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Urban Renewal Chairman Meets with Haitian Pastors and Marsh H. Leaders

Moore's Island Students Entertain Police Chief



ASP Wayne Miller, Abaco's Police Chief, visited the Moore's Island All Age School on November 8 in his program of community policing. The school choir sang for him and others performed skits. ASP Miller warned them against getting involved in drugs or alcohol. Accompanying Mr. Miller were other Police officers along with Police Dog Bob, which demonstrated his skill at finding hidden drugs. Please see story on page 2.

By Richard E. Fawkes

Psychiatrist David Allen said the illegal Haitian townships that have become entrenched in the Marsh Harbour area, and the social and political issues surrounding them are problems so complex and complicated "that for many years they have been left untouched, unsolved. As a result things have gone sometimes from bad to worse."

Dr. Allen, who is chairman of the National Urban Renewal Commission, spoke to a group of Bahamian officials and Haitian pastors at a briefing at police headquarters on November 5, prior to taking a tour of the two townships. He was accompanied from Nassau by Dr. Desiree Cox, who serves the commission as director of transformation and research. Explaining his and Dr. Cox's respective roles, Dr. Allen said, "I paint in broad strokes and Dr. Cox, of course, gets in the details."

"What I want to stress, and this is hard to make clear," Dr. Allen said, "is that in these kinds of issues, you have to have a spiritual understanding because, without that, it's very difficult, and that's why I work very closely with pastors, because without faith, it's pretty hard to approach these things."

Please see **Allen**

Page 22

Fire Experts Demonstrate Controlled Burn



Members of The Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Forestry Service conducted a workshop for firemen and conservationists on the need to manage forest lands. The first part consisted of talks on various aspects of forest problems followed the next day with a demonstration of controlled burns in two areas of the Abaco National Park. Fires are necessary for healthy forests but not extremely hot, intense fires. These controlled burns will be continued yearly and studied to see the effects on wildlife with particular interest in the Abaco parrot.

By Richard E. Fawkes

One of the greatest challenges to firefighters who live in the areas of The Bahamas that are home to the Caribbean Pine is what experts in the field call "wildland urban interface" that occurs where homes, towns and roads encroach upon forests. Firefighters on Abaco had two

big helpings of that danger during the spring drought when a wild fire spread into the Spring City and destroyed a home and when the communities of Bahama Palm Shores and Casuarina also came under such a threat.

Please see **Burn**

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Dr. Allen Tours the Mud and Pigeon Peas



Dr. David Allen with a red tie, Chairman of the Urban Renewal Commission, walked through the Mud and Pigeon Peas during his visit on November 5. He was accompanied by Ms. Desiree Cox in the foreground talking with Haitian Pastor Edzer Meme. Ms. Cox is also a member of the Commission.

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Police Officers Speak at Moore's Island School

By Jennifer Hudson

The children of Moore's Island All Age School received a special treat on November 8th when ASP Wayne Miller, Chief of Police for Abaco, accompanied by three other Police Officers and Police Dog, Bob, arrived on the island to participate in their school assembly.

Students from all grades contributed to the assembly with the theme *A Grateful Heart*, participating in various skits, singing in the school choir or just joining with the whole school in some rousing gospel songs led by Principal Ruthmae Rolle.

ASP Miller told the children how happy he was to have the opportunity to talk to them and that his heart had been blessed by their inspiring assembly. "I am very concerned about you," he told them. "Some of you will one day be teachers and police officers, and I want to make sure you all achieve the very best."

ASP Miller's desire is to speak to young people before they become involved in criminal activities. He encouraged them not to become involved in crime as that would prevent them from becoming all that they would like to be; it would ruin their chance of a good career and prevent them from traveling abroad. He urged them to report crimes or anything they were not comfortable with to the police.

The Chief of Police warned the children of two Dream Killers they must avoid. The major Dream Killer is drugs. "Don't let others persuade you, keep your record clean," he urged. The other Dream Killer is alcohol which is termed a *gateway drug* as it provides a gate to more serious drugs. ASP Miller concluded by urging the children to start thinking about their careers. "Moore's Island needs your help; you are its future, so be all that you can be," he

urged.

Corporal Cash who, until recently, was the Police Officer stationed on Moore's Island, addressed the school and told them how glad he was to be back home. He is now stationed in Marsh Harbour and is the supervisor for minor crime and traffic. "Education is the key to success and there is no time to join idle gangs," he told his young audience. "Be careful who your friends are because if they are involved in bad activities, then you will get caught up yourselves."

Woman Police Constable Leisa Campbell, who is in charge of Community Policing in Marsh Harbour, represented the growing number of females in the ranks of the force. She spoke on teenage pregnancy which is at an alarming rate in the Bahamas and urged the young people to abstain from sex until marriage.

Officer Dames has worked with police dogs for almost ten years and has been stationed in Abaco with his best friend, Police Dog Bob, for one year. He imparted much interesting information to the children on the history and work of police dogs telling them that dogs were first introduced to police work in The Bahamas in 1964. At that time there were only two attack dogs but now there are 24 police dogs in the country, mainly in Nassau and Grand Bahama but there are now two on Abaco.

There are four types of police dogs: 1. attack dogs 2. explosive detector dogs which are used at international airports 3. Narcotic detector dogs of which there are two types a) passive drug dogs which detect drugs concealed on a person, then sit, and b) aggressive drug dogs which detect drugs in vehicles, planes, under the floor and in sand and then scratch 4.

dual purpose dogs which are trained to catch criminals and detect drugs.

Then came an exciting moment for the children when Officer Dames introduced them to Drug Dog Bob, who is a beautiful and very friendly three and a half year old Springer Spaniel. Bob received preliminary training in the U.S. and then further training in Nassau and detects five different odours - cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine and hashish oil. Cocaine and marijuana are the two most common drugs in the Bahamas. The children were warned that drugs control your mind and told to beware of drug dealers who try to infiltrate the schools and use children to move drugs around for them.

At the close of the assembly the children waited with anticipation for the moment when Bob would display his skills at sniffing out drugs. While they assembled outside, about ten school bags were placed on

the ground in a circle, one of which contained cocaine. Bob was taken around to sniff each in turn. When he found the correct bag, he started to excitedly scratch the ground and received a great big cheer from the crowd and the reward of his favourite toy from his handler. While Bob was out of sight, the cocaine was changed to a different bag and again Bob completed his task to more cheers.

Before leaving Moore's Island, ASP Miller and his Police Officers went on a walkabout through the settlement of Hard Bargain speaking to residents to ascertain if they had any concerns and to show their support for the two officers stationed on the island. This was ASP Miller's third visit to Moore's Island since taking up his post in Abaco in September as he wishes to let the people know that although they are separated from the mainland of Abaco, they are definitely not forgotten.



ASP Wayne Miller, Abaco's Police Chief, spoke convincingly to the students of the Moore's Island School, delighting them by letting them wear police hats.



Police Dog Bob, a trained Springer Spaniel, was part of the group which visited the Moore's Island All Age School on November 8. The Spaniel is trained to detect several drugs and he demonstrated his skills effectively. The police visited the school to appeal to the students to become law-abiding citizens and stay away from alcohol and drugs.





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BAIC Chairman Hear Complaints

By Richard E. Fawkes

Several Abaco farmers and entrepreneurs complained publicly that the Bahamas Development Bank (BDB) was of virtually no help to them because of the length of time it takes to approve a loan and the high cost of legal fees involved in processing a loan for business or agricultural development. The complaints were made during a meeting on November 1 at the Anglican Parish Hall in Marsh Harbour with Mr. Michael Halkitis, Chairman of the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC).

"I have been waiting seven years for a loan approval," said farmer and businessman Anderson "Papa Nasty" Wilmore, who has a government lease on 25 acres on the Great Abaco Highway near Casuarina Point through the farmers' co-operative. Mr.

Anderson told Mr. Halkitis the legal fees alone on a \$150,000 loan were \$20,000 with another \$8,000 in other processing fees. Mr. Anderson wanted to know why there was so much red tape with the paperwork and why the legal fees were so high.

Mr. Michael Albury, president of the Abaco Chamber of Commerce and an owner of Bahamas Select which produces fresh juice, added that by the time loans are approved by the BDB, opportunities were lost.

Mr. Loren Coleby, Manager of BDB Abaco, responded that while he could not discuss individual cases because of secrecy requirements, many applicants fail to appreciate the bank's need for proper documentation or their ability to repay a loan or to properly assess the viability of their proposed projects and therefore drag their

feet, thus drawing out the approval process. "Sometimes, by the time they produce certain documents requested, they are outdated and new documents have to be presented," he said. The bank must have those documents in hand, however, because it must protect its money.

Mr. Halkitis, who is also Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and a Member of Parliament, picked up on his theme. He said persons seeking the assistance of BAIC and BDB must realize that

the document requirements are not designed to frustrate the ambitions of those entrepreneurs seeking assistance, but to protect the institutions so that they may continue to serve everyone's needs. He pointed out that about 50 percent of the BDB's outstanding loans are in default. With respect to Mr. Anderson's claim, he agreed that the legal fee he cited was much too high but found his claim or waiting seven years an unusually long time although the junior minister acknowledged that approval times are generally long.

Mr. Ejnar Cornish, who heads the BAIC Abaco office told Mr. Halkitis that he would like to see Mr. Coleby having the discretion of approving small loans of \$3,000 to \$5,000 without have to refer the matter to Nassau. "It's not worth it to wait six months

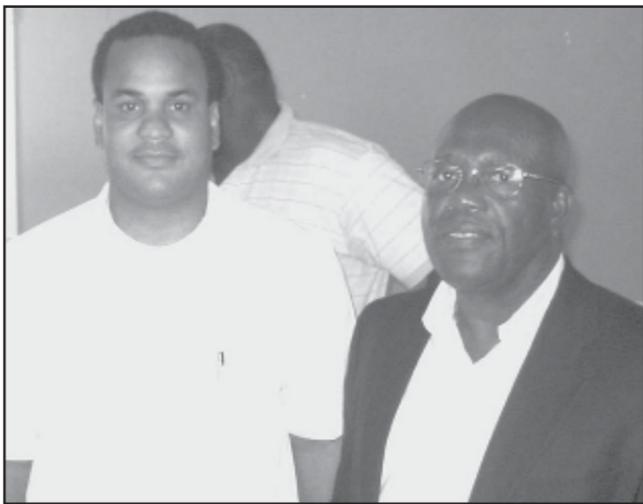
for a \$3,000 loan," he said.

The meeting, attended by about 30 farmers, business persons, and representatives of government agencies on Abaco, was intended to encourage local entrepreneurs to seek BAIC help and to look into ways in which 5,000 acres of BAIC administered land in South Abaco could be improved to the benefit of all concerned. BAIC and BDB do not fall under the same roof, but BAIC, which advises persons needing financial support for agricultural or industrial projects, works in tandem with BDB for financing.

Mr. Halkitis explained that BAIC does not provide any funding but helps interested

Please see **BAIC**

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Mr. Michael Halkitis, Chairman of the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation, held a meeting in Marsh Harbour on November 1 to discuss the assistance BAIC offers small businesses. He is shown here on the left with Mr. Ejnar Cornish, the Manager of the Abaco branch of BAIC.



Mr. Halkitis talked with individual business owners after the meeting. He is shown on the right talking with Mrs. Yvette White, new owner of the Subway franchise in Marsh Harbour, and Mr. B.G. Harmon, who has an extensive citrus farm south of Marsh Harbour.



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South Abaco News

Moore's Island Important Notice

By Jennifer Hudson

On November 19th a CANCER SCREENING CLINIC will be held at the government clinic on Moore's Island. Nurse Sylvie Cooper from Marsh Harbour will be arriving on Abaco Air early that morning accompanied by Nurse Peggy Cooper and another medical assistant from Nassau.

Pap smears for the women and prostate exams for the men will be carried out free of charge. People are encouraged to attend and avail themselves of this important opportunity as these tests are vital in the early detection of cancer and early detection saves lives.

Persons should just present themselves at the clinic on the day but if they have any questions they may contact the government nurse at the clinic beforehand.

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Has Anyone Noticed?

We want to thank Cathy Hura from up on the hill for re-doing our Cherokee Sign. The original sign was badly damaged by the storms, and thanks to Cathy and her many talents we now have a brand new sign. Be sure to thank her personally when you see her.

Pigeon Shooting Season

Yet another loss from the recent hurricanes was for the hunters who normally head out every day to shoot pigeons around this time of the year. And although there was some discussions about not opening the season, at least on Abaco, it did open here even though it was a little later than usual.

The white crown pigeons were very scarce this year because of the extensive devastation to the areas where the birds normally nest during their hatching time and the loss of local wild fruit and berries to supplement their food supply. Not only did we not hear the familiar "pop pop pop" of the hunters' shotguns every day, but we missed the enticing aroma of a pigeon stew cooking as we walked down the street.

However, we heard that Abaco's loss was Andros' gain since, according to first re-

ports from those shooters who make the trip there every year, they said, "The skies were black with birds" on Andros, and they managed to easily fill their sacks and reach their allotted quotas which, of course, made all the "pigeon stew lovers" very happy.

Still Some Phone Problems

Some persons are still having difficulty getting a signal for their cell phones, but as far as we know all home phones in Cherokee are now up and working. While many of the wireless providers of internet services have their customers back on line, some of the dial-up services are still down and we trust Batelco will soon be able to solve this problem.

After The Storms

The pick up and repairs continue daily and most of Cherokee is trying to return to some sort of pre-hurricane normalcy. A temporary roof covering has been supplied by government to protect the Library/Post Office building from any further water damage and many persons are re-shingling their roofs and reconstruction is underway on Marty and Wendy Sawyer's home after the structural damage it received from the collapsing of Batelco's tower. However, walking out everyday and seeing the crumpled and twisted remains of our famous Long Dock has touched some persons very deeply, especially our many second-home owners and returning visitors to Cherokee.

This old dock is no longer used by passengers of the mail boat that once made twice weekly stops in Cherokee on its way to and from Nassau because it doesn't stop here anymore. Freight comes by way of the road nowadays. But, still our Long Dock remains a big part of our lives. It is still the place for birthday parties and community fund raisers as well as a gathering spot for swimming and picnickers. Maybe even more so as just a place to escape the heat in town and somewhere you can always catch a cool breeze during the long hot summer days and still nights.

Living by the water is a tranquil experience that most Abaconians can relate to and our Long Dock has always drawn us together, especially in times of need. Surely we can all look back at some of those re-

ally "good times" and see just how much "it" now needs us.

When everything is set right in our homes, we need to again think of rebuilding the Long Dock so that future generations can have the same memories and experiences we now have of this important local landmark. People tell us Cherokee wouldn't be Cherokee without the Long Dock. We must put the Long Dock back.

New Youth Director Leaves

As this is not a daily paper, and it seems that the new Youth Director for Abaco, Matt Skinner, who came to spend a year in Abaco, has already left to go back home before the last issue of even came out. We do not know the circumstances of his change of heart or why he decided to leave, but we are told that the Methodist churches are even now in the process of trying to find a replacement. We feel certain they will be successful in their search and the young people will soon have a new director.

Someone Is Always Missed

Not intentionally, but someone is always missed when the "thank you's" are handed out and I'm sure this time is no exception.

We want to mention this because when it comes to times of desperate need or common disasters, there are some people who just automatically switch into high gear and know exactly where the need is and what has to be done. Often the recipient of these good works doesn't even realize who or where the help is coming from. Someone (maybe someone you know) drives up to your fence and calls out, "Do you need any bottled water or how about a bag of ice?" Sometimes it's a box of groceries or some clothing or just a couple packs of flashlight batteries. You hear them tell you where it came from and who the donator was, but you're so overwhelmed with what you are trying to do that afterwards it slips your mind, or you just plain forget because you've had so many other pressing things on your mind. It's not that you're not appreciative or that the donated goods aren't welcome and in many cases much needed, but you're still so traumatized by what still lies ahead that you can't help but wonder how they found the time to think of "you."

Please see **South**

Page 7



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Prime Rib a jus cooked as you like it with mashed potatoes, with sage and white cheddar cheese, haricot vert and baby carrots

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Rotarians Hear from Jack Thompson

By Jennifer Hudson

Does Your Disaster Need Relief? was the theme for the Rotary Club of Abaco's meeting on November 1st and Mr. Jack Thompson, Disaster Management Coordinator for NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency), was on hand to bring insights into the various ways relief is being offered and to answer questions members had regarding their own concerns. Mr. Thompson was introduced by Mr. Bryan Thompson, Rotary Club Service Coordinator, who welcomed this former teacher,

Family Island Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner to Canada back "home" to Abaco.

Mr. Thompson stated that he is grateful for the opportunity to share and enlighten residents regarding the efforts which are being made towards reconstruction on Abaco. He informed the audience that his office is situated upstairs in Dove Plaza, telephone 367-0440, where a hotline will be open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. for persons to call in to have questions answered regarding their reconstruction efforts. He went on to mention the programmes which are in place to assist all persons in the community who suffered damage during the hurricanes.

1. Owners of houses or businesses with minor damage may receive duty free concessions on building supplies both locally and abroad until November 30.

2. The government guaranteed loan programme allows residents to borrow up to \$50,000 to repair their home and business owners may borrow up to \$75,000. Mr. Thompson detailed the procedure for applying for these loans.

3. Mr. Thompson has issued more than

250 construction vouchers and are building approximately 45 new houses, five of which will be on Moore's Island. He is having town meetings to inform residents in every community.

4. Vehicles and golf carts can be brought in from the United States receiving an exemption equal to the value of the vehicle lost.

Mr. Thompson said, "I am very upbeat and enthusiastic and am satisfied that I am doing all I can to assist the community." He stressed that he has an "open door" policy to the business community as he realises how important it is for businesses to get up and running again. "Abaco has a very resilient business community," he said and offered his congratulations to business owners on their excellent rebound. He wished to assure all businesses of his support and reaffirmed his willingness to assist in any way possible.

A concern which was voiced during the question and answer period regarded the building code and whether it is going to be more stringently enforced in the future as, while most people are adhering to a stricter code now, the questioner rightly stated that

there cannot be one code for one section of the community while it is totally ignored by another very large section.

Regarding the possible extension to the November 30th deadline for duty free building materials, the question was raised that if the extension is not granted, will goods ordered before that date still be allowed in duty free? There are many persons who have been delayed in getting their orders sent off owing to the high demand on roofers and, therefore, not being able to get hold of anybody to give an estimate. Mr. Thompson replied that in a situation such as that the person should call his office, and he will assist in getting the exemption.

South

From Page 6

Didn't they have any damages to their home?

What would we do if it weren't for these giving, sharing, helpful people. They are all so wonderful we can't begin to try and name them because someone is always missed.

If you are one of these people, please know that your good works are appreciated and we thank God every day that you cared enough to think of us and come to our aid.

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The Editor Says . . . A Quest for Immigrant Solutions



The Abaco immigrant communities have gotten to their present size over the past 30 years. During the past 10 years of so, alarms have been raised at different times over the continued expansion of these areas. The additional buildings and increase in the population has generally paralleled the growth of Marsh Harbour.

Growth is generally not noticed by those affected as it is a slow incremental process. So it has been with the immigrant communities. For the most part they are out of sight even though they are in the middle of Marsh Harbour.

It is interesting to be with someone who visits the Mud or Pigeon Peas for the first time. They are astonished to find them in the middle of town and not some remote place. Having lived with these communities for 30 or more years, we tend to accept them.

However, there comes a time when we realize that undesirable growth has occurred, and we take steps to rectify the situation. So it has been with our two main Haitian settlements. At regular intervals there has been superficial effort either locally or by Nassau to control the growth. However, random efforts have not given lasting results.

Committees have been formed and politicians have emphatically said, "No more - enough is enough." For all the noise and arm waving, the human tide and the accompanying squalid shelters have not been stopped.

It is simple enough to say "No more" but it is much more difficult to enforce the edict. Part of the problem is the fragmented nature and budget constraints of the governmental agencies that might exercise some oversight in the area. Without being too analytical, the various agencies may not compete with each other, but neither do they work together collectively.

