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VOLUME 13, NUMBER 9, MAY 1st, 2005

Guana Protests Development Bakers Bay's Plans Are Being Contested

By Jennifer Hudson

The residents of Guana Cay have in no way diminished their efforts to stop the proposed \$500 million development planned for the Baker's Bay area on Great Guana Cay from going ahead. They are not satisfied with the proposed compromises by the developers, and their attorney Mr. Frederick Smith has stated that they are prepared to "fight to the bitter end." Mr. Smith has announced that a judicial review trial has been granted to the Save the Guana Cay Reef Association by the Supreme Court and is set to begin on April 26th.

The association is suing Prime Minister Perry Christie, as the Minister responsible for Crown Lands; Wendel Major, as secretary to the National Economic Council, and Eugenia Cartwright in her capacity as treasurer, in its quest to prevent the construction of the Baker's Bay project which it claims will cause catastrophic damage to the environment and destroy the uniqueness of the cay. The Save Guana Cay Reef Association is asking the court to consider several different points which substantiate that the agreement was entered into unreasonably and with a total disrespect for the people. Justice Stephen Isaacs has ruled that the SGCR has "real and substantive con-

Please see **Protest**

Page 20



Residents of Great Guana Cay protested outside the Hope Town District Council office in Hope Town on April 21. They are unhappy about the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club development scheduled for the north end of that cay. Before the meeting officially began the developer discussed with Council members the preliminary plans. Since they were incomplete, the plans will have to be resubmitted. Mr. Fred Smith, representing the dissenters, accused the developers of breaking their agreement not to begin work in any area requiring local permits.

Court Has Postponed Review

The Supreme Court in Freeport agreed to review the Heads of Agreement between the government and the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club. The judicial review trial began on April 26. However, government asked for and was granted an adjournment as it had not had long enough to prepare. The trial will resume on June 13 and 14, 2005.

Representatives of the Baker's Bay developers asked to be heard at that time as an interested third party.

The Save Guana Cay Reef organization has filed for an injunction to stop the government from proceeding with the development. The hearing for the injunction will be heard on May 4, 2005

Crocodile Skeleton Is Discovered



This is one of 18 crocodile skulls that were discovered in a Blue Hole in South Abaco. Some of them are being treated so they can be dried and preserved. They will then be carbon dated and DNA tested. A similar skeleton discovered in 1993 was carbon dated at 2840 years.

By Jennifer Hudson

Many interested persons, including environmentalists, students, Ministry of Tourism officials and media gathered in the St. John's Anglican Parish Hall on April 18th eagerly awaiting details of the spectacular find in one of the South Abaco

Blue Holes of four tortoises that seem to be related to the Galapagos variety and 18 crocodile skulls belonging to the rare Cuban species.

Please see **Fossils**

Page 2

Top Students Are Honored



On his first official visit to Abaco the Hon. Alfred Sears, Attorney General and Minister of Education, presented awards to Abaco's outstanding students. The ceremony was held on April 21 at New Visions Ministries. Shown here is the minister with three of the five students with a 4.0 GPA. They are Ashlea Archer - St. Francis de Sales, Chelsea Sawyer - Agape Christian School, Recipient of the Shooting Star Award, Charlotte Collins - Forest Heights Academy, Raenell Lowe - Forest Heights Academy, Miranda McIntosh - Forest Heights Academy. Please see story on page 16.

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Spectacular Fossils Are Found in Blue Hole

Fossils *From Page 1*

In December 2004 former United States Navy diver, Mr. Brian Kakuk, who has been diving in The Bahamas for the past 20 years, was diving with several friends when, during a decompression stop, he stumbled upon what he thought looked like a tortoise shell sticking out of the silt. He and his companions were so surprised that they did a second dive in order to see if it was indeed what they thought and not just the remains of a regular sea turtle shell as they had never heard of any kind of tortoises being found in The Bahamas. On further investigation he was extremely excited when he found there to be two tortoise shells and two crocodile shells. He contacted Nancy Albury who convened an advisory committee of which the government was a part. Nancy became coordinator of the project which includes

the Department of Antiquities, Monuments and Museums, Friends of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and paleontologists Richard and Shelley Frantz. In February Brian Kakuk and two others were permitted to collect photos and video at the site.

Bringing these finds to the surface for identification is a very precarious task, explained Mr. Kakuk. The environment is very hazardous in the caves which are 100 feet deep, and it is a very specialized activity in which all the protocols of cave diving must be meticulously observed. The divers tried to measure the finds in place with special grids before disturbing them. When it was finally time for the specimens to be moved to the surface, they had to be brought up submerged in the water which had surrounded them sealed in Tupperware tubs to prevent any salt water from touching them.

Mr. Kakuk reported that since this initial find they have been down several more times. Each time they move material in that area they have found more and more skulls. To date they have discovered four tortoises and 18 crocodile skulls.

Although the sediment in the caves makes it very difficult to get good photos, the water chemistry in the Blue Hole provides a perfect environment for preserving the fossils. There is a fresh water lens on top then a layer of sea water. But below that a hydrogen sulphide zone creates an area with no oxygen which protects the shells and fossils. It is very important not to breathe any air back into the underwater environment and so, instead of normal scuba gear, re-breathers are used. These re-breathers recirculate the air so that no silt is disturbed. They also provide extended bottom time, giving a maximum of eight hours under water.

Mr. Richard Frantz, associate scientist of herpetology and paleontology at the University of Florida's Museum of Natural History, told the audience that this find is "pretty spectacular; these bones are exquisite." Mr. Frantz, who is studying these fossils along with his wife, Shelley, said that the tortoise "appears to be an un-described species of tortoise not seen ever before." However, preliminary examination has led him to believe that they belong to a South American group of tortoises which are re-

lated to the Galapagos tortoise as well as a small Argentinian species. Mr. Frantz remarked on how beautifully the tortoise shells have been preserved. Most of the parts are there and even the turtle skull which is very unusual and the tail vertebrae, in fact, virtually the entire skeletal set. "It is incredible and blows me away," he enthused. "The bones are so well preserved that they are not mineralized at all and are as fresh as our bones or any animal we may find in the woods today. This provides the potential for removing DNA from the long bones to ascertain how they are related to other tortoises and crocodiles. It may also be possible to reconstruct, from the peat, what environmental conditions existed when these creatures were alive."

This huge accumulation of crocodiles and tortoises in the sink hole, which is 50 feet across, leads the scientists to wonder how so many managed to accumulate there. They will try to assess whether all died one time or slowly over thousands of years. Carbon dating should allow them to date the skeletons.

The crocodile skulls found appear to be related to the Cuban crocodile which still lives in swamps in Southwest Cuba near the Bay of Pigs. The Cuban crocodile, with its flattened skull, is quite distinct from the American crocodile which has a rounded

*Please see **Fossils** Page 26*



Nancy Albury organized paleontologists and government agencies to oversee the finding of skeletons of crocodiles and tortoises in a Blue Hole in South Abaco. This was the first knowledge that these animals lived in The Bahamas. Scientists will study the muck that covered the skeletons and will hopefully be able to tell what the land was like when these creatures lived. At the head table are Mr. Richard Frantz and Mr. Keith Tinker.



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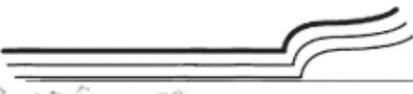
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<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"LADY BUG LOFT"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1975 Overlooking Tahiti Beach 3 bed 2 bath 1600 sq. ft. two storey island home 2nd floor loft with fabulous views of Sea of Abaco Wrap around deck Central A/C Spacious 21,113 sq. ft. lot Private dock slip <p>\$920,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"DEMWELLS"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1828 2 bed 2.5 bath island home Two storey with covered porch and balcony Sea of Abaco view from upper deck V-joint cypress wood interior Open living/dining rooms Elevated wood deck at the rear - great for BBQ Lush native foliage <p>Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>	<p>MARSH HARBOUR</p> 	<p>APARTMENT BUILDINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1669 3 Duplex Apartment Bldgs. Great location in town Each Duplex is comprised of two 2 bed 1 bath apts. - 750 sq. ft. each Furnished & A/C Landscaping/mature trees Great Rental History <p>Each Duplex for sale at \$300,000 Jane Patterson: 242-366-0569</p>
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<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>TAMARIND HILL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2518 Beautiful 2b/2b home with 1 bedroom apartment and one acre of land in very private Lucayos Subdivision Awesome view of the Sea of Abaco Community dock steps away Fully landscaped and furnished Large storage shed & car port <p>\$1,200,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"TOP OF THE WORLD"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2584 Fully furnished Loyalist-style 2 bed 2 bath cottage with covered porch Large lot with ocean view 2nd floor framed out for Master suite or 1 bed studio with separate entrance Ground floor storage <p>\$360,000 Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>BAHAMA PALM SHORES</p> 	<p>SOUTH OF MARSH HARBOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2322 2 bed 2.5 bath main house Wrap around verandahs 1b/1b furnished rental cottage 20 kw Generator 100 ft. x 150 ft. property MINUTES WALK TO 8 MILE BEACH PRICE REDUCED MOTIVATED SELLER <p>NEW PRICE \$355,000 Donna Darville: 242-367-5046</p>
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<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p> 	<p>"TAHITI HAI"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #1640 Dorros Cove Subdivision Newly renovated 4b/2b Central A/C Wrap around porch Sea to sea views Separate gardener's apt. 1/2 Acre & dock access Near Tahiti Beach <p>\$895,000 FIRM Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>LUBBERS QUAR-</p> 	<p>HOTEL RESORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2644 Own a business in paradise! 4 Fully equipped furnished homes on six lots 240 feet of sandy beachfront 200 foot dock/Four 20' boats Backup generator Lush tropical gardens, Tiki huts, two cabanas & more Established turn-key operation <p>\$2,900,000 Laurie Schreiner: 242-366-3143</p>	<p>BAHAMA PALM SHORES</p> 	<p>SECTION ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Ref. #2753 Charming duplex 2 bed 1 bath downstairs 1 bed 1 bath upstairs Second floor balcony Attached Garage Spacious 15,000 sq. ft. lot Sandy beach nearby Peaceful environment with native Bahama parrot habitat <p>\$250,000 Laurie Schreiner: 242-367-5046</p>
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<p>LUBBERS QUARTERS</p> 	<p>More Exclusive Listings in Section B - Page 3</p>	<p>LUBBERS QUARTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "FLIP FLOPS" - Private beach bungalow on lush tropical 1.19 acres. One bedroom one bath; will sleep 4. Airconditioned with many new upgrades. Beautiful sunset view. This one won't last! <p>\$425,000. Internet Ref. #1851 Laurie Schreiner: 242-366-3143</p>
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BUILDING SITES

<p>TILLOO CAY</p>  <p>0040</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TILLOO BEACH SUB. - Hillside interior lots with shared dock starting at \$85,000. #1836 TILLOO CAY - SEA TO SEA - 3 3/4 acres - \$715,000. Int. Ref. #1884 	<p>HOPE TOWN/ ELBOW CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DORROS COVE - Lot #13 with dock slip and Atlantic views. Walk to Tahiti Beach. \$250,000. Internet Ref. #2344 NEW LISTING - WHITE SOUND - 1.034 acres with licensed dock slip, excellent elevation, view of Atlantic and White Sound Harbour. Listing # 2735 Call: Kerry Sullivan 242-366-0040. NEW EXCLUSIVE - 105 ft. x 105 ft. lot in White Sound area of Elbow Cay, near ocean. Asking price \$175,000. #2648 Call Jane Patterson 242-366-0035. 	<p>LUBBERS QUARTERS - Interior lots starting from \$52,500.</p>  <p>5046</p>	<p>OLE KERR ACREAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEACHFRONT ACREAGE - Beautiful 9.210 acre parcel, near the beach and overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The settlement of Ole Kerr is located three miles south of Bahama Palm Shores in South Abaco. Offered for sale at \$180,000. Internet Ref. #2694 Call Donna Darville: 242-367-
<p>HOPE TOWN/ ELBOW CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DORROS COVE - Lot #13 with dock slip and Atlantic views. Walk to Tahiti Beach. \$250,000. Internet Ref. #2344 NEW LISTING - WHITE SOUND - 1.034 acres with licensed dock slip, excellent elevation, view of Atlantic and White Sound Harbour. Listing # 2735 Call: Kerry Sullivan 242-366-0040. NEW EXCLUSIVE - 105 ft. x 105 ft. lot in White Sound area of Elbow Cay, near ocean. Asking price \$175,000. #2648 Call Jane Patterson 242-366-0035. <p>GUANA CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BUILD YOUR VACATION HOME! - 135' x 165' lot - \$145,000. Ref. #2499 <p>LUBBERS QUARTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JACK'S JUNGLE - High elevation, waterfront and interior lots with lush native foliage. Private dock slip. From \$80,000. Call Laurie Schreiner: 242-366-3143. LUBBERS QUARTERS - Waterfront lots starting at \$140,000. 	<p>WATERFRONT LOT - Beautiful building site with deep water for private dock in pristine area of Tilloo. Southern exposure facilitates fantastic views of the Sea of Abaco and protection from north winds making this a perfect retreat year round. Shared dock and swimming beach on Tilloo Beach, 5 minute walk to the Atlantic Ocean. Ref. #2426. Call Kerry Sullivan: 242-366-0040</p>	<p>GREEN TURTLE CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAR THE BEACH - Excellent 312' x 209' corner lot 100' from Coco Bay Beach. Utilities available. \$350,000. #2580 Call Stan Sawyer: 242-477-5821 <p>GREAT HARBOUR CAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awesome beach views 300' to beach - \$89,000. #2635 Donna Darville: 242-367-5046 <p>SOUTH ABACO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PINEHURST SUBDIVISION - Four interior lots, nearby beach; 12,500 sq. ft. to 15,750 sq. ft. \$13,000 each. Ref. #2605 Call Donna Darville: 242-367-5046 <p>CHEROKEE SOUND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAR WINDING BAY - One Acre hilltop Atlantic seaviews \$220,000. 	<p>MARSH HARBOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO LOTS - Located in quiet neighbourhood, 100' x 200' lots each \$55,000 or both lots for \$100,000. #2623 Call Stan Sawyer: 242-477-5821 COMMERCIAL - Located in town near the Government Dock, this 6,525 sq. ft. lot has great investment potential. \$75,000. Internet Ref. #2513 PELICAN SHORES - Waterfront lot, 8,000 sq. ft., beautiful sea views - \$501,000. Internet Ref. #2719. Donna Darville: 242-367-5046

News of the Cays

Protesters Attend Council Meeting

By Lindsey Delaplaine

Save Guana Cay Reef protesters attended the Hope Town Council Meeting on April 21 to demonstrate their continuing objections to the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club. On this day the center of the controversy was a dock permit application that had been filed with the Council.

