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# The Abaconian

*Abaco's Most Complete Newspaper*



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 23, DECEMBER 1st, 2004

## Recognition Was Given at Thanksgiving Service

By Jennifer Hudson

A large number of people from many churches on Abaco attended a heartwarming Service of Thanksgiving on November 26th at the Church of the Latter Rain in

Dundas Town. This service was organized by the Abaco Christian Council with the desire to bring people together to celebrate and give thanks to Almighty God for His protection throughout the two recent very

destructive hurricanes and to honour those people who had assisted others throughout the storms.

In his welcome, Pastor Alexander Archer reminded the congregation how thankful all

on Abaco should be because, "Since the hurricanes many trips have been made to the dump but not one to the graveyard."

Dignitaries from Nassau bringing messages to the congregation were the Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel, Minister of Health, and Rev. Dr. William Thompson, President of the Bahamas Christian Council. Mr. Robert Sweeting, M.P. for South Abaco, also brought remarks. Other officials in attendance were Senior Island Administrator, Mr. Revis Rolle; and Deputy Island Administrator Neil Campbell; Ms. Christine Green of Environmental Health; Principal Green from Abaco Central High School; Gary Smith, Superintendent of Customs; Inspector Godfrey Ferguson of the Royal Bahamas Police Force; Mr. Rudolph Smith, District Education Superintendent; and Chief Councillors Cay Mills of Central Abaco and Ms Lillian Laing of Moore's Island, and Councillor Glen Laing of Guana Cay.

The Hon. Marcus Bethel took as the text for his very informative address the words of St. Paul, beginning "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances" and ending, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

"We can chose how we react to disas-



Many people were honored on November 26 for exceptional services that they provided at the time of the two hurricanes which hit Abaco in September and after the storms. The Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel presented the certificates. He is in the center and on his right is Chief Councillor Cay Mills, who received a plaque for his diligent work to restore his community. He was presented the plaque by a committee of Dundas Town citizens.

Please see **Service**

Page 2

## Cargo Doubles at Port

By Jennifer Hudson

My home happens to overlook the route for shipping in and out of the Port of Marsh Harbour and I have noticed in recent weeks a dramatic increase in the amount of traffic on this route. The freight boats, the *Legacy*,

the *Tropic Night* and the *Duke of Topsail*, have been kept extremely busy coping with the greatly increased quantity of goods awaiting shipment into Abaco. They have not only

Please see **Freight**

Page 4

## Remembrance Day Is Observed



Abaco observed Remembrance Day on November 14. The uniformed youth organizations traditionally lead a parade through Marsh Harbour. But this year rain curtailed their activities. Instead, the marching band of Wesley College and a police contingent along with some bystanders congregated at the freight dock where a short ceremony honored the men and women who lost their lives in World Wars I and II fighting for freedom. Many Bahamians served in both wars but few are still living. Shown here is ASP Wayne Miller, officer in charge of Abaco, laying a wreath at the monument commemorating Bahamian Independence. Remembrance Day is observed on the second Sunday in November and has been commemorated since 1919.

## Students Were Chosen as Caddies



The first golf tournament at The Abaco Club at Winding Bay was held on November 19-20. Members and their guests were invited to play on the only tropical links type course in the world. Students from Abaco Central High School were chosen to be trained as caddies for the tournament. They are shown here in their uniforms. The Abaco Club hopes some of them will choose to become permanent employees after their graduation. See story on page 7

Photo by Stone McEwan

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# Service Thanks God for Protection

**Service** *From Page 1*

ter," said Dr. Bethel, "Hope has more to commend it than despair." He recognized the fact that for many people it was like starting over to rebuild their homes and lives after the hurricanes, a prospect which can be overwhelming.

Dr. Bethel spoke of the many ways in which Ministry of Health agencies activated plans for adequate preparation for emergencies before, during and after the hurricanes. These included the Disaster Awareness Commission, ensuring that the hospitals were well prepared, sending out doctors and nurses with extra supplies and monitoring the water quality and general sanitation. "The island of Abaco is still being monitored, especially the Mud and Pigeon Pea," he said, "and the sum of \$30,000 has been spent on health related issues on Abaco not including clinics. Repairs to health facilities throughout the country will amount to \$3.2 million of which \$118,000 will be spent on Abaco. Five and a half million dollars in total has been expended throughout Abaco as indicated by the Department of Works and Utilities."

Dr. Bethel expressed his Ministry's profound gratitude to the people of Abaco for their indomitable spirit, saying that this island is being repaired faster than any other in the Bahamas.

He also stated the important fact that the total effect of the storms is generally not felt until a week or so afterwards; it is then that the trauma sets in. His Ministry provided post disaster psychological

support, and he commended the organizers of this service for helping to heal the wounds. Dr. Bethel closed by saying, "We have to rebuild our country and we can through Christ who strengthens us."

In his remarks the Hon. Robert Sweeting, M.P. for South Abaco, remembered a comment made to him after Hurricane Floyd by then Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham which was, "Disasters do good for a lot of people." Mr. Sweeting reiterated this fact, stating that people have been given millions of dollars since the storms and many have better homes now than they would have done without the disasters. He praised Rev. Sarone Kennedy and his wife for organizing all the relief centres during the hurricanes and asked God's blessing as we seek to rebuild in Abaco.

Speaker for the evening was the Rev. Dr. Thompson, who told the congregation that this was his fifth visit to Abaco since the hurricanes to bring encouragement to the people, and he had also sent in counseling teams. He quoted Isaiah in chapter 43, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you," and went on to say, "God

has a plan and despite the destruction He does have a plan for our lives. He is our refuge whatever has happened. He will not

allow us to go through the storms on our own. He hears us and will come to our rescue. Even though He allows trouble to come, He will be in the midst of the storm."

Rev. Dr. Thompson's closing plea was for the churches of Abaco to come together under the one banner of God; different forms of worship do not matter. What is needed is for everyone to work together, love each other and walk together as one for the betterment of Abaco.

Following these profound messages an awards ceremony was held to thank many of the people who laboured unselfishly among us throughout the hurricanes and, in many cases, continue to do so today. Awardees were introduced by Mr. Revis Rolle and certificates were presented by Dr. Marcus Bethel.



The Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel, Minister of Health on the right, presented Chief Councillor Cay Mills, left, for his efforts in restoring Dundas Town after two hurricanes.

Please see **Service** *Page 22*



Mr. Gary Smith, Chief Customs Officer for Abaco, receives a certificate of honour for his service to the community after the two hurricanes. The Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel made the presentation.



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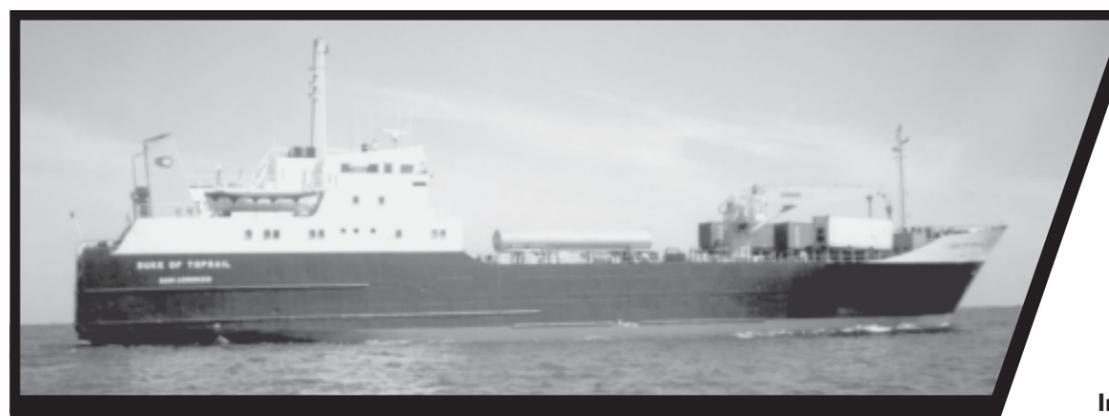
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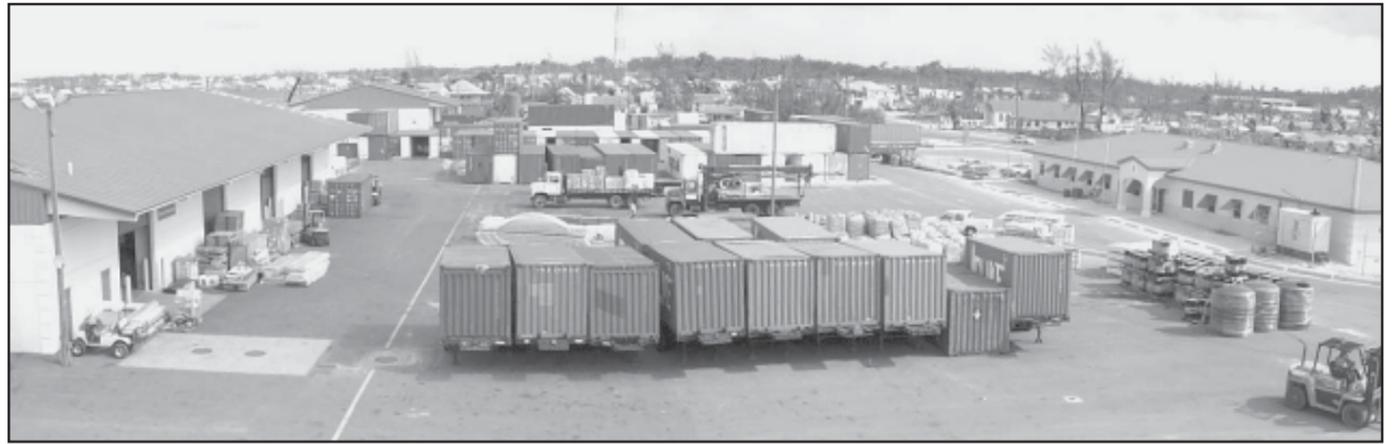
# Shippers and Customs Handle Increased Freight

**Freight** *From Page 1*

had to contend with the increased demand for building supplies as a result of the two recent hurricanes but have the added volume of Christmas stock being brought in by store owners.

The *Tropic Night* and *Duke of Topsail* have each doubled the number of trips they make into Marsh Harbour per week to two while the *Legacy*, which also provides extended service into Green Turtle Cay, is now arriving every week instead of every other week. According to Mr. Gary Smith, Superintendent of Customs, on November 21st all three boats were in port and offloaded a total of 2,300 tons of supplies. According to Mr. Smith, all warehouses in Florida are filled to capacity with goods waiting to be shipped to Abaco so this extended schedule will remain in effect for some time.

Mr. Smith stated that, despite problems and inconveniences still being experienced at the Port Authority facility, the staff is facilitating as many persons as possible. There is still no BEC power at the facility and being solely on generator power limits their ability and slows down the pro-



cess. Staff is working without air conditioning and is remaining late into the night to cope with the workload. The warehouse is still leaking as a result of hurricane damage and so business is being conducted out of containers.

*Businesses and individuals are rushing to import supplies and materials before the November 30 deadline for duty exemption for hurricane relief supplies. That storm repair freight along with increased merchandise for stores stocking Christmas inventory has more than doubled the amount of freight coming into the Port of Marsh Harbour. The normal freight boats are coming in twice per week instead of once and warehouses are full in West Palm Beach with freight for Abaco.*

The Customs Department is kept busy with the increasing demands at this time of year with all the Christmas stock arriving. In addition, there has been a marked rise in

the number of pleasure craft arriving for the Thanksgiving weekend requiring clearance plus four cruise ships which arrived at Castaway Cay last week.

“The Customs Department,” says Mr. Smith, “though working under much pressure, is nevertheless doing its best to cope and facilitate customers as expeditiously as possible.”

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# Commissioner Farquharson Addresses Police

By Richard E. Fawkes

At a convivial, family-style Thanksgiving luncheon of the Abaco District of the Royal Bahamas Police Force in Marsh Harbour on November 26, Police Commissioner Paul Farquharson heaped high praises on Officer-in-Charge ASP Wayne Miller and exhorted his officers to become further entrenched in community policing.

"Community policing must be paralleled with the hard-nosed policing of challenging the criminals who would impose the code of the jungle, and take them out of the community," he said.

He said ASP Miller introduced community policing to Nassau Village in New Providence, where drug dealers had tried to keep the police out by attempting to establish police "no-go" zones like they have done in parts of Jamaica. "Not in The Bahamas," said the commissioner. "There will not be any no-go area anywhere in The Bahamas where the police cannot go while I am Commissioner of Police."

He was pleased with the work ASP Miller has been doing in Abaco since he came here at the end of September in promoting community policing and working with other

agencies such as the administrator's office.

"I sent ASP Miller here in the middle of the storm by helicopter, and he hit the ground running," he said, in reference to ASP Miller's arrival here the day after Hurricane Jeanne, to replace Supt. Clarence Russell, who left for further training in England.

Mr. Farquharson explained that community policing is about "touching lives; of turning around those young men on the verge of committing crimes and directing them to go straight and return to good citizenship."

He said that without forming a partnership with the community and other agencies, the police would be working against the community rather than in harmony with it. He pointed to the Farm Road Project in Nassau, where "crime was reduced by 50 percent in three months" and the gunfire at night ceased; and a similar project in a section of Freeport referred to as "The Ghetto."

Earlier in November in Los Angeles Commissioner Farquharson received a first place community policing international award on behalf of The Bahamas for the Freeport community policing project from

the International Association of Chiefs of Police at their convention. Commissioner Farquharson, who is a member, said IACP has a membership of 19,000.

"There were 14,000 delegates at the convention," he said, "and we were the only international police force to receive a com-

munity policing award."

In May of last year The Bahamas received a similar award for the Farm Road Project from the 24-country Association of Carib-

Please see **Farquharson** Page 22



The police held a Thanksgiving dinner on November 26 in Marsh Harbour. Police Commissioner Paul Farquharson spoke to the officers encouraging them to continue with community policing while still aggressively fighting the criminal element.

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## Upcoming Events 2004-2005

Date	Event
December 11, 2004	Christmas Wine Tasting
December 15, 2004	"Gino D" Comes to Abaco Inn
December 24, 2004	Christmas Eve Buffet
December 25, 2004	Annual Christmas Dinner
March 13, 2005	Artists' Luncheon
March 27, 2005	Easter Dinner
May 8, 2005	Mother's Day Dinner
June 19, 2005	Father's Day Dinner
July 4, 2005	Fourth July Fiesta
July 10, 2005	Bahamian Independence Day
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# Abaco Club Holds First Golf Tournament

By Jennifer Hudson

It was a picture perfect day for the Abaco Club of Winding Bay's first golf tournament on November 20th. This tournament, which marked the first social event for the Club, provided an opportunity for camaraderie and a chance for members to experience this championship course. The Abaco Club, which will have its soft opening on December 23rd, 2004, already has 63 members, 20 of whom, along with their guests, participated in this pre-opening Member/Guest Tournament.

The players were able to enjoy a practice run the previous day as it was the first time any of them had seen this spectacular new course which received high praise recently from a cadre of top journalists for elite golfing magazines.

The course, according to Mr. Henry Robinson, Director of Sales for Winding Bay who is an avid golfer, is visually stimulating and entirely different from any other course in The Bahamas or Caribbean. Most are flat but the Winding Bay course spans several different elevations with the 18th hole standing 50 feet above sea level. "The reason for this," states Mr. Robinson, "is

that the course was built by a Scottish architect who built it to play like a Scottish links course." Links courses consist of natural dunes which have normally been formed by rough and stormy seas. The course at Winding Bay's Abaco Club is unique in that it too is composed of dunes, giving it the distinction of being the world's first tropical links golf course. "Take away the sun, palms and turquoise waters," said Mr. Robinson, "and one would think they were in Scotland."

Course design was a collaboration between golf course architects Tom Mackenzie and Donald Steele. Mr. Mackenzie, who is a very fine golfer from Dornoch, Scotland, was on hand to play in the tournament. Peter Jacobsen, who has just won the senior U.S. Open for golfers over 50, was also slated to play but had to cancel owing to a back injury.