Probably the most recent example of collective cooperation has been in the aftermath of the two hurricanes following a five-year calm after Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Lessons were learned after Floyd that have been remembered and applied reasonably well. Cooperation was seen to be more effective than isolated departments working on their own.

This cooperative effort may be one of the reasons that a new impetus has risen to tackle the immigrant housing problem. Within the past six weeks there have been many political excursions into the Mud and Pigeon Peas areas. Current statements and proclamations were similar to those of the past 10 years. This time there seems to be more collective effort to stick with the problem and attempt to find some answers.

Government persons and private sector individuals seem to conclude that small but successful steps seem to be the first order of the day. The symbolic gesturing and "never again" statements are being replaced by a softer but longer lasting effort.

The last two storms stripped away the shielding vegetation around the border allowing the edge of the settlement to be clearly visible. It is harder to ignore that which is highly visible.

The massive flooding of several hundred houses by four to six feet of salt water mixed with sewage has caused some eyebrows to be raised by persons responsible for public and environmental health. Try to picture four to six feet of salt water in your house and imagine what you might salvage - not much.

Resentment is surfacing among Bahamians over the enforcement of licensing and building regulations imposed on Bahamians but not enforced in the immigrant settlements. Shops in these settlements are closer to what a peddler might offer with goods displayed on porches or on cloths on the ground. Barber shops, restaurants and even a night club is there. A defiance among Bahamians is building, although minor at the moment, in established towns by persons circumventing town planning in erecting and modifying buildings. This trend is not a good omen for Bahamian society.

Another factor in the present interest at tackling the problem may relate to the recent influx of several senior governmental persons. Although these departments have not had any particular historical connection, these new persons have found the problem to be of a common interest. It is too early to predict success. Indeed, success will be measured differently by different persons. Some efforts will be seen as steps in the right direction by some while others will scoff and claim the effort did not produce anything meaningful.

There does not appear to be any magical formula on the horizon to solve the problem in one fell swoop. Had the recent storm flattened 100 houses there, the resultant chaos would have only embarrassed government by attempting to give acceptable humanitarian aid to hundreds of homeless persons of questionable status. Indeed, a fire in the Peas section could easily consume 100 houses and leave hundreds homeless. The consequences would be difficult to contend with.

At the Prime Minister's request, a task force has been assembled of government agencies and non-governmental organizations to assess the problem. Several meet-

ings have been held. Initial meetings have been held quietly with an attempt to set the ground rules and framework for the long haul. Status reports are being collected to get some grasp of the situation.

Concerns are constantly mentioned on the illegal aspects of the residents' occupation of the land. The five acres of Pigeon Peas is private generation land while the 10 - 20 acres of the Mud are situated on government land. The occupational issues are different in each case.

The Peas is several feet higher and suffered much less flooding than the neighboring Mud settlement. Due to the constant flooding threat, the long term prospects for the Mud would be a public park of some sort which would tolerate occasional flooding.

A small sub-committee from the founding task force has held several meetings with Mud and Pigeon Peas residents in churches in their communities. Those addressing the residents were not able to give answers to their questions but promises were made to bring grievances and concerns to government's attention.

Electricity was often mentioned as a needed utility. However, this would require serious changes to the existing safety and connection regulations. In general terms, an occupancy certificate and proof of ownership is required before electricity is considered. Squatting on government land does not come with legal occupation documents. Neither is an occupancy certificate likely

to be granted without running water and toilet facilities. Storm resistant construction methods are not followed and building density does not provide adequate fire protection.

It will take patient and diligent work on a consistent basis to bring about changes, but it seems that there is now a core of committed people who are willing to bring changes to the area. This includes representatives from the government departments and non-governmental persons. There appears to be a group forming of concerned persons from within the two immigrant settlements. It must be emphasized that there are many persons living in these settlements who are either recognized as Bahamian or would qualify on application.

It will be a while before the emerging task force comes up with meaningful measures. However, they cannot accomplish much without the backing of central government and its many agencies.

We hope that central government will take this opportunity to assist and encourage this group with more than just lip service. It will require that all relevant agencies be involved, that some monies be allocated, that effort is directed to stopping further construction and that those who qualify for residency or citizenship status be accommodated expeditiously. Serious thought must be given to the often mentioned low-cost subdivision concept

There are signs that this current effort may produce results.



Both of these houses in the Mud near the basketball court were under construction when this picture was taken on November 14. The houses were erected quickly. In the morning the roof on one of them had rafters only but by mid-day the roof was being completed.

Letters to the Editor

To a Hero Out There

Dear Editor,

After Hurricane Jeanne a boat named Pleiades offered to make overseas calls for us on their satellite phone.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU as we are very grateful to you. Your kindness will always be remembered.

Many thanks,
Linda Weatherford

A Letter to BEC

Dear Editor,

Would you kindly print this letter to BEC.

To the Manager of BEC I have left numerous messages at your office for you to call me but so far NO luck. What do I have to do to get a response?

I am a property manager for several second home owners. One particular home owner that lives on Pelican Shores has been out of power since the first hurricane the first week of September when your company cut the main power line from a rotten pole. This was understandable that the line had to be cut and reconnected to a new pole. But what I don't understand is why each week when I call and enquire when the lines will be reconnected to the new pole, they tell me next week. And at the end of every "next" week it is still not done. So I call again and they tell me "next week."

So after several weeks of dealing with "next week," I started to try to contact you, the manager, personally so I could get an

actual date on when it will be restored. Every time that I have phoned the office they say that you are not there. They took my name and number and had me explain the problem each time and said they personally would put it on your desk. As to date November 11th it is still not fixed. And I have not had a return call from you.

A few times when I called to follow up as I had not heard back from you, they said that you were out at the power house and provided a number. But when I phone there, they said you were not there. On one occasion when I asked someone at the power house did they have any suggestions on how to contact you, the reply was "Report it to the MP." I asked who I was speaking to and I know for a fact I was given a false name.

On one of my recent phone calls they said all lines had been transferred to the new pole and the rotten pole moved. GREAT! So I immediately went to the house to confirm this, but the house in reference was still out of power. I called back the same day to let them know that the house still did NOT have power and was trying to explain the situation. The lady on the phone was so rude that I hung up on her as I am a customer that is paying for a service and should not have to be subjected to rude treatment. They called back laughing about the

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters *From Page 8*

situation trying to apologize. I told them that's not a way to play with customers. She took my message and again promised to put it on your desk one more time.

A family member was out of power for several weeks. They were told by a staff member, "You know you have to keep bugging the office 'cause that's how the system works for things to get done."

Mr. Manager, is "this how the system works?" I am asking you to follow up on this and see that the front desks and power house give you the lists of work orders. Somehow put them in number order so when someone calls in, they can look at the

list and relate to the customer EXACTLY where we are on the list instead of "next week." I realize not all your staff is to blame. You do have some hard workers and they know who they are.

As a Bahamian we have to tolerate the way we are treated as we live here, this is our country. But for second homeowners, I WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY they choose to live here. The same situation applies to BATELCO always "next week" and no returned phone calls from the manager.

Thanks to The Abaconian for allowing me this space.

Linda Weatherford

P.S. Managers, you should have my numbers on your desk.

Clarifying Details

Dear Editor,

Ms. Santillo's article is much appreciated and certainly captures the mood of the preserve and its many beautiful sights and creatures. However, a few misconceptions crept in. While corrections had been submitted, they did not make it into the final article. I'd like to take this opportunity to clear them up.

No roads have been bulldozed. We are doing our utmost to keep the forest pristine and so far have only carefully cleared existing logging roads. Nearly five miles of trail/fence line have been cut with machetes and a weed whacker only. Windfall is cleared with the help of a chain saw.

The preserve was granted to the horses in November of 2002; the horses were moved into the preserve in November of 2003. We will celebrate the first year of the move on November 21.

It will be necessary, as soon as a ma-

chine is available, to push through a fire break/road. The path has been laid out utilizing extant logging roads wherever possible, winding through the thinnest tree growth in order to have the least possible impact on the forest.

There are no feeding stations. The security men feed the horses wherever they happen to be in the morning. The horses set the pace and the place and are never trained to be in any particular area.

Two men are on the preserve full time. I divide my time between the preserve and the Marsh Harbour office and Buck a Book.

Please note that the preserve is not a farm and should not be confused with the citrus farm with which we share a border.

I'd like to thank everyone for their continued support of the horses and their preserve. We couldn't make it without you.

Sincerely,
Milanne (Mimi) Rehor

Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral for **Wilson "Cranker" McIntosh**, 69, of Cooper's Town was held on November 6 at the Revival Time Pentecostal Church in Cooper's Town. Rev. Copeland Morley officiated assisted by Deacon Jenson Edgecombe. Interment was the South Side Gardens Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Estelle McIntosh; sisters Miriam Roker and Betty McIntosh; brothers Pastor Ronald McIntosh, Edwin and Calvin McIntosh; adopted grandchildren Ronisha and Romeka McIntosh; uncle Ronald McIntosh; nieces, nephews; sisters-in-law Kathleen, Florence, Delphine, Annie, Pearl and Ruth McIntosh, Lila Strachan and Bernice Brown; brother-in-law Clifford Adderley; grandnieces; grandnephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Geraldine Davis**, 88, a resident of Hard Bargain, Moore's Island, was held on November 11 at Zion Baptist Church, Hard Bargain. Pastor Nixon Simms officiated assisted by Geneva Williams, Preston Knowles, Anthony Williams and Paul Jones. Interment was in the Public Cemetery, Hard Bargain.

She is survived by grandnephews, Daniel Davis, Gilbert Davis, Jason Davis, Bazil Swain, Patrick Swain, Leroy Swain, Thomas Swain, Alexandra Swain, Garfield Hepburn, Felix Munroe, Rudolph Stuart, Edison Davis, Simone Stuart and Rolland Stuart; nieces, Zelma Hepburn, Allardyce Munroe, Terry Stuart, Olga Davis, Stephanie Swain, Thelma Stuart, Firstena Swain, Ismae Seymour, Mary White, Francina Hield, Ellamae Swain, Patsy Swain, Liz Stuart, Marjorie Swain and Cindy Davis; other relatives and friends

including the entire community of Moore's Island.

Martha Naketa Mills, 87, formerly of Old Place passed away on October 16. She was affectionately known as Auntie Martha.

She is survived by her son John Mills; daughters Mageretta Munnings, Catcherin Davis and Alene Johnson; grandchildren; and numerous other relatives and friends.

The funeral service for **Mildred Omelia Davis**, 86, formerly of Crossing Rock was held in Nassau. Interment was in Nassau.

She is survived by children Mae, Dimple, Rozelda and Nelson Davis, Francena Cleare, Candace, Joan and Rhonda Davis; sister Merkelene Lightbourne; brother-in-law George Davis; grandchildren Katherine Bowe, Sabrina, Yaari, Therron, Lamond, Nadia, Tory, Ariaah, Renee, Antonia and Theophilus Davis, Brian (Sally) Ferguson, Kai (Renee) Davis, Paulette (Wayne) Poitier, Ayana Archer, Billi Jo Stuart, Phyllis (Ken) Bain, Gia Davis, Keera and Kori Cleare, Monique (Bernhardt) Pfenninger, Sheia (Keith) Stubbs, Andra (Darren) Brown, Lisa (John) Cartwright, John Payne, Nanette Scavella, Angela Davis and Alexandria Cleare; great-grandchildren Salena Diaz, Jamie Davis, La Summer and La Toya Payne, Gino Bowe and Regina Thomas; great-great-grandchildren; adopted children Dr. Wavell Thompson, Dr. Joseph Evans, Garth, Rudolph and Philip Stubbs, Arthur Armbrister, Aretha Dorsette and Patricia Dickenson; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives.



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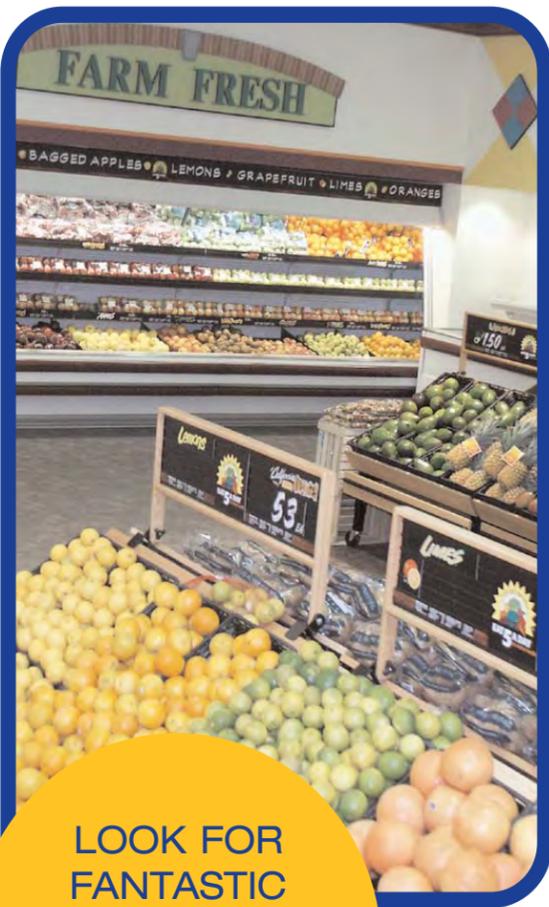
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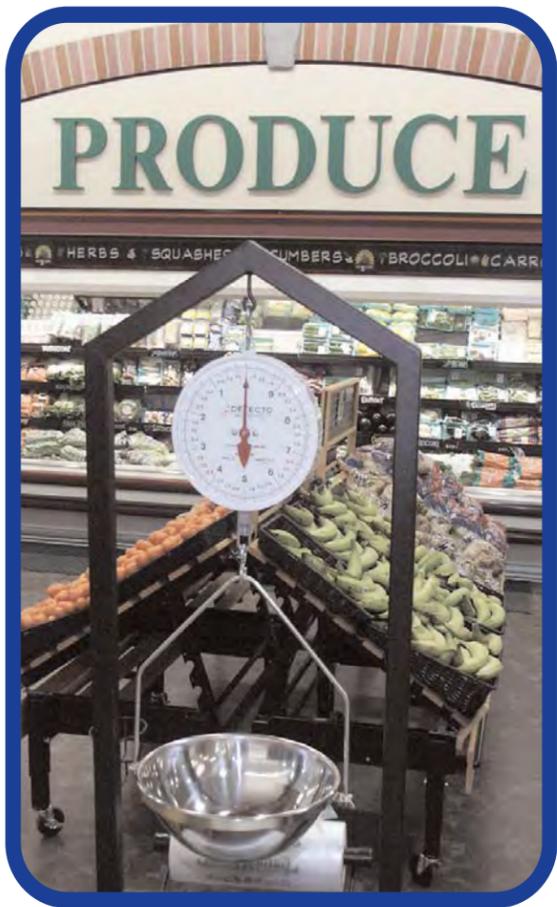
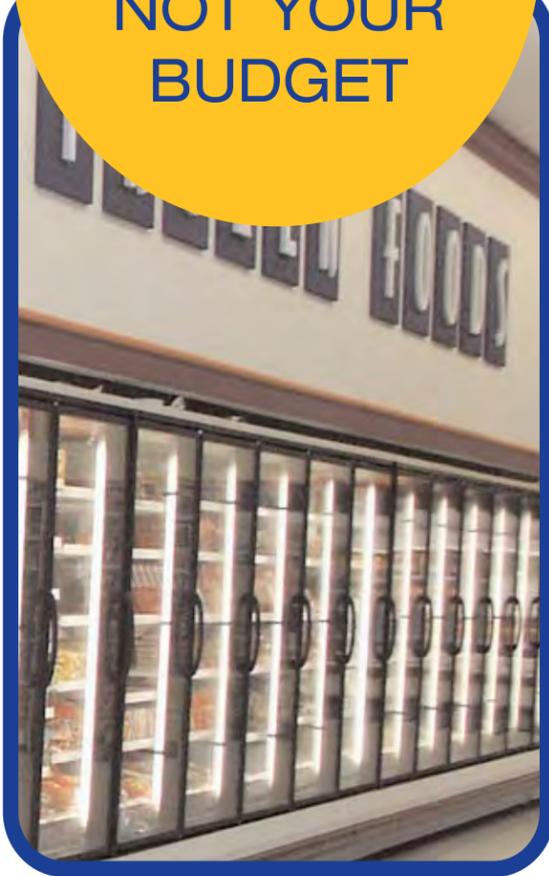
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Police Address Hope Town's Crime Problem

By Portia Jonsson

The people of Hope Town are fed up and frustrated with the ills of society that appear to be taking over their very small community. This was evident during a town meeting held October 20th at the St. James Methodist Church and attended by a very small number of persons.

Local resident, Mr. Jeff Key, said that in the past residents have been frustrated with meetings being held to discuss Hope Town's serious drug and crime problems and not have anything done about it. This was the reason for the poor turn out. Residents feel they have a lawless community and are tired of the police giving them "lip service." Mr. Key informed those in attendance that ASP Wayne Miller and P/C Durham, recently stationed in Hope Town, were there to change this.

Accompanying ASP Miller were Inspector Godfrey Ferguson, Detective Corp. Rolle and WPC Campbell. They were there to address the serious issue of crime and to see what they could do as a police service to prevent it from ruining this quaint little island.

ASP Miller informed all that by their attendance they were showing that they care about their community and are willing to do whatever it takes to ensure that it remains as safe as possible for themselves, their children, second homeowners and visitors alike.

He referred to the old adage that says, "Evil prevails when good men sit back and do nothing." The same is true about crime. He called for persons to share the responsibility in preventing crime with the police and pledge to form this partnership.

The only persons in the country ASP

Miller said who truly work together are the criminals. Criminals share resources, information, intelligence and more. Residents need networking and linkages with the police.

He told residents that he read the letters they sent to the Commissioner of Police and assured them that he is the man for the job because crime prevention is his business. He is tired of criminals "getting the upper hand" on them. This is why they must move quickly to ensure that the "would be" criminals get the message loud and clear that Hope Town is not for sale by any measure, and all illegal activities are not welcome.

Residents were told that Police Officer Durham has been placed in Hope Town but advised that the reality is he cannot fight crime alone; everyone has a part to play in helping to reduce it and the power lies in their hands. Crime must be stamped out at all costs.

Persons were asked to report all crime or anti-social behaviour and not sit by and watch the drug deals take place right under their noses and not say anything about it. Hope Town has a drug problem, and it must be "nipped in the bud." Drugs, like most crime, do not sit still. Eventually, it will reach you and/or your children. Drugs eat at the very fiber of society.

ASP Miller encouraged residents to set up a Community Crime Watch with other residents. By working together they can prove to the criminals that Hope Town is a Community Against Drugs.

In closing Officer Miller said while the problem that exists in Hope Town is not near as much as what exists in other communities, he admonished residents to join forces and close ranks to ensure the prob-

lem is contained and does not overwhelm them to the point where instead of one or two officers, the entire Police Force is needed to come over to correct the situation.

The floor was opened for comments, questions and suggestions, and the residents did not hold anything back taking this opportunity to voice their frustrations.

It was brought to Officer Miller's attention that Hope Town is internationally known as the easiest place to obtain cocaine and there are youth in this community who have a \$1000 a week cocaine habit. Drugs are being sold and passed through

local restaurants and bars regularly. Residents have made numerous reports and complaints over and repeatedly to the Marsh Harbour Police Station about a local resident and known drug dealer but to no avail. This has been going on for over eight years, and they want this person off the island.

There were concerns about lack of response from the police regarding burglaries to homes and businesses, the illegal immigration problem and speeding now that Hope Town has half of its roads paved.

It was suggested by residents that the Police get involved in educating young persons and children about drug abuse.

Bank Donates to Church



Commonwealth Bank made a donation to Trumpet Assembly of God Church in Dundas Town for volunteering their church building as a shelter during the two recent hurricanes. Shown above are, left to right, Mrs. Charlotte Dorsette, Ms. Marilyn Innocent, both officers of the bank, Rev. Carlton Dorsette, pastor of Trumpet Assembly, and Mr. Lyndon Davis, Manager of Commonwealth Bank.




