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# The Abaconian

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VOLUME 12, NUMBER 17, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2004

## Guana Cay Project Is Explained Passerine Development Is Awaiting Government Approval



Residents of Guana Cay were presented with concepts of the Passerine Project proposed for the northwest end of their cay. Government officials along with the developers had a variety of drawings and posters to explain their project. Residents were able to ask questions and discuss the project during and after the meeting. Shown above are Mr. Junior Sands, Mrs. Theresa Sands, Mrs. Donna Sands and Mr. Balton Bethel, Chairman of the Hotel Corporation.

About 40 Guana Cay persons turned out on August 20 to get firsthand information on the Passerine Project proposed for the north-west end of Guana Cay. The project would include the 585 acres now owned by Mr. Meister and incorporate over 100 acres of wetlands situated between the project and Guana Seaside Village which presently defines the far end of Guana Cay's developed area.

Leading the presentation was Mr. Baltron Bethel, Chairman of the Hotel Corporation of the Bahamas and a previous Minister of Tourism. He assured those present that no decision had been made by government. He told of government's strong environmental concerns, and he wants all developers to respect those concerns. He concluded by saying, "What is good for Abaco is good for all The Bahamas."

Mr. John Head, owner of the Abaco Inn and a principal in the development, and attorney Frederik Gottlieb assisted in showing the residents how all of Guana Cay would benefit from the development.

A projector displayed photographs and architects' renditions of the project and showed in detail the anticipated land uses the development would include. Questions were answered during and after the formal presentation by Mr. John Mannelly, Jr., Mr. Steve Adelson and Mr. Joey Arenson, who are partners in the development and are principals in Bullock, Mannelly Partners.

The mood of the residents was one of

Please see **Guana Project** Page 2

### Abaco Business Outlook Seminar

September 22 • See Page 10 for Details

### Wetlands Meeting Brings Controversy



Marsh Harbour residents objected strenuously to ideas of wetland legislation. They were vocal at a meeting suggesting that the wetlands needed to be regulated. Shown here are presenter, Ms. Casuarina McKinney of the BEST Commission, Mr. Percy Albury, Mr. Sydney Albury and Mr. Philip Albury. See story on page 17

### Fire Truck Arrives for Casuarina



Bahama Palm Shores and Casuarina Point now have an additional fire truck. A visitor to the area saw the need for a second truck during the extensive fires this past spring and put the word out in Central Florida of their need for a truck. Lake County donated the truck which needed extensive work. Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Brown had the work done and worked with Mrs. and Mrs. Rex Albury to get the truck to Abaco. Shown here is Mr. Brown presenting the keys to Bro. Bob Cornea, Fire Chief of the Bahama Palm Shores and Casuarina Point Volunteer Fire Service. The residents are appreciative of everyone's efforts including Arawak Agency, Tropical Shipping and Customs officials.

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# Guana Residents Hear Project Plans

## Guana Cay

From Page 1

unanimous rejection at the beginning of the meeting but appeared to be one of subdued acceptance by the end of the evening. Specific points of concern by the Guana Cay residents were addressed with a public beach location being a major concern. It was originally proposed to be on the Atlantic beach but it was obvious a public area on Bakers Bay was preferred. The latest word is that this request is being accommodated.

Mr. Gottlieb told of his initial skepticism but has since embraced the concept as now presented.

He brought out the point that Mr. Meister or a subsequent owner of the land has every right to develop it within the confines of accepted land planning regulations. An earlier plan contemplated by Mr. Meister was shown indicating a very high density project with all wetlands converted into usable lots on dredged waterways.

The proposed Pasterine project leaves much of the wetlands and includes a marina for property owners in an area behind the mangroves. Dredging would be required but state-of-the-art silt control measures would minimize collateral damage to nearby mangroves or other marine assets.

Mr. Gottlieb asked those present to realize that development is inevitable, and this proposal has many benefits for Guana Cay.

He felt the proposed project was well designed using only 30 percent of the land for residential use with the rest being used or left as open spaces.

Several of the developer's proposals are innovative and new for Abaco.

- They are dedicating three acres of beachfront land for public use.

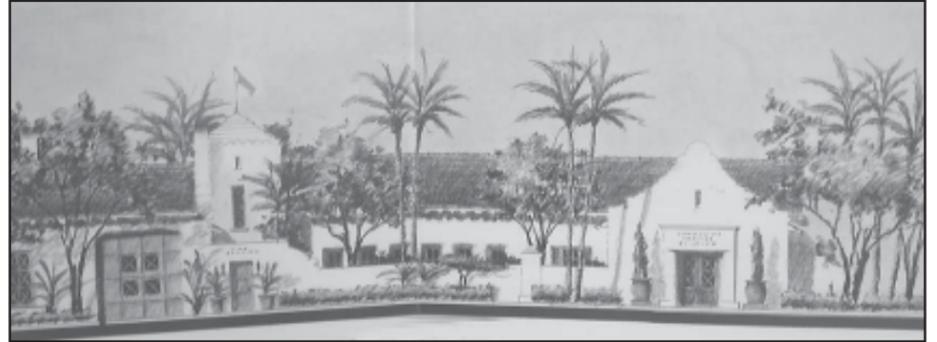
- They are proposing a garbage collection system and a public freight dock which will benefit the entire island of Guana Cay.

- They are willing to build a community center for local government use including a clinic, a fire station, a public meeting room and other community purposes.

- An interesting proposal is to form a foundation for owning and managing 5,000 feet of coastal land and six acres of mangrove wetland. The foundation would be governed by The Bahamas National Trust, Friends of the Environment and the University of Miami.

- Restrictive building setbacks relative to the coastal area is another innovative first for Abaco. Buildings would not be permitted on the dune crest but would be about 50 feet behind the dune crest. There were two setbacks specified depending on whether the beach was low or high energy.

Rather than detail the presentation, we are including the entire project outline as given by the Passerine Project developers beginning on page 4.



Great Guana Cay residents were interested in the presentation by government officials and developers of the proposed project for Bakers Bay. Although it will bring major changes to the northeast end of the island, it will offer many benefits for the residents of the island. The developer is offering to construct an administration building for the community. Shown above is a suggested conceptual building which could house a clinic, a fire house, meeting room, local government office and police station. The developer will build it to suit the wishes of the town.

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| <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>NEW EXCLUSIVE</b></p>  | <p><b>"C-DREAMS"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2424</li> <li>Very spacious 3b/3b home with ocean view in private North End Elbow Cay</li> <li>5 minutes to Hope Town</li> <li>2 minute walk to the most beautiful beach on the island</li> <li>Newly built in 2000 with vaulted ceilings, central a/c &amp; garage</li> </ul> <p><b>PRICED TO SELL \$500,000</b><br/>Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>                | <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>   | <p><b>"TWIN DOLPHIN POINT"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2072</li> <li>2 elevated waterfront homes</li> <li>Total of 8 beds 7 baths, 4 kitchens, and office</li> <li>Private 80' dock with 50' 'T' and 9 ft. draft</li> <li>Small beach &amp; sunning area</li> <li>Lush 1.6 acre property</li> <li>Great rental history, turnkey</li> </ul> <p><b>Call For Pricing</b><br/>Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>        | <p><b>MARSH HARBOUR</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>        | <p><b>IN THE HEART OF TOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1707</li> <li>Investment opportunity</li> <li>Commercial building</li> <li>1,800 sq. ft. downstairs office/shop space</li> <li>Two upstairs 1 bed 1 bath unfurnished apartments</li> <li>Central A/C</li> <li>Walk-in traffic</li> <li>Great rental history</li> </ul> <p><b>\$440,000</b><br/>Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p> |
| <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>     | <p><b>"TILLOO CUT"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1671</li> <li>Dorros Cove Sub.</li> <li>3 bed 2 bath 1700 sq. ft. traditional island home</li> <li>Fireplace and A/C</li> <li>Almost 1 acre landscaped</li> <li>Panoramic ocean view</li> <li>Private dock slip</li> <li>Fully furnished</li> <li>Excellent value</li> </ul> <p><b>Reduced \$878,000</b><br/>Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>                       | <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>  | <p><b>"NOR'EASTER 1"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1945</li> <li>2 bed 2 bath 1,000 sq. ft.</li> <li>Great rental history</li> <li>Seaviews &amp; steps away from beautiful ocean beach - spacious lot</li> <li>Furnished &amp; dock access</li> </ul> <p><b>\$425,000</b><br/>Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p> <p><b>"NOR'EASTER 2"</b> (Ref. #2427)<br/>Fractional ownership for Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p> | <p><b>CASUARINA POINT</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>     | <p><b>15 MILES SOUTH OF MARSH HARBOUR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2122</li> <li>1,687 sq. ft. island home</li> <li>3 bedroom 2 bathrooms</li> <li>Carport</li> <li>Seaviews</li> <li>Opposite sandy beach</li> <li>A Fixer Upper</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW REDUCED PRICE</b><br/><b>Was \$120,000</b><br/>Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p>  |
| <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>     | <p><b>"TAHITI HAI"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1640</li> <li>Dorros Cove Sub.</li> <li>Newly renovated 4b/2b</li> <li>Central A/C</li> <li>Wrap around porch</li> <li>Sea to sea views</li> <li>Separate gardener's apt.</li> <li>1/2 Acre &amp; dock access</li> <li>Near Tahiti Beach</li> </ul> <p><b>Price Reduced \$895,000</b><br/>Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>  | <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p>                          | <p><b>"DEMWELLS"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1828</li> <li>2 bed 2.5 bath island home</li> <li>Two storey with covered porch and balcony</li> <li>Cozy interior with V-joint cypress wood</li> <li>Open living/dining rooms</li> <li>Elevated wood deck at the rear - great for BBQ</li> <li>Lush native foliage</li> </ul> <p><b>\$399,500</b><br/>Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>                              | <p><b>BAHAMA PALM SHORES</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>  | <p><b>SOUTH OF MARSH HARBOUR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2322</li> <li>2 bed 2.5 bath main house</li> <li>Wrap around verandahs</li> <li>1b/1b furnished rental cottage</li> <li>20 kw Generator</li> <li>100 ft. x 150 ft. property</li> </ul> <p><b>MINUTES WALK TO 8-MILE BEACH</b><br/><b>PRICE REDUCED</b><br/><b>MOTIVATED SELLER</b><br/>Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p>       |
| <p><b>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>     | <p><b>VILLAGE APARTMENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2158</li> <li>Two story apartment building with 5 units in the heart of the settlement</li> <li>3 units with 1 bed 1 bath</li> <li>2 units with 2 bed 1 bath</li> <li>Steady rental income</li> <li>Very good return on investment</li> <li>Building needs TLC</li> </ul> <p><b>\$300,000</b><br/>Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>                            | <p><b>LUBBERS QUAR-</b></p> <p><b>NEW EXCLUSIVE</b></p>    | <p><b>TURNKEY HOME &amp; APT.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #2425</li> <li>Charming 2 bed 2 bath fully furnished home</li> <li>Stainless steel kitchen appliances &amp; central A/C</li> <li>Ground floor studio apt. with built-in sofas, beds, kitchen &amp; bath</li> <li>Lush tropical flora</li> <li>200' from sandy beach</li> </ul> <p><b>\$385,000</b><br/>Laurie Schreiner: 242-366-3143</p>                | <p><b>CHEROKEE AREA</b></p> <p><b>EXCLUSIVE</b></p>       | <p><b>YELLOW WOOD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Ref. #1708</li> <li>Near the Winding Bay development</li> <li>Cozy 2 bed 1 bath cottage with room for expansion</li> <li>Spacious 1 acre lot</li> <li>Sandy beaches just steps away</li> <li>Quiet and Peaceful community</li> <li>Motivated seller</li> </ul> <p><b>\$130,000</b><br/>Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p>                        |

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# Guana Cay

Passerine at Abaco  
Great Guana Cay

Conceptual Site Plan  
A work in progress

The Passerine at Abaco development was discussed at a public meeting on Guana Cay on August 20. The project was described by Mr. Steve Adelson and Mr. Joey Arenson. The following are the details as they were given by the developers.

The proposed project will occupy approximately 585 acres of land and will have only 385 home sites and a small, unobtrusive 75-bedroom inn comprised of 25 villa units, each with three bedrooms. The residential units and the inn will impact less than 30 percent of the property.

The proposed development has a 240-slip marina. The slips will primarily be for use or for sale to the community's residents but the Marina Village, the commercial center of the marina, will be accessible to the public. The Marina Village will house the inn, a small general store and a bar and grill. It is our desire to have local Guana Cay residents run the general store, bar and grill and there will be a weekly market place for the Guana Cay merchants. The Marina Village will be designed to reflect the history and culture of The Bahamas and will be a place for all residents to come and enjoy. The marina, which will connect to our community sewer system, will eliminate the need for each ocean front resident to have a dock in front of his or her property. There will be only three docks along the entire length of Bakers Bay, two of which are for use by all Great Guana Cay residents. One will be a beach park/preserve area dock and another will be a logistics and employee commuting dock. The third dock will serve our proposed community's beach club.

The golf course will be a private, 18-hole golf course that will provide limited access to local residents for charity events and island social activities. The course will be designed and built with the environment in mind. A salt tolerant grass that requires little or no fertilizers or pesticides will be used on the golf course. All applications of fertilizers and pesticides will be safe for the environment and biodegradable. We will keep a natural, vegetated buffer around the golf course and, as further protection, use catch basins to filter all runoff prior to it going into the ocean.

We will build and operate a state-of-the-art sewer, water and garbage disposal system that will not impact any of the local systems. Moreover, the refuse transfer area that the project proposes to build will be for the use of all Guana Cay residents.

As mentioned in our presentation, we propose to build a Guana Cay Community Center and dedicate ownership of that facility to the community. The design and uses for this Community Center will be completed using local input.

All beaches on the property will remain accessible by boat as mandated by Bahamian law. Further, the proposed development will have a public beach park, accessible by boat and golf carts on a beautiful piece of sand beach front. The park will have restrooms hooked up to our sewer system along with picnic areas, camp sites and a gazebo shelter.

The location of the public beach park in our current plan is, in fact, located on a

beautiful piece of privately owned property with a sandy shore. We have walked the site and confirmed its location. However, based on the feedback from the meeting, the community desire is to have a beach park on the Bakers Bay side of the property. We want to relocate the public beach park on a privately owned site on the south side of the island. The beach park as proposed was not rocky. Nonetheless, in light of the issues raised by the community at the meeting, we are relocating the beach park to a sandy beach location on private land on the south side. We will provide at our cost boat and cart access, restroom facilities, camp sites and a gazebo.

The rendering of the Community Center is very conceptual and was meant to demonstrate a commitment to provide the facilities rather than dictate the style. It is our

# Project Is Presented

Legend

- A Beach club
- B Hotel villas
- C Clubhouse
- D Golf maintenance
- E Par 72 golf course
- F Water storage pond
- G Beachfront villas
- H Villas
- I Mangrove mediation area
- J Village residential
- K Marina village
- L Marina
- M Island villas
- N Overlook villas
- O Preservation area
- P Sand flats
- Q Future residential
- R Logistics area

intention to gather local input for design, use and ultimate location of this building.

The sewage treatment plant is more than one mile away from the Joe's Creek area and all of Joe's Creek will be preserved and remained undisturbed forever.

The fire station will not be built within our community but rather on government land closest to the settlement and will be for use by all Guana Cay. If further study reveals that there is a superior location to the one currently proposed that better serves the needs of all, we will be happy to locate in that mutually agreed upon location.

As discussed above, everyone is welcome to eat and dine in the Marina Village. In fact, it is our desire that these eating and dining venues within the Marina Village will be leased to and operated by local Bahamians.

The residents of our proposed community will purchase groceries from the existing Guana Harbour Grocery, the general store in the Marina Village (hopefully operated by local island merchants) or in Marsh Harbour, depending on the needs of

Please see **Guana Cay** Page 6

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# Guana Cay Will Benefit from Development

## Guana Cay

From Page 4

the resident.

Ecological and environmental sensitivity are a key element to the success of our business. Respecting the environment and the surrounding ecosystem using indigenous landscaping, we can create communities that take on the local "flair" and communities that feel natural, as if they had been there for many years. This is what our potential residents are seeking.

It is extremely important for us to understand the sentiments of the Guana Cay residents as our single most important objective in undertaking the proposed development is to be good neighbors to the entire Guana Cay community and to demonstrate that we have an "open-door" policy with the residents. Discovery Land Company has a long and successful track record of creating high quality and environmentally sensitive residential communities across North America. We have always made it a number one priority to become an integral part of the existing community and to respect and preserve the local culture and history.

## Specific Topics Discussed at the Guana Cay Public Meeting

1. Garbage - We want it to be clear that we will build a refuse transfer station for use by the entire Guana Cay community. This transfer station will allow for the most modern techniques in sorting and compacting refuse. Once compacted, the refuse will be barged off Guana Cay via the public access dock that we would also build for the benefit of the entire Guana Cay. From there, the refuse will be handled in the same way that the Bahamian government handles all its refuse.

2. Beach Access - It was apparent from the meeting that preserving beach access for Guana Cay residents is a key issue. First, it is important to note that we are proposing to build a public beach park on our private land within the community. Based on input from the meeting, we are moving the location of the public beach park as shown on our current plan from the Atlantic side to the Sea of Abaco side. This public beach park will have golf cart parking, restrooms, a gazebo, and will be accessible via the beach and via the roads. If approved, we will be selling property up to the high-tide

watermark, as permitted by Bahamian law. Further, as required by Bahamian law, beyond the high-tide mark, the beaches remain public and will be accessible via the water and the roads of our community. You will not see any NO TRESPASSING signs put up by the developer on the beach.

