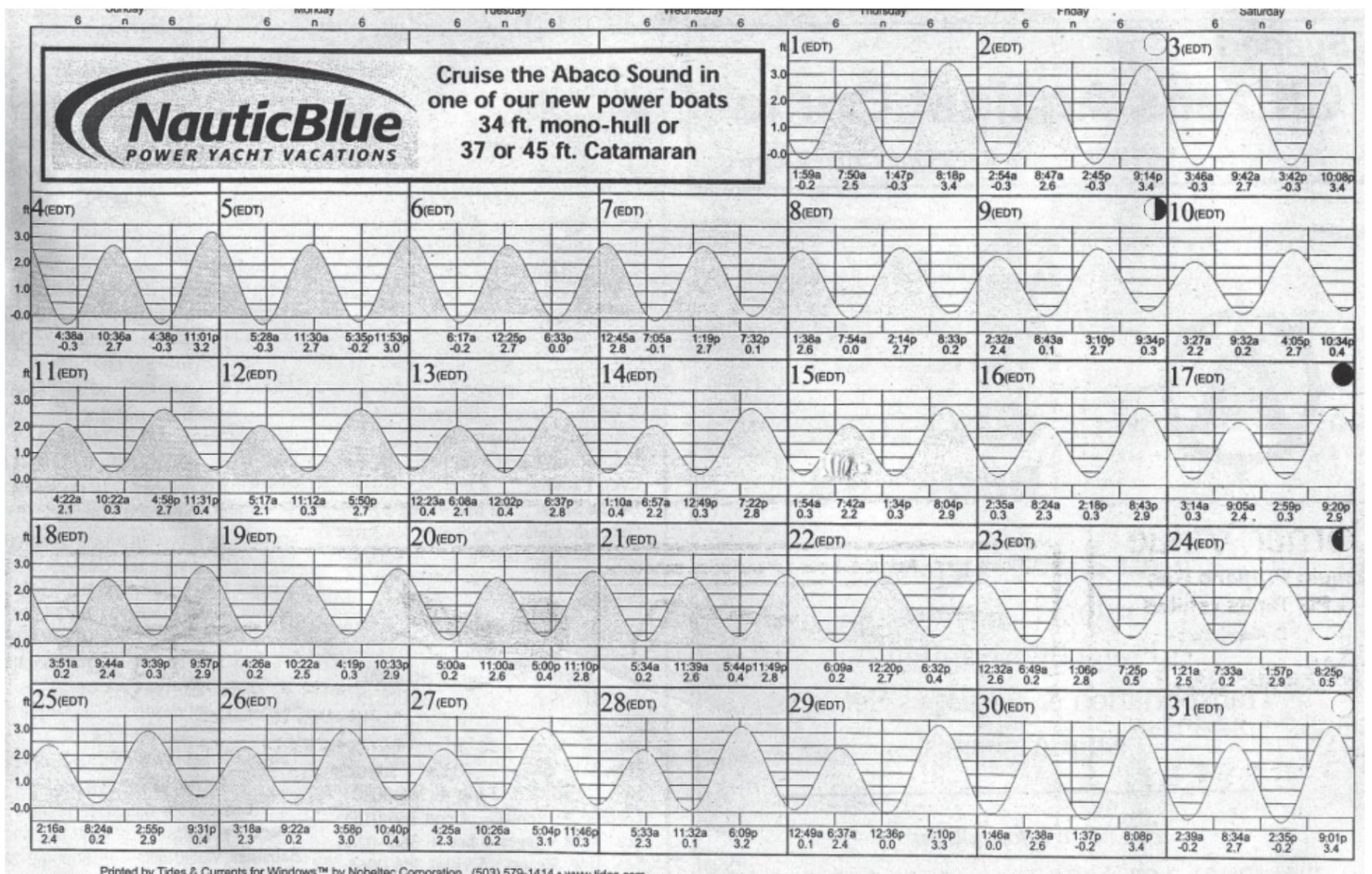
It's at college where you will meet friends you will have for a lifetime. It's also a time when you are free to do whatever you want. Free to be yourself.



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More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 5*

Minister's words about his government creating unprecedented economic growth throughout The Bahamas in its first term in office. Regarding Exuma, Rum Cay and San Salvador, The Bahamas has already changed. Mr. Rigby said when the PLP came to office Club Med in San Salvador was closed. Now, there is full employment in San Salvador. According to Mr. Rigby, this government will be the first government to run on its own record in the next general election. Each island will benefit and persons' lives in the family islands will be transformed. Mr. Rigby envisaged more money and more jobs and people feeling good about being PLP's. He challenged everyone to take advantage of what is happening in our country.

In August of this year Mr. Rigby said he hopes to be here conducting a training session and sees no reason why it can't be done. He is also in the process of reviewing the party's constitution. A Constitution Committee has been formed which is chaired by Mr. Valentine Grimes and in need of representation from Abaco. Mr. Rigby called on persons to be visible and concluded his message by saying that he trusts that this meeting is the beginning of fresh air in South Abaco.

Also bringing remarks during the meeting was National General Council member for South Abaco, Mr. Gary Sawyer, who asked for everyone's support in working together to get the branches up and running. It is his belief that his party can have wonderful branches in South Abaco. He further added that he is ready to get "rolling" organizing the branches.

Before the meeting ended the floor was opened for questions and comments.

Fitness Centre Opens in Spring City

By Portia Jonsson

Spring City residents can now lose weight, get healthy and have fun at the same time at the new Spring City Fitness Centre. The gym, located in the community center and opened in May, offers leg machines, squat machine, stair master, flat bench press, calf machine and bikes.

The gym is operated by Uriel "Big U" Delancy, who has over 15 years experience in body-building and fitness training. Gym rates are \$1 daily, \$7 weekly or \$25 monthly. Hours are 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays and 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturdays. Mr. Delancy wishes to obtain some new gym equipment so for more details or to sign up, call him at 375-3637.

New Library Hours

By Isobel Sherman

The Marsh Harbour Community Library will have reduced hours beginning on June 30. During the month of July and the first two weeks in August the library will only be open on Mondays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. The computer room will be closed from June 16 until September 6.

The month of June is the time to bring in

Church Service

By Isobel Sherman

As part of the celebrations of National Youth Month a church service was held on May 23 at the Church of God in Dundas Town. Bishop Earl Campbell of that church delivered the sermon, urging the youth to have a goal and a plan to reach that goal. He admonished them to always keep their eyes on God.

It was unfortunate that the attendance of youth organizations and leaders was poor.

Chamber *From Page 2*

employed in finding suitable positions. Employment levels on Abaco are quite high. Her office supports all labour laws and industrial relations. She is the one who deals with job complaints.

Mrs. Nairn brought out the fact that the development on Winding Bay has increased employment levels on the island. This has been very good for men as the development now has 46 Bahamians on its payroll. However, at this time there are not many jobs for women. By September and October the company will be hiring domestic help and wait staff. Mrs. Nairn brought out that we may not be ready for this required help. She feels we need a training facility and would like to see hotel training courses taught here by the College of The Bahamas. Only 20 percent of our high school graduates continue their education and the rest need training. If we do not train our young people, then people with skills from other islands will come to fill positions.

At this time most job opportunities are in construction and fishing. Other areas of employment include restaurants, hotels, shops, all customer related services.

She urged employers to abide by the labour laws. She is aware that some employers intimidate their employees and this needs to stop.

The topics brought up during the informal question and answer period after the talks kept most of the 17 persons interested to stay well over the normal adjournment time.

Pathfinders *From Page 1*

and partially by Mrs. Rhonda Hull of Marsh Harbour.

This year the foundation raised funds by holding an auction which was very successful. Additionally, a sailboat has been donated to be sold.

The Pathfinders Scholarship Foundation was set up by Mr. James Blumberg of Hope Town to benefit Abaco young people. Mr. Blumberg announced that Mr. Michael Albury of Man-O-War has been named co-chairman of the foundation. Mrs. Kathy Weldon, secretary of the organization, coordinates and manages the day-to-day affairs, receiving applications, keeping in touch with the students, advising them and encouraging them. Mrs. Weldon mentioned that the application now includes an essay which will give an additional assessment of each student.

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.

The AA group and the AIA non group meet in the Treasure Cay Community Center on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

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Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

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General for Abaco

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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



Visitors' Guide



Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Abaco Chamber of Commerce

367-5822 • Fax 367-5823

abacochamber@abacoinet.com

Area code 242 unless listed



Emergency Services		
Ambulance - Marsh Harbour - Trauma One		367-2911
Police - Marsh Harbour		367-2560
Fire - Marsh Harbour		367-2000
Fire - Dundas Town	367-2935 or 4935	
Fire - Hope Town		VHF Ch 16
Fire - Green Turtle Cay		365-4133
Fire - Man-O-War		365-6911
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas	Marine VHF 16	
Hope Town 366-0500,	Marsh Harbour 367-3752	
Guana 365-5178,	Treasure Cay 365-8749	

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 passengers above two		
• Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:		
Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr		\$12 + \$3
Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town		\$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market		\$10 + \$2
Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto		\$ 6 + \$2
Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town		\$10 + \$3
Murphy Town to Shell Sta		\$14 + \$4
Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house		\$14 + \$4
Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house		\$14 + \$4
Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house		\$16 + \$5
Great Cistern		\$20 + \$5
Spring City		\$15 + \$5
Snake Cay		\$35 + \$10
Treasure Cay		\$60 + \$10
Casuarina Point		\$60 + \$10
Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores		\$70 + \$10
Little Harbour or Cherokee		\$80 + \$10
Crossing Rocks		\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point		\$135 + \$10
• Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:		
Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore		\$ 2 each
Jib Room		\$ 3 each
Golden Harvest		\$5 + \$3
Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock		\$ 6 + \$3
Government Freight Dock		\$ 7 + \$3
Gov. Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance		\$ 9 + \$3
Mother Merle restaurant		\$10 + \$3
Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour		
Children under three - free • Uncaged pets - as people		
Luggage \$.50 each over four, Surf boards \$3.00 ea.		
• Between 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		357-6684
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
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town		366-0431