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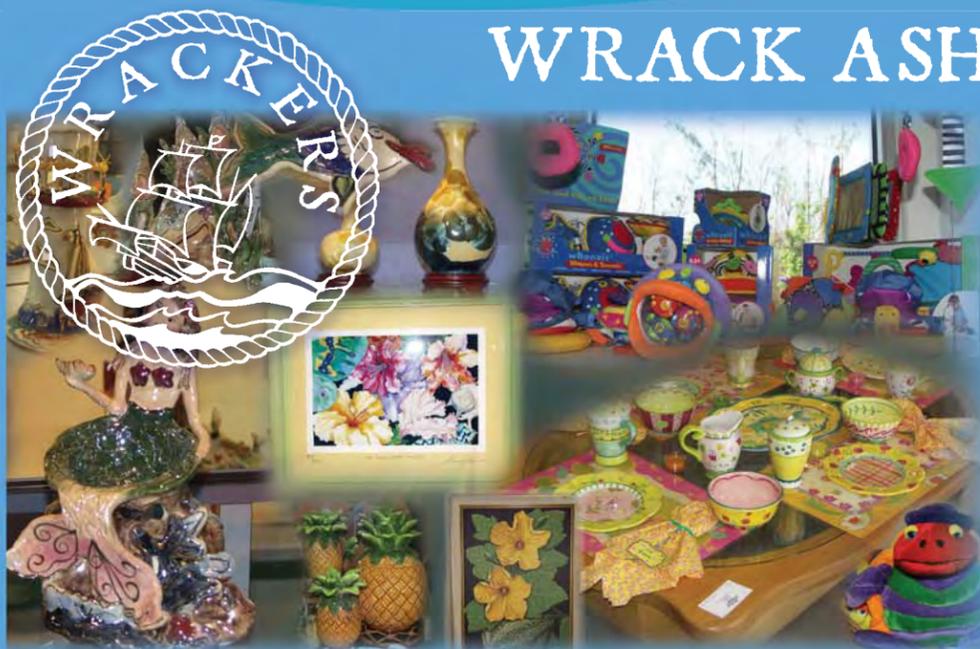
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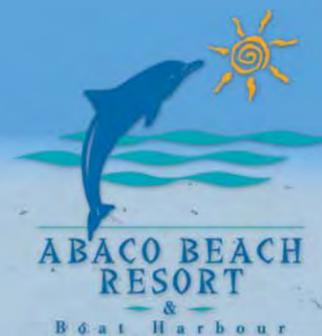
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People in the News

Physiotherapist Comes to Abaco

By Portia Jonsson

On November 11th Mrs. Christina Messarra of Providence Rehabilitation Centre in Nassau expanded her physiotherapy practice to Abaco. Located in the Memorial Plaza within FitCo gym, this new practice offers physiotherapy services and hopes to include massage and hand therapy shortly.

Physiotherapy is a health profession concerned with maximizing mobility and quality of life by using clinical reasoning to select and apply the appropriate treatment. Physiotherapy extends from health promotion to injury prevention; acute care; rehabilitation; maintenance of functional mobility; maintenance of the best achievable health in people with chronic illness; patient and career education and occupational health.

Mrs. Messarra says almost everyone can benefit from physiotherapy. She works with sports people, the elderly, children with disabilities, stroke victims, persons suffering from head injuries, vehicular accident victims and the general population strengthening muscles and improving balance to reduce falls and other accidents.

She came to Abaco on the invitation of Dr. May Hestmo, Orthopedic Surgeon, and Dr. Catherine DeSouza. Both doctors have patients here on the island whom they feel will benefit greatly from physiotherapy ser-



vices.

Mrs. Messarra will arrive in Marsh Harbour every Thursday morning at 9 a.m. and leave the island the following day at 8 a.m. Her services are available on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Initial assessments are \$100 and follow-up treatments \$80. She works with insurance companies and the National Insurance Board.

Committed to coming every week, she says in the event business grows, she will provide full time coverage and relocate to Abaco. She loves Abaco and has very fond memories of her time spent here as a teenager. Her staff in Nassau is also interested in traveling to Marsh Harbour to provide services in hand and massage therapy.

A special thanks to Randy Key, owner of FitCo gym who Mrs. Messarra says has been very supportive and facilitated her entry into the community.

She is married and has four children.

Retired Nurse Is Honored

On October 15 Nurse Shirley Saunders of Sandy Point was among a group of doctors and nurses who were honored by the Bahamas Family Planning Association at an Awards Banquet for their years of commitment and faithful service to Family Planning in The Bahamas. The gala event was held under the patronage of Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Nottage.



In his address Dr. Nottage hailed persons like Nurse Saunders as going into the trenches to get the work of the Family Planning Association started. She was referred to as the "Ever ready bunny" and those of you who know Nurse Saunders can attest to her endless energy.

Mrs. Saunders was a nurse for more than 40 years before her retirement and served throughout The Bahamas. She was seconded to the Department of Family Planning in 1984 and served there for four years before returning to Community Nursing. She believes in and is committed to Family Planning, and although retired, will take the time to talk to young persons in her community of Sandy Point about the importance of planning their families.

She is married to Mr. Emil Saunders, and they are the proud parents of four children and three grandchildren.

We congratulate Nurse Saunders on this honor and pray God's blessings on her.

Methodists Honour Church Workers

By Jennifer Hudson

Four outstanding members of the Methodist Church on Abaco were honoured in Nassau recently. Mr. Vernon Malone of St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town, Mrs. Eleanor Jorgensen of Epworth Chapel in Cherokee and Mrs. Emmalin Sawyer of St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town were selected by members of their respective churches in the East Abaco region to be recognized for their faithful and exceptional service to the church. Also honoured was Ms. Jenny Reckley of Green Turtle Cay for service to the Methodist Church in the Northern region.

They were among 33 persons selected, one from each of the Methodist Churches in the Bahamas, to receive the Methodist Service Awards of the Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church in appreciation of their outstanding work. The awards were presented at a banquet on November 6th in Nassau.

"This is the first time that such awards have been presented but it will now be an ongoing tradition," stated Rev. Carla Culmer, who also attended the conference along with Ms. Felamese Sawyer and Ms. Cleola Sawyer.

In order to continue the connectional tradition of the Methodist Church, a pulpit exchange was observed on November 7th. Rev. Culmer preached at Wesley Church in Grants Town, Mr. Malone preached at Hatchet Bay, Eleuthera, while Mr. Earnest Miller of Wesley Church preached on Abaco at St. Andrews Church and Rev. Marie Neilly from Harbour Island preached at Epworth Chapel in Cherokee. The pulpit exchange will continue to be a yearly tradition.

The Central Council Conference closed with a worship service at Trinity Methodist Church, in Nassau on November 7th.

Chiropractor Practices at Auskell Clinic

By Jennifer Hudson

The science of chiropractics has been known to receive some scepticism in the past as the word "chiropractor" has often conjured up thoughts of someone roughly jerking bones back into place. But Dr. John

Please see **People**

Page 21



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Tourism Recognizes Community Support for Goombay



On November 11 the Ministry of Tourism Abaco office recognized those in the community which supported the Goombay festivities this past summer. Ms. Wynsome Ferguson, coordinator for the summer evenings, thanked those who provided tents, garbage bins, police, media coverage, local government support and Bahamasair. Mrs. Jeritzan Outten, Director of Tourism for Abaco, felt that this summer's entertainment raised the bar and was pleased with the response from the community.

Bahamasair in West Palm Beach Now Has Phone

By Isobel Sherman

For those traveling to West Palm Beach on Bahamasair you will be happy to know that they have established hours when their ticket counter is open and they now have a phone at the ticket counter. The phone number is 561-686-8206. On Mondays the counter will be open from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., Fridays from 7:45 a.m. until 1 p.m., Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. and

Sundays from 7:45 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Ms. Willamae Kemp is the manger of the Bahamasair ticket counter in West Palm Beach. In addition there is a toll free number 1-800-222-4262.

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Food Safety Course Was Held

By Portia Jonsson

The Health Education Division in the Ministry of Health and Environment held its first Basic Food Safety Course in Marsh Harbour on November 5th. Its objective is to promote food safety by providing employees in the food industry with the knowledge and skills to handle food safely in their establishments. A similar course was held in Sandy Point and others are planned for North Abaco and the cays, mainly Green Turtle Cay, Guana Cay, Hope Town, Grand Cay and Moore's Island.

Ms. Deloris Stubbs of the Ministry of Health said her ministry will continue to hold mandatory yearly food safety courses for food handlers. Over 25 local restaurant workers including waiters and waitresses, cooks, bartenders and managers participated in this course. Participants viewed slide shows, received numerous fact sheets and handouts on the importance of keeping their premises clean and sanitized and watched a ServSafe Food video. This video highlighted food handling, food preparing, storing and serving food, personal hygiene, avoiding cross contamination of foods and cleaning and sanitizing.

Food safety training is a commitment, a mind set and a smart business practice for every restaurant and food service operation in our community. Food safety training doesn't end, however, once a manager, bartender or waitress earns certification. That's where it begins - by implementing food safety practices.

Kiwanians Donate to Cancer Society



The Kiwanis Club of Abaco presented the Abaco Branch of the Cancer Society with clothing and a donation. Shown above are, left to right, Marjolein Scott, Cancer Society Secretary; Anastacia Seymour, President of the Kiwanis Club; Hugh Cottis, President of the Cancer Society; and Anita Rolle, President Elect of the Kiwanis Club.

By Jennifer Hudson

On November 1st Ms. Anastacia Seymour, President of the Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco, and Ms. Anita Rolle, President Elect, made a presentation to the Abaco Branch of the Can-

cer Society of a large amount of very good quality clothing for their Thrift Store and a monetary donation towards the work of the Society.

The Thrift Store is an excellent fund raiser for the Cancer Society which as-

sists cancer sufferers with their travel expenses abroad for treatment. In the recent hurricanes the majority of the inventory for the store was ruined. When the Kiwanis Club heard of this, they decided to assist by having a clothing drive amongst their members. Even an antique chair was donated. Now, thanks to the Kiwanis Club, this very popular Thrift Store which offers a valuable service to the community has been able to fully restock its shelves. The store, which is located in the Marsh Harbour Library building, is open each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

In addition to the clothing drive, on October 23rd the Kiwanis held a *Dollar Day* to raise funds to assist the needy and the Central Abaco Primary School which the Club has adopted as one of its projects.

The Kiwanis Club is a service oriented club which is presently rebuilding its membership and the committee would like to encourage more of the service-minded people of Abaco to join. They would like to attract people who are likely to reside here permanently as many of their members have been civil servants who frequently become transferred to other islands.

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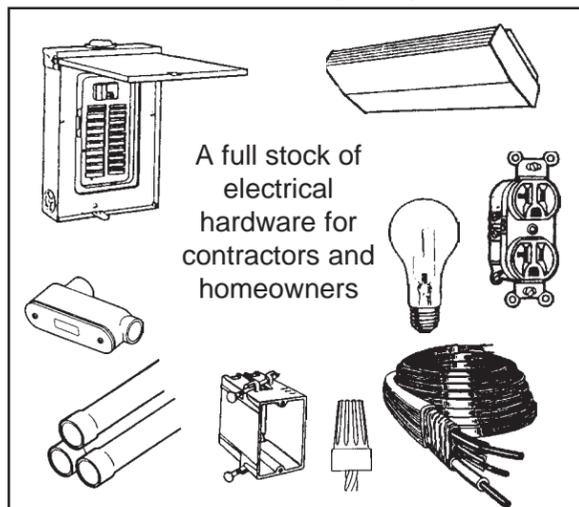


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A Bird's Eye View of Policing on Moore's Island

By Jennifer Hudson

During my first and very enjoyable visit to Moore's Island a week ago I met with Corporal Derek Ferguson and Constable Glanville Johnson, the two police officers presently stationed on Moore's Island. Corporal Ferguson, who is from Nassau and Constable Johnson from Eleuthera have been stationed on the island for approximately one year and gave me a quick insight into their work, telling me that, while the island is small, there are definite challenges to working in such a community.

The two settlements of the Bight and Hard Bargain make up this quiet fishing community where the main offences are crawfish violations and a few house break-ins. The

island, which is seven miles long and three miles wide, has a population of between 1,200 and 1,500, the majority of which are males. Children have to leave the Moore's Island All Age School at around 13 to 15 years because the school is not equipped to teach beyond grade nine. Students must, therefore, seek their high school education in Marsh Harbour, Nassau or Grand Bahama if they are fortunate enough to have someone with whom they can reside. The young men usually return to fish but the females often do not return as they seek employment elsewhere.

The first police station on the island was opened in February of this year in Hard Bargain and was built for the police by con-

tractor Rodney Davis, who funded the project. It took him three years to complete, paying for it out of his own pocket. Corporal Cash, who was the officer stationed on Moore's Island until six months ago, used his own home as the police station until the new station was completed. Now the station contains two cells in which offenders can be detained, but prior to this offenders had to stay in Corporal Cash's front room until they could be transferred to the mainland to be detained. In order for more effective policing, the officers say that they need a computer and a fax for more efficient communication.

A large part of the police work on Moore's Island involves checking all flights into the island for drugs and firearms and looking for fugitives from other parts of the Bahamas. Three flights a week come in from Nassau, Freeport and Cat Island and there are flights twice a day from Marsh Harbour on Mondays, Wednesdays and

Fridays.

The police on Moore's Island depend on the Defense Force, BASRA and the DEA for assistance and when the Defense Force or Police boats come to Moore's Island the two police officers patrol with them.

There are two night clubs on the island situated in Hard Bargain but, according to the Police Officers, they do not cause much of a problem. The Bight community comprises more of an older population. Five churches on the Island serve the spiritual needs of the community; these are St. Matthews Baptist, Zion Baptist, Greater Bethel, Soul Seeking and World Wide Church of God.

The police officers keep in touch with the people of Moore's Island by community policing, walking through the settlements and talking to the residents to assist

Please see **Moore's Island** Page 21



The Police Chief for Abaco, ASP Wayne Miller, visits Moore's Island whenever he can. He is shown here on one of his trips chatting with one of the residents at her home. Mr. Miller is a strong believer in community policing, the police working with communities to bring about a spirit of cooperation to reduce crime and create better communities.



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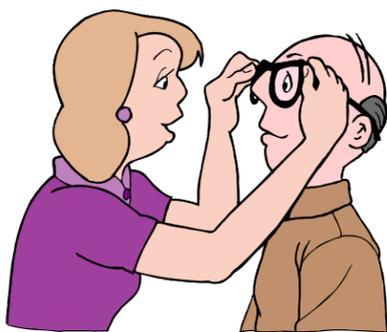
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Firefighters Warned of Post -Hurricane Fire Threats

By Richard E. Fawkes

Chris Bergh, who is with The Nature Conservancy in the Florida Keys, told a group of firefighters and environmentalists from New Providence, Abaco, Grand Bahama and Andros that forest fires tend to be worse and burn hotter after hurricanes because of the increased supply of "fuel" due to the large number of trees brought down. Mr. Bergh, who helped to coordinate with Friends of the Environment, an Abaco-based conservation

group, an evening of lectures on prescribed fire burning on October 29.

Mr. Bergh and three colleagues with The Nature Conservancy chapters in Florida and Georgia made presentations on topics such as wild-land fire behaviour, basic fire terms, personal preparedness, communications, fire safety, fire suppression, patrolling and mop-up. The Nature Conservancy is a national U.S. conservation organization devoted to protecting unique natural areas such

as the Northern Bahamas pine yards or pine rock forests, as they're called in the Florida Keys, and rare species such as the Abaco Parrot or the Key Deer.

Current forestry management shows that periodic "prescribed" or intentional burning of certain areas of the forests will help prevent or minimize the devastation of out-of-control fires caused by arsonists or acts of nature, as there would be less to burn. In this way, they explained, animals' habitats could be protected, and the thinning out required by nature would occur less destructively. Mr. Bergh and his colleagues have been practicing prescribed burning in the Keys since 1992 with good results.

About 26 persons took advantage of the course. Mr. Randolph "Caspar" Burrows of the Bahamas National Trust in Freeport and Mr. David Knowles, Bahamas government agricultural officer on Abaco, had taken a similar course in Belize in late February and encouraged fellow Bahamians to do the same.

Participants in the course discussed such practical matters as the effects of weather and topography on fires, how fire behaves on a slope, how to identify a safe area or escape routes when fighting a fire, how to identify the head of a fire and how to calculate its rate of spread. As to whether The Bahamas has canyons to influence the movement of a wild-land fire,

given the general flatness of the terrain, Mr. Bergh said the Great Abaco Highway with tall trees on either side is a perfect example of a canyon that would drive a fire, depending on the wind speed and direction.

The training was scheduled to move to the Abaco National Park by the Sandy Point-Hole-in-the-Wall junction to conduct prescribed burnings in two areas, weather permitting.

The checklist of activities for those operations included discussing transportation safety, issues of wildfire in the wild-land that could reach into an urban area, fire ecology, fire weather, fire devices and water use. Part of the training exercise for prescribed burning included setting fire goals and objectives and how to engage in a mop-up operation with complete monitoring.

Besides apprising themselves of the dangers of post-hurricane fires, the firefighters and conservationists also discussed the difference between fighting fires during the wet, late spring season (assuming there is no drought), and the dry, winter season. The latter is by far harder to contain. Of course, last year Abaco suffered a drought and two devastating forest fires which, along with the two hurricanes, placed tremendous stress on two of our endangered species in particular - the wild horses and the parrots.

Controlled Burns Train Locals

Burn

From Page 1

In a unique combination of classroom and field experience on October 28-30 firefighters and conservationists responsible for the well being of the 350,000 acres of the Caribbean Pine forests, or "pine yards" on Abaco, Grand Bahama, Andros and New Providence came to work together to learn from experts on how to improve their skills and knowledge.

Mr. Bergh, The Nature Conservancy's conservation programme manager for South Florida and the Florida Keys who brought a team of instructors to Abaco, said he was quite impressed with the performance of the firefighters from the various islands who participated in the "burns" and the class. "I did not know what to expect bringing together people who had not worked together before," he said, "but they did not have to spend a lot of time learning how to function effectively because of their professionalism. I was very impressed with that." Mr. Bergh was also struck by the fact that on New Providence and Grand Bahama firefighting is a wing of the police, but on Abaco they are entirely voluntary.

After a four-hour class on Friday night on wild-land fire behaviour and an overview of prescribed burning, the participants engaged in two burnings on Saturday and Sunday at the Sandy Point - Hole-in-the-Wall junction of the Great Abaco Highway. The burnings took place in the Abaco National Park on the edge of the 20,000-acre parrot preserve. The group burned 11 acres on Saturday and 22 acres on Sunday.

Sixty-five-year-old Rex Albury, a retired grocer who is a member of the Casuarina Point Volunteer Fire Department and who helped to fight the major fires in the Bahama

Palm Shores area last spring, said he wished he and his colleagues had had the training they received over the weekend when confronting those fires. "We knew about back-burning and used it to keep the fire from Casuarina," he said, "but I wish we had known about prescribed burning to reduce the amount of fuels to burn."

In the practice burnings, The Nature Conservancy exercise emphasized understanding fire behaviour in changing weather conditions, the use of weather monitoring tools, and the logistics of fire control and fire suppression.

Scientists from the U.S. Forest Service and the University of Tennessee will do a follow-up evaluation of the burns to learn about the impact of the heat or carbon monoxide produced in rock holes in the ground that the wild parrots use for nesting, and what impact similar fires would have on the species. Mr. Bergh said they chose a time after the parrots' nesting and fledgling season between June and September to avoid destroying any eggs or young.

Pine forests need burnings to survive, Mr. Knowles and Mr. Bergh explained. The fires tend to remove the leafy growth beneath the trees so young pines can receive sunlight and replace older pines. If not, coppice would replace the pine yards. The pine trees tend to be resistant to periodic, low-level burning that remove such undergrowth.