The course, which would have been 100 percent completed had not the two major Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne caused setbacks, was nevertheless 90 percent ready. So as never to forget the eventful year the course was opened, the tournament every year will be called The Frances - Jeanne

Invitational.

On Friday night a party was held at the beach bar for members and guests to become acquainted and on Saturday night an awards dinner was held under the tent at Boat Harbour when Peter de Savary was on hand to present crystal trophies to the winning golfer and runner up.

Eighteen senior male students from Abaco Central High School were given the opportunity by Winding Bay to caddy for the golfers at the tournament. They received training before the event and the eight most promising students will be invited to remain with the Club, caddying on Saturdays until

the end of the school year when they will be offered permanent employment as caddies. This was a wonderful experience for these young men and an excellent opportunity to see if they would like to make this a career after they graduate from school in June of this year.

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# The Editor Says . . . Recovery Is Well Underway



Marsh Harbour is the entry point for two-thirds or more of Abaco's visitors. The arriving view from a taxi is nearly normal for those staying here or the majority who pass through on their way to other areas. For all practical purposes the business district has rebounded and is in full swing.

Our shipping companies have doubled their freight runs. Some freight is backed up at the Marsh Harbour dock but the biggest backlog is still in Florida - even with the freighters doubling up their schedules. Merchants are attempting to get their normal Christmas stock which always keeps our freighters full at this time of the year. Added to this are the demands of the construction industry attempting to get lumber, cement and other building materials needed for our reconstruction.

Our restaurant capacity is almost normal with only Snappas totally out of service. Most restaurants on the cays are back to full capacity.

Our trees and shrubs have sprouted greenery but close examination will show where branches and limbs were snapped off. Fortunately, it is not readily apparent. It will take the summer rains and time to see real improvements in the landscaping.

The most obvious signs of the destruction in the Marsh Harbour area are the several marinas along the waterfront which either lost their docks or had them so badly disfigured as to make them unuseable. Even these are coming back to life with limited dockage which increases with each passing week. Christmas boating traffic is not as robust as March so boaters should find dockage somewhere in their favorite town. By March or April the marina situation should be nearly back to normal. Much of the boating waterfront is behind tall fences and buildings so much of this rebuilding is not readily visible.

The marinas may find that rebuilding will allow them to use their seabed space more efficiently and gain slips in the same space. Most of the marinas grew piece-meal over the years and did not always use their leased space to best advantage.

Debris can still be found in some vacant lots or in out-of-the-way places but the basic town areas have been cleaned up.

The slowest recovery seems to be to gov-

ernment buildings. The two warehouses at the new freight dock lost doors and several pieces of roofing. These repairs require a multi-stage assessment and approval process within government. This procedure has not been expedited as was the assistance offered the homeowner.

A remaining sign of the roof damage is noted generally with patches of shingles on many buildings that don't match the rest of the roof. Even where the same color was available, the repair stands out as being brighter against the other faded portions of the roof. There are many instances where the replaced shingles don't even make a close match.

After enduring two hurricanes with winds in the 110 - 120 mile per hour range, most homeowners found there were bigger things to worry about than a few mis-matched shingles.

Some of the older roofs will be due for replacement in a few years and then may be re-shingled with a superior grade of roofing. Some buildings are getting a new roof now while the duty free exemption is in

effect. Most of the roofs with the top grades of shingles came through very well as did most of the metal covered roofs. Perhaps incentives should be in place to encourage the use of better grades of roofing which have proven to be more storm resistant.

Landscaping is another area government might consider for concessions. Augmenting or replacing damaged or dead plants will help restore the sub-tropical looks which are so desired by our visitors. Left to herself, Mother Nature will take time to repair the landscape. Attention should be given to repairing the landscape which is an important marketing component of the area.

Judging from reports by persons who are familiar with Abaco and Grand Bahama, our recovery has been smoother and faster than that experienced by our neighbor to the west. Hurricane Floyd may have helped us this time around as many of Abaco's less substantial buildings were destroyed and subsequent construction was to a higher standard.

Abaco has a rich history of its town folk taking care of its problems and storm re-

covery is no exception. Abaco people have a take-charge attitude and frequently get a job done without waiting for others. Government's hand is less obtrusive here and the private sector plays a large part in area affairs.

The settlements on the cays have a variety of self-help groups to keep their towns in order. Marsh Harbour would trail in this respect as it moves forward as being a city. It is losing the community feeling which is prevalent on the cays and in the smaller towns.

Visible recovery is well underway and our Christmas season should be nearly normal. There is still much to be done behind the scenes which will be invisible to most people. Government's programs to foster recovery have been on track. The politicians have realized that physical recovery translates into employment and economic recovery.

Resorts and rental house agents are reporting good reservations for the holiday season. Recovery on the street translates to recovery at the cash register.

## Letters to the Editor

### Crossing Beach Traffic Problem Must Be Addressed

Dear Editor,

Have you ever been down to the Crossing Beach at the same time that a ferry from Hope Town or Man-O-War is arriving? It is worse than downtown Nassau in rush hour! At 8:30 in the morning there are taxis, school buses, private cars both parked and coming to pick up people and several dozen children that do NOT understand the idea that it ISN'T a good idea to dash across the road at full speed in front of a moving vehicle.

The area is so congested that a larger vehicle like my truck cannot turn around because cars and taxis are parked two or three cars deep. I was forced to drive down into Eastern Shores and use someone's driveway to turn around last week. The pick up area for the ferries is too small and as a result if you are there to pick up someone or something you are forced to simply STOP in the middle of the road, causing numerous angry drivers behind you to wait while you attend to your business.

Parking for people that ride the ferry daily to Hope Town to work is so scarce that folks are forced to park their cars half way in the road along the fenced property at Crossing Beach. This in turn makes it very difficult and dangerous, if not impossible at times, for two larger vehicles to pass along the road.

I suppose all of this is not any one person's or business' fault. It's simply the growth of Abaco, but something has to be done. And soon! Or someone's child

will not make it home from school because a car has hit him. Or someone not paying attention will hit another car head-on while trying to get to the ferry.

I don't begin to imagine what it will cost or how long it will take to solve this problem, but it is a problem that must be solved and soon or the people of Abaco, or worse, a tourist, will suffer for it.

Regards,  
Tara Sands

### Thanks for Assistance

Dear Editor,

I was involved in a boating accident at Parrot Cay just outside Hope Town. As an update to the story of my unfortunate error in navigation on the evening of November

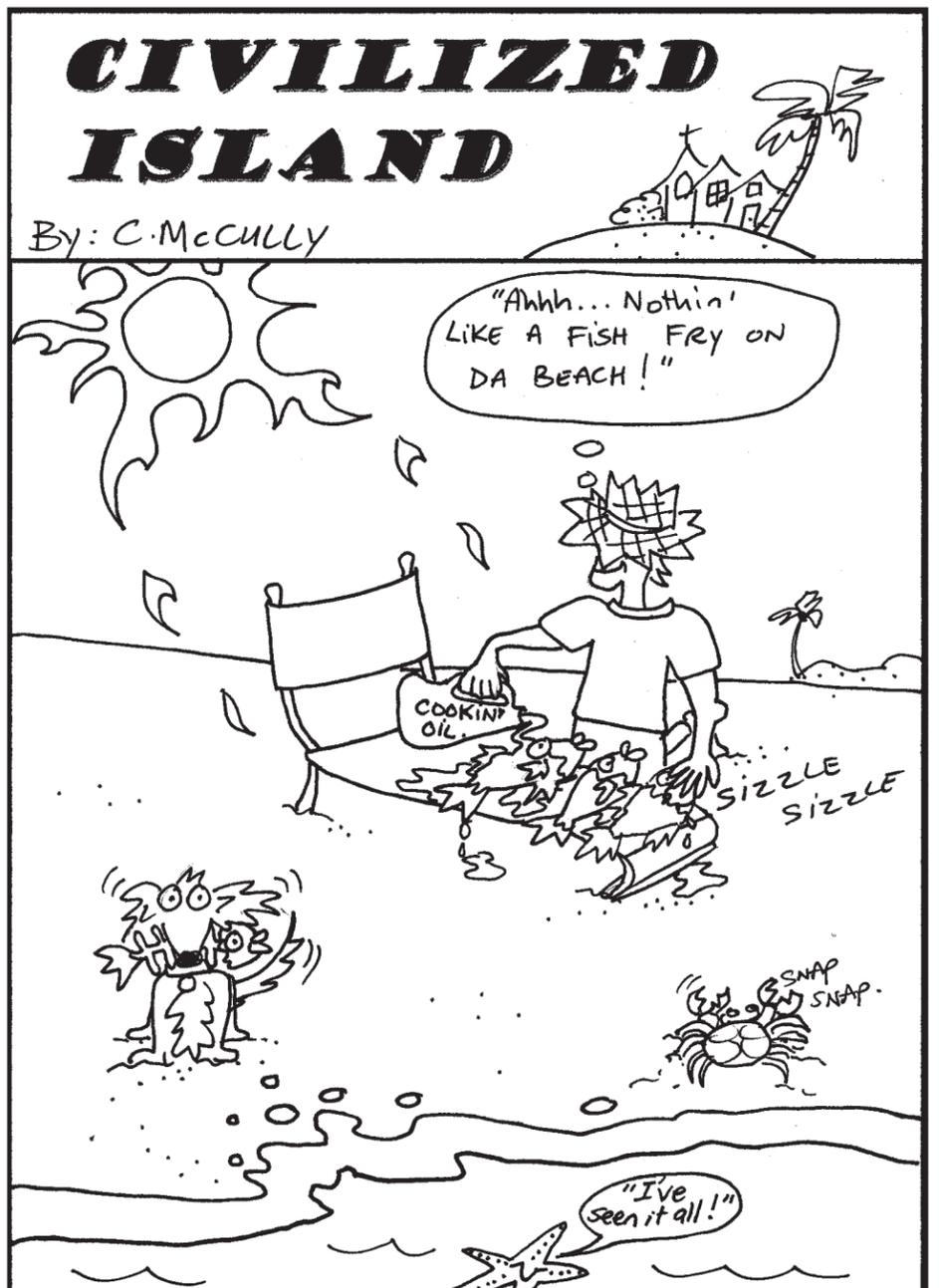
4th this year, which I believe you did a story on, is it possible to say a few words of thanks in your paper to all those concerned in the rescue thereafter?

I would like to say:

To all those that were involved in the rescue of myself and two friends after my boat crash just outside Hope Town on the evening of November 4th, I would like to say a huge THANK YOU. Without all your efforts we would not have been able to do as well as we have subsequently done. I owe a debt of gratitude to the decision to fly me out to Palm Beach for medical attention and, of course, to those who kept

Please see **Letters**

Page 9



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Letters

From Page 8

me conscious and who gave me vital first aid in Hope Town and in Marsh Harbour. I am now back in England with a wired jaw and without five teeth but getting slimmer by the day! I will be back on Abaco in the New Year and will endeavour to say thank you in person to all of you.. Once again, thank you all so much for giving your time to helping the local Abaco people and us visitors when we get into trouble on Abaco. Your work is much appreciated.

Kind regards,  
James McAlpine

# Rotary and Every Child Counts Hold Clinic

By Portia Jonsson

The Rotary Club of Abaco, under the leadership of president Kevin Sterling, sponsored and participated in a one day Community Diagnostic Reading Clinic on November 13th at St. Francis de Sales with the trained and certified clinical educators from Every Child Counts Learning Centre. The clinicians began a program of providing reading assessments to second grade children throughout Abaco which it plans to continue on a monthly basis.

The goal of these community clinics is early identification of potential blocks to

learning so intervention strategies can keep each child performing at grade level in order to have students remain in their home schools. Students were given full reading battery consisting of hearing evaluation, predictions of reading potential, assessments of word recognition, comprehension and if needed, pre-reading foundational skills. Parents were briefly informed of their child's performance immediately after the testing and will be provided with full reports, including tips for instruction within two weeks after the test. With the parents' permission, a second report is sent to the child's school.

This free reading evaluation has been provided upon request of school or family by Every Child Counts for over six years. If you have concerns about a student and would like a diagnosis to detect any difficulties, you should contact Every Child

Counts to arrange a time for a free private evaluation.

The main purpose of Rotary's collaboration with the community clinic is to provide a means for Abaco to screen all primary children so that physical, developmental or skills difficulties can be detected and remedied before they interfere with learning. A secondary goal is building capacity. Through these series of clinics, Rotary volunteers will be trained to provide vision and hearing screenings.

Participants in November's Community Clinic guided by Sharon Kossack, Professor of Reading from Florida International University, included Rotarians Sandra Albury and Jo-Ann Bradley, Every Child Counts' clinicians Louise Rose, Pamela Hepburn and Ellen Hardy, Diagnostic

Please see **Clinic**

Page 22



Traffic congestion at Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour has been an increasing problem. As more people commute back and forth to work, with many school children commuting and an increasing number of visitors, the traffic congestion is more than a nuisance, it is a major accident waiting to happen. There does not seem to be an acceptable solution.



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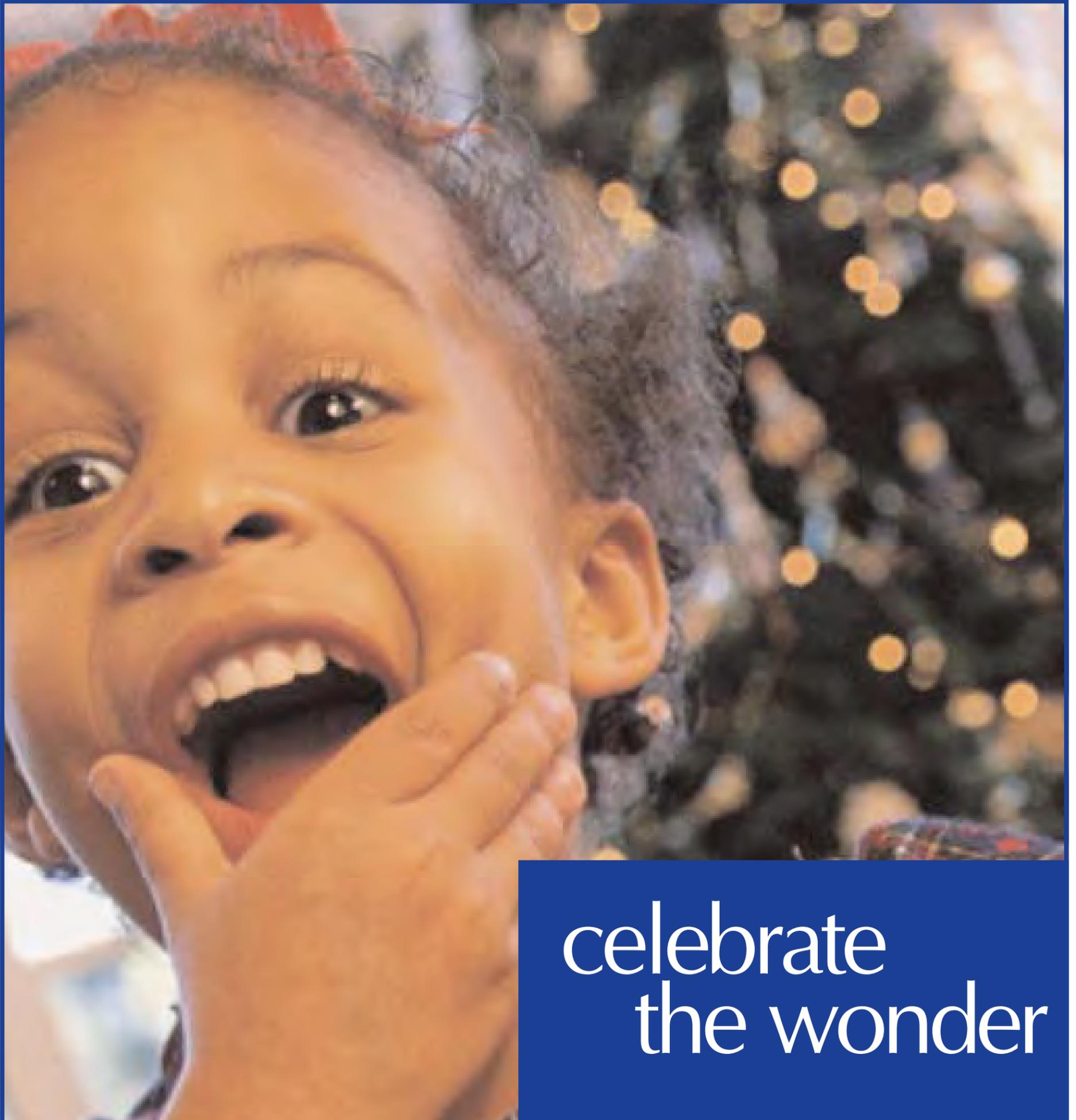
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# Albury's Ferry Will Make Changes

By Jennifer Hudson

The new owners of Albury's Ferry have completed a successful takeover of the business despite the two very severe set backs presented by the major Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. They are to be greatly commended for their very thoughtful humanitarian gesture of providing free ferry service for a few days post hurricane to alleviate some of the burden faced by many at that time.

