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# The Abaconian

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VOLUME 13, NUMBER 8, APRIL 15th, 2005

## Baker's Bay Project Is Explained

**Hope Town Council Hears Pros and Cons of Controversial Development**



Developers of the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club and representatives of the Save Guana Cay Reef Association met with the Hope Town District Council on April 6 to present their differing sides of the development. Chief Councillor Walter Sweeting is on the left. Seated facing him are Mrs. Erin Pagliaro of SGCR; Glen Laing, Councillor for Guana Cay; Jeff Key, Councillor for Hope Town; and Senior Administrator Revis Rolle. Both groups presented their view of the controversial development for the north end of Great Guana Cay.

Developers of the Bakers Bay Golf and Ocean Club and opponents of the project, Save the Guana Cay Reef Association, met with the Hope Town District Council on April 6. As many as possible squeezed into the small Council office in Hope Town.

The Council first heard from Steve Adelson and Ed Divita, partners in the development who gave the Council an update on their plans. They expect construction of the first phase will begin by June 1 of this year and be completed by June, 2008. It will include a 180-slip marina, a freight dock, a desalination plant, 75 villa-style rooms, infrastructure for 350 residential lots, marketing facilities, a community center for the residents of Guana Cay and a commercial center which will include a bar and restaurant, a general store and other shops.

All businesses in the marina village will

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 2

## New Ambulance Service Is Discussed

By Jennifer Hudson

The closing of the Trauma One Ambulance Service on March 31st seems to have spurred the government into action. On April 6th Mr. Paul Newbold, Field Director for National Emergency Medical Services, convened a meeting in Marsh Harbour which he termed "a feed back mission in order to determine what is going on, what is going to happen and how it's going to happen." He had spoken with the Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel, Minister for Health, and Dr. Baldwin

Carey, Director of Public Health, who is responsible for clinics which are a Public Health issue.

Mr. Newbold began by saying, "There must be something sustainable here on Abaco with all the proper protocols in place, and I am here to solicit suggestions as to how to best carry this out. The government is not against a stipend to keep an ambulance."

Please see **Ambulance** Page 21

## Reef Ball Raises Funds for Friends



The fifth annual Reef Ball was held on April 9. This event of Friends of the Environment will provide funding for their many environmental projects. During the evening their new Board of Directors was presented. From the left is Erin Pagliaro, President, Jim Richard, Anne Pleydell-Bouverie, Cha Boyce, Lory Kenyon, David Knowles, Anita Knowles, Jeritza Outten, Dianne Claridge, Jo-Ann Bradley and Bill Albury. Not pictured are Deb Patterson, Nan Kenyon, Michael Lightbourn and Michael Parotti.

By Mirella Santillo

People from all over Abaco attended the Reef Ball held at the Abaco Beach Resort on April 2nd. For the 5th year Friends of the Environment organized the event which is a fund raiser for the preservation of Abaco's environment.

The evening started with Mr. Peter Michie taking the crowd on a tour of

the reefs with a ceiling projection. He explained that the \$75 entrance fee would be used to place moorings in various areas so boats could tie up without anchoring on the reefs. He mentioned, "We have to find a balance between

Please see **Reef Ball** Page 15

## Tourism Figures Show Growth



Tourism figures for Abaco continue to improve with visitor numbers increasing, with rising room rates and increasing lengths of stay. Mr. Gary Young, right, presented interesting statistics to business leaders and government personnel on March 31. With him are Ms. Wynsome Ferguson of the Abaco Tourism office and Don Cornish, now in the Tourism office in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

By Mirella Santillo

"Abaco shares a reputation second to none in The Bahamas as far as tourists are concerned." That was the conclusion of Mr. Gary Young, Director of Research and Development for the Ministry of Tourism. Eighty-five percent of our visitors recommended Abaco as vacation destination, a very high number of satis-

fied visitors.

On March 31 a meeting was held at the Anglican Parish Hall. It had two purposes: to relate the endeavors of the Ministry of Tourism on Abaco to promote tourism and create an even better destination for the tourists and to inform the audience of tourism's

Please see **Tourism** Page 4

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# Government Leaders Hear About Baker's Bay

By Mirella Santillo

The Discovery Land Company presented the concepts of the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club to government officials during a meeting at Abaco Beach Resort on March 22. Several of the developers involved in

the project invited them to a dinner function that included details of the project. Present were the company's engineers and public relations personnel to talk about the development and clarify areas of controversy such as the golf course and the pro-

posed marina.

Mr. John Head explained features of the proposed golf course that made it environmentally safe. The type of grass to be planted on the golf course, Seashore Paspalum, is "one that does not require large amount of fertilizing and can be watered with brackish or refuse water." He explained, "The salt in the brackish water acts as a pesticide, and the refuse water as a fertilizer," adding that last year "only five gallons of fertilizer was used on the golf course that the company owns on Hawaii, much less than the huge amount predicted in the Guana Cay residents' survey."

Mr. Steve Adelson, one of the partners, reassured the audience that every precaution would be taken to preserve the natural habitat and the integrity of the island. He stated that the proposed marina consisting of 33 acres, "smaller than the 50 acre marina of Boat Harbour Marina." It will probably be downsized from 240 to about 180 slips. Its construction will be overseen by a Blue Flag certified engineer, who was also present that evening.

Mr. Adelson mentioned that the three docks planned on the sea side have been cancelled to lessen the pollution to Joe's Creek. He explained that the native vegetation will be preserved and utilized as much as possible. Orchids and air plants taken out of the wild during construction will be transplanted to a nursery until they can be re-used for landscaping. Apart from utility vehicles, there will be no motorized vehicles; only electric golf carts will be allowed. These statements were confirmed by Mr. Ed Devita, another partner who took the podium to answer questions.

It was emphasized that Bahamians will be guaranteed beach access as well as access to the public areas of the development. The Discovery Center, a beach park of five acres will have public rest rooms and fire pits for barbecues.



Mr. Steve Adelson was one of the presenters at a casual dinner meeting in Marsh Harbour to discuss the newly approved Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club. Government leaders were informed of their plans and were able to question the developers.

The first facility to be built, Baker's Landing, will be a temporary beach club made of collapsible structures, later to be dismantled. "Construction is not scheduled to start until later this year, after all the appropriate agencies have given their final approvals." Phase one of the project is due to be completed within two years.

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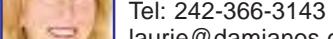


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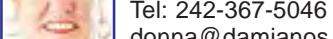


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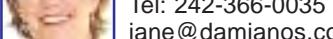


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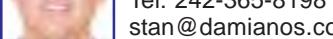


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# Abaco Has Great Potential in Tourism

## Tourism

From Page 1

trends in 2004. The guest speaker was Mr. Young, a specialist in statistics. He explained last year's tourism figures by analyzing visitor responses on immigration cards.

Sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, the breakfast meeting was well attended with close to 80 persons present. After enjoying food catered by the Back Street Restaurant, the group listened to the various speakers introduced by Mrs. Jeritzen Outten. She opened the meeting by saying, "Today is a report for 2004. We are looking for signals indicating what to look for this year." She presented the six new staff members of the Abaco Tourism office, who have specific tasks to improve visitors stay.

She explained that last year, after two days of retreat at the Abaco Beach Resort spent to examine the opportunities and the threats to our tourism product, it was determined that certain areas needed to be implemented to ensure the continuous growth of tourism. Nine committees were formed to carry out these tasks.

After Tourism's goals had been outlined, Mr. Young said that he had been collecting data since 1999 from immigration cards. According to visitor comments, he said, "Abaco needs to address the garbage and litter problem. This is the main areas of complaint from visitors. The statistics are the visitors' voice. The objective is to make their stay a better experience."

Here are some of the results for last year.

The total spending in The Bahamas for 2004 was \$1.883 billion of which \$91 million was attributed to Abaco. This is pure expenditure, not reflecting custom duties.

The average spending per person on Abaco is \$ 921. Hotel revenue was down 1 percent, but the daily room rate was up from \$147.90 to \$ 156.06. Regarding the visitors' nights, Abaco registered a growth of 18 percent, the highest in The Bahamas. Our island had a 34 percent growth in hotel nights, the second best in the country. Nassau/ Paradise Island was last. The number of nights spent in vacation homes increased by 63 percent; this includes time sharing, apartment and villas rentals. There was a 17 percent increase in boat visitors nights, the second after Nassau.

As far as recommendations, 85 percent of visitors will recommend Abaco as a vacation destination. In that category it was determined whether people were repeat visitors or not, whether they thought they got the value for their money, whether their stay was better or as good as expected, whether they would recommend the island. People who answered yes to all the questions account for 65 percent of the people visiting The Bahamas. The next group were mostly favorable but found the stay expensive. They made up a little over 25 percent. The last group felt they did not get good value for their money. Fortunately, they account for only about 10 percent of our visitors. According to that percentage, approximately 1000 people who visited Abaco went back home dissatisfied. One of our goals is to reduce that number.

Some of the reasons for people visiting Abaco are the closeness to the United States, the safety and security offered by the island. Getting here is not only easy and it is also one of the best destination in the Caribbean.

Travel security has now a large impact on where people go for vacation. It is fore-

seen that by 2009 most of the visitors to Abaco will continue to be from the United States. The number of Europeans visiting America or Americans visiting Europe is expected to be down by 28 percent by that time. Most people will stay on their side of the ocean.

Another interesting piece of information gathered was that the hurricanes had more impact on travelers to Abaco than September 11 did.

Please see **Tourism**

Page 22



*The Anglican hall was filled with business persons and government personnel to hear Mr. Gary Young, statistician with the Ministry of Tourism who gave findings on tourism on Abaco. He analyzes the data from immigration cards which tourists fill out. In the foreground is Mr. Robert Sweeting, MP for South Abaco.*



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# Tourism Committees Give Status Reports

By Jennifer Hudson

During the Abaco Business Report Meeting held on March 30th at which Tourism's Director of Research and Development, Mr. Gary Young, gave his presentation, chairpersons or their representatives of the tourism committees gave an up-date on the work of their various committees. There are nine task forces which, according to Director of Tourism for Abaco, Jeritza Outten, are doing a very good job and are "all about making a difference."

The task forces came into being as the result of a two-day retreat held last year at the Abaco Beach Hotel when an ambitious ten-year business plan was drawn up and the committees were devised as part of that plan. Each committee has representatives from various communities on Abaco.

Following is a brief outline of goals of each group as outlined during the presentation.

- Training and Education presented by Jo-Ann Bradley.

Our goal is to create an awareness amongst the tourism and hospitality industry regarding customer service. The group hopes to put in place within the next two years an integrated programme in primary and secondary schools and to assist educators with tourism programmes.

- Airport, Ground Transport and Tours presented by Bobby Jones.

We are working, observing, recommending and monitoring all areas of air and ground transportation. This task force has been divided into three sub-groups each with its own individual chairperson. 1. Training. 2. Transportation and Security. 3. Environmental Maintenance and Repairs. The airports in Marsh Harbour and North Abaco are being studied.

- Business Development

Looking at areas which are a natural fit such as birding, bonefishing, boating. Targeting the visiting white collar community will need an infrastructure of conference rooms, business centres and larger airport. There is a need to increase services for boaters in order to keep them here longer such as repairs, electrical, welding.

- Eco-tourism and the Environment presented by Deloris Stubbs.

The objective is to work closely with local environmentalists and environmental projects. The month of April will be set aside for the observation of Coastal Awareness and several events are scheduled.

- Marinas, Seaports and Cruises presented by Captain Cyril Roker.

Their objectives are to anticipate and prepare for infrastructural demand (such as markers, moorings and pump-outs) and service growth in the area of seaports, marinas and cruise ships. To investigate the value of the Blue Flag Marina Certification concept for Abaco marinas and to monitor ferry operations (new schedules, transfer fees).

- Marketing and Airlift presented by Molly McIntosh.

The committee recently had the benefit of a guest speaker on the important topic of night flying which would be an asset. Virgin Atlantic Airline will begin flying into Nassau and this will bring in more European visitors. More flights are needed and the airports need upgrading. The subject of advertising brochures and co-op and internet advertising will be addressed. There is a need for writers to come in and produce more articles and a need to know where business is coming from in order to help market Abaco more effectively.

- Culture, Entertainment and Arts presented by Bryan Thompson.

This category covers a wide spectrum and the mandate is to improve the Bahamian experience with an Abaco flair. There is a need for more native shows, gospel concerts and outlets to display native talent. More courses should be set up for students as the cultural arts are being lost and workshops should be set up to encourage persons in Junkanoo and arts and crafts. More use should be made of Goombay Park.

- Domestic and Religious Tourism presented by Reverend Carlton Dorsett.

This represents a huge market, and it is hoped to encourage more religious and domestic tourism to Abaco. Ways need to be found to encourage more Bahamians to visit from other islands. The Anglican church recently held a national conference here and ways need to be found to increase this type

of tourism with various denominations. Camp Abaco is a year round attraction and particularly in July and August hundreds of children come there from around the country. Retreats are now a big thing.

- Events and Sports Tourism presented by Bernadette Harding.

The emphasis is on special events and encouraging group travel to Abaco for sporting events and nature based ventures. Entertainment and sports are capable of attracting a variety of foreign groups and family travel. The Ministry of Tourism plans to assist such ventures as the Sandy Point Homecoming, a swim-a-thon at Elbow Cay and the Heritage Festival at Green Turtle Cay plus try to organize a Country and Western Festival. They would like to build up Junkanoo and encourage the cays to participate and hopefully form additional groups.

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# Food Handling Courses Are Required

By Mirella Santillo

The Department of Environmental Health has made it mandatory for people working in regular contact with food to attend a yearly food handling seminar. This applies to food wholesalers, grocery shops, restaurants, bars serving food, street food vendors and even conch salad vendors. Owners, managers and employees of those businesses have to attend the course.

The health certificate issued to employees working in those establishments, necessary for their licensing, will not be delivered until the course has been taken. Only the government clinic doctor is now allowed to perform the physical examination and deliver the Food Handlers Certificate because he is the only one to receive the list of the people having taken the course.

Such a seminar was offered on March 10 at the Resource Center in Marsh Harbour, one of many already held on Abaco since November of 2004. The instructor, Mrs. Dolores Stubbs, said "We offer seminars three times per month in different locations." So far she has held seminars in Treasure Cay, Fire Road,

Green Turtle Cay, Hope Town, Great Guana Cay, Sandy Point and several in March Harbour.

On March 10th 89 people reported for the course, which had to be relocated to Central Abaco Primary School to accommodate the number of participants who had come from as far as Treasure Cay, Cherokee Sound and Green Turtle Cay.

Mrs. Stubbs, a native of Eleuthera, grew up in Nassau where she started to work with the Department of Environmental Health. She eventually became a Health Inspector and was trained last year by the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the Pan American Health Organization, to become a Food Safety Trainer, before coming to Marsh Harbour last spring.

She explained, "The purpose of the course is to provide employers and employees with the knowledge and the skills needed to handle food safely."

The emphasis of the course is on food born illnesses, why they happen and what to do to prevent their happening. During the seminar Mrs. Stubbs reminds people about personal hygiene, how important

it is to wash hands and how to wash them properly. She explained how to manage food safety by preventing cross contamination and by controlling the temperature at which the food is being kept. Cleaning and sanitizing were also explained.. The course is held with the help of videos and there is a questions and answers period to clarify any misconception the students might have. People are quizzed at the end of the course to make sure that they have understood and remembered what they have been taught.

So far 731 people have attended the seminars which cost \$5 each time. There is an additional \$5 fee for the physical exam, in all, a very reasonable investment for the amount of knowledge received.

One participant, an employee of Fisher's Bay Blue Water Grill, said, "It was all based on common sense, but it was good to be reminded."

## Support Citizens Against Crime

A group of citizens in Central Abaco has maintained a crime watch patrol for the past several years. Two vehicles patrol the area at night and have been a definite deterrent against crime. The program is supported by donations from businesses and residents of the area.

ASP Wayne Miller, Abaco's Police Chief, is encouraging the formation of neighbourhood crime watch groups. As a result there is a renewed interest in expanding the Citizens Against Crime patrol. Additional funding will be necessary and the group is appealing for support from the entire Central Abaco community as an anticipated budget of \$30,000 will be required.

Send all donations to Citizens Against Crime, P.O. Box AB 20095, Marsh Harbour, or call Randy Key at 367-2763 for more information.

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The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State have announced that effective January 1, 2006, all U.S. citizens and foreign nationals traveling to the United States from The Bahamas, the Caribbean, Bermuda, Central America and South America, will be required to present a valid passport or another secure, accepted document to enter or re-enter the United States.

Currently, U.S. citizens and some citizens of other countries in the Western Hemisphere are not required to present a passport to enter or re-enter

the U.S. when traveling within the Western Hemisphere. Legislation passed by the U.S. Congress in 2004 mandated a plan to require U.S. citizens and foreign nationals to present a passport or other secure document when entering the United States.

U.S. citizens currently residing in or visiting The Bahamas who do not currently possess valid U.S. passports who anticipate traveling back to the United States after January 1, 2006, can submit applications for a new or renewed passport at the U.S. Embassy in Nassau or at any passport facility located in

the United States. First-time passport applicants must appear in person to submit their application materials. Specific information about application procedures and fees is available online at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) or from the Embassy's Consular Section.

Potential travelers are strongly encouraged to submit their passport application form and required documentation well in advance of the implementation date in nine months for the new travel document requirement.

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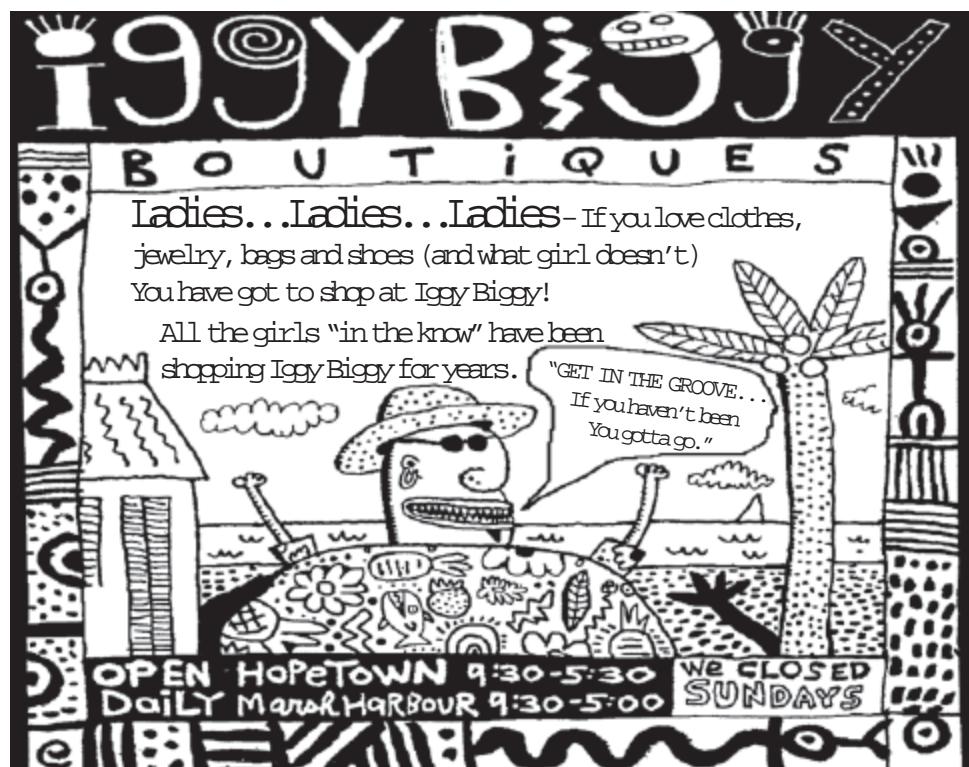
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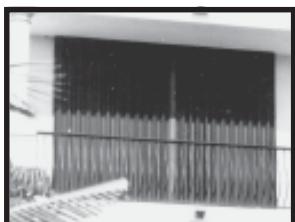
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# The Editor Says . . . Comments on the Ambulance Service

Dave  
Ralph

Central Abaco's volunteer ambulance service, Trauma One, ceased operation on March 31, 2005, after approximately eight years of operation. A lack of funding and support, indifference locally and by Nassau health authorities, increased regulations and authoritarian edicts were the main causes for its closure.

Now that the volunteer service has been disbanded, government is wringing its hands and asking for ideas on how to best provide the service. It is amazing that government is now concerned but could not make any effort earlier. It would have been much easier to work with a functioning operation. Health officials from Nassau held a meeting here on April 12 to get ideas on replacing the service.

In the meantime one of the ambulances is parked at the Marsh Harbour police station for safekeeping. Ambulance response requires two persons, a driver who may not have medical training and a person trained in initial emergency medical care on arrival and during transportation to a doctor. A typical response may require these two persons to stay with the injured person for two or three hours while at the clinic or while waiting for a medical flight. Afterwards, the ambulance must be cleaned, disinfected and restocked.

It now appears that government is working to send two medical technicians to Abaco to work with local volunteers. It remains to be seen how this will work out.

Since the closure of Trauma One there have been several incidents where an ambulance was requested but there was varying degrees of success in getting acceptable service.

In the first instance we are aware of, a call was taken by one of the volunteer firemen who used his car to take a man with a suspected heart problem to the clinic in the early evening. Initial calls for the ambulance were not successful.

In the second instance, a call came after midnight to the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. A woman on a boat at the Conch Inn wanted an ambulance to take her husband to the doctor

as he was experiencing a fluctuating rapid heartbeat. That episode was an exercise in frustration. Since the ambulance service had only recently been discontinued, new procedures had not been put in place. Not knowing where the ambulance was or how to request it, several attempts were made to contact a taxi, both by phone and VHF radio without success.

A fireman then called believing that the ambulance was in the care of the police. A call to the police confirmed this, but it was there only for safekeeping, and they had no one to drive it. They suggested calling the clinic.