Mr. Bergh and Mr. Knowles also said that prescribed burnings could become part of the equation of forest management as the government of The Bahamas seeks to address public policy issues related to the preservation of forests and the species endemic to them and as town planners take the potential for wildfires into account when planning roads and communities near forests.

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Marsh H. Port Facilities Are Completely Operational



The port in Marsh Harbour has been busy since the storms in September but even more so lately as many are bringing in duty free building materials and replacing storm damaged furnishings before the November 30 deadline. On the left is the Duke of Topsail flanked on either side by two Haitian freighters. Just coming into port is the Tropic Night. The

By Mirella Santillo

The new Port Authority Complex, which sits at the entrance of the commercial harbour, was built over a year ago and officially opened on July 1, 2003. It spreads low and elegant facing the sea. Under its roof are the Customs and Immigration offices, the Department of Fisheries, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Harbour Master's office, other booths and related offices and two warehouses. The new facility was designed to replace an old warehouse building and small dock facility which had become obsolete and unable to handle properly the growing amount of shipping business.

Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne brought quite a lot of destruction to the complex. The fence surrounding the clearance area for the cars and containers was completely destroyed; nine cargo doors were lost; there was roof damage to both warehouses. The air conditioning units and the BEC trans-

former were flooded and have to be replaced. As a matter of fact, the buildings are still powered by an on-site generator. In spite of these set backs, the facilities reopened two days after Hurricane Jeanne. The necessary paper work for repairs has been submitted to the Ministry of Transport and Aviation, which is in charge of approving the funding. Harbour Master, Capt. Cyril Roker, is waiting impatiently for the go ahead.

Since the hurricanes the amount of freight coming to Marsh Harbour has significantly increased. Quite a few more boats have entered the harbour, mostly to bring relief supplies. Boats coming from the United States, a fishing vessel from Spanish Wells, a Defense Force craft from Nassau and a few helicopters were allowed to dock or land on the premises. Regularly scheduled cargo ships such as the *Duke of Topsail*, the *Legacy* and the *Tropic Night* immediately resumed their weekly trips to Marsh Harbour.

Duke and the Tropic Night give us weekly service from West Palm Beach and The Duke makes an additional trip weekly to Nassau. The Haitian freighters ply the waters between Haiti, Nassau and Abaco every couple of months. Not shown is the Legend, the mail boat which comes weekly from Nassau. Other freight boats come in randomly.

Capt. Roker pointed out that in spite of the no duty policy installed by the government to help the community, revenues are still being collected. Cargo boats mooring at the Marsh Harbour public dock are charged a "wharfage" fee of \$.04 per cargo ton, a mooring fee of \$.18 per foot and \$.02 per vessel tonnage.

Since taking over the management of the harbour about 16 months ago, Mr. Roker, who is a Nassuvian, has been intent on enforcing the loading and collecting rules. He states that his job has been challenging. He misses the amenities of a larger city and has to commute to Nassau on a regular basis to visit his wife and family. But he is accepting with good humor the next four years of his appointment.

According to Capt. Roker, there has not been any delay in shipping and unloading the merchandise coming from the U.S. If any delays have been sustained, they are caused by the set backs suffered in Florida.

This opinion is shared by the *Duke of Topsail's* captain, Mr. Michael Bethel, who confirms that his boat has always maintained her regular schedules. He says that the Port of Palm Beach as well as the one of Marsh Harbour are fully operational and therefore there are no reason for delay. Of course, he agrees that there is much more cargo to handle since the hurricanes: relief supplies, duty free construction materials, added to

Please see **Dock**

Page 21

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NOTICE

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Counsel and Attorney-at- Law

Notary Public

Announces

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on Monday, November 15, 2004, at

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Above Damianos Realty

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Tel: (242) 367-0300/1/2 • Fax: (242) 367-0302 • E-mail address: ingrahamlaw@coralwave.com

People *From Page 14*

Bartlett, a licensed Doctor of Chiropractics who trained in Canada and the United States, says that chiropractics has changed greatly and chiropractic care is all about health maintenance through gentle manipulation of the joints. Dr. Bartlett, who has begun treating patients at the Auskell Clinic on a bi-weekly basis, says, "I have studied many different techniques in order to effectively treat infants, adolescents and older people who all require different treatments and I certainly do not employ any harsh techniques." His training included acupuncture, massage therapy, physiotherapy and nutrition.

At his office in Nassau he is noted for his work in the field of sports medicine (Olympic athletes are some of his patients) and with the treatment of herniated discs, degenerative joint disease, arthritis pain, migraine and tension headaches and sciatic pain. He does a lot of work with asthma patients.

"Pain," says Dr. Bartlett, "is a precursor to stress which raises blood pressure and causes heart problems and diabetes." He takes a gentle approach and his office in Nassau includes a sauna and whirlpool for relaxing the muscles prior to treatment. Although he is unable to utilize those on Abaco, he is able to bring with him his treatment table, ultrasound machine and codetron, a machine used in conjunction with acupuncture (he is

the only person in the Bahamas using such a machine). He also brings a supply of cremes for pain and sports injuries.

Dr. Bartlett will be available for consultation at the Auskell Clinic two Saturdays each month and is recognized by all major insurance companies.

BAIC *From Page 4*

persons develop business plans for viable projects and advises them on seeking financing either from BDB or commercial banks. BAIC only advises on continued growth and development and with marketing. Mr. Halkitis said the corporation markets through a catalogue that showcases enterprises throughout the islands as well as crafts fairs and special discussions with the hotel and tourist industry to carry products.

When Michael Albury related his unsuccessful attempt to market Bahamas Select to Four Seasons in Exuma, complaining that "they did not even take the time to sample the products," Mr. Benjamin Rahming, a consultant with BAIC traveling with Mr. Halkitis, said Mr. Albury's project is the kind BAIC would like to discuss for helping to developing an effective marketing strategy.

Mr. B.G. Harmon, who has developed over 3,000 acres in citrus production south of Spring City, attended the meeting. Mr. Harmon lost over 70,000 cases of fruit dur-

ing the recent hurricanes. The groves need to have a great deal of work although most of them are still intact. It will take a great deal of money and at least a year to get back to full production. Mr. Harmon exported most of his fruit to the United States as well as to Bahamas Select. He expects to expand into the areas of organic production and insecticidal soaps.

Dock *From Page 19*

the regular increase in shipping at this time of the year.

A lift operator states that the bills of lading have increased from 60 to over 100 per trip, a fact verified by Capt. Bethel, who maintains, though, that there are no backlogs of cargo.

So it seems that we are in good shape to affront the remodeling and construction / reconstruction needs of our community as far as shipping is concerned, and if Florida can supply, we can look forward to a nearly normal holiday season.

Moore's Island *From Page 17*

with any concerns they may have.

The new Chief of Police in Marsh Harbour, ASP Wayne Miller, shows support for his officers in Moore's Island by visiting them whenever possible as he says

that he knows that policing in a small community presents its own special challenges.

Officers Ferguson and Johnson not only work to keep law and order but they also involve themselves in the lives of the young people by their valuable assistance as physical education teachers at the school.

It Is Just as Bad in West Palm Beach

By Isobel Sherman

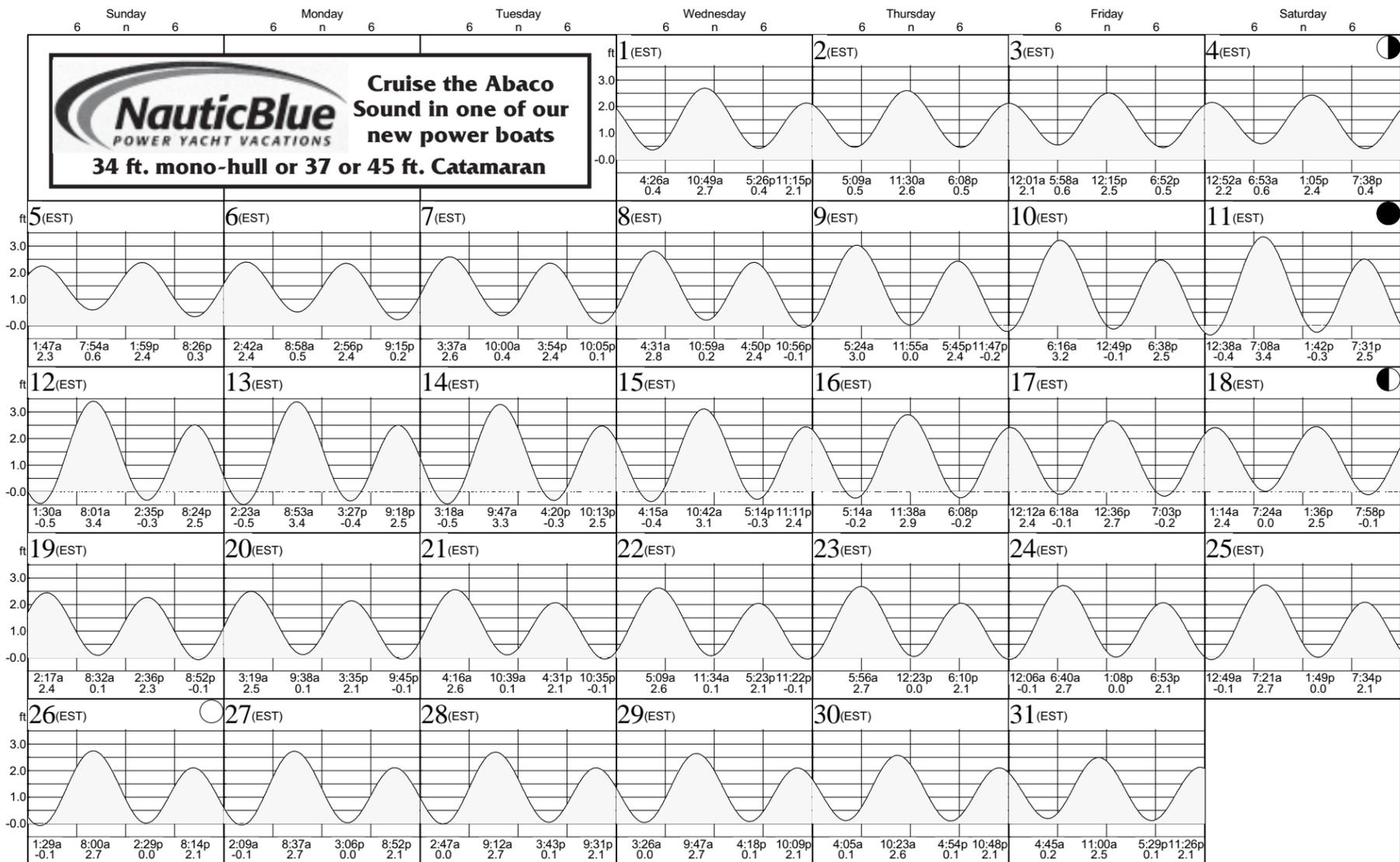
Many persons may be under the impression that West Palm Beach and Palm Beach County are almost fully recovered from the ravages of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. According to a friend of mine who recently traveled to West Palm Beach, that is far from the truth. Flying over West Palm blue tarpaulins could be seen covering homes and other buildings. Talking to people living in that area, he learned that many are still living in hotels because their homes were severely damaged. In addition, persons told him that insurance companies are slow in paying and it is hard to find people to do repairs on their homes such as repairing roofs. The comment he made after his trip was that he traveled to West Palm to get a relief from seeing hurricane damage and instead he saw hurricane damage there.

 Compliments of *The Moorings and The Conch Inn Hotel and Marina* 

Tide - North Bar Channel December 2004

Average Tides
Mean Range: 2.6 ft
MHWS: 3.1 ft
Mean Tide: 1.4 ft

Monthly High & Low
High December 12, 8:01a 3.4 ft
Low December 13, 2:23a -0.5 ft



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Haitian Problem Needs Humanitarian Approach

Allen *From Page 1*

Participating in the meeting and the tour were Haitian pastors Edzer Meme, who is also Haitian Consul to Abaco, Sitois Pasterain and Madame Olibrice, who was representing her husband, Raynald Olibrice.

Dr. Allen explained that he had visited the Haitian communities after a major fire two years ago, and a few weeks ago, making day and night visits to get his own understanding.

Dr. Allen's approach to urban renewal brings faith into the picture because these are situations that require a higher power. "I believe when you hit issues like this, you have to recognize and go to that power which is greater than you. There are no short-term, easy solutions."

Dr. Allen outlined what he called a seven-point approach to the Haitian-Bahamian challenge in Abaco, based upon the teachings of Jesus Christ, starting with, "I love you to the uttermost. I've lived in America, so I know what it is to be an immigrant. So love means reciprocity; you have to put yourself in that place. And that's what I've been doing every time I've come here and walked around and seen the issues."

Dr. Allen said, secondly, there must be a sense of communion. "You have to get together and commune," he said.

Thirdly, Dr. Allen warned participants that there will be resistance to finding solutions. "There's never going to be enough money, for example."

Dr. Allen told his listeners they would also have to have humility, the fourth

standard in carrying out this work. He said humility is perhaps the most important. "You have to be willing to get your hands dirty - this is hard work."

Simplicity was his fifth standard of approach. He then cited service as the sixth standard, as the Lord washed his disciples' feet, to treat strangers in a caring way with dignity and respect. "You have to treat them with dignity and respect. We want to treat people like we'd like to be treated," he said.

"And the final thing, which is what I think is the final thing which encourages me, and is always a blessing in my work, is that He said, 'I'm going now. Remember when I go, I'm sending my Spirit.' And I make no apology that I believe I'm here because I believe the Spirit of God wants me to work on this issue. It means that when I fail or you fail, something good can still happen."

Dr. Cox, the country's first Rhodes Scholar, who has a medical degree from Oxford and a Ph. D. from Cambridge, also spoke in the spirit of an immigrant who lived abroad for more than 20 years and challenged everyone involved to back out if their heart is not fully committed to helping bring about change.

Pastors Meme and Pasterain and Madame Sitois, expressed gratitude that Bahamians were taking such an interest in the problems of the Haitian people and hoped there would be a good outcome.

The meeting and tour were hosted by ASP Wayne Miller, Officer in Charge of Abaco, and Senior Administrator Revis Rolle, who are co-chairing a task force looking into ways to address the issues related to the Mud and Pigeon Pea.



Dr. David Allen, Chairman of the National Urban Renewal Commission, held a meeting with Haitian pastors and police officers to sensitize them to the complexities of dealing with the illegal immigrant problems. Shown above are, left to right, Pastor Pasterain, Madame Sitois, Senior Administrator Revis Rolle, and Dr. Allen.

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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 Bonfish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonfishing 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

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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>

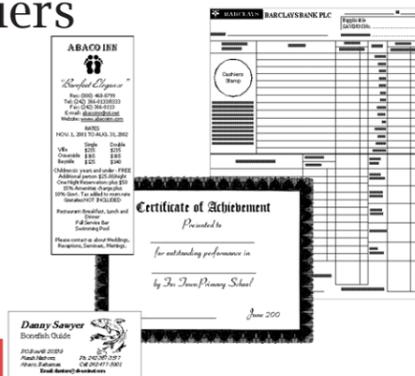
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Restaurants • Services • Transportation

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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
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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

Marsh Harbour to Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach
7:15 (M-F) 9 am 10:30 12:15 pm 2 4 5:45
Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 (M-F)

Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach
10:30 am 12:15 pm (M-Sat) 2:30 (M-Sat) 4 5:45
Return 8 am 11:30 (M-Sat) 1:30 pm 3:15 (M-Sat)

Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay & Guana 40 min. from Conch Inn
‡ 6:45 am 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45 (min \$40)
Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 pm
Fare • OneWay / Round Trip Adult \$10 / \$15 Children \$5 / \$8
‡ Workman's special Mondays thru Fridays from Union Jack Dock

Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16

Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport
8 am 9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30

Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay
8:30 am 10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
One way adult \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$12 Extra to some destinations

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16

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

Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -
Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm
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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

Islander Express - Bus between Marsh Harbour & Sandy Point -For information call 366-4444 or 457-9958

Enovahs Bus Service - Hourly bus through Murphy Town, Dundas Town & Marsh Harbour to Ferry dock. Spring City early morning & late afternoon.

Abaco Marinas		
	Slips Fuel Phone	
Walker's Cay		
Walker's Cay Marina	75	F ... 353-1252
Green Turtle Cay		
Bluff House	45	F ... 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32	F ... 365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15	... 365-4531
Other Shore Club	12	F ... 365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10	F ... 365-4033
Treasure Cay		
Treasure Cay Marina	150	F ... 365-8250
Man-O-War		
Man-O-War Marina	26	F ... 365-6008
Marsh Harbour		
Boat Harbour Marina	183	F ... 367-2736
Conch Inn	75	F ... 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36	F ... 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52	F 367 2700
Mangoes	29	F ... 367-2366
Port of Call	24	F ... 367-2287
Abaco Yacht Haven	7	... 367-3079
Hope Town		
Hope Town Marina	16	... 366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways		... 366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6	F ... 366-0154
Sea Spray	50	F ... 366-0065
Spanish Cay		
Spanish Cay Marina	75	F ... 365-0083
Guana Cay		
Orchid Bay	32	F ... 365-5175
Boats from U.S. can clear Customs at Walker's Cay, Spanish Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour		

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

Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts	
Rentals * Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Concept Boat Rentals	367-5570
Laysue Boat Rentals	367-4414
Pier One Boat Rentals	367-3587
Power Cat Boat Rentals	367-4620
Rainbow Boat Rentals	367-4602
Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars	367-4643
Rich's Boat Rentals	367-2742
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	367-2513
Sea Star Car Rentals	367-4887
Wilmac Car Rentals	367-4970 or 367-4313
Green Turtle Cay	
Bay Street Rentals	477-5300 365-4070
C & D Cart Rental	365-4084
D & P Cart Rental	365-4656
Donnie's Boat Rentals	365-4119
New Plymouth Cart Rentals	365-4188 or 4149
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts	477-5497
T & A Cart Rentals	375-8055
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Dive Guana Boats & bikes	365-5178
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals	365-6059
Island Treasures Cart Rentals	365-6072
Ria-mar Golf Cart Rentals	365-6241
Water Ways Boat Rent	357-6540 & 365-6143
Hope Town	
Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals	366-0292
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
Sea Spray Resort Boat Rentals	366-0065
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Alison Car Rent	365-8193
Cas's Carts	365-8771
Claridge's Cart Rentals	365-8248
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8465
Rich's Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Please bring errors, omissions or corrections to our attention

Rev I Sep 04

Bonefish Guides	
Sandy Point	
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
Marsh Harbour	
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Justin Sands	367-3526
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-6059
Cherokee	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Randy Sawyer	366-2284
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0133
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Green Turtle Cay	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff Survance	365-4040
Ricky Sawyer	365-4261

Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper (Based on dinner entree range)
‡ Provides ride from town
+ Picnic tables & restroom only

Marsh Harbour

Anglers \$\$\$ 367-2158
Conch Crawl \$ 367-4444
Gino's \$ 367-2002
Golden Grouper \$ 367-2301
Hibiscus Cafe \$\$ Closed
Hummingbird \$\$ 367-2922
Jamie's Place \$ 367-2880
Jib Room
Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch-5pm) 367-2615
Mangoes Sept 6 - Nov 6
Pop's Place \$ 367-3796
Sapodilly's
Sea Shells \$ 367-4460
Snack Shack \$ 367-4005
Snappas \$ 367-2278
Subway 367-2798
Wallys
Dundas Town
Ambassador Inn \$ 367-2022
Mackerals 367-5932
Hope Town
Abaco Inn
Cap'n Jacks
Club Soliel 366-0253
Harbour's Edge
H T Harbour Lodge \$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies \$ 366-0423
Rudy's Place \$\$\$ ‡ 366-0062
Sea Spray \$\$ ‡ 366-0065
Man-O-War
Pavilion
Hibiscus 365-6380
Guana Cay
Blue Water Grill \$\$\$ 365-5230
Guana Seaside \$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers \$\$\$ 365-5143
Orchid Bay
Treasure Cay
Florence's Cafe \$
Coconuts
Harbour Cafe \$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight \$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant ... \$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class \$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest 365-8654
Green Turtle Cay
Bluff House \$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro \$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club
Laura's Kitchen
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
Sandy Point
Big J's \$ 366-4020
Nancy's
Oeishas 366-4139
Pete & Gays \$\$\$ 366-4119
Seaside Inn \$\$\$ 366-4120
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge 366-4477

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The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 22, NOVEMBER 15th, 2004

Christmas Festival Is Planned Marsh Harbour Will Host Many Christmas Activities

Bahamas Harvest Distributes Food



On November 6 Bahamas Harvest, a church group from Nassau, brought food to Abaco as part of their Project Hope program. On Abaco they worked with Pastor Samuel Cornish of the Change Ministries Church. They distributed 40,000 pounds of rice, soy milk, raisins and other foods that were shipped direct from West Palm Beach. Project Hope is donating a total of 160,000 pounds to areas affected by the recent hurricanes. Shown above are Pastor Mario Moxey and Kenny Cargill supervising the distribution in Marsh Harbour.