3. Golf Course - We fully understand the sensitivity of the reef system to harmful fertilizers. As such, we are taking extensive measures to ensure no run-off occurs. These measures include: (i) using salt-tolerant grass on the golf course that requires minimal fertilization, (ii) using organic and biodegradable fertilizers to treat the grass, (iii) maintaining a natural vegetated buffer along the golf hole corridors to prevent run-off, and (iv) using catch-basins in the drainage system to further catch any run-off. It might make you feel better to know that we have golf courses in other locales that are as environmentally sensitive as Guana Cay

and we have been recognized by independent environmental agencies for having the most environmentally sensitive practices in place.

4. Fire Station - The uses in the Community Center (among them were fire, police, customs, medical clinic and others) were merely proposals and initial ideas. If approved, we would build the Community Center and dedicate ownership to the community. We intend that the uses of that building would be designed with local resident input. We would be happy to support the local fire and rescue teams with a financial donation or equipment.

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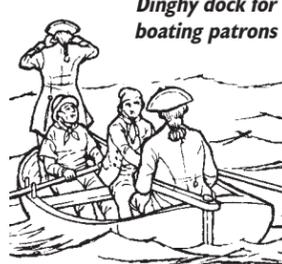
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# Foundation Will Preserve Joe's Creek Wetlands

The proposed development for Great Guana Cay plans to set aside acreage for a preserve in perpetuity. This is a new concept for developers on Abaco and perhaps in The Bahamas. Following is the proposal as outlined by the developer.

## Mission Statement

The Great Guana Cay Foundation will be established for the express purpose of learning more about the impact of tourism development on the islands of the Bahamas and disseminating that information to residents and visitors alike for the continued preservation of island environments.

People from around the world are drawn to The Bahamas for their mystique, beauty and solitude of an island vacation or retreat. The Bahamas is a small country in terms of population size (only 303,000 in the 2000 census), but vast in terms of geographic extent.

The Bahamas includes most of a massive carbonate rock archipelago in the western Atlantic, with some 1700 islands and cays that spread over six degrees of latitude. The Bahamas is a very special

place in terms of natural history, with a unique attraction to tourists throughout the world.

Some people wish to make the Bahamas their second home, and for these people the adjustment to the reality of living on an island may be challenging. Developers strive to meet the desires and expectations of the tourist market; some obvious expectations being beautiful beaches, clear turquoise waters with abundant sea life and a range of amenities for outdoor recreation as well as indoor comfort. The pressures of development to meet and exceed market expectations often bring environmental stress to small, fragile island ecologies. Sadly, The Bahamas is no different from the wider Caribbean and South Florida in experiencing locally catastrophic loss of animals and plants in the wake of episodic development. Environmental degradation usually involves land conservation and land reclamation, specifically mangrove destruction and loss of dune structure and vegetation.

The need for planned and managed tourism development in the Out Islands is critical to the economic development

of the country; the planning must emphasize a call for better development models and innovations specific to small islands. The political climate surrounding new developments in The Bahamas has become confrontational, with a poorly understood governmental process and approval combined with a lack of capacity on the part of development companies to understand and work with the unique environmental conditions of small islands.

## Specifics of the Preserve

The project will provide over 70 acres of public access preserve land that will

remain undisturbed, in its natural state, for use of all island residents in perpetuity. This includes the two creek areas that include the Joe's Creek system. The preserve will be managed by a foundation set up by the developers.

The Great Guana Cay Foundation concept will be made up of a consortium of vested institutions and businesses, with an initial gift from Bullock, Mannelly Partners of both land within the northern Guana Cay development project and an initial endowment fund. The assets of the

Please see **Preserve**

Page 9



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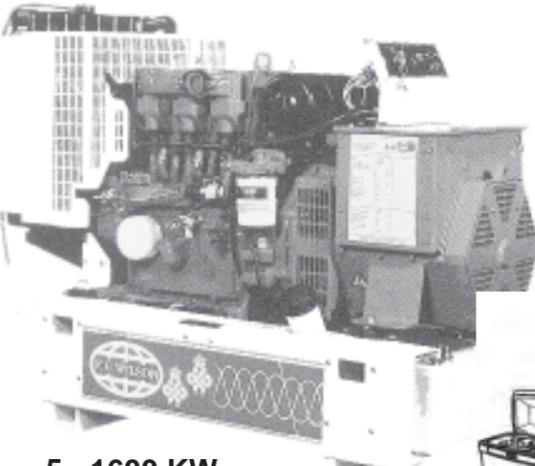
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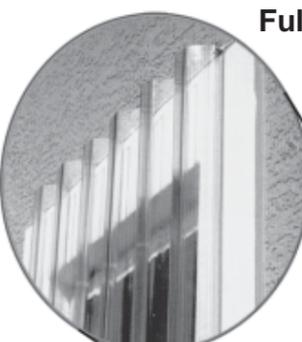
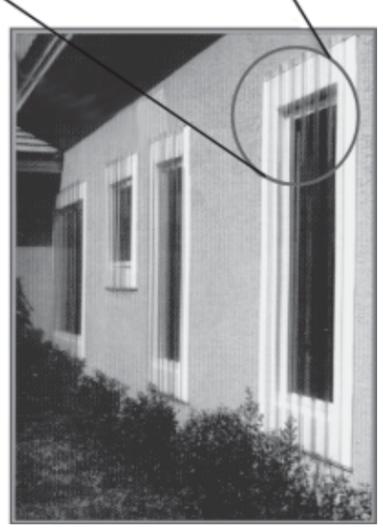
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# The Editor Says . . . Local Government Is Suffering the Doldrums



Dave Ralph

During past summers there was a rush during August to get schools ready for the September opening. Local government is responsible for most school maintenance but their funding is not always available until mid-July or later.

The Central Abaco Council has not met since the budget figures were released in early July. Two of the largest government schools in the Family Islands are about to open and funding for school maintenance has not been discussed.

Summer is a good time to handle school maintenance as the buildings are empty and there are no students to be disrupted by workmen. However, summer coincides with the closing on one fiscal year and the initiation of a new accounting year.

Neither has the allocation of funding for the four Central Abaco district towns been ratified. Perhaps we have entered a new era in local government with these matters being decided "off the record" in a back room somewhere.

Central government has not helped with local governance either. Administrators are being transferred just as a new budget year begins. We are confident that any Administrator assigned here will know the rules of the game. However, it takes a while to become familiar with the playing field and the other members on the team. Perhaps there is logic to a new man beginning with a new budget year but it would seem that continuity would be better served to switch administrators when the system is running smoothly and can continue for a while on its own inertia.

A stumbling block to the Central Abaco Council's function was the much heralded but delayed re-assignment of Administrator Alexander Williams. This left the departing administrator in the awkward position of either holding a final meeting to discuss the budget allocation or allow a delay, requiring the new man to begin his tenure with the initial budget meeting.

Hope Town did manage to squeeze in one Council meeting during the final weeks of Administrator Williams' tour here. They found that their allocated

funding for garbage collection, storage and removal came up short of the amount necessary.

Elbow Cay has a new garbage handling system which is reported to be well accepted by the residents. However, the cost of operating the new system is greater than the amount allocated Hope Town for this purpose. Contractors either must accept lower payments, reduce the service they provide or the service must be curtailed next spring when funds run out.

The Central Abaco Council will face a similar shortfall as overall funding for this year is identical to last year. However, the expenses for each town are increasing.

One of the Central Abaco Council's first order of business is to study their budgets and decide if the allocations to the towns remain the same as last year or if funds must be shifted for new priorities.

The Marsh Harbour Town Committee

hoped to begin a trash removal program of some sort for the 2,000 - 3,000 residents living in the Pigeon Peas and Mud immigrant residential areas. Whether funding will be available for this remains to be seen. Granted that they are squatting on either Key Tract or government land but some effort should be made to remove the garbage generated by several thousand people living in the center of Marsh Harbour. No provision for trash removal has been made for these two communities in the past.

Interest in local government of Central Abaco seems to be waning as the third term of local government enters its final and third year. The various statutory boards frequently do not meet for lack of a quorum. Town Planning has worked reasonably well but has frequently had to wait up to an hour trying to locate an errant member to make a quorum.

Administrator Williams is now in Freeport and his replacement has, at this moment, not arrived but is expected soon.

Council has not met for two months and a hurricane appears to be headed our way.

As well as getting a new administrator, Central Abaco is getting a new principal for Abaco Central High School and a new Superintendent of the entire Abaco school system

No doubt replacements are on the way but starting off with new people as a major hurricane rattles the system does not allow for the best start to a school year. This is while government stresses that a good education is a requirement for success in the new world order.

Bringing the high school facilities up to acceptable standards for the 500 plus students entering each fall has always been a challenge and a storm preceding school's opening will add to the burdens.

Whether Hurricane Francis will further disrupt our local and central government operation or cause it to come together as a functional group remains to be seen.

## Viewpoint

### Let Us Keep Our Air Free of Pollution

Air pollution is a great problem in the world today, causing many health and environmental problems. Unfortunately, people have come to accept this in large cities where there are huge factories spewing out dirty smoke and heavy duty traffic doing the same thing along the major highways.

However, on an island such as Abaco where there is no industrialization and few heavy vehicles one would expect the air to be clean and healthy. Hundreds of visitors come here each year for the beautiful clear water and pristine beaches, seeking to get away from the pollution of their daily lives. They expect on such a beautiful island that the air would be fresh and clean but can we really offer them this luxury?

The answer, I am afraid, is that the air here on Abaco is not as clean and healthy as one might expect. The disgusting emissions from many vehicles on our roads are polluting the environment for residents and tourists alike.

A few days ago I was driving behind a tanker truck and a public utilities company vehicle. The exhaust from both vehicles left much to be desired. When the utility company van accelerated to overtake the truck in front, it spewed so much black smoke in the direction of my windshield that I was almost enveloped. I have never before seen so much dirt emitted from one small van.

I am very concerned about the cleanliness of the environment and hate to see this happening all too often on our roads. Public utility vehicles are very bad offenders.

This black smoke that is emitted from vehicles is formed mainly by particles of

carbon and hydrocarbon that are not burnt during combustion. Many undesirable compounds are emitted, some of which are carcinogenic. In cities suffering from high levels of pollution many health problems can result such as eye irritations, coughs, headaches, asthma, respiratory and cardiac problems.

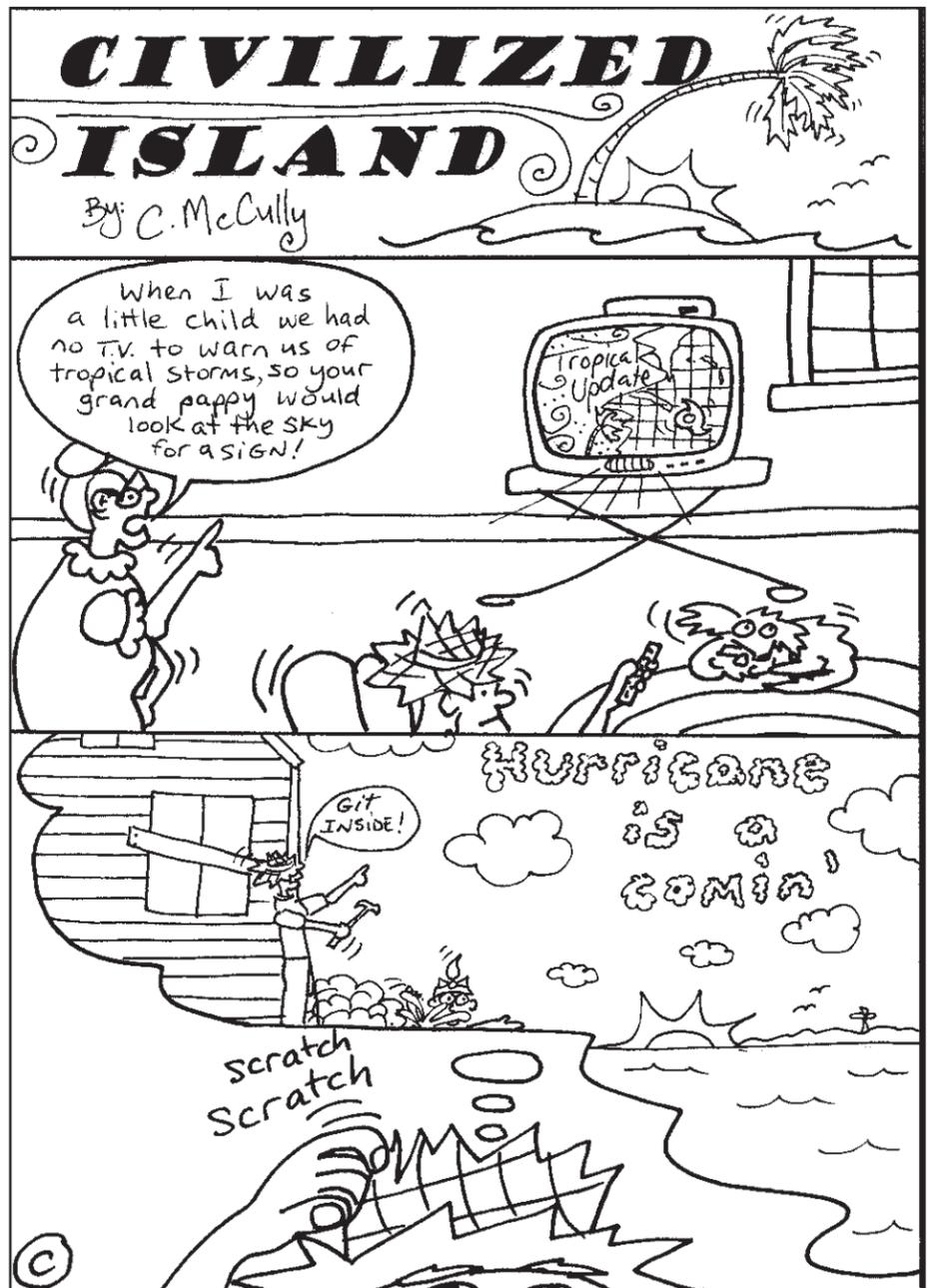
Though we do not have the severe problems of industrialized areas here, it is still important for us to keep our air as clean and healthy as possible.

The black smoke one sees coming out of the exhaust is from an engine which is in a

bad state of repair. Malfunctioning of the ignition, fuel supply or fuel injection all increase the consumption of fuel and the emission of pollutants.

One wonders whether the utility companies and owners of heavy goods vehicles ever have their vehicles checked. They would be making a valuable contribution to the community if they would have their vehicles regularly overhauled to see that they are maintained in excellent running condition.

Let us keep our island clean and healthy.



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# Foundation Will Study Visitor Influence on Wetlands

Preserve

From Page 7

Foundation will include the conservation area and a visitor/outdoor recreational facility on Great Guana Cay. The Foundation has a mandate to develop a self-supporting outdoor recreation and education program for property owners and their families as well as for Abaconian residents. The Foundation must raise funds to support long term environmental research, outreach and education programs for Bahamian schools and archiving and dissemination of long-term ecological monitoring of Great Guana Cay environs.

There is a clear need for leadership in the development community to make the planning, discussion, implementation and results transparent to the public as a living classroom in compatible development. What are appropriate construction methods? How can marinas be constructed to minimize long-term ecological damage or water quality degradation?

These are not purely academic questions, but critical to both the long-term economic viability of a development project as well as the environmental health of island systems.

Specifically, the Great Guana Cay Foundation mission is to use the development on Guana Cay as a case study for compatible development to provide special educational and outreach opportunities for expatriate residents, local Bahamians and the wider community of scientists and policy makers. The Foundation will work in cooperation with Bullock, Mannelly Partners to build a rare partnership of environmental, education and economic interests in small island developments.

## Objectives

The Great Guana Cay Foundation will function as a consortium of academic institutions, environmental groups, development interests, local residents and educators. The Foundation will take responsibility for three important objectives:

1. The Foundation will be tasked with creating a living history of the island, and maintaining a dynamic information system on the ecology and physical environment of Great Guana Cay before, during and after development.

2. The Foundation will be tasked with the maintenance and management of the

conservation areas within the development including mangroves, beaches and coastline buffer zones.

3. The Foundation will be tasked with promoting and facilitating interactions between scientists involved with long-term environmental research and monitoring in the environs with outreach and educational programs for island residents and Bahamians.

## Foundation Structure and Assets

The Great Guana Cay Foundation will be in the unique position to offer spatial and temporal comparison of landscapes that are natural and highly altered. The Foundation will have the

management responsibility over a coastal mangrove creek system as well as a coastal buffer zone around the development. In addition to the conservation areas within the development community, there are a number of nearby marine reserves, protected areas and national parks.

# Viewpoint . . . Going Back to School

By Portia Jonsson

It's school time again! School children are probably feeling excited and maybe a little sad that summer is over. Some kids feel nervous or a little scared on the first day of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends, and maybe even a new school. Luckily, these "new" worries only stick around for a little while.

I'm sure that most parents agree that when we were in school things seemed less complicated and less stressful. However, we have to face this present-day reality and offer our children as much love and support through their school years. This is important at the beginning of the school year, particularly if your children are attending a new school for the first time.

There are many ways parents can help to make going to school easier for their

children:

Remind your child that he is not alone in feeling anxious during the first day of school.

Before school starts, ensure that all the paperwork has been done in order to avoid any confusion and extra stress during the first day of school.

When appropriate, perhaps you can drive or walk your child to school and pick him/her up on the first day.

Make sure that your child has had his/her annual medical check-up. Make sure that you make the proper arrangements with school authorities if your child needs to take medication at school.

If your child has any allergies, make sure that the school is aware of them and is prepared for any allergic reactions.

When your child is starting the year at a new school, parents should recognize that their child might need extra support.

Talk to your child about his thoughts and fears about the new school. It's also a good idea to visit the school with your child before classes begin. Looking into the new classroom and meeting the new teacher in advance will help make the first official day of school easier.

By recognizing that school is stressful to most children, parents can continually support their children and keep an open dialogue on any school-related issue with their child. Knowing that we, as parents are on their side is reassuring to our children. On a final note, what I find works well is that children are reassured when they discover that their parents went through school and survived! It's always a good idea to share your school experiences with them too!