Numerous protesters held up signs outside the meeting while a small band, including their lawyer, Mr. Fredrick Smith, attended the public meeting. The Council asked the representatives of the Baker's Bay project to provide additional information including a more detailed site plan, copies

of a lease for the Crown Land being used and proof of ownership of their land on Guana Cay before the Council could make a ruling. The matter was tabled until that information could be provided.

Mr. Smith asked that copies of all of the requested information be given to their group so they can remain apprised of the work in progress. Mr. Ed Divita, one of the partners in the development, said he would provide the requested information to both parties.

Mr. Smith asked that his group be given notice before any decisions are made. He said the people he represents want the op-

portunity to "participate in the democratic process" and tell their side of the story before Council votes on any application pertaining to this development. Senior Administrator Revis Rolle replied that the government wants the people to have an interest in what is going on.

Chief Councillor Walter Sweeting announced they would post notices before any relevant meetings so that everyone would have a chance to make their views known. He asked that anyone who wants to comment on the situation put their views in writing and submit them to the Council.

The Temporary Housing permits, which were the subject of the previous council meeting and protest by the Save Guana Cay Reef Association, are currently being reviewed by the Department of Environmental Health and the Ministry of Works before they will be returned to the Council for a vote.

As a vote was not being taken on any matters related to the Baker's Bay project, the groups were asked to leave the meeting so other matters could be addressed. Before departing, Mr. Smith left copies of

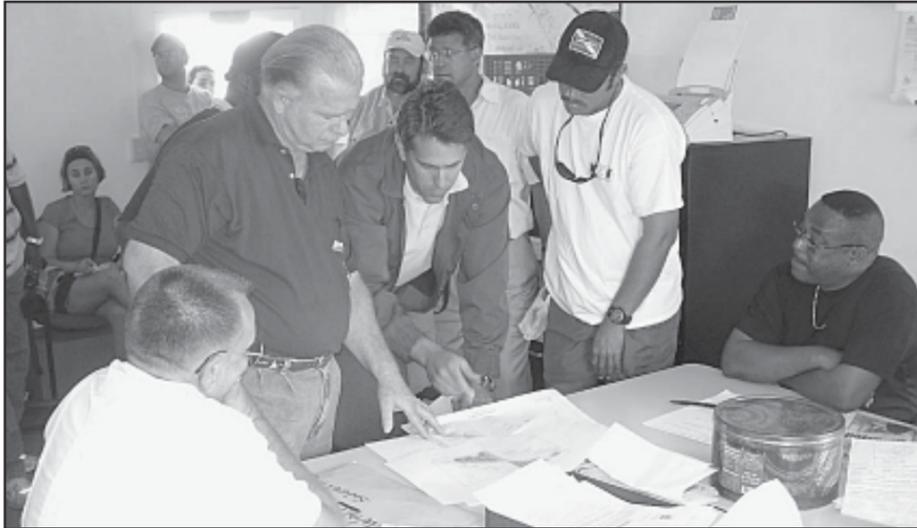
photos that had been published in the Freeport newspaper that day along with an article accusing the developers of the project of showing disregard for the law and tarnishing the water table at Guana Cay.

After everyone departed, the meeting was officially called to order. It was announced that the Hope Town District was receiving \$45,000 to be used at their discretion for capital projects. The amount will be split between the settlements. Man-O-War will use its funds to create retaining walls for the town dump to ensure the safety of the mangroves around the area. The town will also be constructing a park nearby and hopes to purchase playground equipment for the area. Guana Cay will use the money for road construction. Hope Town has also made plans for their capital funds, including re-tiling the library floor.

Administrator Rolle asked for contributions from each island towards beautifying the Marsh Harbour Airport. Each island's representatives agreed to contribute \$1,000. Rolle said other townships on the mainland

Please see **Cays**

Page 5



The Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club presented preliminary plans to the Hope Town District Council at its regular meeting on April 21. Looking at the plans are Mr. Walter Sweeting, Chief Councillor, Mr. Ed Divita representing the development company and Guana resident Troy Albury. Seated on the left is Council member Mr. Roy Russell and on the right Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator for Abaco.

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More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 4*

were also making contributions. Local elections will be held the last week in June. The terms of the current Council members will end on June 30th. New voter registration is already underway and the deadline for nominations will be announced shortly. If no one is nominated, the Minister of Local Government, Mr. V. Alfred Gray, will appoint people to the position. Town meetings on each of the islands will be held before the end of this Council's term and are tentatively scheduled for the week of May 15th.

Range Markers Guide Boaters

By Peter Michie

A victim of Hurricane Jeanne, the harbour range markers for Hope Town harbour and the love seat beside them were recently resurrected some six months after the hurricanes of last September.

The range markers consist of two white poles with red triangles so that boats approaching the harbour can line up on the poles and know they are in center of the narrow channel. The range is particularly useful as a safety aid at night when the markers are lit.

Frequent visitor to Hope Town, Leo Marcoux, repaired the arm of the love seat and resident Peter Michie rebuilt the range

and repaired its night time light system.

"One windy night about a month ago, I felt guilty when I saw a sailboat in distress just outside the harbour entrance as it had missed the channel centre line and went hard aground. This prompted me to find the time to rebuild the lower pole and replace the lighting system," said Peter.

Although not formally responsible for the range, the materials were paid for by the Hope Town Association. "When citizens take the initiative to donate their time to projects that add to marine safety and convenience, we are always pleased to help as well," said Michael Myers, President of the association.

Elbow Cay Rental Houses Now Charge Six Percent Tax

By Peter Michie

On March 18th two employees of the Bahamas Tourist Board and two of the Ho-

tel Licensing Board paid surprise visits to some of the property management companies of Hope Town on Elbow Cay. Their purpose was to inform them that the six percent room tax which, hitherto, had been applied only to hotels and institutions renting out five rooms or more, should now be collected from renters for all house rentals. Also that all the property management companies now need to pay an annual fee of \$3 per bedroom.

Carrie Cash of Elbow Cay Properties which manages some 62 of more than 200+ rental properties on Elbow Cay commented, "The four people showed up without an appointment to inform us of this change, which we had been expecting for several years. They also wanted to carry out the inspections of the houses right away and

Please see Cays Page 6



The range markers assisting boaters into the narrow Hope Town channel were badly damaged during Hurricane Jeanne. Volunteers repaired them recently including the night time light system. Shown here are Mr. Michael Myers, President of the Hope Town Association, Mr. Peter Michie and Leo Marcoux, who did the repair work.



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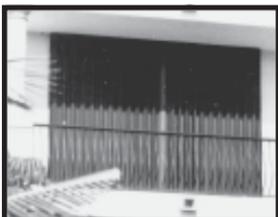
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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 5

seemed surprised both at the number of houses and that all except one were occupied, making inspections out of the question without more notice, except for this one."

Further, she commented that since most countries in the world charge some kind of tax, she does not see the six percent as a problem in terms of deterring prospective visitors.

Patte Myers of Hope Town Villas with four houses commented that she had been listed as a hotel for some time, so she had been collecting the six percent since becoming a hotel.

Tanny Key Rentals with 11 houses was called on by the Tourist Board personnel who were very courteous. She too was not at all surprised at the tax being levied. "When you go to America, Canada or almost everywhere in the world, you pay tax, and most places charge more than six percent," said Tanny Key.

Hope Town Hideaways lists over 60 properties, but they were licensed previously and have been collecting tax for some time.

So overall the impact of levying the per cent on all rental homes has come as no surprise to the property management companies on Elbow Cay. However, the overwhelming concerns expressed by all the people interviewed were that

Based on history, none of the tax money will likely come back to promote Abaco

Even if it did, any advertising usually promotes major resorts and hotels rather

than the rental cottages that are the backbone of Abaco's economy.

As proof of the validity of this concern, two of the current video commercials on www.bahamas.com contains a sign post showing all the Bahamas Islands EXCEPT Abaco. (See the Island Hopping videos for 30 and 60 Island Hopping Spots.)

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

Cay Is Preparing for Island Roots Festival

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee in conjunction with the Abaco Tourist Office is pleased to announce the second annual Island Roots Heritage Festival to be held May 20-22 on Green Turtle Cay. The purpose of this festival is to celebrate our rich heritage and our historic ties to Key West.

The connection between Green Turtle Cay and Key West dates back to the 1800s when many Loyalist descendants moved from Green Turtle Cay to Key West seeking economic opportunity. Some dismantled their homes on Green Turtle Cay and transported them to Key West. The historic Bahama Village is the oldest neighborhood in Key West and is named for the Bahamian immigrants who settled there in the 1800s. Green Turtle artist, Alton Lowe, organized the first Island Roots Festival in 1977 to establish a "sister city" concept between Green Turtle Cay and Key West. In May 2004 the Abaco Tourist Office and the newly formed Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee revived the "sister city" con-

nection with the first annual Island Roots Heritage Festival.

The 2004 Island Roots Heritage Festival was held at Centennial Park. For many it was a time to reminisce with old friends and relatives. The Key West Choral, the Amy Roberts Primary School, the Gully Roosters and the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band provided entertainment. Great Bahamian food, music, Maypole plaiting and old time games were offered. An arts and craft show brought artists from all over Abaco to display their work. An ecumenical church service was the closing event. Residents and visitors came together to give God thanks for our beautiful country, rich heritage and a successful celebration.

Despite two major hurricanes in September 2004, the Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee decided to move ahead with plans for the second annual festival. Through hard work and determination our community has been able to repair and recover from the hurricanes. The support of the community at festival fund raisers has been overwhelming. The festival site was extensively damaged during the hurricanes but with the support of local government, BEC, the Abaco Tourist Office and a hardworking construction crew, the festival site will be ready for the 2005 celebration.

The 2005 Island Roots Heritage Festival will feature food, game, information and arts and craft booths. The food and games will take you back to a meal at "grammy's" after a day of shooting marbles and spinning tops. The Abaco-built schooner, *William H. Albury*, will

offer tours during the day. Other day activities will include performances by Abaco's local entertainers, the students of Tiny Turtles Preschool and Amy Roberts Primary School, Maypole plaiting, story telling, Abaco dinghy demonstrations, Junkanoo and the introduction of the Green Turtle Cay Marching Band. The Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band is scheduled to perform on Friday and Saturday. The arts and craft show will once again feature artists from all over Abaco displaying and offering their original works for sale.

No trip to Green Turtle Cay is complete without a visit to our historic jail, cemetery, the Albert Lowe Museum, the Loyalist Memorial Sculpture Garden, Captain Roland Robert's House and the local stores. So tour the town, but don't go home early because there is a great line up of Bahamian entertainers for the evenings. Lil' Joe Cartwright and Bo' Hog and the Rooters (Rake and Scrape) from Grand Bahama, Cacique Award winner and Abaco's own Geno D, the Gully Roosters and the Royal Bahamas Police Force Pop Band are all scheduled to perform. And once again the weekend will close with a Sunday morning service at the festival site.

So make plans to be a part of the second annual Island Roots Heritage Festival on Green Turtle Cay. For further information contact the Abaco Tourist Office at 367-3067, Karen McIntosh at 365-4006 or Annabelle Cross at 365-4336



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Min. Sear's Launches Book Club

By Richard E. Fawkes

On April 25 Attorney General and Minister of Education Alfred Sears officially launched the Minister of Education's Book Club in Abaco in an upbeat ceremony at Central Abaco Primary School in Dundas Town. The program included lively students' renditions of such U.S. Civil Rights Movement standards as *Wade in the Water* and a rape-and-scrape Goombay instrumental by the Abaco Central High School Band.