Now it has become necessary for them to make some changes to their operation. Life in general has become more expensive for everyone in recent times and this fact has seriously impacted the ferry service. Unavoidable increases in outlay will affect the ferry service to the tune of one quarter of a million dollars a year, therefore necessitating an increase in ferry fares. The owners of the ferry service have done everything possible to impact least those who use it most and so the increase to the workers' weekly pass will be small and no changes will come into effect until January 1st, 2005.

Several major factors have been responsible for the increase in fares.

Fuel costs have risen drastically. In the last week alone diesel prices rose by 30 cents per gallon, bringing the number of fuel increases since September 2002 to six. This signifies an overall increase in excess of 38 percent during that period which means an additional fuel outlay of \$10,000 dollars a month.

Insurance rates have skyrocketed both for medical and general insurance. Dockage insurance is now at an astronomical rate. Dockage fees in some cases have been tripled by the Port Department and some

even raised from 90 cents per foot to \$6 per foot, an increase of 700 percent. The cost of licenses for their captain's and boat registration fees have also increased.

New Port Authority regulations require all commercial operators to have a second licensed and certified crew member on board all boats effective January 3rd. Training, which will entail one week for each employee, has been delayed due to the hurricanes which will mean that employees will have to take that time off work. Each employee must be paid by the ferry operators while in training and overtime will have to be paid to another employee to cover for the person in training. This training will cost the company \$500 for each employee and this will cause an additional cost to Albury's Ferry of \$20,000 per year. All ferry captains must undertake this training annually. Though very costly to the company, the training is supported 100 percent by the ferry owners. The training will cover three areas - fire fighting, CPR and crowd control.

Now for the good news. The additional crew members on the boats, in addition to being highly trained in safety, will relieve the baggage congestion when there are really high loads during the tourist season.

The ferry owners have repaired the Union Jack Dock at their own expense to alleviate traffic congestion at the Conch Inn when all the workers to Guana Cay are in transit.

A big plus will be more adequate parking and the relief in vehicular traffic congestion at the ferry dock when the owners have completed the renovations they are planning, again at their expense, to the government property there.

Passengers will have the convenience of

an expanded ferry schedule as several additional runs will come into effect January 1st. The last Guana Cay ferry of the day which has previously run only if there were sufficient passengers will become a definite. There will be additional evening ferries between Hope Town and Marsh Harbour, enabling residents to enjoy an

evening out and still be able to get home on a regular ferry that night. Depending on the success of those runs, it may be decided to do a late evening ferry for Guana Cay. There will be an additional 11:30 a.m. Sunday service to Man O War Cay.

All boats will be modified to carry beverages for sale on board.



Albury's Ferry, with a fleet of 10 boats, serves all the central part of Abaco with the largest of the fleet carrying 100 people. Costs for purchasing and maintaining these boats is high and operating costs continue to escalate.

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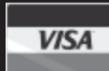
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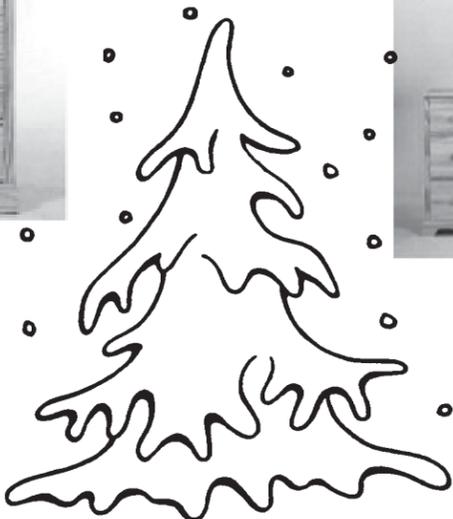
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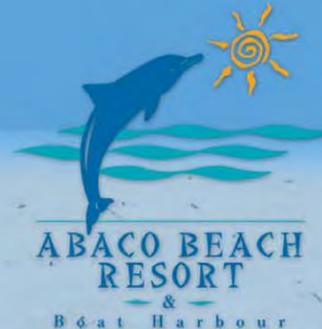
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# Grand Cay's Economy Has Been Badly Hit

By Mirella Santillo

Several issues were on the agenda for November 19, 2004:

- The follow up on the school reconstruction
- The garbage problem
- The rebuilding of the docks and moorings for the fishing boats
- The repair of the water tower
- Another issue to be subsequently addressed is the repair to the ZNS antenna which allows the residents to keep in contact with what is happening in the rest of The Bahamas.

Grand Cay is located 42 miles directly north of Fox Town, 53 miles north of Grand Bahamas and 3.5 miles off Walkers Cay. Due to its location, the cay's social administration is divided between Grand Bahamas and Abaco. Administrative matters are handled by the Northern District of Abaco and school, police and health issues are taken care of by Grand Bahamas.

As we step on the dock, we realize how important the problems discussed today are by Administrator Donald Cash, Chief Councillor George A Russell and other council members. The amount of destruction from the two hurricanes of September is over powering.

The tall water tower reservoir, which dominates the north shore of the island and was half full before the storms, was heavily dented by the strength of the winds. A lesson to be learnt before being confronted by another storm is to make sure the tower is full.

As we walk through the streets of the settlement, we are shocked to see tumbled houses, roofs with gaping holes and debris everywhere. We meet school age children walking around. They explain that due to the damage to the classrooms, school days are being alternated for grades 7 and 8.

A group of residents greets us as we walk and stop to chat with us. Among them is the mother of a brand new six-week-old baby boy born just after Hurricane Jeanne strolling with a friend and her daughter. They have received food, building supplies and are grateful that the telephone system was promptly restored; they said that power was also restored fairly quickly since it and the water are provided by nearby Walker's Cay. A back-up generator was brought on Grand Cay rapidly. Their main concern now is the repair of the tall antenna which brings them ZNS news. It has been inoperable since the hurricanes, and they feel cut off from the rest of the country. The satellite communication has been restored but is not the same. They want the home news.

Further along the concrete path we arrive at the Grand Cay All Age School with an administrative office shaded by a huge, double trunk mahogany tree that is still standing in spite of quite a few missing branches. Children are in recess but the principal and teachers are having a meeting that they graciously interrupt to answer our questions and show us around the grounds and the classrooms.

Mr. Suresh A. Seeran came to Grand Cay 10 years ago and has been the school principal for three years. There are eight teachers including himself and one administrative assistant. They take care of 108 students. The school was heavily damaged and several classrooms had to be closed down. Classes are now being held in the library and in the teachers' meeting room.

Donations from Fort Pierce, Florida, are being used to rebuild one area that should be ready by the end of December, enabling the seventh and eighth graders to resume full time school attendance.

Moreover, the government has promised the construction of a separate building which will house a science laboratory and a computer laboratory.

One of the teachers completely lost her house and the principal's home sustained

so much damage to the roof that he and his family had to leave the house during Hurricane Frances. They are lodged elsewhere until repairs are done. The school reopened on October 4 and most of the lost time has been regained. There was no mid-term break and school will be extended until December 21. The school focuses mainly on academics and certificates of achievement for social studies and religious studies for 2003 are proof of the efforts of the students and staff. After graduation 50 percent of the students go on to higher studies, most of them at The College of the Bahamas; a small percentage goes to the USA and the rest look for jobs in the community or on other islands.

We resume our tour of the island and make a brief stop in the cemetery. The small plot peacefully nestled on top of a hill is the last resting place of a few families, maybe even the founders of the settlement. On the earliest graves time has erased the painted names, and it is hard to make out a name or a date. We barely see a "Smith," who died in 1867. The area is still scattered with shingles and debris, but I am sure that when the living have been taken care of, time will be given to the departed.

Besides the two hurricanes the community was plagued by the closing on November 1 of the Walker's Cay Resort which employed 80 people. Walker's Cay was owned by the Alplanalp family since the early 1960s and had been a constant source of income for a good part of the Grand Cay's residents. The storms have also impacted the lobster fishing which supports most of the economy of the island. Fishing can be very lucrative in normal times but due to loss of traps, boats and docks and the diminishing lobster population, it has

not resumed to its fullest capacity.

The only guest house on Grand Cay, Rosie's, has been so badly damaged that it has not re-opened yet.

This succession of disasters has left the inhabitants of Grand Cay in a tight mon-

Please see **Grand Cay** Page 15



The shore line of Grand Cay is a busy area when the economy is good. The town depends on Walker's Cay and crawfishing for employment. However, the resort on Walker's Cay closed on November 1, putting 80 people out of work. And the crawfishing has not been profitable this year because their boats and docks were damaged in Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne and crawfish are very scarce because of the storms.



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# Hurricanes & Resort Closing Hurt Grand Cay

## Grand Cay

From Page 15

etary situation making it nearly impossible for them to take advantage of the "no duty" policy temporary implemented by the government. They would greatly appreciate an extension that would allow them to save some money to buy what they need. Chief Councillor Russell thinks it will be a full year before the island comes back to what

it used to be.

Several officials have visited the island since Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. The Council and the residents are grateful for the help they have received from the government, including from former Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, the foreign private donations and the hard work of Batelco and BEC employees. There is still tremendous recovery work to be done. Nine houses are being rebuilt; there is a staff of three helping with the clean-

ing, but the involved situation of the garbage disposal on the island makes it a tedious and expensive process. All the trash and refuse generated by the residents is usually transported by boat to another cay where it is disposed of. It has to be deposited at a certain location on the dock, then bagged and loaded

to be shipped across to Well Cay. The amount of debris and trash tremendously increased due to the hurricanes and has not been processed yet.

Please see **Grand Cay** Page 22



Grand Cay residents enjoy a walk through town. The 7th and 8th grade students shown here are able to attend school only every other day because of damage which the school suffered from the storms.



The cemetery on Grand Cay has some very old graves. However, the weather has destroyed most of the lettering. The town is still reeling from the effects of the storm and has not been able to maintain their cemetery properly.

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# Church News

## Methodist Churches Hold Joint Service

By Jennifer Hudson

On November 14th, Remembrance Sunday, the three Methodist churches of St. Andrews in Dundas Town, St. James in Hope Town and Epworth Chapel in Cherokee came together for a combined worship service. Rev. Carla Culmer, minister for all three churches, brings all her members together for fellowship in this way several times a year.

The service was held at St. Andrews Church which was full to capacity with visitors from each of the other Methodist Churches and also from the Presbyterian

Kirk of the Pines which enjoys a special bond with Rev. Carla and her churches.

The service was led by Mr. Gary Smith of St. Andrews and Mr. Larry Neilly of Epworth with all the churches represented playing a part in the readings, prayers and choral renditions. An inspiring liturgical dance was performed by the St. Andrews Dance Troupe.

Mrs. Eleanor Jorgensen, Mr. Emalin Sawyer and Mr. Vernon Malone, the three recent recipients of Methodist Service Awards, were recognized and at the close of the service three Candles of Remembrance were lit by representatives from each of the Methodist churches; one for Peace, one for Memories and one for Hope.

After the singing of that great hymn by Isaac Watts, *O God Our Help in Ages Past*, a time of fellowship was held in the church hall at which an abundant lunch, provided by the ladies of St. Andrews Church, was served.

## Church Celebrates 90th Anniversary

By Isobel Sherman

The week of November 15-21 the Church of God Cathedral in Cooper's Town celebrated its 90th anniversary. Under the theme *Keep the Faith Alive* services were held nightly.

Services were held nightly with guests speakers delivering the sermons. A gala awards banquet was held on Saturday evening at Touch of Class in Treasure Cay. Guest speaker for the evening was the Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham, Member of Parliament for North Abaco and former Prime Minister. During the banquet Mr. Ingraham gave a donation of \$10,000 to the church which is in the process of building a larger edifice.

Several long serving members of the church were honored at the banquet. Pre-

Please see **Church**

Page 22



The new building for the Church of God Cathedral in Cooper's Town will be an outstanding edifice when it is completed. At the 90th anniversary of the founding of the church, the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham made a generous donation toward the completion of the building which suffered damage from the two hurricanes in September. Construction is farther along than shown in this file photo.






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# Red Cross Helps Hurricane Affected Families

By Carol Garrison, American Red Cross

The Red Cross volunteers on Abaco spent their Thanksgiving in a very special way. Led by Barbara Johnson, the Red Cross leader for Abaco, the volunteers spent their

Thanksgiving evening delivering tarpaulins and blankets to the residents of the Bahama Star Farm Treasure Cay. More commonly referred to as just "the farm," the 120 Haitian families that live there are employed at the Bahamas Star citrus groves adjacent to the settlement.

There was much excitement as the Red Cross vehicles pulled up in the darkness. (The residents are still living without electricity as a result of the last hurricane.) The volunteers were met by Katty Etienne, a resident of the farm. Katty has been assisting the Red Cross with their distributions and helping to ensure that the relief items are distributed fairly among the residents.

Katty was born in the Bahamas and has lived on the farm her entire

life. Both her parents immigrated from Haiti more than 20 years ago with the dream of helping their families back home and building a better future for themselves. Katty is a bright, young woman and a natural leader. These are qualities her supervisor must have recognized in her because when Barbara Johnson first came to the farm looking for a community representative that the Red Cross could work with, he directed Barbara to Katty.

In addition to the three rolls of tarpaulin and the 125 blankets that the Red Cross delivered on Thanksgiving, the Red Cross distributed more than 100 food parcels to the residents of the farm. Many families

are still recovering from the affects of Hurricane Jeanne. Water services only began working last week and even now the water is turned off after 5 p.m. The electricity is still not functioning and many homes are still in need of repair.

Katty and her five-year old son braved the hurricane in their home rather than go to the already overcrowded shelter. She is thankful that she and her family survived without injury and the house sustained only minor damages. She and the other residents of the farm are also thankful to the Red Cross for their assistance and support during this holiday season.



The residents of Bahama Star Farm were excited when Red Cross vehicles arrived with relief supplies. Here is Willard Cooper, a volunteer Red Cross worker, with some of the supplies. Mr. Cooper assisted with the delivery of tarpaulins and blankets on Thanksgiving evening.

## Soccer Training Begins

By Isobel Sherman

Abaco Youth in Action held its first practice session of the season on November 13 at the field in Murphy Town. Over 100 youngsters ages 4-15 came to learn how to improve their skills and to play soccer. Coordinating the program is Linden and Elva

Davis assisted by soccer coaches Patrice Charles, Stretch Morley and Sophie Miller. On the first day the youngsters were split into age groups, Pee Wee, Junior and Senior groups. Skills in dribbling, passing and kicking were held. Abaco Youth in Action meets every Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon.