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## \$1.35 Million Upgrade Is Underway at Exuma International Airport

The Min. of Transport and Aviation, the Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin, said on August 25 that the \$1.35-million upgrades ongoing at the Exuma International Airport in Moss Town, Exuma, will ensure that the facility meets world standards. "What you see here now at Exuma International Airport will be the prototype for airports nationwide in this country, as it relates to security, personnel and crash fire rescue services," Minister Hanna-Martin said.

The upgrades to the facility include a new arrivals terminal, a newly-renovated departure terminal with screening equipment, close-circuit television system and a "sterile" departure area for screened passengers. Ten security officers and six additional firemen, who were all trained by the Civil Aviation Department, were recently hired. A newly-acquired crash fire rescue truck, a T-1500 Osh Kosh vehicle, was also purchased at a cost of about \$125,000.

Mrs. Hanna-Martin pointed out some works in progress, such as the conveyor belts, new canopies for the arrival areas, repair of the fire station and installation of signage.

"Additionally, there is landscaping going on and that is being done by the Beautification Committee," she said. "These are Exuma residents and I want to take this opportunity to commend them for taking "ownership" of this airport. I think this is a fine example of community responsibility."

The committee, she added, will display local artists in the airport, position plant-

ers inside and around the terminals and install a sound system to play Bahamian music throughout the facility. She reminded residents that the committee will need their support in fund raising for their projects.

Minister Hanna-Martin said she is excited about the airport being certified for night flights by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) because the economic opportunity that that opens for Exuma is "just untold."

She announced that the airport will be transferred to The Airport Authority, which is responsible for the Nassau International Airport. "This is being done to ensure that in the management and operation of this airport that the highest standards will be maintained," Minister Hanna-Martin said. "The Civil Aviation Department will still be responsible for all regulatory matters; but we are seeking to maximize the economic self-sustainability of this airport."

**Minister Hanna-Martin said the focus on the Exuma International Airport is now being brought to others throughout the country, with Marsh Harbour, Abaco, at the top of the list.**

"This government is committed to orderly development of our islands and to ensuring the maximum quality of life for Bahamians everywhere and that is not just for today; but for generations to come," she said.

Mrs. Hanna-Martin told the airport's employees that "this is an important place" in the scheme of things in the country.

## Business Outlook Seminar Will Return to Abaco

After a successful launch last year, organizers have announced the date for the upcoming second annual Abaco Business Outlook seminar. Under the theme *Building on Diversity*, this year's conference is slated to be held on September 22nd at Abaco Beach Resort.

Co-organizers of the event are the Abaco Chamber of Commerce and the Nassau-based marketing firm, The Counsellors Ltd. According to the Chamber president, Mr. Michael Albury, "This organization and the Abaco community as a whole are more than pleased with The Counsellors' continued commitment to hosting an event of this magnitude once again on their island."

"Abaco's growth and contribution to the Bahamian economy cannot be overlooked and so it's only logical that we continue to expand our roster of conference sites to include this island which is definitely on the move," said Ms. Joan Albury, President of The Counsellors.

Speakers at the September conference include a cadre of professionals from various fields throughout the country. Attendees will hear from the Hon Obie Wilchcombe, Minister of Tourism - *Building on Diversity*; Michael Albury - *Welcome Address*; Glen Pritchard of Tropic Seafood - *Fisheries Opportunities & Challenges*; Felix Stubbs of IBM - *Technology, Communication & Information*; Art Sands, 1st V.P., Abaco Chamber of Commerce, *Abaco Outlook*; Dale McHardy, Manager, Bahamas Development Bank - *Economic Diversity & Strength Through Small Business*; John Bethel of Tropical Shipping - *The Shipping Industry: Indicator of Eco-*

*nomic Growth*; Mark Scott, general manager of The Abaco Club of Winding Bay - *Report on the Resort Development*; and Alfred Stewart, Chairman of the Social Security Reform Commission - *Social Security Reform*.

"The wide array of speakers and topics certainly reflects the seminar's theme of *Building on Diversity*," said Joan Albury. "Abaco is blessed with a diverse economy whether agriculture, fisheries or tourism, and the purpose of the seminar is to showcase the various different opportunities available for the growth of individual businesses, the island's economy and the country as a whole."

"We're extremely excited to return to Abaco," she further added. "The reception we received last year was overwhelming and numerous attendees, including local high school students, thanked us for bringing such an informative and timely programme directly to them."

The Business Outlook seminars began 13 years ago in New Providence, with this year's Nassau edition drawing hundreds in January. The sixth annual Grand Bahama edition of the seminar was held in March.

Persons wishing to register for the upcoming Business Outlook seminar in Abaco can contact The Counsellors Ltd., tel: 242-322-7505-6, or the Abaco Chamber of Commerce, tel: 242-367-5822, for details, or register online at [www.tclevents.com](http://www.tclevents.com).

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# South Abaco News

## Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

### Afternoon Showers

Other parts of Abaco have gotten plenty of rain, but here in Cherokee we seem to suffer more than other places both from being too near the ocean and from the lack of rainfall, especially since the first of the year. However, we have had rain just recently. Just four weeks ago almost all the lawns in town were so brown and dry that it was thought they could never be rejuvenated, but you would never believe it to look at them now. Now the thunderstorms are visiting us nearly every afternoon and trees are sprouted new leaves, flowers have brand new blossoms and the lawns are once again the greenest green possible. Even though there is a shortage of sweet water in the settlement, many have tried to water just enough to keep things alive, but there is nothing like a little rainfall. While we are having these frequent showers, it is a good time to cultivate your garden so that you will have a good crop of tomatoes by Christmas so get busy.



Brandon and sister Rachel Claire Sands

### Newcomer In Town

Rachel Claire, the first daughter of Timothy and Julie Sands, was born in Nassau on July 16th. Mother and daughter are doing just fine and big brother Brandon, 3 1/2 years old, is beaming and visibly proud of his brand new baby sister.

### Summer Comes To An End

A summer school was held for pre-schoolers as well as the incoming first grad-

ers over the holidays and proved to be very successful. Thanks to Michelle Lowe and Joann Bradley for giving up their holiday to teach the kids. Leaving Cherokee All-Age Elementary this year to attend 7th grades classes in Marsh Harbour will be Kaitlyn Albury, Lance Bethel and Colton Albury. Lance was not due to move on until next term, but he sat for the entrance exams at St. Francis de Sales and passed so he will be skipping a grade. Good work, Lance!

New first grade students this year include Tiffany Albury, Donovan Hepburn and Joshua Albury. Michelle Lowe will be returning as principal plus a new teacher who is yet to be named by the Education Superintendent. She will be replacing Diane Sutherland, who has returned to Canada.

In addition, the new tile floor will be finished just in time for the fall semester. Thanks to the community's support and several fund raisers throughout the past year, there was enough money in

the kitty to pay for this project. Ms. Lowe would again like to thank the parents, family and friends for their help. Everyone agrees the new floor gives the old building a brand new look.

### Sandy Point Girl Drowns

The body of Teneka Bain was found floating under a dock in Sandy Point on August 25. The-ten-year-old girl had been living with her grandfather in Sandy Point for four years along with her five-year-old sister, Chancy. The two girls had been swimming by the Fisherman's Dock along with their uncle, Wayde Bain. Mr. Bain had warned Teneka not to swim in deep water and had taken Chancy ashore. However, Teneka apparently dived under a boat near the dock and did not resurface. Her body was found 15 minutes later under a dock.

Her body was taken to the Sandy Point clinic where the nurse performed CPR and other emergency procedures. She did not respond and was pronounced dead. Her body was flown to Nassau.

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# Young Marine Scientists Visit Abaco

By Portia Jonsson

This summer five young students, all with a keen interest in marine science, interned at the Department of Fisheries in Nassau in an eight weeks program. During this period they participated in two research projects which they hope will have profound effects on Bahamian fisheries.

On August 17th the students together with Ms. Tamica Rahming, Fisheries Officer in the Public Education, Research and Conservation Unit, traveled to Abaco to conduct surveys, collect basic fisheries data, make presentations to various communities and distribute materials relative to the rules and regulations governing fisheries in The Bahamas and marine conservation.

Dimitri Quant is a 10th grade student in high school in Nassau and was the youngest of the group. He is interested in marine biology and photography. He believes that a no-take season similar to that of crawfish should be placed on conch because there are too many Bahamians taking juvenile conchs.

Shanishka Bain is going into her third year at Beloit College in Wisconsin and studying biochemistry. She is passionate about educating Bahamians on the importance of marine reserves and the effects of over-fishing.

Another third year collegiate is Nadia Lockhart who is studying marine biology at the College of The Bahamas. She is confident the lessons learned during her internship at the Department of Fisheries would help her as she works towards becoming a marine biologist.

First year student Zhivago McPhee is studying environmental engineering at the College of The Bahamas. He is an artist with sketches and cartoon drawings of marine scenes which will be turned into posters and used by the Department of Fisheries, not only in The Bahamas but worldwide.

The last member of this ambitious group was Ian Smith, a 12th high school grade student in Nassau. He is an aspiring marine biologist and one of the four students who are scuba certified.

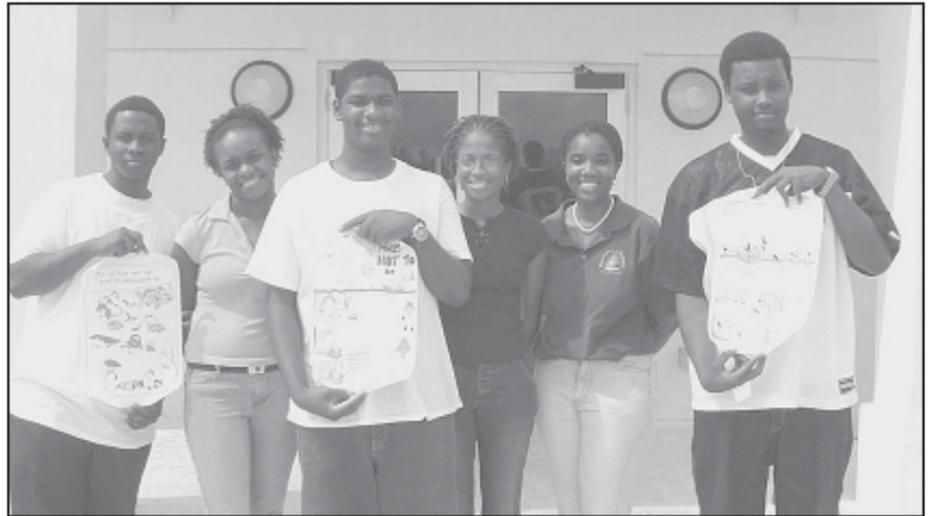
The group's research projects focused on snappers and conch. The snapper research entailed identifying species immaturely taken and identifying ones that are threatened. During the research project it was discovered that the immature mutton snapper is caught most compared to yellow tail and lane snappers and is also endangered.

The research on the conch focused on

implementing a closed season for the conch similar to that of the crawfish. The group would like to recommend having specific measurements of the thickness of the conch's flare lip. The group's findings will be presented at the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Meeting in Florida later this year.

Fisheries Officer, Ms. Tamica Rahming, would like to see this program expand to include Abaco. Far too often persons go off to school, get a degree but do not apply it and do not have ground experience. Ms. Rahming added that this internship program helps to build confidence, community skills and prepares the students for making presentations. She advised that this was the first year for the program in this capacity and admits that she did not have this opportunity when she was in college. It is therefore her desire to make this program available to every Bahamian.

During the group's two-day stay on the island they visited Fox Town, Cherokee Sound, Sandy Point and Hope Town conducting meetings, surveys and distributing pertinent information. Ms. Rahming said the communities that did not come out missed something good.



A group of high school and college young people interned with the Department of Fisheries in Nassau this past summer. They visited Abaco to do surveys, research and made presentations to several groups. They were accompanied by Ms. Tamica Rahming, Fisheries Officer. They are, left to right, Ian Smith, Nadia Lockhart, Dimitri Quant, Shanishka Bain, Ms. Rahming and Zhivago McPhee.

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## Carleton Masonic Lodge Raises Money for Victims of Hurricane Charley



The Carleton Masonic Lodge held a fund raising cook-out in Marsh Harbour on August 21 to raise funds for the victims of Hurricane Charley on the west coast of Florida. They will send the money to a sister lodge in Boynton Beach, Florida, which sent supplies here after Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Mr. Jimmy Williams is the Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

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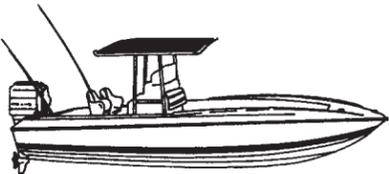
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# The Bahamas Goes to Rhode Island

Bahamians everywhere should feel proud of the way their country was represented at a Save the Chesapeake Bay charity ball and auction that was held in the gardens of the home of Mr. Peter de Savary on August 7 at Newport, Rhode Island. Mr. de Savary is the developer of the Abaco Club on Winding Bay. Over 100 talented Bahamian ambassadors marched, sang, danced and performed

their way into the hearts of all in attendance.

A variety of Bahamian vendors served various tropical drinks, a cigar roller made cigars to order and an ice sculptured bar served Bacardi rums and liquors. Terrell Russell, a chef from Abaco, made delicious conch fritters while the guests waited, a steel drum performer and a Cuban band performed. All combined

they gave everyone the sights, smells and sounds of the Caribbean.

Opening the entertainment for the Bahamian-themed night was the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band. Although rain interrupted their routine, their performance brought thundering applause from all the spectators. The 40-member Colors Junkanoo group in their beautiful costumes rushed down the path with horns blowing, cowbells ringing and rums pounding. Fire dancers and a limbo act were included in the entertainment.



A large group of Bahamians including members of the Royal Bahamas Police Band, entertainers, singers, Junkanoo dancers, chefs and Tourism officers entertained at a charity ball in Rhode Island at the home of Mr. Peter de Savary, developer of Winding Bay. The successful evening was a great way of showcasing Bahamian talent. Shown above is the Police Band marching into the party area.

## Rainfall Record for 2004

This is the record of rainfall in the Little Orchard area of Marsh Harbour

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| January  | Unavailable           |
| February | 3.98 inches           |
| March    | 0.26 inches           |
| April    | 1.50 inches           |
| May      | 0.35 inches           |
| June     | 0.94 inches           |
| July     | 6.07 inches           |
| August   | 8.38 inches (Aug. 24) |

The drought we experienced earlier this summer was the worst on record since 1965. From late February we had no heavy rain until July 13 when 2.84 inches fell.

We thank Mr. Reginald Patterson for sharing this record with us. He has faithfully kept records for many years.

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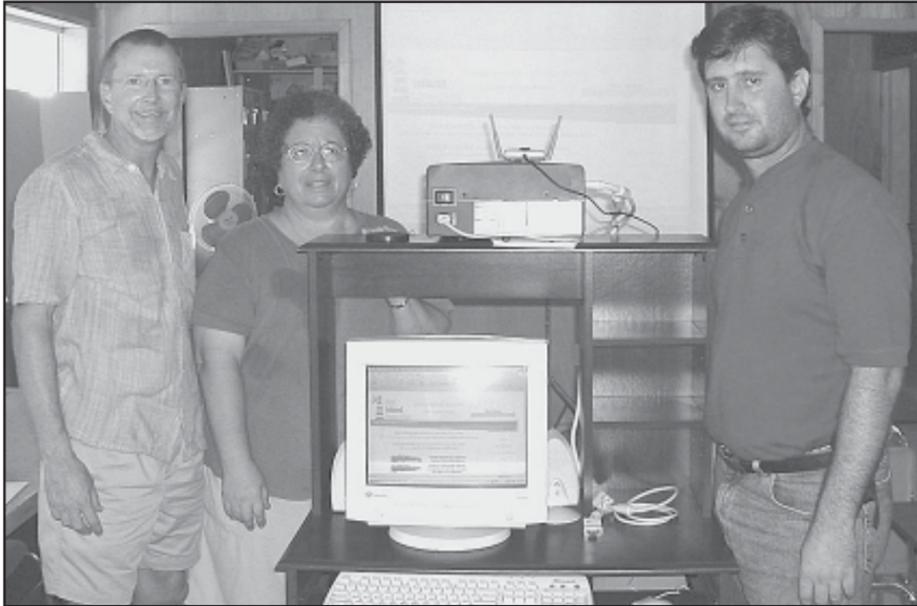
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## Every Child Counts Is Now on the Internet



Standing around the Multi Media Internet Centre is Mr. Marsden Lawley, teacher, Mrs. Lyn Major, Director of Every Child Counts, and Mr. Chris Claridge of Out-Island Internet. The internet will be used for science presentations, social studies and student projects. Out-Island Internet donated the wireless equipment and desk for the work station and is providing internet service free of charge.

By Portia Jonsson

When the students of Every Child Counts Learning Centre return to school this year, they will be presented with class material generated on the computer and internet. Mr. Marsden Lawley, teacher at the school said this connection would mean a broader perspective for the students and access to the world's library. Each student will be responsible for establishing a web page in their area of interest to present to others. Mr. Lawley advised that the key to all this is having a motivational medium for students to refine their reading and writing skills. He added that the children will also be able to learn about other cultures in the world

apart from what's outside their door.

Providing this generous gift and service free of charge is Mr. Chris Claridge and Ms. Tara Hingle of OutIsland Internet. Mr. Claridge is very conscious of the importance of providing quality education to students on Abaco. Being able to provide this service free of charge to schools throughout Abaco is his way of giving back to the community. He said that Every Child Counts is the first in the line of schools to get this high speed wireless service. For more information on getting your school "hooked up," please contact Mr. Chris Claridge at the OutIsland Internet office.