"If I can make it from the Boys' Industrial School to a college professor in New York to Attorney General and Minister of Education," Minister Sears challenged the more than 700 students at the assembly, "imagine what you can do." Students included contingents from private and other public schools in Central Abaco and schools as far away as Crossing Rocks,

Mr. Sears started his presentation by in-

cluding his young audience to join him in singing Eddie Minnis's *Naughty Johnny*. He then recounted how he found himself at the Boys' Industrial School at the age of 12 for being a "Naughty Johnny," and how his discovery of reading enabled him to escape from that place to proceed to St. Augustine's College and the road to an education.

He told the students how he had read the Nigerian author Chinua Achebe's classic novel *Things Fall Apart* while at the youth facility, and how it had opened his eyes to Nigeria's rich civilization before European colonial conquest. He recounted how a female protagonist's people had refrained from the use of excessive force to punish a neighbouring people for violating her, but had opted instead for dispensing a punishment in proportion to the crime.

Mr. Sears said that years later, when he was a professor at the City University of

New York, he had accompanied a group of students to Nigeria. His time at the Boys' Industrial School came flooding back to him, and he was reminded of the many worlds to which he had travelled through reading books. He urged similar adventures upon the students.

Minister Sears explained that one of the main reasons for launching the book club was to encourage students to read so that one day they too might be inspired to write their stories, their parents' stories, and their teachers' stories.

He told them that two of the books chosen for the club were written by Abaconians: *The Fledgling* by Chester Th-

ompson, which presents a lot of insight into growing up in Hope Town in the 1920s and 1930s; and *The Disappearance of J.D. Sinclair* by Keith A. Russell, which sheds much light on growing up in Spring City and Cooper's Town in contemporary times.

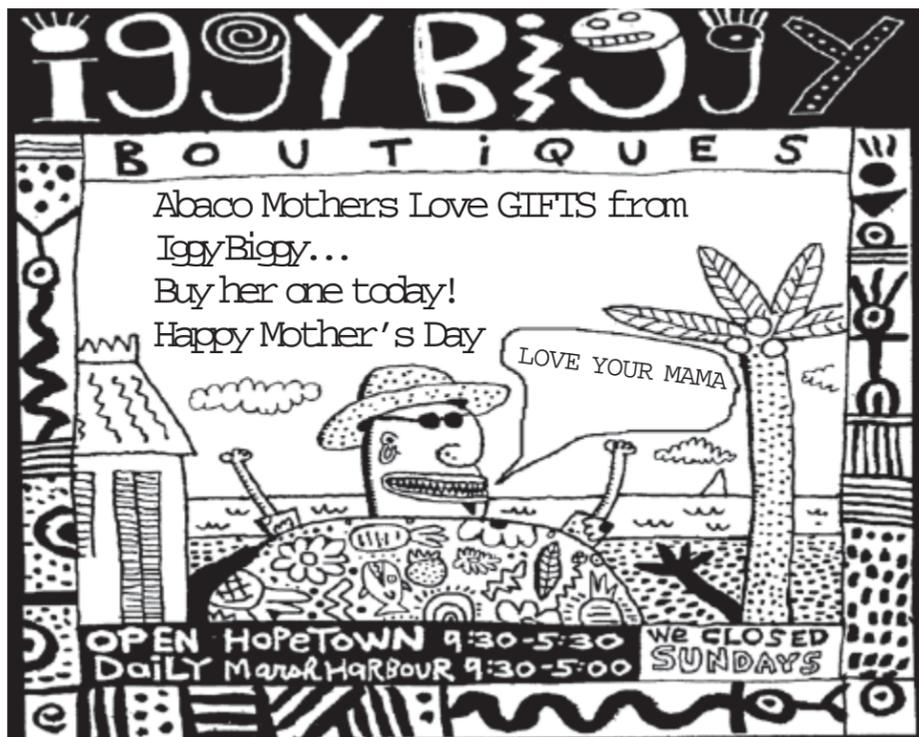
Minister Sears presented a collection of the book club's selections to Central Abaco Primary's Principal Eunice Mills.

The minister was accompanied by South Abaco MP Robert Sweeting; Creswell Sturup, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education; Cay Mills, Chief Councillor of the Central Abaco District; Neil

Please see **Book Club** Page 26



Students from Central Abaco Primary display covers from some of the books in the Minister of Education's Book Club collection. The Hon. Alfred Sears, Attorney General and Minister of Education, launched the Book Club concept on Abaco in an assembly at Central Abaco Primary on April 25.



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The Editor Says . . . The Need to Speak Out



For better or worse, there is a fresh breeze blowing through the Family Islands. Organizations, communities and individuals are feeling the urge to speak out on a variety of issues affecting their well being and future.

Locally, we are following the Save Guana Cay Reef's effort to thwart the Baker's Bay development. Whether they succeed remains to be seen but it looks like an interesting lesson as little David (Guana Cay) tackles giant Goliath (the Bahamas government).

This and other issues in different communities are being fought or debated locally and against central government in Nassau. Many of the issues are quite localized but some extend beyond the local level and may impact the entire Bahamas.

•There are other communities besides Guana Cay raising alarms about perceived threats to their well being.

Our knowledge of these issues is limited to that seen in the daily newspapers coming from Nassau but there is free expression being generated in many quarters that govern-

ment will have to listen to. Some concerns are political in nature, some relate to economics, some issues have social implications and the environment is becoming a substantial issue. A few of the situations under discussion follow.

Bimini has a huge land and marina development which is drastically changing their mangrove areas. Residents are questioning the ability of Bimini to support such a large development and if their fishing industry will suffer from the coastal changes.

Exuma is complaining that the huge Emerald Bay resort is straining their social resources. Traffic appears to be escalating on a road system barely able to handle the volume and there is a labour shortage on the island. Newcomers are changing the social fabric of the island and crime is increasing.

Harbour Island, on the north end of Eleuthera, is complaining about a marina wanting to expand. Drought and growth are straining their water resources which come by pipe from North Eleuthera. The Harbour Island cisterns are running dry and the water being delivered by pipe is of poor quality. There is a faction who believes the island has reached a plateau on their growth and further development should be limited.

Green Turtle Cay and Hope Town face similar challenges with water supply but they seem to be putting their energy into finding solutions rather than hollering for more government help. Green Turtle Cay will be the first cay on Abaco to get water piped from the mainland, perhaps in a year or two.

Mayaguana was looking forward to a fish farm until government vetoed the project, but the people there were looking forward to the jobs it would have created. The debate is ongoing.

Another contentious issue is the current

debate over a liquified natural gas depot, LNG, somewhere in the Bahamas to supply gas to Florida by pipeline. Locations on Ocean Cay near Cat Cay and south of Bimini, and on remote sections of Grand Bahama are under consideration.

Those in favor are trying to present their views while those against the proposed facility are making as much noise as they can to prevent a facility from being established here.

There are several broad and far reaching governmental issues to be decided upon that will affect the entire population of this country. Many issues have not yet reached the man on the street. As concerns become public, government will have to pay more attention to public opinion.

A shortage of qualified workers is being seen on many islands and the problem will become more acute as more development takes place in the family islands.

Discussions on joining the Caribbean Single Market Economy are heavy in the papers at the moment as a meeting this summer may take us further into the Caribbean fold. Contentious issues related to CSME seem to be about:

- the free flow of labour within the Caribbean
- a single Caribbean currency
- forming a Caribbean Court of Appeal

There are suggestions that we join the CSME while being exempt from the above requirements.

The Bahamas is quite wealthy when compared to many of the islands in the Caribbean. Its proximity to the United States is also eyed with envy by many of the other islands.

Discussions on the Free Trade Area of the Americas were lively last year but seem to have been replaced by CSME and other issues.

Many of these concerns are being debated in the press, on radio and Television, and behind closed doors. What the outcome for these will be is anyone's guess at this time.

Public dissent is probably annoying to government as it is used to making decisions without much discussion at the local level, like good parents making decisions for their children. However, throughout The Bahamas, the children are becoming educated and maturing. Questions are being asked that do not have easy answers. At what stage does the common good for the country outweigh the perceived or real problems borne at the local level.

Depressed economies tend to overlook faults in order to get economic benefits. However, faults are now being questioned with developers and government agencies becoming more aware of local concerns and taking these concerns into consideration.

The court challenge to the Baker's Bay development has taken local concerns to a higher level. It will be interesting to see where this leads as governments are not often sued successfully. Neither do elected officials nor civil servants readily admit to making mistakes or poor decisions. Once a government decision is made, there is normally no return.

Perhaps this new movement of awareness throughout the country will help government make better decisions with more thought to long range consequences rather than just consider the short term benefits.

For instance, Abaco and Exuma seem to have a labour shortage while Nassau and other islands have unemployment. But there is a lot involved to successfully coax families to relocate to a new area. Furthermore, not everyone willing to relocate has the skills needed at the new location. Dealing with social and educational issues related to the movement of Bahamian labour will be a governmental headache.

The Abaco economy may be the fastest growing in The Bahamas but other towns and islands are having their own growing pains. A trend is developing where local input is necessary and required to keep peace in the family.

View Point What Is a Mother?

By Portia Jonsson

A Mother's job is to watch over, nourish and protect maternally. She is the chief night watchman, her ear is fine-tuned to hear the slightest turn of a baby in the bed, a light whimper and immediately she's out of that bed and straight to her child's side.

Mother is the doctor and nurse, all rolled into one. If it is a fever, a crying baby that won't be quieted, a cut, a broken tooth - it does not matter. She knows how to fix it. A mother needs only kiss the "bad boo-boo" and the child instantly is calmed of all fears. After all, mother knows best!

She is the taxi, bus driver and chauffeur - whatever it takes to get the child wherever they need to go. Can she not just be mom? No way.

She is the timekeeper. After all, children do not watch the clock; they listen to mom. She knows when the bus and ferry runs for school, the time of practice for the games, the piano lesson, the school play. Whatever has a time attached, be assured that mother has the time written down in her time clock, her head. If not, she surely has a paper at-

tached to her refrigerator, the bathroom mirror, her purse or some place she's bound to see it.

She is the chief cook and dishwasher. This lasts right up until they leave home. In fact, with some it never ends! A mother is a counselor who listens to all the problems and tries to solve them her way. She is also the consoler. She listens while they tell her that "nobody loves me," "my boyfriend dumped me" and "my fiancée loves someone else."

Mother is such a great consoler in this area. Why? She has been there, done that.

A mother is the referee in every dispute and the cheer person during all the games and competitions. She is the light at the end of the tunnel, in the wake of a storm. She is Mom. Although overworked and underpaid, mother does not complain. She would work her fingers to the bone for her children. She would come to their rescue no matter what the cause. These are, after all, her God-given talents.

Mothers' Day is a very special day. Be sure to do something special for your mom this Mothers' Day.

Civilized Island

By: C. MCCUIN ©



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Letters to the Editor

Comments on the Baker's Bay Development

Dear Sir/ Madam,

The proposed development at Bakers Bay, Guana Cay, has provoked a lot of reaction and some action. Please allow me to comment briefly.

Any development proposed for any place in this country should be of concern to the residents of that place, be they native or expatriate, as long as they are legal expats. These residents should have a voice in said development. When there is such an uproar as in the Guana project, then the government of the day must ensure that all parties are satisfied, residents and developers, before forging ahead. This is the basic precept of local government after all - that local residents would have more say in the goings on in their constituencies.

Now, is the proposed development for Bakers Bay a good thing? Probably so, in some form, in my humble opinion, but I don't live on Guana Cay. So, it is not for me to say really. One thing I will say is that I am very proud of the people of Guana Cay in that they banded together to protest something they did not agree with. Good for them. This kind of civil action is what I have been trying to tell Bahamians for years, is the item of power that we have as "The People." Essentially, our government works for us. Or at least they are supposed to.

Finally, there is one thing that I take issue with in this whole sordid affair. As I understand it, the Member of Parliament for South Abaco, Mr. Robert Sweeting, is reported to have been "invited" by an expatriate to leave the island (Guana Cay) on one of his visits to that island in an attempt to "calm the waters" as a result of the fallout from this proposed project. I haven't spoken to Mr. Sweeting since that episode, and I don't know how he feels. But I can tell you that this person was way out of line.

I realize that tempers have been flaring throughout this tempestuous time, and they will likely continue to do so for a time yet. However, Mr. Sweeting, or whoever it might be in this same circumstance, is a duly elected Bahamian government official. And regardless as to how one might feel about him or this situation, his office must be respected. For anybody, especially an expatriate, to ask me to leave a public place in this country would be for them to tread on dangerous ground.

Here's hoping for a mutually beneficial resolution to the proposed development at Bakers Bay. It is truly a beautiful location, and any development must be carried out with the utmost respect for history and the environment. Nuff said, I tink.