The woman at the Conch Inn asked the watchman at the government clinic to talk to the doctor on the phone to give the symptoms and get some comfort under the circumstances. However, the system does not allow patients or their families to contact the government doctor until the patient is at the clinic and examined by the nurse. If warranted, the nurse will then call the doctor.

Unable to get either a taxi or the ambulance in the middle of the night, the patient could not get to the clinic. The woman finally was given the nurse's phone number by the clinic watchman, but she found the call unsatisfactory and was "blown away by the response." She was told to contact the police for the ambulance. (That had been attempted earlier.)

By now the policeman on duty had located a driver and sent the ambulance to the Conch Inn. A policeman accompanied the driver as two people were needed to carry the patient on a stretcher. Reports are that further frustrations followed as the ambulance personnel were not familiar with the mechanics of unfolding the stretcher or how to get the stretcher and patient back into the ambulance.

We understand the nurse was on hand at the clinic when the ambulance arrived. All of this took about 45 minutes which can lead to drastic results for many medical situations.

An automobile accident Sunday afternoon, April 11, saw the ambulance take two adults and three children to the clinic. The next day at noon a heart problem had the ambulance taking a patient to the clinic, then to the airport for a medical flight to more comprehensive facilities. On one of these two trips, clinic staff locked the door when the ambulance arrived and the injured had to wait outside for the doctor to arrive.

Some fire departments have volunteers who are also trained as medical first responders, but they may not always be available when needed. In the case of the ambulance, every volunteer must have First Responder training.

Several Abaco towns have volunteer fire departments or Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Associations which respond to emergency situations. They seem to be

well financed with donations from their respective communities and substantial financial assistance from the visitors to those communities. The ambulance did receive a small monthly stipend from the Central Abaco Council, but they mainly relied on community donations.

It was apparent to many persons locally that the government health system was not prepared to either give financial help or sanction the service. It is not clear why health authorities showed no interest in the volunteer service until it closed as it appeared to be a reasonably well functioning service.

The ambulance is one of many instances of central government's indifference to Family Island problems. Other instances are noted where action is not forthcoming until a situation reaches crisis proportions.

- School repairs after the hurricanes, entire roofs missing, no electricity, windows still broken,

- Schools opening with insufficient staff

- Government warehouse roof not fixed seven months after the storms

- Garbage in Hope Town addressed after reaching a crisis

- Treasure Cay water hook-up took over three years to connect

- Treasure Cay sewer system unresolved

- Years of inaction to the Mud and Pigeon Pea situation, still unresolved

- Years of indecision to airport expansion, still unresolved

Among the Family Islands, Abaco is probably a leader with volunteer organizations providing fire, medical, and search and rescue assistance. These organizations should receive government's encouragement even if they cannot be helped financially. Government can choose to ignore a garden club with little repercussion whereas a working ambu-

lance or fire department should be encouraged to continue providing efficient service with well trained volunteer staff. They should not be hindered with bureaucratic obstacles.

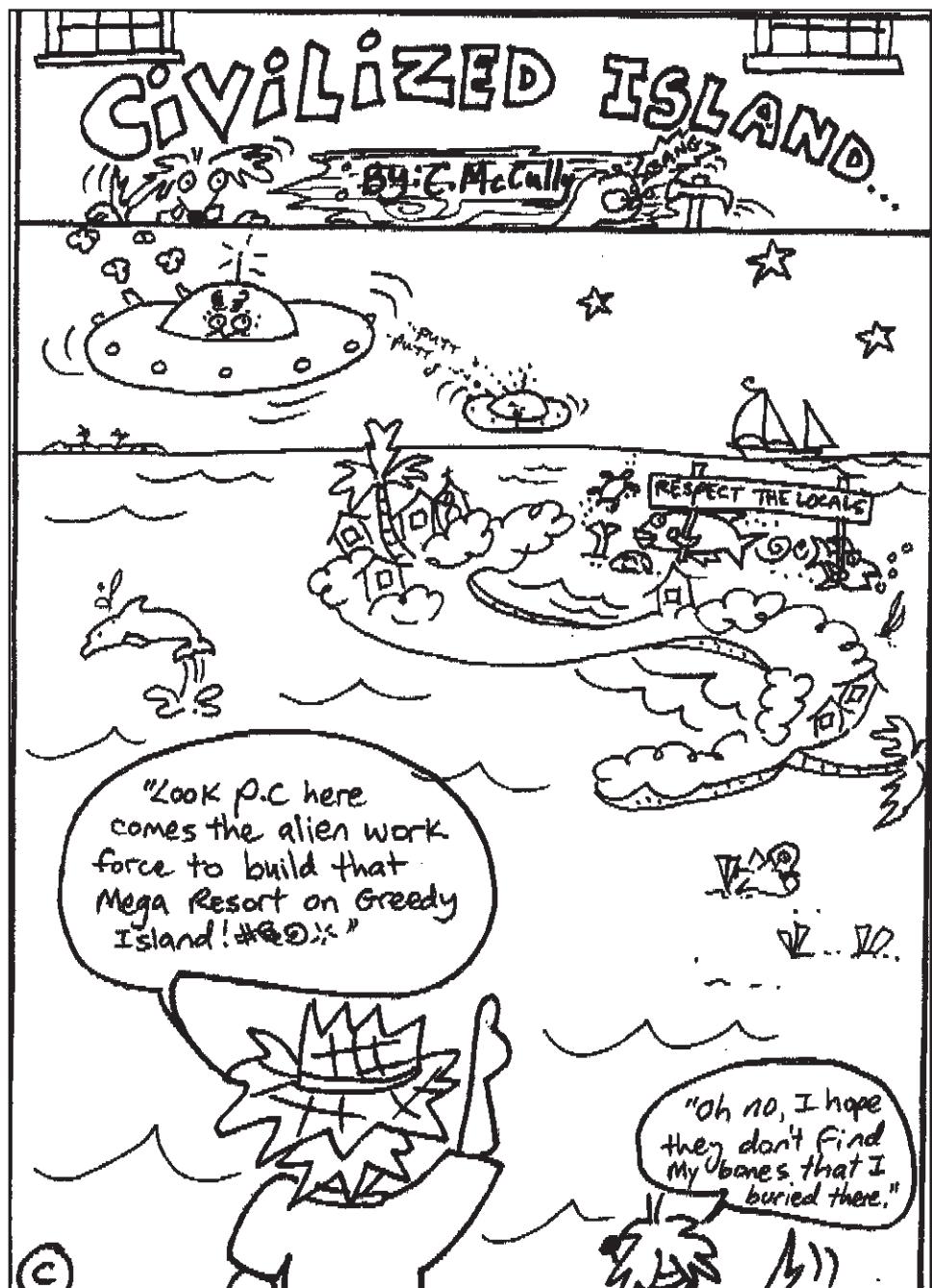
The Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department receives a small stipend from local government to help with maintenance and operational expenses. None of the volunteers is paid. Authorities do not appear to be anxious to assume responsibility for these other emergency services on Abaco. Some of the weaker organizations could use moral and professional support, perhaps from appropriate government agencies.

Money is important for most organizations, and fortunately, there are people willing to contribute to keep various organizations functioning. Much effort goes into raising the necessary funds. It is a rare organization that can raise enough money to hire persons to actually do the work.

Then there are the volunteers who donate their time and energy to these organizations such as Trauma One. This entails training, upgrading their technical skills, being familiar with and maintaining the equipment. It is a much greater commitment than driving through town with the sirens blaring. The volunteers are often awakened in the middle of the night by emergency calls. Firefighters have often been on the job for 12 - 18 hours.

We must applaud Mr. Daniel Wiltfang, who founded the system, and his team who kept it operational for so many years - all on a volunteer basis. We are not aware of any complaints during that time. Aside from public fund raising events, the volunteers kept their problems to themselves.

The procedure for calling the ambulance will be published when routine service is restored.



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# Letters to the Editor

## Plea to Support Development

Dear Sir:

I will be grateful for your favourable consideration in placing the following in your newspaper.

To All Abaconians and especially those on Guana Cay:

There has in recent times been much controversy over the proposed development in the Bakers Bay area. I would like to add my two cents' worth.

I am 62 years old and have lived ALL of my life on Abaco. I remember when all of our towns were small. Some of our people were forced to leave here and seek employment in other places. Those who stayed and eked out a living, as did my parents, were poor. We were grateful for the first developer, Mr. James B. Crockett, who began the first commercial farm and shipyard. This was a blessing as many of our parents for the first time were able bring home a regular weekly pay cheque. Marsh Harbour forever changed for the better after this. The same type of things happened in all of our towns over the years. We were glad when the second homeowners came and fueled our economy and today we are one of the most prosperous islands in our Bahamaland.

I recall when my grandfather sold all of his holdings in Boat Harbour (on Guana Cay) to Mr. Otton for five pounds (\$14). This was back in the early fifties. He thought he was getting a great price for worthless land. I'm certain that today you could not buy what a one hundred dollar bill can cover in this area for that amount.

Some of the people today who are complaining about the soon to be successful development on Bakers Bay were nowhere to be found when Guana Cay's economy was non-existent. They came here in the last few years and are successfully reaping the benefits. Can't you see that for future generations the economy of ALL our islands needs to grow; otherwise, your kids will have to go in search of employment, as many others had to do?

I am given to understand that an expatriate recently told our elected Member of Parliament that if he would not produce certain documents for him that he (our M.P.) could get off the island. If this is true, I feel the person should apologize to our M.P. and all the people of South Abaco. Can you imagine me saying to a U.S. Senator if he did not give me certain things, he could leave his state? The INS would soon escort me to the nearest airport to catch the first flight out.

In the latest edition of *The Abaconian* there was a letter from some visitors who were complaining about what this new development would do to Guana Cay and how they would not enjoy coming here anymore. The interesting thing is they are still hard working people who put in their 40 hours a week. Nothing wrong with this, I am happy to see working people come to Abaco.

How many of this type will it take to spend the kind of money one homeowner/boat owner or club member in the Bakers Bay Golf Club would spend?

I have looked at and discussed the proposed project in detail with the principals in the development and from what I have seen and heard, I am convinced that this will be one of the finest of its kind anywhere in the world.

The concerns of the good people of Guana Cay would be non-existent if they would allow themselves to learn what is planned rather than being influenced by some expatriates who wish our islands to remain as they were when they first came however many years ago. The developers are just as much if not more concerned as you are about the environment. They are

going to be bringing in a far higher upscale clientele than we are presently getting. Do you believe these people want to see a dead reef? Did any of you ever anchor your boat on a reef? Did any of you ever squeeze detergent or gasoline under a shoal to get crawfish out?

I was recently in Guana and was so pleased to see the size yachts tied to the Orchid Bay Marina. I'll bet those guests drop a few coins in your settlement. I recall how much opposition there was about this development. I also recall the opposition to Nippers and Guana Beach Resort. Yet the world has not ended and your economy continues to thrive. You leading CITIZENS of Guana Cay, I challenge you to get involved in a constructive way and learn what is going to happen, be a part of it. Don't be unduly influenced by those who have made and continue to make their money in some other places and are not concerned about a thriving economy for you and your children. Become members of the Bahamas National Trust and have input as to what happens to Joe's Creek and the Wetlands.

I repeat here what was told to me some years ago regarding growth of a business which directly relates to the economy of any island, town or country, "If it does not grow, it will die!"

The Bakers Bay project will go forward, and some day you will acknowledge the short term as well as the long-term benefits to our island.

Yours truly,  
Jack Albury

## Proud of Her Birth Place

Dear Editor,

This letter is for anyone interested and its purpose is to let Abaco know how proud I am of one of its smallest communities, Cherokee Sound. Cherokee was never really heard of by most people a few years ago. If you told someone you were from Cherokee, they would look at you and ask where you were talking about. Now it's a whole different story.

I am sure with the Winding Bay Project being so close a lot more people now know about it. But it's also because the people of little Cherokee try to do whatever they can for their community and because of this they are noticed. This is where my pride comes in. January of this year I celebrated my 18th birthday right here in Cherokee as I did the others. And to me no where else would have been a better place to celebrate.

To let you know what I mean about the people doing what they can, I will mention a few things. Just last year a group of citizens got together and restored Cherokee's "old school" rather than see it demolished and forgotten. The dedication of these people and the support of all of Cherokee and beyond was overwhelming. Now because of this, the new W. W. Sands Community Centre can be enjoyed by everyone.

Then also after every major hurricane it's almost a given that the Long Dock will be washed away. As it did after the two storms of 2004, instead of sitting back and not doing anything about it, the men of Cherokee always get together and re-build it voluntarily. They are now in the process of doing just that. This is because they know what the Long Dock meant to them as children, and they want that to continue with future generations.

And now again in 2005 one night at the volleyball court some of the youth, shall I call them, started reflecting on the restoration of the "old school" and decided to do the same for the clinic. A building that has been neglected for some time and is in ruins. They later got together and elected their committee which I am a part of. Since then

we've had a number of fund raisers and everyone has been more than willing to support us and lend a helping hand whenever it's needed.

What makes me especially proud is not only the dedication of these "chosen" committees and the men who volunteer but of everyone involved. Those who make sure the guys at the dock have something to eat everyday when they work or the ones who help with our cook-outs or even the guys who get the supplies from Marsh Harbour. And the best thing of all is now seeing the youth get together working with each other to accomplish something so great.

I hope everyone everywhere can one day come and see for themselves and agree that what I am saying is true. I also hope that they can be as equally proud of their home. Never deny where you are from, even somewhere as small as Cherokee. It is the best thing about yourself.

Kimberly Lowe

## Guana Cay Reef Lobby Asks Robert Sweeting for Support

Dear Mr. Sweeting,

The Save Guana Cay Reef Association would like to sincerely thank you for your efforts to share the Heads of Agreement for the proposed development Passerine/Baker's Bay golf club, marina and foundation. Please understand that we are committed to fighting this atrocity in the name of our livelihood and heritage as well as our marine and terrestrial eco-systems. However, we do not hold you personally liable for decisions made autonomously by the Cabinet and the Prime Minister on the behalf of the foreign developers. We would like to restate our official position to you and to those who are exposed to this letter. Our association is owned and operated by born Bahamian citizens. The scale of the Passerine project at Baker's Bay development as proposed is inappropriate for Great Guana Cay. Furthermore, the lack of consultation and consideration by government and investors to overwhelming local outcry against this proposal fuels a deep resentment that will not be overcome at this late stage.

Our displeasure and discomfort with you, Mr. Sweeting, as representative of the people was obvious when you came here. Our feelings were not hidden away - you heard and saw true feelings from true Bahamians. Although some attacks may have

been misplaced, the people of Great Guana Cay are distrustful of their government. We now understand that you personally are not completely comfortable with the proposed development and were yourself not properly consulted by the Prime Minister or the foreigners. The will of the people from the very beginning of this fight has been unequivocally NO to Baker's Bay golf club, marina and foundation. The government has not addressed our concerns properly, and you as their representative bore the brunt of that very real sentiment. You have told us that you oppose this development; others say that you have stated otherwise and even had meetings to the contrary. We want to believe you, and we want to support you in any fight that you have left for us. You are our representative, our community member, and we respect your word.

Why is saving Great Guana Cay Reef saving the Bahamas? Because saving Great Guana Cay from economic and environmental disaster at this late stage is an unprecedented push by an overwhelming minority against all odds and monetary means to preserve that which is theirs by birthright. There are communities throughout The Bahamas that by no fault of their own have been railroaded by government and foreigners to squander a God-given gift. We will not be another; we will not go away. Where else have we to go? We fight for Family Island heritage and vision which is steeped in perseverance, handiwork, limited means, pristine quiet - not golf. Big is not better in our Bahamas. Our livelihood requires "smallness," sustainable growth, not forced dominion, not at all costs, not at the expense of what is best for us, for our children, and their children to come. We will not accept Passerine or any development in Baker's Bay that seeks, by its very nature, regardless of proposed mitigation or foundations to undermine local heritage, economy and democratic principle. Please know, Mr. Sweeting, that we wish you would not have given up the campaign that you yourself started against this proposed project in late 2003. Please stand by us now as we should have stood by you then. Furthermore, we are calling upon those in our surrounding communities throughout The Bahamas to heed our warnings lest they be the next to fall prey to foreign rule.

Very truly yours,  
Save Guana Cay Reef Lobby

Please see Letters

Page 20

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Feb 2005

# News of the Cays

## Hope Town Cay Topics Hosts Sculptor Pete Johnston

By Lindsey Delaplaine

The final lecture in the Cay Topics series, held on March 23rd at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge, featured Little Harbour artist and entrepreneur Pete Johnston. Hostess Ann Krout used the opportunity of introducing Pete to thank her hard working committee who made the series possible.

Instead of a lecture, Johnston treated the audience to an instruction in the lost art of casting, complete with examples of his work in various stages of the process. Wax sculptures, rough castings and finished pieces were passed around so everyone could get

a hands-on feel. Members of the audience who were wearing examples of Johnston's jewelry volunteered as models to display the variety of his work.

Johnston invited anyone who was interested in learning more about casting to visit his gallery in Little Harbour on Thursdays. There they can watch the process take place from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., although he recommended calling ahead.

After the demonstration Pete answered questions about how he became an artist, growing up in Little Harbour and his recent trip to Haiti. He has been an artist for as long as he can remember. He said, "I used a lot of four-letter words as a kid, and my mom used to wash my mouth out with soap. One time I spit out a dolphin and she

knew she had an artist." Both of Johnston's parents were artists, and his sons are carrying on the tradition as the third generation of Johnston artists.

## March Madness - Abaco Style

By Lindsey Delaplaine

In March the Hope Town Sailing Club hosted a series of three Saturday races for Abaco dinghy sailors. The series was a success with an ever growing population of spectators turning out to watch, much to the delight of the organizers. "It's such a beautiful sight to see all of those dinghies racing across Abaco Sound together," said one spectator.

The first Saturday race was postponed until Sunday, but on March 13 eight dinghies ventured out to the Sound to compete. Three races were held with overall winners being tabulated. They were: first

Pim Epler, second Doug Behrendt, and third Sid Roberts.

The second race on March 19 featured 10 dinghies. Pim Epler was the overall winner once again, with Mike Jackson placing second and Mike Keane taking third.

The final race on March 26 was held in high winds. A few brave sailors had to swim after the notoriously tricky boats capsized. Of those who did finish, first place went to Sid Roberts, second place to Pim Epler, and Tina Harrison took third.

## Raging Fundraiser

By Lindsey Delaplaine

It was a beautiful, warm spring day when the crew of the *Abaco Rage* hosted a Hope Town dock party fund raiser on March 29. The event started early and featured music and a variety of foods and beverages for

Please see **Cays**

Page 11



The Cay Topics Committee is shown with featured speaker Pete Johnston at their meeting on March 23. According to Chairman Ann Krout, interesting speakers are the reason Cay Topics has been such a success. They are, from left, Fay Mack, Margy Hyde, honorary member Patti Toler, Pete Johnston, Betsy Helm, Vice-chairman Dottie Shrier, Ann Krout and Kitty Donnan. Committee member Meg Peacock was not present.

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# More News of the Cays

## Cays

*From Page 10*

sale including the delicious, but dangerous, Swiggle (concocted from gin and coconut water), a Bahamian specialty common at Regattas. The conch salad was especially popular and sold out quickly. The *Abaco*



The Abaco Dinghy "Peace 'N Rice" makes it way out from Hope Town Harbour to Abaco Sound for the first race of the series.

*Rage* was on display and a number of different *Rage* shirts were on sale for supporters, but the main event of the day was the auction. In addition to *Rage* gear, an all expense paid trip to Georgetown and the 15th seat on the *Rage* for the Georgetown Regatta was up for sale. With Auctioneer Willy working the crowd, Lee Schumacher of Aspen, Colorado, won the bidding war to race with the *Rage*.

Stafford Patterson said the day was a great success and raised approximately \$4,000 for the team. The money raised will be used for repairs and maintenance on the boat, as well as defraying race expenses for the crew.

### Abaco Inn Holds Art Show

It was March 19th and Garnell Stuart welcomed visitors to the Abaco Inn on Elbow Cay. As she played lively background music, people came to take in the art show. Under high ceilings hung with netted glass balls and other "found" treasures, artists and artisans displayed their best efforts.

Rita Passere offered hand painted pieces of conch shells and the end pieces of glass bottles which she termed her "hurricane project." Living on a boat docked at the Hope Town Marina, Ms. Passeri painted whimsical girls and sailboats flying before the wind on objects she collected just after the hurricanes hit last year.

A specialist in basket and hat weaving, Virginia Williams demonstrated the skill of her craft to an appreciative audience. Originally from Andros where she learned to weave from her mother, she now lives in Dundas Town. The palm fronds she uses, Silvertop, are found in nearby forests.

Around the corner beautiful impression-

ist style, oil paintings of the Abaco area were on exhibit by Karen Hewitt Hagan. With a wide grin she said that although she has participated in numerous prestigious juried exhibitions across the United States, this was one of the few times her work was shown here. Two of her pieces were sold before noon.

Tuppy Weatherford, owner of Blue Sky Gallery in Marsh Harbour, had a large as-

*Please see Cays*

*Page 12*

Virginia Williams demonstrated basket weaving at the Abaco Inn Art Show.



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# More News of the Cays

## Cays

From Page 11

sortment of stunning photos for sale. Emerson Albury displayed his half-boat models of long ago Abaco dingies. He had sold three pieces by mid-day and said the sales had "made my day and my wife happy."

Other artists included Zyandric Jones from Dundas Town, who displayed canvases with bold angles, dark colours, and intense contrasts. Bev Gordon had a stunning display of silver wrapped sea glass jewelry, and Linda Schleif displayed her glass bead necklaces, bracelets, earrings and rings. Every Child Counts had a popular booth offering crafts made by its students. It was hard to see what was for sale because the crowds of buyers were three deep at times.

John Head, owner of the Abaco Inn said, "We had a beautiful day to have a great art exposition of really talented artists. We wanted to create a festive atmosphere for people to have fun." He succeeded.