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# Importance of Wetlands Is Not Fully Appreciated

The Minister of Health and Environmental Services, the Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel, said on August 13 that wetlands play important ecological, sociological and economic roles in The Bahamas. He said that the role of wetlands in maintaining the country's freshwater reserves is not fully appreciated. "For The Bahamas the functions of wetlands are tied to the environment and economic sectors such as flood control, groundwater replenishment, shoreline stabilization and storm protection, sediment and nutrient retention, climate change, migration, water purification, reservoirs of biodiversity and recreation and tourism," Minister Bethel said at a press conference on the National Wetlands Policy.

He said The Bahamas is "blessed" with an abundance of creeks and wetlands. Bahamian waters also provide safe passage for many of the big migrating game fish. "The wetlands are important nurseries for such nationally important marine species as conch, grouper and lobster," Min. Bethel said. "Wetlands are also important for breeding for the nation's most popular game bird, the white crowned pigeon and an important nesting area for endangered bird species such as the West Indian tree duck and the pink flamingo.

He said that the Marls of Abaco that stretch almost to Grand Bahama, feed the Little Bahama Bank and it is an important and unique biological ecosystem, just like Andros. (Marl is a crumbly mixture of clays, calcium and magnesium carbonates, and remnants of shells that is rich enough to be used as a fertilizer for lime-deficient soils.)

"The Government, recognizing the value of the wetlands, became a member of the Ramsar Convention in 1997, and under that Convention it has several important obligations," Minister Bethel said.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is an inter-governmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. There are presently 140 countries party to the Convention with 1,374 wetland sites, totaling 121.4 million hectares.

The Convention's mission is the con-

servation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.

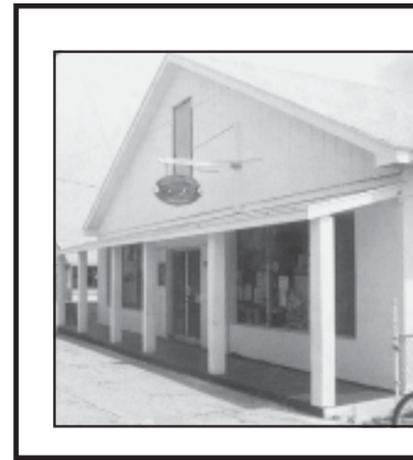
Unfortunately, like most countries around the world, Min. Bethel said, The Bahamas too is experiencing a rapid loss in the quality and numbers of its wetlands. "Many Bahamians and foreigners who come to our shores, are still uninformed of the significance of wetland ecosystems to our livelihoods. As a result there is a persistent problem with pollution and irresponsible development which often has detrimental effects on the health of these systems," he said. "We in The Bahamas need to recognize that wetland ecosystems are a part of our natural wealth and human wealth."

The government, Min. Bethel said, is consciously trying to improve the image and knowledge of wetlands in partnership with private interested citizenry. "In an attempt to further the process, however, the National Wetlands Committee under a grant provided by the Ramsar Convention is starting the national consultative process for the development of a National Wetlands Policy," Min. Bethel said. "Public consultation will take place on the following islands: Abaco, Eleuthera, Grand Bahama, San Salvador, Andros, Long Island and New Providence.

"As Minister of Health, with overall responsibility for the environment, I urge and encourage the public to actively participate in these consultations to ensure that their concerns are included in the formulation and publication of this policy."



Presenters Casuarina McKinney and John Bowleg on the left listened to the opinions of local residents after a meeting to discuss proposed legislation regulating the use of wetlands. They are joined here by David Knowles, Department of Agriculture officer for Abaco, in the background, Mrs. Steve Albury and Mr. Floyd Sawyer on the right. The residents were strongly against legislation which would limit their access to the wetlands. They defended their use of airboats and pointed out benefits that they felt the airboats brought to the wetlands.



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# Wetlands Legislation Is Debated

Legislation is being considered and is expected to be enacted related to the preservation or use of wetlands. Public meetings are being held throughout the Bahamas to get diverse opinions on the subject. The first of these Family Island meetings was held in the Marsh Harbour Court Room on August 19. Approximately 30 persons from Marsh Harbour and nearby communities attended with most being quite vocal.

Conducting the presentation was Mr. John Bowleg, Chairman of the Wetlands Commission, and Ms. Casuarina McKinney of BREEF, both from Nassau. The role of the commission at this time is to gather public opinion on wetlands related to recreational and commercial uses, issues concerning development, water management and collection, preservation and other concerns. Community input throughout The Bahamas will be noted, summarized and taken into consideration for the preparation of wetlands policy and subsequent legislation.

The meeting got off to a boisterous start when Mr. Bowleg asked for suggestions related to wetlands. The first suggestion was that he go back to Nassau

since the Abaco swamps were in good hands already. Next, he was told by Percy Albury and echoed by Sidney Albury that, "we don't want or need Nassau to tell us what to do. Floyd Sawyer reinforced the mood by asking what we are protecting the wetlands from.

Ms. McKinney explained that one element is to ensure a water flow into the remote wetland areas and gave the bridge connecting Little Abaco to Abaco as an example. In fact, government has recognized that a large culvert or bridge of some type is needed there to restore the vitality to the marine nurseries on the south side which has been denied access to the spawning fish in the open water to the north by the causeway.

Members of the audience were quite vocal and adamant that any legislation banning airboats would be resisted. Examples were given where the airboat trails or "roads" have been beneficial to water flow and have provided additional feeding areas to wading birds.

Ms. McKinney noted that it seemed unanimous that maintaining water flow into the coastal wetlands is a vital concern to be addressed in any coastal de-

velopment.

"We have no say," shouted a voice in the back of the room. "Nassau does as it wants."

"I have noticed in my 16 years here that the mangroves are cut back gradually every year," said George Phillpot, a Man-O-War resident. "Government has allowed much of the destruction but the mangroves must be protected," he said.

Stagnant wetlands breed mosquitoes, and it was said that the airboat roads allow water flow into many of these areas in the marls, reducing the mosquito population.

Again it was asked of Mr. Bowleg and Ms. McKinney, "What damage do the airboats do to the wetlands? This is just an attempt by government to eliminate airboats."

Mr. Bowleg conceded he was not a bird expert but said it was possible the

airboats impacted on migratory birds.

Again the statement was made that government had no business telling residents where airboats are banned.

Examples were given by the audience where government allowed fresh or brackish marshes to be opened to the sea for development - for example, the canal at the Great Abaco Club and the canal network on Grand Bahama Island. Both of these have allowed salt water intrusion into the land to the detriment of the ground water.

The Marsh Harbour dump was another example where a wetland was taken for a dump site and is still being used, pushing ashes and debris further into the marsh. "Destruction has been fostered by government but now they want to restrict us," chimed a voice from the back.

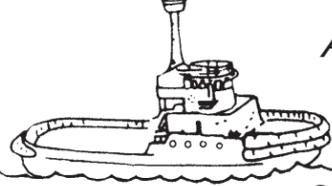
Please see **Wetlands** Page 20



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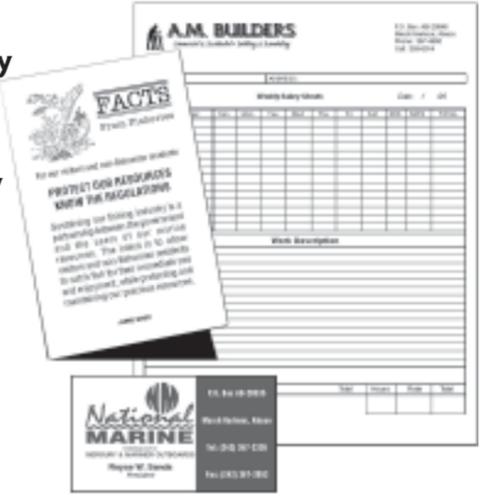
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# Two Notices from the Embassy of the United States

## Changes in Applying for a US Visa

The United States Embassy has announced a change in the process of issuing non-immigrant visas. The schedule for non-immigrant visa applications will remain 8 - 11 a.m. on Mondays through Thursdays. Applicants for immigrant visas may submit documentation Monday through Thursday from 8 - 11 a.m. Immigrant visa interviews will be scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Applicants will receive their passports with the visas between 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. It is advised that applicants arrive at the Embassy after 9 a.m. for quicker processing of their visas.

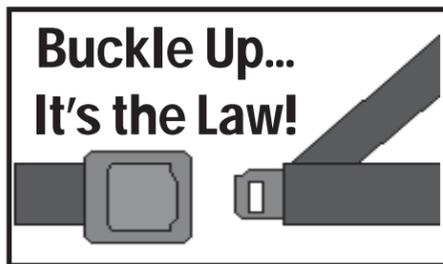
With this change to a two-step process, individuals will submit their applications, be interviewed and leave the Embassy, a process that should take less than half an hour. Prior to leaving, applicants will be issued a receipt and can return to the Embassy in the afternoon to pick up their passports, a process that should take approximately ten minutes. As a part of the change, someone other than the applicant can pick up the passport as long as they bring the receipt.

According to Embassy officials, this newly enforced two-step process is de-

signed to maintain a high level of customer service while the Embassy begins renovations to the Consular Section. The renovation is designed to create an improved customer service atmosphere for both immigrant and non-immigrant visa applicants.

Renovation of the Consular Section at the U.S. Embassy on Queen Street will begin in September and is scheduled for completion this December.

Beginning September 6, 2004, the American Citizen Services unit will be open from 1 - 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 10 a.m. - 12 noon on Friday. All routine activities including passport applications, consular reports of birth abroad and notarial services should be conducted during these hours.



## U.S. Citizens, Make Your Vote Count

American citizens over the age of eighteen residing in The Bahamas are eligible to vote in November's Presidential Elections in the United States, even if they have never voted in the U.S. before. To register and vote from abroad, American citizens must submit a request for an absentee ballot to the voting registrar in their most recent place of residence in the United States. The voting registrar will then send a ballot directly to the American citizen for completion, usually requiring that it be returned by Election Day or shortly thereafter. An estimated six million Americans overseas will be eligible to vote by absentee ballot in this election cycle.

The American Citizen Services section at the embassy has a simple, postcard-size ballot request form that can be used by voters from all 50 states. Embassy

staff can help potential voters fill out and submit their request forms in accordance with their district's specific rules. The deadlines vary, but some states require request forms to be received at least sixty days before the election. Potential voters are therefore urged to submit their absentee ballot requests by early September.

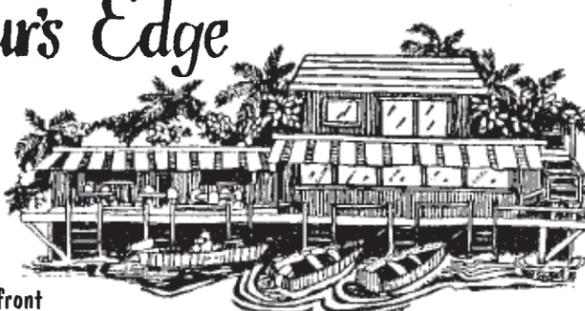
Absentee ballot request forms are available at the embassy during regular business hours. For more information, please contact the American Citizen Services section at 322-1181 or via email at [acs@state.gov](mailto:acs@state.gov). Additional voting information is available online through the Federal Voting Assistance Program at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

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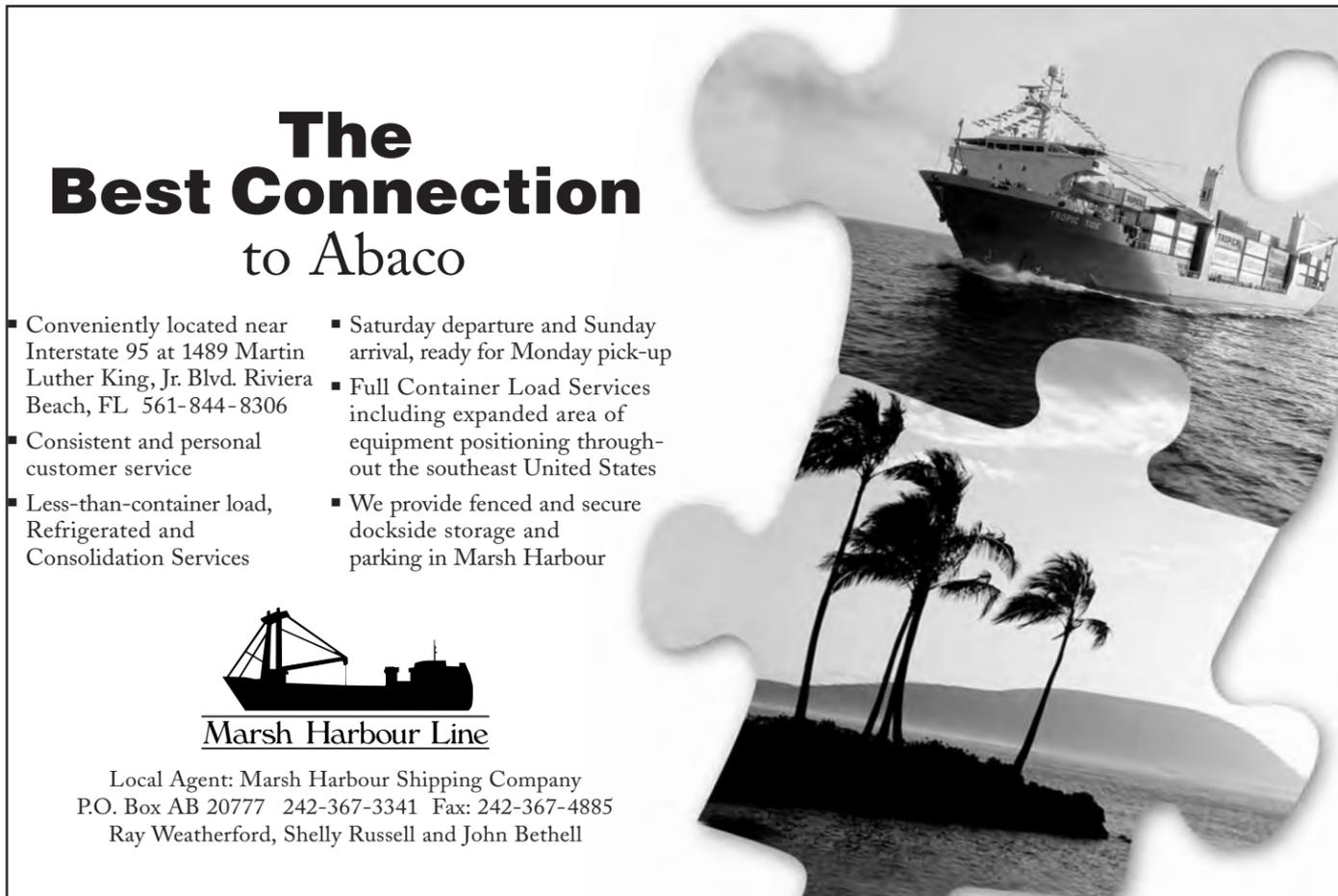
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## Farewell Party Was Held for Administrator Williams



Mr. Alexander Williams, Senior Administrator for the Central Abaco District and the Hope Town District, has been transferred to Freeport, Grand Bahama. A farewell party was held in his honour on August 25 at the Anglican Hall in Marsh Harbour. He was presented with several gifts in appreciation of his services here. Although the electricity was off for most of the celebration, those attending enjoyed the party. Shown above are Mr. Gary Sawyer, Mr. Richard Gibbs, Mr. Williams, Mr. Michael Albury and Mrs. Jeritzan Outten.

## Disaster Preparedness Committee Meets

By Isobel Sherman

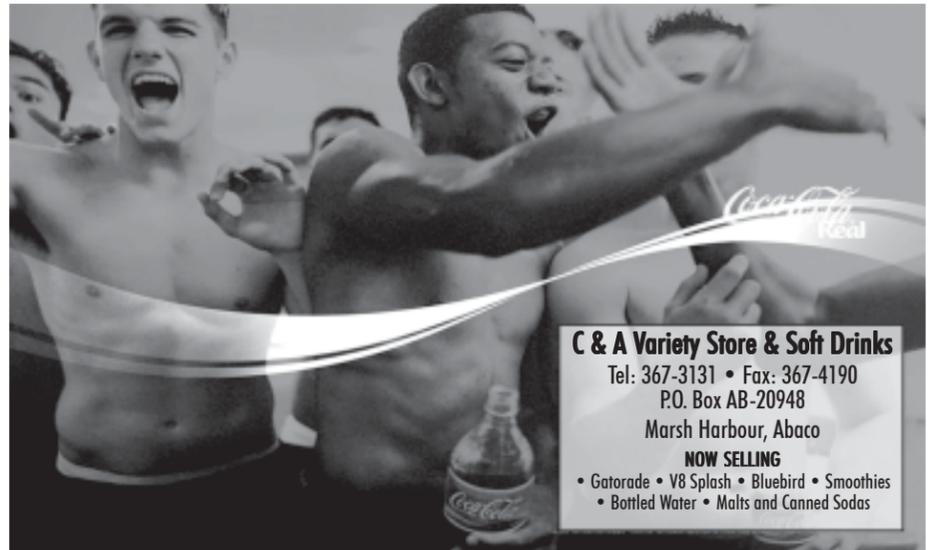
The Abaco Disaster Preparedness Committee held its first meeting on Hurricane Frances on August 30 in Marsh Harbour. Chief Councilor Cay Mills gave brief remarks and then the meeting was turned over to the disaster preparedness chairman, Mr. Silbert mills.

Basically the meeting was to disseminate information from the different persons in charge of the various areas in a disaster. Mr. Mills pointed out very strongly that hurricane Frances is a very dangerous hurricane and coming on the waning full moon makes it even more dangerous. He compared it to Hurricane Floyd.

The various agencies, BEC, Batelco,

Social Services, the Fire Department, Water and Sewerage, ZNS, Police, Defense Force and shelter management made their reports. Since Hurricane Frances is a category four storm, only four shelters in Marsh Harbour area are safe. They are Central Abaco Primary School, Church of Christ in Marsh Harbor, Abaco Central High School, the third block and St Frances de Sales Church. The Command Center will be located at Central Abaco Primary and will be operational from September 1.