Sincerely,

Uncle Billy Roberts

Aka: William (Billy) Roberts

Emergency Health Service Inadequate

Dear Editor,

I am Gene Ferris on S/V *Pangea*. I am the patient from the Conch Inn you referred to in your editorial regarding ambulance service. I experienced chest tightness and very rapid heart beat, very high blood pressure and a pulse of 171.

Both Marcia and I have been through first responder level of first aid training. We recognized the danger of the situation and called for assistance. Your description of the situation is very accurate.

Problems:

Marcia, my wife, was my only care giver. Had I gone into cardiac arrest, she needed to be with me to start CPR. Folks responding on the VHF radio and cell phone suggested she go hunt for the Conch Inn security guard and go find a taxi (at 1:30

a.m.). You cannot separate the primary care giver from the patient!

When we finally contacted the nurse at home, she was eventually able to get the ambulance rolling. However, even though Marcia was able to give my vital signs to the nurse, protocol requires that the nurse measure and relay the vitals to the doctor before he is called. The fact that Marcia was able to give high blood pressure and pulse to the nurse should have allowed the nurse to contact the doctor immediately.

Maybe it was our fault. Marcia did not declare her skill as a first responder! Maybe that is a question to add to the nurse's telephone triage list. If the person calling in provides definite vital signs, maybe bypass the standard protocol?

The Ambulance:

EVERY police and fire person should be trained in first aid to a first responder level. This could make the difference between calling the ambulance at an accident scene or the Coroner. One of the issues in my case was that oxygen is a normal treatment for any heart related issue. True. There was some delay in sending the ambulance because no one was trained to administer oxygen.

The good news:

When we saw the flashing lights, I was able to walk several hundred yards down the dock from our boat to the ambulance. (If I had suffered a full-blown myocardial infarction, that would have been impossible.) At the clinic I was able to walk in and Nurse Gray was very efficient. After verifying my vital signs, she phoned the doctor and administered initial drugs to lower my blood pressure.

When Dr. Swarna arrived, he was very efficient and thorough. Both he and the nurse stayed at the clinic until almost 4 a.m. until my blood pressure and pulse were under control. The treatment at the clinic, when I finally got there, was excellent.

As one of the many retired people who love to cruise the Bahamas, how can we help to improve the situation? We plan to be here on Abaco until late May. It is our sixth trip and we will be back. Assign us a task!

My thanks to Dr. Swarna and Nurse Gray.

Best regards,

Gene Ferris and Marcia Mason

S/V *Pangea*

Gratitude for Restoration Committee

Dear Members of the Elbow Cay Restoration Committee,

I, for one as a resident of Elbow Cay, want to publicly express my gratitude to each member of the Elbow Cay Restoration Committee for all your hard work leading up to and including the sea oat planting last week.

I just returned from Sunday morning chicken souse at On Da Beach at Turtle Hill on Elbow Cay and walked down to the beach where I saw hundreds and hundreds of newly planted baby sea oats gracing the dunes rebuilt once again after the heavy erosion they suffered during Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. I looked up at the mature sea oats waving in the breeze on the upper edge of the dunes. I remember when these were planted after Hurricane Floyd devastated the dunes five years earlier, and seeing them gives me hope that these little sea oats will also mature to hold our rebuilt dunes in place throughout upcoming hurricane seasons.

I have been observing the process of rebuilding the dune line behind Hope Town, first with a large machine pushing the sand back up from where it had washed back in on the lower beach, then smoothing the dune out with a smaller tractor and then in three days' time the planting of thousands of baby

sea oats. Wow! What a lot of work organizing equipment and equipment operators, ordering sea oats, attending planning meetings, getting the sea oats here, getting them planted, keeping accounts, paying bills and raising funds to pay for it all. I honor all of you who have taken time and energy away from your own businesses, hurricane repairs and personal lives to tend so diligently to this much needed process. I don't need to mention names. You know who you are.

I don't live on the beach. My hurricane repairs are for rain water damage, shingle repair and downed trees, but I go to the beach. Elbow Cay is my home and my town is Hope Town and we are all dependent on a healthy, stable dune line. Our island and its residents thrive on income produced by a second home owner and tourist economy which is dependent on this stable dune line. I had not gotten around to donating toward the restoration fund. Please find my belated donation enclosed. We need to be prepared for any future exigencies.

Thank you,

Mary Balzac

A Grateful Elbow Cay Resident

Extreme Emotions

Dear Editor,

I would like to say how I really enjoy reading the various articles and information in *The Abaconian* each month. I share the Cherokee section and other issues with my grades in school when each new edition comes out. I would like to commend the staff and contributors for a job well done - keep up the good work.

When reading the April 15 edition I experienced a variety of emotions while reading the Letters to the Editor section. I went from feeling enormous pride to feeling bewilderment. Let me explain.

The letter written by Kimberly Lowe filled me with immense pride. I am so proud to know this young lady and to be able to claim her as a former student, not to mention niece. She echoed, so well, all the sentiments I fell for my home settlement. I, too, like her, love the settlement of Cherokee and its people. There is no where else I would rather be. I always have encouraged my students to obtain the highest education they can and to bring it back to Abaco with them. All of us have to work together to make Abaco and our settlements the best they can be for we, the people, who live here and of course for our visitors, too.

When I went to the other page of the

Letters to the Editor section, my feeling of pride changed. I couldn't believe what I was reading. Readers, I don't think these two letters were written by people who live in Cherokee! They couldn't have been! These letters had to be written by people living in their own little worlds! No realistic person could have written them. These people need to wake up and smell the roses.

There are tremendous things happening in our settlement and many of them are good - but there are negative things happening, too, and unfortunately, they seem to be growing.

The majority of our youth seem to be heading in the right direction so I can only assume that whoever wrote the two drug denial letters must be members of the adult generation and to me this is sad.

You'd think that they should have learned something by now. I guess wisdom doesn't always come with age. Another saying that seems applicable is "There are none so blind as he or she who will not see!"

Michelle Lowe

Enjoys the Island Life

Dear Abaconian Editor,

Observing a flying-low-going-to-blow an O-War bird through my spotting scope on March 3, 2005, I was thankful for the calm settlement harbour waters of Guana Cay. As a guest on a boat in that harbour I was up close and friendly from a distance with people I'd met ashore. I watched Milo selling his tomatoes. On another dock someone with bushy hair, a straw hat and baggy pants was loading cases of soda into his blue truck. And on the closest dock, the one in front of the church, a whole family worked on the catch of the day. Still in his wetsuit a young man, cleaned six big Nassau grouper and then the piece de resistance, a big hawksbill turtle. Aside from the golf carts and modern dress, it could have been a scene from the 1930s. It is a tribute to healthy Guana Cay and surrounding reefs that such plentiful fishing still exists in on Abaco.

Sincerely,

Patricia Latourneau

Thanks to the Staff at Spanish Cay

Dear Editor,

On April 7th, heading north on the Sea of Abaco, the steering cable broke on our 38-foot sailboat, *Vindharpe II*. Fortunately,

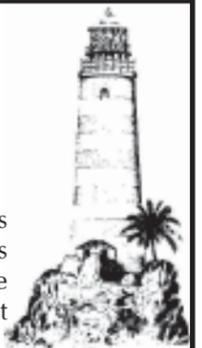
Please see **Letters**

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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Accidental Death

Our heartfelt and sincere sympathy go out to the family of 32-year-old Stanton Chea, who was tragically wounded on April 22 while performing a potentially dangerous but routine maintenance job at work, something he had done many times before. While working on a very large tire from a piece of heavy equipment, a safety ring broke and hit him in the chest. He was thrown back almost five feet from the tire.

He sustained extensive internal injuries and was immediately flown to Nassau for emergency treatment. They were able to stabilize him, but he continued to lose too much blood and was sent on to Miami in hopes of saving his life. He succumbed on the way from the airport to South Miami Baptist Hospital where arrangements had been made to take him for further treatment.

He is survived by his wife, Shelly, who is pregnant with their third child, living in Marsh Harbour; his mother, Iris Pinder; a brother, Stephen Chea, living in Cherokee; and a half-sister, Sonia Knowles, living in Marsh Harbour. Growing up in Cherokee he had many friends and relatives here. After getting married and moving to Marsh Harbour, he became a volunteer fireman and served with Trauma One. He was always willing to pitch in whenever help was needed. Everyone who knew Stanton said you could never meet a nicer guy and he will be greatly missed.

Revivals

Both churches in Cherokee have had revival meetings this past week. Rev. and Mrs. Easton came from Florida to hold a Revival Meeting for the Assembly of God members and Mrs. Kendris Carrey, President of The Bahamas Conference of Methodist Churches, who came to minister to her flock in Epworth Methodist Chapel. Both revivals lasted three days each and drew the people in to receive an uplifting evangelical experience.

School News

Students are preparing for their annual talent show, but due to many illnesses a definite date has not yet been set. Unfortunately, I omitted to announce the winners of the Easter Egg competition that took place just before the Spring Break and would like to list them now. In Grades 1 and 2 the first place winner was Tiffany Albury, second place went to Cheyanne Turnquest and Donovan Hepburn captured third place. In Grades 3 through 6 Dominique Chea got first place, Hayley Sands second and Terence Albury third. First place winners received \$20 in cash while the other winners received gifts of school books or supplies. Congratulations, kids, for all your hard work.

New Construction

It seems like the sound of hammering has not ceased since last September when nearly every home in Cherokee sustained some type of damage from the hurricanes. Besides the major damages to Marty and Wendy Sawyer's home that is now being rebuilt, there were several homes that

needed completely new roofs. Epworth Methodist Chapel finally got its new roof this past week as did Sylvia Bethel and Ezra and Kay Walcott. Eric Pittman kept the original structuring of his aunt's home and has transformed his little place near "The Spit" into something you might expect to see in Architectural Digest magazine. His newly remodeled vacation cottage is now something that he and Cherokee residents can be proud of after being an unoccupied, boarded-up and seemingly just another abandoned house in our midst for so many years. A welcome addition to our landscape. Well done, Eric.

However, the real news is that there are two new construction sites underway. One is the home of Darrell Pinder who is building behind the Assemblies of God Church and who got engaged to Kelly Sawyer this past Christmas. So wedding plans can't be far off. The other job is a complex of small bungalows being built as rental property by second-home owners Kim and Simon Rhodin from Nassau. In addition, we have heard about the sale of two lots on the hilltop and understand the owners want to start building their new home as soon as they can find a local contractor to do the job.

Partial Hook-Ups In Yellow Wood

Even though the utility poles are already along the main road, actual electrical hook-ups by BEC to the new customers of Yellow Wood is still on hold. Three homes were hooked up this past week. But with at least 12 to 15 residents living in Yellow Wood waiting on electricity, and most of them have been waiting for years to be hooked up to BEC, this was a big let down. And to make

matters worse, it seems this was a not a case of "first come first served," but just the opposite. Needless to say, tempers flared and many of the residents were very put out by the way they were ignored by the company. The workmen came with only "one" job order to hook up a newly constructed and unoccupied house. They were quickly approached by two irate neighbouring residents who were able to talk the men into hooking them up too since they were even closer to the road than the job they had come to do. As usual, there were many and varied excuses heard from BEC as to the reasons why some of the others could not be hooked-up. I fear this did not go over well with those home owners who are still having to crank up their generators every night.

Cherokee Sound's History

Have you found the time to jot down some names, dates and maybe some pertinent and vital information about your family or ancestors to be included in the genealogical book on Cherokee families. It would be a shame to be left out, or worse yet, be mistakenly listed. The only way to make sure the information is listed correctly is for you to provide the data. If you don't supply the information, someone else outside your family may. But they may not have all the facts, so your assistance is very important. It's not painful, it will only take a few minutes of your time to write down the information. Then we will know that what is in the book is authentic and not just hear-

Please see **South**

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The boat building center of Cherokee Sound in the early 1950s. A stunning series of photos by Colyn Rees - a window on history.

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More South Abaco News

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say.
If you have not yet seen the genealogy book in the library, make it a point to stop by and take a look.

Sand Bar Re-Opens

The Sand Bar is once again open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for lunch or a mid-afternoon snack. They always have cold beer on ice or maybe you would prefer a chilled glass of wine with one of their daily luncheon specials. These are often a seafood dish from the local catch-of-the-day and prepared by one of our famous Cherokee cooks. You can enjoy delicious homemade ice cream for dessert. However, I still believe one of the best reasons to go to the Sand Bar is to relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery where you will be mesmerized by the natural sounds of the ocean and the incredible clearness of the water which will wash away all that stress associated with the daily grind of your job or the busy hectic rush of city life.

Casuarina Point/ Bahama Palm Shores New Home for Fire Rescue Truck

By Carol Phelps

The future home of the Casuarina/Bahama Palm Volunteer Fire Rescue Department is well underway as volunteers flexed their muscles and dug into the removal of debris and trash.

Residents, second homeowners and friends from Casuarina Point and Bahama Palm Shores turned out to assist with clearing the site of the old generator house in Casuarina Point which will become the future home of their fire department. The building will also be used to hold town meetings, licensing of guns and other community functions.

Harlin Johnson and Bahamas Hot Mix provided a dumpster for the trash to be put in and when full, they removed it as part of their donation to the community.