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 Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT
T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25 , call for time

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.
 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 • Rev 27May2004

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	50	F	366-0065
Spanish Cay			
Spanish Cay Marina	75	F	365-0083
Guana Cay			
Orchid Bay	32	F	365-5175
Boats 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		367-2963
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 Guana		
		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
Dive Guana Boats & bikes		365-5178
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	Theodore Sawyer
Nicholas Roberts		Will Sawyer
Derrick Gailor		Marty Sawyer
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133	Noel Lowe
Vernal Burrows		Junior Albury
Kendall White		Randy Sawyer
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		
		366-2111
		366-2177
		366-2115
		366-2107
		366-3058
		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		
Blue Water Grill	\$\$\$	365-5230
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$	365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$	365-5143
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	\$\$\$	365-4

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Tel: (242) 352-7421
Fax: (242) 352-2857

Abaco

Queen Elizabeth Dr.
P.O. Box AB-20666
Tel: (242) 367-4204
Fax: (242) 367-4206

Eleuthera

Queen's Highway
P.O. Box EL-25190
Tel: (242) 332-2862
Fax: (242) 332-2863

email: imbabaco@coralwave.com



The Abaconian

SECTION B



SECTION B JUNE 15, 2004

Little League Competes With Local Teams

Labour Day in Murphy Town Saw Fast Baseball Action

By Isobel Sherman

Over 100 Little Leaguers from Grand Bahama traveled to Abaco to play baseball with the Abaco Youth in Action baseball teams over the Whit Monday holiday weekend.

Games were played at the ballpark in Murphy Town. Beginning on Friday night, May 28, and continuing all day Saturday and Sunday. As of Saturday afternoon the Youth in Action teams had failed to win a game but the exposure of playing much more experienced and seasoned players can only improve on their skills.

One of the interesting observations was the number of parents who traveled from Grand Bahama to see their children play and the lack of parents from Abaco who came to watch their children. Over 100 young people participate in Abaco Youth in Action, yet there were fewer than ten parents there watching their children play teams from another Family Island for the first time.

Abaco Youth in Action had refreshments on sale throughout the tournament.

Please see **Sports**

Page 2



Little League teams from Grand Bahama traveled to Abaco over the Labour Day holiday weekend to compete with local teams. Although the Abaco teams did not win, it was a good experience for the youth. The local teams were from several Abaco communities.

657 Pound Blue Marlin Wins Tournament for Rum Bum

The *Rum Bum* team literally captured the Treasure Cay Championship during the final hour of fishing to win the fourth leg of the 2004 Bahamas Billfish Championship series. *Rum Bum* started the final day of fishing in first place with 1600 points; a mere 221 points ahead of team *In-Flight*. By late

afternoon *In-Flight* had managed to release a blue marlin and the 400 points put *In-Flight* in first place. However, at 3:26 p.m. with 34 minutes of fishing remaining, the *Rum*

Please see **Tournaments** Page 16

Traffic Infractions Will Be Targeted



The Royal Bahamas Police Force on Abaco will be emphasizing traffic violations more as the department will soon have four motorcycles and several specially trained officers. Over the Labour Day holiday weekend there were five roll over accidents, each vehicle rolling over twice. There were no serious injuries due to passengers wearing seatbelts. Act. Supt. Clarence Russell will be instructing his officers to charge motorists for a wide variety of violations such as running a red light or not stopping at a stop sign.

High Schools Hold Graduations



The graduating class of Agape Christian School proudly displays their diplomas. The students are, front row, Megan Albury and Donnika Rolle, in the back row, Zach Pinder, Ryan Patterson, Jevaughan Toote and Dawson Malone. This month will see about 140 new graduates on Abaco, many of whom will be going away for further education. Those who do not go away will be looking for jobs.

Agape Christian School Graduates Six

By Isobel Sherman

Under the theme *Undeniably Different* Agape Christian School held its second graduation ceremony on May 28. Six students, four boys and two girls, received diplomas signifying the completion of 12 years of school. This was the first time that Agape had boys graduating. Held at Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel, the graduation ceremony highlighted the diversity of the graduating class. The class of 2004 represented Treasure Cay, Dundas Town, Marsh Harbour and Man-O-War.

Guest speaker for the evening was Pastor David Cartwright of the Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel, who spoke on

the difference and variety in all that God created. He wished the graduates success as they continue with their lives in what he termed a "new chapter" in their lives.

Valedictorian Dawson Malone thanked the faculty at the school and urged his fellow graduates to always keep God first in their lives.

In addition to the Valedictorian Award Dawson received awards in five subject areas and certificates in four additional subject areas. Salutatorian Megan Albury received certificates in five subject areas. They received the super honor roll awards with GPA from 3.55-3.95.

The class presented the school with a

Please see **School**

Page 4

Sports News

Three Were Selected for All Star Team

By Isobel Sherman

Three young men from the Abaco Youth in Action baseball team were selected by the Little League coaches from Freeport to be on an all star team which will compete in a Little League Tournament in Puerto Rico this coming July. The three boys are Stanley McIntosh, a Grade 9 student and Henry Williams III, a grade 10 student, both from Abaco Central High school, and James

Martin, a grade 9 student of St Francis de Sales School. Each team member is expected to pay for all his expenses. This is the first time players from Abaco have been invited to play. Also selected is Lynden Davis Jr. a grade 8 student at St Francis de Sales School and a regular member of the Little League team in Freeport.

Youth Compete on Grand Bahama

Over the Labour Day weekend Abaco Youth in Action took two all-star basket-

ball teams to Grand Bahamas to compete in the HOYTES Basketball Tournament. The one team was under 12 and other team under 15. Both Abaco Youth in Action teams won their division. Mrs. Elva Davis of Abaco Youth In Action said the support the teams received by persons in Freeport who were either in Freeport for the holiday weekend or live in Freeport was fantastic.

13 & Under Boys Championship Game

Youth In Action	30
Hoytes Team	5

Youth In Action had a balance scoring attack.

Lynden Davis scored 7, Arlington Wells scored 5, Chaz Darville scored 6, Kingsley Cajuste and Codero Carey scored 4 each.,

TyQuan Clarke and David Vilma had 2 points each. Lynden Davis, Jr. was named tournament MVP with an average of 13 points per game.

15 & Under Championship Game

Youth In Action	20
Hoytes Team	16

This was a strong defensive game.

Desmond Sands had 11 points for Hoytes. Youth in Action balance scoring again proved useful. They played team ball and came away with the win.

Adrian Mitchell scored 8 points, Sidney Archer had 4 points, Elliott Stuart, Henry Williams and Sammy Cornish each had 2 points each. Adrian Mitchell was named tournament MVP.



North Abaco team 15-16-year-old players



North Abaco team 13-14-year-olds



Youth in Action 13-14 year-old team

Aisle of Palm Realty



Aisle of Palm Realty
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Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
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Fax 242-367-0081
email: brent@aisleofpalmrealty.com
web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com



Brent Cartwright

BEST BUYS IN ABACO



Hope Town's BEST BUY - #1003 - Situated at rear of an extra large lot of 100' x 170', a turn key two story, two bed, two bath cottage on an elevation, with base storage capacity. Sea of Abaco views from second story porch. Suitable for owner occupation or rental. Also plans for main house available for front of property. Priced to sell at \$399,500

Bahama Palm Shores - A large selection of residential home sites with access to a spectacular 8 mile beach starting at \$13,500.



Little Harbour #1086 NEW LISTING - Endless ocean views from this modern two story home offering 2/2 with office, large game room with bar, open and covered patios, back up generator, beach and dock access. Great price at \$564,000



Coral Point - #1007 3/2 home poured to belt on 40' ridge overlooking the sea. 140' + of waterfront and over 1.5 acres of land. Finish your dream home.



Under Contract
Guana Cay #1073 MOTIVATED AND JUST REDUCED - 2/1 cottage in the settlement close to beach and harbour. Ideal location in this picturesque town. \$169,900



Guana Cay #1019 - Two adjacent cottages each with 2/1.5 on two floors. Close to beach and harbour. Ideal rental homes. \$200,000 each or \$347,000 for both.



Tilloo Cay #1021 - Two adjacent parcels with good draft just offshore and excellent elevations. Call for details.

Golf Course Staff Needed

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent
Assistant Greenskeeper

The Abaco Club on Winding Bay seeks an experienced Assistant Golf Course Superintendent to assist with all aspects of the grow-in of its new seashore paspalum golf course which opens in December 2004. Applicant should have no less than 3 to 4 years experience.

Also available - 5 posts for golf course maintenance staff with 1-3 years experience in golf course mowing and other general skills.

Please send resumes and letters of interest to:

Mark Aitken
Golf Course Superintendent
The Abaco Club on Winding Bay
P.O. Box AB 20571
Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
E-mail:
markaitken@theabacoclub.com
Or Fax: 242-366-3568



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

web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

More Sports News

Darts League News

By Jennifer Hudson

The Darts League, which encompasses five teams in Marsh Harbour, has recently added a women's team for the first time and wishes to congratulate these ladies for getting this far as it has not been an easy road for them.

The league would also like to encourage the game of darts throughout the length of Abaco and darts players from Marsh Harbour are willing to travel to show interested persons how to play the game. The same way in which various parts of Abaco have other sports leagues, the Darts League would like to see other darts teams formed.

The champions this year are the D&R Dragons, sponsored by Donald Burrows, and they will be playing in the Champions Cup in Nassau on June 11th. The best teams

from Nassau, Freeport and Abaco compete in this annual event.