An additional team of Defense Force officers are being dispatched to Abaco and will be in place before the storm hits. The next meeting will be September 1.



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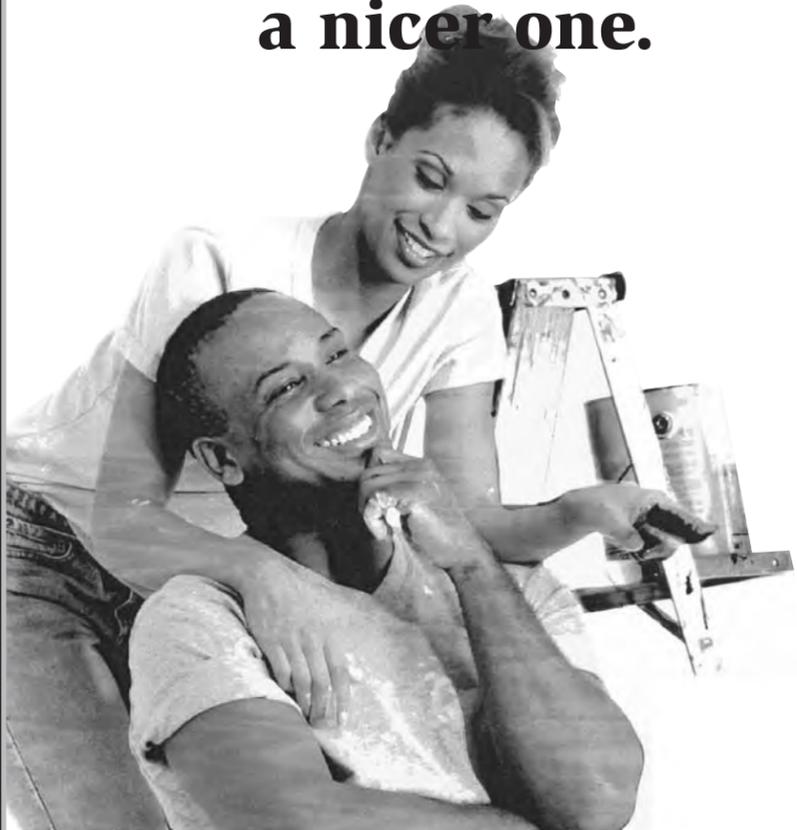
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# Wetlands Debate Is Heated

## Wetlands

From Page 17

Percy Albury did not want government enacting more laws restricting what people can do.

Ms. McKinney noted that government has recognized its errors in this regard and is taking steps to rectify dump locations.

Another complaint was that the rental boats used by tourists cause far more wetland damage than natives. Furthermore, the proposed fisheries preserve in Old Robinson's Bight would exclude Bahamians from using and enjoying one of the last accessible native marine areas.

A common theme from many of those present was that natives should have their say in any wetland policy, not the foreigners who come here and want to restrict access and change everything.

It was then suggested that Abaco Outback, which charges visitors for trips into some of these marsh and mangrove areas, may be financing this effort to preserve their business. Further negative comments were made about the environmentalists who write articles in *The Abaconian* against airboats.

Mr. Bowleg and Ms McKinney attempted to refocus the meeting, and it was agreed that water flow needed to be re-established at the bridge at Little Abaco and on the Cherokee Road. Road fill at Stink Pond north of Murphy Town and at the Lake City swash just south of the Casuarina Point road were two other locations where restored water flow under the roadway might be beneficial.

It was generally conceded that the dumps in Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay should be moved from the wetland fringe to more suitable areas. Ms. Dianne Claridge said all Abaco dumps should be relocated.

The proposed development at Baker's Bay on Guana Cay was another project brought up by the audience which will impact heavily on a wetland area and which needs close monitoring. One in the audience, believed to be a foreigner, said that if rules are not put in place, we stand to become like the Florida Keys with rampant development, pollution and few natural areas for fisheries nurseries.

The two speakers were then reminded that our success with attracting boaters was a major cause of harbour and reef pollution from their holding tanks.

Mr. Lonnie Albury brought out the recurring theme, "Government will do as it wants and our concerns don't matter." The audience felt is a wetland policy was necessary, it should be established by Abaco natives. They felt more control needed to be exercised on dredging operations and outflow from harbour-front restaurants which have outflow pipes directly into the harbour.

Questions were asked why the pump-out station scheduled for the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour was eliminated during construction of the port facility. The harbours of Hope Town and Marsh Harbour were both felt to be seriously polluted. A trench was suggested for the head of Marsh Harbour leading to the other side in the vicinity of Boat Harbour which would allow water circulation and improve water quality in the harbour.

Someone in the audience said that the thousands of residents of the Mud contribute to water and harbour pollution.

The area is a filled-in swamp close to the coast and sanitary practices are non-existent with sewerage runoff migrating to the harbour.

Ms. McKinney was asked why government is not making any effort to address this situation which is a far larger problem for Abaco than trying to restrict airboats.

The Bahamas National Trust was then criticized for its attempts to stop fishermen from using compressors for fishing. Prominent environmentalists in Hope Town were singled out for their stand against airboats and restrictive measures in the coastal areas.

Michael Albury, President of Friends of the Environment, attempted to explain that the proposed legislation was in our best interests and not directed against airboats. He was then attacked verbally for lobbying for environmental causes and notifying environmental persons to attend this type of gathering and lobby for more restrictive measures. He was faulted for not informing the general community about these issues so they could counter the environmentalists.

It was emphasized again by residents attending that the wetlands posed less of a problem than the Mud, dumps and junkyards, and government would be better advised and more appreciated to address these problems.

Ms. McKinney thanked everyone for their spirited comments and asked for written suggestions to the BEST commission in Nassau which is compiling a report for government on the wetlands issue. Interested persons can go on the Internet to: [www.best.org](http://www.best.org) for further information or to send comments or suggestions.

This present interest by government and the public consultation process, which Abaco had the first meeting, was funded by a small grant from RAMSAR awarded to the Bahamas for wetland study and subsequent legislation. The Bahamas signed onto the RAMSAR Convention in 1997. The name comes from the city in Iran where a convention was held in 1975 on conservation and use of wetlands world-wide.

Another public meeting will be held sometime in September on this topic.

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Although it is not mandatory that all hotels adopt the Hurricane Cancellation Policy, the properties are encouraged to adopt it. Furthermore, they encourages hotels to be considerate in respect to hotel rates in cases in which guests must stay in the country beyond their original date of departure.

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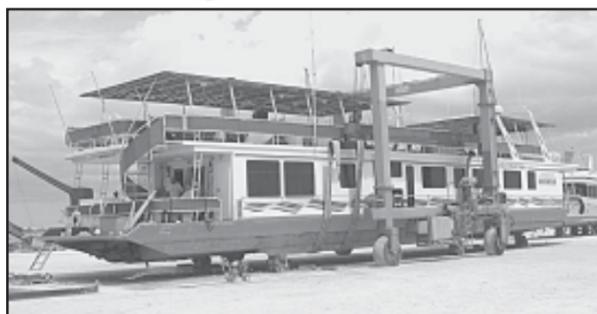
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## First Caribbean Merges Two Abaco Banks



Mr. Paul Bartlett, Abaco Branch Manager, and Ms. Kasha Frank, Branch Ambassador, is welcoming customers at the newly renovated FirstCaribbean International Bank in Marsh Harbour. Barclays Bank and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in The Bahamas and the Caribbean have been in the process of merging for the past couple of years into the FirstCaribbean International Bank. There has not been much change for their customers on Abaco until August 30. The landmark Barclays Bank at the traffic light in Marsh Harbour closed its door for the last time on August 27. The CIBC building was renovated to accommodate the changes. Now all customers of those two banks will be doing their banking business at the CIBC bank building.

## Viewpoint

### Honour Grandparents on September 12th

By Jennifer Hudson

The first Sunday after Labour Day in the United States (which happens this year to be September 12th) is observed by millions as Grandparents Day. What a lovely tradition it is to honour grandparents and to help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer. I think this would be a lovely tradition to adopt here in The Bahamas. The first Grandparents Day was proclaimed in West Virginia in 1973 and was initiated by a West Virginia housewife, Marian McQuade, mother of 15 children and grandmother of 40. In 1978 President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation proclaiming it National Grandparents Day. The month

of September was chosen to signify "the autumn years of life."

This would be a perfect time to enhance communication between the generations and to encourage patience, understanding and appreciation for the elderly. Family get togethers and picnics could be arranged and family albums could be looked at together. Grandparents could pass on talents to their grandchildren such as cooking, quilting and music and tell some very interesting stories to keep the past alive.

It would be an excellent time to delight shut-ins with a visit and remember older people unable to be with their families with a phone call or a card.

## Obituaries of Family and Friends

Annabell Bain, 76, passed away on August 20 in Sandy Point. She is survived by sons Hilton, Anthony and Leon Bain; stepson Edward Bain; daughters Naomi Dames, Allardise Culmer, Victoria Butler and

Rozelda Clarke; sisters Mary White, Ismae Seymour and Dorothy Dean; brother James Davis; grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

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## Island Coastal Areas Are Vulnerable

Dr. Kathleen Sealey from University of Miami, Florida, spoke at a science conference on marine environment mapping. She emphasized that islands are very vulnerable and particularly small islands. The area she was concerned about is the coast bordering the sea. Island ecologies are much less diverse and can suffer much more extensively from a variety of circumstances. The size of the island makes a big difference as the smaller the island the more easily its ecological balance can be affected. Island coasts are particularly vulnerable. Wind storms, extinction of some species and new species all influence an island's ecology. Hurricanes greatly impact the natural communities.

The islands in Caribbean are diverse with the larger islands having more diversity. The Bahamas is unique as the Bahama Bank has 10 times more shallow water than land. It is unique, being the only area in the Caribbean with an extensive bank area.

Changes in island's ecologies are frequently permanent. Human interference such as overfishing results in depleting of a species to the point that the species can never come back. The loss of habitat or a change in the quality of habitat can make permanent changes. Human activities such as clearing land or allowing runoff into the coastal environment can stress an area.

Dr. Sealey talked about four ways that humans bring about changes.

1 Humans change and physically restructure their environment. This is done

by dredging and filling. Dredging canals increases property values but is very bad for the environment.

2 Land is used in destructive ways. This includes the loss of vegetation, dumping and sand mining.

3 Land cover is changed and vegetation is replaced.

4 Invasive species are brought in such as scavola and casuarina.

Loss of species, loss of abundance, loss of production, loss of plant diversity all impact diversity at the coastal areas of the islands. Offshore in the coastal area algae provides food for fish and young juveniles. Nursery habitats are very important in life story of the fish we use.

More studies are needed to recognize problems and make changes to better protect the environment. Everything we use on land eventually goes into the sea. For example, septic systems with soak-aways are fine for low density areas but can be a disaster for areas of high density populations and can bring about long term environmental changes.

We need to make the regulations necessary to protect the environment while still allowing development. It is our environment which attracts the developments adding to our prosperity.



## Two Potcakes Are Adopted in the States



Keith and Melinda Rogers of Marsh Harbour found themselves with eight potcake puppies that had been rescued from being drowned. They are keeping them until homes can be found for them in the States. Penny Haglund of Missoula, Montana, heard about the puppies while vacationing here and agreed to take one back with her. She ended up choosing two puppies that she wanted to adopt. On August 27 Midget and Peaches left with her and her daughter Nakia for their new life in Montana. The Rogers want to thank the many people who assisted in the puppy logistics of getting them to their new home. Other puppies are available for adoption. Call 367-5871 for information.

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### Cherokee

Lee Pinder 3 hse + 366-2053

### Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

### Green Turtle Cay

Bank Apartments 3 apts 365-4105

Bluff House 8 rm 20 cott 365-4200

Chris Plummer 3 hse 365-4648

Coco Bay Cottages 4 cott 365-5464

Green Turtle Club 34 rm 365-4271

Island Properties 34 hse + 365-4047

New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties 30 + 365-4636

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

### Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott.365-5137

Coco Paradise 8 cott 365-5197

Donna Sands 12 hse + 365-5195

Guana Beach Resort 6 units 365-5133

Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106

Harbour View Haven 365-5028

Ria-Mar Rentals 5 + 365-6241

Sea Shore Villas 365-5028

### Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133

Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003

Crystal Villas 6 villas 321-783-4576

Elbow Cay Prop 53 hse + 366-0035

Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095

Hope T Hideaways 63 hse + 366-0224

Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030

Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154

Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366--0266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key 43 hse + 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

### Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121

### Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048

Ria-mar Rentals 9 + 365-6241

Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

### Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158

Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719

Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980

Great Abaco Club 12 hse + 367-4151

Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

### Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

### Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

### Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

### Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111

Island Dreams 45 hse + 365-8507

Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

### Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

### Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

### General for Abaco

Listings for the entire island

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576

### Web Sites

with general Abaco information

http://www.abacoinet.com

http://www.abacoinfo.com

http://www.abacos.com

http://www.go-abacos.com

http://www.oii.net

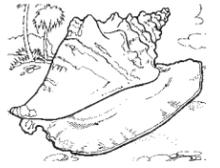
http://www.bahamas.com

# Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Abaco Chamber of Commerce  
367-5822 • Fax 367-5823  
www.abacochamber.org

Abaco area code 242  
unless listed otherwise



| 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 passenger above two                            |              |
| • Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:                               |              |
| Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr                             | \$12 + \$3   |
| Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town | \$10 + \$3   |
| Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market                          | \$10 + \$2   |
| Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto                                     | \$6 + \$2    |
| Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town                              | \$10 + \$3   |
| Murphy Town to Shell Sta   | \$14 + \$4   |
| Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house                             | \$14 + \$4   |
| Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house                                | \$14 + \$4   |
| Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house                          | \$16 + \$5   |
| Great Cistern  | \$20 + \$5   |
| Spring City  | \$15 + \$5   |
| Snake Cay  | \$35 + \$10  |
| Treasure Cay   | \$60 + \$10  |
| Casuarina Point  | \$60 + \$10  |
| Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores                            | \$70 + \$10  |
| Little Harbour or Cherokee   | \$80 + \$10  |
| Crossing Rocks   | \$100 + \$10 |
| Sandy Point  | \$135 + \$10 |
| • Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:                                 |              |
| Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore                        | \$2 each     |
| Jib Room   | \$3 each     |
| Golden Harvest   | \$5 + \$3    |
| Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock                                 | \$6 + \$3    |
| Government Freight Dock  | \$7 + \$3    |
| Gov. Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance                             | \$9 + \$3    |
| Mother Merle restaurant  | \$10 + \$3   |
| Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour                     |              |
| Children under three - free • Uncaged pets - as people             |              |
| Luggage \$.50 each over four, Surf boards \$3.00 ea.               |              |
| • Between Treasure Cay Airport and: Effective July 2004            |              |
| Treasure Cay Resort  | \$18 + \$5   |
| Madeira Park   | \$12 + \$4   |
| Green Turtle Cay ferry dock  | \$6 + \$4    |
| Moxy   | \$16 + \$5   |
| Bahamas Star farm  | \$20 + \$5   |
| Sand Banks   | \$22 + \$5   |
| Joe's Creek  | \$40 + \$6   |
| Black Wood   | \$16 + \$5   |
| Fire Road & Cooper's Town  | \$35 + \$5   |
| Cedar Harbour  | \$50 + \$5   |
| Wood Cay   | \$55 + \$5   |
| Mount Hope   | \$60 + \$5   |
| Fox Town   | \$65 + \$5   |
| Crown Haven  | \$70 + \$5   |
| Marsh Harbour Airport  | \$70 + \$10  |
| T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour                                       | \$60 + \$10  |
| T Cay Hotel to G Turtle Ferry or Blue Hole                         | \$14 + \$6   |
| T Cay Hotel to Marles  | \$20 + \$5   |
| T C Hotel to Joe's Creek   | \$30 + \$6   |
| T C Hotel to Moxey   | \$14 + \$5   |
| T Cay Hotel to Banyan Bch Club                                     | \$6 + \$3    |
| Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport                              | \$70 + \$10  |

| Airlines Serving Abaco                               |              |
|--|--------------|
| Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is           | 367-2266     |
| Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale                         | 367-5599     |
| Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale                        | 367-2800     |
| American Eagle - Miami                               | 367-2231     |
| Bahamasair - Nassau & W. Palm Beach                  | 367-2095     |
| 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     |
| Fla Coastal Airlines - Vero B & Ft Lauderdale        | 367-0179     |
| 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 |
| Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour            | 367-2936 |
| 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           |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Marsh Harbour to Hope Town</b> 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach    |                                      |
| 7:15 (M-F) 9 am   | 10:30 12:15 pm 2 4 5:45              |
| Return 8 am   | 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 (M-F)       |
| <b>Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War</b> 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach    |                                      |
| 10:30 am  | 12:15 pm (M-Sat) 2:30 (M-Sat) 4 5:45 |
| Return 8 am   | 11:30 (M-Sat) 1:30 pm 3:15 (M-Sat)   |
| <b>Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay &amp; Guana</b> 40 min. from Conch Inn |                                      |
| 7:45 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                   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport</b>                               |                                   |
| 8 am  | 9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30            |
| <b>Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay</b>                               |                                   |
| 8:30 am   | 10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5 |
| One way adult \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$12 Extra to some destinations |                                   |

| Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 &amp; returns 4:45 p.m.</b> \$25 RT   |  |
| <b>T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm</b> \$35 RT      |  |
| <b>T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25</b> , call for time               |  |
| <b>Pinder's Ferry Service</b> Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -                    |  |
| <b>Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah.</b> -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm |  |
| <b>McLean's Town to Crown Haven -</b> Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm                   |  |
| Fare \$40 one way • \$80 round trip • Children half fare                        |  |
| For information call Grand Bahama 353-3093 or Abaco 365-2356                    |  |
| Bus serves Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.   |  |