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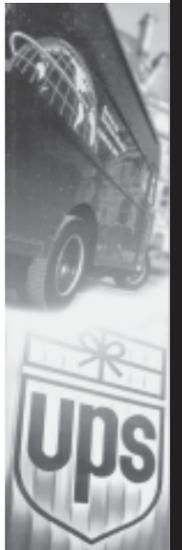
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# Hope Town Will Build Police Residence

By Richard E. Fawkes

On a night when most people are preoccupied with their weekend entertainment, about 100 residents of Hope Town showed up at St. James Methodist Church on November 26 for what could only be described as an exemplary dialogue and problem-solving exercise between public officials and a community. By the end of the two-and-a-half-hour town meeting conducted by Police Commissioner Paul Farquharson on the rising crime rate in the Elbow Cay town and what could be done about it, residents committed themselves to providing land, materials and labour to build a cottage that would be leased exclusively to the Royal Bahamas Police Force.

Commissioner Farquharson steered the night's discussion toward what he called "some practical things we have to do in Hope Town."

"I want two police officers here," he said to loud applause. "I have the officers," he continued, "but I need some place for them to live."

Joking that he would stay until midnight and place everyone under close arrest, the commissioner said he did not want to leave Hope Town until he had resolved the problem of housing for his officers to provide a 24-hour presence. It was an issue he had been working on for three years, and it was about time it was resolved.

Complaining that the current quarters available to Corporal Dino Durham, the officer assigned a month ago to Hope Town, and his family was so unsatisfactory that he would not allow his pet to live there, the commissioner told the residents, "It's a disgrace. That's where your police is living who must help you solve this crime problem."

After a period of back-and-forth discussion among the residents about whether certain rental properties were available, resident Truman Major proposed that he could locate a piece of property on which a cottage could be built if other residents were willing to provide labour for construction. Chester Thompson, another resident, said he would head a committee to find the building supplies.

Mr. Major said the community could stipulate that the cottage could be leased only by the police for a period of years. There was general agreement. Commissioner Farquharson said the police had a maintenance crew that could assist in the construction. He praised Mr. Major for his suggestion, noting the fact that he was a Long Island man. The commissioner grew up on Long Island.

It emerged, as the town meeting addressed other issues, that there was considerable tension between the Bahamian and second-homeowner communities on the one hand and the Haitian immigrant community on the other. The residents discussed a growing drug use and distribution problem, particularly among the youth.

The meeting was well attended by second-home owners, many of whom are Americans, and older Bahamian residents. But there were hardly any youth or residents of Haitian background in attendance.

Just that morning, there was a stabbing incident at a construction site on the cay, allegedly involving two men of Haitian background - one a resident of Hope Town and the other of Marsh Harbour. One man suffered a stab wound to the neck; the other hammer bruises to the head and shoulder. None of the men's wounds were deemed life-threatening, and they were both in police custody in Marsh Harbour waiting to be charged in magistrate's court.

Commissioner Farquharson advised that the young people of Haitian background in particular should not be excluded from discussions of community problems and resolutions. Those who knew no other country were especially vulnerable and confused about their status and future and did not need to be left on the outside.

With respect to youth, the commissioner

cautioned liquor licensees not to sell liquor to minors under 18 and "blame it on tourism. Lots of things are blamed on tourism," he said. "You stand to lose your liquor license for selling to minors."

When Rudy Malone of the Hope Town Volunteer Fire Brigade asked Commissioner Farquharson for advice on how to deal with

a tendency for large crowds to gather outside the clinic after an incident, saying he did not know if they were there to "finish the job" or to help, the commissioner said he would like to think they were there out of curiosity or to help, adding, "Again, having uniformed officers present would be the best guarantee of how to handle the situation."



Commissioner of Police Paul Farquharson held a meeting in Hope Town on November 26 to discuss crime on the island and housing for two officers. The residents are going to construct a building specifically for officers so the island can have constant police presence. Shown above are Lt. Allan Gibson, Commander of the Drug Enforcement Unit, Commissioner of Police Paul Farquharson, Const. Dino Durham, policeman stationed in Hope Town, ASP Wayne Miller, Officer in Charge, Abaco.

In response to a resident's report that there was a gang of youth harassing certain young women, the commissioner said, "Tell me quietly who the leader is so Mr. Miller could mash that up." He was referring to ASP Wayne Miller, officer-in-charge, Abaco District.

Several residents complained that there were a number of "illegal Haitian workers who were behaving aggressively." The commissioner responded that first of all no one in Hope Town should be hiring any illegal immigrant as that was against Bahamian immigration law. He suggested that town residents should send a group to represent Hope Town's concerns over illegal immigration to a town meeting Immigration Minister Vincent Peet would be holding in Marsh Harbour later.

The Commissioner came to Abaco that day expressly to respond to residents' request for police assistance in stemming what they consider rising crime problems of assaults, burglaries and illegal drug usage and distribution. He attended a special police Thanksgiving luncheon in Marsh Harbour earlier in the day. He was accompanied from Nassau by Superintendent Raymond Gibson, commander of the Drug Enforcement Unit, and his staff officer, Inspector Stephen Adderley.

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# Hurricane Restoration Progresses

By Jennifer Hudson

Mr. Jack Thompson, Disaster Management Coordinator for NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency) arrived in Marsh Harbour from Toronto, Canada, on October 6th in order to assist Abaco in getting back on its feet following the passage of the two serious Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. He states that ever since then there has been a large volume of supplies arriving here for distribution throughout the community keeping the shipping companies extremely busy. In fact, the amount of goods arriving to date has more than tripled. Four freight boats of materials per week are arriving from abroad bringing very large shipments of lumber, plywood, wire mesh, cement, windows, doors, roofing materials and a host of other supplies necessary for home construction and repair.

Mr. Thompson is extremely pleased with the way in which the restoration project is progressing and stated that the last time figures were tallied on November 16th a total of 695 families had been assisted.

Residents are being assisted in various ways. Some have been given vouchers, enabling them to obtain building supplies from the hardware stores while, in some cases, supplies have actually been delivered to the person's homes. The coordinator for the south had supplies trucked to Sandy Point and Crossing Rocks, a project which went very well and materials have been shipped to Moore's Island on the M/V *Gurth Dean* where government is constructing eight new houses in addition to the repair work which is going on. "Moore's Island is doing well with its reconstruction programme," said Mr. Thompson, "and this

has provided much needed employment for that community since eight men are being employed to work on each house."

There are thirty houses under construction throughout Abaco from Moore's Island to Crown Haven and this process is going extremely well, according to Mr. Thompson, who says that the government is hoping to issue keys for some of these homes by Christmas. Two ladies who will receive a wonderful Christmas present are Doris Culmer and Ida Swain, both residents of Murphy Town who will be in their newly built and completely furnished homes in time for Christmas. Construction and painting of the house for Mrs. Culmer have already been completed on the outside with electric wiring installed and cabinets now being fitted inside. Work on the house for Ida Swain is not far behind.

"The contractors for these projects have been very hard working and faithful," said Mr. Thompson, "though there have been other challenges, the main one being the supply issue. There has been a problem with getting supplies in regularly from overseas and contractors have been running out of certain items. This is due to the fact that Florida and the Caribbean are competing

for supplies for their hurricane ravaged areas. Also contractors effecting hurricane repairs here are having to compete for supplies with some large companies which are heavily into the construction business. Despite set backs it is expected that many of the homes and repairs will be completed by the end of January.

The government is assisting any elderly or infirm persons or others unable to afford the costs of labour by supplying local contractors to do the work.

"The biggest issue now," said Mr. Thompson, "is the expiration date of November 30th as the last day for the importation of duty free goods." Since many people have asked for more time in which to bring in supplies which are still needed, Mr. Thompson has submitted a request to NEMA in Nassau which will invite the authorities to consider the matter and, hopefully, grant a further extension. When asked about reports of some persons misusing the duty free concession, Mr. Thompson's reply was, "It is almost impossible to prevent unscrupulous persons from taking unfair advantage. But as long as the needy are benefitting, I am happy."



This house is for Doris Culmer of Murphy Town and she will be moving into it before Christmas. Ms. Culmer's house is one of the first to be completed by government on Abaco which is building houses for elderly or need persons.

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# DEU Commander Says Haitian Boats Transport Drugs

By Richard E. Fawkes

Supt. Raymond Gibson, commander of the Drug Enforcement Unit, informed a town meeting on crime in Hope Town on November 26 that recently Haitian sloops have been used to transport drugs to The Bahamas.

"I don't want to single out any one group," Supt. Gibson said, "but that's the way it is. That is what has been happening. Most of the Haitian sloops have been transporting drugs from Haiti to take advantage of the situation in Haiti and bringing drugs through The Bahamas."

Supt. Gibson, who spoke at the invitation of Police Commissioner Paul Farquharson, gave a brief overview of the current processes by which drugs are trafficked through the archipelago to reach communities like Hope Town, where residents have been complaining about a rise in sale and use that have exacerbated the crime

problem there.

Commissioner Farquharson got a nod of agreement from residents that drugs were a "big problem in Hope Town."

"What are we going to do about drugs in Hope Town?" the commissioner asked. "The answer to that is that we have to first take out the supplier; the crook. We believe that we are well on our way. We've got five of the major kingpins behind bars."

Commissioner Farquharson told his audience that the murder rate dropped from 74 in 2001 to 43 in 2002, after we deliberately took a view that we are going to go after the kingpins."

"So you see," he said, if you take them out, it brings peace and tranquillity to places like Hope Town, Green Turtle Cay, wherever it may be. But I'm telling you, we have to pull together on that."

Supt. Gibson said some of the drugs that have been turning up in communities like

Hope Town are the payment to go-fast boat operators who help the smugglers from Colombia and Jamaica store their supplies on Bahamian islands and cays until it is safe to take them to the United States.

"Some of the drugs are used as payments," he explained. "When the drugs get in their hands and they can't get it off to the United States because the heat is on, the pressure is on, then they try to sell it in

the community. So what you see happening now is small amounts of drugs being sold in communities."

He said it is a serious problem because the sale of drugs "touches every family within that community. And it's very, very important for us to work together. You can't sit by and just watch things happening and turn a blind eye to it."

## Report All Crimes - Support the Police



**Abaco Tug & Transport**  
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On the waterfront at the end of the Key Club Road  
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Ph: (242) 367-5205 • 367-5206 • Fax 367-4018



*Harbour's Edge*  
and  
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**Bacardi Party**

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10:00 pm Friday December 31 2004  
**Don't miss the Hottest Party in Abaco**

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Pentium 4 3200+C SYSTEM CD Burner 40GB HARD DRIVE 256MB RAM 17" MONITOR Front & back USB ports Network Interface Modem Floppy drive Speakers, Keyboard, Mouse Surge protector Covers Software package HP PRINTER STUDENT DESK	Compaq Presario Laptop Intel Pentium M processor 1.4 GHz 512MB RAM 40GB HARD DRIVE CD BURNER DVD Player Wireless 802.11g built in 15" XGA TDT Screen Network Port Modem PCMCIA Case Software package HP PRINTER
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## Hotels and House Rental Agents

+ agents who have multiple cottages and houses

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

**Casuarina Point**  
Different of Abaco 8 rm 20 cott 366-2150

**Cherokee**  
Lee Pinder 3 hse + 366-2053

**Grand Cay**  
Rosie's Place 352-5458

**Green Turtle Cay**  
Bank Apartments 3 apts 365-4105  
Bluff House 8 rm 20 cott 365-4200  
Chris Plummer 3 hse 365-4648  
Coco Bay Cottages 4 cott 365-5464  
Green Turtle Club 34 rm 365-4271  
Island Properties 34 hse + 365-4047  
New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161  
Ocean Blue Properties 30 + 365-4636  
Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

**Guana Cay**  
Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott.365-5137  
Coco Paradise 8 cott 365-5197  
Donna Sands 12 hse + 365-5195  
Guana Beach Resort 6 units 365-5133  
Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106  
Harbour View Haven 365-5028  
Ria-Mar Rentals 5 + 365-6241  
Sea Shore Villas 365-5028

**Hope Town**  
Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133  
Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003  
Crystal Villas 6 villas 321-783-4576  
Elbow Cay Prop 53 hse + 366-0035  
Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095  
Hope T Hideaways 63 hse + 366-0224  
Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030  
Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154  
Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366--0266  
Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065  
Tanny Key 43 hse + 366-0053  
Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

**Lubbers Quarters**  
Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121

**Man-O-War**  
Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048  
Ria-mar Rentals 9 + 365-6241  
Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

**Marsh Harbour area**  
Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158  
Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719  
Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227  
Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460  
Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022  
Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980  
Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000  
D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980  
Great Abaco Club 12 hse + 367-4151  
Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776  
Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681  
Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600  
Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

**Moore's Island**  
Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

**Sandy Point**  
Oeisha's Resort 366-4139  
Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119  
Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

**Spanish Cay**  
Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

**Treasure Cay**  
Bahama Beach Club 365-8500  
Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111  
Island Dreams 45 hse + 365-8507  
Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

**Walker's Cay**  
Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

**Wood Cay**  
Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

**General for Abaco**  
Listings for the entire island  
Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197  
Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426  
Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576

**Web Sites**  
with general Abaco information  
<http://www.abacoinet.com>  
<http://www.abacoinfo.com>  
<http://www.abacos.com>  
<http://www.go-abacos.com>  
<http://www.oii.net>  
<http://www.bahamas.com>



# Visitors' Guide



Restaurants • Services • Transportation

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

Abaco area code 242  
unless listed otherwise

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

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

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

Airlines Serving Abaco	
Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is	367-2266
Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale	367-5599
Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale	367-2800
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau & W. Palm Beach	367-2095
Bimini Island Air - Ft Lauderdale	954-938-8991
Calypso Air- Ft Laud & W Palm Bch	954-3594191
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
Fla Coastal Airlines - Vero B & Ft Lauderdale	367-0179
Island Express - Ft Lauderdale	357-6684
Major's Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
Southern Air - Nassau	367-2498
Twin Air - Fort Lauderdale	365-8677
USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale	954-359-0292
Local charter companies serving Bahamas & S. Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-2089

Tours & Excursions	
Kayak • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
Birding • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour	367-5358
Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour	367-2936
Evening dinner cruise • Dive Abaco • Marsh H.	367-2787
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0024
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0431

## Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Please bring errors, omissions or corrections to our attention

Rev I Sep 04

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

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper (Based on dinner entree range)	
‡ Provides ride from town	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only	
<b>Marsh Harbour</b>	
Anglers	\$\$\$ 367-2158
Conch Crawl	\$ 367-4444
Gino's	\$ 367-2002
Golden Grouper	\$ 367-2301
Hibiscus Cafe	\$\$ Closed
Hummingbird	\$\$ 367-2922
Jamie's Place	\$ 367-2880
Jib Room	
Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch-5pm)	367-2615
Mangoes	
Pop's Place	\$ ..... + ..... 367-3796
Sapodilly's	
Sea Shells	\$ 367-4460
Snack Shack	\$ ..... + ..... 367-4005
Snappas	\$ 367-2278
Subway	367-2798
Wallys	
<b>Dundas Town</b>	
Ambassador Inn	\$ 367-2022
Mackerals	367-5932
<b>Hope Town</b>	
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
<b>Man-O-War</b>	
Pavilion	
Hibiscus	365-6380
<b>Guana Cay</b>	
Blue Water Grill	\$\$\$ 365-5230
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$ 365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$ 365-5143
Orchid Bay	
<b>Treasure Cay</b>	
Florence's Cafe	\$
Coconuts	
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	365-8654
<b>Green Turtle Cay</b>	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	
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
<b>Sandy Point</b>	
Big J's	\$ ..... 366-4020
Nancy's	
Oeishas	366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ ..... 366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$ ..... 366-4120
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge	366-4477

**Church** *From Page 14*

senting the awards was Bishop John Hume, National Overseer of the Church of God. The honorees were Ms. Mildred Russell, Ms. Miriam Murray, Sis. Armelda Nairn, Ms. Cleotha Edgcombe, Ms. Emerald Cooper, Ms. Ruthiema McIntosh, Mr. Joseph Wright, Mr. Orlean Rolle, Ms. Louise Wright, Ms. Evelyn Russell, Ms. Isbella Rolle, Ms. Eleanor Bootle, Ms. Rosemae Sands, Mr. Hartman Cooper, Mr. Winfield McDonald, Ms. Vivian Cooper, Ms. Mary Cooper, Ms. Thelma Edgcombe, Ms. Erma Duncombe, Ms. Dorothy Adderley, Ms. Lavern Hanna, Ms. Estella Cooper, Mr. Alexander Duncombe and Dr. Kenneth Major Jr.