By Mirella Santillo

A Super Christmas Festival is under way. Here is an agenda of the event as reported by some of the organizers. Rotarian Jo-Ann Bradley has been involved in some of the recent happenings in our town. Upon hearing that the annual Christmas Bazaar was being cancelled due to the hurricanes, she and Ms. Jeritzan Outten, the Abaco Director of Tourism, came up with the idea of a super festival.

Jo-Ann came to Abaco in the early eighties where she met her husband to be, who was then Headmaster of the Cherokee School. A year later they married, and they moved to the United States, but not without first buying a house in Cherokee Sound. That house has been their second home since 1984. One year ago they retired and moved back to Abaco. A Rotarian in the United States for many years, Jo-Ann joined the Abaco chapter a year ago. Since then she has been involved in sponsoring the Christmas Festival and is coordinator, helping the various factions to get together.

The Christmas Bazaar is not a new concept for MH, but it was usually included only art and craft tables and entertainment. Other Christmas related events are usually scattered during the month of December, such as the Toys for Tots sponsored by the Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club and the Boat Parade organized by the Boat Parade Com-

Please see **Festival**

Page 2

Concert Will Showcase Talent

By Jennifer Hudson

Get into the spirit of Christmas on December 4rd at 7.30 p. m. in the Music Room of Forest Heights Academy on Don MacKay Boulevard in Marsh Harbour.

The Magical Musical Moments Concert group will present *The Sounds of the Season*, an exciting programme of vocal and instrumental Christmas classics and pops performed by Joan Moss (Soprano), Jennifer Hudson (violin), Bryan Thompson

(Tenor), the Jes'us Quartet (Basil Been, Gentry Morris, Kevin Sterling and Anderson Alcime) and some up and coming young musicians.

Admittance is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children at the door. Refreshments will be on sale and there will be goodies to buy to take home. Proceeds will aid the Kirk of the Pines Building Fund.

Come and help us to bring in a joyful Yuletide Season.

Environmental Camp Was Held in Sandy Point



The Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey held an environmental consciousness camp for the young people of Sandy Point again this past summer. Their culminating activity was an Open House held on October 27 which was open to the public. The Sandy Point Environmental Camp makes learning about conservation enjoyable through activities.

By Pam Church

Over 20 different children participated in the Sandy Point Environmental Camp (SPEC) programs this summer and gathered to demonstrate their learning and artwork to the community during an Open House held on October 27 at the J.A. Pinder Primary

School. Founded in 2003, SPEC is a community outreach effort of the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey (BMMS). SPEC's mission is to educate Bahamian children about their local en-

Please see **Camp**

Page 8

Red Cross Distributes Relief Supplies



Ms. Gina Pierre and her sons receive a food parcel from Barbara Johnson, leader of the Red Cross on Abaco. The Red Cross is providing assistance to families still struggling to recover from the effects of the recent hurricanes. Please see story on page 16.

Festival Will Include Fun for Everyone

Festival

From Page 1

mittee.

This year all these events and more will take place on the same day in the same location. The Rotary Club, the Ministry of Tourism, the Chamber of Commerce, the Boat Parade Committee, the Scurvy Few and Pets Are People Too. The annual Christmas Bazaar committee and various businesses have come together to plan and organize this event.

So mark December 11 in your calendars and start saving your money or reserve a table to sell your goods!

The festival will be held in the parking lot of Memorial Plaza and on the grounds across from the Plaza. Restaurants from all over Abaco will offer samples of their special talents. Chefs will be able to introduce their favorite recipes. Fine art tables will be under the covered passage around Memorial Plaza while white elephant, and crafts items will be displayed in the parking lot.

Across the street the Scurvy Few will gather with their motorbikes; as usual they will cook hamburgers and hotdogs and sell sodas, water and beer. This year they will combine forces with the Police for the Toys for Tots event.

The Taste of Abaco will be on the north side of the park, close to Bay Street. The tables for the restaurants will be set so various restaurants can sell samples of their special dishes.

There will be a tent for the Ministry of Tourism together with the Chamber of Commerce where tee-shirts will be for sale. The Rotary Club will have a tent where mixed drinks, wine and beer will be available. In addition, there will be one for a Dog Show which is being organized by Pets Are People Too and sponsored by Pedigree Dog Food. There will be a Dress Your Dog for Christmas contest and prizes awarded. A huge Pedigree Food balloon will hover over the grounds.

Children will have their share of the fun. They'll be able to disperse their energy in the bouncing castle, have their faces painted, play various games and have their picture taken with Santa. This is sponsored by Computer Creations that will print the photos on the spot.

Plenty to do, will you say. There is more to come. The festivities will carry on through the evening. After dark decorated boats will parade in the harbour, aglow with lights.

A ceremony for lighting the Christmas tree will be held. There will be a display of fireworks, generously donated by Fireworks

Unlimited of Nassau illuminating the harbour. The Boat Parade Committee will still solicit donations from local businesses since all the profits directly benefit local volunteers organizations such as The Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, Citizens Against Crimes and Trauma 1.

To top off the events, several music groups will perform through the entire day; there will be songs and music for every taste. Ms. Outten, who came to us from Grand Bahama, is in charge of entertainment She came to Marsh Harbour one year ago and loves Abaco. She has implemented a ten-year plan to revitalize the area and

infuse our community with more Bahamian culture. She finds that everybody responded to her suggestions and has been gratified with tremendous help from the entire community from individuals, businesses, organizations and government representatives. She only sees herself as a facilitator, giving an impetus, which will be followed long after she is gone!

Ms. Outten has arranged for four church choirs to perform through the day; the Jus' Us quartet will play Christmas music and contemporary songs. Five school choirs will sing for us along with soloists and other musicians and bands. Later in the evening,

there will be calypso and marching bands.

The Hon Mr. Obie Wilcomb, Minister of Tourism, will open the festivities at 12 noon. Mr. Charlie Cooke will be the Master of Ceremony, assisted by Mrs. J. Outten.

To end it all, two Junkanoo Groups, the Spring City Rockers and The Green Turtle Cay Junkanoo Group, will rush along Front Street.

Those coming from the cays, do not worry, Albury's Ferry will have boats leaving Marsh Harbour at 10:30 p.m. with their normal fares and has agreed to honor same day return tokens on the chartered ferries.

To ensure people's safety, Queen Elizabeth Drive will become a pedestrian street from the corner's of Bay Street and Queen Elizabeth Drive Parking past Memorial Plaza. Parking will be organized on several empty lots and the organizers are hoping to arrange bus service between the parking facilities and the Festival area.

Tables can be reserved at the Ministry of Tourism. A contribution of \$150 will provide each restaurant with space and a table. A contribution of \$125 will provide space only. The contribution for all other booths and tables is \$75. Shop owners and residents are invited to decorate their buildings, and there will be awards for the best.

What a way to start the Yuletide Season and bring our community together! The money collected by the Taste of Abaco will be used for the rental of the tents, electrical connections and supply,



Some of the Christmas Festival organizers discuss their plans. They are Skeet LaChance with the Scurvy Few, Brenda Sawyer with Abaco Petroleum, Kendi Anderson with Tourism, Jo-Ann Bradley with the Rotary Club, Jeritzan Outten, Director of Abaco Tourism, Kim Roberts with the Boat Parade, Wynsome Ferguson with Tourism, Michael Albury with the Chamber of Commerce and Cindy Hayworth with the Chamber and the Boat Parade.

Please see **Festival** Page 3

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Pete's Pub Reopens

Little Harbour's Pete's Pub is open for business. Nestled into a sand dune, the beloved old ramshackle shack has been reinforced with more interesting flotsam and wrack reattached to the ceiling and walls. The sand floor is cool for digging in toes, the music has a mellow island sound and the 60 or so customers arriving for the "soft opening" on November 5th were into shedding the stress of the day. There were many different accents to be heard. Friends Henry Chalcraft from England, Peter Ferguson from New Zealand and Blaine Sweeting from Little Harbour were celebrating the end of a week working on the Winding Bay project. Ritchie Sawyer from Cherokee Sound, a regular, said that he loves to socialize with all the homeowners in Little Harbour, as well as visitors from elsewhere who sail in and drop anchor. Pete himself was delighted with the turnout. He is hoping that people will not only approve of the delights the Pub has to offer but will



Pete Johnston, well known artist in Little Harbour, has reopened Pete's Pub and Gallery. He is shown here with Heather.

also enjoy the art work, bronze sculpture and jewelry to be found in the gallery next door. He is offering select pieces for sale at up to 50 percent off retail and good prices on such sought after objects as his famous hand made belt buckles. Yep! Pete's Pub is open for business and I for one will be kicking back with a good rum drink, taking in the sunset over some of the finest harbour views on the island. See you there!

Traditional Open House Is Scheduled

By Isobel Sherman

Joe's Studio in Man-O-War will continue the tradition of having a Christmas Open House on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 27. As usual there will be conch fritters, apple cider and a great selection of

food and sweets. All are complimentary. Marianne and Joe Albury have carried on this tradition for many years including the year of Hurricane Floyd. So on November 27 place to be is Joe's Studio.

Festival

From Page 2

and purchase or equipment rental necessary for the set-up of the grounds.

The proceeds from the sale of T-shirts by the Ministry of Tourism will be used towards the beautification of the Goombay

Park. The Rotary Club will use their proceeds for a sponsorship for Every Child Counts and the beautification of the Dundas Town round about. The Scurvy Few will make sure that there will be toys for all needy children on Abaco.

Abaconians, prepare for a great day!

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School News

Trauma Counselors Visited Abaco Schools

By Jennifer Hudson

The two major hurricanes experienced by the residents of Abaco during the month of September took a serious toll on the mental and physical reserves of the people and many adults and children have been suffering from the resulting emotional trauma. During the days and weeks since the hurricanes, the doctors at the Community Clinic have been treating dozens of patients for stress related illnesses.

This stress has been felt by both adults and children and in order to alleviate some of the trauma being experienced by students and staff in the schools, a group of 15 counselors from the Ministry of Education in Nassau led by Ms. Zoe Powell, Senior Education Officer for Guidance and Counseling with the Special Services Section of the Ministry of Education, visited Abaco on October 22nd. They spent the day in government schools in North, South and Central Abaco and the cays, working closely with the District Superintendent on Abaco, to find out how both students and teachers were coping.

In the larger schools they spoke to the students during a school assembly or class by class, then asked questions as to how the students were feeling, how they were sleeping and how things were within the family. Only in the very smallest schools were they able to work one on one. Amongst a large group of students individuals were shy to voice their concerns but in the smaller schools where the counselors were able to work in small groups the results were more

rewarding. They gave out pamphlets for the students to read which gave advice on how to cope with various situations and how to safeguard their health.

The counselors met with teachers, janitors and other school employees whom they found to be under more stress, in fact, than the children as many had the responsibility of dealing with the financial and physical stresses of having to rebuild or repair their homes. The children stated that they had been frightened during the actual storm when water was coming in and they saw the damage to their house. But by the time the counselors arrived, only a small percentage were still experiencing crisis. The counselors found that it was a cross section of the student age groups affected.

A student at Abaco Central High School said that she and her friends had found the visit of the counselors and the information they handed out to be very helpful.

Mrs. Eunice Mills, Principal at the Central Abaco Primary School, felt that the visit of the counselors was beneficial both to the students, many of whom had cried a lot because they had lost their homes, and to the teachers and janitresses who were still trying to regroup after their losses. She felt that a meeting with the parents would be very beneficial. The counselors promised to return to spend more time individually with children who really needed to talk with a professional.

Three of the children in the school lost their father just before Hurricane Francis and then had the additional trauma of two major hurricanes to deal with. Many children attending the school live in the Mud

and Pigeon Pea and lost a lot of their school books and new uniforms. Mrs. Mills feels that an officer should be stationed permanently on Abaco to whom children can go for help. "In fact, I believe that all schools should have their own guidance counselor on campus since there are many needs these children have which cannot be dealt with by the teachers. A fully trained counselor is a necessity," she said.

According to Ms. Zoe Powell, coordinator of the counseling programme, persons will be returning to Abaco in the near future to conduct a two-day workshop and assessment. This Crisis and Grief Counseling Intervention Workshop will be designed to train persons to be ready to assist in times of emergency. Each school will be asked to send up to three representatives which may be teachers or administrators and the larger schools will be allowed to send five. A workshop for parents is being planned for the evening.

Ms. Powell regrets that since no more counselors were available they were unable to visit the private schools at that time; but it is their desire to return in order to visit

the private schools as all children need to be offered the same assistance.

School Report

By Mirella Santillo

The first school report for the year 2004-05 concerned the schools of the Marsh Harbour area. In our next two issues we will investigate the schools of other settlements on Abaco, from Sandy Point to Crown Heaven, and from Elbow Cay to Green Turtle Cay, including Moore's Island.

Starting at the very southern tip of Abaco, we find James A. Pinder Primary School which has an enrolment of 66 children of Sandy Point. The Principal, Mrs. Brenell Clarke, teaches with the help of four other teachers. Like all other government schools, James A. Pinder follows a regular curriculum for grade one to six. Extra curricular activities include a Choir Club.

There were damages to the school due to the hurricanes, mostly flooding damage with loss of electronic equipment. School

Please see **School**

Page 5



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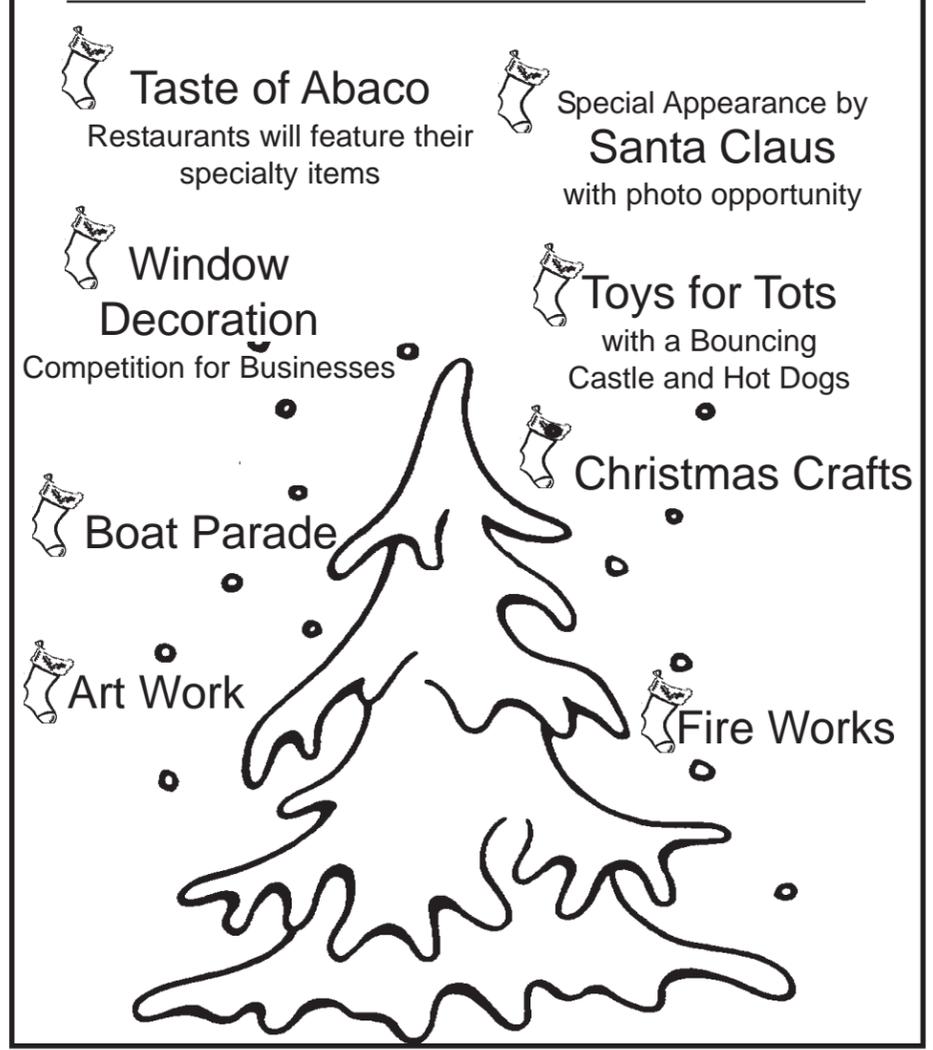
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Competition for Businesses
- Toys for Tots
with a Bouncing Castle and Hot Dogs
- Boat Parade
- Christmas Crafts
- Art Work
- Fire Works

More School News

School From Page 4

did not really resume until October 4. However, the school year re-opened on an upbeat note. On October 27 a ceremony took place at St Martin's Anglican Church for the distribution of awards for the school year 2003-04 that should have taken place on September 4. The prize for the two most outstanding students was a round trip ticket on the fast ferry along with their parents. The most outstanding students in each class

along with J.A. Pinder's staff were donated lunch at the Pete & Gay resort by proprietor Mr. Stanley White. The end of the first term will be postponed to December 21.

Moore's Island all Age School is attended by children from grade one through nine. The Principal, Ms. Ruth Anne Rolle and 10 teachers take care of 139 students. The school follows the public schools' curriculum, but offers a variety of after class activities.

There is a choir, directed by Mrs. Janice

Peart and Ms. Vera Williams which practices twice a week. The choir performs at public functions and performed at the inauguration of the police station. The singers are preparing for a Thanksgiving service on November 26.

Another important activity has to do with sport. Besides physical education, part of the regular curriculum, there are track and fields after school meetings. Head coaches, Anthony Williams and Corporal Derek Ferguson train the children to prepare for inter-schools track meets. They usually compete in Marsh Harbour, Nassau or Grand Bahama.

There is a newspaper writing club for students in the sixth to ninth grades. They are supervised by Mrs. Sherman Davis and the Principal.

As with all the schools in the Abaco district, Moore's Island All Age School will terminate the first term on December 21. Ten days were lost in September and time is being regained by cutting recreational time in favor of instructional time.

The Cherokee Primary School in

Cherokee Sound has 20 students in grades one to six. The Principal, Mrs. Michelle Lowe, teaches with one other person. The children are offered a regular curriculum, but enjoy after school activities. They can be part of the Conservation Club, which emphasizes environmental issues. The children learn about nature and its preservation, including animals; they take part in regular beach clean ups. Outside of the school boundaries, there are weekly meetings at the Methodist Church where as well as in the Kid's Corner, the children are involved in diverse community projects.

Mrs. Kellie Janes is the Principal of the Man-O-War Primary School. She teaches 20 students in grades one to four with two other teachers. There are four classrooms in the school; one teacher teaches two grades at the time.

A Spanish teacher is shared with Hope Town Primary School. She goes to Man-O-War once a week. There is a computer class taught by Mrs. Bethel and an art

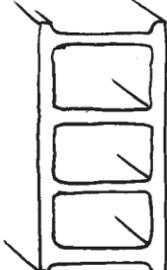
Please see **School**

Page 6



The children of St. Francis de Sales School had a special day. For the first time since the beginning of the school year the most deserving student in each grade received The Student of the Month award. These are the achievers for the month of October. Back row: Peter Williams, grade 12; Samantha Baillou, grade 11; Pamela Smith, grade 6; Constance Davis, grade 5; Zimmia Miller, grade 7; Wondell Rolle, grade 9; Isabel Strachan, Grade 8; and Agnes Fertil, grade 10. Front row: Jessie Sims, grade 3; Silvia Robinson, Grade 2; Alexander Archer, Grade 4; Lachelle Lightbourn, Kindergarten; and Abigail Raymore, Grade 1. Missing from the photo is Madeleine Russel, Pre-K.