## Humane Societies Raise Funds

By Candace Key

Animal care givers from Green Turtle Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Marsh Harbour gathered in Hope Town on April 9 to join with the Friends of Abaco Animals in the first annual Walk-a-Dog-a-Thon. All who took part in the family fun agreed it couldn't have been more successful. Gorgeous weather and a congenial group of adults, children, dogs and one brave cat, Chaunsey, made the event popular with tourists and locals alike.

Students and adults worked hard to promote the event by having people sponsor them to walk in aid of the humane group which has been providing spaying/neutering services and other forms of animal care since 1983 in Hope Town. Presently, there is a very successful network of knowledgeable and concerned animal lovers from most areas of Abaco who band together in an effort to make animal lives on Abaco healthier and happier.

The event began in Hope Town's Jarret

Park where interested people purchased t-shirts and cookies shaped like dogs, bones and cats, children had their face painted and introduced themselves and their dogs to each other. The merry group of approximately

30 children, adults, dogs and the inquisitive Chaunsey set off for their walk to Turtle Hill and back - about one and a half miles.

Please see Cays

Page 22



*Members of animal welfare groups from all over Abaco joined together in Hope Town to raise money for their work. Pictured above is a group of walkers and their dogs ready to hike for help. They were sponsored by Abaco residents and visitors.*

## family guardian's 40th anniversary calendar photo contest - a celebration of nature

14 winning entries will appear in Family Guardian's 2006 calendar. Winning entries receive a gift certificate valued at \$400 each. **Entry deadline is May 31, 2005**

### RULES

- 1 Family Guardian's 40th Anniversary Calendar Photo Contest is open to **all photographers**. The title for the company's 2006 calendar will be "**A CELEBRATION OF NATURE**". Photographs may be of any subject (animate or inanimate) or a scene which is a striking example of nature as found in The Bahama Islands. All photographs must be taken in The Bahamas.
- 2 **DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS MAY 31, 2005.**
- 3 **All entries are to be delivered to Family Guardian's Corporate Centre, Village and Eastern Road Roundabout, Nassau, between 9:00am and 5:00pm weekdays only.** Envelopes should be marked "Calendar Contest".
- 4 All entries must be accompanied by an **official entry form**, available at any Family Guardian office or when published in the newspapers.
- 5 Only colour images in horizontal format will be considered. Images can be provided as 35mm film or digital images on CD. **35mm film can be positive (slides) or colour negatives. Digital images must be of high quality (2700 x 2100 pixels or larger).** Digital images showing signs of photo manipulation or compression will be rejected. To ensure the best colour reproduction, digital images should be supplied in RAW, TIFF or high quality JPEG and in the original colour format the camera uses (LAB or RGB). **All entries must be supplied with prints which will be used in the judging process.** The photographer's name and photo subject should be written on the reverse of the print.
- 6 Judging of entries will be based on beauty, interest, composition, colour, originality and quality of photograph. Preference will be given to fauna photographed in its natural state, rather than in captivity. The photographs selected will appear in Family Guardian's 2006 calendar. The decision of the judges will be final.
- 7 All entries are submitted at the owner's risk. It is the company's intention to return all entries in their original condition. However, Family Guardian will assume no liability for any loss, damage or deterioration.
- 8 **A gift certificate - valued at \$400** will be presented for each of the photographs used. More than one entry from a single photographer may be selected. Photographic credits will be given in the calendar. The number of entries per photographer is limited to a **maximum of 5 photos**.
- 9 The winning photographs, along with all publication and reproduction rights attached thereto, become the property of Family Guardian and the company reserves the right to use such in the future.
- 10 Employees of Family Guardian, its affiliated companies or family members are not eligible.
- 11 Previously published photos not accepted.

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I agree that in the event one or more of my entered photographs is selected as a winner in the 2006 Family Guardian Calendar Photo Contest it will become the property of Family Guardian Insurance Co. Ltd., and I assign to Family Guardian all rights pertaining to its use in any way whatsoever. I also confirm that the photos entered in this contest were taken in The Bahamas by the undersigned.

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**ATLANTIC HORIZONS** - Dorros Cove  
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**CASA LUISA** - located one lot away from  
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# Central Abaco News

## John Bull Moves to New Location

John Bull, one of the Bahamas' leading luxury goods retailer, has recently announced that its new store in Marsh Harbour will open on April 15. The new location opposite Abaco Beach Resort will surpass the expectations of visitors and residents of Abaco.

For over 75 years John Bull has remained committed to offering uncompromising service and the world's most sought after brands. As John Bull continues to pursue excellence in all facets of its operation, the new Abaco location will truly be a shopper's paradise.

Patrons of the new John Bull should expect a shopping experience that is second to none other on the island. A visit to the store will unveil 3,678 square feet of luxury including a complete cosmetic and perfume department, beautiful displays of exquisite jewellery, a remarkable selection of timepieces, cameras and photographic equipment, writing instruments, tobacco products, leather goods, luggage and gift items.

The new John Bull is a beautiful store for a beautiful island.

## Book Signing Proved Popular

By Jennifer Hudson

Mrs. Marina Gottlieb Sarles was radiantly happy as she signed copies of her newly released book, *Sand in My Shoes*, at Sapodilly's on the evening of April 7th. Marina, who now resides in Grand Bahama and launched her book there in February, came to Abaco for a special

book signing since she has close ties with Abaco having spent the early part of her life here. She grew up in Marsh Harbour and attended school on the old steamship *Robert Fulton* at Snake Cay as her parents were the doctor and nurse for Owens Illinois at the time. From the age of 11 she continued her education at Queen's College in Nassau and then later in Europe and the United States. After spending many years as a physical therapist and energy healer, Marina is now enjoying her life as full time writer which she finds very rewarding.

This inspiring book, *Sand in My Shoes*, which is a collection of short stories inspired both by her parents and her life in the islands, is her first, though she is a regular contributor to a Grand Bahama magazine.

Many people attended the event to purchase their copies and have a few words with the charming author. "The evening went very well and I received many positive comments from people who had read the book," said Marina. "The book has been selling very well and is already in a second printing."

The book signing area was attractively decorated in shades of pink to show case the delicately beautiful cover of the book with even Marina herself in a colour co-



Marina Gottlieb Sarles

ordinated wardrobe. All the wait staff and bartenders became a part of the celebration as they sported eye-catching T-shirts depicting the book's cover.

Copies of the book may be purchased in Marsh Harbour at Abaco Treasures, Java and Bellevue and in Hope Town at Ebb Tide. In addition the book is on sale on-line at [www.sandinmyshoes.net](http://www.sandinmyshoes.net).

Mrs. Sarles has now embarked on a second book for which she draws inspiration from the life of her mother and will tell the story of a young woman who escapes the terrors and persecution of Germany in World War II.

## Small Business Seminar Is Scheduled

The Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation will conduct a three-night Small Business Management Seminar for New Entrepreneurs with Big Dreams on April 18-20. The seminar will be held at the Anglican Parish Hall in Marsh Harbour from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. each night.

This seminar will teach persons how to establish and successfully operate a small business and to keep the business going and the money flowing. The charge for the seminar is \$65.

Contact BAIC's Marsh Harbour office at telephone 387-0066 or fax 367-0067 by April 15th if you want to attend.

## Abaco Man Comes Fifth in Florida Competition

This year's third annual radio controlled Laser 2005 Eastern Regional Mid-Winter Regatta was held March 12 and 13 at Marco Island, Florida. The regatta was the largest group for Lasers that have ever competed together, not only on Marco, but also all over the United States.

Twenty-three boats competed in the two-day event. The boats came from New York, Minnesota, the Bahamas, Wisconsin, Colorado, California, New York, and several towns in Florida.

This year's first place winner from California had 38 points. Jim Kaighan from Marsh Harbour placed fifth with a score of 46.



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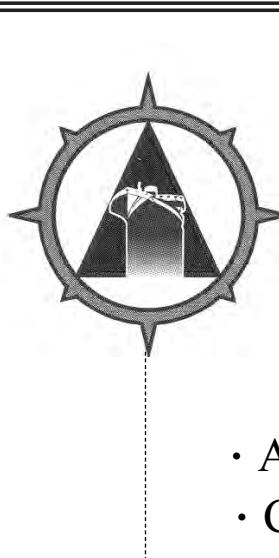
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## Explosion Causes Three Deaths

An explosion aboard a 70-foot boat resulted in the deaths of three from McLeans Town, Grand Bahama. The boat, *Saltare*, was near Carter Cay in North Abaco when the accident happened. Dead are Dwayne "Tippy" Williams, his 10-year-old son Deanthon Williams, and Carl Thomas.

One man survived the explosion because he was alongside in a smaller boat. The blast occurred when the men were transferring fuel from the smaller boat to the *Saltare*. The survivor, Alfred Higgs, Sr., also of McLeans Town, circled the boat hoping to save his companions. When he realized that was not possible he went for help. Two of the bodies were recovered the following day. The body of Carl Thomas was too burned to recover. The boat was destroyed by the blast and subsequent fire.

## Friends Awards Four for Conservation

### Reef Ball

*From Page 1*

economy and environment."

The band Modern Vintage provided the music while people enjoyed a variety of food on buffet tables. Soon the dance floor was packed with people swaying to the different rhythms of popular songs from previous decades.

During the first musical break, awards were presented to community members for their participation in saving our environment. They were Mrs. Tish Michie, a Hope Town resident who is on the newsletter committee for Friends, Mr. Troy Albury, an environmentalist from Great Guana Cay, Mr. Skeet Lachance, who maintains moorings at Mermaid Reef, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph, who have always been concerned with environmental issues. They were all given a plaque representing a wooden painted grouper, designed by Mrs. Catherine Pyfrom.



Several persons were recognized for their efforts in conservation and preservation. They included Mr. and Mrs. David Ralph, Tish Michie, Troy Albury and Skeet Lachance (represented by Lory Kenyon).

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# School News

## Every Child Counts School Holds Thank You Party

By Jennifer Hudson

The students and staff of the Every Child Counts School wanted to say "thank you" to all those who have helped the school in so many ways and what better way to do it than with a party? So on March 18th, the final day of term, they threw a party to which they invited family, friends and helpers.

The festivities began with a delightful programme in which all the children took part either in skits, singing, signing or the recorder group which was directed by student Michael Pedican. Anthony Garcia did an excellent job as M.C. and Alonzo Williams ably led everyone in the singing of

the National Anthem.

Before the children took to the stage, Ms. Joan Moss, long time friend of the school who has frequently sung at their functions, delighted everyone with a song. She was leaving immediately afterwards for a flight into Nassau where she has chosen to permanently relocate. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers by the school.

A skit, *Cat and Cracker*, was specially written for the children by Elizabeth Webb, a part time resident of Hope Town, and was adapted from one of her own children's experiences. Mrs. Webb is a published children's author in Britain and the publishers have allowed copies of her latest book *Madrigal - the Secret Witch* to be sold in the Bahamas with all proceeds from the sales going to the Every Child Counts



*The students of the Every Child Counts School in Marsh Harbour produced a musical program for parents, friends and supporters. The school works with students who need special help and relies entirely on donations. The program was the students' way of thanking their many supporters.*

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School. All the copies she brought with her have already sold out but the books will be available in stores here soon.

Mrs. Lynn Major, Principal of the school, thanked the audience of helpers and well wishers for all their assistance which enables the children to reach their full potential. She referred to the song which a group of young children had signed to music, the words of which were, "You raise me up to be more than I can be," saying, "What you do helps us to raise them up."

Mrs. Major was pleased to announce that the school continues to expand. Presently there are 45 students and nine staff members. A vocational class was added this school

year and it is hoped to be able to add another next year. The school has just learnt that it will have the use of a piece of land at the back which will be large enough for a playing field so clearing will soon begin on

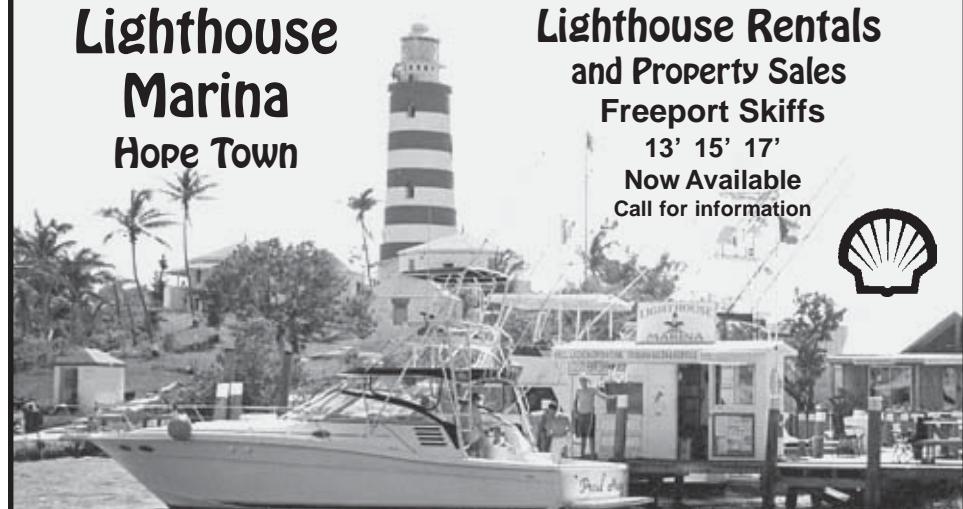
Please see School

Page 17



*Mrs. Elva Davis was chosen Teacher of the Year for Abaco Central High School. Sharing this special day with her were her husband, Mr. Lynden Davis Sr., son Lynden Jr. and daughter, Liyah, all shown above.*

## Lighthouse Marina Hope Town



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Friday, April 29, 2005

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Dinner at 7 pm

Awards Presentation Following

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# More School News

## School From Page 16

that. There are six more children on the waiting list for a place in the school, and Mrs. Major is now trying to determine how to be able to accommodate them.

Following the programme guests were invited to stay for lunch and to have a look around the school.



On March 23rd the students and teachers in grades three and four of the Treasure Cay Primary School took a field trip to the Treasure Cay beach. The trip was organized by Ann Smith, a volunteer teacher at the school, so the children could learn more about protecting and cleaning up their environment. They cleaned the entire strip of beach from the Beach Villas to Banyan Beach. After refreshments provided by 12 second home owners who volunteered as chaperones, they had a sand castle building contest. It was a highly successful day of educational fun for students and adults alike.

## Abaco Central High Elva Davis Day Is Observed

By Portia Jonsson

Far too often teachers are not recognized or appreciated for their hard work, dedication and the crucial role they play in society or the vital contributions to the education and development of our children and future leaders.

On April 7th the administrators, teachers and students of Abaco Central High School came together and staged a special assembly to salute and applaud their *Teacher of the Year*, Mrs. Elva Davis. Mrs. Davis was one of the honorees recognized by the Ministry of Education last month for her outstanding teaching skills.

A motorcade through the streets of Marsh Harbour got the celebrations off to an exciting start. Arriving at the school in a limousine, Mrs. Davis was presented with a floral bouquet and escorted to the stage. Guest speaker for this ceremony was former principal of the school, Mr. Benjamin Stubbs.

Mrs. Davis was born in Matthew Town, Inagua, but moved to

Grand Bahama when she was a young child. She was granted a full volleyball scholarship and attended Indian River Community College in Florida and Jackson State University. While at Jackson State University she excelled in academics and sports and was honored in both her junior and senior years as the athlete with the highest grade point average. After graduating she started her teaching career in Grand Bahama.

Mrs. Davis was described as an ordinary lady with extraordinary qualities as well as a feisty gamer who hates to lose on and off the field. She, together with her

husband, saw the need for sporting activities for children here and embraced that challenge and today Youth in Action provides kids of all ages and abilities the opportunity to participate in positive and healthy lifestyles.

Tributes were paid to the honoree in song, poem and dance. Mrs. Michelle Bailey roasted Mrs. Davis and joked about her dancing and dressing style.

Mr. Stubbs told of meeting Mrs. Davis

Please see School

Page 18

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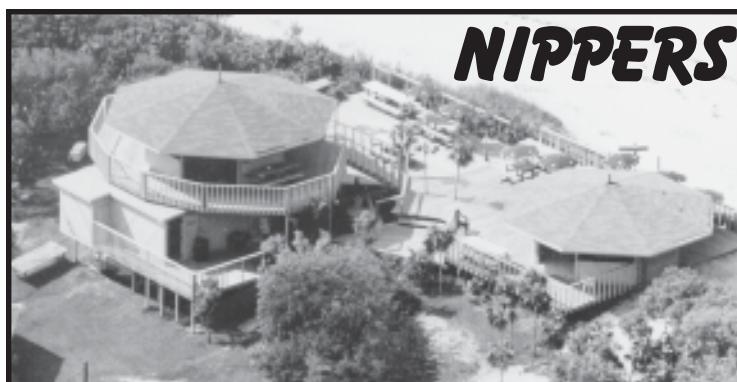
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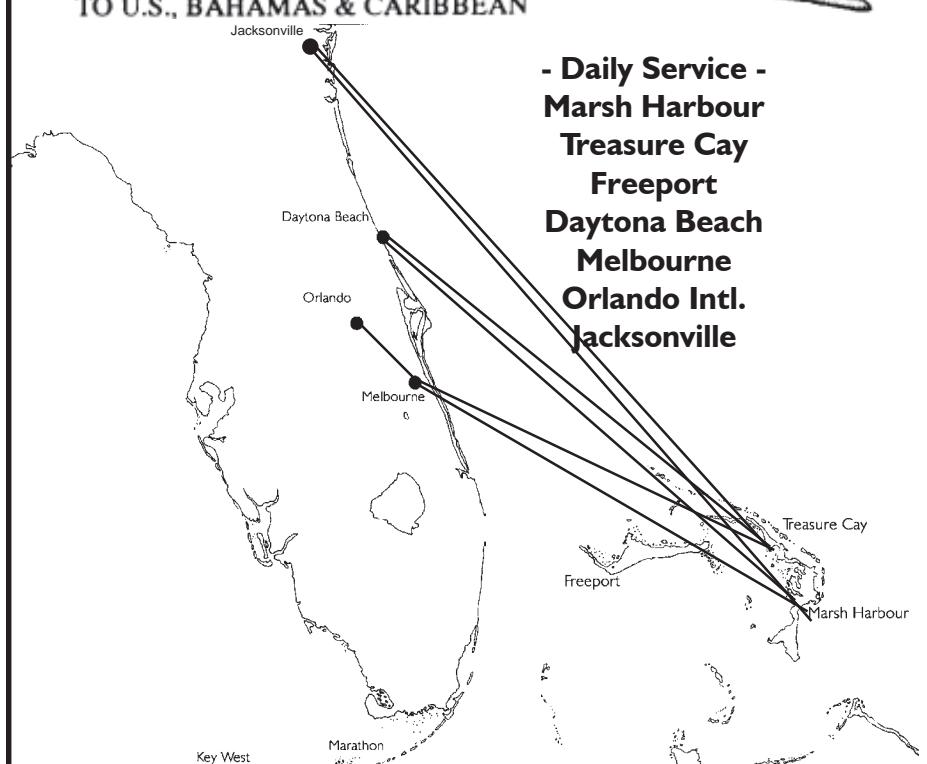
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# More School News

## School

From Page 17

in 1983 when she began teaching at Hawksbill High School. He talked of all the students she helped through the years but mainly those with discipline problems.

Each home room class presented Mrs. Davis with a gift and a luncheon at the Fine Dining Restaurant followed the ceremony.

### Abaco's Teacher of the Year

#### Is Dedicated to Teaching

By Portia Jonsson

During a special Teachers Luncheon held March 18th at the Spinnaker Restaurant in Treasure Cay, Mrs. Arlene Johnson-Moss

of Central Abaco Primary was named Teacher of the Year for the Abaco District.

Mrs. Moss joined the teaching staff of Central Abaco Primary in 2002 but she has been teaching for over 26 years in all primary grade levels. She has seen some of the students she taught in grade one now teachers themselves at the Hugh Campbell School in Freeport on Grand Bahama.

Mrs. Moss believes that learning begins in the womb, not in the classroom. At the beginning of each school year she meets with all the parents. She usually asks them what they expect of her and then tells them what she expects of them. Some of the things she discusses with the parent are the

health, eating habits, dress code and behaviour of the child and how they can help at home. She believes in "on hands" experience.

Some of the challenges she faces today in teaching are language barriers and lack of parental involvement. Mrs. Moss says teachers can only do so much. Parents need to do their part and become involved in their child's education.

She received numerous prizes including

a \$1000 gift certificate to be used for any workshop or conference she attends, a \$25 gift certificate from Jack Thompson, a gift basket from Chief Councillor Cay Mills, flowers and a plaque from the Ministry of Education.

Mrs. Moss attends Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel and is actively involved in the Awana Club where she serves as group leader.



*Mrs. Eleanor Epler, a docent at the Yale University Museum of Art in Connecticut, visits Hope Town yearly with her husband. She spends a morning at the Hope Town School teaching the museum's A Is for Art children's art history appreciation outreach program. Through her visits the children have come to recognize many of the famous art masters and their work.*



*Mrs. Toni Prah of Peach Tree City, Georgia, spent several days at the Hope Town School working with blind student Anna Albury and her assistant Tia Knowles along with teacher Mrs. Deanne Albury on blind education methods. She held meetings with teachers to discuss techniques and technology advancements available. Her visit was arranged by Anna's parents, Lambert and Theresa Albury, and was of great value to all involved.*

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Date: April 22nd, 2005

Schedule: Set-Up: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Open to Public: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Earth Day Ceremony: 1 p.m.