The service on Sunday afternoon of November 21 brought the week of celebration to a close. Bishop A.W. Cooper read the history of the church, numerous visiting pastors brought remarks and National Overseer Dr. John Humes brought the message.

The committee responsible for the planning of the week was Bishop Archilus Cooper, Pastor Hubert Edgcombe, Chairman Eric Collie, Committee chairmen Clayton McIntosh, Jackson McIntosh, Gersil Edgcombe and Kenneth Major Jr.

**Grand Cay** *From Page 15*

Grand Cay is a close community and residents who lost their homes have moved in

with relatives, says Chief Councillor Russell and therefore have not emotionally suffered because of that. They are waiting patiently for a normal life to resume; theirs is a peaceful island where life is slow and socializing among friends and neighbors is a way of life.

Residents would be happier if they could be more informed on storm happenings before and after so they can take safety measures and be reconnected to their homeland news via ZNS!

**Service** *From Page 2*

First to be honoured was Mr. Cay Mills, Chief Councillor for Central Abaco, who was presented with the Humanitarian Award for outstanding dedication to the community.

Certificates of Honour and Gallantry were awarded to representatives of many civil organizations which assisted during and after the hurricanes including the Royal Bahamas Police Force, Social Services, the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, Radio Abaco, The Abaconian, BEC, Batelco, Customs, Red Cross, Environmental Health, the Defense Force, the Community of Spanish Wells and the Chief Councillors.

After a vote of thanks to all who participated in this very uplifting service and the singing of the National Anthem, refreshments were served on the patio.

**Farquharson** *From Page 6*

bean Chiefs of Police of which Commissioner Farquharson is vice-president.

As to ASP Miller's future in Abaco, Commissioner Farquharson has been receiving many calls from Abaco in reference to the fact that the officer-in-charge was appointed for a three-month interim assignment, saying, "Wayne Miller has been doing an excellent job. Will you allow him to stay?"

Commissioner Farquharson smiled and quipped, "We'll answer that tomorrow."

Also attending the luncheon were Senior Central Abaco Administrator Revis Rolle and Mr. Gary Smith, head of Customs, Abaco.

**Clinic** *From Page 9*

Educators-in-training Marsden Lawley, Melanie Maseda, Joyce Champaigne, Denise Gadsby, Miriam Fredericks, Tessa Pantene, Zenika Nairn, Ms. Johnson and Vicky Bootle. The screening battery for each child takes at least two hours to complete. Clinicians screened between 15 and 20 children that day while clinicians-in-training observed and simulated testing. Rotarians registered students as they came in for testing, started students on writing and mathematics sub-tests, then learned how to administer physical vision and hearing screening.

The next community clinic is planned for January 2005.



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

**Providence Rehabilitation Centre**

**PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES**

Available every Thursday  
 10:30 am - 6:30 pm

**Christina G. Messarra**  
 Physiotherapist

□□□□□ 105, □□□□□□□□ □□□□□  
 (□□□□□□ □□□□□ □□□)  
 □□□: 367.5939 □□ 242.32 3.0121 □ □□□□□□

 **ighthouse Liquors**

Cold Beers  
 Cubed Ice  
 Huge Wine Selection

**FREE ENTRY**  
 To our  
**Annual Prize Drawing**  
 with every purchase!!  
 Drawing held at our  
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We, the new owners of Albury's Ferry, would like to thank both the local residents and tourists of Abaco for your continued patronage and support during our transistions over these very stormy past few months. As a result of the ever increasing costs of doing business (see Reasons) and in light of the fact that there has not been a fare increase since September 2002, we have found it necessary to increase our fares. Please be advised that after extensive research and in an effort to least affect the passengers that use our service the most, we have adjusted our rates as published. The good news is, that in conjunction with these rate increases, you will benefit from both, additional crew members on board the ferries and an expanded regular schedule, expanded services and additional navigation and safety equipment designed to better accomodate your travel requirements.

## REASONS FOR RATE INCREASE

- ◆ Fuel has increased by almost 40% since September 2002.
  - ◆ Port Department has mandated significant changes to both the number of crew members per vessel and the training required for each crew member.
  - ◆ Increased cost of additional crew members.
  - ◆ Dock fees, license and registration fees have more than doubled in recent months.
  - ◆ Private docks leases have more than doubled since July 2004.
  - ◆ Insurance rates have increased substantially and are estimated to group another 30-50% next year.
- All of the above plus various sundry items purchased in the course of doing business have increased our cost by approximately \$250,000.00 per year versus the same time period in 2004.



## NEW REGULAR FERRY SCHEDULES Effective January 1st, 2005

### Marsh Harbour to Hope Town Daily

7:15am\*/9:00am/10:30am/12:15pm  
 2:00pm/3:30pm/4:00pm/5:45pm/  
 9:00pm/10:45pm - New Route  
 \*Except Sundays & Holidays

### Hope Town to Marsh Harbour Daily

8:00am/9:45am/11:30am/1:30pm  
 3:00pm/4:00pm/5:00pm\*/  
 6:15pm/9:45pm/11:30pm - New Routes  
 \*Except Sundays & Holidays

### Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War Daily

10:30am/12:15pm/2:30pm\*/4:00pm 5:45pm  
 \*Except Sundays & Holidays

### Man-O-War to Marsh Harbour Daily

8:00am/11:30am/1:30pm/3:15pm\*  
 \*Except Sundays & Holidays

### Marsh Harbour to Great Guana & Scotland Cay Daily

6:45am\*/10:30am/1:30pm  
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 \*Except Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays

### Great Guana & Scotland Cay to Marsh Harbour Daily

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 1 -4 persons \$110.00 5 or more \$25.00 P.P.

Marsh Harbour to Great Guana Cay  
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Any ferry leaving home before 7:00am or arriving home  
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One Way Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War Cay  
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# The Abaconian

## SECTION B



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 23, DECEMBER 1st, 2004

## New Visions Celebrates 10 Years Church Has Grown from a Handful to Hundreds



*New Visions Ministries celebrated its tenth anniversary with several events on the week end of November 11-14. From just a few people with a vision to a large church with a building and vibrant youth work, they feel that God has really blessed them. On November 14 the celebration culminated in a joyous service which included the dedication of their building and grounds. Shown above are the four pastors of the church, Ted Pearce, Derek Benjamin, Brook Russell and Dave Lowe. Pastors Benjamin and Russell are full time pastors.*

New Visions Ministries held a service of thanksgiving and dedication on November 14. The service was the culminating event celebrating the tenth anniversary of the inception of the church. The tone of the service was one of joy and awe for what God had accomplished through them. They felt that God had blessed the church both spiritually and physically. They brought out that God has been faithful in good times and bad times and has guided them.

The New Vision story began in June 1994 when Dave Lowe and Ted Pearce began a weekly Bible study. Dave and Ted had been good friends for many years, moved to Abaco from Nassau and had organized a Christian music ensemble that played in various churches. They initially worked with the youth. The youth group and the Bible study met in one of the shops of Abaco Shopping Centre.

In September 1994 Ted and Dave were invited to play in the Treasure Cay Community Church and while there met Lareau and Evie Lindquist, a couple with Barnabas International which works with ministers and missionaries around the world. Mr. Lindquist encouraged them to begin a new church. Sunday morning services began in November 1994 in Abaco Shopping Centre

Please see **Dedication** Page 22

## Miami Dolphins' Owner Donates to Abaco

By Richard E. Fawkes

The Miami Dolphins football team's owner, H. Wayne Huizenga, Jr., in response to a request by Central Abaco Chief Councillor Cay Mills for hurricane relief assistance, has donated a variety of supplies worth over \$40,000 and made a pledge of \$10,000 to assist in the renovation of the Ocean View Park basketball court in Dundas Town.

In a letter to Mr. Mills Mr. Huizenga, writing as president of Huizenga holdings, Inc. in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida wrote, "It is with pleasure that we are able to fulfill your request to help the residents of Abaco."

Mr. Huizenga said his company will donate emergency medical supplies for the

clinic, 50 stoves and 50 sets of bedding, math and science books for grades K-6 at Central Abaco Primary School, 52 sets of primary school uniforms and a \$10,000 matching pledge for renovation of the basketball court.

A letter from Mr. Huizenga to Mr. Mills specifies that the \$10,000 "pledge is contingent and payable upon the association raising the remaining \$30,000 needed to fully complete repair of this project. This pledge shall expire one year from today, November 3, 2005."

The stoves are valued at \$12,450, the

Please see **Donation** Page 13

Remember . . .

## Christmas Festival

Marsh Harbour • December 11 • 12 Noon - 10 p.m.

## Doctor and Team Assess Stress in Haitian Communities



*On November 19 Dr. Nelson Clarke, Chief Psychiatrist for The Bahamas, took a team of his staff into the Pigeon Pea and Mud communities to talk with residents there. He is concerned about the stress which occurs after major adverse circumstances in people's lives. In this case the two hurricanes in September were traumatic for many people. He handed out brochures on how to relieve stress. Ms. Rochell Basden, clinical psychologist, accompanied the group. ASP Miller, Police Chief for Abaco, along with several of his officers accompanied the team from Nassau. They are shown here with a Haitian barber in front of his barbaer shop.*

## St. Francis Holds Bike-a-thon



*St. Francis de Sales School in Marsh Harbour held its annual bike-a-thon, walk-a-thon to raise funds for the school. Later they had a small fair with games and food. See story on page 8*

# Church Boasts Music and Informal Atmosphere

By Richard E. Fawkes

Perhaps it is his 27 years as a banker dealing with the hard facts of figures still asserting itself in Derek Benjamin's communication style. Mr. Benjamin, pastor of New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour, speaks in a deliberate, matter-of-fact tone when talking about the vision of his church and his spiritual calling in a rich, bass voice - unhurried and reasonable - but conveying the depth of his unmistakable conviction.

New Vision celebrates the 10th Anniversary of its founding on November 11-14 with a low-key banquet on Thursday, a concert on Friday night and a service of thanksgiving and dedication on Sunday afternoon. The dedication part of the events is for the spacious, multi-purpose auditorium and beautifully landscaped grounds over the hill from Don MacKay Boulevard into which the church moved in 2000.

Pastor Benjamin credits fellow pastors David Lowe and Ted Pearce for founding New Vision in June of 1994. A written history of the church states, "It all began with a weekly youth night which was well accepted as a place to go and hang out on Friday nights. In a very short time there was interest by many young adults to have

a weekly Bible study because of a desire to know more about the Word of God in a comfortable setting. Tuesday was Horizon Interactive Bible Study and Friday Cross-Venture Youth Night."

Pastor Benjamin, who describes the church as a non-denominational evangelical church, said "The vision that I see for New Vision is really for us to become a multicultural, multi-generational - no matter what age; no matter what colour; no matter what background - and to really have an effect in the community in which we serve. It's a community-minded church. It's certainly a church that wants to make a difference, and a church that wants to be representative of the culture that we're in."

In the ten years that New Vision has been in existence, Pastor Benjamin believes it has made a big difference in the lives of many persons who were in search of a church because of its relevance to contemporary society. He believes New Vision's approach to worship has met the needs of many previous churchgoers or people who had not been attending church at all.

"A great number of the people in this congregation," he said, "were un-churched people. They did not have a church home.

They may have started in a church when they were young, but for whatever reasons, many of them were un-churched. New Vision with the kind of format that we bring and the kind of services that we produce is very contemporary in nature. The atmosphere is one of acceptance and relaxation. You come as you are. Many people like

the casual attitude of the dress and certainly the contemporary nature of the service."

That contemporary atmosphere is one of the things Pastor Benjamin said the church is thankful to God for in its anniversary cel-

Please see **New Vision** Page 3



Music is a very dominant part of New Visions' worship services. The choir leads much of the singing. An informal, friendly atmosphere along with social events has attracted many to choose this church as their home church.

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# Church Attracts Many Youth

## New Vision

From Page 2

celebration, the theme of which is *Fulfilling the Vision*, based on the words from Ezekiel 12, verse 23, "The days are at hand and the effect of every vision."

Elaborating on the contemporary atmosphere of the church to the times and relevant to the people, Pastor Benjamin said, "What you find normally in cultures is that cultures have changes going on every five years. Churches lag behind in that. They're not adapting to a lot of the changes that occur at the same time in the community. And it was with a keen awareness of what was happening, what was relevant to a lot of people that we tried to meet those needs. And certainly if you look around at the prevailing churches today, I think you would see a switch from the traditional type of services to a more contemporary type of services. And those are the prevailing and the growing churches today."

As to criticism that his approach to contemporary atmosphere might be pandering and looking too much like the world, Pastor Benjamin said, "My yardstick for spiri-

tual growth, for spiritual maturity or to tell if anything is spiritual is two things: Are you growing in your love for God, and are you growing in your love for the people He died for? And I think that's the centrality of what we should be doing. In fact, they're the two greatest commandments - to love God and to love others like yourself. That's what Jesus said. Our message hasn't changed. The road to salvation is still the same. But it's making things contemporary and relevant to the community in which we live."

Pastor Benjamin thought that New Vision has had an impact on the community "outside the walls" through service. The church has a monthly distribution ministry that provides clothing and food to families in Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Spring City, and Snake Cay. They have touched in excess of 50 families following the recent hurricanes with relief aid such as food vouchers.

New Vision now has about 200 people attending service regularly on Sunday mornings, according to Pastor Benjamin, a significant increase from the 60 to 70 with

which it started. He is proud of the church's youth work, "the most vibrant youth programme on the island," under the leadership of Brook Russell, the youth pastor. The Tuesday night Bible study and the Friday youth night, which started the church, are still active. The pastors say the Friday night event attract up to 85 teenagers from throughout the community at times. The youth programme includes overnight hiking trips, international youth camps in the summer, and in January sporting activities such as basketball will be added for ages 7 through 17.

Pastor Benjamin was invited into the leadership of New Vision in 1995, about a

year and a half after the church was founded, following his arrival in Abaco as manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Marsh Harbour branch. He became staff pastor in the summer of 2000.

As to his transition from banking to full time ministry, Pastor Benjamin, who grew up in what he calls a strong Catholic household in Nassau of 12 children, said he always knew he would be in the ministry. He was in the ministry even while in banking, having been pastor the Bain Town Bible Church in Nassau for two years.

"I knew I was going to be fulltime in the

Please see **New Vision** Page 21

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# Rotary and Every Child Counts Hold Clinic

By Portia Jonsson

The Rotary Club of Abaco, under the leadership of president Kevin Sterling, sponsored and participated in a one day Community Diagnostic Reading Clinic on November 13th at St. Francis de Sales with the trained and certified clinical educators from Every Child Counts Learning Centre. The clinicians began a program of providing reading assessments to second grade children throughout Abaco which it plans to continue on a monthly basis.

The goal of these community clinics is early identification of potential blocks to learning so intervention strategies can keep each child performing at grade level in order to have students remain in their home schools. Students were

given full reading battery consisting of hearing evaluation, predictions of reading potential, assessments of word recognition, comprehension and if needed, pre-reading foundational skills. Parents were briefly informed of their child's performance immediately after the testing and will be provided with full reports, including tips for instruction within two weeks after the test. With the parents' permission, a second report is sent to the child's school.

This free reading evaluation has been provided upon request of school or family by Every Child Counts for over six years. If you have concerns about a student and would like a diagnosis to detect any difficulties, you should contact Every Child Counts to arrange a time for a

free private evaluation.

The main purpose of Rotary's collaboration with the community clinic is to provide a means for Abaco to screen all primary children so that physical, developmental or skills difficulties can be detected and remedied before they interfere with learning. A secondary goal is building capacity. Through these series of clinics, Rotary volunteers will be trained to provide vision and hearing screenings.