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Hope Town - 1106 - North End vacant lot just one lot from the Sea of Abaco.



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Yellowwood - 1133 - 1.17 acre lot between Cherokee and Winding Bay



Regattas - 1002 - BEST BUY - Unfurnished ground floor unit in building 2 with two beds and two baths. Brand new accordion hurricane shutters just installed. \$171,500

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More School News

School *From Page 5*

class. Bible School is offered on an elective basis taught by Mrs. Edith Rutherford, who has done so for 30 years. The Bible class is now held at the school while the church, damaged in the hurricanes, is being repaired. Only eight days were lost in September. First term will end December 21.

The Green Turtle Cay public school is the Amy Roberts Primary School. There are four teachers including the Principal, Mrs. Anne Bootle, who teaches a double class. The school has 52 students from grade one to grade six who follow a regular curriculum. Physical education and art are taught by volunteers. Ten days were lost to the hurricanes. Christmas Holidays will start December 21.

The Fox Town Primary School, located in Little Abaco, has 110 students. Six teachers and the Principal, Mr. Austin Mills, attend to the learning needs of these children in six classrooms. Extra curriculum activities include sports, music and singing. Mrs. Thomas is the music teacher. There are plans to form sport teams of softball, volleyball and basketball. Mr. Mills is helped with the administrative duties by Senior Assistant Yolanda Curry.

Part of the roof was torn during hurricane Jeanne and has yet to be repaired, an unfortunate situation as water leaks into the classrooms when it rains. Christmas Holidays will begin December 21.

Every Child Counts Learning Center
Principal Evelyn Major is one of five

permanent teachers taking care of 42 students at this center where children with special needs are taught regular curriculum at a slower pace as well as practical skills such as carpentry, agriculture, kitchen skills, sewing and cleaning as well as every day life necessary knowledge such as banking, shopping and use of the post office. The school caters to Pre-K to grade12

Teachers are helped by three general assistants. At the end of their studies the students will receive a Special Education Diploma and a Vocational Diploma.

Along with other schools, The Center suffered extensive roof damage in the hurricanes: shingles, plywood and felt had to be replaced; three computers and two televisions were lost due to water damage. The principal and the teachers reopened early to accommodate the children who were impatient to return to school.

The new building addition which was completed last spring was officially dedicated on October 21, 2004.

Marsh Harbour Area Schools

In the Marsh Harbour area for the school year 2004-2005 is there are approximately 1973 students with a teaching body of 121 assisted by about 20 administrators.

With this ratio of adults versus children, our children should receive a thorough education providing we finish at home the work the teachers started during school hours.

Forest Heights Academy Reopens

Once again Abaco's resilience is reflected in its young people as Forest Heights Academy and many other local schools open their doors for the second time this year. This is a strong tribute to the determination of all these young Bahamians to gain the education they know will help them become successful in their futures.

Forest Heights was up and running three days after Hurricane Jeanne. This could not have been accomplished without its dedicated staff. Accolades and sincere thanks are also due to BEC, Water and Sewage and Batelco that reactivated the school's utilities with record speed.

Now with September at an end Forest Heights students are working feverishly to make up for the days they missed due to the September storms for there are many important events coming up quickly. Grade Eleven took their PSAT's on October 13. This is a particularly important exam which has gone through

many changes. The first SAT of the new format will be administered in May at Forest Heights Academy. So if this affects you, please feel free to call the school for information.

The first reports of the year will go out to the parents on November 26th and once again, parent-teacher interviews will occur during an open house on November 30 from 4-6 p.m. at the school. This is an excellent time to see how your child is progressing, so mark this on your calendar. Another important concern of involved parents is the PTA. Because of the rough times many of you have suffered, the Annual General Meeting usually held in October will be postponed until after the New Year. We are sure you have your hands full rebuilding, so we will make it a priority to work together in bringing normalcy to your children's lives. This most definitely includes a well deserved mid-term break which began October 22 with school re-

Please see **School** Page 7

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More School News

School *From Page 6*

convening on November 1. Christmas will be upon us very soon. Forest Heights is inviting all parents to join them in their annual Christmas program which will take place the morning of December 17. After this celebration the students will be dismissed at noon for the holidays.

Even though this has been a short month, many of your children have shown us how wonderful they are even in the most trying times. Therefore, it is very important to maintain our tradition of Student of the Month. Well done to September's Junior Student of the Month, Lavardo Maycock, and Senior, Philipp Zandali. But we must congratulate you all for coming to school with a smile on your face. You have proved what Abaco is really about. We wish you well and welcome you back to this new school year.

High School Soccer Season Begins

By Isobel Sherman

The high schools on Abaco began their soccer season for both boys and girls on November 3 with a game between S.C. Bootle and Abaco Central High. The season will end on December 13 with the championships set for December 15 and 16.

Three high schools are participating: S.C. Bootle High School, Abaco Central High School and St. Francis de Sales School. Games will be played at the different schools.

In the first game of the season Abaco Central boys beat S.C. Bootle High with

a score of 1-0. Wilner Mitchell of Abaco Central scored the goal.

When I asked Mr. Charles Poitier, head of the Physical Education Department at Abaco Central why only three schools were participating, he said all secondary schools were represented at the meeting but only three schools chose to enter teams into the soccer season.

Appeal, Again

By Isobel Sherman

Any former student who sat any BGCSE Exams and would like to help those grade 12 students who lost all notes and books due to Hurricane Frances or Hurricane Jeanne, are asked to donate your textbooks to Abaco Central High School. Lost time can be made up but the loss of textbooks and notes is a much more critical issue than the lost time.

Teacher of the Year

By Isobel Sherman

Mrs. Elva Davis, a physical education teacher, has been chosen teacher of the year at Abaco Central High School. In addition, she coaches the junior track and field team. This is Mrs. Davis' third year at Abaco Central. Prior to coming to Abaco Mrs. Davis taught for several years in Freeport.

Mrs. Davis is married to Lynden Davis, Manager of Commonwealth Bank Marsh Harbour and they have two children. A devout sports enthusiast Mrs. Davis and her husband initiated Abaco Youth in Action, a program which provides sporting activities for the boys and girls of Abaco ages 4-14.

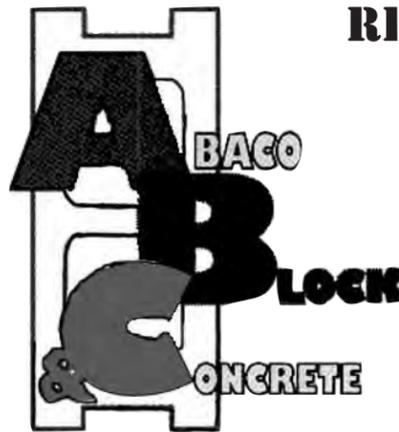
On November 5 the staff of Abaco Central showed their appreciation to Mrs. Davis by presenting her with cards and gifts.

Rotarians Assist North Abaco Schools



The first shipment of three large boxes of school supplies arrived on Abaco on October 22 for schools in North Abaco. They were brought in by Mr. James "Drew" Perryman, Jr., representing the Rotary Club of North Mecklenburg, North Carolina, Abaco's sister club. NEMA assisted in bringing the supplies in duty free. He is shown here on the right with Ms. Elaine Martinborough representing NEMA and Mr. Bill Schweizer, a member of the International Services Committee of the Rotary Club of Abaco. Mr. Perryman and his wife Beth were married at Abaco Inn by Mr. Vernon Malone in 1993.

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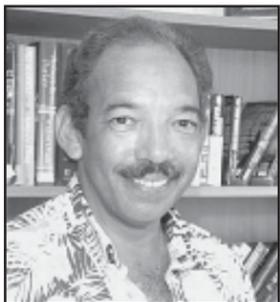
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Sandy P. Camp Makes Environmental Learning Fun

Camp *From Page 1*

Environment and conservation issues through fun, creativity and experiential education. SPEC targets children who would not otherwise have exposure to environmental education or the opportunity to learn outdoor adventure skills.

The summer programs included a Basic Camp designed for Sandy Point children ages 9-12 who have not been through any SPEC programs and an Ad-

vanced Camp designed for children ages 9-12 who have previously completed the Basic Camp. Each Camp is a 7-week, 13-15 session program combining classroom learning, artwork and field trips in six different environmental areas. The sessions covered conservation, aluminum can recycling and trash can decoration; the Bahama Parrot, bats and birding in the Abaco National Park; fish, conch and crawfish and snorkeling at Mermaid Reef; mangroves and sea kayaking; coastal ecology and a beach hike; and marine mammals and a wild dolphin tour with researchers.

The Open House was a celebration of the children and their accomplishments throughout the Basic and Advanced Camps. Before the doors opened, kids and adults were lined up enthusiastically waiting to participate in the evening's events. Visitors were treated to educational displays and artwork projects while the kids discovered numerous interactive educational games hosted by the campers. The campers did a spectacular job at teaching children and adults alike about their environment.

Over 70 children and adults were challenged to put together a life-sized dolphin puzzle, answer Environmental Jeopardy and Marine Mammal trivial pursuit questions, rip up plastic soda rings faster than their partners, match photos of dolphins' dorsal fins and line up the conch shells in order of age. Everyone came away with increased knowledge and even a few fun prizes. Deputy Administrator, Mr. Rodrick Bowe, proclaimed, "It was

a very good learning experience for the residents and especially the students. I think it should be an annual event. The most rewarding experience was seeing the students being able to identify the ages of the conch."

Following the games, the audience laughed and cheered throughout a 20-minute slide show set to music highlighting the adventures of the summer. The children excitedly relived kayaking, snor-

keling and seeing dolphins and sharks in the wild. Following the slide show, SPEC Director Pam Church awarded each camper with a certificate of achievement, a T-shirt and an educational book on coral reefs and marine mammals. Kenneth Miller, affectionately nicknamed "The King of Cans," received a special award for collecting the most aluminum cans

*Please see **Camp** Page 10*



The students who participate in the Sandy Point Environmental Camp do part of their training on the water. Researchers taught children about Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, their behavior, habitat and feeding habits firsthand in the waters off Sandy Point.



Each summer the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey sponsors a Sandy Point Environmental Camp for children ages 9 to 15 where they learn to appreciate their environment. Campers come home tired but excited from a day on the water with wild dolphins - the field trip for their marine mammal lesson.



Port Department

Public Notice

TO ALL

COMMERCIAL BOAT OPERATORS

Re: STCW MARITINE TRAINING

Please be advised that due to the consecutive occurrences of Hurricane Frances and Jeanne, the Port Department has decided to extend the deadline for S.T.C.W. certification until March 31, 2005.

Additionally, S.T.C.W. training is rescheduled to commence January 3, 2005.

Any additional information will be publicized as it becomes available.

Captain Cyril A. Roker
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Bahamas Has High Rate of HIV/AIDS

By Portia Jonsson

At the recent Caribbean AIDS Awareness Conference, an initiative designed to promote and raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and other STDS in the Bahamas and the Caribbean, it was stated that the Bahamas is amongst the leading countries for the highest HIV/AIDS rate in the world. The Bahamas ranks second in the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS per capita in the Caribbean and third in the highest rate in the world.

The first confirmed case of AIDS was reported in the Bahamas in 1983. By 2000, AIDS had become the second leading cause of death in the general population of The Bahamas, and the leading cause of death among all persons 15-44 years of age. Adolescents are the fastest growing population segment of HIV infected persons in The Bahamas.

With the highest rate of infection occurring among adolescents and young adults in The Bahamas, the challenge the country faces is to reach out with the message of prevention in whole new innovative ways. Bahamians have to start making positive choices about their sexual behaviour. Every Bahamian must learn the facts about AIDS and every Bahamian must share the message of prevention. No Bahamian can afford to be HIV prejudiced.

More than 3000 Bahamians have already died from AIDS since the mid 1980s, leaving behind parents and children, relatives and friends. Over 9,700 Bahamians live with HIV or AIDS everyday. They share our space in the work place, attend our schools, pray with us in our churches and reach out to us when

we need help and support.

World AIDS Day is commemorated around the globe on December 1st. Since 1988 it has been a day bringing messages of compassion, hope, solidarity and understanding about AIDS to every country in the world. It also celebrates progress made in the battle against the epidemic and brings into focus remaining challenges.

World AIDS Day 2004 focuses on women, girls and HIV and AIDS. This year's campaign explores how gender inequality fuels the AIDS epidemic. All over the world women do not enjoy the same rights and access to employment, property and education as men. Women and girls are more likely to face sexual violence. This makes them more vulnerable to HIV and, as the primary care giv-

ers, to the impact of AIDS.

Forty-seven million people worldwide are living with HIV right now. Three and a half million of them are children. In fact, most new cases of HIV are contracted by people before they reach their 25th birthday, and almost 95 percent of people living with HIV are in the developing world. This means that AIDS is still a global epidemic; every society, every culture, and every faith has had to make room for AIDS and the Bahamas is no different.

Prejudice and stigmatization have been identified as major barriers to winning the fight against AIDS and these twin evils spring out of fear. People are afraid of AIDS and that fear keeps them ignorant of the facts about HIV and AIDS. Fear can keep people silent when they

ought to be sharing the message of prevention because it is still the only cure. Fear can make us push away friends and loved ones because of their HIV status or deny employment or enrolment to those infected. Fear of AIDS only helps the disease claim more lives and does nothing to win the fight against it.

Abstinence is the only sure protection. The only safe sex is no sex. A faithfully uninfected partner is one way of reducing the risk of infection if you are sexually active. With new treatments persons with HIV and AIDS can live longer, healthier, and productive lives.

We can win the fight against AIDS. We can win the fight in the Bahamas and we can win the fight in the world. End the fear, stop discrimination and stigmatization. Get the facts about AIDS.

A Very Distressing Situation

By Jennifer Hudson

I was horrified to learn of the following disgraceful situation. During both recent hurricanes the Central Abaco Primary School was used as a hurricane shelter for needy persons who felt that their homes were not safe for them to remain in during the storms. These people should have been extremely grateful for this refuge where they were assured a safe sojourn, ample water and free meals. Instead, a certain number of these persons vandalized the classrooms in which they were staying. They tore posters from the walls and stole anything

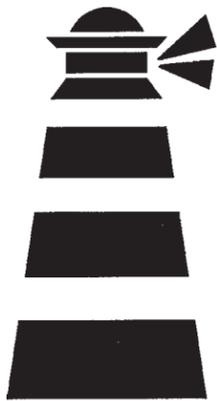
they could find to steal from tape to staples. Not only that but they even broke open locked cupboards and stole tape players and radios. The pre-school section was not used as a hurricane shelter but persons even broke into that section and turned it upside down. This is an absolute disgrace. What makes it even more unbelievable is that some of those persons most likely have children who attend that school. Do they have no respect at all for education?

This was a most discouraging situation for the teachers to return to after the hurricanes. They had already expe-

rienced enough trauma with many of them losing the roofs to their homes and having to deal with flooding and water damage. Then, on entering school, they came face to face with vandalized classrooms. What a terrible example those vandals left for the school children.

In order to recoup some of the losses and replace some of the materials, the school held a small fund raiser on the afternoon of October 27th. The children were asked to bring just \$2 to school with which they could enjoy the fun which included games, grab bag, a movie, dance, face painting and refreshments.

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Youngster Are Given Environmental Lessons

Camp *From Page 8*

throughout his camp. Ms. Church said, "I am extremely proud of each child participating in the camp and grateful for the opportunity to explore the environment with the children of Sandy Point. To my surprise, I was especially inspired by one of the parents who volunteered her time, overcame her fears and tried several activities, such as kayaking and snorkeling that she'd never done before. It is this willingness to explore and consequently discover our natural world and our connection to it that our environmental camps are truly

about." South Abaco District Chief Counselor, Mr. Jason Roberts, said of the Camp, "I am truly filled with optimism after viewing the second Open House. The overwhelming participation of the children undeniably bears fact that all is not lost. Their awareness to the importance of protecting the environment proves that such programs should be carried out at a national level."

SPEC was funded in 2004 by a very generous grant from the Lyford Cay Foundation with additional funding from the Disney Company, Friends of the Environment and individual contributors.

BREEF donated T-shirts and stickers and local experts, parents and friends donated their time. The 2004 SPEC programs will culminate with a four-day, three-night expedition to Great Inagua Island for six children and four adults. The group will cooperatively focus on comparing Great

Abaco and Inagua Islands, their national parks, wildlife and habitats. The trip is scheduled for November 12-15 and is made possible by a Lyford Cay Foundation grant. The children will share their learnings and experiences to the community upon their return.

Golf Writers Liked The Abaco Club Golf Course

"I was skeptical about the claim of a 'tropical links' course. Links courses are supposed to be built by the sea but that sea is supposed to be cold and grey with five changes of weather in four hours, a howling wind and wheezing old caddies speaking with burges and not soft lilting accents," said Jim Bartlett, senior golf writer for The Robb Report, a monthly lifestyle magazine for the affluent.

The Abaco Club on Winding Bay was visited by top journalists on November 7-9. The event was hosted by Peter de Savary, the founder and chairman of the club. They all were invited to play a round of golf on the only tropical Scottish style links golf course in the Caribbean and to tour the property. The writers were asked for their opinions on the course and club which will be published in upcoming issues of their perspective persuasive and trendy magazines.

David de Smith, editor of the New England Journal of Golf, a magazine that is read by golf enthusiasts, said, "The new links course at the Abaco Club is charming throughout and thrilling at many points. Its layout tracts upwind and downwind knowingly, concluding in a crescendo style with four stunning holes along a canyon and sea cliff. The course has a hand-crafted look but plenty of drama to its features, which is a difficult line to walk for any golf architect.

Tom Bedell, senior golf writer for American Way, a magazine that can be found in the seat pocket of every jet plane of the American Airlines fleet, said, "The course is very spectacular and is a unique golfing experience." He added, "The club house perched on the cliffs gives an uncompromising view of the magnificent beaches, the ocean and the last few holes will surely gratify all members and guest."

With all the positive complements coming from this group of renowned, influential and highly respected writers, one would think it can't get better than this. But it does.

Tom Dunne, senior editor for The Golfer magazine, had this to say about de Savary's vision. "The golf course at the Abaco Club is being heralded as the world's first tropical links, a bold claim but one that is fulfilled. Indeed, there is no course in the

Caribbean quite like it. With out a doubt, the oceanfront closing will quickly take its place among the very best." He concluded, "This is no pancake-flat Caribbean resort course. The elevation changes make for great golf; and it's also a pleasure to walk, especially with one of the club's superb and well mannered caddies."

Last but not least Richard Coulson, a freelance writer for the New York Times and the only writer in the group who resides in the Bahamas said, "I have visited many projects throughout The Bahamas, and by far the Abaco Club on Winding Bay is the most spectacular yet. The 18th hole is sure to become the signature hole of the Caribbean."

Upon receiving this salvo of highly valued compliments, Chairman de Savary said, "There is no satisfaction that eclipses a job well done, and this job could not have been done without the unwavering dedication from all involved." He is looking forward to the weekend of November 19-20 when the club will hold its first golf tournament that will be comprised of members and their guests, and to receive their comments on the Abaco Club.

Another group of top U.S. writers - from golf and lifestyle magazines - will be arriving the week of December 13 as the Abaco Club builds up the publicity steam towards its opening.



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Pilot Club of South Abaco
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Viewpoint

A Familiar Sight No More

By Jennifer Hudson

No more do we see the picturesque sight of the sparkling aqua and white of the Abaco Central High School uniforms as the students wend their way to and from school. It was a cheerful sight and I used to love to see the blue and aqua line snaking its way down Don MacKay Boulevard.