Venue: New Vision Ministries Grounds

On hand: Environmental Organizations  
and Educational Opportunities

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In Association with The Ministry of Tourism

New Vision Ministries Grounds, Marsh Harbour

South from Marsh Harbour; turn left into Sweeting's Tract;  
Church is over the hill on the left

# More School News



In celebration of the 165th Anniversary of the Royal Bahamas Police Force, the Abaco Police staged a General Knowledge competition at the Learning Resource Centre on March 21st. Schools competing in this event included Agape Christian School, St. Francis de Sales and S.C. Bootle Secondary. The all girl team (Clayshaun Brown, Vanessa McIntosh and Elaine Fenelus) of S.C. Bootle Secondary School emerged victorious. They were coached by Nadira Kawalram. ASP Wayne Miller in the center.



The Abaco Police also staged a Spelling Bee competition at the Learning Resource Centre on March 22nd. Students from St. Francis de Sales, Agape Christian, Central Abaco Primary, J.A. Pinder, Treasure Cay Primary and Wesley College schools competed in this event. The spelling bee winners were Blair Drakes 1st Place, Sherlycia McKenzie 2nd Place and Lyndeisha Curry 3rd Place. All the contestants received certificates of participation. The winners are shown with ASP Wayne Miller, Police Chief for Abaco.

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# More Letters to the Editor

## Letters

From Page 9

### Cherokee Resident Is Irate

Dear Editor,

This is for everyone who read the piece about the drugs in Cherokee and to the idiot who wrote it.

First to the people. Please don't let that trash ruin Cherokee's good name. If you go by what they said, you are probably thinking that we have some of the biggest drug dealers and drug users in the world up here in Cherokee. Well, I can tell you that this information is a bunch of garbage. It's true that no matter where you go in this world you're going to find all kinds of different people, some more pleasant than others, but what can we do? Kill them? Well, to tell you the truth, I think that if some could get away with murder, they wouldn't think twice about it.

Now to that idiot. I hope that you don't think that what you have done has made matters any better. In fact, you've only made them worse. Are you trying to ruin our good name? What's your problem anyway? If you are so unhappy and miserable living here, then why don't you go and live somewhere else. Maybe you should try cleaning up your own back yard instead of digging around in other peoples. Just maybe then you wouldn't have the time to find all this junk to tell the world. Talking about the dogs, a lot of them seem to have more common sense than you do.

Do you know that these papers go all over the world? What do you think the tourists will think about us? Not to mention our own people. Even though you may have said that it's only a few that do these things, when people are talking, they always say Cherokee people. Get my point?

Please, and when I say this, I know that I am speaking for a lot more people. Use your head next time and think really long and hard before putting something like that in the paper again. I'm saying and asking you please, but I know that you are probably anything but pleased right about now.

A concerned resident

### Concerning March 15, 2005, Article

Dear Editor,

The only problem we have in our community is that people who came from abroad here to live are trying to take over. They don't know how to keep their tongues in their own mouth and stop mingling in other person's business.

It was asked, "Do drug dealers read the newspaper?" Do you read your Bible? If you don't, I think you sure need to. Also you must be only five years old to write an article like the one you put in the paper March 15, 2005 to the editor. You need to go back about 25 years ago. Who will you

blame then?

Are these cocaine and drug users any nuisance or bother to you? You want to make them be even though they're not. Maybe you should try it and see what it's like. Their getting high or whatever you might call it and you must be having the side effects! Are they breaking in, holding you at gun point and you begging for your life? No! Can't a white person have a black friend? Apparently not in your eyesight. Do you have any black friends? I'm most certain you do. So if a car (with blacks) comes into our community, they're coming to sell drugs?

The law not only goes for cocaine and marijuana users, it also goes for people who get under measure crawfish and small conch. Some are so small it would take about 10-15 for a pound. They wait for low tide to collect baby conch. The deep water conch only take about two at the most for a pound. Does that tell you that it is wrong where these people are collecting them? So you're breaking the law also. The best is yet to come. Can't cars come into to Cherokee? How many do in a day? I'm sure you must know.

You know who the drug users are! Have you seen them doing it? No! You're just speculating someone is doing something wrong. If you're so concerned about them

leaving, why don't you leave. That will make our community have less gossip. Because people like you need to find a better job than just gossiping all day long about other people that are no problem to you. Some of you need to keep quiet because there are a lot of skeletons in your closet that will wander out.

You must not be too afraid for writing something like this to shame our community. I think it's beyond shameful. How do you think tourists are going to think about our community when they read what you wrote and whoever else is involved. Because everyone who has read it knows who all of you are that would want something like that put in the paper.

How would you feel if you were to go to jail for something that someone assumes is going on or your getting blamed on doing. Speculations! Speculations! Speculations!

Did you actually see a drug dealer in Cherokee with the drugs in his hand and the buyer with the money to buy it? It's all speculations.

We can live a lot more peacefully if you were the ones to leave. But like you put in the article you wrote, "I wish I could make them all leave and find somewhere else to live but I guess that's not possible." That suits for you, not the ones who you're assuming are doing something wrong.

I don't see anyone doing anything wrong. Do you see anything wrong with having a drink? OK, then everyone has their own way of a good feeling or whatever you may call it.

Here are some scriptures of the Bible you should know about.

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. Ephesians 4:29

Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles. Proverbs 21:23

If anyone among you thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religious is useless. James 1:26

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3

A wholesome tongue is the tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit. Proverbs 15:4 Do unto others as you will have them do unto you!

Cherokee people need to wake up and read more of their Bible instead of causing trouble. The only poison here is the tongues of people causing trouble.

I hope you find this letter rather interesting.

A very concerned person

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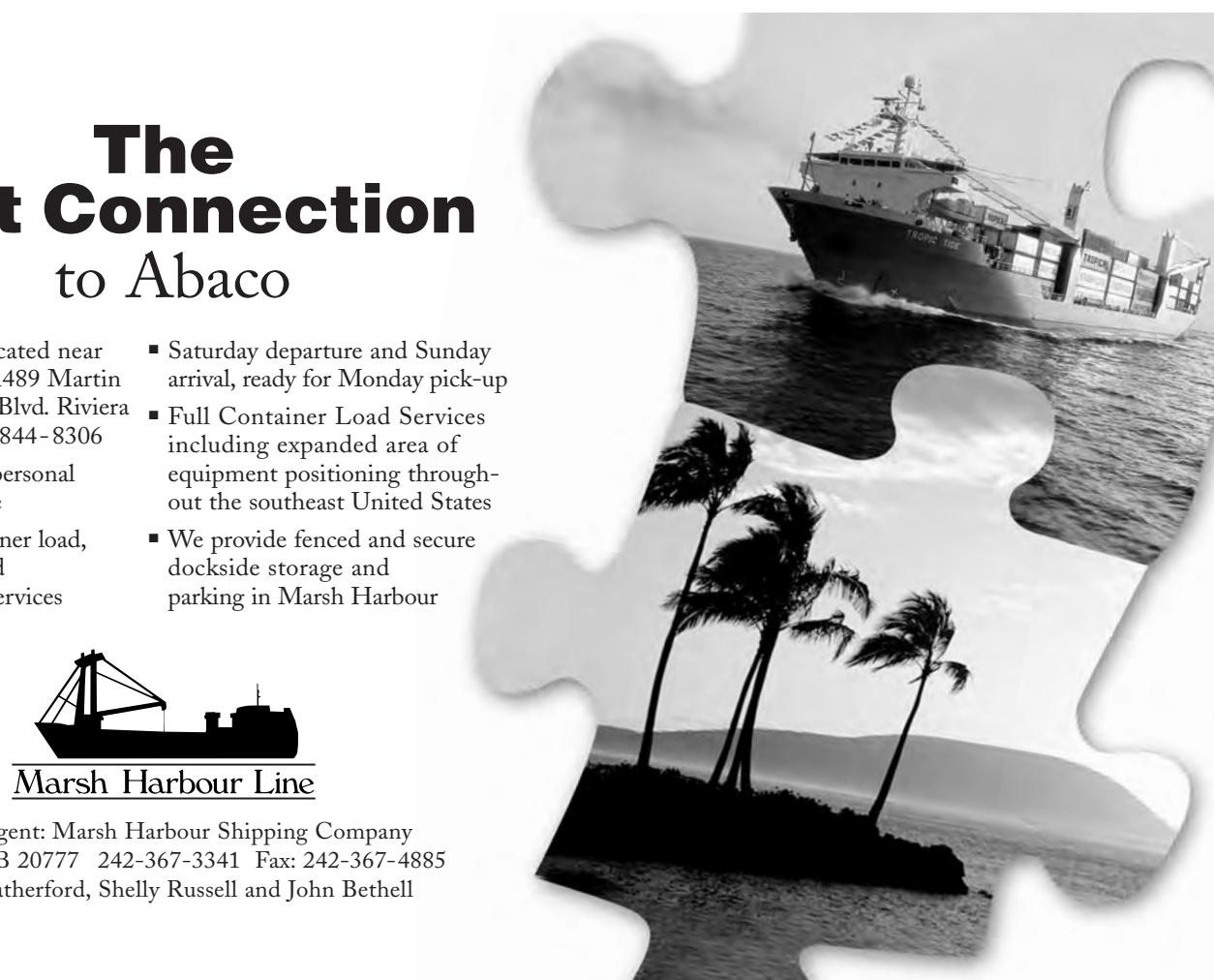
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# No Ambulance Service Causes Hardship

## Ambulance

From Page 1

lance service going, and we need to see how this can be worked out." He referred to a letter which was sent by Daniel Wilfong, former director of Trauma One, to the government last January. Mr. Wilfong stated that two vehicles have been taken to the Marsh Harbour government clinic, one of which is in good shape, loaded with equipment and has been driven since March 31st by Dr. Swarna. Mr. Newbold replied that a mechanic will need to come from Nassau to see the state of the ambulance and forward the report to him.

Mr. Newbold asked the group for suggestions on how to continue an ambulance service. The group included Medical Officer for Abaco, Dr. Swarna, and his wife, nurses from the government clinic, ASP Wayne Miller and a woman police officer, Health and Family Life educator, members of Hope Town Fire and Rescue, BASRA, the Red Cross, first responders and Dan Wilfong and his wife of Trauma One.

Many concerns were voiced as to the serious situation now in hand. There had already been a boating accident since the closure of Trauma One. Fortunately, it was not too serious but the concerns were what would have happened if the four boat occu-

pants had needed emergency transportation. Mrs. Patti Toler, who operates the Cruisers Net stated that she has been told to announce to listeners that in an emergency they must call a taxi.

Mr. Adrian Newbold pointed out that he believes people in Nassau do not realize the rapid economic growth of Abaco which is moving at a very fast pace and how essential the emergency services are not only for our residents but for our tourist industry.

Nurse Gray informed of the high numbers of emergency flights out of Marsh Harbour: nine in January, six in February, nine in March, and already two in April. Other concerns were voiced regarding maintenance of an ambulance, liability issues, lack of reliable security service at the clinic which should be a 24-hour service, lack of adequate equipment at the Marsh Harbour clinic and recognition for volunteers. The question of training was brought up as the Health Professions Act of 1998 stated that all volunteers must be qualified. It was mentioned that Mr. Colin Albury operates a Crash and Rescue Service on Abaco.

Recommendations that were made included the following:

- There be a mix of paid staff and volunteers to man the ambulance service with the paid staff as operators for 24/ 7 day to

day operations.

- As a stop-gap measure an ambulance to be stationed at the Police Station with a roster of eight volunteers to man it.

- Transfer at least two persons from Nassau and/or Freeport to operate the service until a local programme is stabilized.

- Ambulance service needs to be a government service.

- Funding needs to be in place for equipment maintenance and training.

ASP Miller stated, "This situation war-

rants immediate attention," and asked that an ambulance be taken immediately to the Police Station where officers will respond until the volunteer roster has been drawn up by Sarone Kennedy.

Mr. Newbold emphasized that the Minister is wanting to make a decision and promised that he would take the information gathered, strengthen it, emphasize it and get it to the Minister immediately on his return to Nassau.

## Nassau Will Send Personnel

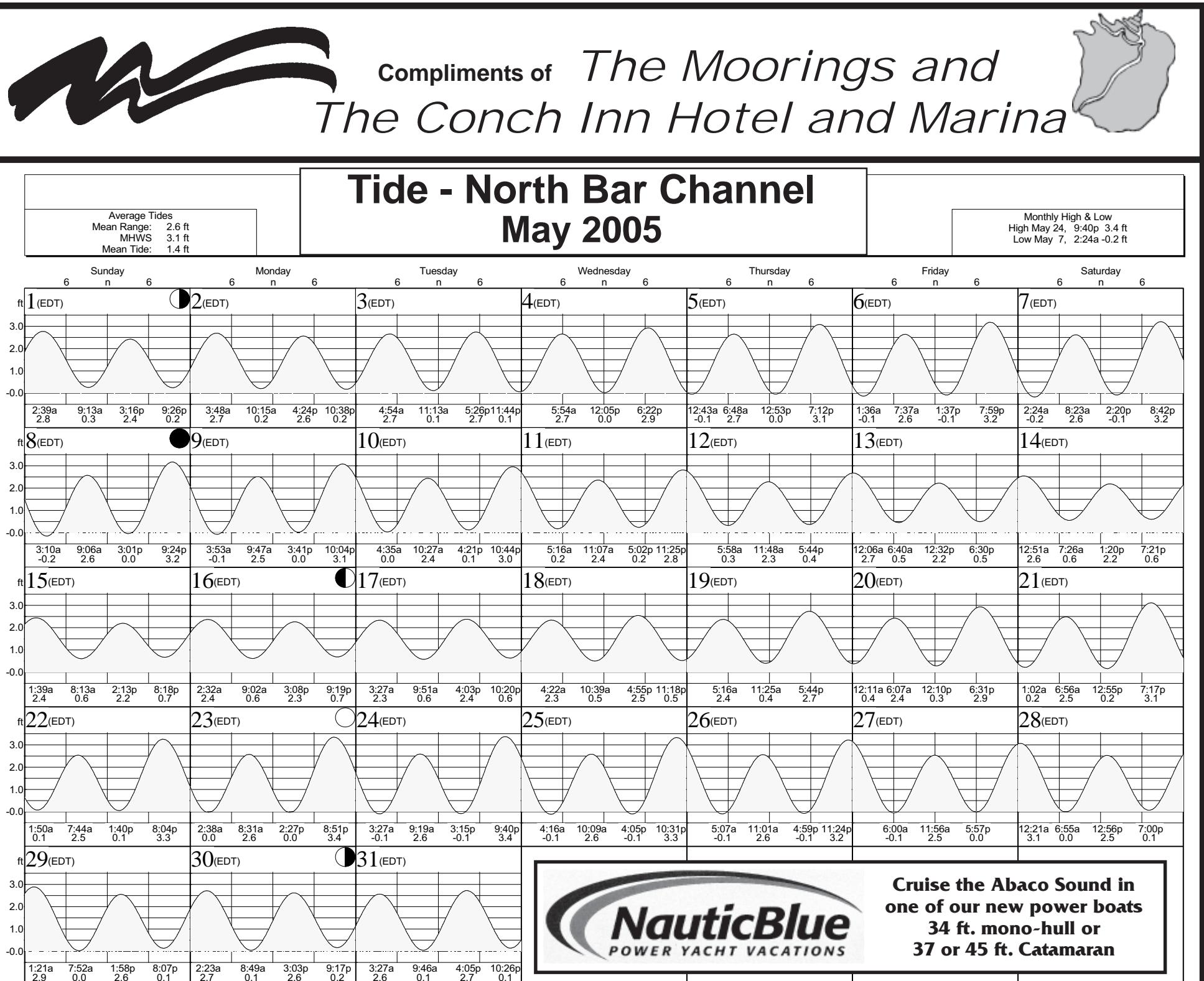
Mr. Newbold from the Public Hospitals Authority in Nassau has sent an update about the ambulance situation.

Two government EMS personnel have been obtained for Abaco, and it is planned that they will begin work here by 18th of April. A lady from Nassau who has previously worked on Abaco will be here for two months and for the first 25 days a man from Freeport will be here. He will be followed by somebody else for the remainder of the two-month period. It is expected that this will give enough time for the organization of a permanent ambulance service here.

As a result of a traffic accident which

occurred on April 1 in Murphy Town, three persons had to be taken to the government clinic. The ambulance was driven by a police officer. Fortunately, none of the injuries was serious. On April 5 and 8 visitors were taken to the clinic. The first was taken by a fireman using his own vehicle. The second, after midnight, by the ambulance after some initial confusion and delay in mobilizing the ambulance.

A traffic accident on Sunday afternoon got a faster response taking two adults and three children to the clinic. However, it was reported that clinic staff kept the door locked until the doctor arrived.



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**Tourism**

From Page 4

Statistics demonstrated that the way our visitors do business has changed tremendously with reservations now being made mostly through the internet. Online bookings have increased by 1000 percent.

It was estimated that 40,500 of our visitors stayed in vacation homes in 2004, accounting for 447,000 visitors' nights.

The tourism review showed that Abaco is not small in the shadow of Nassau, but on the contrary is holding a very competitive position in the Caribbean market. Its occupancy growth rate for 2004 was the third after Grand Bahama and the Caribbean. Mr Young said, "Abaco should be aware that it holds a dominant position in

The Bahamas."

Mr Young commented on the way "Abaco responded faster than Grand Bahama in terms of recovery from last year's storms. We have good dynamics, good customer support and great response on recommendation." We should be looking to a very positive season.

**Cays**

From Page 12

A dog-loving couple from a boat visiting in Hope Town walked carrying a beautiful wooden urn containing their beloved dogs ashes and memories in their backpack. Golf cart service was provided for any tired pooch (or person!) Visitors and locals encouraged the walkers as they passed by. Some even stopped to give donations.

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**Warehouse Roof Is Still Not Repaired**

Both warehouses at the government freight dock in Marsh Harbour sustained major damage to their roofs and the large doors. Now, six months after the storms, repairs are still not done. It is hoped that repairs can be completed before another storm does further damage.

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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 effic 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

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Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

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**Emergency Services**

Police - Marsh Harbour	367-2560
The following services are provided by volunteers 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
Hopetown 366-0500, Marsh Harbour	367-3752
Guana Cay 365-5178, Treasure Cay	365-8749

**Medical Services**

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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 Hopetown	..... 366-0108
Government Clinic Sandy Point	..... 366-4010
Government Clinic Fox Town	.....

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Bristol Cellars thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru	
Dundas Town	..... \$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market	..... \$10 + \$2
Govt 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
Solomon's Super Center	..... \$5 + \$3
Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock	..... \$6 + \$3
Government Freight Dock	..... \$7 + \$3
Gov.Clinic, W. Auto or Natl. Insurance	..... \$9 + \$3
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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 C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry or Blue Hole	..... \$14 + \$6
T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles	..... \$20 + \$5
T C Hotel to Joe's Creek	..... \$30 + \$6
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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
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Birding - Abaco Outback - Marsh Harbour	..... 367-5358
Abaco Island Tours - Marsh Harbour	..... 367-2936
Excursion boat - Froggies - Hope Town	..... 366-0024
Excursion boat - Froggies - Hope Town	..... 366-0431



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## Bonefish Guides

### Man-O-War

Patrick Roberts .... 366-4286 David Albury ..... 365-6059

Nicholas Roberts ..... Theodore Sawyer .... 366-2111

Derrick Gaitor ..... Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133 Will Sawyer ..... 366-2177

Vernal Burrows ..... Kendall White ..... 366-2115

Anthony Bain ..... 366-4107 Noel Lowe ..... 366-2107

Floyd Burrows ..... 366-4175 Junior Albury ..... 366-3058

Links Adderly ..... 366-4335 Randy Sawyer ..... 366-2284

### Hope Town

Maitland Lowe ..... 366-0133

### North Abaco

O'Donald McIntosh .. 477-5037

Pope McKenzie ..... 477-5894

Terrance Davis .... 367-4464 Orthnell Russell ..... 365-0125

Buddy Pinder ..... 366-2163 Alexander Rolle ..... 365-0120

Justin Sands ..... 367-3526 Edward Rolle ..... 365-0024

Danny Sawyer ..... 367-3577 Ricky Sawyer ..... 365-4261

### Green Turtle Cay

Ronnie Sawyer ..... 365-4070

Jeff Survance ..... 365-4040

Ricky Sawyer ..... 365-4261

## Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper

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### Marsh Harbour

Anglers ..... \$\$\$ ..... 367-2158

Conch Crawl ..... \$ ..... 367-4444

Gino's ..... \$ ..... 367-2002

Golden Grouper ..... \$ ..... 367-2301

Hibiscus Cafe ..... \$\$ ..... 367-2782

Hummingbird ..... \$\$ ..... 367-2922

Jamie's Place ..... \$ ..... 367-2880

Jib Room ..... \$\$ ..... 367-2700

Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch-5pm) 367-2615

Mangoes ..... \$\$\$ ..... 367-2366

Pop's Place ..... \$ ..... + .... 367-3796

Sapodilly's ..... \$\$\$ ..... 367-3498

Sea Shells ..... \$ ..... 367-4460

Snack Shack ..... \$ ..... + .... 367-4005

Snappas ..... \$ ..... 367-2278

Subway ..... 367-2798

Wallys ..... \$\$\$ ..... 367-2074

### Dundas Town

Ambassador Inn ..... \$ ..... 367-2022

### Hope Town

Abaco Inn ..... \$\$\$ ..... 366-0133

Cap'n Jacks ..... \$ ..... 366-0247

Club Soliel ..... 366-0253

Harbour's Edge ..... \$\$ ..... 366-0087

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Munchies ..... \$ ..... + .... 366-0423

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Sea Spray ..... \$ ..... + .... 366-0065

### Man-O-War

Pavilion ..... \$ ..... 365-6185

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### Guana Cay

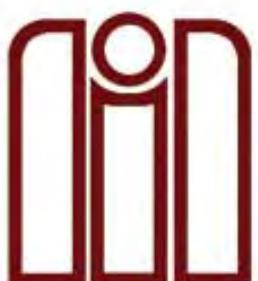
Blue Water Grill ..... \$\$\$ ..... 365-5230</p

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# The Abaconian

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## SECTION B

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 8, APRIL 15th, 2005



## Jack Thompson Is Transferred NEMA Efforts Winding Down After Six Months

### Gospel Chapel Choir Presented Easter Cantata



*The Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel choir, under the direction of Kevin Sawyer, presented an Easter Cantata to audiences in Marsh Harbour, Green Turtle Cay, Guana Cay and Cherokee Sound. The very moving narration of the events of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ were reverently portrayed in song and visual images.*

By Jennifer Hudson

The 26-member choir of the Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel presented an Easter Cantata entitled *You Thought of Us* at the church on Palm Sunday, March 20th. During the previous week they traveled to Green Turtle Cay, Man-O-War Cay, Guana Cay and Cherokee to share it with the people of those communities and they hope to take it to Treasure Cay.