Participants in November's Community Clinic guided by Sharon Kossack, Professor of Reading from Florida International University, included Rotarians Sandra Albury and Jo-Ann Bradley, Every Child Counts' clinicians Louise Rose, Pamela Hepburn and Ellen Hardy, Diag-

nostic Educators-in-training Marsden Lawley, Melanie Maseda, Joyce Champaigne, Denise Gadsby, Miriam Fredericks, Tessa Pantene, Zenika Nairn, Ms. Johnson and Vicky Bootle. The screening battery for each child takes at least two hours to complete. Clinicians screened between 15 and 20 children that day while clinicians-in-training observed and simulated testing. Rotarians registered students as they came in for testing, started students on writing and mathematics sub-tests, then learned how to administer physical vision and hearing screening. The next community clinic is planned for January 2005.

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**'Peek-A-View'  
Hope Town**



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**'Clifford Sawyer House'  
Hope Town**



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**#2166**

**'Bea's Nest'  
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**'Sweet Haven'  
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# South Abaco News

## Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder  
Condolences

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Viola Elliot Sawyer, nee Sands, who passed away after a long illness on November 24 at Sybil's House where she had been residing for over two years. Married for over 60 years to her husband Benny, a well known local boat builder, they had five children together, all still living, 14 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister and many other family members and friends.

### A New and Welcome Addition

New power line poles are being erected along the road into Cherokee. Many feel it is a long time coming and that there would have been much more building and development along the 11 miles of road into settlement, especially in the Yellowwood area where land owners have been patiently waiting for years to start construction if the power had come sooner.

Hopefully, this more direct service will provide a more stable electrical supply to our area as our present lines now come across the bay from Casuarina. We often suffer interruptions due to boating accidents. We look forward now to a more constant and improved service from BEC.

### Cell Phone and Internet Service Still Not Available

Cell phones still do not work until you get near Marsh Harbour and Batelco cannot give a definite date when repairs to the

tower will be made and this service is restored. In addition, some of their dial-up internet service is down. This is very hard on some persons who depend on the internet for rentals for cottages and bonefishing guides for their early 2005 bookings. Everyone fully understands the wide spread damage and destruction from "the storms," but when your very survival depends on the internet services, not to mention your continued customer satisfaction hanging the balance, it is difficult to be patient. Let us hope that things will soon be back to normal.

### Doll Show Was a Great Success

On November 13 Cherokee held its second Doll Show. This time we included food and arts and craft stalls. It was a lovely sunny day and there was a good turn out of people from within town and other settlements as well.

Little girls of today maybe don't play with dolls like their mothers and grandmothers before them, but there was certainly something for everyone in this show. We accumulated 135 different dolls from Sand Banks to Hope Town to put on display. But first and foremost, there were 45 complete Nativity scenes in keeping with the upcoming holiday season and, of course, our new Community Center's wide open facility certainly lends itself to a more impressive show, no matter what the subject is. Many persons said that they had heard so much about our first show and wanted to make sure that they didn't miss this one.

We would again like to thank all those persons who lent us their lovely dolls and all the persons who worked so hard to bring the show together, but most of all we want to thank the public for supporting us. We do not as yet have a final figure for the amount of money raised but all proceeds from the show will go to the Cherokee Primary School and we will let you know what that is as soon as we know.

### Church Yard Gets a New Face

Epworth Methodist Church has a brand new fence to replace the one badly damaged by the storms. This new one has a plastic coating on the chain links to protect it from the elements. A large gate has been installed for emergency use in case of fire to one of the homes behind the church, something the old fencing lacked. There was also quite a bit of structural damage inside and out of the church due to the storms and those repairs are now being arranged.

### After the Storms

On the ocean side of the settlement there is still a lot of sand piled up on the sea-boards. Some was pushed aside after the first storm by heavy equipment, thanks to Mike Lattimer on the hill. But more washed in with Jeanne and it will probably take quite a while for all the excess to be moved or washed back out to sea. The trees and foli-

age are sprouting out again and everything will probably be full and green again by Christmastime. There are several new roofs around and even some new siding on a few houses. However, the Sawyer's home still has a gaping hole where their roof used to be and the Long Dock is still chopped off by what was the first set of steps. The settlement looks clean and well swept and we are attempting to get back to normal or as close to it as is humanely possible.

## Civic Organizations

### Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco

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

### Pilot Club of Abaco

Third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Central Abaco Primary, Dundas Town, 366-3457

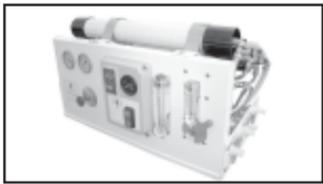
### Pilot Club of South Abaco

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

### Rotary Club of Abaco

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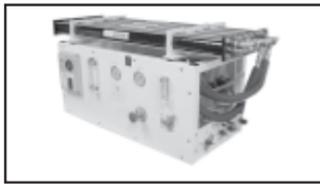
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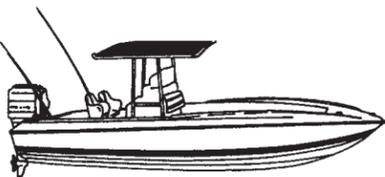
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# More South Abaco News

## Cherokee Doll Show.

By Jennifer Hudson

The Doll Show at Cherokee on November 13th presented a wonderland of escapism for the whole family while raising much needed funds for the Cherokee Sound School. Although the show was understandably more popular with the women and girls, even many menfolk found enjoyment in the whimsy and beauty of the many exhibits.

The ever busy Lee Pinder did an excellent job of gathering together over 45 dolls and displaying them in the new community centre. Seventeen ladies from all over Abaco donated their treasures for the show which also included many beautiful nativity scenes. This was the second of two such shows, the first of which was held in 2002.

When I first heard of the doll show, I wondered just how there could be enough dolls to make an interesting exhibition. I was totally amazed at the scope of what I

saw. The variety of dolls was indeed surprising.

The first section included very delicate collector's item porcelain and bisque dolls dressed in elegant fashions of the past with even two china dolls dating from the 1940's. Then there was a selection of bridal dolls with gowns beautifully crocheted by Betty Albury of Marsh Harbour. Whilst I was admiring these, Lee Pinder and Candace Key told me of a lady, Christine Malone, now deceased, who lived in Hope Town for many years and crocheted the most beautiful wedding gowns to order even though she had lost one arm. What a great achievement!

There was a large assortment of world dolls representing the countries of Venezuela, Mexico, Cuba, the Ukraine, India, Scotland, Ireland, China, Japan, America (cowboy and Florida Seminole Indian) and a set of Russian Matryuska nesting dolls. The Venezuelan doll was particularly in-

teresting as the clothes were made from banana leaves. The Japanese doll was given to the students of Hope Town School by a Japanese couple who taught them the ancient art of origami.

On display were rag dolls, Bahamian straw dolls from Cat Island, humorous crocheted raffia dolls by Nadine Rolle of Cooper's Town, various animal dolls, "mop dollies," a fun and easy craft for children to do with a brand new mop, a stick doll, nursery rhyme and story book character dolls, paper dolls, two "Frozen Charlottes" and "worry dolls" from Guatemala. The tiny china "Frozen Charlotte" dolls were named after a little girl who froze to death in a blizzard circa 1890s.

The paper dolls complete with costumes, though actually taken from recent magazines, depicted the paper dolls which were very popular during the Great Depression of the 1930s and 40s. At that time paper dolls were a playtime favourite with little girls because they were affordable.

The colourful and minute "worry dolls" from Guatemala made from hairpins and thread were very interesting. According to

legend, Guatemalan children tell one worry to each doll when they go to bed at night and place the dolls under their pillow. In the morning the dolls have taken their worries away. (Perhaps we would do well to adopt this custom).

Mrs. Pinder displayed four small dolls she had crafted depicting Abaco's Virtuous Women - Faith, Hope Charity and Grace.

A central table displaying nativity scenes heralded the Advent Season. In addition to the more usual (and very beautiful) porcelain models from various countries, there was a paper scene, a crystal scene, a German musical box nativity in a glass dome which plays Christmas carols, a minute tableau modeled from terra cotta which appeared to be Mexican and a hand-carved olive wood scene from the Holy Land.

A set of four exquisite Christmas glass balls hand painted by Jo-Ann Bradley, each depicting a different part of the Christmas story, was raffled to raise additional funds for the school.

In the grounds outside the community

Please see **South**

Page 22



The second annual Doll Show in Cherokee was once again a success. The money raised will go to the Cherokee Primary School for needed supplies. This show featured 45 nativity scenes.



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# School News

## St. Francis de Sales School School Holds Thanksgiving Activities

By Portia Jonsson

On November 26th St. Francis de Sales Catholic School held its annual Bike and Walk-a-thons. This day was also chosen by the school's administration and staff to observe World AIDS Day, which is recognized worldwide on December 1st.

School principal, Mrs. Josephine Kumar said this was done to raise her students' consciousness about AIDS. Many of the participants in the walk-a-thon donned Bahamas AIDS Foundation t-shirts and red ribbons in recognition of AIDS sufferers. The t-shirts were on sale for \$5 and all of the proceeds will go to the AIDS Foundation. Mrs. Sandy Walker-Edwards, parent and Health and Family Life Coordinator, organized obtaining the ribbons. Grade 11 student, Elsie Bain and ninth grader Britney Archer will appear on Radio Abaco to discuss AIDS awareness in young people. Both students attended a recent Leadership Conference on AIDS in Nassau.

The school's annual Thanksgiving Service was held at the church on Thanksgiving Day, November 25. Staff and students collected canned goods for the less fortunate. The Inter-Act Club, an youth organization of the Rotary Club at the school, will be responsible for the distribution to charitable organizations such as the Red Cross and Sybil's House. During the Thanksgiving service parents who volunteered their valuable time after the hurricanes to help restore the school were recognized.

Thanksgiving dinners, which included the usual holiday delights of turkey, ham and pumpkin pie, were sold by the school's PTA for \$10. The monies raised from this will go towards resurfacing the school's yard with grass.

The entire school body including the Pre-K class and parents participated in the Walk and Bike-a-thon. The Pre-K class went as far as Pine Woods Nursery while others as far as Spring City and beyond. Upon return to the school the students were treated to lunch, games and movies.

## Forest Heights Academy A Hive of Activity

By Jennifer Hudson

Students of Forest Heights Academy are enjoying a host of extra-curricular activities to balance out their more serious academic studies. Principal, Mr. Paul Vernell, is proud to announce that plans are well under way for the school trip to London, England, in February of next year. Twenty two students from Grades 10, 11 and 12 accompanied by six adults will be traveling on Virgin Atlantic Airline from Miami to London where they will reside for one week in a hotel on the famous Hyde Park. The students will have transportation passes on the buses and underground train network (tube) and will also do a lot of walking to all the "must see sights" of Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London and Crown Jewels, the Commonwealth Institute, Madame Tussauds and the British Museum, the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. This is a very exciting venture for the school as, although trips have formerly been taken to Cuba, this is the first time such a major trip has been undertaken. "I feel that this visit is important for our students since we are a part of the Commonwealth," said Mr. Vernell.

On December 2nd a group of 22 students from the grade 9 Social Studies class will be traveling to Nassau for a one day field trip accompanied by Vice Principal, Mrs. Joy Chaplin. While there they will visit

Government House, the Houses of Parliament, the National Art Gallery, the Slave Museum where a wreck of the slave ship *Henrietta Marie* is presently on display, the Pirates Museum and the Dig at Atlantis. Whilst most students will be returning the same evening, a few will remain for an extra day to experience the Dolphin Encounter.

A Forest Heights American football team was formed three weeks ago which has al-

ready played two games in the inter-school league. They won the second game against Agape school.

A Remembrance Day Service for the school was organized by the grade 10 history class.

Contributions of food were brought in for the school's food drive and all food-stuffs will be donated to the Rotary Club of Abaco to be placed in the boxes that Ro-



Face painting was a popular feature of the fair at St. Francis School.



St. Francis de Sales School held a mini-fair on November 26 to raise much needed funds. There was a drawing for several prizes. Shown above are a few of the winners of the drawing along with staff members. They are Principal Josephine Giraud Kumar, Teacher Barbara Johnson, Robyn Miller, Mikhail Russell, Teacher Kevin Sterling and Vice Principal Ismenette Riche.

tary gives out each Christmas to the needy in the community.

Everyone is invited to the school's Christmas programme which will be held on December 17th in the quadrangle from 11 to 12 noon.

This year, in order to foster some Christmas spirit around the school and at the same time provide an opportunity for fun and working together, there will be a "classroom door decorating competition" which will be judged on December 17th.

Please see **School**

Page 9

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# More School News

**School** *From Page 8*

A slightly different system will be used for report cards this time which will be out on November 26th. Parent teacher interviews will take place on November 30th between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Casting has already been completed and rehearsals are well under way for the Drama Club's presentation of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* which is to take place in the Spring of 2005.

**SAT Exam Deadline**

*By Isobel Sherman*

The deadline to apply for the December sitting of the SAT examination has passed but persons can get an application and take the exam on December 3 as a walk-in candidate. Mr Vernell, Principal of Forest Heights Academy, said persons could get an application from Forest Heights, fill it out and bring a bank money order or credit card number for \$72 to the exam. The exam will be held on December 3 at Forest Heights Academy. The SAT exam is required before admission to many Ameri-

can colleges and universities.

It should be pointed out that this is the last international sitting of the SAT as it is now. Beginning in March the new SAT exam will come on stream. More information on this new exam will be reported when it becomes available. One thing is known that the total possible score will rise from 1600 to 2400 and that an essay portion will be part of the new SAT.

**Abaco Central High School Careers Day**

*By Jennifer Hudson*

*Preparing for the Real World* was the theme of Abaco Central High School's two day Careers Programme which was held at the school on November 11th and 12th. Students from Grades 9 and 12 spent the two days attending a series of very interesting presentations by various speakers representing a large cross section of career opportunities in the community. Each of the eight sessions included four or five presentations and the students attended one of their choice from each session, thus giving them an insight into eight possible careers.

Professions represented were: Education,

Police, Carpentry, Electrician, Social Work, Civil Engineering, Agriculture and Fisheries, Batelco, Banking, Immigration, Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, Artist, Cosmetology, Insurance, Veterinarian, Customs, Tourism, National Insurance, Accounting, BEC, Pilot, Meteorology, Plumbing, Architecture, Defense Force, Broadcasting, Journalism, Food and Beverage, Water and Sewage, Port Authority, Nursing, Heavy Equipment, Dentistry, Computers and Winding Bay. Mr. Roger Kely was on hand from the Lyford Cay Foundation, Nassau, to advise the students on how to obtain one of the Lyford Cay Scholarships.

Some presentations, such as teaching and cosmetology, drew only girls while others such as electrician and heavy equipment drew only boys but most presentations were sought by both.

The most popular and well attended career choices included the Defense Force, Food and Beverage, BEC, Cosmetology, Computers, Plumbing and Winding Bay. "Eighteen of the senior boys will soon begin getting some work experience at Winding Bay as they have been selected by man-

*Please see School Page 10*



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# More School News

## School

From Page 9

agement to caddy at the first golf tournament the Abaco Club will be hosting this month. Eight of the most promising will be given the opportunity to continue," said Mr. Mark Scott, Project Manager for The Abaco Club.

The students were asked by ASP Miller, Police Chief on Abaco, during his presentation on police work how they felt at the prospect of leaving school and entering the world beyond. Some replied that they were scared while others said that they felt they are ready to accept the challenges. He advised the students that this is a very serious time for them; there is a lot of competition out there and they must work hard.

The Careers Day Programme was organized by Mrs. Nadeen Beneby, Senior Mistress and Guidance Counselor, Ms. P. Fox and Ms. Racquel Cox. Mrs. Beneby expressed satisfaction at the success of the programme.

### Religious Knowledge Month

By Isobel Sherman

The Ministry of Education has declared the month of November as Religious Knowledge Education Month. To kick off the month a church service was held on November 14 at Abaco Youth Ministries. In keeping with this theme, the religious knowledge teachers at Abaco Central High held an essay contest and poster contest for seventh grade students and a special assembly on November 15. The theme was *Grateful Hearts* which was the theme for the Religious Knowledge Month.