A spokesman for the Darts League said, "Abaco should be proud of two members of the local darts league who have made it to the National League for the first time which is a great achievement as it is not easy to reach this standard." Those selected are Lloyd Deveaux, who is a 25-year veteran of the sport, and Cindy Russell, who has made a phenomenal breakthrough onto the darts scene this year having only begun playing darts in January. In the National Masters in May Cindy beat the top two ladies who have been winning tournaments for years to achieve second place. The National Team, comprising eight men and four women, will be playing in Fort Lauderdale for the Caribbean Cup in October.

Players in the Darts League are hoping

to reestablish a project which was begun a few years ago by Mr. Mohammed Rahim, teacher at Abaco Central High School, when he began playing darts after school with the students. Since this no longer takes place, the Darts League would like to get this activity going again as they are concerned at the lack of wholesome after-school activities for the young people of Abaco. This will be one of the concerns addressed at their next General Meeting.

Memorial Day Regatta

After a long hiatus from radio controlled Laser racing, eight sailors gathered for some competitive fun on the first Saturday in June. Despite the unrelenting heat and shifty wind conditions, the sailors battled for bragging rights, at least until the next regatta. Seven races were held in the Abaco Club boat basin. Newcomers Alison, Bob, Paul and Griff mixed it up with the racing veterans. Jim Kaighin dominated the series by winning six of the seven races. Randy Key got his planets aligned and won the last race. Dave Lowe edged out Charlie Cooke in the tiebreaker to take third place. Thanks to Lenore Muloch, who single-handedly took

on race committee duties. For more information, contact Jim Kaighin at 367-3086.

The competitors and their scores are as follows:

First place Jim Kaighin	6
Second place Randy Key	11
Third place Dave Lowe	21
Fourth place Charlie Cooke	21
Fifth place David Muloch	29
Sixth place Bob Ball	30
Seventh place Alison Ball	38
Eighth place Paul Murray	43



Spring City team 15-16-year-olds





Tropical Self Storage

10' x 12' • 12' x 20' • 12' x 30'

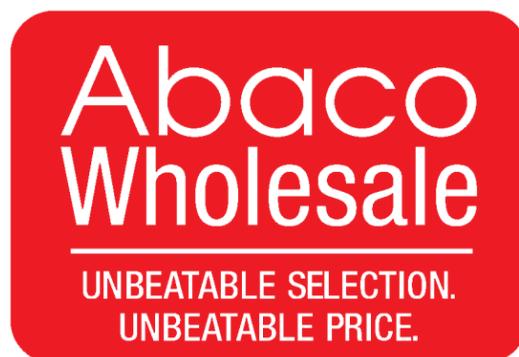
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School News

School From Page 1

check for \$400 to erect a flagpole at the school.

St. Francis de Sales School Parents Enjoy Coffee Morning

By Portia Jonsson

Parents, family and friends of the students in the Pre-K class of St. Francis de Sales School were invited to a Coffee Morning at the school on June 10th. This coffee morning marked the end of the school year and the beginning of the summer holiday. The students entertained all with favorite children songs and poems.

Presentation of awards were presented

by school principal, Mrs. Kumar, who advised the children that there is no shame in showing love for people all around them. She thanked the parents for their continuous support and remarked that the best parents on campus are the Pre-K parents. The students will move up to the Kindergarten class in the new school year.

Thirteen Receive Diplomas

By Portia Jonsson

Under the theme *Succeeding with the Master's Help*, 13 graduates of St. Francis de Sales Catholic School held their heads high with pride as they received their diplomas on June 14th at the Catholic Church.

Delivering the keynote address was Di-

rector of the Abaco Tourist Office, Ministry of Tourism, Ms. Jeritzan Outten, who encouraged the graduates to pursue their goals no matter what. She said when she was asked to be the guest speaker for the evening and saw their theme, she knew she had to do it. *Succeeding with the Master's Help* was the principle instilled in her and her siblings by their parents. They were told that faith without works is dead. She asked the Class of 2004 if they were ready for the real world. They were told that they lived really sheltered lives where their parents provided everything for them.

Ms. Outten reminded them that the world owes them nothing. It is all about what they bring to the table and what they can contribute. No one will give them a job if they cannot prove that they are capable of that job. "There are no handouts," she said. "It's no longer who you know but what you know." Ms. Outten informed everyone of her shock at the low level of competence in persons she interviewed for a job. She again asked the graduates how they were preparing for a career. Studies show that over 5,000 students graduate from Bahamian

schools every year. Seventy percent of these students received a grade C or less. "This is not a profile for success," said Ms. Outten.

In conclusion, she told the graduating class that there are many opportunities out there for them and they are designed for success. "Whatever you make of yourself is your choice. But you only get out of it what you put into it. Remember, the Master built you for success." She wished them God's blessing as they climbed the future filled with success.

Valedictorian Viline Baptiste admonished her fellow graduates not to limit themselves but go beyond mediocrity. She advised them to venture into the world with set goals in mind and reminded them that it is not an easy task. "Efforts combined with the Master's help," she said, "will ensure success."

Also bringing remarks was Mrs. Josephine Kumar, school principal who thanked everyone for their hard work in making the school's successes a reality. She

Please see **School** Page 5



St. Francis de Sales held its graduation ceremony on June 14 Thirteen students received their diplomas. They are shown here with two of their teachers, Ms. Samantha Alfred-Duvernay and Mr. Cecil Simon.

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More School News

School *From Page 4*

congratulated the class of 2004 for reaching this far in their academic achievement. She advised that they have helped to make her grow as an administrator. She reminded them to put God first in their lives.

The Graduating Class of St. Francis de Sales 2004 included Scott Albury, Warren Archer, Charmile Adderley, Tamika Bain,

Lashondra Curry, Angelique Darville, Viline Baptiste, Javano Edgecombe, Bradley Fox, Nykel Murray, Claudine Roberts, Elvin Sawyer and Julian Williams.

ECC Receives Donation

By Isobel Sherman

Every Child Counts School was the recipient of a \$500 donation by the Bahamas Chapters of Pilot Clubs International. Mrs.

Zally Chu, president of the Central Abaco Pilot Club presented the check to Mrs. Lyn Major at the Every Child Counts School.

Students Wins Gold in Competition

By Isobel Sherman

Traz Nixon, a grade 9 student at Abaco Central High School, traveled to Freeport on Labour Day weekend to participate in the Golden Eagles Track Club Track and Field Meet. He won the gold medal in the 200-metre run and the silver medal in the 100-metre run. His coach, Mrs. Elva Davis, is waiting to hear if Traz is selected to be a member of the national track and field team which will compete in Jamaica this summer. Coach Davis says "she is very proud of her star sprinter and that he has the right attitude and work ethics that has made him so successful."

Central Abaco Primary Special Assembly Recognizes Student Athletes

By Portia Jonsson

Earlier this month Central Abaco Primary held a special assembly to recognize

the student athletes who represented Abaco at the Bahamas Primary National Track and Field Meet on May 19th-May 22nd. A total of 36 athletes from Fox Town to Hope Town traveled to Nassau to compete in the meet accompanied by their coaches and parents. Forty-nine schools throughout the Bahamas took part in this competition.

Sixteen medals were brought back to Abaco including five gold. Of the four trophies awarded during the entire meet, two came to Abaco with one going to Treasure Cay Primary and the other to Central Abaco Primary.

During the assembly Ms. Sharelle Carey, a former student of Dundas Town Primary, addressed the athletes. Ms. Carey received a scholarship to play tennis and represent the State of Florida in national competitions. She told the athletes that anyone involved in sports could go off to college on a scholarship. She advised them that they could do anything if they put their mind to it. They were also encouraged to continue to do well in their schoolwork because schoolwork

Please see School Page 6



Students of K5 at Agape Christian School visited Abaco Big Bird Farm for their annual end of school year Field Trip on June 15th. The 20 anxious and excited children could hardly wait to see the baby chicks and there were many of them to be seen - over 16,000. Of these, an estimated 1,800 will die but Abaco Big Bird is trying new methods to reduce this number in half. The children also saw chickens and pigs. Every year each class at Agape Christian School takes a field trip to businesses and places of interest throughout Abaco. This year some of the grades visited Bahamas Select Juice Plant, Treasure Cay and Man-O-War Cay.

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More School News

School *From Page 5*

comes first.
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 - Silver 400m
 - MVP Trophy for 1200m
 Delano Davis - Silver Long Jump
 - Silver 100m
 - Silver 200m
 Olivia Nesbitt - Silver 100m
 Carlissa Nesbitt - Silver 400m
 Lakeria Swain - Gold Long Jump
 Adina Dolcey - Silver 100m
 All of the athletes received 1st and 2nd Place ribbons in their heats

**Long Bay School
 Four Students Graduate**

By Isobel Sherman

On June 15 Long Bay School held graduation for six sixth graders and four twelfth graders. Pastor Derek Benjamin of New Vision Ministries was the guest speaker. Pastor Benjamin based his speech on Matthew 25 and the three men who were given talents. He told the graduates to think of the talents as gifts God has given them opportunities to develop, learn and succeed in life. At the end of their lives God is going to ask what they did with their talents. He stated there are three things which

could impede their talents. The first one is comparing themselves with others. They need to stand alone and not be like everyone. The second thing is their fear of failing which causes them not to grow with new opportunities. The third thing is comfort zone. They are too comfortable in their lives to take risks or seize new opportunities that present themselves. He urged the graduates to use all of the talents that they have been given to by God and keep growing and striving.

Valedictorian for Grade 6 was Leann Albury and Salutatorian was Felisha

Albury. Valedictorian for Grade 12 was Berline Dormeus and Salutatorian was Wonsha Joseph.

Mrs. Jacqueline Collie, Principal, presented diplomas to the grade 12 students: Berline Dormeus, Wonsha Joseph, Pekito Bastien and Virginia Strachan.

Refreshments were served after the ceremony. Mrs. Collie announced that prizes for all grades would be awarded in the fall.