The audience was asked not to applaud as the choir did not want any glory for themselves but it was, indeed, a praiseworthy performance and the choir deserves appreciation for a job very well done. The singers, ably directed by their choirmaster, Kevin Sawyer, performed with tremendous precision, passion and joy. One of the songs was gracefully signed for the deaf by Mrs. Marshall, a teacher at Agape School. The story was sensitively narrated by Mr. Stephen Bill.

Though the choir has performed cantatas previously, this was the first time that a multi-media presentation had been attempted. During a very moving solo by Troy Albury, scenes depicting the crucifixion were shown on a screen which provided a very dramatic impact enabling the audience to become emotionally in

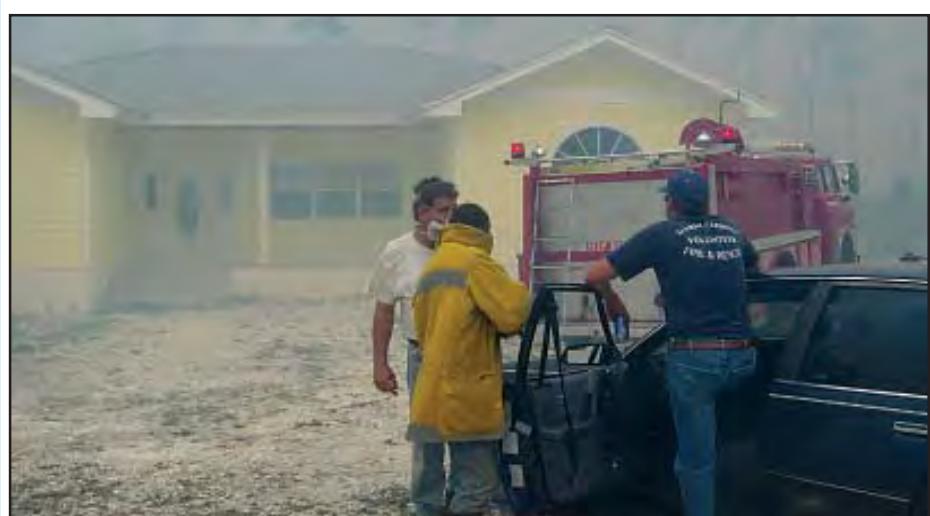
Please see Church

Page 6

Please see Thompson

Page 2

### Fire Threatened Central Pines



*A very strong wind spread a woods fire in Central Pines Estates, threatening several residences. Twenty firemen of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department battled the fire.*

Brush fires raced through Central Pines Estates driven by westerly winds approaching 40 miles per hour on April 2. The fires were started by embers blown from the nearby dump. Eight to ten houses were endangered. Wide roads that would normally stop the fire's advance were no barrier to flames in the dry woods driven by the high wind.

Firemen attacked the mid-day fire using four fire engines and were augmented by homeowners wetting their houses with garden hoses. The Casuarina volunteer

firemen were conducting their drill and quickly decided to assist with a real fire came with their truck from Casuarina Point. Four Marsh Harbour fire engines were already at the fire along with 20 firemen.

The fires appeared to be unstoppable until Mother Nature intervened in the late afternoon with a weather shift bringing a rain squall and a drop in the wind. This

Please see Fire

Page 21

### Clean Up Begins in the Mud



*Residents of the Mud, a community of mostly Haitian immigrants, have begun cleaning up their community. They are raising money to hire equipment to remove derelict vehicles, old appliances and other debris. The clean-up is a result of the efforts by Urban Renewal, a government agency helping crowded substandard residential areas upgrade.*

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# Abaco Appreciated Thompson's Style

**Thompson**

From Page 1

travel to the United States to buy their supplies. "Remaining supplies that NEMA purchased to supplement the hardware stores will be distributed in the community to what has already been done."

Fifty-one replacement houses and so far 31 houses have been delivered. Twenty are still under construction including houses being built in Spring City for seven families from Snake Cay. Mr. Thompson said, "The decision was made to relocate these families to an area with infrastructure in place rather than to put them back on Snake Cay."

The most challenging aspect was getting supplies to remote areas such as Moore's Island. Two cargo ships deliv-

ered building material to Hard Bargain.

Government guaranteed loans were granted to business people who suffered extreme loss so they could get back into business rapidly.

Repair materials were difficult to find as NEMA was competing with Abaco projects such as Winding Bay, hotels and marinas. There was a great demand for building materials in Florida and the Caribbean which also had massive storm damage. Contractors were in such demand that they held two or three jobs, going where the money was best. This, of course, slowed the efforts of NEMA to move speedily.

Mr. Thompson, who was Administrator for North Abaco from 1994 to 1998, has never been far from our island for

very long. After leaving in 1998, he spent five years as Chief Officer in the Passport Office in Nassau. He temporarily returned to North Abaco after Floyd in 1999. Mr. Thompson was appointed Deputy High Commissioner and Consul General to Canada in November of 2003. Barely a year later, in October of 2004, Mr Thompson was called back from Ottawa to coordinate hurricane relief.

Asked whether he would be returning to

Canada, Mr. Thompson enigmatically answered, "I do not know what the future holds. I work for the government of the day. I hope to be a faithful servant of the Prime Minister. It is his call to determine where he needs the service of his appointees."

Mr Thompson, who is five years away from retirement, said that after leaving public service, he "would like to enjoy life, answer personal calls, visit new places." He wants eventually to be more involved in Christian ministry, to answer the call of God which is very strong, to inspire others, to be an example, especially for young people. He hopes to be in a position to offer counseling to people

who do not have anyone to talk to. He would like to become involved in youth programs, helping young people realize that they can become whatever they decide to be in spite of challenges.

Local government was another topic of the interview. "Local government for the Out Islands is wonderful. It has much to offer, given full maturation the way it should. It has come a long way; there are competent and able residents to govern their own affairs and who know where the community should go. However, a determination will have to be made whether too much power or not enough has been given."



March 30. Accolades were voiced by many as he is very well liked throughout Abaco. Mr. Gary Sawyer presented a hand carved boat as a gift from Man-O-War.

## NEMA Manager Was Given a Farewell Party

A farewell party was held for Mr. Jack Thompson on March 30 at Regattas of Abaco. Many testimonials and emotional personal reminiscences made the evening an unforgettable one for the government officials and others who attended. Mr. Thompson's many attributes were brought out in the accolades he received.

Mr. Thompson was well loved on Abaco

after his five years as Administrator in North Abaco and again when he was asked to come after Hurricane Floyd in 1999. During his recent assignment here he has put into place systems which will probably be adopted by central government to distribute food and water initially after the storms and then to expedite the delivery of supplies and materials to those who suffered damage to their houses.



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# Club News

## Rotary Donates Book Bags to School Students

By Jennifer Hudson

Book bags filled with school supplies were delivered to all schools throughout Abaco during the week of March 7-11 on behalf of the Rotary Club of Abaco by member Bill Schweizer of the Abaco club and Debbie McKenzie and Anne Raynes of the North Mecklenberg Rotary Club in North Carolina. The supplies included rulers, crayons, paper and pencils. These bags were distributed by the teachers to students in need of such. While all of the schools, including those on the cays and Moore's Island, received bags, the greatest need was found to be at Central Abaco Primary School.



Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club members enjoy the camaraderie of their monthly meetings which are held at Abaco Beach Resort. Commodore David Bhuto is addressing the group

These high quality book bags were donated by members of the Rotary club of North Mecklenberg, North Carolina, and Rotary Clubs in South Florida and Nassau, with the majority coming from the North Mecklenberg Club. Some of the bags contained personal notes for the recipients from students in the United States.

About two years ago the Rotary Club of Abaco, wishing to increase its international ties, joined with the Rotary Club of North Mecklenberg as a sister club. Immediately following the two devastating hurricanes last September the North Mecklenberg Club contacted the club here to find out how they could assist and the request was sent back for 350 book bags. Club members immediately began to send in donations but had

difficulty in finding enough bags as the school term had just begun and the stores were totally depleted of bags. However, the local college stepped in and contacted its local supplier to fill the need. Within two months the bags were ready to be shipped and were loaded onto two private boats headed for Abaco. However, difficulties arose with weather and the boats had to put into West Palm Beach and never made it to Abaco. The Rotary Club of West Palm Beach retrieved the bags and put them onto the *Legacy* bound for Marsh Harbour.

Mr. Jack Thompson, head of NEMA, assisted in bringing in the bags and sup-

plies duty free while Arawak Agency cleared the bags and Abaco Air flew the bags to Moore's Island at no cost.

Ms. McKenzie and Ms. Raynes traveled from North Carolina to be here to assist with the sorting of the bags and delivery to the schools. Debbie was also here last Christmas to assist with Rotary's Christmas projects of ringing bells and delivering food packages to the needy. She spoke at the Rotary Club meeting in Marsh Harbour on March 8th on the prospect of expanding the

Please see Clubs

Page 15



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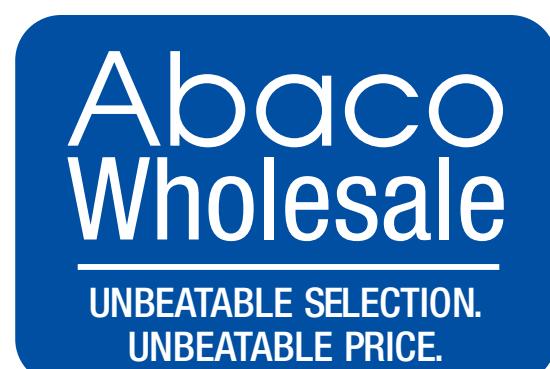
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# National Darts Tournament Was Held Here

By Portia Jonsson

The weekend of March 4th and 5th was an especially exciting one for dart lovers when the Bahamas Darts Federation met at the Anglican Parish Hall to stage its 21st annual Gold Cup of Darts, sponsored by Abaco Hardware.

The tournament was made up of the top players from Grand Bahama, New Providence and Abaco and pitted each island against the others. This tournament is anxiously awaited each year and is the longest running tournament on the Bahamas Darts Federation annual calendar.

Each island spent months choosing their teams in trials and tournaments held locally in an effort to capture the top prize and bragging rights of *Best Island in the Country*.

The tournament consisted of two sections, a team event and an individual's knockout event, which was made up of men's and ladies' singles, doubles and mixed triples. All the points were added together and this gave the overall Gold Cup standings.

After all was settled, the Nassau Darts Association took the Gold Cup for the 12th successive year with 160 points followed by Grand Bahama with 118 and then Abaco with 90 points.

It was not all smooth sailing for the Nassau Darts Association though, with top singles winner Errol Rolle from Grand Bahama taking out Ken Braithwaite from Nassau in a nail biting final and women's doubles' winners, Faith Sawyer and Lenora Pinder of Abaco beating Trudy Johnson and Kim Russell of Nassau. Once again Trudy Johnson won the ladies' singles as well as the MVP for the ladies while Harry Brown, also from Nassau captured the men's MVP

award.

The Abaco Darts Association consisted of

Ladies - Lenora Pinder, Faith Sawyer, Angela Russell, Ronnie Ferguson, Louise Maury

Men - Donald Burrows, Gary Bethel, Mark Albury, Shane Sawyer, Lloyd Deveaux, Ken Russell, Dwight McDonald, John Pintard, Rhyan Spicer and Kevin McDonald-Captain

Results for the 2005 Gold Cup

Gold Cup Winners - Nassau

Mixed Triples Winners - Barry Payne, Harry Brown, Trudy Johnson

Mixed Triples Runner-up - Ken Brathwaite, Cepeda Moss, Kim Russell, Nassau

Women's Doubles Winners - Faith Sawyer, Lenora Pinder, Abaco

President of the Bahamas Darts Association, Mr. Malcolm Spicer, remarked that once again a fantastic tournament was put on with all the associations prepared and

ready for battle. Twenty-one years of uninterrupted tournaments is a major achievement for any sporting organization and all the local associations should be proud of their commitments and efforts. He added that choosing the National Team for this year's World Cup in Perth, Australia, this September will be harder than ever but after seeing the tournament's displays we can be assured that there will be representation of some of the best players in our region there.



The 21st annual Gold Cup Darts Tournament was held in Marsh Harbour on March 4 and 5 and was sponsored by Abaco Hardware. Shown above is Mitchell Albury of Abaco Hardware presenting trophies to Faith Sawyer and Lenora Pinder for winning the Women's Doubles

## Family Members Come for Housewarming

There are housewarming parties and then there are HOUSEWARMING PARTIES. To test the quality of a new three-house complex in the Great Abaco Club at Abaco Beach Resort, Mr. and Mrs. John Wright, three generations of Wrights and friends gathered. It was the second week of March and the weather was sunny and warm. Lounging around the pool deck were John, his wife Kathy and some of their family and friends, totaling 25 people.

It all began six years ago when Mr. Wright came to the Abaco Beach Resort to

fish in a tournament. He "fell in love with the place" and decided to build his vacation home here. A builder himself, he considered many area contractors before deciding upon Angelo Mackie of A&M Builders. Mr Wright said he made the three-home complex the showplace that it is today.

The center house is 3,000 square feet and the two flanking houses are each 2,300 square feet under air, each with 1,000 feet of deck connecting them together. There are a total of 13 bedrooms, 12 bathrooms (many with Jacuzzi tubs), three kitchens,

three laundry rooms, four living rooms, three outside grills, a beautiful kidney shaped pool and six boat slips. The pool has with a fountain featuring a bronze sculpture of the Ages of Man by Little Harbour artist Randolph Johnston.

A competitive fisherman, Mr. Wright is "in residence" during most of the spring tournaments. But during the "off season" the three-home complex may be rented for family reunions or corporate and business gatherings.

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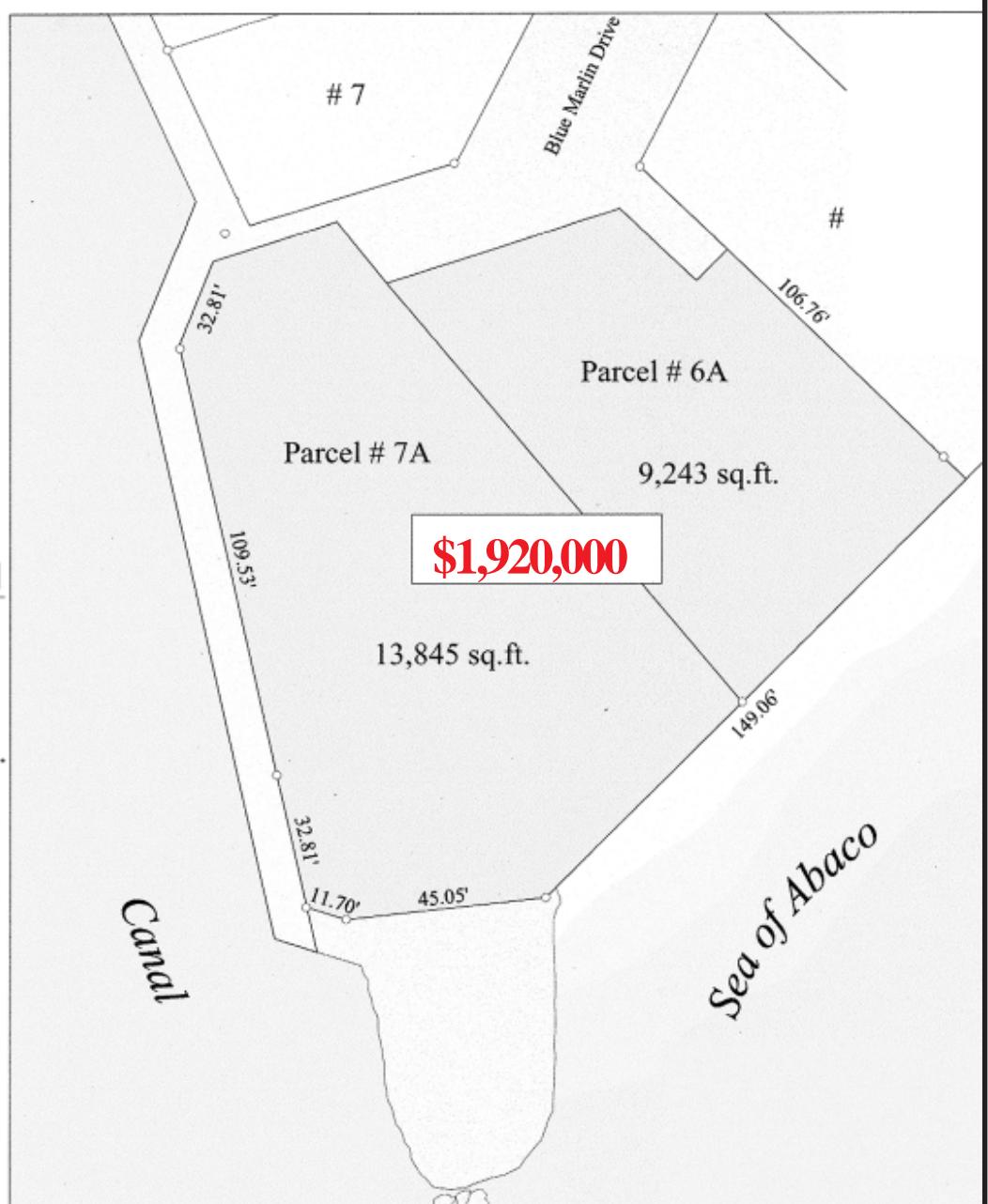
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#2147

**'Clifford Sawyer House'  
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#2176

**Turtle Rocks  
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# Church News

## Church

*From Page 1*

volved.

Many weeks of dedicated practice went into making the cantata such a moving and successful presentation.

### Youth Group Attends Conference in Tennessee

*By Jennifer Hudson*

Ten young people from the Man-O-War Church of God accompanied by Pastor David Hoard, Youth Pastor Bruce Stecker and his wife, Miss Emily and several parents, recently spent five days in Tennessee attending the Church of God's Winterfest. Twenty-five thousand youth from all over southeastern United States gathered in the Knoxville Coliseum for the event. "This was a quite an experience for all these young people to come together and the Man-O-War group saw more people in one minute than they had in their whole life," said Pastor Hoard. "It was a time of preaching, singing and musical group performances all geared to teenagers, and it touched all of their

lives."

The young people made lots of new friends especially from the church in Georgia where Pastor Hoard was previously pastor. The group from Man-O-War flew into Atlanta and then combined with the youth group from the North Georgia church to make the journey to Knoxville by bus.

After attending the conference the young people visited Pigeon Forge where they enjoyed shopping and go-carting.

The youth group had been fund raising in Man-O-War for many months, organizing dinners and walk-a-thons to raise the necessary funds. This is the second year a group from Man-O-War has attended the Winterfest. Last year eight young people went and next year Pastor Hoard is hoping to increase the numbers even more than this year's group.

### Ordination Service at the Kirk of the Pines

*By Jennifer Hudson*

Easter Sunday, March 27th, was an exciting day in the life of the Kirk of the Pines Presbyterian Church as a piece of

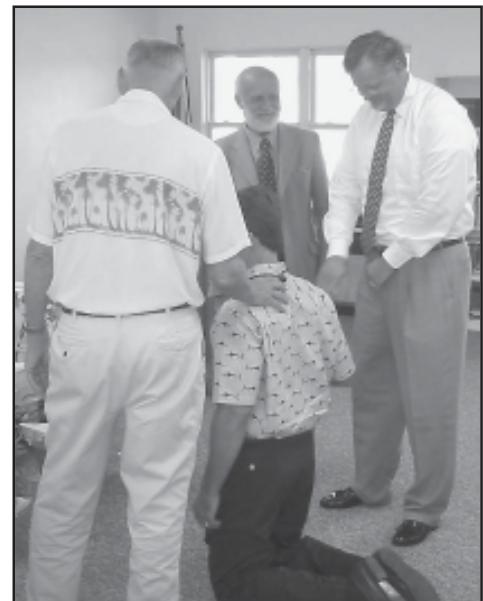
history was made when Mr. Haynes Hendry was ordained to the Eldership of the Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, Tampa, Florida. This will actually enable him to be an elder at any Presbyterian church anywhere.

The Palma Ceia Church is a sister church to the Kirk of the Pines and the congregation there has helped the church here in its growth by supplying Bibles and hymn books. Rev. Chuck Greenwood, retired pastor of the Palma Ceia Church, and his wife have been regular boating visitors to Abaco for many years, and Chuck has attended the Kirk of the Pines since its inception ten years ago. He felt that it would further strengthen the ties between the two churches to perform the ordination here in Abaco.

The church was full for the occasion with both regular members and visitors from the Palma Ceia Church. Following the joyful Easter Service there was an Easter egg hunt in the grounds for all the children.

*Please see Church*

*Page 7*



*Mr. Haynes Hendry from the Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church in Tampa, Florida, was ordained as an Elder at the Kirk of the Pines Presbyterian Church in Marsh Harbour. This enables him to be an elder at any Presbyterian Church. The Tampa church is the sister church of the Abaco church.*

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- Direct and coordinate activities of project personnel contractors to ensure project progresses on schedule and within prescribed budget
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Deadline for Receipt of Applications is April 27, 2005

# More Church News

**Church** From Page 6

## Fellowship Groups Are Busy at St. Andrews

By Jennifer Hudson

The men's and women's fellowship groups of St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town have both been extra busy recently organizing fund raising social events.