| Bahamas Ferries Between Nassau & Sandy Point under 4 Hr.  |  |
|---|--|
| Friday & Sunday Lv Nassau 3:30 pm • Lv Sandy Point 8 pm • Adults \$90 RT, \$50 OW   |  |
| Cars, trucks and cargo • Call Sandy Point 366-4119 • Marsh Harbour 367-5250 • Nassau 323-2166   |  |
| <b>Islander Express</b> - Bus between Marsh Harbour & Sandy Point -For information call 366-4444 or 457-9958  |  |
| <b>Enovahs Bus Service</b> - Hourly bus through Murphy Town, Dundas Town & Marsh Harbour to Ferry dock. Spring City early morning & late afternoon. |  |

| Abaco Marinas   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Slips Fuel Phone  |                           |
| <b>Walker's Cay</b>   |                           |
| Walker's Cay Marina   | 75 ..... F .... 353-1252  |
| <b>Green Turtle Cay</b>   |                           |
| Bluff House   | 45 ..... F .... 365-4200  |
| Green Turtle Club   | 32 ..... F .... 365-4271  |
| Black Sound Marina  | 15 ..... 365-4531         |
| Other Shore Club  | 12 ..... F .... 365-4195  |
| Abaco Yacht Service   | 10 ..... F .... 365-4033  |
| <b>Treasure Cay</b>   |                           |
| Treasure Cay Marina   | 150 ..... F .... 365-8250 |
| <b>Man-O-War</b>  |                           |
| Man-O-War Marina  | 26 ..... F .... 365-6008  |
| <b>Marsh Harbour</b>  |                           |
| Boat Harbour Marina   | 183 ..... F .... 367-2736 |
| Conch Inn   | 75 ..... F .... 367-4000  |
| Harbour View Marina   | 36 ..... F .... 367-2182  |
| Marsh Harbour Marina  | 52 F 367 2700             |
| Mangoes   | 29 ..... F .... 367-2366  |
| Port of Call  | 24 ..... F .... 367-2287  |
| Abaco Yacht Haven   | 7 ..... 367-3079          |
| <b>Hope Town</b>  |                           |
| Hope Town Marina  | 16 ..... 366-0003         |
| Hope Town Hideaways   | 366-0224                  |
| Lighthouse Marina   | 6 ..... F .... 366-0154   |
| Sea Spray   | 50 ..... F .... 366-0065  |
| <b>Spanish Cay</b>  |                           |
| Spanish Cay Marina  | 75 ..... F .... 365-0083  |
| <b>Guana Cay</b>  |                           |
| Orchid Bay  | 32 ..... F .... 365-5175  |
| Boats 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 Dive Adventures       | 367-2963 |
| <b>Hope Town</b>            |          |
| Froggies                    | 366-0431 |
| <b>Treasure Cay</b>         |          |
| Treasure Divers             | 365-8465 |
| Treasure Cay Adventures     | 365-8111 |
| <b>Green Turtle Cay</b>     |          |
| Brendal's Dive Center       | 365-4411 |
| <b>Guana Cay</b> Dive Guana | 365-5178 |
| <b>Man-O-War</b> Dive Shop  | 365-6013 |

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



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Please bring errors, omissions or corrections to our attention

Rev I Sep 04

## 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                      | \$\$ Closed                   |
| Hummingbird                        | \$\$ 367-2922                 |
| Jamie's Place                      | \$ 367-2880                   |
| Jib Room                           | Closed...Aug 25 - Nov 1       |
| Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch-5pm) | 367-2615                      |
| Mangoes                            | Closed... Sept 6 - Nov 6      |
| Pop's Place                        | \$ ..... + ..... 367-3796     |
| Sapodilly's                        | Closed                        |
| Sea Shells                         | \$ 367-4460                   |
| Snack Shack                        | \$ ..... + ..... 367-4005     |
| Snappas                            | \$ 367-2278                   |
| Subway                             | 367-2798                      |
| Wallys                             | Closed ...Sept 4 - Nov 1      |
| <b>Dundas Town</b>                 |                               |
| Ambassador Inn                     | \$ 367-2022                   |
| Mackerals                          | 367-5932                      |
| <b>Hope Town</b>                   |                               |
| Abaco Inn                          | Closed Sept 7 - Oct 14        |
| Cap'n Jacks                        | Closed                        |
| Club Soliel                        | 366-0253                      |
| Harbour's Edge                     | Closed to Oct 25              |
| H T Harbour Lodge                  | \$\$\$ 366-0095               |
| Munchies                           | \$ ..... + ..... 366-0423     |
| Rudy's Place                       | \$\$\$ ..... ‡ ..... 366-0062 |
| Sea Spray                          | \$\$\$ ..... ‡ ..... 366-0065 |
| <b>Man-O-War</b>                   |                               |
| Pavilion                           | Closed                        |
| Hibiscus                           | 365-6380                      |
| <b>Guana Cay</b>                   |                               |
| Blue Water Grill                   | \$\$\$ 365-5230               |
| Guana Seaside                      | \$\$\$ 365-5106               |
| Nippers                            | \$\$\$ 365-5143               |
| Orchid Bay                         | Closed until Oct              |
| <b>Treasure Cay</b>                |                               |
| Florence's Cafe                    | \$                            |
| Coconuts                           |                               |
| Harbour Cafe                       | \$ 365-8635                   |
| Hudson's Delight                   | \$ 365-8648                   |
| Spinnaker Restaurant               | \$\$\$ 365-8469               |
| Touch of Class                     | \$\$\$ 365-8195               |
| Traveller's Rest                   | 365-8654                      |
| <b>Green Turtle Cay</b>            |                               |
| Bluff House                        | \$\$\$ 365-4200               |
| Jolly Roger Bistro                 | \$\$ 365-4200                 |
| Green Turtle Club                  | Closed Sept                   |
| Laura's Kitchen                    | Closed Oct - mid-Nov          |
| McIntosh's Restaurant              | \$ ..... 365-4625             |
| New Plymouth Inn                   | \$\$\$ ..... 365-4161         |
| Plymouth Rock Cafe                 | 365-4234                      |
| Rooster's Rest                     | \$\$ 365-4066                 |
| Sundowners                         | 365-4060                      |
| Wrecking Tree Restaurant           |                               |
| Harbour Café (ferry dock)          | \$ ..... + ..... 365-8635     |
| <b>Sandy Point</b>                 |                               |
| Big J's                            | \$ ..... 366-4020             |
| Nancy's                            |                               |
| Oeishas                            | 366-4139                      |
| Pete & Gays                        | \$\$\$ 366-4119               |
| Seaside Inn                        | \$\$\$ 366-4120               |
| Rickmon Bonefish Lodge             | 366-4477                      |

# It's Time!



## ABACO INSURANCE AGENCY, LTD.

P.O. BOX AB-20404 • MARSH HARBOUR • ABACO • BAHAMAS

TEL: (242) 367-2549 • FAX: (242) 367-3075

E-MAIL: [abacoinsurance@coralwave.com](mailto:abacoinsurance@coralwave.com)

**Premium Financing Available**



# The Abaconian

## SECTION B



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 17, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2004

## The Winding Bay Development Is on Target Grand Opening Will Be On December 31, 2004



*The Abaco Club of Winding Bay, located on a picture perfect beach, is constructing buildings which add to the tropical paradise feeling. Water sports are inviting with equipment conveniently on the beach. In the distance are the club house and spa under construction. Several two and three bedroom cottages are under construction just beyond. Seventy cottages will be scattered around the club house. The golf course is nearing completion and horses are due for the stable soon.*

Developers of the upscale Abaco Club on Winding Bay are extremely pleased with its progress and say that it is right on target for its New Year's Eve, 2004, grand opening. According to Project Director, Mark Scott, sales have even exceeded expectations and in view of this an additional 20 hotel rooms have been added to the original plan.

I had my first look at the Abaco Club very recently when I was treated to a tour of the property by Mr. Scott and I was extremely impressed both by its beauty and its amenities.

On entering the property guests will immediately find themselves at the reception building where, upon checking in, their vehicles will be valet parked in the main car park. They will proceed to their accommodation by golf cart which will be the only form of transportation allowed on the property. Sand roads were originally considered for their natural look; but for more comfortable driving the developers decided to put in hard gravel surface roads. The property has been thoughtfully landscaped using all of the original native underbrush vegetation which has been charmingly interspersed

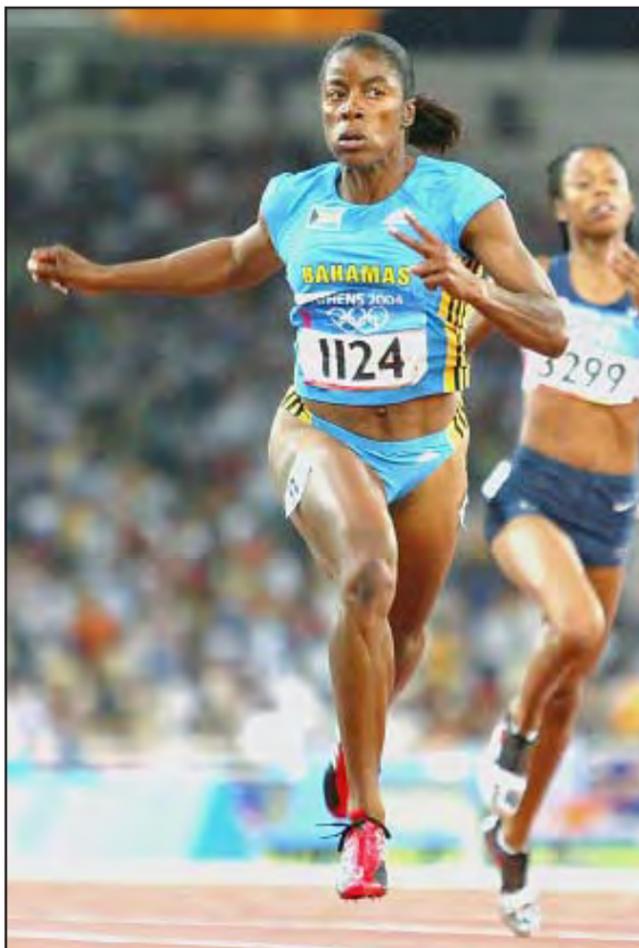
Please see **Abaco Club** Page 2

## Bahamians Win Medals at the Olympics



*Tonique Williams Darling was jubilant when she won the gold medal in the women's 400 meter competition at the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.*

On August 24 Tonique Williams Darling won the women's 400 meter gold medal in the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. It was the Bahamas national anthem that rang out as she stood proudly on the podium. Her nearest competitor was Mexican Ana Guevara, who came in .15 seconds behind her. Ms. Guevara had been unbeaten in competitions during the past three years. Ms. Darling's time for the 400 was 49.41 seconds. Bahamian



*Debbie Ferguson is shown in competition in the women's 200 meter in which she won a bronze medal in the Olympics last month.*

Christine Amertil was also in the 400 meter race but came in seventh place.

There to watch her come in with the winning time were her husband, Dennis Darling; her mother, Debbie Williams;

Please see **Olympics**

Page 14

**Mark Your Calendar  
Christmas Bazaar  
Marsh Harbour  
December 20**

**Goombay Festival  
Holds Last Event**



*Members of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band entertained the crowds at the final Goombay program for this year. They did their fancy marching before switching over to their pop band music. The New Wave Dancers and the Spring City Rockers provided continuous entertainment as the crowds enjoyed Bahamian food and dancing. See story on page 6.*

# Construction at Abaco Club Is Progressing

with native flowering plants which attract myriads of butterflies. All native vegetation which had to be removed for the development has been re-situated on site.

Construction is well under way on the 70 cottages to be built for sale and rental. All top quality materials are being used in the construction of these houses and care has been taken to use materials which will blend well into the landscape. All sidings are cedar, decks are of Ipe, South American mahogany, and roofs are copper tile. Inside, the same high quality and workmanship abounds. All kitchen and bathroom counter tops are of granite and the floor tiles have been imported from Italy. Each home is well appointed with high quality appliances and an outdoor barbeque grill.

The largest cottages are three bedroom, three bath while the smaller cottages have two bedrooms and two baths. All homes are situated with an uninterrupted view of the incredibly beautiful bay and beach.

In addition to the 70 cottages being built by the Abaco Club, there are an additional 60 lots designated for private owners, 42 of which have already been sold. The first two houses are under construction and it is expected that six will be well underway by Christmas. All lots were originally selling for \$1million but are now fetching between \$1.75 million and \$3.5 million dollars.

Also under construction is a large circular clubhouse which will offer superb amenities for relaxation in a very informal atmosphere. In addition to a bar, dining area



One of the most beautiful beaches on Abaco, Winding Bay will be shared by many high-end investors who are buying the beach front property. Two houses are under construction in the distance. Lots have sold well and Mr. Peter de Savary has already begun Phase II, well before the scheduled time.



Two of the people who are making it all happen at The Abaco Club at Winding Bay are shown here. Mr. Mark Aitken on the left is in charge of the 18-hole golf course which is well underway for a major golf tournament planned for November. On the right is Mark Scott, Project Director, who oversees the construction of the cottages, club house and other resort amenities.

and open kitchen, there will be an adjoining spa featuring sauna and steam rooms, four beauty treatment rooms and exercise rooms for yoga and Pilates. A swimming pool is in the plans.

Beach lovers will delight in the large expanse of white sandy beach which is

equipped with lounges, thatched beach umbrellas and a beach bar and grill. A large variety of Hobie Cats, canoes and paddle boats are on hand for the more energetic guests. Close by are changing rooms, show-

Please see **Abaco Club** Page 4



The club house and cottages are high above Winding Bay, each with a beautiful view of the idyllic beach and bay. They are placed so the views are not obstructed. The cottages will be sold, then turned over to a management team for rental.

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An aerial view of the estate with the wide sandy beach. The house is complete with golf carts, bicycles and an outdoor bar-be-que grill.

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# First Phase Will Be Complete in December

## Abaco Club

From Page 2

ers and the Golf Pro shop.

Rising alongside the beach is the 18-hole golf course which is judged to be one of the most spectacularly located golf courses in the entire Caribbean region. An unusual feature, I am told, is the placement of a putting green and driving range adjacent to the first hole tee for warm ups. The golf

course is maintained by a very experienced head greens keeper, Mark Aitken from Scotland, and has been planned with an advanced drainage system which provides a 30 minute recovery, even after torrential rain. The greens crew begin mowing at 5 a.m. every day.

Six Texas quarter horses are in the United States waiting to be shipped here to take up residence in their newly built stables at the

Abaco Club. These steeds will be available to take guests on treks along the beautiful beach.

The site of the Abaco Club is presently a hive of activity with between 250 and 300 workers employed on any given day. Ninety-five percent of these employees are Bahamian. Once the Club is open, it is ex-

pected that there will be a permanent staff of approximately 250, 98 percent of whom will be Bahamian. All staff will be trained as first aiders and six or eight will receive additional training as First Responders, bringing them almost on a par with para-

Please see **Abaco Club** Page 5



The 18th hole on the top of the ridge has a spectacular view of the ocean on one side and the buildings of the Abaco Club of Winding Bayon the other side. The golf course is a links course, the only one in the tropics. A links course disturbs the environment less than typical golf courses. The developer has left much natural vegetation and is using native plants to a great extent in landscaping.



Seventy two- and three-bedroom cottages are planned and several are nearing completion. The cottages are being built with low maintenance materials and all include amenities such as hot tubs. They are sited so each house overlooks a great view.

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**Marsh Harbour.** Great location near Boat Harbour entrance. Commercial or residential lot suitable for single family or duplex. #6251 \$120,000

**Split Rocks.** UNDER OFFER! Sea of Abaco Acreage! 15 acres of rolling hills. High elevation. Perfect for a small resort or secluded estate. #8729 \$590,000

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**Abaco Club** *From Page 4*

medics. The Club will have its own fire engine and mobile first aid unit (ambulance) on site.

Telephone, cable and power conduits are presently being installed and are expected to be in the ground within a couple of weeks. Bahamas Electricity Corporation has been busy for some time installing new poles and

wires along the Cherokee Road and electricity is expected to reach the site by October. Switching on will probably take place in November. A sewer treatment plant will be on site for the 70 cottages on the hill and garbage collection will be handled by Bahamas Waste.

Everything is looking good for the first expected guests to take up residence in early December.

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# Goombay Entertains Hundreds

By Portia Jonsson

Goombay Summer came to an end on August 27th at the Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour. For the past month visitors and locals flocked to the park to soak up a taste of Bahamian culture, sample the native dishes or just simply enjoy a summer night under the stars. But for many, it was the performance of the New Wave Dancers that

reeled them in. This young dance group from Freeport, Grand Bahama, energized, electrified and excited the crowd. It was hard to take your eyes off them once they took the stage.

The New Wave Dancer group is the brainchild of Choreographer Jullion Collie. After returning from college in 1996, Mr. Collie and his aunt, Ms. Roslyn Col-

lie, opened a dance studio in Freeport, the Bahamas Dance Theatre. When the dance studio began, there were 45 students enrolled. Today, there are 300 dance students with the New Wave Dancers as their most advanced group. They have performed at various functions throughout Grand Bahama

and traveled to the Turks Island a few months ago.

According to Mr. Collie his dance studio teaches a little of everything including

Please see **Goombay** Page 7

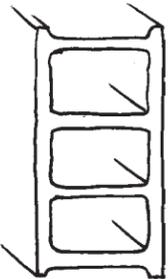


August 27 was the date of the last Goombay Festival for this year. Once again crowds enjoyed the variety of entertainment along with the Bahamian food and booths offering a selection of Bahamian crafts. Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour has proved to be an ideal site for this celebration.



The Royal Bahamas Police Force Band again performed at the Goombay Festival on August 27. Their elaborate marching maneuvers are always greatly appreciated. Some of them have formed a pop band which is much more informal and always get the audience on their dancing feet.