*Please see **School** Page 7*



Earlier this month Central Abaco Primary held a special assembly to recognize their athletes for doing a great job at the Bahamas Primary National Track and Field Meet in Nassau.



Act. Supt. Clarence Russell in charge of Abaco gave the keynote address at the Abaco Central High School graduation held on June 14. The audience was spellbound as he told them the story of a little eight-year-old boy left to take care of two toddlers and the boy's hard work and great responsibility. The students were really shocked when he told them he was that little boy. The message was very effective.

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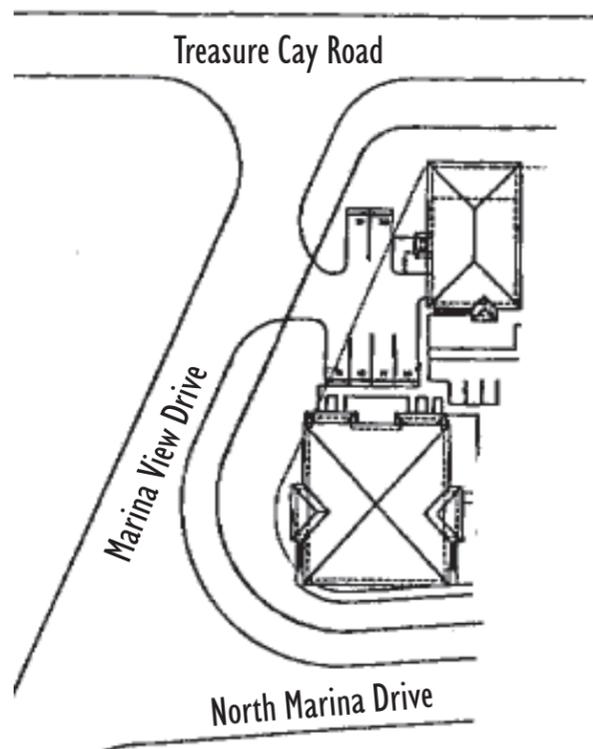
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More School News

School *From Page 6*

Abaco Central High School

By Isobel Sherman

New Intercom System

The class gift of the graduating class of 2003 of Abaco Central High School was the money to install an intercom system. Mr. Ryan Mootoo, Mrs. Zally Chu and Ms. Ingrid Gray were the home room teachers of the Class of 2003 and Mr. Mootoo along with Principal Benjamin Stubbs was instrumental in purchasing the necessary parts for

the system. The main obstacle to overcome was the strategic placement of speakers around the buildings so announcements could be heard in all classrooms except the Eastern Campus. On May 30 Derek Sands of Freeport installed the system at no charge. Students Kevin Gabriel and Donald Sime helped him. The system will allow announcements to be made and persons can be paged for phone calls.

60 Students Graduate

On June 14 Abaco Central High held its graduation ceremony at New Visions Ministries. The theme was *Never Give Up* In a unique opening the graduates came in with a power point presentation of their graduation photos. As they came in they presented their parents or guardians with a souvenir wine glass.



Shown above are two outstanding students of Abaco Central High School. They are Salutatorian Malisa Singh and Valedictorian Leonard Edgcombe proudly showing the trophies that they earned.

Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Marvin Duncombe, a teacher at the school. The Class of 2004 honoured their late classmate Natanya Gaiter who passed away in Grade 10. Dashinek Charlton, Head Girl, gave an address about the memories of their school years. Salutatorian Malisa Singh thanked the teachers for all their hard work. Valedictorian Leonard Edgcombe thanked his mother whom he called his mentor, his father,

his pastor and the teachers of Abaco central for all they did for him and he also thanked the teachers on behalf of the graduating class.

Guest Speaker for the evening was Act. Supt. of Police Clarence Rolle, Officer in charge of Abaco, whose speech was so inspiring I wrote about it in a separate article.

In his Principal's address Mr. Benjamin Stubbs told the students never to give up and told how a student of the graduating class made great strides after Mr. Stubbs decided not to give up on him and give him another chance.

District Superintendent of Education, Mr. Hezekiah Dean, congratulated the graduates. Mr. Cecil Thompson, Deputy Director of Education and father of Abaco Central High, told the parents to be involved in the education of their children.

A Remarkable Story

Act. Supt. of Police, Clarence Russell was the guest speaker at the graduation of Abaco Central High School. His speech was so inspiring that it deserves a story by itself.

He told a story, a true story; about a young boy whose dying mother had him brought to her hospital room at the age of eight years. His mother gave him the responsibility for his brother and sister who were twins and were one year and nine months at the time. Remember, this young boy was only eight. His father had left the family long ago. When his mother passed away, he and his brother and sister went to live with two women over the age of 65 one of whom was his grandmother. He told how the young boy had to rake the dirt yard to perfection every day as well as keep the outside of the clapboard house clean. He told of toting water from the pump in the early morning hours so the girls would not see him doing it.

The boy grew and became a peanut boy. The grandmother passed on and the boy found him self the head of the house with two younger siblings to care for. By the time he was 18 he had his own tire shop. The boy kept on plugging, never giving up. Today that young man is the Acting Super-

Please see **School** *Page 10*

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Children Enjoy Yoga, Too

By Stephanie Humblestone

Every Thursday afternoon five school-children, three girls and two boys, carry their exercise mats and workout clothes and are ready for their weekly yoga class.

The small group, Wesley Lowe 11, Ellinor Mitchell 9, Aly Boyce 9, Hannah Hayworth 7 and James Boyce 7, show more discipline than most adults. They lay out their mats, get changed and lie down in relaxation pose. They mentally prepare themselves for the class by deep breathing and stretching.

Whether flexing their spines in cat pose, balancing on one leg in classic tree posture or imitating a roaring lion, they have fun. Besides the obvious benefits derived from the exercises, yoga sharpens the child's ability to focus and improves coordination and self discipline.

Each yoga exercise is followed by a short period of relaxation and visualization. After a grueling day at school children enjoy relaxing in between doing the more challenging postures. It gives them an opportunity to relax their minds with their peers.

Yoga exercises improve flexibility, something lost when children start school and have to conform to social conventions such as sitting long hours hunched over a desk. Their spines suffer. One of the main benefits of yoga is strengthening and improving spinal flexibility.

Each child has a favorite pose. For little Hannah it is the shoulder stand. "I like to do it by myself at home," said Hannah, who

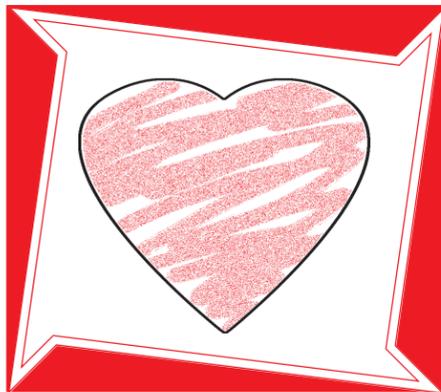
enjoys putting on her yoga videotape and following along. The little girl had a head start; her mother Cindy practiced yoga throughout her pregnancy.

James and Aly Boyce say they will do yoga "forever," although sister and brother, they have very different preferences and abilities. Whereas James enjoys and excels at the King Cobra and the Crow, Aly's favorite postures are the Cat and Relaxation pose. The latter, seemingly simple, is the hardest to achieve.

Ellinor likes the Laying Down Spinal Twist, and Wesley, who is relatively new to yoga, likes the Bow. "I watched members of my family, especially my aunt, doing yoga, and I love it." enthused Wesley.

One of the highlights of the class is walking with books on their heads to improve their deportment. At first the books would topple, but after much practice they can now keep them in place while walking on tip-toes.

Over the past year the children have made up over 40 poses. Some are drawn from objects around them such as the Clock, House and Vase while other like the Mermaid and Whale reflect their surroundings.



It Pays to Advertise

North Abaco News

School Leaving Service Held

By Rayallan Fredericks

The 5th Annual North Abaco School Leaving Service was held on the 10th of June at End Time Harvest Ministries. This event takes place every year for the graduates who will be leaving S.C. Bootle High School. This event was a success and the graduates appreciated it very much.

Seventeen S.C. Bootle students from North Abaco attended the service. They were entertained with songs and encouragements. The speaker for this event was Rudy McKinney, who spoke expressively and inspired the students to become somebody in life.

After the service the students were taken to dinner where they were entertained with music and jokes while enjoying a delicious meal. The evening was a great experience for the graduates because the students had waited long years for their turn to be at the School Leaving Service.

Scouts Receive Honor

By Rayallan Fredericks

On 22nd May Scout Troop Pack #4 received the Youth Organization Award for North Abaco. This award goes to a youth organization that has had a positive influence on the lives of young people. Troop Pack #4 is the only scout group in North Abaco. These scouts usually clean their community, perform at different youth programs and help elderly persons. They show exemplary behavior that every young person should follow.

These scouts are hardworking and outstanding youths in Abaco. Consisting of 11 members, the group has impacted their community in an extraordinary manner. They were excited to be honored for their marvelous work. Living by the Law and Promise of the Scout Association, Troop Pack # 4 continues to be amazing young role models.

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Forum Was Held on National Youth Service

By Miquell Miller

It has become evident that many of our youth of today are straying away, leading to destructive lives. However, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture has proposed a National Youth Service in correcting youth ethics of the nation. From May 9 to 11th the first National Youth Forum was held. Finally, the youth of our nation got the opportunity to display their thoughts on a proposal that could tremendously affect their lives. During this three-day period many issues were discussed and decided upon concerning the well being of the Bahamian youth,

National Youth Service was once proposed as a bill by Sir Lyndon O. Pindling in 1989 but it was not approved. One reason for its denial was because it was rushed and the benefits were not fully brought to the public's understanding. However, the government has decided to take a different approach in getting everyone's view heard on National Youth Service. They have addressed us, the Bahamian youth, to find out our needs, what we think about the program and ways we can be of assistance.