Although Valentine's Day was officially past, the members of the women's fellowship helped church members keep the special feeling alive for their post Valentine dinner on March 5th. Rev. Carla Culmer along with 43 members and guests attended this affair in the church hall which had been appropriately decorated in a red and white theme for the occasion by Ruth Smith, who first came up with the idea for the dinner. The event was an elegant formal affair with full service of a three-course meal on fine china and a menu in French.

After dinner a fun time ensued with games such as the Dating Game and afterwards the husbands serenaded their wives with romantic songs. Rev. Carla said it was a fun filled evening and she hadn't laughed so much in a long time.

Members of the catering committee were Felameese Sawyer, Gelita Sawyer, Gary Smith and Cypriana Williams. The event was held as a fund raiser for the women's group whose aim it is to send some of the women to a retreat where they will receive exposure at an international level.

On March 13th the Men's Fellowship combined with the Pilot Club of Abaco to host a joint concert in the church. In his opening remarks, Mr. Craig Cornish, President of the Pilot Club of Central Abaco, mentioned the work which the club does in raising funds for work concerning brain-related disorders while also assisting in the local community. After an invocation by Rev. Culmer, moderator for the evening, His Excellency Mr. Jack Thompson and Mr. Jerry Cornish took to the microphone and led the proceedings in a very lively manner.

Among those performing were the Praise Dancers, Church of God Soldiers, the Anchor Club of Abaco Central High School, St. Andrew's men's fellowship and the Jes'us quartet.

## St. Andrews Methodist Church Maundy Thursday Service

Jennifer Hudson

It has become a tradition at the St.

Andrews Methodist Church on the day before Good Friday, which is known as Maundy Thursday, to hold a service at 5:30 a.m. entitled *The Nails of the Cross*. In this moving and meaningful service scriptural passages are read depicting the nails of betrayal, envy, indecision, cruelty and hatred.

As persons entered the church for this service they were each handed a nail and at the end of the service each person hammered their nail into the cross representing a sin, situation or problem which they were trying to deal with in their life.

During the service Rev. Carla Culmer washed the hands of each person in the congregation which was symbolic of the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus and was a time for people to become reconciled with each other both within the church and also in the wider community.

## Anglicans Ordain Father Fequel LaPlante

By Mirella Santillo

Father Fequel LaPlante was ordained to the Anglican Church's priesthood on March 13 during a ceremony held at St.

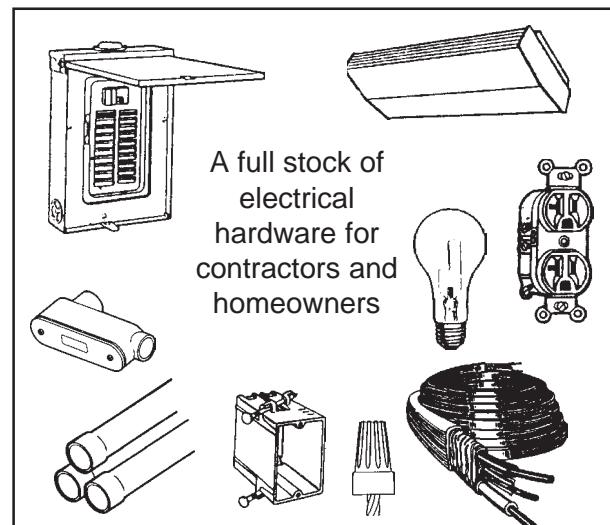
Simon by the Sea Anglican Church at Treasure Cay.

Father LaPlante, who is a Jamaican citizen, first became involved with the Salvation Army and practiced its theology and social work for 13 years. His wife, Myra, was also Salvation Army officer. After serving that church for several years he attended a theological school on Barbados. While there, Father LaPlante joined the Anglican congrega-

Please see Church

Page 8

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



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## More Church News

### Church

From Page 7

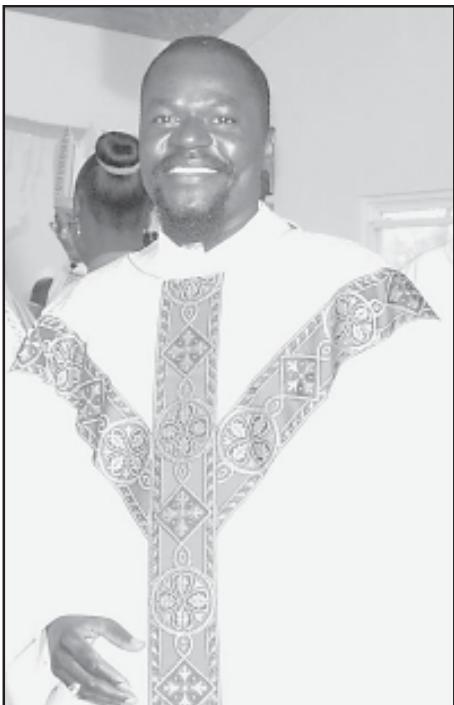
tion while he studied for his bachelor's degree.

Father LaPlante mentioned, "Many Bahamians preparing for priesthood attended Coddington Theological College. I became friends with many of them."

After his graduation in 2003 he was assigned by Archbishop Gomez to Abaco where he settled in Crown Heaven 13 months ago to work with Father Dwight Rolle and prepare for his final step into the priesthood.

Asked where he would like to serve, Father LaPlante answered, "It does not matter. My service is to the Lord wherever I am." One of the reasons for his being on Abaco is "to reach out to the Haitian community because of my knowledge of the creole language."

He explained that many people on Haiti practiced the Episcopalian faith, and he hopes those people will join his parish after finding out that he can communicate with them in their language. Father LaPlante is pleased to assist Father Rolle with his five parishes in North Abaco. Because of the geographical location of these churches, it is difficult for Father Rolle to attend each of them, and Father LaPlante helps with services in two of



*Father Fequel LaPlante was ordained in the St. Simon by the Sea Anglican Church on March 13.*

the parishes every Sunday.

Father LaPlante is "looking forward to fulfill my vocation of working for The Lord and to be able to reach the Haitians for whom Christ also died."



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## Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral for William "Tex" Russell, 50, of Fox Town was held on April 2 at End Time Harvest Church in Crown Haven. Bishop Tyrone Mills officiated and interment was in the Public Cemetery of Fox Town.

He is survived by his father George Russell; step-mother Patrice Russell; daughter Latoya Bastian; grandchildren Jeffrey Bastian Jr. and Jadd Bastian; sisters Lovely Reckley, Badine Rolle, Rosemary Russell, Jackie Williams, Martha Heirrix, Gretal Moss, Pleasant McMeary and Diana Kandpal; brothers Dave, Willie, Kevin, Bradley and Randy Russell; stepbrother Caedallas; stepsisters Chapelle and Locova Rolle; aunts and uncles, Erskine and Ruth Wells, Charles and Lettymae Jones, Thomas and Gina Lightbourne, Jonathan and Genevieve Russell, Joseph and Ella Russell,

Vyrona Archer, Leonza Thompson, Kathy Russell, Florence McIntosh, Florence Thompson, Olga Russell and Clement Fox; nieces Cornelia Morley, Chandell Reckley, Hendrenique Williams, Daniella Moss, Vanessa Simms, Julian and Willicia, Brandysha, Brenika and Vashti Russell; nephews Lando Morley, Anwar Reckley, Marion Rolle, R.J. Williams, Cordell Moss, Joseph McMeary, Roderick Simms, Chase, Blake and Devonte Munchie and Bradley Russell Jr.; grandnieces and nephews Yvonne Curry, Shawnelia Francis, Lannekka and Knjah Morley; son-in-law Jeffrey Bastian Sr.; brothers-in-law Bradley Reckley, Michael Rolle, Henry Williams II, Wilfred Moss, Brian Heirrix, Aaron McMeary and Samit Kandpal; sisters-in-law Julie, Precious and Miquel Russell; a host of other relatives and friends.

### Student Is on Dean's List



*Shane Cash, son of Don and Carrie Cash of Hope Town, has been named to the Dean's List at Ramapo College in Mahwah, New Jersey, where he is majoring in history and secondary education.*

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# South Abaco News

## The Wonders of the Sea Displayed in Cherokee

By Portia Jonsson

Collecting shells has been a pastime of many, young and old, for centuries. Shells delight and fascinate us in the visual combination of shape and colour. Smooth or textured, shells treat us to a remarkable display of nature's art. The wonders of the sea were displayed in Cherokee Sound on March 26th during the fourth annual Sea Shell Show and Exhibition at the W.W. Sands Community Center which, according to resident Lee Pinder, just keeps getting better. Persons from all over the island turned out to see these wonderful treasures and were treated to some unusual shell designs and artwork.

Seashells throughout history have been used to produce beautiful works of art. Some of the shells were transformed into jewelry, ornaments and other objects. Even in prehistoric times, shells were traded far from their place of origin, often becoming symbols of wealth and status.

The exhibition showcased many shells and other sea life that can be found along our shores. Besides seashells of all kind, sand dollars, coral, sponges, sea fans, glass balls, conch shells and Portuguese floats were displayed.

The seashell craft called *Sailors Valentine* was displayed. It involves stunning intricate mosaics made primarily of colourful shells and often incorporates sentimental messages. The story of *Sailors Valentines* evokes romance, majestic sailing ships and long sea voyages, adventures in the New World and daydreams of loved ones across wide oceans.

Ribbons were awarded in all categories and a floating Conch Shell trophy presented to the Best in Show winner. Capturing this title was Shirley Higgs of Marsh Harbour for her flower arrangement made of seashells. This entry was made up of more than 1000 yellow and orange cockles and clams.

During the exhibition local artisans, like the husband and wife team of Stewart and



Mrs. Shirley Higgs won Best in Show at the Sea Shell Show and Exhibition for a display of flowers made of shells. She will keep the perpetual trophy for one year. Mrs. Higgs on the right accepts the trophy from Mrs. Lee Pinder, organizer of the show.

Corella Sands, displayed their work. Mr. Sands, formerly of Man-O-War Cay and a resident of Cherokee Sound for nine years, makes clocks, magazine racks, lamps, napkin holders and birdhouses from cypress and pine. Mrs. Sands makes handbags, baby bibs, pot holders, quilts, pillows, place mats and ladies skirts using the Androsia and batik fabrics.

There were lots of eats and treats as well as a car wash on the basketball court. It was a beautiful day and everyone had an enjoyable time.

All the proceeds from the exhibition will go to the Cherokee Primary School.

### Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

#### Visiting Choir

The Marsh Harbour Gospel Chapel Choir came to Cherokee on March 19 to perform a program entitled *Saving ... An Easter Musical* in the W.W. Sands Community Center. People came from near and far to hear them sing and they were not disappointed; the hall was packed to capacity. Their rendition of some old and favourite

hymns made it an evening of enjoyment for everyone present and refreshments were served afterwards outside on the school patio to sustain them on their journey home. The various Abaco settlements have always come together for evenings just like this one over the years for inspiration and fellowship, but mostly they come for the good singing. It seems there is nothing that can lift a persons spirits like a room filled with happy voices, it just sends a tingle down your back. I hope it will always continue.

## Shell Show Winners

A very successful Sea Shell Show and Exhibition was held on March 26 and again on March 28 in Cherokee's community center. Outside private vendors sold various foods and craft items and donated \$10 to \$20 to the school for the rental of their space. The weather was fantastic and the crowds just kept coming. All in all it was a

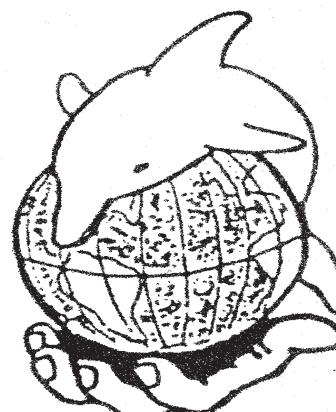
Please see South

Page 11

## Friends of the Environment

wishes to thank the following for their overwhelming generosity in making our Fifth Annual Reef Ball a huge success!

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# More South Abaco News

## South

From Page 10

good day's outing for all who showed up and we want to thank everyone for their support.

The judges this year included Jill Wells, Tara Hingle, Veronica Saunders and Hugh Cottis. Within four categories there were 30 ribbons awarded and some of the top winners were as follows; In the Natural Shells category a Special Award was given to Lee Pinder for a display including a West Indian Crown Conch, a Doghead Triton and a large Volute shell. A First Prize ribbon went to Shirley Higgs for a display of four boxes showing various small local shells. In the category of Other Things from the Sea a Special Award was given to Hartie Albury for a collection including a Sea Pancake, a Sea Biscuit, a Sea Potato and a large Sea Urchin (better known locally as a Shark Egg) and First Place ribbon went to Lee Pinder for a display including a large photo of a group of local young men standing on the dock by a 15-foot hammerhead shark),

surrounded by some very large sponges and exceptionally large shells. Regrettably, we had only one entry in the Children's section, Die Hepburn, but he still won a ribbon for his efforts.

In the Artwork category a Special Award was won by Shirley Higgs for a delicate halo made of tiny shells. Shirley also won the First Prize in the category and the overall Best in Show ribbon and trophy for a large urn filled with handmade shell flowers. With a possible total of 40 points Shirley's entry captured 38 to win the trophy.

Congratulations to all the ribbon winners. There was a extensive display of locally found shells as well as some prized treasures from afar and unlimited artwork that boggled the mind and was a feast for the eyes. If you missed the show, you missed a treat. Our added thanks to Jo-Ann Bradley for our raffle prize which was her rendition of a school of grunts painted on a large conch shell. It was won by one of our judges, Veronica Saunders. There is so

much talent on this small island and so few chances when you get to see it. This very successful fund raiser made \$754 for the school.

### Genealogy of Cherokee Sound

It may be as simple as a misspelled name of a family member or adding the name of the newest baby in the family, but these little corrections need to be done to set the record straight. Please make a trip to the Cherokee Sound Library and look up your family and your ancestors to verify if they

are listed correctly in the new Genealogy Record of Cherokee Sound.

### School News

The students in the higher grades held a very successful Rock-A-Thon with each participant finding his or her own well travelled vehicle out of grandma's parlour. As the participants were rocking away, I noticed that some of the rockers they were

Please see South

Page 12



The Sea Shell Show and Exhibition had a wide variety of items from the sea. This collection shows a Sea Pancake, a Sea Biscuit, a Sea Potato and a large Sea Urchin, sometimes called a Shark Egg.



The men of Cherokee are progressing well in the construction of the Long Dock. This time they are making the dock much higher and will extend it out to deeper water so small boats can tie up to it.

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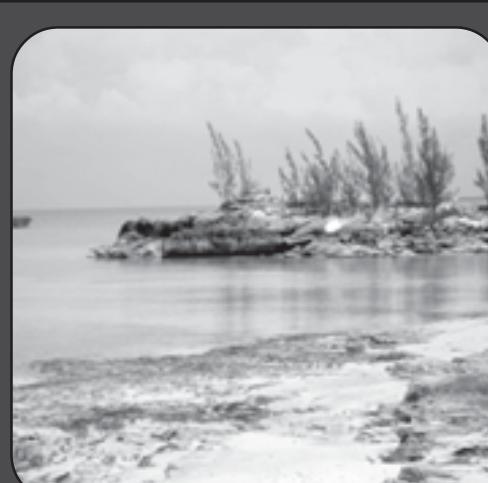
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# More South Abaco News

## South

From Page 11

using were the very same ones their mother's used to rock them as babies and were in turn themselves rocked by their mother's before them. Wouldn't it be interesting if some of those rockers had a speedometer or odometer to tell just how far they had rocked and actual record kept of every baby they lulled back to sleep. I wonder how many of today's mothers even have rockers as they seem to be just another relic out of the past.

In years gone by nearly every home in Cherokee reserved a place of honor for grandma's rocker. Whether the rocker was new or old the students took their task very seriously and rocked away for five hours without losing a beat or a single victim. They had signed up lots of sponsors beforehand with boastful assurances of success. However, Ms. Lowe had forbidden them to collect the sponsorship monies until they had finished the job. As all the sponsorship monies have not yet been collected we cannot give you a final figure for this first-of-its-kind fund raiser in Cherokee, but feel confident in telling you that it will prove to be a very fulfilling and profitable day. The children took the challenge very seriously and stuck it out to the end. They managed to have a very enjoyable ride along the way. Congratulations to them all!

### Young People Working Hard

As far as I know the young people have not yet adopted a club name for themselves, but that has not stopped them from moving ahead towards their goal for a recreational center in Cherokee where they can meet. Their car wash which took place on the

school grounds at the same time as this year's Sea Shell Exhibition and Show was a huge success. I have heard varying amounts taken in that day, but do not have a final figure yet. All of them worked very hard all day and potential customers lined up to have them clean their cars and trucks inside and out. They must have been very tired at the end of the day. They had also made homemade ice cream and cut up gallons and gallons of conch salad. The conch salad was really good (but it maybe could have used a little more conch) and the ice cream was the best I ever tasted (especially the jelly coconut). We congratulate these young people who are learning that a hard day's work often pays off.

### BEC Plays a Dirty Trick

BEC decided to shut off our electricity - not for a few minutes but all day on March 26, a holiday weekend. They were working overtime to re-string new wires in the settlement, wires that had been damaged six months before by the hurricanes. Cherokee residents had been advised that the electricity would be off for three hours on the preceding Wednesday. After waiting all day in anticipation of having no electricity and making sure not to start any projects that might require electricity, it did not happen. Strange that the workmen would forfeit their holiday and choose that particular time to disrupt our holiday and proposed fund raiser, for that is the very day Cherokee put on there annual Sea Shell Show and Exhibition. It seems that they could have scheduled this job with a little more forethought.

The workmen had to work around people

all during the day as they came and went from the school grounds since the work being done was on the same road as the school. In addition, and probably more importantly, because the electricity was shut off, water could not be pumped for use in the school toilets. They had to be kept locked and could not be used by the many visitors that day. This was a real problem and an embarrassment. No one could figure out why BEC would choose to do the work on a holiday and many were quite upset. And to top it off, their main office was closed and, of course, there was no one who could be reached for comment.

### Moore's Island

### Pageant Was Great Success

By Ruthamae Rolle

Our pageant to name Little Miss Moore's Island 2005 and Miss Moore's Island All Age 2005 was held on March 22. It was a long tiring evening but well worth it. The contestants captivated the judges and the audience with their melodious voices, fascinating dramatizations and graceful and exciting dances. An estimated 350 persons

watched the show. The tremendous support from the community in the form of ticket sales forced the show to be relocated from the school's multipurpose room to the public park.

Little Miss Moore's Island 2005 is Miss Raneisha Knowles, a five-year-old student of grade one who captivated the judges with her interpretive dance selection. Making up her court is first runner-up Shantika Davis, who did a modern hip-hop style dance, second runner-up Kaylor Simms, who sang, and third runner up Ashley Rolle, who did a poem. Ms. Photogenic was Raneisha Knowles. Best Church Wear was Shantika Davis and Best Talent piece was Shantika Davis.