As a fund raiser to defray some of their operating expenses, the group is selling T-

shirts with their new logo on front, and I Support the Casuarina/Bahama Palm Fire Rescue on the back.

Construction of the building should begin in the near future.

Sandy Point Community Restores Picnic Grounds

By Richard E. Fawkes

Arthur Sherman of Bimini, the first resident commissioner posted to Sandy Point in 1959 under the old local government system, started a tradition in this fishing village on the southwestern end of Abaco which is cherished to this day. He encouraged St. Martin's Anglican Church, of which he and his wife Carol were members, to organize a public picnic on Easter Mondays as a fund raiser and as a community outing in a settlement desperately in need of such a diversion.

The first picnic, held on Easter Monday in 1960, was a smashing success. It was held at a place about three-quarters of a mile along the beach outside the

settlement called Old Wrack because a major shipwreck had occurred there in the late 1900s. It was so successful that Mount Zion Baptist Church, the only other church in Sandy Point at the time, soon started complaining that it was unfair for the Anglicans to have a day in which they were supported by the entire community at the expense of the Baptists. The Baptist church maintained a healthy rivalry with St. Martin's for souls and community leadership through its pastor Rev. Samuel Sands, who regarded James A. Pinder, the school's principal and catechist of St. Martin, as his nemesis.

Arthur Sherman, being the quintessential gentleman, diplomat and leader who cared for the uplifting of the entire community, suggested that the Baptists could organize a community picnic on August Monday. And so the equilibrium between the two churches was restored and the people of Sandy Point enjoyed two public

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South Abaco News

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outings during the year which redounded financially to each institution in turn.

The original picnic committee comprised Arthur Sherman, Samuel Sands, Robert Fox, James A. Pinder and Walter Lightbourn. The picnic grounds soon became known simply as "The Picnic."

But the property at Old Wrack on which it was held was owned by Beatrice Burrows, daughter of James and Caroline Lightbourn, who, with Caroline's brother John Dames, had founded Sandy Point around 1870. Mrs. Burrows, who had been part of a midwifery tradition with her mother and sister Annie, was getting down in age and means of income. Her house, which she shared with her husband Richard, was about to fall apart from rot. So she decided to sell Old Wrack, where she and Mr. Burrows used to grow watermelons, corn, pumpkins, and sweet potatoes, to an American by

the name of Metcalf, to raise money to build a new house in which she and Mr. Burrows could live out the rest of their lives in relative comfort.

Mr. Metcalf built a winter home on the property, and so by the early seventies, "The Picnic" had moved farther up the beach, closer to the airstrip. The site was destroyed by Hurricane Floyd in 1999, and until this year, picnics, fish fries and the more recent homecoming regatta during the Labour Day weekend have been held on a site near Old Wrack opposite Oeisha's Motel.

This year a Canadian second-home owner residing at Long Bay near Crossing Rocks donated materials such as T-111 plywood to the Sandy Point community, and the decision was made to restore the picnic grounds with a bar cabana with a deck and a kitchen cabana.

The structures were sufficiently com-

Please see **South** Page 26



Sandy Point residents have rebuilt their "Picnic" site at Old Wrack with the assistance of a second home owner from Long Bay. The original picnic building was destroyed in Hurricane Floyd in 1999.

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Police Will Begin Marching Band For Youth

By Jennifer Hudson

The Abaco Police Community Youth Marching Band is now set to begin in earnest since the arrival of new instruments. Although marching drills began in November, the band was not able to get under way musically at that time owing to lack of instruments. However, some very generous donors have now made the purchase of the instruments a reality.

At a meeting on April 11th for parents of prospective members held at the Central Abaco Primary School, ASP Miller, Chief of Police for Abaco and whose dream it was to start a marching band for the youth here, introduced Sgt. 503 Hutcheson from Nassau, who will be the Band Director. Sgt. Hutcheson will be permanently stationed on Abaco from the 18th of April and will carry out regular policing duties in addition to his work with the band.

ASP Miller, in his introduction of Sgt. Hutcheson, told the parents that the Commissioner of Police has this programme at heart and had approached Mr. George, Director of the Police Band in Nassau, who decided to pick one of his best to send to Abaco. Sgt. Hutcheson, who is an excellent all round musician and plays all the band instruments, is a veteran of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band and has come forward to bring professional training to mold the young people of Abaco.

"Music is a gift from God," Sgt. Hutcheson told the parents and said how pleased he is to be here as he has blood ties with Abaco, his mother having been born in Crossing Rocks. He urged the parents to be patient and encourage their children to practise as the band will take

time to develop. Quick fixes do not work and he envisions a project which may not reach fruition until maybe ten years down the road.

Young people of twelve years of age and up will be eligible for the band though some eleven year olds may be considered. Nine and ten year olds can be members of the drill team which will act as a feeder for the band. Band members will study both theory and practical and will sit the Trinity College of Music examinations. It is Sgt. Hutcheson's desire to take music to a different level throughout the whole of Abaco.

"This band will provide something positive and exciting for future generations and will offer alternative activities to steer young people away from anti-social behaviour," stated ASP Miller, who had hoped for a larger turnout of parents wishing to get their children involved. He urged parents to get involved and show their support in order to make this a successful and sustained project. Parents must also be involved in making sure that their children are responsible in caring for their instruments which will be allocated on a "pay to own" basis. Mr. Miller spoke of his future vision of a "Battle of the Bands" on Don MacKay Boulevard with bands from the United States and Nassau along with our own Abaco marching band and told the parents that they must give their children "something other than the remote control."

In reference to the membership drive, ASP Miller stated that he would like the band to reflect all of the diverse communities of Abaco and asked for people to spread the word in their work places and

the schools. His advice to young people is, "Get involved now. Don't wait until the band is already under way and then want to get in as it may be too late."

Teachers were asked to make sure that the students in the band meet good academic standards of C or above.

More funds are needed for the purchase of additional instruments, music stands, music books and uniforms so ASP Miller will be sending letters

out to prominent business persons in this regard. Fund raising events will also be planned.

A questions was asked regarding the allotment of instruments and the answer was that the professional band master will match the instrument to the capability and suitability of the child. Any children who already owns an instruments may use his or



The youth band will be under the leadership of Sgt. 503 Hutcheson, who has been in the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band and who can play all the band instruments. The first meeting with the youth will be on March 14. He is on the left with ASP Wayne Miller, Police Chief for Abaco.

her own.

Membership application forms were distributed and parents advised that the band will convene on May 2nd from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Central Abaco Primary School when the Band Director will officially begin taking the register. Parents were asked to be punctual in dropping off and picking up their children.

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People in the News

Wedding Is 500th for Wedding Officer

By Richard E. Fawkes

Imagine being the 500th couple to be married by a marriage officer! That is one memento that will be part of memorabilia of Alice Bain and Trent Toler's wedding that took place on April 9 in Hope Town. They were the 500th couple to be shepherded through the ceremony of holy matrimony by Vernon Malone, Justice of the Peace and Marriage Officer.

Mr. and Mrs. Toler were married in St. James Methodist Church. Following their exchange of vows, the couple was accom-

panied the short distance to their reception at Harbour's Edge Restaurant by the Spring City Rockers Junkanoo band.

Trent is entomologist from Utah where he does research. His father, Bob, known as "Barometer Bob," and his stepmother, Patty Toler, reside in Marsh Harbour, and he is a frequent visitor. It was on one of these visits that he met his future bride three years ago.

Alice is well known on Abaco as a potter and artist who had a studio in Marsh Harbour for several years. She later wrote for *The Abaconian* before she returned to university for an advanced degree in journalism. She has solid Abaco roots. Many of the guests were from the United States and the United Kingdom as well as family members from Nassau.

The couple's wedding qualified as a tourist wedding, although they both have close ties to Abaco. Following the ceremony, Ms. Jeritzen Outten, Director of Tourism on Abaco, presented Mr. Malone with a plaque on behalf of the Weddings and Honeymoons Department of the Ministry of Tourism in recognition of his outstanding service in making Abaco, and Hope Town in particular, a premier wedding and honeymoon destination in The Bahamas.



Mr. Vernon Malone performed his 500th wedding on April 9th when he joined in matrimony Alice Bain and Trent Toler at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town. Ms. Jeritzen Outten, Director of Tourism for Abaco, presented Mr. Malone with a plaque honoring him for this accomplishment. Looking on is Bonnie Hall, Mr. Malone's daughter.



Alice Bain and Trent Toler exchanged wedding vows in a ceremony at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town on April 9. They will be residing in Utah.

Mr. Malone became a marriage officer in 1992 and has performed a variety of ceremonies including a Jewish-Christian wedding, a Hindu-Christian wedding and even a wedding for Buddhists. In answer to a question about whether he performs weddings atop the lighthouse, he replied, "Not anymore. It's too dangerous, although my first wedding was held up there." He said the ceremonies are held at the base at ground

level now.

Mr. Malone also performs beach side ceremonies. He has officiated at the wedding of a few rock stars, including Chad Smith of the Red Hot Chili Peppers band. "I've married people from Iceland, Great Britain and as far away as Man-O-War Cay," Mr. Malone quipped in accepting the plaque from Ms. Outten. In his secular life, he is a grocer and baker who owns Vernon's Grocery in Hope Town.

Treasure Cay Broker Opens Real Estate Agency

John Cash, a native Abaconian and Treasure Cay resident since 1965, has opened his own real estate agency, John Cash Realty. John was licensed to sell real estate in November 2000 and has been an estate agent with H.G. Christie Ltd. for over four years. After completing all of the National Association of Realtors courses and Bahamas Real Estate Association requirements, John obtained his Brokers license in July 2004. He is a member of the Bahamas Real Es-

Please see **People**

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More People in the News

People

From Page 14

tate Institute and has recently become the only agent in Abaco to earn the coveted Certified Residential Specialist (C.R.S.) designation.



John Cash

In an effort to better identify the needs of the international real estate investor and further his professional education, John has participated in Council of Residential Specialist training courses and Master Sales Institute sales and marketing seminars in the United States and also holds a South Carolina real estate license. John's extensive knowledge of the local real estate market and commitment to continuing education and excellent service has led to lifetime customers and endless referrals. He can be contacted at 477-5056 or e-mail him at jic@oii.net.



Anatol Lizette Fawkes, daughter of Richard E. Fawkes of Sandy Point and Jaunianne Dorsette of Nassau and Patrick Cecil O'Donnell, son of Patrick and Eleanor O'Donnell of Ireland, were married in Nassau on April 22. Father Michael Kelly, former parish priest of St. Francis de Sales in Marsh Harbour, officiated. Many friends and family of the bride and groom travelled to Nassau for the occasion. The couple will reside in San Francisco.

Hope Town Has New Real Estate Agents

Paradise Real Estate Ltd. is proud to announce its arrival on Abaco. Frank Knowles and Mike Jones will head the Abaco office which will be opened soon in Hope Town.

Both Frank and Mike are local Bahamians and know their surroundings well. Frank spent many of his childhood summers in Hope Town and after growing up in Nassau he returned to Abaco. He has lived in Hope Town for 11 years and has become an entrepreneur. Mike was born on Elbow Cay and has always had a strong

connection with Abaco. After study abroad he returned to Hope Town where he has lived for the past three years.

Paradise Real Estate Ltd. is owned by Craig Pinder and his team in Nassau and are committed to delivering outstanding service to both buyers and sellers. They have thoroughly enjoyed assisting Bahamian and international clients in locating their dream property.

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School News

Outstanding Students Are Recognized

By Portia Jonsson

Under the theme *Keep Your Eyes on the Prize* the Third Annual Awards and Prize Giving Ceremony for Outstanding Students in Bahamian High Schools in the Abaco District was held on April 21st at New Visions Ministries.

This program, which is the brainchild of Senator, the Hon. Trevor Whylly, began ten years in Nassau for the purpose of recognizing students for their academic and athletic achievements. Since then invitations have been extended to each island in The Bahamas to join hands and do likewise.

In his remarks to the large crowd, Sen. Whylly on behalf of the teachers, students and parents, thanked the Minister of Education, the Hon. Alfred Sears, for coming, saying that the people of Abaco has waited three years to see him. Sen. Whylly said the Minister ought to know that not only are the government schools doing well but also the private schools. He added that he wants the minister to see what is happening with his organization and says that he will continue to support students year after year, no matter what. Mr. Whylly concluded by saying the minister was here to give his support, understands the importance of young people and believes in second chances. Despite climbing up on the rough side of the mountain the minister kept his eye on the prize.

Mr. Whylly announced that next year the program will be formed into a foundation which will allow the committee to award

scholarships.

Mr. Sears advised that although he has been to Abaco on a number of occasions, this was his first official visit. He said Abaco is known for its talented business people but most do not know of the literary achievement of Abaconians. He spoke about two authors and sons of Abaco, Chester Thompson and Dr. Keith Russell. He told the students that having made the dean's list or 3.0 GPA is only the beginning. He explained that what these men are saying in their books is look right here in Abaco and draw from your own culture. The Minister challenged the students with the words "keep," "eyes" and "prize." It is important to stay focused. He informed them that The Bahamas has the second highest incidence of HIV/AIDS in our region. If you do not keep your eyes on the prize, look at what the alternatives are: violence, HIV/AIDS and other recklessness. He asked the students when they selected the word "prize," what prize were they talking about. He said this prize, he assumed, must be a life of achievement.