The program consists of ways to empower youthful minds in the right direction to live healthy lives. The program design features three major stages.

(1) National Pride and Excellence that

targets young people enrolled in schools. This program will be linked to school subjects and existing youth development programs. It will instill in the youth's mind discipline pride for country, civic awareness and many other positive transformations. The program ensures that our youth will be taught moral values at a young age even if it is not fully developed at home.

(2) Transferable Skills that focus on the transition from school to work. This program will enable youth that have finished high school the ability to obtain vocational skills, further academic training and job placement in society. Moreover, it will decrease the overwhelming number of unemployed youth by giving them an opportunity to display their talents.

(3) Restoration aims at the challenged and at risk youth. Youth that are teen mothers, targeted by gangs, have difficulty managing anger or are a first non-violent offender will be taken into this program. This will give these at-risk youth the opportunity to recover from their destructive lifestyles. They will be taught discipline training, character development, agricultural skills, academic education and survival skills training. The program will most likely be set up on a Family Island base that allows these people to flourish in a healthy

environment. After they have successfully completed the program, they will be filtered back into the National Pride or Transferable Skill program.

Concerns that were brought to our attention at the Forum were the detrimental state that many of our youth are in. According to statistic 41.2 percent of school students surveyed admitted to having had sexual intercourse, 55 percent of babies born in The Bahamas are born to unwed mothers starting at the innocent age of 10 and 44 percent of inmates were raised by a single parent, just to name a few! Issues such as law, health and family, were topics discussed that are the areas youths need help in. However, what I have realized and have been told, youths are not the "problem," they are simply the "product" of their environment. Therefore, we as a nation must develop our youth in the correct way, for they are the future.

The National Youth Service is not written as a final proposal. There are still factors that are under review such as target groups, voluntary or compulsory service or combination of both, the role of the private and public sector, operating principles, training and funding. We as youth gave our

views on ways the program should be instituted, funded, commercialized and brought to reality. The International Development Bank has offered to fund The Bahamas in this major process of reviving our youths.

It has come to a stage where we must address the concerns of our youth as a nation before it is too late. The National Youth Service addresses all the values that should have been wired in the minds of our youth but seem to be missing. This proposal will surely not be rushed but will go through a gradual process in consulting the entire nation. Being a youth myself and knowing I have a say in the direction my country is headed inspires me to become a great leader some day. The Youth Forum allowed me to finally speak out on what was on my mind. I felt a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment. It was surely a success. The foundation of the Bahamian government is now strengthening with the thoughts of the entire nation.

Miquell Miller is graduating from Forest Heights Academy this spring and will be attending Ramapo College in New Jersey in the fall. She represented Abaco at the Forum on National Youth Service.

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School *From Page 7*

intendent in charge of the Abaco District. He has earned his Bachelor's degree and is working on his Master's. His sister is an insurance executive in Nassau and his brother who at one time had problems with the law is now a successful contractor in Nassau.

Mr. Russell credits God and the fact that he "never gave up" to the success of his younger siblings and himself.

This speech held the attention of every person present. The Class of 2004 was blessed to hear it and also blessed to hear a moving address at their Baccalaureate Service the afternoon before by Pastor Moncur of the Marsh Harbour Seventh Day Church.

School Registration

Abaco Central High School will be holding registration for new and returning students at the school Monday through Friday

Friends of the Environment Presents



Hints for Helping Our Environment

- Conserve electricity by turning your air conditioning thermostat up.

from 9 a.m. until noon. Fees for returning students is \$100 and fees for new students is \$150. Questions can be directed to the administration of the high school.

It Pays to Advertise

Visitor Drowns

A visitor to Guana Cay, 53-year-old Mr. Kenneth Lee Sargeant apparently drowned on June 15 while swimming with friends. He was visiting from Texas.

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ELBOW CAY OCEAN FRONT HOMES

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

PINEAPPLE BEACH HOUSE



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

Price: \$1,550,000

ATLANTIC HORIZON

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

ELBOW CAY

HOMES & LAND



"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

"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: \$515,000

"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 -

Price: \$233,000

"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

"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.

OCEAN FRONT LOTS

"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.

"MARNIES LANDING" - 1/2 Acre ocean front lot, dock slip in private marina included. Price: \$695,000

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

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HOMES



NEW LISTING

"Down the Way"

Little Harbour - 3 bedroom - 3 bath home - 530' of harbour frontage - over 3/4 Acre - Solar Electric with generator back up - Boat House/Workshop - 2 Garages -Private Dock with Boat Lift - Furnished
#AB 0065 **NEW LISTING** \$1,995,000

Derek A. Lee, BRI
Abaco District
Managing Broker

Joined H.G. Christie,
in 1996.

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Look for H.G. Christie's
Island Breeze Magazine
The Guide to Wonderful
Real Estate Opportunities
Throughout the Bahamas



NEW LISTING

"Surfside"

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates 5 Bedroom, 3 bath home - set on over 1/2 Acre with 100' of Beach-front. Open decks for fabulous ocean views, elevation for Sea of Abaco Views. Fully furnished and equipped.
#AB67- **NEW LISTING** \$1,379,000



NEW LISTING

"Lookout"

Man-O-War Cay - The Creek - 2 bedroom, 1 bath - 1,000 sq.ft. Home with 1,500 sq.ft. of open and covered porch and deck on over 1/2 acre with great views. 50' of Harbour frontage, studio dock house with two beds, kitchen and bath on 66' Private Dock. Furnished.
#AB122 - **NEW LISTING** \$925,000.



NEW PRICE

"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. Furnished -
#AB112- **NEW PRICE** \$1,970,000.



NEW LISTING

"Casa Sirena"

Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,474 sq.ft. Canal Front Home - Over 900 sq.ft. of Covered and Open porches and Decks. Two Car Garage. Private dock for 55' boat and 10,000# Boat-lift for 25' boat. Fully Furnished and Equipped.
#AB121- **NEW LISTING** \$1,035,000

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** - Great Abaco Club - "Villa Douglas" 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
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Pelican Point" - Pelican Shores - 3 bedroom, 3 bath home - 1 bedroom, 1 bath garage apartment - 1 1/2 Acres -private dock with boat-lift - Fabulous Views. - The privacy of a private island with in town convenience. Furnished. #AB67- \$2,950,000
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Harbour View Villa" - 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
Price Upon Request
#AB106
- ★ **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** - "Blueberry Hill" - 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.
- ★ **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.
Excellent Rental Record. #AB93 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Commercial - over 1/3 Fenced Acre - 2,160 sq.ft. S howroom/Office/ Warehouse Building - Great for service business or wholesaler - Good relocation property for businesses expanding into Abaco from Nassau or Freeport. AB110 - \$290,000.

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- **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - "Chameleon Bay" - 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,478 sq.ft. Home. 150' of Treasure Cay Beachfront - over 1 1/2 acres. #AB95 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **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** - "Honey's Home" - 3 bedroom, 3 bath - 1,600 sq.ft. home - 2/3 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal Private Dock with Boat Lift - Great Views. #AB66 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - Treasure Cay Drive - "Steiner House" - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,200 sq.ft. home on two levels - upper level deck - almost 1/2 Acre - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home. fully Furnished. #AB116 - \$925,000.
- ★ **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.



NEW LISTING

"Final Approach"

Treasure Cay - Brigantine Bay - 6 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath - 5,500 sq.ft. Canal-front home on two levels - 100' Dock with 6' depth, Four car garage. Great family home or Corporate retreat. fully and tastefully Furnished.
#AB120 - **NEW LISTING** \$2,290,000.



NEW PRICE

"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 - **NEW PRICE** \$750,000

VACANT LAND

- ☆ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Canal Front Building Sites
☆ #40 - 9,778 sq.ft. - AB5155 - Extra Large Corner Parcel - \$299,000.
- ☆ #41 - 7,070 sq.ft. - AB5156 - Good Elevation - Sea View - \$360,000.
- ☆ #45 - 6,968 sq.ft. - AB5066 - Good Elevation - Sea View - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ☆ **Cabbage Cove** - 1/3 Acre - Sea of Abaco Beachfront Building Sites - Mid-way between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay - #AB5142 - \$118,000.
- ☆ **Elbow Cay** - "Marmie's Creek" - 1/2 acre hillside building sites, a private dock slip for each parcel Fabulous Sea of Abaco views - #AB5114 - from: \$230,000.
- ☆ **Great Guana Cay** - 5.9 Beautiful sea-to-sea acres- South end of Great Guana Cay 395' of Ocean frontage. 160' of Sea of Abaco frontage. 245' of semi-private boat basin frontage. Good elevations for fabulous ocean and sea views #AB5176 - \$2,950,000.
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay Area - "Madera Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. #AB5143 - \$395,000.
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Coco Sound" - 28 prime residential building sites - between Coco Bay and White Sound from 1/4 - 1/2 acre #AB5090 - from: \$59,000.
- ☆ **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.
- ☆ **PRIVATE ISLAND** - "Carrington Cay" - 1.4 Acres - Near Leisure Lee - #AB5147 - \$375,000.



Chris Plummer, BRI
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie,
in 2000.

Based in
Green Turtle Cay

Tel/Fax: (242) 365-4648
VHF - Channel 16
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Kathleen Albury, BRI
Estate Agent
Appraiser

Joined H.G. Christie,
in 2003 after
five years of Real
Estate experience.

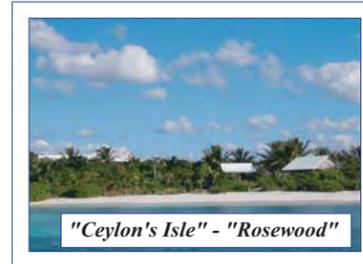
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"Endless Summer"

Marsh Harbour - Eastern Shores - 4 bedroom, 3 bath - 2,700 sq.ft. Home. Private Dock with boat lift on the Sea of Abaco. Some of the most Fabulous Panoramic Views in Abaco. Across the road from Beach. fully Furnished. #AB118 - \$1,500,000.