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Three 1/2 acre lots within 5 minute walk of public dock, waterfront and Green Turtle Club \$60-\$70,000 each

2 bed 2 bath furnished home with view of ocean and Sea of Abaco. A/C throughout. W/D. Wrap around porch. Reef close enough to swim to. Many custom pieces. \$575,000 plus 7% to close ONO

North End: Stunning, furnished 3 bed 2 bath home with fireplace. 125' on Atlantic Ocean. 35' elevation. Commanding views of the ocean. Spacious screened-in porch. One acre. \$1.32 million plus 7% to close

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# New Wave Dancers Electrify Crowd

## Goombay

From Page 6

Bahamian, Latin, African, Hip Hop, Limbo,

Fire Dancing, Tap Dance and Ballet. The dance studio is opened to the young and the young at heart with its oldest dance

member at 54.

During the group's 40 minutes performance at the Goombay Summer festival, they carried out a variety of seven to eight dance routines, which takes two to three weeks to perfect. Mr. Collie advised that the costumes are fitted to the dance routine.

Traveling to Abaco was no easy task for the dance troop. After taking a one-hour bus ride from Freeport to McCleans Town in Grand Bahama, the group then went by ferry to Crown Haven, Abaco, to begin their one hour and fifteen minutes drive to Marsh Harbour. This was followed the next morning by an early departure. This long

and exhausting trip did not appear to affect the group's performance at all. They are definitely first class performers.

Mr. Collie believes the experience in traveling to another Family Island to perform has been a good one for the dancers and looks forward to many more years of being a part of Goombay Summer Festival.



The marching Royal Bahamas Police Force Band is always very exciting to watch as they go through their elaborate marching manoeuvres. The band is popular and travels extensively as good ambassadors of The Bahamas.

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# The Early Days in Spring City and Lake City

By Jennifer Hudson

Mr. Bob Ferguson lives in an attractive old pine house in Spring City which actually had a history before its Spring City days for once upon a time it stood in Pine Ridge, Grand Bahama. This house is one of several which was put on a barge and shipped across to Abaco when the pulp wood operation moved here from Grand Bahama. In 1959 the Owens Illinois logging operation moved to Snake Cay from Riding Point, Grand Bahama. All the wood by that time had been cut on Grand Bahama so the company came to Abaco for the abundance of pine on

this island. Thus, Spring City became settled and grew up in three sections. Firstly, there was "Old Town" which consisted of the houses transported from The Gap at Riding Point. The Gap, on the northern coast of Grand Bahama, was the residential area for the employees of Owens Illinois of The Bahamas. Many of the houses there were moved from Pine Ridge. About seven or eight of these houses can still be seen in excellent condition today along one of the settlement's streets. Next was "White Town" where the middle level management lived. Since these people were white Bahamians, this

is how that particular area derived its name. Lastly, came "New Town" which is the area where the newly built wood houses stand today built for the people recruited from abroad to run the sugar mill when it came into operation. The top level managers for the pulp wood operation did not reside in Spring City but lived in the houses on Snake Cay and Casuarina Point.

In mid-December of 1959 the river side-wheel paddle ship named the *Robert Fulton* was towed to Snake Cay from Riding Point, Grand Bahama. Before arriving on Grand Bahama in 1956, it had been converted into a store, a school, a clinic, offices and apartments. The doc-

tor for the clinic was Dr. Ejnar Gottlieb, who resided on the *Fulton* before moving into his home in Marsh Harbour. The children of the residents of Snake Cay attended school there while the Spring City children attended school in Lake City.

Another settlement, Lake City, came into existence at this time about 13 miles south of Spring City. This was much larger than Spring City and housed most of the pulpwood workers. Most of the lumber company workers who lived there were Turks Islanders while the Bahamian

Please see **Spring City** Page 9



This is one of the houses in Spring City which was built in Pine Ridge on Grand Bahama, was moved to The Gap on the eastern end of Grand Bahama and was finally moved to Spring City in 1959. Some of the houses were built of pine lumber which is very dense.

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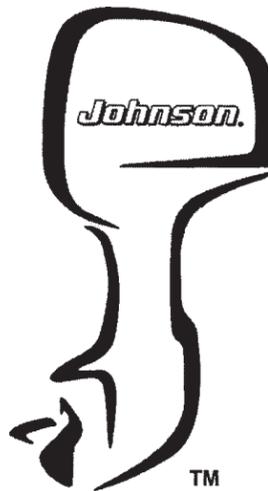


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**Spring City**

From Page 8

workers lived in Spring City, Dundas Town and Murphy Town. Lake City had an All Age Government School which survived Hurricane Betsy and provided safe shelter for the residents. Interestingly, this school building was later removed from its site in Lake City and became the library at the old St. Francis de

Sales School.

The Ministry of Education opened the first high school on Abaco in 1972 in three adjoining buildings in Spring City before the school was moved to its present campus in Murphy Town in 1984. The building still stands but now houses a small shop and Collins Bar Room.

Lake City and Spring City both had a Pentecostal church for which Brother

Swain, a Turks Islander, was minister. Lake City also sported a small bar and club which were run by Bob Ferguson who is now a shoe mender in Spring City.

About two miles from Snake Cay was another small settlement called Campbell Town which housed the Haitian workers.



A government school and a Pentecostal church in Lake City were both important places where the residents of that community could get together to socialize. The church, the building with the steeple, was later moved to the campus of St. Francis de Sales School in Marsh Harbour where it served as a library.

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## ★ HOMES ★



"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.**



"Blueberry Hill"

**Great Guana Cay** - Colonial plantation style 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath 3,900 sq.ft. home 450 sq.ft. dock house with screened porch. On an extremely private 3/4 acre point. 170' of deep water frontage with dock. Mature native landscaping Superb Sea of Abaco Views. #AB125 **NEW LISTING \$1,380,000**



"Cornish Cay"

**Sea of Abaco** - 38 Acre private Island - Great Beaches - 1 bedroom, 1 bath residence, 2 Guest Cottages, Caretaker's Cottage, Barn, Tennis Court, Sea Plane Ramp, Boat Basin with Boat Lift, Boat Ramps, Breakwater protected Dock, Solar Power and generators #AB 119 **NEW LISTING \$4,900,000**



"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**



**Derek A. Lee, BRI**  
Abaco District  
Managing Broker  
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Estate Agent  
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Cell: (242) 554-9451  
e.mail: bpepperinn@abacoinet.com  
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"Pelican Point"

**Marsh Harbour** - 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. #A B 67 - \$2,950,000



"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. #AB123 - **NEW LISTING \$1,379,000**

### Marsh Harbour, Central Cays and South Abaco

- ★ **Man-O-War Cay** - "Ceylon's Isle/Rosewood" - 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.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shores "Endless Summer"- 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.**
- ★ **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- **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **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** - Great Abaco Club - "Sea View" -2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 1,400 sq.ft of living space. Private Dock Slip. Superb views of the Sea of Abaco Fully Furnished and Equipped - Good Rental Income Producer. # AB68 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **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.**



**Kathleen Albury, BRI**  
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Appraiser  
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e.mail: kathleen@hgchristie.com



**Faron Sawyer**  
Estate Agent  
Marsh Harbour  
Tel: (242) 367-5454  
Cell: (242) 359 - 6981  
e.mail: faron@hgchristie.com



"B-Team"

**Treasure Cay** - Galleon Bay - 4 Bedroom, 3 bath, 4,000 sq.ft. canal-front home with 1,280 sq.ft. of open and covered decks. On two parcels of land totaling over 3/4 acre. 48' lay-along private dock. Beautifully furnished and landscaped with great Sea of Abaco views. #AB124 - **NEW LISTING \$1,395,000..**



"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.**



"Sunset Point Resort"

**Marsh Harbour** - Bustic Bay - 8 Unit Bonafishing resort, with fifty seat Lazy Parrot Restaurant and Bar. Central Air-conditioning. Fresh water swimming pool. Excellent investment opportunity. AB100 - **NEW PRICE \$750,000**



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



**Margot Lee**  
Estate Agent  
Man-O-War Cay  
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e.mail: margot@abacoinet.com



**John Cash, BRI**  
Broker  
Treasure Cay  
Tel/Fax: (242) 365-8467  
Cell: (242) 477-5056  
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## ★ VACANT LAND ★

- ☆ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Canal Front Building Sites
- ☆ #12 - 8,335 sq.ft. - AB5012 A - Large East Canal Parcel - **UNDER CONTRACT \$299,000.**
- ☆ #40 - 9,778 sq.ft. - AB5155 - Extra Large Corner Parcel - **\$360,000.**
- ☆ #41 - 7,070 sq.ft. - AB5156 - Good Elevation - Sea View - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ☆ #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** - "Marnie's Creek" - 1/2 acre hillside building sites, a private dock slip for each parcel Fabulous Sea of Abaco views - # AB5114 - from: **\$230,000.**
- ☆ **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 fabuolous ocean and sea views #AB5176 - **\$2,950,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay Area - "Madierra Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. # AB5143 - **\$395,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Coco Sound" - 28 prime residential 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.**

# Viewpoint . . . On the Death of a Tree

By Candace Key

It's gone forever. Its once wide-spread, leafy boughs are now mere sticks of dead wood trucked away as refuse. Our oldest community citizen who is 83 told me the tree was huge when she was a child.

The 100-year-old once proud, lofty cork tree withstood many severe hurricanes,

droughts and diseases to fall to a chainsaw in a matter of hours. The sounds of the machete chops and chainsaw "killing" the tree made me physically ill that day. I kept thinking of the beauty and usefulness of the tree which would be no more. In its place would be the rental second home for a foreign investor.

An environmental friend and I quickly E-mailed the purchaser of the property to plead for the tree to be spared for future generations of Bahamians to enjoy. The return E-mail tersely stated, "The cesspit to our planned rental cottage won't fit - the tree must go." I tried to reason with the real estate agent who sold the property. "We checked - the tree is not on the endangered list; it must go," was the reply of the agent who told me a couple of years ago that he was keeping his assets liquid so when our community became too crowded, they would move! My point of reasoning was the fact that we just cannot build on every 50-foot wide piece of property. I was then told the property was only

34 feet wide!

Comments such as: "That wouldn't have happened in our town - we have strict tree ordinances." "No big tree would ever be touched," the comment from a frequent visitor who is a Nature Conservancy director was "When I came in the harbour, my eye immediately went to the spot the tree was - what a shame." "It changes the whole view of your harbour." "Your town council should have stopped that happening." Other commented. "It happened so fast! It was there one day and when I came into town a couple of days later, it was gone!" According to the pur-

Please see **Viewpoint** Page 13



The wheelbarrow marks the spot where a once proud 100-year-old cork tree stood. The tree was removed to accommodate a cesspit for a rental cottage. The writer suggests that real estate agents and contractors work with purchasers of property to ensure eco-sensitive and sustainable designed construction.

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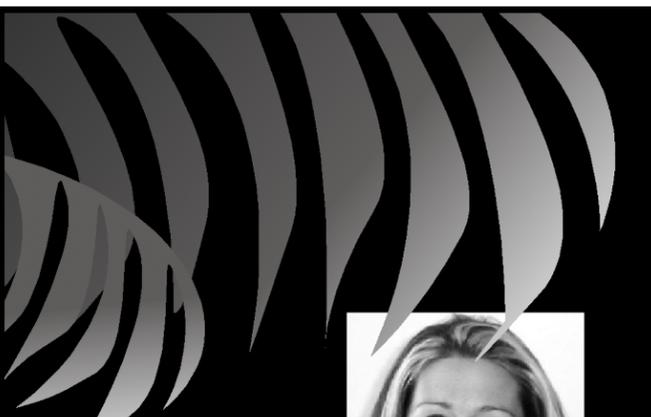
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Located on Key Club road in Marsh Harbour is approx. 6.5 acres of prime real estate. This property is situated in a very quiet, residential area & faces the ocean with great views of the neighbouring cays. This spectacular lot has over 450 ft. of water frontage w/ 50 ft. elevations. This lot has great potential & could be used for a sub-division or commercial business.

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**Viewpoint**

From Page 12

chaser of the property, he received the comment "It's time the tree went."

I believe the death of this one tree opens a lot of serious concerns about the future of our fragile, unique community. Our island is five miles long and less than a mile wide. We are located on a major migrational corridor for many species of birds that depend on our large trees for food, protection and rest on their monumental trips each year. Each tree we lose means less help for these creatures.

That particular tree was known as the Parliament Steps Tree. It shaded several generations of elders as they sat on the Parliament Steps discussing and contemplating life in general. Even the real estate salesperson admitted he rushed to get into a parking spot that was shaded by the tree. A part of our culture heritage is gone.

It is a scientific fact that trees draw rain. Their chemical emissions mixing with atmospheric gasses attract rain clouds. This year in particular we suffered an extended drought period. It was frustrating to observe rain in the larger, more heavily wooded Marsh Harbour area while we were still dry as a bone. Every tree we destroy pushes our already small cay farther way from rain attractions.

Dare I mention the attraction of a beautifully wooded lot versus an additional rental cottage on a bare lot that well no doubt be re-landscaped with "bought" bushes and flowers.

I would like to make several personal suggestions. Friends of the Environment produces a well thought-out brochure on building in The Bahamas. It outlines sound environmental sustainable practices for people

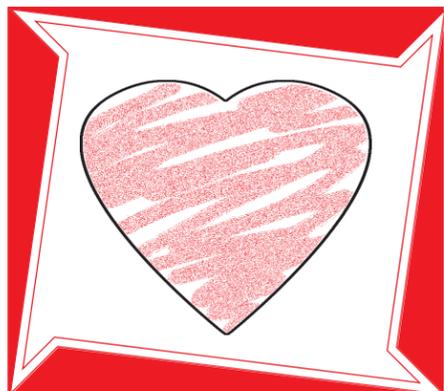
who purchase property and wish to build on our special spot on the earth.

It would be appropriate for real estate agents to pass these brochures on to prospective buyers in order for them to understand that while they are welcome to purchase property, we request that follow environmentally sound practices for building.

I believe more ordinances should be passed by individual settlements to safeguard their natural surroundings. In turn, I believe more open town meetings where important topics affecting the way our settlements will look or be affected should be discussed. Thus avoiding unfortunate "after the fact situations." Of special note would be situations where there are requests for a natural vegetation (large tree, mangroves) or historical quaint buildings to be destroyed or demolished. We enjoy the success we have because of our natural quaint, quiet and historical uniqueness. All of this can be lost in a blink of our eye - we should not take it for granted.

WE MUST LEARN TO WORK WITH NATURE and not make nature lose. Design your home around the property you purchase. Some pieces of land are simply too small or difficult to reach to be built on. Respect our natural heritage and design. It's EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Please remember "We do not own this environment, we are only borrowing it from future generations. What kind of natural and historical legacy are we leaving?"

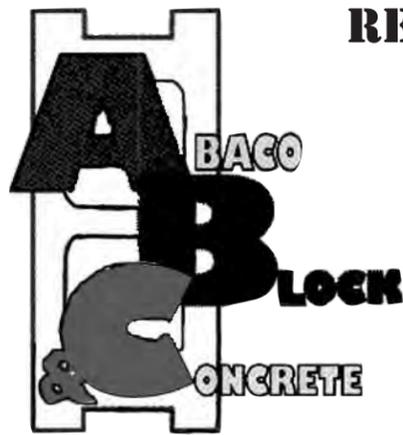




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Kathleen serves all of Abaco and currently resides in Hope Town, Elbow Cay.

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- "New Subdivision" Residential lots from \$32,900 located between Winding Bay and Cherokee. Wonderful location at great prices. Atlantic view lots available.
- 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: SOLD
- 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

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# Hurricane Frances Is Coming



Preparations are underway throughout Abaco in anticipation of Hurricane Frances. These scenes are typical as Abaco buttons up.



## Olympics

From Page 1

the Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, the Hon. Neville Wisdom; and the Bahamas Olympic Association President, Mr. Arlington Buller. Min. Wisdom held a luncheon in her honor on August 25 when she was showered with gifts.

This was only the second time in Olympic history that the Bahamian national anthem was played. The first time was in 2000 when the Golden Girls, Pauline Davis Thompson, Chandra Sturup, Eldece Clarke Lewis, Debbie Ferguson and Savetheda Fynes, won the gold in Sydney, Australia, in the women's 4 x 100 relay race.

Ms. Darling has been coached by an American, Steve Riddick, in Virginia.

### A Bronze Medal for a Bahamian

Another Bahamian received a medal. Debbie Ferguson won a bronze medal in the women's 200 on August 25. She did this despite being put in lane 8, one of the slower lanes on the track. This was Ms. Ferguson third Olympic medal. She was one of the Golden Girls in 2000 which won gold. That same year she came in third in the women's 200 meter.

Ms. Ferguson has worked hard for the past eight years. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia and credits coach Amy Beem for preparing her for this event.

Other Bahamians have done very well in competitions with four girls coming in fourth in the women's relay.

### Previous Medals

The first Bahamian to earn an Olympic medal in track and field was Frank Rutherford, who won a bronze medal in 1992. In addition to the gold medal in the women's relay, Pauline Davis Thompson won a bronze medal in Sydney in 2000 in the women's 200 meter race.

It is interesting to note that The Bahamas leads in the world at the 2004 Athens Olympics if one considers the medals won per capita. With a population of about 300,000 and with Bahamians winning two medals, that comes out to a medal for every 150,000 people, the best record in the world.

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# Conch Is a Very Versatile Food

By Lee Pinder

Whether you are a second-home resident or a frequent visitor of The Bahamas or Abaco, in particular, you undoubtedly have come upon a conch vender in the streets or at the ocean's edge mesmerizing their custom-

ers and onlookers with their quick and effortless handiwork. It might be compared to a visit to a Kobi Steak House that specializes in meals prepared by experienced chefs who work with lightening fast speed on a hot tabletop griddle while you look on with mouth

watering expectations. You may experience this same excitement while watching "The Conch Man." They may be working off the back of their truck or from a small stand set up by the side of the road. With quick and experienced movements they prepare your conch salad while you watch and wait. It looks easy, doesn't it?