The Minister recalled his life as a young boy. At the age of 12 he only had dreams of killing while sitting in the Boys Industrial School in Nassau. People came into his life who inspired him to dream again. He dreamed of becoming a lawyer so that young people would not have the experience he had. This took a lot of hard work and persistence. He challenged the students as they dream they develop a more tolerant Bahamas and reject the racism that is still very much a part of us. We must celebrate our African and European heritage and see

the beauty in ourselves. Mr. Sears expects great things from them and challenged them to live up to their theme. He commended the teachers and educators for the great work they are doing and parents for working hand in hand with the Ministry of Education.

The students who were honored included the following:

Grade 6 students

Agape Christian School - Austin Koepp and Blair Saunders

Amy Roberts Primary - Nicholas Schrack and Felicia Survanze

Central Abaco Primary - Giovanni Coakley and Blair Drakes

Cooper's Town Primary - Darian Lightbourne and Rudonell McIntosh

Crossing Rock Primary - Crystal Johnson and Charlton Walker

Fox Town Primary - Kyvonne Lopez and Kentray Marsh

Hope Town Primary - Shannon Thompson and Nicole Maltarp

Treasure Cay Primary - Felicia Romer and Charo Williams

J.A. Pinder - Orenda Bain and KeAnu Pinder

Long Bay Primary - Tirshatha Etiene and Timothy Clarke

Moore's Island - Nevandria Rolle and Nichel Lonke

St. Francis de Sales - Eugene Moss and

Please see **School**

Page 17



On April 13 Mrs. Monica Bianchi, a volunteer teacher at Every Child Counts, accompanied five groups of five students throughout the day to clean up the shore along Front Street in Marsh Harbour. Starting at the Port, they walked their way back for a mile to Mangoes picking up cans, bottles and debris along the way. This effort came as a participation in the coastal cleanup going on during the month of April.



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More School News

School *From Page 16*

Pamela Smith
Wesley College - Paige Archer and Randy Sawyer
Cherokee Primary - Chandi Lowe
Grade 10 students
Agape Christian School - Denario Carroll, Alisha Humes, Rashad Reckley, Hiliary Roberts, Garrett Sands, Kellie Sawyer, Shavanteh Spence
Forest Heights Academy - Bradley Albury, Eric Albury, Shikia Deveauz, Jonathan Evans, Lonnie Key, Ashley Knowles, Raine Sands, Christine Schaefer, Cheynea Turnquest, Christian Wilhoite
Long Bay High - Nia Burrows, Warkel Cooper, Tahron Edgecombe
St. Francis de Sales - Brittany Archer, Clive Albury, Dominica Evans, Georquel Delancy, Shaishka Edgecombe, Seon Smith, Agnes Fertile, Sharran Cornish
Abaco Central High School - Alex Forbes, Matthew Wedgewood, Livingston Cornish, Rishad Smith, Samuel Cornish, Ashton Brown, Andre Singh, Jonathan Simms, Phenichia Clader, Corrine Cornish

Wesley College - Keino Clarke, Raymond McKinney Jr.

S.C. Bootle High - Devonya Russell, Latara King, Valdez Carey

Grade 11 Students

Agape Christian School - Beth Albury, Matthew Bethel, Lenae Brown, Cecil Grant, Akeva Lightbourne, Myles Roberts, Trenaire Wells, Tiffany Williams

Forest Heights Academy - Donna Albury, Brittany Benjamin, Corenthea Johnson, Andrea McIntosh, Jessica Sands, LeeAndra Thompson, Jordan Wells, Nyika Wilmore

Long Bay High - Davia Dean, Shashona Davis, Lynden Hepburn, D'Andre Sands

St. Francis de Sales - Lisa Kemp, Eden McIntosh

Abaco Central High School - Jude Vilma, Belinda Jacobs, Mikelle Baillou, Thomazena Stuart, Shemetrus Albury, D'andra Johnson, Larissa Dawkins, Lathera Lightbourne, Lunique Lightbourne, Nickesia Jones, Samantha Pinder, Thomazene Stuart

Wesley College - Kustico Nabbie, Kneea Sands

S.C. Bootle High - Alichia Rolle, Marcus

Josue

Grade 12 Students

Agape Christian School - Christopher Knowles, Cody Lowe, Felicity Simms

Forest Heights Academy - Amy Albury, Jessica Higgs, Desirae Lowe, Stacy Lowe, Nathaniel Malone, Christopher Rutledge, Shantia Sands, Jason Schaefer, Heather Weatherford

Long Bay High - Donell Adderley, Kezia Etienne, Syrena Hollingsworth, Julienne Rivere

St. Francis de Sales - Shagera Edgecombe, Peter Williams, Patricia Curry

Abaco Central High School - Dwayne Jones, Alitha Bain, Karis Edgecombe, Evelina Henfield, Kieshchelle Thurston, Tanique Pratt

S.C. Bootle High - Delvano McIntosh, Vanessa Pritchard, Joan Pinder

Wesley College - Rodger Smith

Edrico Armbrister Places

Second in National Spelling Bee

By Mirella Santillo

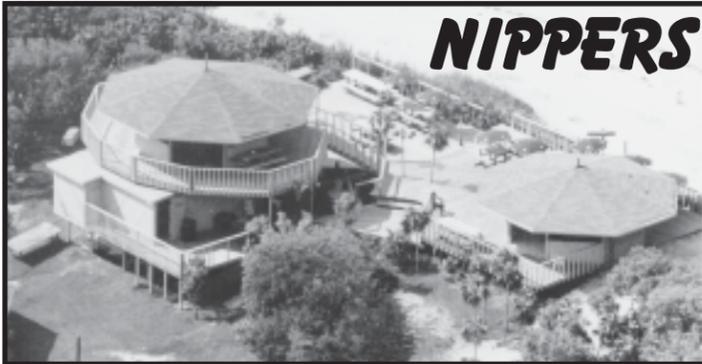
S.C. Bootle High School student, eighth grader Edrico Armbrister, won second

place in the National Spelling Bee. Edrico, who turned 13 on March 30th, said that he studied 3900 words to get ready for the spelling competition. Although he started to prepare last year when he decided to enter the contest, he really worked especially hard during the month of March. Edrico has always been good at spelling. His ambition is to become a scientist specializing in marine biology and oceanography. Not only does he do well academically, but he is an accomplished athlete. He placed 3rd in the



Please see **School**

Page 18



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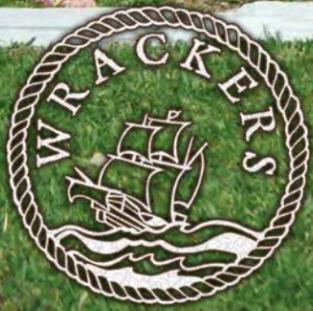
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More School News



Games were very popular at the fair organized by Agape Christian School on April 16. This is the major fund raising event for the school.



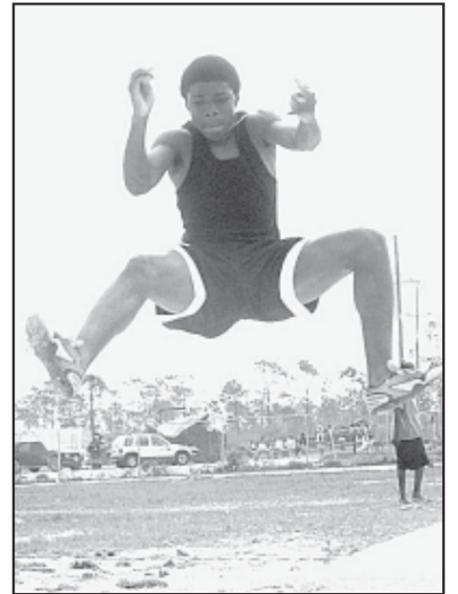
Lots of good food and drink kept the fair goers happy at the Agape Christian School fair. The well attended event raised needed funds for the school.

School

From Page 17

400m and 2nd in the 100m at the inter schools meet that was held at Abaco Central High School just before Easter.

He is the runner-up for first place winner Chelsea Bipat and will be going to the international competition to be held in Washington, D.C., the end of may. He is looking forward to the trip where he will visit with his father for several days starting on May 29th. The international competition is sponsored by Howard Scripps Publishing Company. The expenses for the two winners is paid by *The Nassau Guardian*



The Inter-School Sports competition did not complete the events so no winner could be announced.

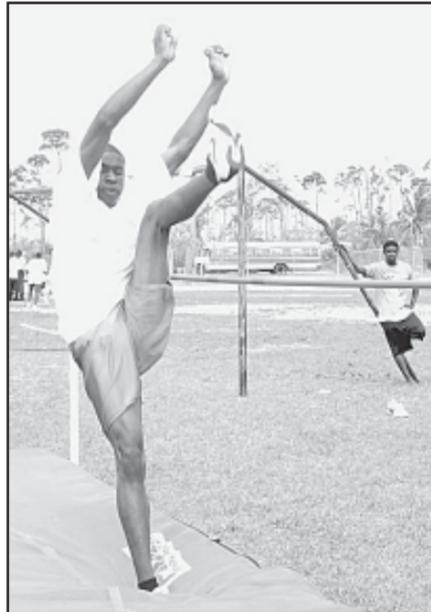
which was the sponsor for the Bahamian competition..

When he is not studying spelling words, Edrico enjoys collecting foreign coins, reading fiction books and singing.

Inter School Sports

By Mirella Santillo

In mid March athletes from five Abaco high schools met at Abaco Central High School to compete in various track and field events. The North was represented by S.C. Bootle High School from Cooper's Town,



High school athletes competed in an Abaco-wide competition in March.

School

From Page 19

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More School News

School *From Page 18*

the South by Moore's Island All Age School. Central Abaco had three representatives: Agape Christian School, St. Francis de Sales and Abaco Central High.

Mr. Vogal Williams, President of Abaco Athletic Association, organized the event, and by 10:30 a crowd of participants, teachers and coaches from the competing schools had gathered and were ready to start.

Mr. Rich Roberts accompanied 13 students from Agape Christian School, and Mr. Diehl came with 65 students from St. Francis de Sales Catholic School. An impressive number of S.C. Bootle students arrived by bus. Mr. Lyndon Scott, one of their coaches, said, "There were approximately 80 of them." They were accompanied by Mr. Jose Torres and Mr. Enrique Brown. Mr. Torres proudly informed me, "S.C. Bootle won the first prize of the competition last year." Unfortunately, one of their best athletes, Leonardo Darville, had a broken arm and could not compete in this year's event. However, 18-year-old Alexander Rolle, who had won the gold medal for the decathlon in the National Championship, was present.

Eight students represented Moore's Island All Age School. Mr. Trevor Peart, the assistant coach, was with them. A team of approximately 100 students competed from Abaco Central with

coaches Mrs. Elva Davis, Mr. Patrice Charles and Mr. Charles Poitier.

Mr. Jason Quashie, who used to coach in Freeport, was finish line official and Mr. Jack Hardy from Abaco Central was in charge of keeping scores.

Finally, the shot announcing the starting of the first event, the 5000 meter race, was fired, and four students, two from S.C. Bootle and two from Abaco Central, sprang on the track to compete in the longest race of the competition. It took Chris Nesbit from S.C. Bootle 22 minutes to win the race, leaving the other



Five high schools had competitors at the high school track and field sports event. Last year's winner was S.C. Bootle High School. This year no winner was announced because the meet was not completed.

three participants a long way behind.

Moore's Island placed a winner in the disk throw with Eunitta McBride in under 17 category.

On Thursday the event was officially opened by two representatives from the Ministry of Education, Mr. Rudolph Smith, Superintendent for Abaco, and Ms. Iris Pinder, Director of Education for The Bahamas.

The 3000 meter race for girls under 15 started Thursday's events and was won by Marvette Pritchard from S.C. Bootle. Second place went to Anthonika Nixon, also from S.C. Bootle. A highlight of the day was the high jump. For boys under 20 it was won by a student from ACH, Javaughn Cambridge, jumping an impressive 6' 4". The second place went to S.C. Bootle's Alexander Rolle, jumping 6' 3". Chris Nesbit, represent-

ing S.C. Bootle, won the 1500m and the 800m. In the category girls under 17 Nadijae Dumercy came first in the 800m and the 1500m. In the category girls under 13, Timmescha Russell won the 100m and the 200m.

At the end of the day it was a fine line between ACH with 937 points and S.C. Bootle with 912 points. St. Francis took the third place with 423 points. However, there was not enough time to compete in all the events planned and eight relays, 4x4 for boys and girls were not run. The javelin throw and the boys shot putt still have to be completed. The organizer, Mr. Williams, said, "It is up to the principals of the respective schools to decide if they wanted to terminate the competition."