"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



Margot Lee
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie,
in 1998.

Based in
Man-O-War Cay

Tel: (242) 365-6156
Fax: (242) 365-6229
e.mail: margot@abacoinet.com



John Cash, BRI
Estate Agent

Joined H.G. Christie,
in 2000.

Based in
Treasure Cay

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e.mail: jic@oii.net

A Look at Days Gone by in Bluff Point

By Jennifer Hudson

No one lives at Bluff Point any more and some people have never even heard of it but until 1940 several families called it "home." One such person is Rev. Roland Swain. He is known by many as a taxi driver operating in Marsh Harbour, but the life he knew growing up was very different from his life today.

Rev. Swain was born in 1926 to Lofton Swain and Melvina Simms in the settlement of Bluff Point which was located abreast of Treasure Cay but on the other side of Abaco. Bluff Point was an isolated little fishing village situated on land which jutted out into the sea and had to be reached by boat as there was no inland transportation. The population of Bluff Point occupied between 40 and 50 homes and earned their living by farming on the various cays, fishing, sponging or working at Norman's Castle which was the sawmill after the operation in Wilson City closed down. One of the main resources was sponging. The men would go off for six to eight weeks, come home and clean the sponges which they would then take by boat into Nassau to sell since there was great demand for them there and they could get a good price for them.. Turtling,

sharking and bonefishing in the sounds and creeks was also a means of livelihood. The sharks were taken to Green Turtle Cay where Mr. Harold Lowe was eager to buy them.

It was a hard life for the women of Bluff Point who, apart from taking care of the house, children and cooking, also worked in the fields and went out fishing in ten-foot dinghies to catch whitening fish, brim and jack for their family's table.

A few homes were lucky enough to possess a kerosene fridge and these home owners were able to make a little money by selling ice to the less fortunate home owners. It was apparently difficult to keep up with the demand for this commodity.

At that time Green Turtle Cay was the headquarters for Abaco, being more built up than Hope Town and with plenty of stores. There was also a doctor living in Green Turtle Cay where the sick from Bluff Point had to be taken for medical attention since there was no clinic at the Point. It was a long and arduous journey for anyone seeking medical attention since they had to be taken by boat to the Sand Banks boat landing, then around Treasure Cay point by dinghy to Green Turtle Cay. When a

rage was on, it was necessary to go by dinghy into the creek by the Catholic Church. A fire would then be lit in the road so that the

people of Green Turtle Cay would see the smoke and send a more sturdy boat to transport the sick person to the doctor. Babies were delivered in Bluff Point by the midwife who resided there.

There was a grant-in-aid school at Bluff Point where lessons were taught to the approximately 50 to 60 children by teacher Roland Reckley assisted by monitors. Often the children enjoyed learning their lessons outside under a big shade tree. After the devastating 1932 hurricane when the school was destroyed, classes were held in a wooden building erected on the site of the Baptist Church which was also destroyed. Later, a Brethren Church was built by Dr. Kendrick, an American missionary, who lived in Green Turtle Cay at that time.

In the evenings the young people would play ball, race their home-made gumelemi boats in the bay, spin tops and shoot cotton tail lizards with their bows and arrows. All reading was done in the day since there was, of course, no electricity and kerosene was a precious commodity.

Values were different in those days; strong emphasis was placed by the older people on teaching manners and discipline to the children. Children had less to distract them and so paid far more attention to



Rev. Roland Swain

their lessons and also helped their parents on their farms and in the boats. It was a family oriented time when, says Mr. Swain, "all persons in the community lived like one family. There was no fighting and people shared with one another whether it was a good catch of fish or something off the land." They did have one police constable who operated a petty store though his services as a peace keeper were rather redundant in that close knit community.

Rev. Swain now lives in Murphy Town along with the remaining living residents of Bluff Point and their off spring. The move from Bluff Point to Murphy Town came about after the devastating 1932 hurricane. The government representatives at that time thought it best to move the people from there as it was too isolated from any other communities and communication was very difficult. Government felt that if people were closer to Marsh Harbour it would be easier for everybody as far as transportation and receiving supplies from the mail boat. So between 1939 and 1940 the folks from Bluff Point in the North were brought to Murphy Town and each family was given five acres of land and a house measuring 10 feet by 20 feet. The government provided the supplies and the new home owners helped with the construction under a scheme whereby they worked for two shillings and six pence a day. When the house was completed, they made a payment of three pounds ten shillings to take ownership of the home.

In order to decide which piece of land would go to which family and to save any squabbling, each family pulled a ticket for their lot number. These numbered lots can

Please see **Bluff Point** Page 13



This is one of the original houses in Murphy Town. The residents of Bluff Point suffered extensive damage in the hurricane of 1932. Government made the decision to move them closer to Marsh Harbour. In 1939 and 1940 families were assisted with building materials to build these houses and were then granted five acres per family. The houses measured 10 feet by 20 feet. Most have been demolished by now or incorporated into larger homes.

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People in the News

Tudo Awards Outstanding Student

Charles Darville has been awarded the *Tough As Nails* belt for the month of June. Mr. Jake Stortenbecker, the instructor at hard Knox Vale Tudo, awards the belt every month to the student whom he thinks has been *Tough As Nails* for that month. A student earns this position by earning the most *Nails* or points for the month. Students must memorize Bible verses, work hard, have a good attitude, show up as well as being on time, use techniques properly and show improvement. Charles has done all these and more by assisting Mr. Jake with techniques. The Hard Knox team will be competing on June 26 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Each team member will be

competing in at least two categories. Mr. Jake will be competing in the Professional division and fighting for a \$500 cash prize. The team consists of Thomas Key, Austin Koepp, Keino Sands, Charles Darville and Mr. Jake. If you would like to assist them, you can call Mr. Jake at work at 367-2674 or home 367-5989.



Jake Stortenbecker and Charles Darville

Sports Equipment Goes to Church



Chief Councillor for the Central Abaco District, Mr. Cay Mills, presented sports equipment to Mr. Gary Smith, member of St. Andrews Methodist Church. The equipment was donated by second homeowner Mr. W.D. Willert of Home Products in St. Louis, Missouri.

Bluff Point

From Page 12

still be seen today in the Surveyor's or Crown Lands' Office. The land was a Crown Grant from the King of England and the title deeds bear the King's name. Murphy Town was officially established in 1941 by the Governor of the Bahamas at that time, Governor George Murphy. A few of the original houses can still be seen in Murphy Town though the majority have been demolished and replaced by larger, more modern family homes.

It must have been hard in many ways to leave one's home and familiar way of life in Bluff Point and, according to Rev. Swain, some people were loth at first to leave despite their very hard life there but in the end everyone relocated and settled happily in their new surroundings. About that time Mr. Crockett started paying people to work on his farm growing bananas, sugar cane and vegetables which provided employment for many of the new residents of Murphy Town. Then the S&M Farm and other vegetable farms came along providing even more work.

Settling into a new life in Murphy Town caused the new residents to have to face a situation they had not had to deal with before. That is living alongside people whose skin was a different colour. "In Bluff Point, all the residents were of the same complexion but in moving closer to Marsh Harbour they came up against a segregated line which made settling in rather more difficult," stated Rev. Swain. "However, later the barriers began to be broken down. All agreed that it was a good decision the governor made to establish the community in Murphy Town and everyone soon realised that they were much better off. The young people of today would never manage in Bluff Point!" ended Rev. Swain.

Congratulations



Walker Wong
born April 30
in Nassau to
Buela and Shannon
Wong
of Casuarina Point

The Abaconian Is on the Internet

The Abaconian has moved to a new level with an Internet presence. Beginning with the May 15 issue, it became available on-line just as you see it printed on paper. The home page is a bit bland but that will improve with time. We felt it was more important to begin the process with the actual paper being on-line rather than working to get an attractive home page.

A simple mouse-click on an advertiser's web address will take you direct to their Internet site. To see for yourself go to: www.abaconian.com. Email addresses are linked starting with this issue, June 15, giving readers additional access to our advertisers.

You will see the paper as a PDF file which opens on all computers using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader which is included on the home page for those who need it. *The Abaconian* will open in most web browsers without problems. It takes less than a minute to download 40 pages on a broadband DSL or cable connection.

As time permits, back issues will be converted to a PDF format and be included. Later other relevant Abaco information may be appear.

We feel that putting *The Abaconian* on the Internet will be beneficial to our island. It will give visitors and potential investors an insight into our lifestyle and our diverse communities.

John Bull
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Royal Harbour - Marsh Harbour Lot #26 consisting of 14,583 sq. ft. Offered at: \$120,000
Escape Hatch - Newly furnished and fully equipped 2 bed/ 2 bath condo unit at Regattas of Abaco. Offered at: \$260,000
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 \$165,000 Each 110' X 220'
Marnie's Landing - Elbow Cay 15 Lots 1/2 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
Bahama Palm Shores - 3 Lots 80' x 125' SOLD
Casuarina Point - Residential lot 80' x 125' \$15,000
Marsh Harbour - 13,000 sq ft residential lot next to Chelseas Choice \$33,500 Gross
Guana Cay - Only 6 lots remaining in 15 lot sub-division, selling fast. Offered from \$120,000
Guana Cay - 5 Direct beach front lots starting from \$250,000

Guana Cay Subdivision



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Abaco Air Celebrates 30 Years

By Jennifer Hudson

This year Abaco Air celebrates the milestone of its 30th anniversary and we take a look back at its progress from humble beginnings to the thriving company it is today.

Abaco Air was first established in early 1974 by pilots Capt. Leonard Thompson and Gil Hensler. In January 1984 Andrew Kelly arrived on Abaco and took over the maintenance of Abaco Air's planes. About two years later Mr. Kelly and his wife Denise bought Abaco Air. A year after taking over the company, Mr. Kelly was able to hire a second pilot.