Miss Moore's Island All-Age 2005 is Miss Ashley Johnson, who gave a stunning performance of Maya Angelou's Phenomenal Woman. Her court consisted of first runner up Nevandria Rolle, who serenaded the audience with Celine Deon's *The Heart Must Go On*. Her performance earned the

Please see South

Page 14

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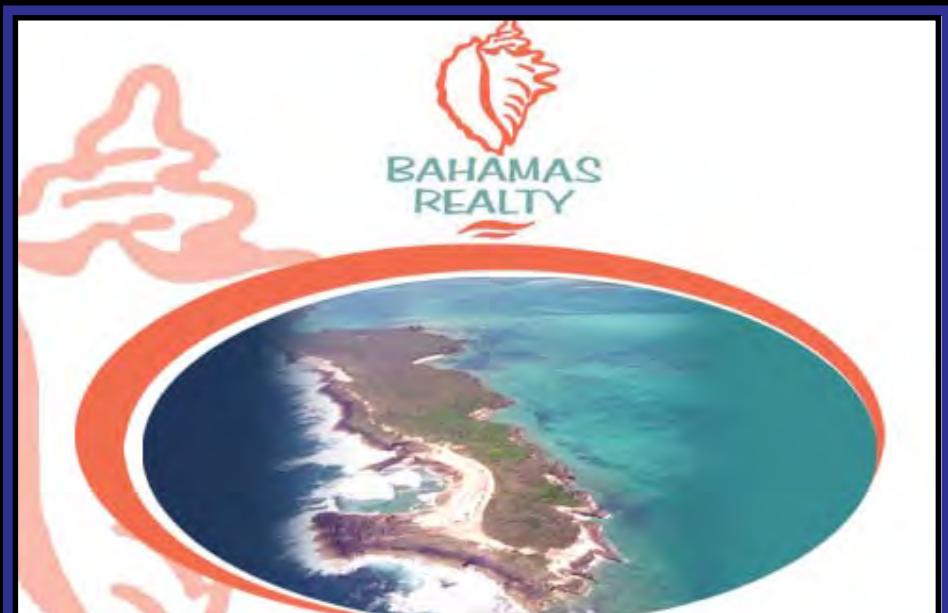


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List #9297

### PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS

#### Select Properties

**Bahama Coral Island**: Building site. Nice elevation, fresh water well. Power runs close to this property #7735. \$20,000

**Bahama Palm Shores**: Two adjacent home sites just one block from Eight Mile Beach. Buy both for a generous building envelope. Good elevation. Build up for views #3646. \$41,000 each

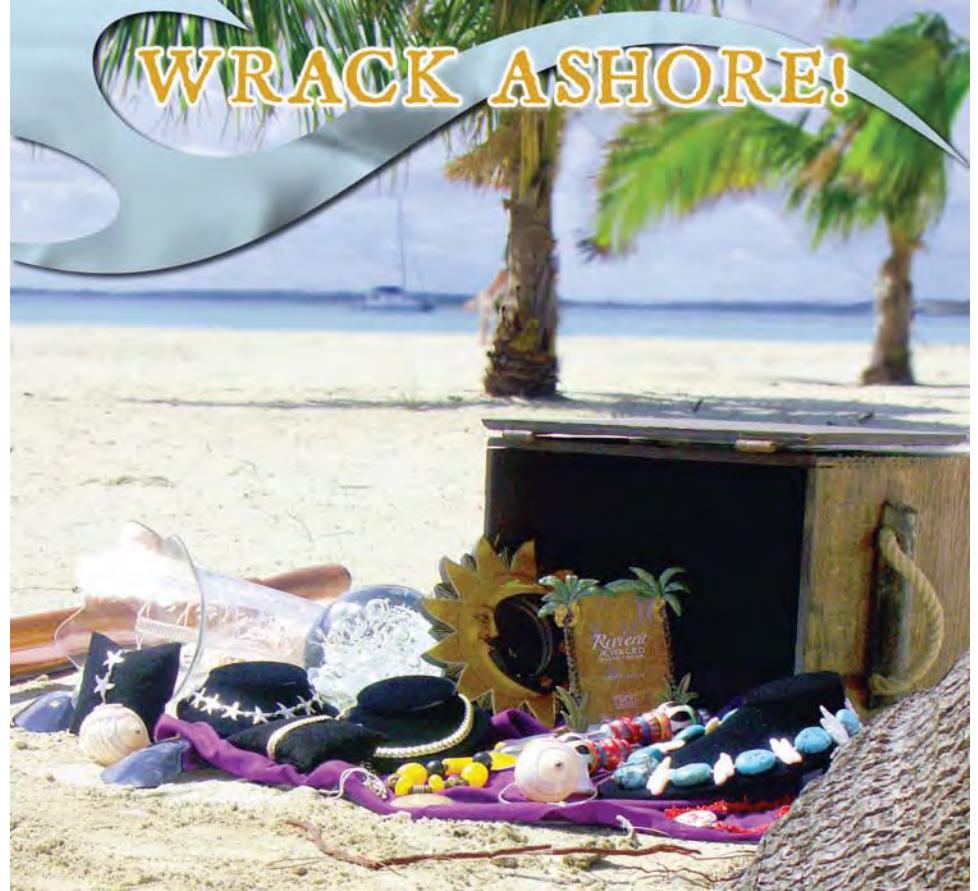
**Bahama Palm Shores**: "Almost beach front!" Secluded 4 bedroom, 2 bath home just across the road from Eight Mile beach. #8928. \$422,000

**Casuarina Point**: Nice secluded 10,000 s.f. building site. Don't let this one slip away - prices are rising!

#9389. Great Price!!! \$22,000

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### ★ HOMES ★

**"Bay Lodge"**

Green Turtle Cay - Coco Bay, 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 2,300 sq.ft. Water-front Home 4,800 sq.ft. of Decks. - Recently completely Renovated. Over 1/4 Acre with 100' of bay front. Fabulous views. Private dock with dredged channel. #AB140 - **NEW LISTING \$1,725,000**

**"Sugar Apple"**

Man-O-War Cay - Charming, exquisite, traditional Bahamian home on over 1/4 acre. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in 1,047 sq.ft. Two screened porches. 249 sq.ft. "Snore Box" with 1/2 bath and attached workshop. Crows nest for great ocean views. Private boat mooring. Furnished. #AB131 - **NEW LISTING \$475,000.**

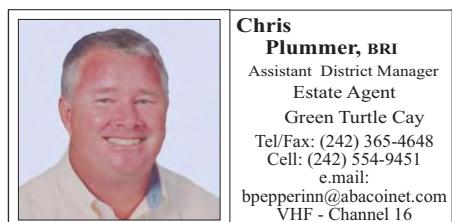
**"Watch Hill"**

Great Guana Cay - 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 1,686 sq.ft. Beach-Front Home - 725 sq.ft. of Decks. Over 1/4 Acre with 80' of ocean front. Fabulous views. Deeded access to semi-private dock. Beautifully Furnished. Great Rental History. #AB142 - **NEW LISTING \$1,380,000**

**"Twin Dolphin Point"**

Elbow Cay - 2 Two Storey Waterfront Homes. A total of 9 bedrooms, 8 baths in 4,000 sq.ft. Set up as four separate rental units with great history. About 1/12 Acres with 170' of Sea of Abaco frontage. Furnished. Fabulous views. Private dock. #AB141 - **NEW LISTING \$1,925,000**

#### Marsh Harbour, Central Cays and South Abaco



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Cell: (242) 357-6856  
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**"Ceylon's Isle" - "Rosewood"**

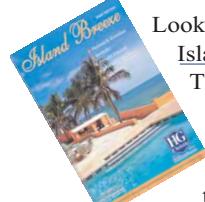
Man-O-War Cay - 3 + Acres Sea-to-sea. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,920 sq.ft. residence. 1 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath guest complex on beach. 259' of beautiful Sea of Abaco beach. Lush landscaping, a myriad of fruit trees. Fully furnished and equipped. Superb Views. # AB111 - **NEW PRICE \$3,900,000**



**Margot Lee**  
Estate Agent  
Man-O-War Cay  
Tel: (242) 365-6156  
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margot@abacoinet.com

**"Cézanne"**

Man-O-War Cay - Ocean Beach-front. Superb, beautifully maintained, 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath 3,300 sq.ft. home on two levels. Wrap-around covered and open decks. Fabulous ocean views. Central A/C, Generator. #AB134 - **NEW LISTING \$995,000.**



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The Guide to Wonderful  
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**"Hidden Paradise"**

Turtle Rocks - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,200 sq.ft. Beach-Front Home - Almost 1,600 sq.ft. of Covered wrap-around veranda. Over 2 acres with 100' of Sea of Abaco Beach-front. Fabulous views of the sea and outlying cays. Fully Furnished. #AB139 - **NEW LISTING \$1,175,000**

**"Little Hog Cay"**

Northern Abaco Cays - 20 acre private island. 1,000' wide glorious lagoon with fabulous crescent beach. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Studio home, Cabana, protected dock-slipway 50 years remaining on a 99 year lease. #AB126 - **NEW LISTING \$2,200,000.**

### VACANT LAND

- ★ 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 fabulus ocean and sea views #AB5176 - **\$2,950,000.**
- ★ Green Turtle Cay - Coco Bay Area - "Madiera Hill" - 1.497 Acres - 312' x 209' - Waterfront access super views. # AB5143 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ Green Turtle Cay - North End - Lot A. Pristine 135' of beach-front. 1.46 wooded acres. Good elevations. Minutes from clubs and town. #AB5182 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ Green Turtle Cay - "Lot 60" 12,235 sq ft., almost 1/3 acre. between Coco Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. mature native landscape and trees. Convenient to Green Club and beach. Last parcel remaining in the area. #AB 5183 - **NEW LISTING \$73,000.**
- ★ 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 - **SOLD**
- ★ 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.**

**"Utopia"**

Man-O-War Cay - 5 Bedroom, 4 bath, 3,000 sq.ft. home, 2,400 sq.ft. of covered verandas. set on over 1/3 Acre with 100' of Beach-front. Fabulous ocean views. Swimming Pool, Generator, Water-maker. Fully furnished. #AB138 - **NEW LISTING \$1,400,000**

**"Bien Choisir"**

Man-O-War Cay - 3/4 acre sea-to-sea. Elegant 1 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, 1,220 sq.ft., home. 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath guest house. 3,300 sq.ft. of decks and porches. Private Dock, Beach. Central A/C, Generator, watermaker. Beautiful lush sub-tropical landscaping. #AB133 - **NEW LISTING \$1,800,000.**



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Appraiser  
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#### 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. Furnished and fully equipped. #AB97 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ 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 tastefullyFurnished. #AB120 - **\$2,290,000.**
- ★ 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 - **PRIVATE ISLANDS**
- ★ Sea of Abaco - "Cornish Cay" - 38 Acre private Island - 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 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ Sea of Abaco - "Carrington Cay" - 300' from the Abaco mainland, near Leisure Lee - 1.4 acres. Excellent elevation. - #AB5147 - **\$375,000.**

**"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 \$1,750,000.**

**"Surfside"**

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates 5 Bedroom, 3 bath home - set on over 1/2 Acre with 100' of Beach-front. Open decks for fabulous ocean views, elevation for Sea of Abaco Views. Fully furnished and equipped. #AB123 - **NEW PRICE \$1,275,000**

# More South Abaco News

## South

From Page 12

award for the best talent piece. Second run-

ner up was Keriann Stuart, who treated the audience to her melodious voice and was the winner of the Miss Photogenic award.

Third runner up was Shandira Davis with her hilarious dramatization of Banana Woman. Kamilah Simms won the award for the Best Evening Gown.

The students and parents are now looking forward to preparing for next year's pageant.

### Bush Fire Burns Out of Control

By Jennifer Hudson

A bush fire at the beginning of April burned for several days on Moore's Island threatening residences and property had to vacate homes due to smoke. Homeowners went to the public wa-

ter pump to fill buckets to be trucked to the fire. This action along with cutting roads as fire breaks were the only means they had for fire fighting as there is no fire truck on Moore's Island.

The situation was a difficult and frustrating one as there was hardly any water in any of the homes in that area, thus resulting in the necessity to go to the pump. For days the water pressure had been extremely low in the daytime, only building up during the night hours. There is a new water plant in Hard Bargain but, unfortunately, BEC has yet to come and hook it up.

The fire started in an area close to the settlement of the Bight, threatening homes there before moving into Hard Bargain approximately four miles away when the wind changed direction and picked up strength.

"It is very frightening at night to see the flames lighting up the sky," said Mrs. Laing. "Everybody is doing what they can to help but we need to get a fire truck. We will have to begin holding fund-raisers and seeking donations; we have people ready and willing to train."

A fire engine was a high priority item on the agenda of the Disaster Preparedness

meeting held on the island that evening.

On March 8th heavy rains of a weak cold front blessed the island with exactly what was needed to put out the fire. By the following day everybody could breathe a sigh of relief as the fire had been completely extinguished.

### Girl Is Burned in House Fire

By Jennifer Hudson

It was ironic that, while the people of Hard Bargain were labouring to extinguish the bush fire which was threatening their livelihood, a family in the other settlement of The Bight had to deal with another fire. This one was a house fire in which a 13-year-old girl was burned.

On March 7th Shandera Davis, a 9th Grade student at the Moore's Island School, was at home with her younger sister and father in the 10-room, split level house owned by Mr. Davis. At 9.45 p.m. fire broke out in an upstairs bedroom, trapping Shandera in the room as her sister and father were downstairs at the time. Shandera was rescued by her father, police and neighbours who climbed onto the roof and



Winners of the Little Miss Moore's Island and Miss Moore's Island All Age School are shown here. The pageant proved to be a very popular event.

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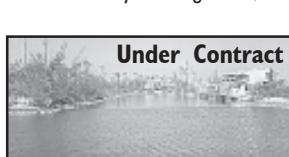
### BEST BUYS IN ABACO



**Cherokee 1157** - Abaco pine built home in the heart of the settlement. Offers one bed and bath with sleeping loft \$125,750



**Bahama Palm 1160** - Section one home site w/ foundation started for 2/1 home. Finish to your liking. \$35,500

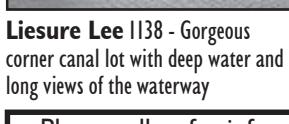


**Guana Cay 1162** - Sea to Sea property of 3.5 acres. Also interior lots with sea views available.

**HOT! HOT! HOT!**

**Guana Cay - 1117 & 1118** - One cottage of 2/1 and one home of 3/2 on spectacular beachfront near town.

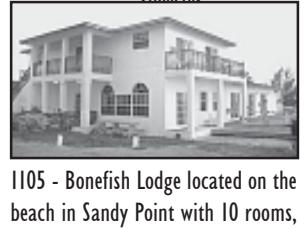
Both homes have great rental history.



**Liesure Lee 1138** - Gorgeous corner canal lot with deep water and long views of the waterway

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**1105 - Bonefish Lodge** located on the beach in Sandy Point with 10 rooms, large dining room and kitchen, just minutes to the flats.



**1115 - 5 lots** with amazing views and excellent elevations. All lots 1+/- acre in size and underground utilities to come.



**Coral Point - 1007** - Two adjacent parcels of land approx. 1.5 acres each with 40' elevations and 130'+ of waterfront. One parcel is vacant, other has partially completed home of 3/2.



**Tiloo Cay 1021** - Only one lot left. 100' of waterfront and great elevations and deep water draft. \$199,900

### TREASURE CAY:

#### "Amnesia"

(Ref #297) Elegant, fully furnished 4 bedroom, 3 bath canalfront home, 3,000 sq. ft., newly built, superior construction, 60' dock, boat lift \$1,275,000.

#### "Casuarina Beach House"

(Ref #350) Fabulous 2 storey 6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, fully furnished, plus efficiency, pool, 80' beach frontage, recently renovated \$2,300,000.

#### "Maison de Mer"

(Ref #351) 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 storey "fixer-upper" canalfront home on Brigantine Bay, 86' canal frontage, docking facilities, 2 car garage \$525,000.

#### Canal Lot on Brigantine Bay

(Ref #321) Oversized, cleared, 130' canal frontage, deep water \$275,000.

#### Canal Lot

(Ref #348) 10,000 sq. ft. fully seawalled, 80' frontage on Brigantine Bay \$180,000.

#### "Trident House"

(Ref #317) Superb 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath fully furnished beachfront home, 3,500 square feet, sensational beach & ocean views, many extras \$2,500,000.

### LITTLE HARBOUR:

#### Waterfront Property

(Ref #347) 2.2 acres, sea to sea, total 280' water frontage, ideal for boat dockage in protected Little Harbour, large natural cave. \$910,000.

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#### Residential Lot

(Ref #332) Large, 15,000 sq. ft. Just one block from pristine sandy beaches \$25,000.

### LEISURE LEE:

#### "Beach Reach"

(Ref #249) 2,030 sq. ft. beachfront 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Fully furnished, Immaculately maintained, panoramic sea views \$599,000.

#### Canal Lot

(Ref #287) Deep water canal lot, 130' frontage, seawall and boat davits installed. \$180,000.

### TURTLE ROCKS:

#### "Turtle's Rock"

(Ref #361) 3 bedroom 2.5 bath beachfront home built in 2000 on 1.18 acres with 102' on the beach, very private area, fully furnished. \$755,000.

#### Beachfront Parcel

(Ref #143) 2.55 acres with 155' white sandy beachfront on Sea of Abaco, excellent elevation, lush natural vegetation, fresh water pond \$303,000.

#### Ridgetop Home

(Ref #123) 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 4,520 sq. ft. home on 5.84 acres, 2 car garage, large modern kitchen, Requires repairs and completion \$375,000.

### GUANA CAY:

#### Two Commercial Lots

(Ref #368) 2 adjoining lots, harbour front road location, across from the public dock, total frontage 161 feet, \$245,000 each.

# More Club News

## Clubs From Page 3

relationship between the two clubs even further. An adult exchange was proposed and the idea was very enthusiastically received. Five members of the Abaco Rotary Club have volunteered to host members of the North Mecklenberg Club for a week in June and there will be a return exchange in the fall. The two clubs are looking forward to getting to know each other better and supporting each other through shared projects.



Two members of the RMHYC painted the pilings at Whale Cay Channel. Shown here is Ray Vallerie on Last Dance who was assisted by Jim Fenn on Fennders.

## Pilot Club Visits School

Pilot Club of Central Abaco Club News In the month of March the Pilot Club of Central Abaco engaged in their annual Brain-minders Program which educates students aged 6-7 years old on how to protect their brains during play, riding their bike or riding in a car. Project Director Donnaree Cornish stated that this year the club focused on visiting additional cays and traveling to the northern part of Abaco to educate the students.

On March 2nd Mrs. Sharon Dorsette and Donnaree Cornish visited Man-O-War School where they were welcomed by students with a zest for learning. Mrs. Kelly Janes, principal, stated that she had heard about our visit last year and she anticipated our visit. On March 4th they visited Treasure Cay Primary School where Mrs. Myrtis Russell is the principal. They were greeted by over 100 students with broad smiles excited about the story book characters.

At both schools students answered all their questions correctly and displayed their knowledge by using illustrations and reality events that can happen when not wearing a helmet during a bicycle ride or when using their skate-board. One of the kids stated that he was knocked down by a car but did not get seriously hurt because he was wearing a helmet. Coloring books and certificates were issued to all the students.

On March 13th the Pilot Club of Central Abaco in conjunction with St. Andrew's Methodist Men's Fellowship hosted a Gospel Concert at St. Andrew's Methodist Church. Rev. Jerry Cornish and Mr. Jack Thompson moderated. The event was well supported by persons from all over the is-

land. Two churches, Victory Tabernacle and Kirk of the Pines, cancelled their services to attend the event, which brings to mind the scripture "Oh, how good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

March 21st through 25th was Brain Awareness Week internationally. So please buckle up, wear your helmet and become a *Brain-Minder's Buddy*.

The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club By Commodore Dave Bluto

The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club was started in 1980 by retired Canadian Charlie Murphy in the old Conch Inn. He ran the club until Jack Turner took over in

1994. Many boaters joined the yacht club, raising the membership to 200 members in 1990. When Charlie retired, he turned the reins over to Jack Turner in 1994. Other commodores have included Capt. Keenan Van Mill, Bob Toler, Don Van Beck and John Mitchell. In 2005 Dave Bluto was elected as the seventh RMHYC Commodore.

The RMHYC assists the community with donations and manpower for worthwhile projects. Special events such as Blind Din-

Please see Clubs

Page 20

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# Forest Heights Teens Visit in London

Forest Heights Academy Principal Paul Vernal comfortably shifted his "hat" to become tour guide exceptional for a week as he organized a tour over the February mid-term break. Three teachers and three parents accompanied 28 upper school students as they embarked on a trip of a lifetime aboard a 747-400 bound for London. As Lonnie Key put it, "Most of the students had never been out of Florida, and the plane was bigger than most of our houses." Others thought it was so big it would never get off the ground. But after 12 hours of anxiously "waiting in the sky," the excited group arrived tired, but ready to begin their adventure.

Before the group left, they were given an assignment to write an article or narrative describing their experiences, and each student had an equally unique response, each, as they say, "priceless." So the following article is an anthology of some of their stories, truly London through the eyes of a teenager.

From the start it was impossible for the group to avoid the obvious contrast of London and Abaco. Bradley Albury was overwhelmed at "how the vivid green, grassy meadow contrasted with the dull gray of the sky and buildings."

But as we all know the people are what truly represent the country, and Corenthea Johnson had an interesting reaction. "From the time I arrived on

Virgin Airways, I knew this was going to be different from what I am used to. You would think we spoke two languages as different as apples and oranges. The Bahamas was once a part of the British empire but you wouldn't know it, 'Are you in a queue?' a lady asked. I stared, just wondering what she was talking about. Then it was explained to me by one of my classmates that a queue was a line. Why didn't she say line in the first place? Doesn't she speak English?"

Another shock to this group was the weather. They were greeted by a "lovely morning fog," and the rested group prepared for their first tour as described by Lonnie. "We gathered outside our hotel, The Gloucester, and climbed aboard an open top double decker bus. After that we climbed aboard a river boat for a scenic tour of the Thames River. During these tours, we were harshly reminded how cold London be. With the wind blowing and the temperature dropping to 40 degrees, it was the perfect combination for frozen Abaconians."

Matthew Duggan summarizes the next four days. "We went to Westminster Abbey, Big Ben and the Parliament, then on to the Science Museum. Then on Friday we went to The Tower of London and St. Paul's Cathedral and the Imperial War Museum. Then Saturday we went to the British Museum and on the

London Eye and to the famous Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum, Chamber of Horrors and the Planetarium. Sunday brought the Changing of Guard at Buckingham Palace and a wonderful Ghost walking tour." Obviously, the focus of this trip was a historical one, and the group definitely appreciated it.

Nathaniel Malone was quite amazed by St. Paul's Cathedral. "When we first arrived, the building caught my eye. I was amazed that human beings could create something so astounding. There were tall ceilings and endless artwork, and we even got to see where Princess Diana and Prince Charles were married. It was over-

whelming that we were walking where such royalty had once walked."

Charlotte Collins felt, "History is everywhere you turn in London. We went on numerous tours but I enjoyed the Tower of London most. The first place we went was the Bloody Tower. Creepy is one of the many words I felt as I was climbing the steps. Thinking back hundreds of years, the person who would climb these steps would never come out of here alive. However, I would. Reaching the top and looking around sent chills up my back because this is where people

Please see Forest Heights Page 17

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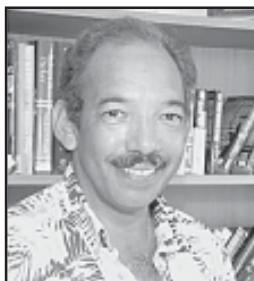
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15 Apr 05

# Sightseeing Made Many Memories

## Forest Heights

From Page 16

were executed. All the walls were stained, possibly from the blood of those who had been killed in the same spot that I was standing."

She was also very impressed with a tour of the Crown Jewels. "I had never seen so many jewels together in one spot before. Conveyor belts carried us along past the glass cases to see all the crowns and jewels. Even the most recent crown of Queen Elizabeth II and the cuffs of Prince Charles were on display."

Saturday brought the contemporary more frivolous tours as the students visited the London Eye and Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. Christian Wilhoite describes, "The London Eye is basically a big Ferris wheel with big capsules that hold about 20 people taking about half an hour to rotate. At the top, which is about 480 feet, there is a magnificent view of London. We could see Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral and the House of Parliament all from the top."

Madame Tussaud's was definitely a favorite of the teens. Nikita Roberts enjoyed this and thought the figures were so lifelike that "it was hard to tell who was real and who was not. And the Planetarium was a big dome shaped theatre that made me feel I was actually looking up into space."