Winners in the poster contest were first place Chavano Musgrove, second place

Adena Dolce and third place Evelyn Gideon. Winners in the essay contest were first place Rocasta Desinor, second place Adrian Whyly and third place Luce Joseph.

### Anchor Club Cooks

By Isobel Sherman

The Anchor Club of Abaco Central High School treated the students and teachers of the Every Child Counts Program to a Thanksgiving dinner on November 25. The girls served 30 persons a full turkey dinner. The Anchor Club's advisor is Phillipa Farrington, a teacher at Abaco Central High.

### Going to Freeport

By Isobel Sherman

The basketball team of Abaco Central will be traveling to Freeport on November 23 to participate in the Tabernacle Thanksgiving Invitational Basketball Tournament. Coaches for Abaco Central are Charles Poitier and Kevin Rolle.

### Junior Junkanoo

By Isobel Sherman

There will be a Junior Junkanoo parade this year on December 18. There will be no formal competition but junior groups will rush. There will be no costumes.

### Give Thanks

Every year Abaco Central High School, like many other schools, holds a Thanksgiving assembly. The purpose is to give thanks for the blessings of the past year. This year this assembly took on a much more special meaning as virtually every member of the student body as well as staff was affected by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. Also the school was extensively damaged in Hurricane Frances and 75 percent of the school is still without power Mrs.

Michelle Bailey, Head of the Science Department organized the assembly with the theme taken from Psalms 106. "Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever."

Mrs. Bailey wrote on the program, "In recent years we have adopted the month of November to celebrate harvest. Although we have close ties to our northern neighbors, our reasons for celebration are not linked to the 17th century pilgrims. Our culture and heritage lead us to strive to put God first in all things. At this time of year we give thanks to God for his many blessings. We are still recovering from the dev-

astating effects of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. We offer special thanks for the comfort He has sent us in our time of need."

The school choir, recorder group, hand bell group and instrumental group as well as the Junkanoo band gave performances.

Guest speaker was Bishop Earl Campbell, Pastor of the Dundas Town Church of God and a frequent visitor on the school campus. Pastor Campbell spoke of how we need to give thanks to God. We have come through two hurricanes and "We went to the dump many times but not to the grave

Please see **School**

Page 11

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# Viewpoint

## Don't Give Thieves a Christmas Gift

By Portia Jonsson

This holiday season don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving into crime. Thieves like the holidays as much as we do, but mostly because it is an opportunity to commit crime.

The holiday season from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day always promises to be a busy and exciting time for everyone. Let's make sure it's a safe and happy season, too.

It is an unfortunate fact of life that criminals sometimes prey upon holiday shoppers. Those who are careless or preoccupied make the easiest targets, so we all need to be careful and alert to keep from becoming victims of crime.

I would like to share some tips with you to keep our holidays bright, cheery and safe for all.

Don't display gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Be extra careful to lock doors and windows when you leave the house, even if you're only gone for a few minutes. Always lock your vehicle and roll up the windows even at home, unless you park in your garage with the garage door down. Never leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle. If you're going to be out of town leave a vehicle in your driveway.

If you are leaving town for a few days, plan to give your home a lived in look while you are gone. Leave radios on in different

rooms of your home; purchase timers for lights and set them to go off randomly during hours of darkness. Have a trusted neighbour keep a watch on your house. Even if you are only away from home for an evening, turn on lights and a radio or TV so

it looks like someone is home. Consider using a cable secured to your home, or a ground anchor, to secure valuable Christmas lawn ornaments and decorations.

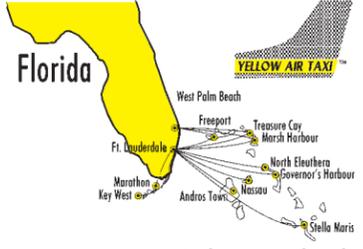
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**Bahama Palm Shores.** Secluded 4 bedroom, 2 bath residence directly across from lovely Eight Mile Bay. #8928 \$422,000

**Guana Cay.** Supurb elevation, Beach front home site, 1.5+ acres, just north of Orchard Bay. Property like this is disappearing fast! #8842 Call for details

**Lubbers Quarters.** Abaco Ocean Club. 10,000+ s.f. homesite on Marlin Way cul-de-sac. Close to marina. Priced to move. #7316 \$48,000

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**Donation**

*From Page 1*

mattress sets at \$12, 500 and the books at \$19,000, according to a letter to Palm Beach Steamship Company signed by Mr. Joseph D'Amico, an assistant to Mr. Huizenga. Mr. Mills expects delivery of the relief supplies soon on the M/V *Legacy*.

"I was humbled to see that after just one phone call," Mr. Mills said yesterday, "Mr. Wayne Huizenga was willing to send his personal assistant, Mr. Joey D'amico, to Abaco to get a list of what was needed and to give \$10,000 to the kids of Abaco to help them get back to normal after the hurricanes by fixing their basketball court."

Mr. Mills said he had made numerous calls to Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Mr. Neville Wisdom, to donate \$30,000 that was in the annual All Abaco Regatta budget to the basketball court project but got no results. Mr. Mills alleges that Minister Wisdom took back the \$30,000 after the regatta was cancelled because of the hurricanes.

Mr. Mills also said he was not pleased with the pace of the government of Prime Minister Christie's hurricane relief efforts in Abaco.

"As Chief Councillor, I am still getting complaints from a lot of people who are in need of relief assistance who are not getting help," he said, adding that he wanted to know what was "happening to the \$12 million in relief donations the government has received."

Mr. Mills said the bedding and stoves will be distributed to needy residents in Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Marsh Harbour (including Pigeon Pea and The Mud) and Spring City.

The Chief Councillor, who drives a taxi for a living, said he met Mr. Huizenga over a year ago when the Dolphins' owner rented a house in Hope Town and hired him as his driver.





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# Third Annual College Fair Attracts 24 Colleges

By Isobel Sherman

Twenty-four colleges and universities came to the third annual Abaco Central High School one day College Fair held on November 16 at New Visions Ministries. Over 350 students from all of the secondary schools in Abaco signed the registration book at the fair. Schools that sent students to the fair were S.C. Bootle High School, Agape Christian School, Forest Heights Academy, Long Bay School, Wesley College, St. Frances de Sales and Abaco Central High School. School buses brought students from grades 10-12.

The fair was opened with a prayer from Pastor Derek Benjamin followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

Students kept the representatives busy the whole day as they discussed their prospects for attending the various schools. Canadian schools were well represented with representatives from eight schools.

Many representatives arrived on November 15. Abaco Beach Resort hosted a reception for those representatives that evening. Other representatives came on Tuesday morning for the fair. That evening the representatives gathered at Mangoes Restaurant.

The response to the fair has been great. All those who traveled here said they would be back next year.

The College Fair Committee consisted of Isobel Sherman, Coordinator, Beverly

Rolle, Phillipa Farrington, Michelle Bailey, Charles Poitier and Ken Roberts. The committee would like to thank Bishop Earl Campbell who provided transportation for the college representatives to and from the fair site.

It is hoped that the fair will continue to grow. In the first year 12 colleges had counselors, second year 16 colleges had representatives and this year 24 schools were here for student interviews.

### Bahamian School

Bahamas Baptist, Nassau  
Bahamas Vocational Technical Institute, Nassau  
College of the Bahamas, Nassau  
Success Training College, Nassau

### American Schools

College of St Benedict/St Johns University, Minnesota  
Florida Culinary and Florida Technical, Florida  
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida  
Methodist College, North Carolina  
Munroe College, New York  
Nova Southeastern University, Florida  
Palm Beach Atlantic University, Florida  
Ramapo College, New Jersey  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Shenandoah University, Virginia  
University of Tampa, Florida

Please see **Fair**

Page 15



The third annual College Fair was held once again at the New Visions Ministries building in Marsh Harbour. This fair brings representatives from many colleges and universities to discuss their schools with high school students from all Abaco high schools. It is organized by Abaco Central High School.

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## Police and Administrator Visited Businesses



Senior Administrator Revis Rolle and Police Chief for Abaco ASP Wayne Miller together with several other police officers visited a number of Marsh Harbour businesses in their program of developing community policing. The police program of community policing has been very effective in other areas in reducing crime with the help of residents. The Bahamas has received international recognition for their community policing programs in Nassau. Shown here are Mr. Rolle and ASP Miller talking with Mrs. Betty Albury in A & W Travel in the Abaco Shopping Centre.

## Fair

From Page 14

### Canadian Schools

Acadia University, Nova Scotia  
Columbia International, Ontario  
Niagara College, Ontario  
St Frances Xavier University, Nova Scotia  
St Mary's University, Nova Scotia  
Trent University, Ontario  
University of Waterloo, Ontario

### A College First

By Isobel Sherman

I know what I about to report is a first for the College Fair organized by the Abaco Central High School, but it may also be a first for The Bahamas and may be the first for any college fair held anywhere.

When Jennifer Neely, Admissions Officer for Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, traveled to the Abaco College Fair, she brought her "significant friend." On the evening of November 16 under a bright new moon her "significant friend" proposed to her on the beach at Abaco Beach Resort and presented her with a diamond engagement ring. So, Jennifer Neely became engaged to John Godet, both from Nassau. No date has been set for the wedding but the possibility that this young couple may marry on Abaco is a strong one. No matter what, they both will remember Abaco and the College Fair with very special personal memories.

May God richly bless you, Jennifer and John.

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## Residents Are Recognized by Police



Commissioner of Police Paul Farquharson held a community meeting in Hope Town on November 26. At that time he recognized several residents for their assistance to the police. Four of those were present. Shown above are ASP Wayne Miller, Police Chief for Abaco, Mr. Chris Pruitt, Mr. Farquson, Mrs. Carrie Cash, Mr. Chester Thompson, Mr. Ray Ketay and Mrs. Wanda Sweeting. The police feel that crime on Abaco can be reduced by communities working with them. They cannot do their work alone but need the public's support. Residents of Elbow Cay are working actively with the police to have more police presence to reduce ethnic clashes, drug availability and other challenges that the island faces. The police emphasize that they cannot do their job without the cooperation and assistance of the public.

## Marsh Harbour Rebuilds Its Docks



Construction continues on docks at the marinas of Marsh harbour which were heavily damaged by the surge accompanying Hurricane Jeanne. The high water lifted docks up and broke them up. Boat slips are available now and most reconstruction will be completed by the spring.

### Your Very Own Abaco Barb

Magnificent, accurately hand painted models of the Abaco Barb Stallion Capella will be available at the Christmas Bazaar on December 11th. Look for them at the WHOA (Wild Horses of Abaco Preservation Society) booth and later on at Buck a Book. Own your very own Abaco Barb Stallion and help the whole herd.



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A jewel of a home with pool set high on a bluff overlooking the Sea of Abaco. One acre. Stunningly landscaped with wooden decks and walkways. Six building set in "pod" arrangement. 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. Wicker and rattan furniture. A/C throughout. Satellite TV. 1.98 million plus 7% to close

1/2 acre near ocean beach and Coco Bay beach. High on ridge. Many fruit trees. B\$85,000

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

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

North End: Stunning, furnished 3 bed 2 bath home with fireplace. 125' on Atlantic Ocean. 35' elevation. Commanding views of the ocean. Spacious screened-in porch. One acre. \$1.32 million plus 7% to close Hilltop lot 200' by 300' offering views of the Sea of Abaco and Coco Bay. Large mature trees. B\$360,000

Under construction: three 40 x 32 foot 2 bedroom 2 full bath cottages. 9 ft. ceilings. landscaped. Central A/C Water maker. Ceiling fans throughout. Five minute walk to Coco Bay beach and 5 more minutes walk to ocean beach. B\$ 375,000 gross

A perfect site on White Sound. 2 bedroom 2 bath main house with deck and porch. Boathouse and 2 Whalers. Guest cottage with one bedroom and one bath. Waterfront on the Sea of Abaco. Only accessible by boat. Needs work. \$660,000 ONO

Four unit income producing building with views of Coco Bay and dock. \$700,000 plus 7% to close.

Two inland lots 1/3 acre each located within walking distance of Coco Bay Beach and Ocean Beach. Good elevation. B\$90,000 each firm

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New! Prime water front commercial / residential location in the town of New Plymouth on Green Turtle Cay. Site of take-away restaurant plus two bedrooms and two baths; kitchenette and great room. Private deck. Furnished two story building. Near public dock. Views of water from both floors. \$320,000 plus 2% to close

Two bedroom one bath basically furnished home with large deck and view of Coco Bay. Just steps away from beautiful Coco Bay Beach. 18,000 gallon rain water tank. Basement. Garage. Good elevation. 1/3 acre. B \$398,000 firm

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Lot No. 4 Bight O Bay Beach \$360,000 plus 7% to close

Lot 9 Green Turtle Estates \$45,000 plus 7% to close

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Bahama Palm Shores - Lots Available

# Two Injured in Daytime Stabbing in Hope Town

By Richard E. Fawkes

As if to underscore the necessity of Police Commissioner Paul Farquharson's visit to Hope Town to discuss with that cay's community's rising crime statistics, two men were brought to the Marsh Harbour government clinic November 25 for injuries sustained during an altercation. They are both in police custody.

According to ASP Wayne Miller, office-in-charge of Abaco, a 34 year-old male resident of Hope Town and a 31-year-old male of The Mud, Marsh Harbour, were involved in an argument on a construction site in Hope Town that resulted in violence. The Marsh Harbour resident received a stab wound with

a knife to his neck. The Hope Town resident suffered bruises by a hammer to the right shoulder and right side of his head as well as a knife cut a finger. Neither man's injury was deemed life-threatening. They will be charged in Magistrate's Court, Marsh Harbour, on Monday.

Commissioner Farquharson, who said at a police officers' Thanksgiving luncheon on November 26, before receiving word of the men's condition, that he hoped neither one lost his life in the incident, was in town to meet with residents of Hope Town that night to discuss their concerns about crime. He was invited by members of the Hope Town community.

There was another stabbing in Hope Town two weeks ago. There has also been an increase in burglaries, drug abuse and drug trafficking on the cay, which boasts a vibrant tourist and second-homeowners' economy.

ASP Miller and his staff have been holding meetings with the town's residents in the hope of establishing a strong community policing programme. A full-time police officer was recently assigned there.

## Abaco Records First Traffic Fatality for 2004

Abaco suffered its first traffic fatality for 2004 on November 14 when 28-year-old Lashane Jenko Gardiner was killed in a one car accident near Treasure Cay. The self-drive car spun out of control on a curve and hit a power pole. Also in the car was Mrs. Gardiner's husband, Farino Gardiner and one-year-old son Zander. Neither was injured seriously. Apparently no one in the car was wearing seat belts.

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# Police Arrest Seven on Drug Charges; Three Are Arraigned

By Richard E. Fawkes

In a major sting operation involving Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Spring City and Hope Town police arrested seven persons November 21 for possession of dangerous drugs with the intention of using and with the intention of supplying, according to ASP Wayne Miller, Officer-in-Charge, Abaco.

"We want to send a clear message to the entire Abaco community," said ASP Miller, "that the possession and trafficking of dangerous drugs will not be tolerated."

ASP Miller said small amounts of cocaine were found, along with an "appreciable" amount of marijuana. The sting

operation had been underway for quite some time. He did not care to specify exactly where in the Marsh Harbour area the arrests were made as investigations are ongoing. He did say that no one from Hope Town was among those arrested.

Two men and a woman were arraigned in Magistrate's Court in Marsh Harbour on November 22 as a result of the arrests the previous day. They were charged with possession of dangerous drugs with intent to supply. They appeared before Magistrate Crawford McKee

Eltoro Edwin Adderley, 29, of Dundas Town was charged with unlawful possession

on November 21 of dangerous drugs (three grams of cocaine) with intent to supply another. Mr. Adderley pleaded not guilty and was granted bail in the amount of \$2000. He was ordered to appear for trial on January 27, 2005.

Rosner Thervil, 30, and Chantel Smith, 26, both of Marsh Harbour, were charged with, being concerned together, unlawfully possessing on November 21 dangerous drugs (89 grams of marijuana) with intent to supply another.