During the early years of Abaco Air Capt. Thompson's clientele had been the wealthy Nassauvian visitors. But Mr. Kelly found it better to rely more on scheduled services, allowing people to purchase only one seat rather than chartering. Abaco Air now offers two scheduled flights every day to Nassau, two flights to Moore's Island on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and flights to Eleuthera on Fridays and Saturdays. Frequent flyer bonuses are offered. Charter flights can still be booked but they do not play such a major role in the airline's operation.

Now in the airline's 30th year three pilots, Shannon Wong, Edrick Symonette and

Mr. Kelly himself fly the Abaco Air planes which consist of three British Islanders and two Aero Commander 500's, all twin engine aircraft. The Islanders carry nine passengers plus the pilot while the Aero Commanders carry six passengers plus the pilot. In 1998 the company moved into a new hangar with an office and reception area west of the Marsh Harbour terminal

On looking back over his years of operation, Mr. Kelly remembers the struggle

he had to procure land for his facility as the most difficult obstacle to overcome. It took him ten years of operating without a proper facility before he was able to obtain a lease for land from the Bahamian government.

Andrew's motto is *Take it one day at a time*. "Operating costs are high with not a large profit margin," he says, but continues, "I do it because I like it." He is pleased with the progress he has made with Abaco Air in the past years and feels that he has

come a long way since starting with \$10,000 and an old Cessna 182 plane. "It has been a lot of hard work," he says, "especially trying to find people with enough confidence to lend money for this type of operation. Many people are wary of loaning money for aviation." He has built up a good clientele over the years.

Finally, Mr. Kelly says that Abaco Air has an excellent safety record which gives his customers more confidence in flying.

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Plus 14% closing

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"Sea Cliff" newly completed 2 storey CBS home fully
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"Lot Fifteen" Canal front, newly completed and
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"Bahama Sunset" Ca **SOLD** oreys CBS home
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Man-O-War - "Sunsplash" - #5082 2bed/2bath island home beauty on 1.189 acres. Features lots of privacy, Bahamian-built furniture, close to town and includes a 2

bed/1bath cottage. Watch the sunrise every morning from the extensive patios and enjoy the views of the turquoise Atlantic Ocean. Direct beach frontage. A rare and unique offering. \$1,970,000



Marsh Harbour - #5150 NEW LISTING Harbour front property on Pelican Shores Own this 172' of harbour front. 1+ acre of landscaped property with fruit trees.

This home is approx: 3,000 sq ft. and consists of 3 beds 1/2 bath with a covered carport. Don't let this one slip by. Call now! \$1,750,000

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Bahama Palm Shores - two lots side by side, in fast growing community. UNDER CONTRACT

Man-O-War - Vacant interior lot in town. close walk to restaurants, grocery stores and the beach. \$99,900

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Starting at \$225,000

Starting at \$225,000

Hill Creek - 4.8 acres with 50' + elevations and 100' of waterfront. \$165,000

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Orchid Bay, Guana Cay. Gorgeous bay front lots available in lovely new development. Development features pool, tennis courts, marina and restaurant on property. Call for prices

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

Bahama Coral Island - Vacant interior lot. Owner financing available. Call for details

Sand Banks - Several vacant lots available approx 1 acre, some waterfront, some interior with elevations. Motivated seller. Call today for prices

Bahama Palm Shore - Several lots available in fast growing area. All lots have beach access. Call

Orchid Bay, Guana Cay. Gorgeous bay front lots available in lovely new development. Development features pool, tennis courts, marina and restaurant on property. Call for prices

Hope Town - This 3 story island home is only a few minutes walk from the beach. Offers views of the Sea of Abaco. This building is only 3 years old, and is in very good condition. \$650,000

Bahama Coral Island - Vacant interior lot. Owner financing available. Call for details

Long Beach - Vacant lots in lovely development. All lots have beach access. Starting at \$30,000

Bahama Palm Shore - Several lots available in fast growing area. All lots have beach access. Call for prices

Sandy Point - 1 1/2 story, this home consist of 3 beds, 2 bath, utility room, garage and boat house. Sits on 2 acres of lovely beach front. Perfect area for bon-fishing or deep sea fishing. \$450,000

Sand Banks - Several vacant lots available approx 1 acre, some waterfront, some interior with elevations. Motivated seller Call today for prices

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

Man-O-War - #0331 This elegant 3 bedroom, 3 bath island beauty comprises of 3,200 sq ft with all modern day features. Features include Corian counter tops, six burner stove, wine cellar and much more. Property includes guest cottage with a 2b/2b and ocean views as well. Only steps away from a white sandy beach. \$1,610,000



Yellowwood - #0164 Vacant lot approx. 125' x 150' close to Cherokee Sound and Little Harbour \$23,500. UNDER CONTRACT



Guana Cay - Guana Ridge House #0271 4bed/2bath home with a 2bed / 1bath apartment situated on a magnificent bluff presenting views of the Sea of Abaco. This home has a fantastic rental history. Also features a private dock. Don't delay. Call today! \$699,000



Marsh Harbour - #5106 Great opportunity investment. 5 octagonal wooden buildings comprises of 2,985 sq ft. These buildings are now currently being used for commercial ventures. There are two upstairs units that are 1bed/1bath apartments. This property is located on the main tourist strip. Fantastic investment. \$640,000



Marsh Harbour - #5105 Great investment. This duplex features 2 beds and 2 baths in each unit. Both features open living, kitchen and dining area. Furnished and well kept. \$260,000



Marsh Harbour - #5078 Pelican shores This lovely 2 bed/2 1/2 bath is in one of the most desired locations. This home features open living area, ceramic tile throughout, laundry room and a private dock. This home has gorgeous views of the Sea of Abaco. Fantastic Listing. \$940,000



Long Beach - #5137 Vacant interior lot approx. 1/4 acre. All lots have beach access. Don't delay, call today for more information. \$55,000



Man-O-War - #0331 This elegant 3 bedroom, 3 bath island beauty comprises of 3,200 sq ft with all modern day features. Features include Corian counter tops, six burner stove, wine cellar and much more. Property includes guest cottage with a 2b/2b and ocean views as well. Only steps away from a white sandy beach. \$1,610,000



Guana Cay - #0195 Vacant waterfront property on a lovely powder white sandy beach. This 18,000 sq. ft. lot sits high above the beach, offering endless views of the Atlantic and colorful reefs just offshore. This lot runs 70' on the beach and over 250' deep. Town is just a short walk away. Call today!



Sandy Point - #5072 This 1 1/2 story beach front residence sits on two acres of beautiful waterfront. It has 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, kitchen/living and dining room, utility, garage and boathouse. Great for deep sea or bon-fishing, water sports or relaxation. Enjoy the white powder sandy beach with lots of room for expansion.



Guana Cay - "Summerwind" #5038 2b/2b home with central A/C, screened-in porch, adjacent to resort property. Great rental potential through the resort with rights to use the resort's amenities. Fantastic offer. \$260,000

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Fishing Tournaments Draw the Big Boats

Tournaments

From Page 1

Bum reported a hook-up to the committee boat. At the call for "Lines out of the water," the *Rum Bum* was still fighting its fish.

Many of the 56-boat fleet were back at Treasure Cay Marina when the *Rum Bum* reported that they had a blue marlin in the boat. At the scales *Rum Bum's* blue marlin weighed-in at 657 pounds. With 2257 points the *Rum Bum* team took First Place honors and with four blue marlin releases, they were also the Top Release Team. Team *In-Flight* finished in second place and third place went to *The Recovery Room*.

During the Treasure Cay Championship, the 56 participating teams caught 74 qualified billfish. Sixty-four blue marlin, seven

white marlin and three sailfish were caught during the four days of fishing. All catches are verified using time and date stamped digital images.

The Bahamas Billfish Championship's Title Sponsor, Rolex, will present this year's Rolex Grand Prize to the overall winner of the series at the conclusion of the Boat Harbour Championship on June 25. The winner will receive an expense paid, round-trip to Australia to participate in the Lizard Island Black Marlin Classic.

Throughout its history, the Championship has been a consistent supporter of billfish research and in 2000 established an endowed scholarship fund to assist Bahamian students in pursuing a degree in marine biology. The BBC Scholarship Fund is supported by voluntary financial contributions from anglers, BBC sponsors and the Bahamian business community. For 2004 contributions have exceeded \$44,000.

Tournament's 25th Anniversary Is Celebrated

By Isobel Sherman

The Bertram Hatteras Shootout celebrated 25 years of their tournament held this year at the Abaco Beach Resort and Boat Harbour on May 18-22. Sixty-four boats, 39 Hatterases and 25 Bertrams participated in the three days of fishing. Started 25 years ago at Walker's Cay by the late Jim Schaeffer and Hutch Hutchenings, this tournament is prestigious as well as highly competitive between Hatteras anglers and Bertram anglers. Kaye Pearson and Hutch Hutchenings of Poseidon Adventure now organize the tournament. John Neophytou, Manager of Abaco Beach Resort and Boat Harbour joined them

The final catch and release

statistics were 16 blue marlin caught and released, three white marlin and one sailfish. The winning boat of the tournament was a Hatteras, *Ovation*, which boated the largest fish in the tournament, a 613-pound blue marlin. In second place was another Hatteras, *Hatterascal*, and in third place was a Bertram, *Sugar Bull*.

Top Release Team Won Central Abaco Championship

Tangled in Blue, a 57-foot Bertram, released five blue marlin during the Central

Please see **Tournament** Page 17



Bet-A-Buc brought in the largest fish of the Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament.



Tangled in Blue was the first place winner in the Central Abaco Bahamas Billfish Championship held in Treasure Cay

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Fishing Has Been Great

Tournaments

From Page 16

Abaco Championship to take First Place honors in that tournament held May 23-28. That boat took second place at the Spanish Cay Championship and first place at the Central Abaco Championship at Treasure Cay.