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Guana Cay Continues Its Fight

Protest *From Page 1*

cerns and their application for judicial review was not frivolous, vexatious, hopeless, misconceived or groundless.”

Mr. Troy Albury, owner of Dive Guana, is co-chairman of the Save Guana Cay Reef Association and is a very concerned and outspoken citizen on the matter who feels that the concerns of the Guana Cay residents have been brushed aside from the very beginning. In an interview I had with him he was very forthright on the matter and his heartfelt concern was obvious.

Mr. Albury stated that at a meeting on February 1 with the Island Administrator and the Hope Town Council, the people of Guana Cay said that they did not want the development. The previous August, at a time when all the fisherman were off the island, a meeting was called at short notice of only eight to 10 hours. It was impossible for many people to get to the meeting when Mr. Baltron Bethel along with a lawyer and the developers put forward proposals. The people of Guana said NO. They requested that the proposals be left for perusal but the request was refused. Baltron Bethel said that nothing would be done until the Guana Cay community had been consulted further.

The residents were ready for a meeting which was planned on the cay with the Hon. Allyson Maynard-Gibson and the developers but, much to the disappointment of the residents, she did not show up for the planned meeting. There have been no other public meetings.

Despite the lack of consultation with Guana Cay residents, the Heads of Agreement was, nevertheless, signed on March 1st. “Government has been ignoring us; we hoped that they would come and talk. We are still hoping, but they will definitely talk after April 26th,” stated an angry Mr. Albury.

The feelings of the Guana Cay community are that they cannot trust the developers for several reasons:

* The developers say that the grass for the golf course will use very little fertilizer. However, according to SGCR research, the grass the developers want to use will need huge amounts of fertilizer. The developers say that they will be developing 100 acres as a golf course, but Mr. Albury says that from the plans the area looks more like 200 acres. Erin Pagliaro, President of the Friends of the Environment and resident of Guana Cay, said, “The community is adamant that it will not stand for a golf course on Guana Cay. If the developers insist on going ahead with it, the residents will continue to protest the entire development for ever!”

* The Bahamas National Trust was supposed to monitor the plans but Chris Hamilton of the BNT said that he had received no consultations from the developers or the government. In fact, the first time the BNT had heard about it was when they saw it in the papers.

* The developers have already begun to abuse the environment by removing concrete foundations and tanks left by the former Premier Cruise Lines from their holding areas and have un-

capped and upturned, one causing diesel and oil to run into the ground polluting the water table.

* The developers have begun to clear roads, destroy trees and begin developing without permits. The SGCR members feel that the Island Administrator, in representing Central Government, is trying to steamroll the local permitting process without public consultation.

* Government instructed Passerine developers not to speak to the Guana Cay people. To date neither the Prime Minister nor Mrs. Gibson has visited Great Guana Cay to talk about the project.

“That is why we cannot trust the de-

velopers,” says Mr. Albury.

One of the concessions promised was a reduction of the number of slips in the marina from 240 to 180. But this would still mean dredging which will cause changes which could destroy the reef and the mangroves.

The Save the Guana Cay Reef Association is very angry at the Government for “giving away 150 acres of Crown Land.” Attorney Fred Smith stated, “The Crown Land does not belong to Perry Christie or Allyson Maynard-Gibson to give away for free. The Bahamas belongs to Bahamians and there

Please see **Protest** *Page 26*



Premier Cruise Lines, which brought a cruise boat into Abaco Sound at the north end of Guana Cay, left a lot debris which is now being cleaned up by Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club.

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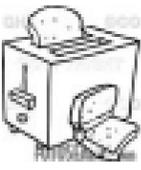
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More School News



Each month during the school year St. Francis de Sales School recognizes its students who have performed well and names them "Student of the Month." Pictured are the students of the months for February and March. Front row left to right: Chelsea Albury, Joel Reckley Jr. and Candace Trembley. Second row: Diandra McIntosh, Mario Haygood and Shagerra Edgecombe. Back row: Patricia Curry, Stephen Pedican Jr., Dominica Evans and Claudius Burrows. Absent from photo are Lisa Kemp and Mikhail Russell.



Pictured are the students of the lower school for the months for February and March 2005. Front row from left to right: Andrew Pinder and Gregory Whymns. Second row: Caitlin Doyle, Teryn McDonald Chassity Sawyer and Shawntalay McDonald. Third row: Rickanta Smith, Amanda Bethel, Robyn Miller and Desmonda Bootle. Fourth row: Aidan McPhee, Nathan Grammatico Abidemi Simon and Matthew Grammatico. Back row: Jasmine Ferguson and Ivanna Gaitor.

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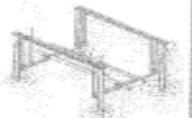
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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 9

there was a trawler not far off our starboard. Unfortunately, despite raising the distress flag; waving life preservers and attempting radio contact, they ignored our request for help. (Perhaps all of us boating these friendly waters should be more aware of the boats around us.)

After lowering sails and dropping anchor we installed the emergency tiller. The emergency tiller is not easy to use. The leverage is poor. Our crew quickly learned that by using the stronger leg muscles, they could slowly turn the boat in whatever direction we asked.

We contacted the nearest harbour which was Spanish Cay. The radio operator stayed in contact with us and talked us through the last four miles into the dock. The office at Spanish Cay helped us with phone calls to the States while we debated flying a mechanic direct to the island. The island manager, Scott, was a former air force mechanic. On seeing our distress, he asked if he could take a look at the problem. The "problem" was in the most inaccessible place on the boat. Scott and his staff from Cooper's Town and Fox Town were fabulous. Fortunately, we carried a spare steering cable on board. Forty-eight hours later Scott had permanently fixed everything and we were on our way to Sale Cay and Florida.

Thank you, Scott. You and your staff are some of the best Abaconians we've met. Nan and George Gregory

We Lost a Great Man

Dear Editor,

Please allow me a space in your newspaper.

As many of you know, Uncle Haziel passed away one week ago today. We have lost a great man in our community.

He was a Christian (a born again child of God); he was a husband; he was a father; he was a grandfather; he was an uncle; he was a Sunday School teacher; he was a preacher of God's Word; he was a public school teacher; he was a barber; he was a fisherman; he was a carpenter (boat builder), house builder, furniture maker; he was a postmaster; he was a wireless operator; he was a store keeper; he was a Justice of the Peace; he was a secretary for Uncle Will's grocery store and boat building business; he was a lawyer when it came to making up legal documents; he was a painter; he was an artist (printing names on boats); he was one of the Queen's honorary; he was a realtor; he was a residing officer; he was an author; he was an airline agent (Bahamas Airways); he was a kind

man; he was a gentleman.

Here is a few personal remarks about Uncle Haziel. As I think of Uncle Haziel, I'm reminded of so much I could say about him.

First of all, I think about when I was a child, he was the first one to cut my hair. After school on Fridays there was time set aside to cut the little boys' hair and on Saturday afternoons he would cut the men's hair.

He was my teacher. I give him credit for many of the verses and chapters of Scripture I can recite today such as Psalm 23, Psalm 46, Isaiah 55-6, *Seek ye the Lord while he may be found. Call ye upon him while he is near* and of course many, many more.

There is one thing I held him accountable for. One time a group of boys was disobeying on the school grounds at break time. So Uncle Haziel called them to the line and gave each one a whipping. I was one of them who got the cane. But you know what? I was not one who was disobeying. I don't know how come I was not, but not this time. It has taken me a long time to

forgive him of this. But I did.

This brings me to a point right here. Uncle Haziel was the most giving person I've ever known. But you know what has impressed me more than anything is how he could forgive. Full Stop!

There are so many good things I could say about Uncle Haziel and Aunt Mary.

The time, in fact 11 years ago March past when I had my four fingers cut off by an electric saw, I was not able to work for approximately one year and a half. So this meant no income. But Uncle Haziel and Aunt Mary would show up many many Saturdays with bags of groceries as well as money many times.

There are just so many good things I could say and write about him. Any time anyone would have legal paper work such as passports, Uncle Haziel was there to help, many times no charge (never once charged me.)

Just three weeks ago he sat at my table with legal papers for Arlene and myself to sign. He knew his job when it came to legal work. Also he was good in sharing God's word.

He was well liked by many people as we

saw at the funeral service. Just yesterday my friends Guy and Attie, the people who bought my house on Dickie's Cay, reminded me that Uncle Haziel and Aunt Mary were the first persons they met on Man-O-War Cay. Every time for the past four years that I've called them or they have called me, they never signed off without asking me how are Haziel and Mary doing.

So this shows that he was a special man to say the least.

We love you, Haziel, and sure will miss you, but the good part is we will see you again.

Love,
Sam

A Tribute to Uncle Haziel

Dear Editor,

Will you please publish this in your newspaper.

Goodbye, we are forced to say, we are here to celebrate, not mourn today. We know he is above intensely looking down, savoring every heartfelt word, nodding with

Please see **Letters** Page 23

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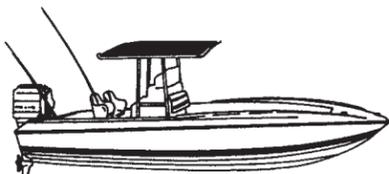
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Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 22

appreciation of all the sounds.

He is with us in body no longer but where his soul is abiding we need not wonder for he has served his Great Master to the fullest and today he can sit back peacefully and rest.

He has conquered in life more than many, blessed with a large family, closer than any. He's lived through great sickness and pulled through great sorrow, but always kept strong, lived faithful, eager for tomorrow.

His knowledge was great, a legend of sorts. A preacher to many and so many he taught, an author, a poet, his works left for future generations. A many who loved his country and was recognized by nations.

He held his titles as most important and sincere. A loyal husband, a devoted daddy, and oh his grand and great-grand children were his sweet little dears. He always had time, not only for them but for others, helping in the community, treating us as sisters and brothers.

Goodbye, Uncle Haziell, your work here on earth is done. Your everlasting life with your Lord has now begun. We love you and will miss you. This we know but Jesus was calling you so we had to let you go.

Lenora Sweeting
Feels He Was Misrepresented

Dear Sir:

This letter is to discuss your article in *The Abaconian* dated April 15 th under the heading *Bakers Bay Project Is Explained*. I quote, "Troy Albury is not comfortable with government but admitted that he was impressed with the plan. He wants to be assured that the project will be completed."

Which meeting were you at, sir? I spend every waking moment trying to stop this development because of its dire environmental impacts and you quote me as saying I am "impressed with the plan." and "I want to be assured that the project will be completed."

Nothing could be further from the truth. I did speak of who was going to

monitor the project, of which there is no good answer and I also spoke at length on the amount of fertilizer that the golf course will use giving hard facts from a University of Florida report. None of that was reported. I am at a loss as to why because this is pertinent information.

Just in case one might wonder if I am making this up, I refer to an article written by Richard Fawkes in the April 9, 2005, issue of the Freeport News. He was reporting on the same Hope Town Meeting.

I quote, "Listening to your presentation today I had to hold my tongue for a long while because everything you talk about, that you SAY you are going to do, that would be great. But who is going to follow up?"

"About this grass, I went online last night. You say it needs little or no fertilizer. You consider 242 pounds per acre little or no fertilizer. 242 pounds per acre?"

"I'm no golf course expert but 242 pounds of fertilizer sounds like a hell of

a lot of fertilizer to me.

I realize you did not have space to report everything I said in quotes because of the size of the article, but at least you could have represented my remarks in the statement you put in. I realize a lot of information was covered that day and I respectfully submit that you purchase a tape recorder and USE IT when quoting.

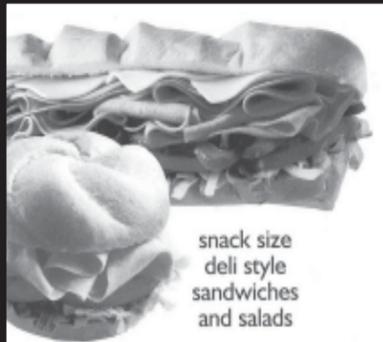
Troy Albury

Editor's Note: Here is the exact quote from the meeting. This substantiates our earlier remarks and also gives the additional information that you presented here.

"Listening to your presentation today, I had to hold my tongue for a long while because everything that you talk about, that you say you are going to do, that would be great. But, who is going to follow up?"

You say University of Miami and Kathleen Sealey and Bahamas National

Please see **Letters** Page 26



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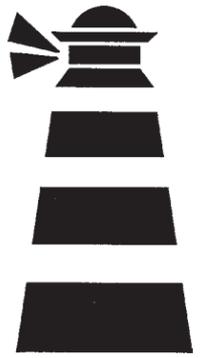

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Pilots Speak Out on the Airport Situation

By Jennifer Hudson

It is a well known fact that Abaco is in desperate need of a new airport so I recently spoke with several pilots to ascertain their views on the present situation and changes which need to be made at the Marsh Harbour International Airport.

Mr. Lewis Key, owner of Zig Zag Airways, was very outspoken on the subject and had no qualms about being quoted as saying, "This is a sickening and deplorable situation and the government is disgraceful in its disregard of it. Abaco puts millions of dollars into the Treasury from the Port Department and the government only wants its money without giving anything back."