You can hardly find a fresher or more delicious meal, and it will seem like you have eaten a meal, for conch is very satisfying and filling. Also you will quickly learn that conch is probably

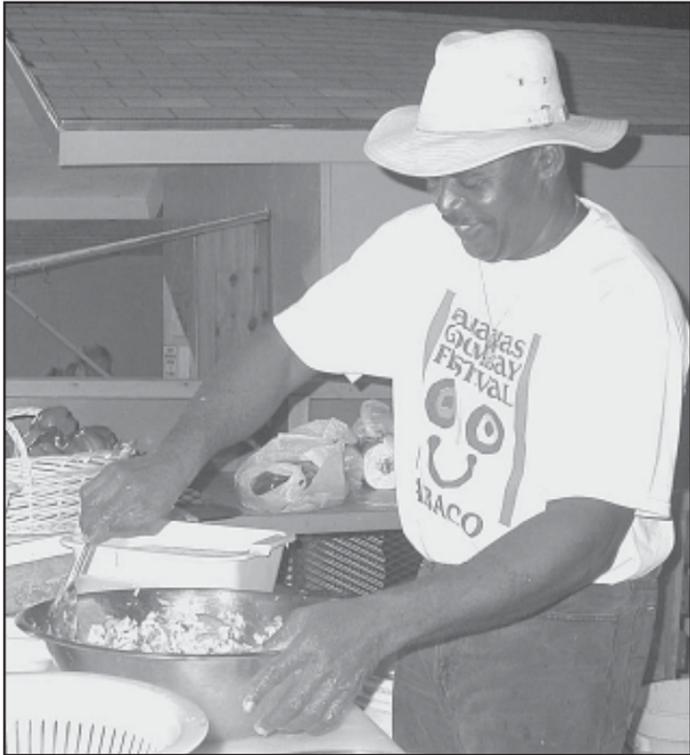
the best loved seafood of all the islanders. Conch can be a snack, a fast food, a warm and tasty comfort food or a culinary delight as well as a staple of Bahamians and many visitors alike. If you have the courage to try it raw, you will immediately fall in love with its mild and unfamiliar taste; and when it is cooked, some like it even more. It isn't very often that you will meet someone that after first trying it doesn't like conch, unless, of course, they are allergic

to shellfish.

Not easy to spot, the conch is found near the shore on the white grassy bottoms in 15 to 40 feet of water. In Bahamian waters it is illegal to catch the immature rounders or juvenile conch. The lip of the shell must be wide and well defined in order to be taken. They are an amazing creature and they begin life as a microscopic egg in a sack form-

Please see **Conch**

Page 17



A conch vendor on the side of the road is a common sight in many Bahamian towns. Each one has his own way of making a delicious snack that is enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. This vendor was at a recent Goombay Festival.

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# Conch Is Popular in Many Different Ways

**Conch** *From Page 16*

ing a tiny shell that will bury itself deep in the sand in order to reach its full growth in anywhere from one and a half to two years.

Raw, it can be eaten right out of the sea and straight from the shell when the fisherman cleans the meat in the saltwater (which to some is all the seasoning ever needed). Of course, the freshest conch should be still moving and when eaten raw is said to be an effective aphrodisiac and reportedly will give you a "strong back." It is fascinating to watch a skilled fisherman take up the mossy shell, hold it loosely in his left hand and sharply apply his "conch breaker" (which can be anything from a large knife to a small hatchet or even a heavy homemade tool with a hacking edge) to an area around the third or fourth largest spiral. He breaks a slit one to two inches long in the end of the shell in order to insert his knife and cut away the tendon that tightly binds the creature to his (or her, because marine biologists have discovered that they are bisexual) shell.

Once cleaned and skinned (as most people prefer) the meat is ready to cut up or dice for a salad, grinding (in an old fashioned meat grinder) to make chowder or fritters or bruising (with a heavy mallet to break down the muscle and tenderize the meat) for steaming, stewing, sousing or cracking (a local term indicating the conch is deep fried) or thinly slicing cross-wise so that it can be grilled on the stove-top or barbeque. From one end of The Bahamas to the other literally thousands of pounds of conch are consumed daily in a variety of different ways.

Scorched: Raw conch sometimes left on the spur (or toenail) and scored with a knife in a checkerboard fashion or scored and cut into bite-sized chunks and left to marinate in sour, hot pepper and chopped raw onion and eaten as a fast food seaside snack or while out in the ocean on a boat and a real favourite of the true connoisseur.

Salad: Sliced and diced into small pieces (sometimes as small as a grain of rice or in pieces as large as a quarter) and added to diced raw vegetables and marinated in sour. Vegetables may include onion, sweet pepper, celery, cucumber, cabbage and hot peppers or any combination of these. Whether it is served in a fine china dish in a big restaurant or a plain Styrofoam cup, it is an experience not to be missed.

Many locals like it with a side of mashed potatoes or cooked sweet potato. Just recently I even found raw carrot, pimento and jalapeno peppers in a conch salad, but these are definitely foreign additives, (something fancy restaurant chefs conjure up to make their special recipes an in-house special) not usually found in a true Bahamian conch salad. The sour marinade could be old sour, sour orange, lemon or lime juice and often may include regular orange juice as well as cut up pieces of the fruit segments (to tame down the bitiness of the sour). There is no oil or vinegar or even any herbs in a true Bahamian conch salad, these are other ingredient often incorporated by new-comers or non-Bahamians and can actually take away from that fresh conch experience.

Our famous Conch Fritters: There are many types of fritters listed in the cook-books, and everyone has his own special recipes usually made by grinding the raw conch with onion, sweet pepper and hot pepper and adding it to a batter of flour, tomato paste, hot peppers, salt and water. The batter is dropped by the spoonful into hot oil for frying. A good cook will know just when to remove the fritter to make sure that it is crispy on the outside yet cooked through and served hot with a highly spiced sauce for dipping. You can find "Bahamian Conch Fritters" from New Orleans to New

York and from Hong Kong to Paris. They are world renowned and a familiar appetizer anywhere good food is served.

Soups and Chowders: Sometimes put through a grinder and sometimes cut and diced, it makes wonderful soups and chowders. Putting all the other ingredients in the pot to cook and simmer till done can give the best flavour by adding your conch only 15 to 20 minutes before you are ready to serve (and also to save the conch meat from turning dark) for the freshest most delicious pottage.

Souse: Prepared in the same way someone would prepare chicken, pigs' feet or wild boar souse, conch will give a uniquely different taste. Again, according to your own preference the conch can be scored and cut into small bite-size pieces or bruised and cut into chunks. Cooked with spices and hot peppers and seasoned with lots of lime juice this is a favourite local "morning after" hangover remedy.

Smothering and Steaming: Comfort food of The Bahamas, smothers and steams are prepared with many varieties of meat, conch being just one of them. A smother is a when the conch is sliced and bruised (or beaten) and covered with a thick layer of tomatoes, onions and herbs with very little liquid and cooked down allowing the flavours to mingle and served as a main entree. Steamed conch is prepared in the same way but with much more liquid or sauce and usually served over white rice.

Stewing: Another Bahamian comfort food, stews are done by making a brown roux of flour and tomato paste and slowly adding liquid to make a thick gravy. The conch is then sliced and bruised and placed in the gravy to cook, often with sweet potatoes, white potatoes and carrots or pumpkin and served with a dumpling or big light dough.

Cracked Conch: The conch is bruised and dipped in an egg wash and then in a seasoned flour or cracker meal mixture and quickly fried in hot oil and served as a main entree. Delicious by itself, but often served with tartar sauce or hot chili sauce, ketchup

or hot sauce.

Grilled or Barbequed Conch: Simply cleaned, sliced and quickly cooked (a couple of minutes on each side) on a hot griddle or over barbeque coals. Note: Conch does not necessarily become more tender by cooking, but will, in fact, become more chewy and rubbery by "over-cooking." So be a vigilant cook.

This is a basic introduction and a few suggestions and ways of preparing conch. I am sure, once you discover the many uses of conch, you will develop some favourite recipes all your own. Bon Appetit!

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Lot #68

**Bahama Coral Island**  
Vacant land  
10,890 sq. ft.  
Section #3 Block A Lot #1

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

## Thanks for Everyone's Help

On the day after Friday, the 13th of August, we had to depart our favorite place - Summerview on Lubbers Cay. As I stood in a high class store (Abaco Gold) trying to help my wife choose her 30th anniversary gift, my daughter approached me and told me she wasn't feeling well. I told her to go sit down but for some reason watched as she walked away. She wobbled left and I leaned right. Then to my complete astonishment she passed out cold, face first into a display of hand painted pottery and glass. As she exploded into the glass, I just couldn't believe my eyes.

From nowhere an angel appeared. I mean an angel. A beautiful lady approached as I dragged my daughter's limp body off a pile of glass. My 12 year old's elbow was almost sliced off. This angel told me she'd be right back, and sure enough she returned five minutes later to drive us all to Dr. Mark Binard at Abaco Family Medicine. The doctor was cool and his assistants were great.

As Dr. Binard wove my daughter's elbow back together with 13 stitches, his assistants kept her spirits high and her parents calm.

Before we knew it, Mrs. Pinder from Abaco Gold showed up and waited until we were finished to drive us back to where we started. She insisted that we wouldn't have to pay for any of the damage which I am sure was extensive.

My heartfelt thanks to everyone at Abaco Gold, especially Sherri Pinder, for their concern and generosity. My thanks to everyone at Dr. Binard's office, not only for the medical assistance but for the personal attention they afforded us. And finally, my infinite thanks to an angel I still don't know; she disappeared into the mist. You know who you are and you know what an important impact you had on the situation that Saturday morning.

Thank you all. You have perpetuated the friendly aura of Abaco.

Pat, Shelly, Brian and Brooke Bugni

## Police Receive Community Help



Abaco Block and Concrete Company donated the concrete for the base for a generator at the Police Station in Marsh Harbour. The pad was poured on September 1. The generator will give the station back-up power for emergencies. Unfortunately, it was not in time for any disruption of power during the Hurricane Frances crisis.

Looking for motivated and hard working persons!!  
Earn top cash and flexible hours!

### Abaco Inn

### Now taking Applications



"Barefoot Elegance"

for next season!!

Waiters, Bartenders, Evening Cooks, Office.

Must have valid work papers

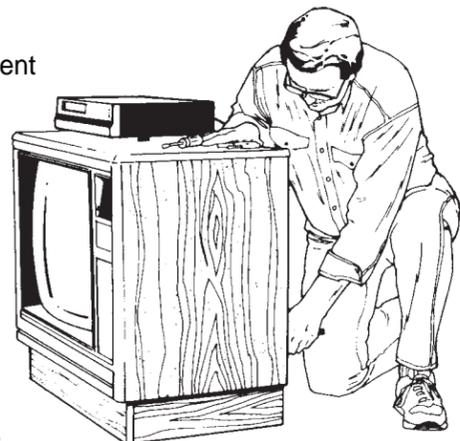
and work references!

Call 366-0133

## Electronics Service Center

### Repairing:

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- Office Equipment
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- Medical Equipment
- Automotive & Marine Electronics
- Telephone Recorders, Phones & Phone Devices



In Marsh Harbour on Queen Elizabeth Drive between Keys Dr. & Firehouse Corner

TEL: 367-2830

## Harbour's Edge Employment Opportunities Available

For the 2004/2005 Business Season

- Assistant Manager
- Kitchen Manager/Executive Chef
- Supervisor/Host/Hostess
- Short Order Cooks
- Kitchen Helpers
- Dishwashers
- Bartenders
- Bar Backs
- Waiters/Waitress
- Busboys
- Maintenance Manager
- Maintenance Workers

All Applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Bahamian citizens
- Honest and reliable
- Work in a tourist oriented business
- Work well in a team environment

Please mail resumes to:

Harbour's Edge, Hope Town, Abaco, Attention: General Manager

## NOTICE

**IN THE ESTATE OF JEROME BURROWS, SR. late of the Settlement of Sandy Point in the Island of Abaco one of the Islands in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, deceased.**

Notice is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the above Estate are required to send their names, addresses, and particulars of the same certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 30th August, 2004 and if required, to prove such debts or claims, or in default be excluded from any distribution; after the above date the assets will be distributed having regard only to the proved debts or claims or which the Executor shall have had notice.

And notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make full settlement on or before the 30th August, 2004.

**L.C. Hull & CO.**

Attorneys for the Executor  
P.O. Box AB 20415  
Don MacKay Boulevard  
Marsh Harbour  
Abaco, Bahamas

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Minimum for 3 lines in one issue \$9  
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 Additional lines at \$2 per line  
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*Servicing Abaco and the Cays*  
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 Marsh Harbour, Abaco

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**Ricardo Miller,**  
 Pharmacist

Hours 9 am - 6:30 p.m.  
 Sundays 9 am - 12 noon  
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 Cell 554-8183  
 Dove Plaza, Marsh Harb.



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 Cell #: 477-5322 • 359-6839

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 **Kala Gates**  
**Island Upholstery**  
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 P.O. Box AB-20988  
 Marsh Harbour, Abaco

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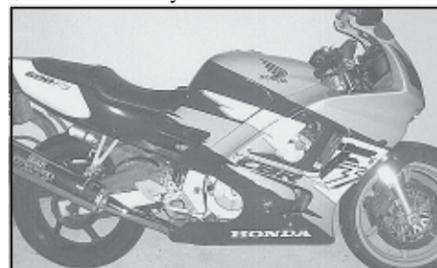
### VEHICLES FOR SALE



Set of 18" Rims and Tires, Brand new, 5 hole universal. \$1800. Call 365-5175 (w) or 367-4500. Ask for Robbie

**92 Ford Explorer**, A/C, CD, tape, runs good, \$7350 OBO Phone 554-8779 or 375-9635

**95 Motorbike 535 LC**, excellent condition, spare tire, oil filter, helmet and carburetor. \$3500 Call Buddy 365-6152



**96 CBR 600F3**, low miles, high performance carbs and exhaust. make offer. Call Greg @ 477-5308 or 365-6002 after 6 pm

**96 GMC Sierra**, extended cab, lots of extras, grill, etc. \$14,000. **98 Ford Expedition**, Eddie Bauer, fully loaded. \$28,000. **2001 Honda Accord LX 5 speed**, (standard shift). \$17,500. Call 367-0106 10-4 or 357-6836

**2000 Daewoo Tico car**, standard shift, less than 7000 miles, excellent condition, complete with A/C, stereo, gray interior. Asking \$6500 OBO Call Buddy @ 365-6152

**2002 Honda Civic EX**, white, lots of extras. \$19,500 Call 367-4005 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: Beachcombing Stories for book research. I would like to hear about your interesting and unusual finds while beachcombing on Abaco. What, when and where. Please send your stories to me at kathy\_nesbitt@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 87, Gilford, Ontario, Canada L0L1R0

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Bluff House Beach Hotel**, Green Turtle Cay, is expanding! We are looking for administrative staff for our front office and marina, a contract gardener, maintenance worker, property cleaner and kitchen cleaner. Please apply to 365-4247 tel. or 365-4248 fax

### BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE

**Two 2003 SeaDoo GTI LE Waverunners**. Brand new, never used, still in crates. Duty already paid. \$7,500 each or \$14,000 both. Can be seen in Marsh Harbour. (413) 467-1057

**17' Key West w/ 70 HP Yamaha**, less than 200 hrs on engine. VHF, depth sounder, GPS, DUTY PAID. Ready to go. \$7000 cash only Call 367-2163



**23' The finest example of Man-O-War boat building**. The hull is Bahamian mahogany, glassed over and lovingly maintained. Heavy, fast and ver seakindly. 100+ gallon fuel tank and low hour Yamaha. \$50,000 Call 404-869-7537



**23 Pace Ship**, excellent condition, new paint job, 15 HP Mercury 4 stroke engine. \$5000 OBO. Call 365-5189



**24' Pursuit 2470 WA** (walk around), 1998, includes Garmin GPS with map card, 20 gal fresh water tank, CD player, foul weather curtains, 1998 225 HP Yamaha (250 hrs.) duty paid. Price as is \$35,000. Contact 365-4045



**24' Super Boat** with 200 HP Mercury outboard, 56+ mph. Clean and in good condition. Asking \$17,500. Call Greg at 477-5308 or 365-6002 after 6.

### BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS FOR SALE



**25' Grady White Sailfish**, cuddy cabin, walk-around, new bottom paint, powered by twin 225 HP Evinrude ram fight engines, low hours. \$48,000 OBO Call 367-2598



**25' Steiger Craft 200 HP Evinrude**, Bimini, trim tabs, 120 gal gas tank \$24,500 ONO Boat lift, used, Call for more information 2 mini split air conditioners 2.5 ton 2 compressors 1- 2.5 ton 1- 1.5 ton all package for \$1800 Call 365-6128 days, 365-6059 nights

**27' Phoenix 1989**, twin 200 HP Volvo diesel, outriggers, auto pilot, V-berth w/shower & toilet 100 sq ft fishing area, ready for charter. \$32,000 Call 954-764-7145 or 954-770-7197

**30' Grady White 306 Bimini**, center console, open fish, twin 200 250 HP Yamaha outboards, GPS, auto pilot, telescoping outriggers, low hours. Docked at Boat Harbour. 242-359-6044



**31' Wellcraft Scarab**, twin 200 HP Merc's. \$15,000. Call Johnny, Scotland Cay 359-6551



**32' Island Gypsy sport fishing boat**, 1987, 2 25 HP Lehman, 8 KW Westerbeke generator, A/C, DUTY PAID. Asking \$44,000. Call 365-4120

**32' Endeavor Barnacle**, DUTY PAID, very good condition, Yanmar, A/C, ref, 1 KW generator, 10' sailing dinghy. Offered at \$23,800 For more info call Don at 262-377-8418



**38' Scarab**, Bahamian registered, DUTY PAID, twin 502s, fresh water cooled gas engines w/ TRS outdrives. Many extras, float-on trailer, maintained perfectly, kept in dry storage. \$75,000 contact Johnny Bethel 359-6551 or 365-5224

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