Rayanne Malone gives her account of the Chamber of Horrors. "Our expectations can sometimes be so wrong. Thoughts of a silly thing to frighten children went through my mind. As we entered, lights flickered with frightening sights. Suddenly, a horrifying figure started chasing behind me, slamming his reaper into the walls. I yelled and screamed, for he just kept on chasing me. This was no ordinary haunted house, I thought to myself as I was escorted out by another horrid creature. This attraction really does live up to its name."

"On Sunday," Kerry Sawyer reports, "we went and visited the Queen .... I wish. But we did get to see where she lives and the Changing of the Guards was one of the best parts of the trip."

Principal Vernall describes his favourite event. "I enjoyed the ghost walking tour. An aspiring actress in a black cape took us on a tour of spooky alleys, churches, graveyards and haunted

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buildings. It was a dark and drizzly night setting the tone as she brought history to life while singing little ditties to entertain us."

But the underground transportation system definitely left the greatest impression on all. "Out of everything we did," Matthew Duggan explains, "my most memorable part of the trip was the underground subway. We traveled on it everyday and had cards scanned by machines. The first time I saw it I was a little confused because they had lots of different maps you had to look at. Most of the time we had to change and get onto another train. But after the first couple of times I became an expert." Kurt Key continues, "We got on and I noticed there were poles. When the train pulled away, I fell down and suddenly realized what they were for." All became acclimated, finding humour in the recorded "Mind the Gap" and even became street smart, wearing their backpacks on their

frontsides as they became aware of the possibilities of pickpockets.

The girls were amazed at the shopping as Heather Weatherford found. "London is one of Europe's most fashionable cities with its gigantic department stores, Harrod's being one of the most famous, selling elegant dresses for as much as £2500, equal to about American \$500."

And one must never overlook the food which Kerry Sawyer describes. "Food in London is much different than in the Bahamas. We had Chinese, Indian and even Polish, which was especially good. And, of course, there were the Fish and Chips."

After all of these amazing new experiences two students made some interesting observations. Ashley Knowles writes, "I now have a new respect and appreciation for tourists who visit the Bahamas for the first time. I felt like a tourist for the first time in my life, and it was a very humbling experience. I will

now forgive the tourists who start their outboards out of the water and take off with their anchors still hanging. I have also figured out that I am no city girl, but simply an island girl."

Raine Sands sums it up best. "Even though I have vowed to return to London, there is still a chance I may never return, and I am very glad that I took this opportunity. I know that while some of my childhood memories will fade, this one will always stay bright in my mind."

All fully appreciated the experience and, "After a great vacation and excellent school trip, we students thank Mr. Vernall and the other teachers and chaperones for all the effort and hard work put into the trip."

This was not the first of such adventures experienced by Forest Heights students and hopefully not the last, for first hand experience beats a text book any day!

## PROPERTIES FOR SALE

### LISTED PROPERTIES - RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

### NASSAU & THE FAMILY ISLANDS

#### GLENISTON GARDENS

**LOT NO.** 0 Block 7  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 3 Bed, 2 Bath (10,875 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** East Side of Jean St. off Prince Charles Dr.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$189,000

#### TOWER ESTATES SUBDIVISION

**LOT NO.** 47  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 10,908 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** Tower Estates Dr.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$195,000

#### WESTERN CLOSE SUBDIVISION

**LOT NO.** 9  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Triplex (10,325 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** Bellot Rd. off Gladstone Rd.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$244,000

#### YAMACRAW BEACH ESTATES

**LOT NO.** 247  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Family Under Construction (6,935 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** West Side of Acklins Circle  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$100,000

#### GOLDEN GATES SUBDIVISION No. 1

**LOT NO.** 314  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Family Residence (5,000 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** Malcolm Rd. West of Reef Ln.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$115,000

#### GOLDEN GATES SECTION No. 2

**LOT NO.** 579  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 3 Bed, 2 Bath Single Family Residence (60x100 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** St. Vincent Rd.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$233,000

#### GLADSTONE ROAD ALLOTMENT

**LOT NO.** Crown Allotment No. 53 Lot #D  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 3 Bed, 2 Bath (5,995 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** Bellot Rd. West of Faith Ave.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$124,000

#### CULMERSVILLE SUBDIVISION

**LOT NO.** 25  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Triplex Apartment (4,800 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** Orchid Ln.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$160,000

#### UNION VILLAGE

**LOT NO.** 57  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Family Residence (1,295 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 6,820 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** Peach St. off Montrose Ave.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$50,528

#### STAPLEDON GARDENS

**LOT NO.** 544  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Family Residence (9,600 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 2,457 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** 130 ft. North of Spitfire Rd.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$224,000

#### JOHN TERRACE

**LOT NO.** 3  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Storey Residence/ Two Storey Apartment (3,483 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** 200 ft. from Lincoln Blvd./Wulff Rd. Intersection  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$135,000

#### TWYNAM HEIGHTS ESTATES

**LOT NO.** 61  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 2 Storey Residence (9,100 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 1,173 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** Victoria St. & Coronation Rd.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$203,000

#### SEVEN HILLS ESTATES

**LOT NO.** 15  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Single Family Residence (5,000 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 1,693 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** Blue Hill Rd. South  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$145,000

#### SANDILANDS VILLAGE ROAD

**PROPERTY SIZE:** Residence/ Apartment Complex (11,600 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 5N North Side of Sandilands Village  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$386,000

#### SHIRLEY STREET

**LOT NO.** 1 & 3  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Commercial (13,000 sq. ft.)  
**SITE AREA:** 3,236 sq. ft.  
**LOCATION:** Southern Side of Shirley St.  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$775,000

#### MURPHY TOWN - ABACO

**LOT NO.** 122 Crown Allotment  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** Apartment Complex (9,000 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** Bay St., Murphy Town  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$96,940

### LISTED PROPERTIES - VACANT LOTS | NASSAU

#### COWPEN ROAD-HOLLYWOOD SUBDIVISION

**LOT NO.** Crown Grant A-66  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** (10,875 sq. ft.)  
**LOCATION:** 350 West of Refuge Court  
**APPRaised VALUE:** \$71,000

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# Elected Councillors Speak Out About Local Government

## Dale Hill Wants to See Changes

By Mirella Santillo

Mr. Dale Hill, owner of Rental Wheels, was elected to the Marsh Harbour Town Committee and appointed to the Port Authority Committee in the elections held in 2002. Although a native of Nassau, Abaco was his second home while he grew up until he moved to Marsh Harbour nearly 19 years ago. He had great expectations for the town, but was faced with disillusionment when trying to resolve things quickly.

"It is an eye opener to see how the government works, he said. "There are some grey areas within the powers of the boards. The boards should not go against the recommendation of the Town Committee." He continued, "People can go to Nassau to obtain licenses that have been denied here on Abaco, overruling the local licensing board!"

He thinks, "One town committee of elected, responsible people who could make decisions, could represent all the boards." By meeting once a month, this committee could keep control of the issues at hand and resolve them in a more expedient way. He is of the opinion that "more responsible people should give a try at being involved on the Town Committee, if only to understand the way it works."

Does he think we should have a town beautification committee? "No more committees!" answered Mr. Hill. Two people could take it upon themselves to handle it. He explained, "Mr. Randy Key is doing a great job at beautification and so is Mrs. Yvonne Key. Look at the sidewalks and the flowers. They are doing that by themselves.

The town looks much better lately. It is difficult to do more in that respect because of lack of money. There is already not

enough money for the essentials, such as curb improvement, street signs, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings and stop signs to mention a few. Most projects are sponsored by the local business people."

Mr. Hill voiced his opinion. "Each township should be able to control what is happening in their town. They should not have their decisions overturned by an outside group. Each community should have its own representative to decide on what should be done in that town. They have a better knowledge of where a particular dock or a particular house is, but unfortunately there are not enough people to appoint."

He is glad, however, that the local government has not turned into a political entity and that the different parties have worked well together. He deplores that "not enough of the revenues stay on Abaco." For example, the upkeep of the airport and the Spring City roads, which is under the Ministry of Works, is not done because the government mower is broken and are no funds to either sent it to Nassau or to repair it locally.

With more power and more money

from Central Government, we could improve Marsh Harbour and the island tremendously!"

Mr. Hill will stay on the Port Authority Committee if appointed again, but he is not sure at this point whether he will run again for the Town Committee.

His final comment was, "As a Town Committee member, I would like to express my thanks to the Administrators for their help and guidance. They have helped resolve more than one issue."

## Cay Mills Will Run Again

By Portia Jonsson

Once again Mr. Cay Mills will offer himself for re-election and hopes to again to become Chief Councillor in this year's upcoming Local Government elections slated for June. If re-elected for a second term, Mr. Mills would like to see a supporting cast of Councillors and Town Committee members who can put aside self and think first about the people and district they represent.

Chief Councillor Mills advised that the sad part of his first term in office was seeing the eagerness of so many persons

during the elections and their burning desire to be fill various positions and be on certain boards and then not bothering to come to a scheduled meeting once a month. For him this is very disturbing that persons would hold the whole district hostage, especially those on the Licensing and Town Planning Boards who refuse to show up for a couple hours one day a month.

Mr. Mills feels that these persons should not offer themselves for any positions nor should persons who cannot give of themselves for the betterment of their community.

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Dr. Richelle Knowles - Dermatologist  
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Dr. Elisabeth Darville Ultrasound  
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Hearing aids, hearing testing  
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Dr. Elaine Lundy - General Practitioner  
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Dr. Bernard Rolle - General Medicine/  
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Dr. Winston Campbell, Ears, Nose &  
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Ms. Ava Thompson - Child &  
Adolescent Psychologist  
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Dr. Cargill - Clinical Psychologist,  
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Dundas Town-#5222-Property situated in prime location running 135' on the waterfront. Fixer upper situated on property. Views of the harbour and Sea of Abaco. \$125,000



Man-O-War Cay- Vacant interior lot close to the Atlantic Beach, restaurants, and grocery stores. \$120,000.00



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- Cabbage Point- 5 acre 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. \$144,000 each.

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Green Turtle Cay- #5077 Historic 10 room Inn located in "Story Book" pretty New Plymouth. Consisting of 10 guest rooms , 40 seat restaurant and bar,patio and swimming pool. Painstakingly restored to it's original Colonial condition. Offered at \$1,780,000.



Green Turtle Cay- #5282 Luxury Waterfront Estate with over 100' of frontage. Swimming pool, dock and guest cottage. Property is 1.7 acres of elevated land with panoramic views. Offered at \$3,500,000



Green Turtle Cay- #5191 Luxurious home located on a 2.5 mile sandy beach. Consisting of five bedrooms, four bathrooms with wrap around verandas. Careful craftsmanship and attention to detail describes this villa. Offered at \$2,400,000

# More Club News

## Clubs

*From Page 15*

ghy Races and Poker Runs became the new sports in Marsh Harbour. Seminars to help Abaco boaters hone their boating skills were formed and attended by hundreds of cruisers over the years. A website was started allowing members access to club information, weather and important facts and information about Abaco.

A survey by the club in 2003 revealed that the average amount that sailboat members spent was \$8,925 while those on power boats spent \$14,725. Home owners spent \$37,204 during the winter season. This represents over \$2,000,000 a year in revenues for the community.

The RMHYC built a dinghy dock for boaters at the Union Jack Dock. The RMHYC, with approval by the Port Au-

thority, placed red and green channel markers in the harbour to assist new boaters in finding their way safely into the harbour.

The club sends out two newsletters a year to all of their members, sharing information with members on Customs and Immigration regulations, marina information and other useful news of Abaco. The newsletter has prompted many new cruisers to come to Abaco. Many Florida members frequent the waters of Abaco during the summer months.

The yacht club has now grown to over 1800 members with mates and is highly organized to assist cruisers coming to this area. After the destructive Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, the RMHYC moved quickly to rebuild the damaged dinghy dock at Union Jack Dock and restored the Marsh Harbour channel markers, spending \$5,400 for the year. The RMHYC has donated an

average of \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year to Abaco's cruising community.

The first project the RMHYC completed in 2005 was to paint and restore original colors to the old rusty Whale Cay channel markers. The international colors of red and green will assist all boaters in a safe passage.

An agreement was recently reached to coordinate lighting the channel markers in Marsh Harbour with the Marsh Harbour Marina and Yacht Club and will be completed as soon as approvals for placement and lighting are received. In addition, both yacht clubs have started raising funds to place lighted channel markers at the North

Man-O-War Channel and other dangerous sites around Abaco. Anyone interested in assisting in this project can contact either yacht club; the Jib Room at 367-2700 or the RMHYC at 367-2158 ext.509.

The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club's purpose is to provide fellowship, information and support services to cruisers, landholders and others who enjoy visits and extended stays on Abaco. An additional purpose, when circumstances permit, is to provide equipment, grants and other support services to persons or community organizations in the Marsh Harbour vicinity for the benefit of the cruising community.

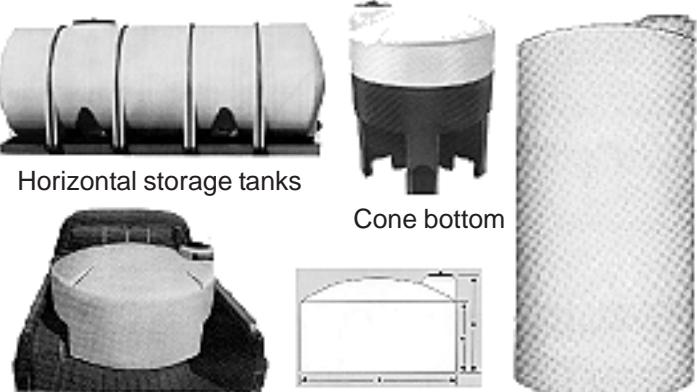


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# Fire Was Driven by High Winds

## Fire

From Page 1

put the fire out with only a few spots needing follow up.

The Central Pines Estates subdivision is bordered by the dump and the BEC power plant. The dump and the power plant were well out of town when they were put there years ago. The dump is scheduled to be moved to an area south of Spring City, possibly this year and resume life as a modern sanitary land fill with no burning.

BEC would like to move to a larger and more distant site but there are no plans at the moment. They would like a location where their 20,000 gallon per day fuel consumption could be serviced directly by pipeline from offshore tankers and with room to expand their plant in unison with Abaco's growth.



*The Casuarina Point/Bahama Palm Shores fire truck and volunteer crew were called to support the Marsh Harbour Fire Department with the fire in the new Central Pines Estates. This fire engine was recently donated to Casuarina Point/Bahama Palm Shores and this was the first fire it responded to.*

## Accordionist Performed at Treasure Cay

By Jennifer Hudson

At the third Treasure Cay Events Group Concert held on March 15th in the Community Centre concert goers received a rare treat as they were held spell bound by the performance of Paul Minnis and his accordion. The very talented Mr. Minnis performed selections ranging from contemporary jazz to classical.

Mr. Minnis is also an artist and educator who works in many different mediums and whose art work is on display in many private and corporate collections and museums. His largest is a 200-foot mural he did for American Airlines. Some of his work was on display at the concert.

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### Accordionist

## Performed at Treasure Cay

By Jennifer Hudson

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All members interested in serving in either capacity should collect an application form from any office of the Teachers and Salaried Workers Co-operative Credit Union Limited offices in Nassau, Freeport or Abaco.

Completed applications, along with the other information requested should be returned to any of the offices on or before the close of business on Friday April 29, 2005.

Any application, not fully completed or without the requested supporting information, or received after the aforementioned date will not be eligible for consideration.

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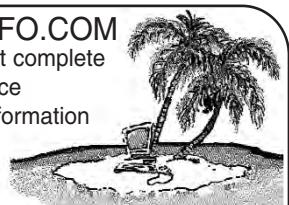
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# Citrus Grove Is Being Destroyed



The citrus groves of Bahama Star Farm are being ripped up and destroyed because of the Citrus Canker disease found there the end of 2004. Big Cat Heavy Equipment Company won the government contract to do the work which is now about 90 percent complete. The trees are left to dry and will eventually be burned.

## South From Page 14

rescued her through the bedroom window.

Shandera received severe burns to both her arms and face and was taken to the Moore's Island Clinic. At about 12:20 a.m. she was air lifted to Nassau by a private charter, accompanied by both parents, and

is in the Intensive Care Unit at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Persons lined up with buckets to help extinguish the fire which they managed to confine to the one bedroom. Three of the other bedrooms received smoke damage.

It is not known what caused the fire.



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### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### Real Estate Sales Agent Wanted

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Damianos Real Estate Company wishes to employ for their Marsh Harbour, Abaco office a licensed, experienced and reputable Sales Agent. The successful applicant must have exceptional phone and communication skills, be self-motivated, enthusiastic and be prepared to work as part of a team.

If you feel like joining our innovative and successful company, please forward your resume to mark@damianos.com or fax to (242) 362-4730.

**Bluff House on Green Turtle Cay** seeks a handy man with experience in carpentry, electronics and plumbing. No certifications required. Full or part time. Call David Phillips at 365-4247. Positions are also available for front office staff. For more information please call Tracey at 365-4247

**Job vacancy for gardener / handiman** to work in MH. Call 359-6121 Job vacancy for maid / care taker for house in Cooper's Town. Call 359-6121

**Housekeeping position** available in Murphy Town. Please contact Danario at 367-0274 or 367-2519

**US souvenir company** looking for a sale person to work part time on their own schedule to sell to gift shops on Abaco. E-mail resume to islandgifts 0404@yahoo.com or fax to 941-923-8674

### MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

**French doors**, 3 sets, Anderson high performance doors, new in carton, warranted, DUTY PAID. No shipping, no hassle. \$2980 each. In Hope Town. Call Philip 366-0680

**Gateway laptop computer** \$1800, New lawn mower \$450, Remote control plane \$500, GE 24 cu. ft. refrigerator \$1700, Time for water heater \$40, Used lawn mower \$400, 2 used chest of drawers \$90 each, Men's bicycle \$300, Child's 20" bicycle \$125, Meat slicer \$40. Prices negotiable. Call 367-2997

**Two brand new (still in box) smooth top electric stoves.** \$850 each. Call 477-5807 or 367-4500

**Aluminum glass doors**, 5 doubles, 5' and 6', used but in good condition. \$400 total Call 366-3507

### VEHICLES FOR SALE

**87 Buick LeSabre**, loaded, A/C, runs good. \$2500 OBO Call Karen 366-0266



**98 Toyota Camry**, Cloth interior, CD player, power windows and locks, grey. Asking \$12,500 Contact Chris Pinder at 375-8835

**98 Plymouth Voyager 7 seater van**, A/C, CD player, \$8500 ONO. Contact Lillian 366-3016 / 559-9228

**00 Dodge 3/4 ton cargo van**, beautiful condition with racks inside, radio, auto, air. \$14,900 OBO 365-8188



**00 Dodge Durango**, fully loaded. \$17,000 Contact 367-2262 or 367-4485

### EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

**Portable saw mill and portable 12" wood chipper (diesel)**. Asking \$18,000 for both. Will split. Call 366-4141

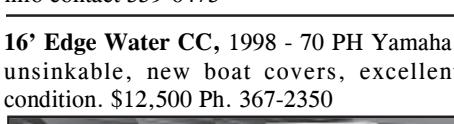
**20' courten sttel container**, ideal for storage, excellent condition. \$2900 Call 367-2673

### BOATS & MARINE ITEMS

**Mooring for rent in Man-O-War**, 4.5 feet at low water, special rate for long term. Call 365-6433



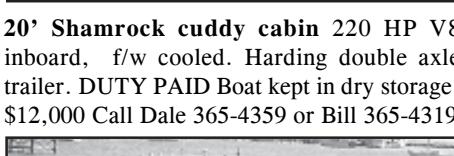
**16' Flats Boat** includes trailer, pole, seats, jackplate, and 30 HP motor (only 2 hours) For info contact 359-6473



**16' Edge Water CC**, 1998 - 70 PH Yamaha, unsinkable, new boat covers, excellent condition. \$12,500 Ph. 367-2350



**16' Rahming Bonefisher** 1996, 2004 OMC 50 HP with extra lower unit, 4 blade ss prop, Bob's jackplate, Lenco trim tabs, trailer/new tires. In great shape. DUTY PAID. \$11,800 OBO. Call 242-365-8423 or email willmurrm@netscape.net



**20' Shamrock cuddy cabin** 220 HP V8 inboard, f/w cooled. Harding double axle trailer. DUTY PAID Boat kept in dry storage. \$12,000 Call Dale 365-4359 or Bill 365-4319



**21' Cobia 214 CC**, 2002 150 HP HPDI with 309 hrs., lean post w/ cooler, T top, compass, raw water pump, console enclosure, VHF, Garmin GPS map 238 sounder, dual batteries, dual battery charger and dual batteries for 24 v. rod, new trailer never used, motor has 2 yrs factory warranty. Contact 365-5195

### BOATS & MARINE ITEMS



**22' Atlantic Bay Skiff**, 8-foot beam, fiberglass, 350 MerCruiser inboard, center console, Bimini, VHF, depth sounder, US registered, fully found, DUTY PAID. Asking \$18,500 OBO Call 365-8608 or 365-8420



**24' Rampage Cuddy Cabin**, 240 HP Yanmar diesel, 70 hrs. Excellent condition. DUTY PAID. Call Darvin Sands at 242-365-6007 days and 365-6093 nights



**25' Boston Whaler**, walk-around cabin, 2 150 HP Johnsons, low hour engines, well maintained, new Bimini, VHF, stereo, fishfinder. Asking \$25,000 Call Karl Conrad 365-8141 or Roberts Marine 365-4249



**34' Venture**, 2001 w/ twin 250 HP saltwater series Yamahas. 600 hrs, immaculate condition, DUTY PAID, loaded, too many extras to list. Serious inquiries. Call Sidney Albury 9-5 Ph. 367-2091 After 5 p.m. 367-2031

### BOATS AND MARINE ITEMS WANTED

**Wanted: Dinghy or boat under 12'**, fiber-glass. Call 357-6806 between 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**Wanting to buy 20' boat trailer**. Call Rick Zandali 367-2886

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