At the beginning of this school year a new uniform was adopted and, whilst it does have advantages, it does not have the character and distinctiveness of the former uniform. The navy and white is smart but now the boys cannot be distinguished from those of Long Bay School. It is nice for each school to have its own identity. (The boys of ACH would look even smarter if they would leave their shirts tucked into their pants until they got home instead of pulling them out the minute they get outside the school gates!)

Teachers, parents and students all had a part in the decision making for the new uniforms and I admit that they certainly must be easier to keep clean for the boys than those white pants. It always amazed me how all those young men kept their pants so clean and could still look crisp and smart at the end of a school day. I am sure parents must be relieved at not having to keep those pants clean any more. (I suspect bleach sales have gone down recently!)

I spoke with some of the students to get their feelings on their new uniforms and, strangely enough, it was several of the boys who said that they do not like the new uniform and want to go back to the brighter

aqua and white. On the whole more students were for their new uniform than against it but, oh how I miss it!

Another Institution Has Gone

By Jennifer Hudson

I am sure there are many former Barclays Bank customers who greatly miss the institution they did business with for many years. This bank stood by the traffic light in Marsh Harbour for more than 35+ years until earlier this year it merged with CIBC to become First Caribbean International Bank. There was a friendly atmosphere to the old bank which, because small, felt familiar and gave very personal service. However, in the name of progress, change came and now instead we have to conduct our banking in the updated CIBC building on the opposite side of the road. Gone is the homely feeling of the "bank on the corner" where we knew we would never have to stand long in line to be served. Now the newly merged bank is having to deal with two sets of customers and lines are often very long. I have even turned away at the door when I have seen the line. I have watched others do the same and even step out of the line when it sometimes hardly seems to be moving. Perhaps the bank could institute a "fast teller" line for people who only need to cash a small cheque or make a simple deposit.

The new updated, merged bank is all in the name of progress but I suspect there are many who would love to have their quaint "old-fashioned" little bank back again.

Viewpoint Christmas Time Is Near

By Portia Jonsson

If you listen really carefully, you can almost hear the sounds of the cowbells, horns, whistles and oh, those goat skinned drums. This can only mean one thing - Christmas time is near.

Before I had kids, Christmas time started somewhere around the middle to late December. A couple of weeks before Christmas, we would pick out a tree and decorate it. Nowadays, Christmas time starts right after Halloween.

Even though it's only Thanksgiving, a drive downtown Marsh Harsh makes it feel like jolly Saint Nick will be squeezing his way down chimneys any day now. Businesses around town are already stocked with wonderful holiday decorations and beauti-

fully dressed trees. Orders for live trees have been placed as early as October for delivery the beginning of December. Holiday Open Houses are planned for November and invitations sent long ago.

But in the midst of all the holiday madness, there are so many people who need and deserve help. Take time this year to remember what the holiday season is all about. Help a family less fortunate than yours and discover the joy that comes from giving.

Taking time to show your children that you care about others is a lesson they will never forget, and remind them of the true meaning of the holidays. Whether you donate goods, money or time, you will make a difference in your children's lives and the lives of those in need.



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Abaco Hardware Explores Grand Bahama Market

By Richard Fawkes

One of Abaco's largest businesses, Abaco Hardware Limited in Marsh Harbour, will offer some of its products to Grand Bahamians beginning the end of November.

The company hopes to market its Weather Shield, Roll-a-way, and Decra lines of products to Abaco's sister island community on the Little Bahama Bank as part of its strategy to expand its market share of those brands. The company will initially target Freeport but expects to serve the entire island.

"We have exclusive distributorship rights for these products," said Mitchell Albury, owner and manager of Abaco Hardware, "And Freeport is the closest area — now with all the hurricane reconstruction under way there, it's a good place to start expanding outside Abaco."

Weathershield, based in Medford, Wisconsin, offers a variety of double-glass windows and doors in vinyl, wood and aluminum frames and are designed to resist high impact, according to Mr. Albury.

The product line from Roll-a-way, based in St. Petersburg, Florida, includes storm and security shutters that come in four or

five lines and styles, including one called Bahama Shutters that resemble the traditional Bahamian latticed windows and doors. The company also manufactures "rolling" shutters that can be operated manually or electronically. It claims these withstand winds up to 155 mile per hour.

The DECRA company of Corona, California, manufactures a line of metal roofing in a stone coating that resembles a variety of shingle styles and which the manufacturer claims to be fire safe and resistant to up to 120 mile per hour winds with a long life.

Abaco Hardware has already applied for a Port Authority licence and duty-free bonding which it expects to have approved in time for taking orders at the end of the month.

Abaco Hardware does not plan to set up a sister shop in Freeport at this time but will take customers' orders and deliver according to specifications, Mr. Albury said. The company is considering setting up a showroom in Freeport after a time but for the moment has engaged the services of Liselle Harris, a native Grand Bahamian, to market the product and process customer



Standing with samples of the WeatherShield windows are Jordana Russell, sales cashier, Mitchell Albury, owner/manager of Abaco Hardware, and David Mercius, supervisor. WeatherShield is one of the product lines Abaco Hardware Limited will begin marketing on Grand Bahama at the end of November.

orders. Abaco Hardware is considering selecting a local person for company training to install the products in Grand Bahama.

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Please see **Abaco Hardware** Page 13

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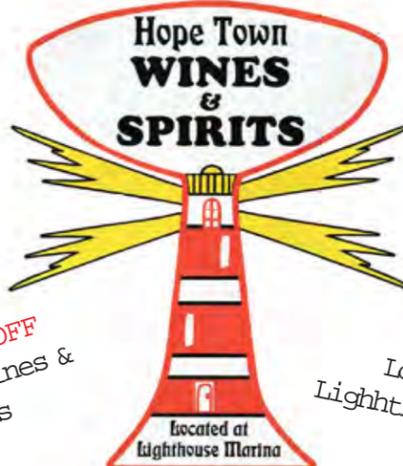


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Abaco Hardware *From Page 12*

throughout Abaco and its cays, according to Mr. Albury. The company was founded by Marsh Harbour native Rae Albury in August of 1981. Mr. Albury, deceased, left the store to his two sons Mitchell and Daren, who manage it together. Daren is the company's CEO.

Mr. Mitchell Albury, noting that business usually flows from Grand Bahama to Abaco, said he is proud of his company's venture to take Abaco business the other way, to help strengthen business ties between the two communities. He is especially proud to offer products that are useful in reconstruction after the devastation of the two recent hurricanes in Freeport and the rest of Grand Bahama.

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Adjusters Make Temporary Home Here

By Mirella Santillo

After living through the maelstrom of two hurricanes, residents of Abaco were left to cope with the destruction and damages left by the storms. Then arrived the adjusters' team of Crawford Bahamas Ltd. who settled in Marsh Harbour two days after Frances to deal with the insurance claims by those who had insurance. Little did they know when they came that they, too, would experience first hand the fury of a monster storm!

Al Dale from Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, arrived in Marsh Harbour on September 7 and managed a team of initially 19 adjusters. There are now about 11 left. Al has left for his home and was relieved of his managerial duties by Graham Bryant.

The team handled 1465 claims between mainland Abaco and the cays. It was a challenge to start promptly processing the claims on their arrival and to have to do it all over again after Jeanne. Al hid in his hotel room during Hurricane Jeanne, the first hurricane he had experienced. Although scary, it was an experience that helped him understand what people endured and made it easier to deal with them.

The team members were composed of people from Holland, South Africa, Australia, Great Britain, United States and Canada. He says that everybody enjoyed working with the local people who have been friendly, helpful and kind. The adjusters were initially working 14 hours a day and only had Sundays off, but they

managed to make the most of their free time by doing some sightseeing, boating and visiting the cays.

Errol Bayney from Middlesbrough in the North-Eastern part of England has been here 10 weeks. It was his first time on Abaco. He says Jeanne was a nerve wrecking experience. The most stressful part was being cut off from the rest of the world and not being able to communicate with his wife and two children for the most part of a week. Errol was one of the first four adjusters to come to Abaco. Collin Russel from England found the 14 hour-a-day shifts at the beginning mentally exhausting. Adjusters usually take care of claims in their home area but can be sent all over the world in case of catastrophes. Errol handles the legal side of claims. He said that in spite of the hard work, he enjoyed being on Abaco doing some snorkeling, taking trips to Nippers and

buying souvenirs to take home.

Rolanda Bradley is from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. She is one of the most recent arrivals, having been here only two weeks. It is her second visit to Abaco. She came two days after Floyd five years ago. She likes it here and hopes to come back one day on vacation to have time to enjoy the island. She managed to visit Guana Cay and climbed the Hope Town Light house. Rolanda will leave to be home for Christmas.

Roger Bristow is from Winnipeg, Saskatchewan, Canada. He has been here nine weeks, having arrived just after Frances. It is his first time in the Bahamas and Abaco; he thinks it is a phenomenal experience. He enjoys the laid back life and

Please see **Adjusters** Page 15



These are some of the insurance adjusters from the Crawford Bahamas Ltd. firm who were on Abaco to settle insurance claims. There were 19 to begin with but by now there are only 11 remaining. They did the assessments for all the insurance companies.

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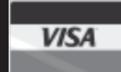
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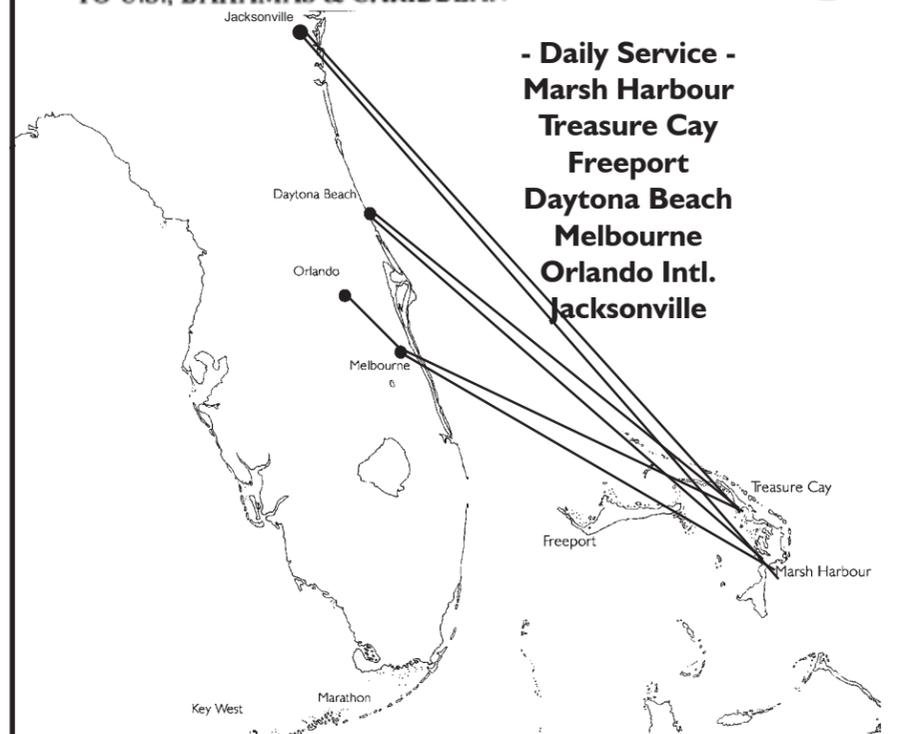
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Adjusters Are Completing Their Assessments

Adjustors

From Page 14

thinks the people are nice and easy to deal with. Most of the claims he handled were in Green Turtle Cay. On his days off he gets out and enjoys the local happenings. He went to Guy Fawkes day in New Plymouth and will go to the opening of the Green Turtle Club on November 14 to listen to the Gully Roosters. He loves Bahamian music. He does not know when he'll be leaving and back to his family. It was trying work but the initial pressure is ebbing away now.

Graham Bryant arrived from England on September 5 in New Providence. He spent seven weeks in Nassau and arrived here a week ago to take Al Dale's place as manager of the crew. It is his first time on Abaco. Being busy with the managerial takeover, He has not had time to visit yet.

Leo Arsenau, from New Brunswick, Canada, came here after Jeanne on October 1 and will be here until November 26. It was his first time in The Bahamas. It was initially disconcerting and difficult to find places since there are no names on most streets and roads, but he soon got used to the surroundings. He finds people polite and

pleasant to deal with. He had a hard time at first to get adjusted to the slow pace. He thinks it would be a nice place to come on vacation, He misses home, though. It is the first time he is away for such a length of time, eight weeks without seeing his children, wife and grandson. During his free time he visited the cays.

Samantha Anderson from Texas is the only American on the crew. She arrived on September 9, after the first hurricane, and thinks it was an ordeal to go through Jeanne. Her hotel room got flooded including her clothes closet. She had a good time here and did a lot of shopping to relieve the stress of the hard work. She is going to

Nassau for two weeks before going home to her husband, her two children and her two dogs.

With our minds on repairs and picking up the pieces after two storms, we might not realize that these people came here to help us and have left behind their own way of life as well as their families for quite a long time. Although Abaco is a great vacation destination, it is not always easy to cope being away from home for so long. So with this article we thank them for their cooperation and their help in getting us back to normal.



The adjusters for insurance claims came from many countries to assess damage and approve settlement. The above photo shows some of the damage which they had to assess on Scotland Cay. Assessing damage requires knowledge in many areas including land values and building costs which vary in every country they work in. Even on Abaco those costs vary from town to town.

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Spotlight on Young People

By Jennifer Hudson

Last week I met four young people who greatly impressed me with their excellent attitude and work ethic which will stand them in good stead as upstanding citizens of the community.

As I drove along one of the streets in Murphy Town, I saw four young lads picking up trash from the side of the road and placing it in plastic garbage bags. They informed me that they assist the gentleman who has the contract for keeping the roadsides of Murphy Town clean by picking up the trash which they place in bags at the side of the road for him to collect in order that the verges will be litter free when the grass is cut.

Tavaughn Davis, 9, Jamard Swain, 10, and Terrance Davis, 11, are grade 5 students at Central Abaco Primary School

while Mateo Hield, 8, is in grade 3. These very mannerly students informed me that they do this job regularly to earn money which they pass on to their parents to assist in buying their school uniforms and school lunches. They were very proud to tell me that they receive their pay as soon as they have completed the job. I am sure they have heard many adults bemoaning the fact that they have to wait endlessly for their money.

These young lads should be commended for their enterprise at such a young age and the willingness and pride with which they are already contributing to family expenses. In this day and age when so many young people expect something for nothing and will stop at nothing to get what they want, often for shady purposes, it is refreshing to meet four young gentlemen like Tavaughn, Jamard, Terrance and Mateo.

Red Cross Is Active After Storms

The Bahamas Red Cross is providing assistance to people on Abaco who are still struggling to recover from the effects of the recent hurricanes. The Red Cross has already assisted more than 600 families on Abaco and plans to assist 1000 more in coming weeks. The goal of the Red Cross is to assist those of the most vulnerable who in the community - with a special emphasis on the elderly, disabled, unemployed and household with many young children. The Bahamas Red Cross is providing aid in the form of food parcels, tarpaulins, clothing, blankets and mattresses. As a humanitarian organization guided by the prin-

ciples of neutrality and volunteerism, all Red Cross assistance is free and provided on the basis of need.

Friends of the Environment
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Hints for
Helping Our
Environment

- Replant any trees you lost from the hurricanes. If possible, replant with native plants which are well adapted to our environment.

Food for Thought

By Portia Jonsson

During the last several years, the natural foods category has grown as diverse as the people it serves. Gourmet, healthy, quick and convenient, environmentally sound - the items that find their way onto our shelves - might be any or all of these things. Three stores here on Abaco have risen to the challenge to bring gourmet, specialty and quick and convenient foods to our tables.

For many years Bahamas Family Market located at the traffic light has been a supplier of wonderful gourmet foods. One can expect to find smoked salmon, prosciutto, olive, walnut and lemon oils, shiitake mushrooms, Jamaican hot patties, crawfish salad (in season) and an array of cheeses. During the holidays beautifully wrapped gourmet baskets with all these goodies and more are on sale.

Over at Solomon's Supercenter the list of gourmet and specialty foods goes on and on. There's oven baked cheese and

garlic toasts, crostini, bagels, spices, French, Cuban and homemade breads, jalapeno, American, muenster, mozzarella, jarlsberg, emmental, smoked gouda, baby Swiss and port salut cheeses - just to name a few. For all your cold cuts needs there is pepperoni, genoa salami, beef bologna, turkey breast, pastrami, corned beef, roast beef, prosciutto and ham, sliced anyway you like. Anyone with a sweet tooth will just love the chocolate, carrot, lemon and pound cakes sold in the store. You can even find birthday cakes for your special day.

The mesquite, lemon and original rotisserie chickens at Price Right are quick and convenient. The deli section is well stocked with cheeses and cold cuts. Homemade breads and French sticks are also sold in store. Delicious doughnuts, pastries and cakes make a wonderful treat.

So if you're craving something a little different, give any one of these a try today.

Sea Spray Is Fully Operational

By Stephanie Humblestone

As marinas throughout Abaco steadily rebuild after the season's two treacherous hurricanes, the Sea Spray Resort in White Sound on Elbow Cay is pleased to report that it is business as usual.

"We were open within 48 hours after both Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne with operational bar and restaurant," said the resort's long time dockmaster Junior, who described the facility as having "minimal damage."

Only three of the 50 boat slips were dam-

aged and the 18 boats in the marina during the storms weathered them well.

"It proved challenging contacting owners in the aftermath but we used all the resources like satellite phones and the Internet," continued Junior, who happily announced that after Thanksgiving a sixth villa will be available to renters. This will be larger than the others, offering three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Junior remarked that there has been a large "influx" of second homeowners to both the Sea Spray Resort and the cay in general.

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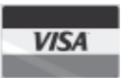


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Boating Accident at Night Results in Injury



On November 3rd, 44-year-old James McAlpine was leaving Hope Town in his boat for Marsh Harbour with three friends on board when he took a wrong turn. Distracted rather than directed by the green flashing light on top of the BEC generator building off the northernmost Parrot Cay, he headed straight into the small dock. Miraculously, no lives were lost. Mr. McAlpine was transported to Marsh Harbour Government Clinic with facial injuries. He was subsequently airlifted to the United States. His guests were unscathed. Photo by Dr. Jay Downs

Great Cistern Road Is Improved

The worst road in Marsh Harbour is the great Cistern Road. A good neighbor, Dennis, donated four loads of fill. John Gartlan then went door to door and collected money for more fill. The music man got local government to donate eight loads if we would spread it. The road is passable now. This would be a great time for the Ministry of

Works to finish the job. After all, the 17 families have been waiting for the past 20 years.

Note: Some of the families donated \$300, some \$100 and others said that the government should put up the money. What an excuse!

Students Pursue Studies Abroad

We present a few more students who are studying away from here. These students show initiative and ambition. We hope that many of them will return to Abaco to lend their acquired knowledge to make this a better place.

Bradley Fox is in his first year at Missouri Valley College in Marshall, Missouri. He is studying business administration and computer studies.



Bradley is the son of Bradley and Gardenia Fox of Sandy Point. He graduated from St. Francis de Sales School. He is on a partial scholarship from the college.

Mashanna Russell is in her first year at the College of The Bahamas in Nassau. She is studying computer information systems.



Mashanna is the daughter of Patricia Bootle and Marshall Russell of Fire Road and is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.

Misty Russell is a first year student at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada. She is majoring in calculus with a minor in psychology, hoping to finish her bachelor's degree in education in her final year.



Misty is the daughter of Jack and Lana Russell of Hope Town and is a graduate of Appleby College in Oakville, Ontario, Canada

Amanda Sawyer is in her second year at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, where she is studying psychology and religion.



Amanda is the daughter of Trevor and Jennifer Sawyer of Cherokee Sound and is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy.

There are more students which we have not listed here. We are need information about them and are asking you to let us know the details about them so we can include them next month.