Mr. Thervil pleaded guilty to the possession charge, but not guilty to the intent to supply charge.

Magistrate McKee denied bail to Mr. Thervil and ordered him remanded in custody until the trial on January 27. He said 89 grams was a significant amount, and the substantive charge of intent to supply still stood.

Ms. Smith was granted bail in the amount of \$3,000 and ordered to appear for trial on January 27.

The three were arrested as part of a police "sting" operation in the area on November 21 during which seven persons were arrested. The other persons arrested were released without any charges being filed.

## National Cultural Development Commission

By Portia Jonsson

Last year November Prime Minister of the Bahamas, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, appointed the National Cultural Development Commission headed by Winston V. Saunders, Chairman, and Charles Carter, Co-chairman.

Earlier this month a meeting was held at the Anglican Parish Hall to discuss and assist in an important national survey. The survey is designed to canvas wider public opinions, comments and feedback on issues of the introduction of a new Bahamian National Honours and Awards System, two public holidays and national dress.

The National Honours and Awards in the survey names various titles for consideration such as Rt. Excellent - reserved for National Heroes, Most Excellent, Order of the Bahamas, Order of Merit, Order of Distinction, Bahamas Services Awards, Decorations for Bravery, Bahamas Bravery Medal, Bahamas Service Medal of Honour and the Service Medal of Honour. Persons are asked to answer either yes or no and make recommendations and suggestions as they see fit.

With regards to holidays, the renaming of the October 12th holiday, known as Discovery Day/Columbus Day heads the list. This holiday has been a hot topic with Bahamians for some time now.

All developments, comments, recommendations and findings given to the National Cultural Commission will be put into a final report and submitted to the government of the Bahamas.

For more information or a copy of the Commission's questionnaire contact The National Cultural Development Commission, Royal Victoria Gardens, P.O. Box N-4464 Nassau, Bahamas or telephone (242) 323-3423/(242) 323-3446.

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- Cabbage Point**- 5 acres parcels on the SC Bootle highway, financing available -Call today for details
- Marsh Harbour**- Vacant property on Key Club Road approx 0.7 acres, features elevations. \$92,000
- Guana Cay**- Two vacant lots side by side situated only a short distance from the settlement of Guana Cay. \$144,000 each.



**Marsh Harbour-#5106**. Great opportunity. Established commercial complex. Currently features several retail stores and two rental apartments. All currently rented. Ideally situated on the main tourist strip. **FANTASTIC INVESTMENT**. Call today for more details on this fine offering.

# The Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham Opens Law Office



Mr. Hubert Ingraham

By Jennifer Hudson

The new law office of the Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham, Counsel and Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public, opened in Marsh Harbour on November 15th and is located at Town Centre, East Bay Street, upstairs in the Damianos building.

Mr. Ingraham has been practicing law for the past 32 years and joined with Mr. Perry Christie in the early 1970s to form the law partnership of Christie and Ingraham, where they remained partners until Mr. Ingraham became Prime Minister in August of 1992.

Six months after the 2002 elections in which the Hon. Perry Christie took over as Prime Minister of the Bahamas, Mr. Ingraham started a firm on Cable Beach specializing in commercial and corporate law.

Mr. Ingraham stated the reason for his decision to open a law office on Abaco as a desire to better serve his clients saying, "I

am delighted to make available to Abaconians, residents, businesses and others on Abaco the benefit of my vast experience and knowledge in law and in government." Mr. Ingraham has been serving a number of Abaco clients in Nassau for some time and with Abaco's economy doing so well he felt that this would be an ideal time to set up a practice here. "The real estate market is very dynamic on Abaco and I will help to service it," stated Mr. Ingraham, who says that he has ensured full inter-connectivity between the phones and computers in his offices on both islands so that his clients on Abaco can call him in Nassau at his expense.

Mr. Ingraham's personal assistant of 26 years was on Abaco for the first week to assist in the setting up of the office, but he expects to have a secretary and two addi-

tional full time employees here. He may bring in a law partner depending on the volume of business. This may be his second daughter, Kelli, as she will soon be joining his practice and may decide to join the Abaco office.

Mr. Ingraham has agreed to make his office available at least one day a week to Ms. Ellie Campbell, a lawyer from Nassau, who already has clients on Abaco and who will handle domestic and family matters, administration of estates and other civil cases.

Presently, Mr. Ingraham will be in office on Mondays and Tuesdays but he states, "I will come as often as necessary, with a minimum of two days, as I intend to give

Please see **Ingraham**

Page 21

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# Soldier Was Wounded in Iraq

By Richard E. Fawkes

A Bahamian father learned recently that his U.S. Marine corporal son was wounded sometime the previous week during the fierce fighting that was raging for almost two weeks in the Iraqi city of Fallujah. Jerome Eugene Hutcheson III, senior immigration officer in Abaco, said that his oldest son, Jerome Eugene Hutchison IV, called his mother, Sandra Hutchison, who lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, from Iraq to tell her of his condition.

"His wounds don't seem to be life-threatening," said the senior Mr. Hutcheson. "He apparently suffered shrapnel wounds to his arm and shoulder when he and his buddies encountered a booby trap while on street patrol. He's remaining in Iraq and will return to duty when he gets better." Three of his son's companions were killed in the blast.

Corporal Hutcheson is on his second tour of duty in Iraq since August. He was part of the first units to invade Iraq in March of 2003 when the United States launched the war against Saddam Hussein. Corporal Hutcheson was in the region since February 2003 as part of the advance troops. Mr. Hutcheson said his son was in Iraq for nine months, then rotated out for a year.

Mr. Hutcheson is proud of the service his son is performing in the United States Marine Corps. "He's doing his job just like I'm doing my job here in The Bahamas as an immigration officer," he said.

Mr. Hutcheson is more worried now that his son is facing guerrilla warfare where "the enemy is hiding, than during the conventional war phase last year." He is more worried now that his son has been wounded and wished that all those people in The Bahamas who had formed prayer groups when the war started would continue to do so. "The war is still going on and we need the prayers even more. I also want them to pray for the families of the soldiers killed, who gave their bodies to save my son."

Another Bahamian with Abaco connections on active duty in Iraq with the United States forces Iraq is 21-year-old Charles Smith, Jr. of Casuarina Point. He was stationed in Iraq for nine months since early this year, but was home two weeks ago on a two-week leave to visit his parents Charles Smith, Sr. and Zelma Smith.

Mrs. Smith said her son spent about 10 days with them and the remainder of his time with family in Miami, before returning to Texas to await further orders.

## Viewpoint

From Page 12

Avoid loading yourself down with packages. This will mark you as a good target to thieves and pickpockets. Instead, make several trips to your vehicle and place items in your trunk or other places out of view. Avoid paying with large amounts of cash, use cheques or credit cards whenever possible.

Beware of strangers coming to your door. They may go door-to-door to collect charitable donations when no charity is involved.

The holiday season is also a good time to form a Neighbourhood Crime Watch Program. This first line of defense against crime enhances security in our homes and the areas where our children play. It consists of good neighbours watching out for each other and making their neighbourhoods better and more secure places to live. In a neighbourhood watch area, neighbours are expected to call the police if they observe suspicious activity in their neighbourhoods. No one has to know that criminal activity is occurring; they

should call the police if they even suspect a crime is in progress. It is better to stop a crime before it occurs than to make a report after a crime has occurred.

By remembering simple safety tips and practicing common sense precautions, we can ensure that we have plenty to celebrate during this joyous time of year. With proper planning we can substantially increase the chances that our holiday season will be one of fond memories.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

## New Vision

From Page 3

ministry," he said. "It was just a matter of when. When we saw the demands had started to increase, the numbers had started to increase, the Lord led upon my heart that this was the time. So it wasn't much of a strain or pull for me. It was almost a supernatural move when I knew the Lord was leading me."

Pastor Benjamin and his wife Terry have four adult children and one grandchild.



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<b>Dundas Town</b> L-shape apt. complex 3 - 2 bed, 1 bath units 9,000 sq. ft. Area for small shop Lot #18B	<b>Murphy Town</b> 3 bed, 2 bath Newly repaired 10,000 sq. ft. Lot #67	<b>Treasure Cay</b> Vacant land 10,000 sq. ft. Lot #65 BL #167	<b>Dundas Town</b> 1/2 acre, 2 storey 4 bed, 2 bath, family rm Lot #25
<b>Murphy Town</b> Incomplete duplex one unit completed comprising 2 bed, 1 bath 6,900 sq. ft. Lot #60	<b>Bahama Coral Island</b> Vacant land 10,890 sq. ft. Section #3 Block A Lot #1	<b>Murphy Town</b> Duplex 2 bed, 1 bath and 1 bed efficiency 8900 sq. ft. Lot #68	<b>Dundas Town</b> Vacant Land 10,810 sq. ft. Lot #21
	<b>Murphy Town</b> Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath 11,232 sq. ft. Lot #78	<b>Murphy Town</b> Commercial building 6,500 sq. ft. Lot #70	<b>Murphy Town</b> Vacant Land 11,277 sq. ft. Lot #78B

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

Recent back issues of The Abaconian are available on line at www.abaconian.com

**Dedication**

*From Page 1*

with relaxed informal services. By the next year the group had grown to the point that they needed two bays.

In 1995 Derek Benjamin moved to Marsh Harbour as manager of CIBC bank. He was invited to attend their Sunday service and he felt that he had found his home church. He soon joined the leadership and became their full time pastor in 2000.

In September 1995 the New Vision Ministries group leased Crown Land and built a basketball and volley court, followed by a cabana where the church could have social events. They soon constructed a multi-purpose building. By 1999 the shell of the building was complete and the members began doing interior work.

An Easter concert was performed in the new building on Easter 2000. There was still work to be done in beautifying the parking lot and landscaping. The building was completed in April 2004 when a final finished floor was installed.

In October 2003 Brooks Russell became a full time youth pastor

The story of New Visions Ministries is one of faith, of two men being guided by God to launch out to begin a new church.

Mr. Benjamin described it as two men with vision followed by the required work and effort to step out in faith. They have seen their congregation grow and mature in their spiritual lives.

Mr. Lindquist was the guest speaker at the dedication service and spoke of how God called Moses to work for Him. He felt that Dave and Ted had said yes to God when God called them and he encouraged the church to move forward. He mentioned that God had made three promises to Moses which He gives to everyone who lives by faith. 1. God's presence 2. God's provision and 3. The promise of God's power. He challenged the congregation to let God have what He has given us to use as He wishes.

The church wants to continue being a multi-cultural and multi-generational church where everyone is welcome.

**South**

*From Page 7*

centre the ladies of Cherokee Sound had set up a variety of stalls selling Christmas craft items and the always popular baked goods and conch fritters.

Once again Cherokee Sound provided a most pleasant and educational afternoon's enjoyment.

**Ingraham**

*From Page 20*

the Abaco office my full commitment."

His aim is to establish "a small business to give personalized service rather than a huge impersonal office, and a lawyer will be in office as many days as necessary to fulfill all my clients' needs." Office staff will be available every day of the week to assist clients.

The Representative for North Abaco also stated that next year he will be establishing constituency offices in Dundas Town, Cooper's Town and Fox Town. Telephone numbers will be in the 2005 Directory. One employee will be in each office to deal with political matters.

**Update on Little Harbour**

Pete's Pub and Gallery in Little Harbour is now open. They held a fund raising auction at their Thanksgiving potluck dinner to benefit the Cherokee Primary School. They plan other parties which will also benefit the school. These include a party on December 4, a potluck dinner on Christmas and a New Year's Eve surf and turf dinner.

The Gallery is open daily and offers a variety of art work, bronze sculptures as well as art work in other media. Bronze castings are typically done on Thursdays and the public may watch. The Pub serves lunch daily and requests reservations for dinner. They can be contacted by VHF Ch. 16, E-mail or phone.

**Make Your Day by Giving to Others**



**Port Department**

**Public Notice**

**TO ALL  
COMMERCIAL BOAT OPERATORS**

**Re: S.T.C.W. MARITINE TRAINING**

Please be advised that the S.T.C. W. Maritime Training will begin January 10th, 2005. The trainign schedule is as follows:

- January 10th thru February 5th, 2005 - Central District, Cherokee and the Cays.
- February 7th thru February 11th, 2005 - Southern District, Moore's Island, Castaway Cay and Crossing Rocks
- February 14th thru February 26th - Northern District, Treasure Cay, Grand and Walkers Cay

The deadline for certification is March 31st, 2005. Boat licenses will not be renewed unless you have a certificate of having completed this course.

Captain Cyril A. Roker  
Port Administrator

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Minimum for 3 lines in one issue \$9  
 Picture and 4 lines \$25  
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### MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

White aluminum commercial shop door and frame, excellent condtion. \$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

### VEHICLES FOR SALE

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

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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**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

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

**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



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**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** ★



"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.**



"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**



"Sea View"

**Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - 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 - **\$585,000.**



"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. #AB67- **\$2,950,000**



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"Cornish Cay"

**Sea of Abaco** - 38 Acre private Island - Great Beaches - 2 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**



"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.**

**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** - "Lightbourn" - Commercial - Almost 2 Acres - Prime Queen Elizabeth Drive Location, near stoplight - 3,600 sq.ft. Store or warehouse. # AB - AB99 - **\$1,400,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - "Blueberry Hill" - Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 970 sq.ft. residence with 2 rental cottages. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Centrally located but good privacy. Fully Furnished. Swimming Pool. Great Income Producer. # AB115 **\$347,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Commercial - over 1/3 Fenced Acre - 2,160 sq.ft. Showroom/Office/ Warehouse Building - Great for service business or wholesaler - Good relocation property for businesses expanding into Abaco from Nassau or Freeport. AB110 - **\$290,000.**



**Kathleen Albury, BRI**  
Estate Agent  
Appraiser  
  
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e.mail: [faron@hgchristie.com](mailto:faron@hgchristie.com)



"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**



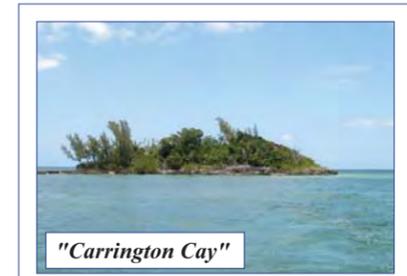
"Point of View"

**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.**



"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**



"Carrington Cay"

**Sea of Abaco** - Private Island - 300' from the Abaco mainland, near Leisure Lee - 1.4 acres. Excellent elevation. 8' of water at western end. Fresh water, electricity and cable near-by. Also called Lower Turtle Rock. #AB5147 **\$375,000.**

**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** - "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 - **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.**



**Margot Lee**  
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e.mail: [jic@oii.net](mailto:jic@oii.net)

★ **VACANT LAND** ★

- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Canal Front Building Sites
- ☆ #40 - 9,778 sq.ft. - AB5155 - Extra Large Corner Parcel - **\$299,000.**
- ☆ #41 - 7,070 sq.ft. - AB5156 - Good Elevation - Sea View - **\$360,000.**
- ☆ #45 - 6,968 sq.ft. - AB5066 - Good Elevation - Sea View - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ☆ **Cabbage Cove** - 1/3 Acre - Sea of Abaco Beachfront Building Sites - Mid-way between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay - # AB5142 - **\$118,000.**
- ☆ **Great Guana Cay** - 5.9 Beautiful sea-to-sea acres- South end of Great Guana Cay 395' of Ocean frontage. 160' of Sea of Abaco frontage. 245' of semi-private boat basin frontage. Good elevations for fabulous ocean and sea views #AB5176 - **\$2,950,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - Coco Bay Area - "Madera Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. # AB5143 - **\$395,000.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Coco Sound" - 28 prime residential building sites - between Coco Bay and White Sound from 1/4 - 1/2 acre # AB5090 - from: **\$59,000.**
- ☆ **Sand Banks Creek** - One Acre plus - Wooded lots with over 90' of water frontage on Bay - 3 miles south of Treasure Cay - Limited Number Available. #AB5069 - from: **\$63,700.**



"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 situated over 3/4 acre. 48' lay-along private dock. Beautifully furnished 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.**