Smooth Finish finished in second place, even boated a large blue marlin at 859 pounds. *Reel Tight* came in third with four blue marlin releases for the week. Bright Star combined a white marlin release with two blue marlin releases and a 516-pound blue boated for a fourth place finish.

For the week the 47 teams caught 69 quali-

fying billfish. Blue marlin accounted for 56 while 12 white marlin and one sailfish were caught. All catches are verified using time and date stamped digital images.

In addition to the 859-pound blue caught by *Smooth Finish*, *Great Escape* landed a blue weighing 832 pounds and *The Recovery Room* boated a blue that weighed 711 pounds.

The Allied Richard Bertram Marine Group and Bertram Yachts hosted the Central Abaco Championship.

Next the Bahamas Billfish Championship anglers and teams will return to Treasure Cay Resort for Leg Four which runs June 6th through June 11th.

Boat Harbour

Hosts Billfish Blast

By Isobel Sherman

Fifty-one boats fished this tournament held May 31-June 5. Carrying on the tradition of a fishing tournament having fun things to do on land after a day of fishing, the Billfish Blast has taken fun to a new level. Each evening was filled with land activities with

dinner having a different theme each night.

Each boat fished three out of the possible four days and picked their own Lay Day and fishing was great during the entire tournament. Six of the seven marlin brought to the dock weighed more than the previous record of 512 pounds set five years ago. The new

Please see **Tournament** Page 18



Domarło won the award for the top release team in the Treasure Cay Billfish Championship.



Robert Meister, left, looks on as Carey Chen presents a trophy to Reid McLaughin, winner of the Junior Angler Award at the Treasure Cay Championship.

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Man-O-War two beautiful wooded lots, one with guest house and orchard. Roads in place; electric, phone, TV lines are underground. Also 16' fiberglass sloop. H. Thompson 365-6060

Man-O-War ocean front home, 4 bedrooms 1 office, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished, generator, water maker, central air, pool, tiki bar, hot tub, 2 golf carts and more. Call Deborah Malone 365-6244 H or 365-6501 W. **MUST SELL**

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

Marsh Harbour conveniently located triplex apartment. Fully furnished, enclosed property. Asking \$185,000. Call Mrs. Scott at 367-2957 or 367-4364 after 5 pm

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Abaco Tournaments Lead the Country

Tournaments

From Page 17

record is 770 pounds. Additionally 24 blue marlin were caught and released, five white marlin and 2 sailfish were caught and released. All catch and release fish had to be verified by digital cameras recording the date and time.

The winner of the 2004 Boat Harbour Bill-

fish Blast was *Eva Marie*. *Recovery Room* took second place and *Silver Lining* came third. The weather was great, the fishing fantastic and the friendships unforgettable. Plans for the 2005 Billfish Blast are already underway.

Treasure Cay Held Its 21st Billfish Tournament

The Treasure Cay Hotel Resort and Ma-

rina held its 21st Annual Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament from June 13-18. Twenty-nine boats competed in this tournament which is a qualifier for IGFA's International Tournament of Champions, this modified release tournament offered four days of fishing, social parties, dinners, fun competitions, golf tournament, volleyball tournament and a Bahamian Arts and Crafts Fair on the Lay Day. Multiple awards are given for billfish. There are also awards for tuna, dolphin and wahoo.

The Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament went digital. All tournament participants had to supply their own digital and or video camera. The cameras had to be able to pro-

vide on the photo the time and date that it was taken. If there was no picture or no time and date, then the boats did not receive points.

Winner of this year's tournament was *Domarlo* with second place going to *Bet-a-Buc* and third place to *Sugar Plumb*. Trophies were also given to the Top Junior Angler and to several non-billfish entries.

Registration of \$1,700 per team included boat entry, dinners, cocktail parties, goody bags and a donation to the IGFA.. This tournament is renowned for its great food and camaraderie. Major sponsors included Texaco-Bahamas, Abaco Markets and Continental/Gulfstream International Airlines.

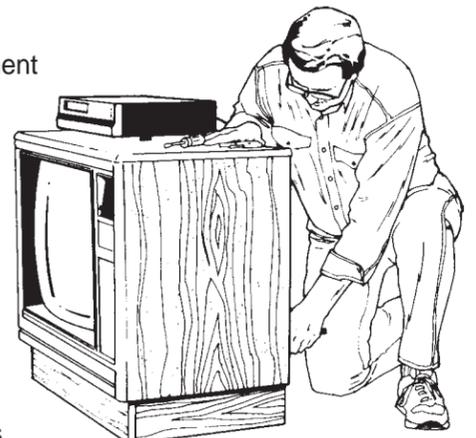


All these people are digging to benefit Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association, Abaco. The Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament planned a variety of activities on their lay day, June 16. One of these activities was a treasure hunt on the beach. Blocks of wood with numbers painted on them were buried in the sand. The numbers indicated the prize that the entrant had won such as a dinner for two or a magazine subscription, all of which had been donated. Those who wanted to enter had to buy a shovel for digging up the blocks and claim that prize. The money from buying the shovels was donated to BASRA and amounted to \$2800 this year.

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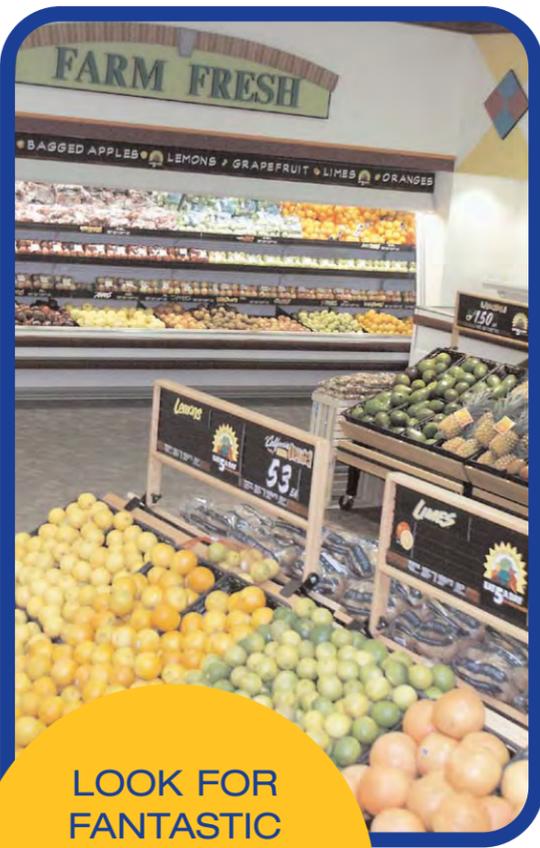
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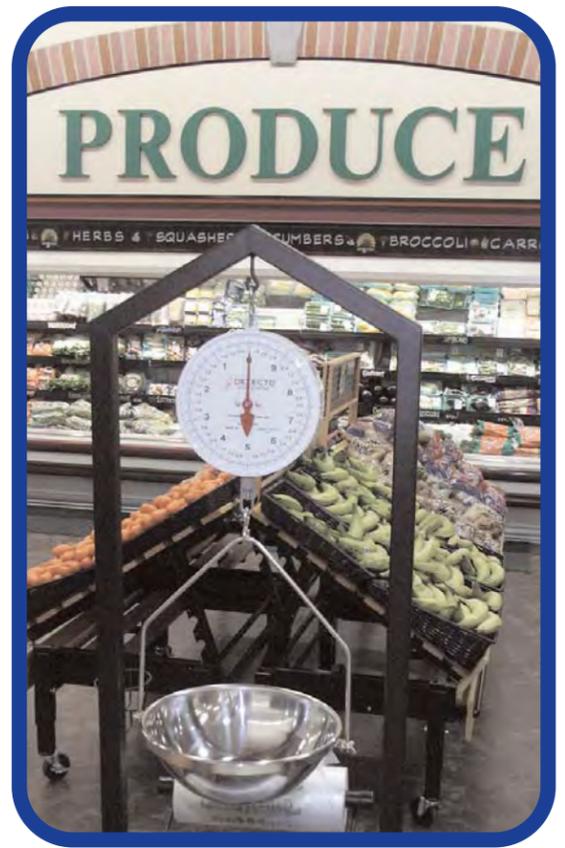
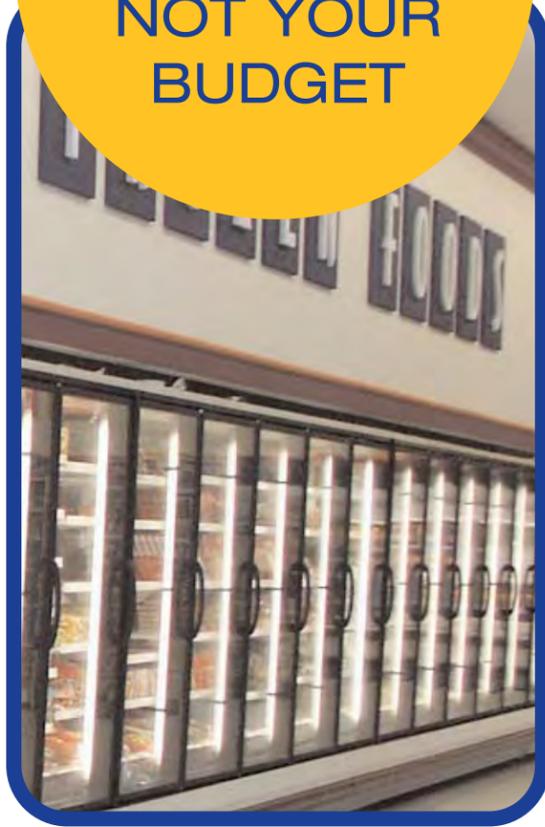
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