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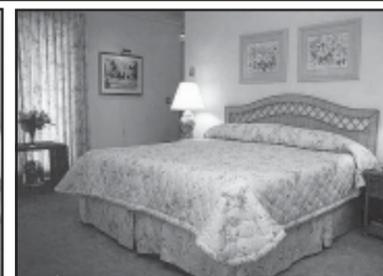
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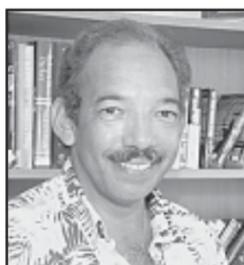
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West Nile Virus Awareness

By Mirella Santillo

The rain dumped on Abaco during the hurricanes and the wet weather we have had since have left many areas with stagnant water, a perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes carry several serious viral diseases, dipping in the blood of infected birds, rodents, dogs or humans and spreading around diseases. One of the latest virus to threaten the United States and our islands is the West Nile Virus.

If a person is bitten by a mosquito carrying the West Nile Virus, there can be one of three outcomes. Most people will not have any symptoms. Only about 20 percent of the people bitten will be infected and develop West Nile fever. Of that num-

ber only one person in 150 will develop a form of the disease.

If a person becomes ill from the disease, the symptoms could include fever, tiredness, headache, body aches, occasionally a rash and swollen lymph glands. The illness can last a few days or even longer. Some people, even though healthy, have reported being sick for a few weeks. The one person in about 1000 who becomes quite ill with a severe case of the illness can experience headache, fever, neck stiffness, disorientation, coma, tremors, even convulsions, muscle weakness or paralysis.

Care may involve nursing, IV fluids, respiratory support and prevention. No vac-

cine is available as yet, but researchers are working on it.

The best thing to do is prevent exposure to the disease. These are some suggestions.

- Protect yourself from mosquito bites.
- Use insect repellents.
- Spray clothing with repellent.
- Cover babies' sleeping areas with a mosquito net.
- Consider staying indoors at dusk, dawn or early evenings.
- Make sure there are no holes in screen doors and windows.
- Drain sources of standing water. Empty water from flower pots twice a week, pet food and water dishes, bird baths, swim-

ming pool covers, buckets, barrels and cans. Check for water in boats in yards and on trailers.

- Check for water in clogged rain gutters, remove discarded tires or other items that could collect water.
- Be sure to check for containers or trash in places that may be overlooked, under a house or in a bush.
- Avoid prolonged trips in naturally damp and wooded areas such as mangroves, ponds or marshes.

There is no need to panic. But it is better to be safe than sorry, so take the time to follow these few prevention rules until the dry season returns.

World Kindness Day Was Celebrated

By Jennifer Hudson

November 13 was celebrated as World Kindness Day. How much more peaceable this world would be if people made it their responsibility to be kinder to each other. "When you are kind to each other, it changes not only you but the world," stated Harold Kushner, author of the book *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*.

A group of people whose aim was specifically to spread kindness met together and started the Small Kindness Movement in Japan in 1996. A conference was organized in Tokyo to which like-minded individuals from around the world who had started kindness movements in their own countries were invited to attend. At this first World Kindness Movement Conference it was agreed that World Kindness Day would be held on November 13 each year and seven countries signed the charter. Now the World Kindness Movement consists of 13 member countries including the United States.

Aesop, writer of the famed Fables quoted; "No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted." We would all do well to remember that and try to do an act of kindness every day to help, in our own small way, to make the world a better place.



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Dundas Town-#5222-Property situated in prime location running 135' on the waterfront. Fixer upper situated on property. Views of the harbour and Sea of Abaco. \$125,000



Marsh Harbour-#5150 Harbour front property on Pelican Shores. Lovely parcel runs 172' on the harbour and consists of more than an acre of property. Features a 3 bed/3.5 bath house with covered carport. This prime piece of property is unique and rare. Could have a commercial venture possibility. Room for expansion Lots of potential. -\$1,750,000



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The Other Marsh Harbour - A Personal Journey Back in Time

By Richard E. Fawkes
Editor's Note: Reporter Richard E. Fawkes accompanied a team of Bahamian officials and Haitian community leaders on a tour of The Mud and Pigeon Pea, Marsh Harbour's predominantly Haitian immigrant townships, on November 5. The purpose of the tour was to give Dr. David Allen and Dr. Desiree Cox an opportunity to see those communities and to meet some of their spokespersons.

Last Friday, as I stepped off the wide, newly paved road leading to the spanking new port in Marsh Harbour to enter the maze of illegally constructed dwellings making up the township called The Mud, I experienced the sensation of a flashback to my childhood. The time was January 1965. The place was an alley off Farrington Road in Nassau.

I was moving up in the world at the grand old age of 13. I was leaving Sandy Point, a village of clapboard cottages built on ground pins stuck in sandy soil, of narrow concrete streets designed for walking and wheelbarrows, kerosene lamps for light, kerosene stoves and firewood for cooking, individual wells for drinking and washing water and outside toilets for sewage disposal. I had been biding my time in grade six awaiting my 14th birthday, the end of my formal education, to begin my career as a fisherman, the only career option open to me at the time.

Imagine my shock after disembarking a fishing smack at Woodes Rodgers Wharf in Nassau, after being driven through the quaint streets of the "big" city in a much

repaired Hillman Minx British car, to realize that my abode would be a three-room clapboard shack standing atop concrete blocks, down a rocky alley in a labyrinth of similar structures with outside toilets everywhere and jerry-rigged electrical lines and drop cords for those with some kind of electricity.

For me, a kerosene oil lamp would provide the lighting. As for water, there was a government pump in a parallel alley accessible through a footpath farther away than the well in our yard in Sandy Point.

But these amenities in the "other" Nassau were what my oldest sister and her husband and their baby girl and another baby on the way had to offer me, to give me a chance to stay in school longer to attend Western Senior School for another two years or, as it turned out, to take the entrance exam to St. Augustine's College.

I soon learned that this was where we "immigrants" from the Out Islands started, as we flocked in from throughout the Bahamian Archipelago to New Providence for a "better" life.

As I wended my way through the rocky, dirt-road alleyways among the tightly-clustered, brightly-coloured shanties of The Mud and its twin township, Pigeon Pea, I was reminded of my early days in Nassau making friends with fellow students from throughout Over-the-Hill Nassau, who lived in similar ghetto clusters as I did. They sprang magically behind main streets such as Baillou Hill Road and Market Street. They bloomed out of Gibbs Corner and Tootie Shop Corner, and Hospital Lane

South, and Bahama Avenue. They housed the majority of the population of Grants Town, Bain Town and Farm Road.

I also learned that this was a part of Nassau, a Nassau stratified by race and class and colour caste, where the people who ran the minority colonial government at the top only knew about our lifestyle through the work our parents did for them as maids and cooks and gardeners and chauffeurs and taxi drivers. My mother was a live-in maid to a rich family on the Eastern Road, whose house looked like heaven and whose two daughters looked like angels. I saw my mother only every Wednesday and every other weekend.

And I thought of all this as I walked through The Mud and Pigeon Pea that Friday and reflected on the relationship the residents of The Mud and Pigeon Pea maintain with the rest of Abaco society.

The Haitian immigrant community and its Bahamian counterpart are divided by nationality and ethnicity and language. The "angels" my mother worked for were as Bahamian as I was, but I did not think of them that way at the time. They seemed so different, so "superior and better blessed" to me then.

But it was 1965, and months after I was in Nassau, "Black Tuesday" marched past my school on the way to the Southern Recreation Grounds. My fellow students from Nassau who knew what it was all about looked happy and hopeful and told me all about it. And we Bahamians became serious about embracing a wider humanitarian and democratic inclusion so children like

me could have the same choices as the "angels" my mother cared for "living on premises." And I thought of that as I looked at the children who should have been in school on Friday playing near their home in The Mud on abandoned mattresses.

My sister and her husband moved their family to Yellow Elder Gardens, the first public housing development in Nassau, a few years later. I experienced indoor plumbing and electricity for the first time. Their children could attend public high schools, which had become a part of the development equation.

As I walked through The Mud and Pigeon Pea, I realized that national and ethnic and language gaps and prejudices might be a lot harder to overcome than racial and class differences within the same nationality, but that all must still commit to a mutually just, humanitarian solution, especially for those children who know no other country.

And as much as I believe in the validity and importance of a fishing career, I'm glad I had a choice between becoming a fisherman and a writer and teacher, and the right to live wherever I could afford to.

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The Effect of the Hurricanes on Vegetation

By Jennifer Hudson

Mother Nature is truly amazing. Whenever she takes a beating, she immediately begins her struggle to live again. Recently Hurricanes Francis dealt dastardly blows and after she had unleashed her high winds over the vegetation on Abaco for many hours, the vegetation which had been a lush green looked as if an atomic bomb had fallen; trees were uprooted, branches flung around, leaves stripped from trees and whatever foliage was still hanging on was burnt brown and shriveled.

The immediate thought was that we would be looking at a desolate landscape for weeks and possibly months. However, after just one week it was both incredible and heartening to see small bright green buds happily poking their way out of the dry sticks and lovely fresh green sprouts appearing from the tops of the palm trees.

Despite Hurricane Jeanne's arrival three weeks later to wreak further havoc Mother Nature struggles once again to display her new mantle.

Sadly, though, much of the vegetation did not survive to produce another season of growth. Thousands of formerly beautiful and often very old and well loved trees had their lives snuffed out and had to be carted to their grave at the public dump. One such tree was a 100-foot tall old ficus which had stood in the garden of Reginald Anderson in Dundas Town for 35 years. Mr. Anderson moved into that house 36 years ago and planted the tree one year later. The winds of Hurricane Francis uprooted it and it narrowly missed Mr. Anderson's house. Its root system measured 30 feet across and, unfortunately, pulled up all the water pipes to the house, leaving Mr. Anderson without water. Local government

workers cut the tree into sections with a chain saw but the 72-year-old owner was left to arrange for the removal of his once beloved tree. Many ficus trees snapped during the strong winds as they do not stand up well in a hurricane. They are fast growing but not very strong.

Casuarina trees, though rather attractive with their feathery appearance, are actually a menace wherever they are. They are not native to The Bahamas and their root systems are too shallow so that in hurricanes they easily uproot and blow over taking fences, power, telephone and cable lines with them.

The native Bahamian trees such as poisonwood, buttonwood, Madeira, pigeon plum, bay cedar, horseflesh, sea grape and lignum vitae, stood up well this year as they also did during Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Almond and tamarinds did not fare well

and the majority of banana trees seem to have been lost.

We should certainly stop a while and give thanks and appreciation for the wonders of our vegetation as it rejuvenates itself and express our concern for areas of the world where the vegetation is being ravaged by humans for irresponsible purposes and will never have the chance to recover.



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Cherokee Sound modest 2 bed 1 bath beach house. Furniture, appliances, dishes, tools, spare parts and small boat included. US \$ 139,900 net, firm. Serious inquires please 434-286-2584

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

Man-O-War 4 bedroom, 2 bath, living, kitchen, laundry, porch, etc. Rain water cisterns approx. 20,000 gal, 20 KW generator, house fully air conditioned, storage shed 20' x 50,' property 75' x 150.' Price \$590,000 net. or will sell just house on 75' x 75' \$395,000 net Call 242-365-6058 or 242-477-5944

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For condition of sale and any other information contact
Ms. C.A. Cooper or Mr. B.D. Styles at 367-2141.

BIDS ONLY

<p>Dundas Town L-shape apt. complex 3 - 2 bed, 1 bath units 9,000 sq. ft. Area for small shop Lot #18B</p> <p>Murphy Town Incomplete duplex one unit completed comprising 2 bed, 1 bath 6,900 sq. ft. Lot #60</p>	<p>Murphy Town 3 bed, 2 bath Newly repaired 10,000 sq. ft. Lot #67</p> <p>Bahama Coral Island Vacant land 10,890 sq. ft. Section #3 Block A Lot #1</p> <p>Murphy Town Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath 11,232 sq. ft. Lot #78</p>	<p>Treasure Cay Vacant land 10,000 sq. ft. Lot #65 BL #167</p> <p>Murphy Town Duplex 2 bed, 1 bath and 1 bed efficiency 8900 sq. ft. Lot #68</p> <p>Murphy Town Commercial building 6,500 sq. ft. Lot #70</p>
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PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE

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BIDS ONLY

<p>Dundas Town 1/2 acre, 2 storey 4 bed, 2 bath, family rm Lot #25</p>	<p>Dundas Town Vacant Land 10,810 sq. ft. Lot #21</p>	<p>Murphy Town Vacant Land 11,277 sq. ft. Lot #78B</p>
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Marsh Harbour 3 bed/2bath furnished home. Large yard w/fruit trees. \$250,000. Call 367-5503 or 357-6561

Marsh Harbour 1/2 acre lot in Sweeting Village. **Guana Cay** lot w/ high elevation within township. Call after 5 242-393-0966

Requirements for Replacement of Storm-damaged Motor Vehicles

Many people are applying to replace hurricane-damaged vehicles and are being refused because the necessary information was not included with the applications. There is a process which should be followed.

Applicants should state in a letter that the person had a vehicle and give the value of the vehicle as of the day of the storm. The value should be an estimate from the insurance company. If the car is insured comprehensively, the insurance company will give that estimate.

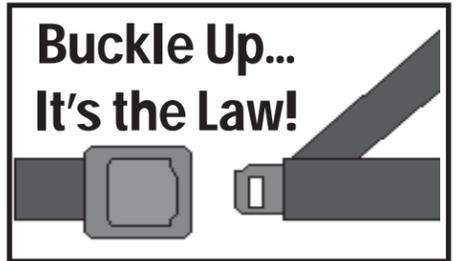
If the car is insured by third-party or Road Act, the insurance company will not give a value. In that case the person needs to get a Certificate of Insurance from the insurance company and the person should obtain from a reputable mechanic an evaluation of the vehicle on the day when it was damaged. The car could have been flooded or damaged by a tree falling on it or other damage.

Those documents should be taken to the NEMA office which will send the information to the Ministry of Finance in Nassau

for approval.

The duty exemption is for the value of the damaged vehicle at the time of the storm only.

If this procedure is followed, there should be no problem in being approved for an exemption.



Bank Makes Presentation to NEMA



Scotiabank, Cooper's Town Branch made a donation to NEMA, the National Emergency Management Agency. Shown here are Mr. Uriah Cartwright, Manager of ScotiaBank Wulff Road and East Street Branch and Mrs. Cleola Cooper, Manager of ScotiaBank Abaco Branch, making the presentation to Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco. Also present was Mr. Ronald Blackman, Senior Manager of Credit Risk from Nassau.

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White aluminum commercial shop door and frame, excellent condition. \$495. Commercial track lightning (9) 8' tracks, new, \$30 each. 1 pr Polk book shelf speakers \$95. 1 pr JBL book shelf speakers \$95. 2 electric attic vent fans, new. \$45 each. Contact Linda at Iggy Biggy 367-3596

10 KW F.G. Wilson Generator, low hours, new water pump installed Oct 04. Excellent condition \$5,500 OBO Call 365-6275

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for experienced waiter / waitress / bartender 20 years or older. Interested persons please contact Sea Spray Resort at 366-0065

Bahama Beach Club, Treasure Cay, is expanding. We are looking for an assistant for our front office. Applicants must be computer literate and people friendly. Interested persons may apply at the office. Ph. 365-8500, Fax 365-8501

Full time gardener wanted seeking someone for a 6 day week to work large parcel of land with main house. Clearing brush, planting, maintaining lawn. Contact Bess Lowe 365-4107

Labourer wanted to weed and clean yards. Apply in writing to AB 20024, Marsh Harbour, before Dec 20.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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

97 Ford F150 Lariat, extended cab, 3 door, white exterior, gray interior, 6 CD changer, tape deck, new speakers, excellent condition. Call 477-5679 or 554-9650

2001 Ford Ranger Edge, automatic, 6 cylinder, tool box. \$14,500 Call 365-4418

2003 Hyundai Santa Fe, excellent condition, red exterior, gray interior, new stereo system. \$20,000 OBO For more info call Debbie @ 365-6244 (H) or 365-6501 (W)

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2003 MercPanga w/200hp Merc EFI OB, VHF, depthfinder, ss prop, trim tabs, 2 anchors, all safety equip. A steal at \$29,500 Call 365-6008

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



25' Anna Capri, 200 Mercury, with cabin, VHF, AM/FM radio, 80 gal gas tank, stern bracket. \$10,500 OBO Call Steve Sands at 365-5176 Boat is in Guana



26' Sea Cat twin 130 HP 2004 Evinrudes 25 hrs. w/ warranty, trailer, VHF, fish finder, Garmin map GPS, outriggers, live bait well, fresh and salt water pumps. Asking \$60,000 Ph 367-2289

29' Bristol sailboat, needs fiberglass work. \$1500 Call 366-0444



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



36' Gulfstar Motor Yacht 1983, DUTY PAID. Major refit and repowered 1995. S/DSL. Well maintained. \$62,500 312-287-6524 or wagnercaesar@aol.com



36' Pearson Ketch, slight hurricane damage to toe rail, life lines and mizzen mast. For sale as is at \$21,000. Boat can be seen in Green Turtle Cay. Contact Jimmie Lowe 242-357-9077 or Jody Lowe 365-4195

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★ HOMES ★



"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. # AB 67 - \$2,950,000



"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- \$1,035,000



"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 \$4,900,000



"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 - \$925,000.



"Joe's Cay"

Northern Abaco Cays - 30 acre, secluded, private island. Lush vegetation, beautiful wide, sloping beach, Fresh water well, a number of attractive building sites. Ideal for the discerning adventurer wishing a truly unique retreat #AB3666 - **NEW PRICE - \$750,000.**



"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 \$1,379,000



Derek A. Lee, BRI
Abaco District
Managing Broker

Marsh Harbour
Man-O-War Cay

Tel: (242) 367-4608
Cell: (242) 357-6856
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Assistant District Manager
Estate Agent
Green Turtle Cay
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Cell: (242) 554-9451
e.mail: bpepperinn@abacoinet.com
VHF - Channel 16

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

Great Guana Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay and North Abaco

- ★ **Great Guana Cay** - "Plum Loco" - 3 bedroom, 2 bath - 1,228 sq.ft. home - on almost 1/2 acre with 100' of beautiful beachfront. Tastefully Furnished and fully equipped- #AB97- \$749,000.
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - "Chameleon Bay" - 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,478 sq.ft. Home. 150' of Treasure Cay Beachfront - over 1 1/2 acres. # AB95 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - "Son Burns" - 4 bedroom - 3 bath - 2,160 sq.ft. home on two floors, 750 sq.ft. of open sundeck on upper level, 750 sq.ft. of porch on lower. - almost 3/4 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal - Private Dock - Fully Furnished. # AB72 - \$575,000.
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - "Honey's Home" - 3 bedroom, 3 bath - 1,600 sq.ft. home - 2/3 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal Private Dock with Boat Lift - Great Views. # AB66 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Treasure Cay** - Treasure Cay Drive - "Steiner House" - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,200 sq.ft. home on two levels - upper level deck - almost 1/2 Acre - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home. fully Furnished. #AB116 - \$925,000.
- ★ **Sand Banks Creek** - "Dannie's Den" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath new home + 80' Waterfront - Almost 1 1/2 wooded acres. - Private Dock - # AB73 - \$355,000.



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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 - \$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 - \$2,290,000.



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Estate Agent
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Broker
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Cell: (242) 477-5056
e.mail: jic@oii.net



"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 \$1,380,000



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

☆ 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 -
- ☆ #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 fabuolus ocean and sea views #AB5176 - \$2,950,000.
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay Area - "Madera Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. # AB5143 - \$395,000.
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Coco Sound" - 28 prime residential building sites - between Coco Bay and White Sound from 1/4 - 1/2 acre # AB5090 - from: \$59,000.
- ☆ **Sand Banks Creek** - One Acre plus - Wooded lots with over 90' of water frontage on Bay - 3 miles south of Treasure Cay - Limited Number Available. # AB5069 - from: \$63,700.
- ☆ **PRIVATE ISLAND** - "Carrington Cay" - 1.4 Acres - Near Leisure Lee - #AB5147 - \$375,000.