Mr. Key stated that some time ago a group of pilots had drawn up a plan of a proposal for a taxi-way which they sent to government but it was ignored.

"The present runway is in such a terrible state that it could break up any plane," continued Mr. Key and told of a friend of his who, on landing at the Marsh Harbour airport and hitting one of the many potholes, had the nose wheel of his plane knocked loose, two propellers broken and the engine messed up, thus resulting in a repair bill of approximately \$100,000.

Other pilots spoke of the large amounts of money they must spend every year in purchasing new tyres and maintenance on their landing gear. Mr. Key stated that he knows of people who are now refusing to bring their planes into the Marsh Harbour airport.

The deplorable state of the runway was the main bone of contention with all the pilots. Besides the fact that it is 2000 feet too short, it presents other serious safety concerns. In addition to the huge potholes which break up the landing gear, there is a

large dip in the runway where the surface has sunk. This causes the pilots of jets to have to thrust them into reverse and when they hit that dip "it feels as if the plane's nose is coming off." Faron Sawyer reports that one U.S. pilot, after landing at Marsh Harbour airport, asked to be taken on a golf cart out to the runway so that he could make a note of where all the potholes are to try to avoid them in future. Faron and his father have been out onto the runway and filled some of the potholes themselves. Mr. Sean Nixon of Inter Island Charters urges that when the runways are upgraded, they need to be properly constructed on a bed of rock with a proper asphalt surface to prevent the sagging which is currently happening as the result of jets landing.

Andrew Kelly, owner of Abaco Air, pointed out that for major repairs to be done to the existing runway, the airport would have to be closed down for several weeks. One way to avoid this would be to build a new runway parallel to the old one, then join it to the existing one and use the old runway as a taxi-way. All of the pilots were unanimous in that the most pressing issue after that of a decent runway is the need for a taxi-way. At the moment planes have to use the runway as a taxi-way which causes delays. A taxi-way would make for a much smoother flow of traffic and would save time as a plane would not have to wait for another plane to take off before being able to taxi out. The pilots agree that a taxi way would be of far more benefit than a control tower which, at present, is not a necessity. The pilots state that they have no problem with the present system whereby they contact Marsh Harbour traffic from 20 miles out, are in touch with any traffic in the area and work out the landing order amongst

themselves. Consultants who have been out to look at the airport reported that a taxi way is needed more than a control tower.

There are several different views on where a new airport should be located. Some people feel that a new airport should be built between Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay in the area of Busic Bight where it would be central to the island with the Treasure Cay airport being used as a domestic terminal. But Mr. Key feels that this would be a "no brains" idea as several local pilots have invested a lot of money in setting up their operations around the Marsh Harbour airport. In addition to Zig Zag Airways there are Andrew Kelly's Abaco Air and Faron Sawyer's Cherokee Aviation with its newly built state-of-the-art FBO operation. Building a new airport in a different location would involve a lot of hardship to these companies that would have to move their operations to the new location.

Andrew Kelly feels that fixing up the existing airport would be a band-aid measure and that it is necessary to think "long term." The ideal location for a new airport in his view would be about 10 miles south of Marsh Harbour where the land is en-

tirely flat and not used by anybody. The airport, he feels, is not needed in the north, but in the south where all the major expansions are taking place. Marsh Harbour is now expanding into the airport area, and it is not wise to have an airport close to homes. Eventually 747's will be coming into Abaco and people would not want them flying over their homes. There are other safety issues such as an airliner running off the end of the runway. Although it would hurt Abaco Air and the other operators to have to relocate, Mr. Kelly said that he would be willing to do so as "we must look at what's good for Abaco."

Mr. Nixon, when asked for his opinion, stated that there are so many things he could say he did not know where to start. Looking to the future he sees a lot of call for jet traffic, especially 737 Regional Jets. Investors in Abaco will want to make sure that the airport is adequate to cope with the large jets which will be necessary in order to bring in people to fill up hotel rooms. A runway of 7,500 feet will be needed; today the run-

Please see **Airport**

Page 25

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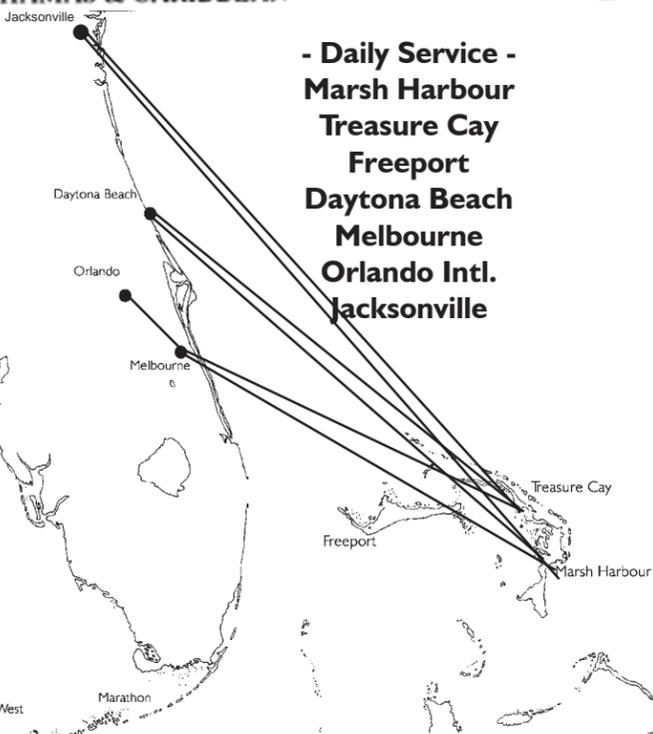
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Some Airport Problems Need Immediate Attention

Airport *From Page 24*

way is only 5,500 feet. In addition to a lengthened runway, he sees a need for a taxi way as presently bottlenecks build up of sometimes six or seven planes trying to land. Also the ramp area needs to be increased as planes are parked almost to the runway. Faron Sawyer feels that we need to get the 737's coming into Marsh Harbour as Bahamasair is over booked and Continental would probably prefer to run two or three larger flights per day.

Another matter which needs addressing is the problem of trees growing too close to the runway. "There is a problem of a tombstone mentality where the government waits for a crash before doing anything," says Mr. Nixon. Trees are growing on top of a hill close to the airport which causes wind shear and prevents pilots touching down in the proper zone. Trees are also too close to the runway; pilots are complaining that the trees need cutting down today.

Mr. Faron Sawyer has a lot of good ideas for upgrading of the present airport if the government does not have the money to construct a new one. The plans the previous government had drawn up several years

ago for a new airport are already too small and a whole new survey will need to be done now. He feels that there is much can be done to expand the existing airport without spending a lot of money as the infrastructure is already there. His idea is for the present terminal to be extended along the eastern side inside of the fence where the grassy area is now. A large, long room, he feels, would not be expensive and could hold up to 200 people. This should include a sterile area for people to sit after they have passed through security with bathrooms and a snack bar. The airlines should pay to rent space on a realistic scale. Presently, the amount the airlines pay is far too low; but a more realistic sum would go a long way to paying for improvements to the airport.

Other matters which local pilots suggested need immediate attention for the upgrading of the airport are:

- Proper lighting as many of the lights do not work, and proper signage on the runway directing visiting pilots to the different aviation areas.

- Adequate drainage. The drains which were put in a few years ago are not functioning properly which causes severe flood-

ing after heavy rains. Flooding could be avoided if the drains were cleared and made deeper with additional drainage leading to a trench to carry the water away.

- Paving of the parking area and roads alongside the airport as the dust is very bad when the planes are revving up.

- An organized paid parking area where car owners pay for long term parking.

- Upgrading of the fire fighting equipment. The pilots say they never know if the fire truck is working, and they feel it could not put out a fire anyway as a jet fuel fire cannot be put out with water; it needs foam. Also it is felt that the firemen should

go on refresher courses.

- The whole airport area needs to be landscaped to make it more attractive.

A pilot with one of the international airlines stated that while the runway is "very bumpy," his first concern would be for a taxi-way. He would like eventually to see a control tower here in preference to the present system whereby pilots are in contact with each other for the landing order as, in his opinion, "there are some who do not always want to wait their turn."

A Bahamasair pilot chose not to comment as he said that they are not allowed to make a public statement on such matters.

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Fossils *From Page 2*

skull and is a salt water animal. They have also been found on Grand Cayman. Two crocodile skulls were found in another Blue Hole in Abaco in 1993, one was recovered and one left in situ. The one was carbon dated as being 2,840 years old, and it is thought that these new finds may be of a similar age. The skulls measure approximately 22 inches in length.

Mr. Kakuk said that the group has been working with the Bahamas National Trust and signs have been posted in the area stating that research is in progress and asking people to refrain from diving in that hole.

Mr. Keith Tinker, Director of the Department of Antiquities and Museums, made the observation, "There is a lot of history being made today which will lead to a re-writing of the history we once knew."

Book Club *From Page 7*

Campbell, assistant Central Abaco Administrator; and Rudolph Smith, Abaco District Superintendent. He and his party proceeded to Cooper's Town for a similar ceremony to launch the book club in North Abaco schools.

Protest *From Page 20*

must at least be a debate about it in Parliament. The fight to save Guana Cay is in truth a fight to save The Bahamas. It can have the benefit of preserving some of our culture, history, heritage and environment."

Erin Pagliaro stated, "We are joined by hundreds of people around the country who see that this is a very important change for the way Out Islands are developed. It has spurred the development

of draft legislation to prevent large scale developments destroying small island communities. This is not a dictatorship we live in; it is a democracy and despite the dismissal of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, the voices of the Bahamian people do matter and we are confident that the courts will prove this."

South *From Page 12*

pleted for the Easter Monday Anglican picnic, although Catechist Benjamin Pinder had to create a temporary roof of plywood for the kitchen pavilion.

On Saturday a team of volunteers headed by Rob McKinney, Town Committee Chairman, worked feverishly to complete the kitchen roof and siding. The reason? The commencement of the Regatta Committee's Sunday afternoon fish fry to raise funds for the homecoming regatta over the Labour Day weekend and to complete the hurricane shelter.

Sandy Point is the only community in the country which has built its own hurricane shelter. It was completed sufficiently last year to safely house over 60 residents during Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. According to Stanley White of the Committee, the shelter, which is located on high ground in the new Sands Cove subdivision near the airport, still needs to be properly wired. It also requires a plaster finish on the outside.

Perhaps now, with these two beautiful structures to continue the picnic tradition, Sandy Point would consider naming the spot in honour of its gracious founder - The Arthur Sherman Picnic Grounds.

Letters *From Page 23*

Trust. Who's going to monitor them? You are paying them to monitor for you. What's to say, when they get here, they're not just going to say, "Well, you're paying me, so that's okay."

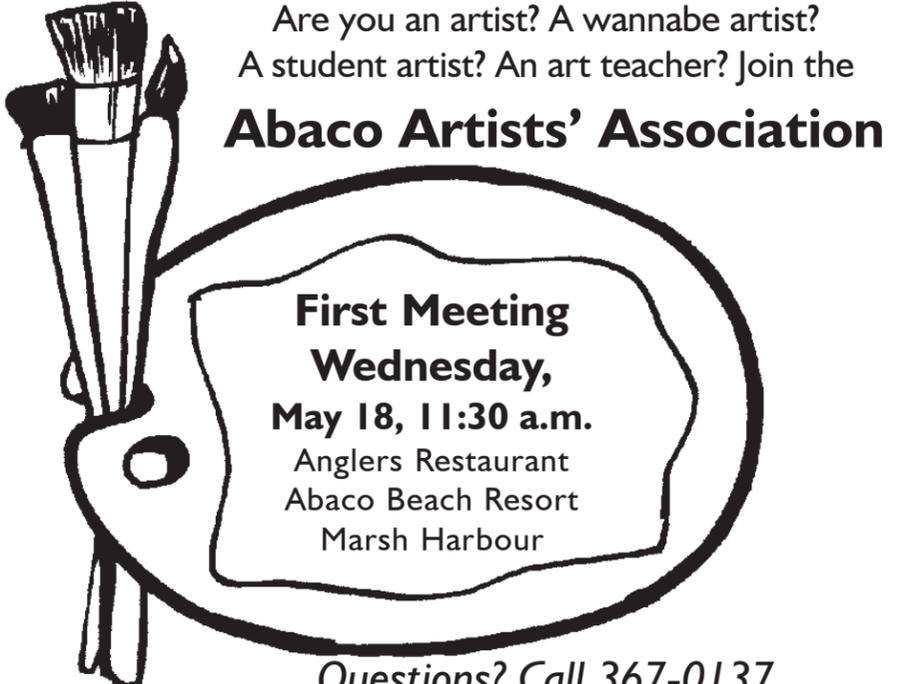
Who is going to monitor what you do to make sure you do what you say you're going to do? If you can answer that question, you could put everything there.

About this grass, I went online last night. You say it needs little or no fertilizer. You consider 242 pounds per acre little or no fertilizer? 242 pounds per acre! I don't know anything about this

grass. I went to five different web sites. All of them said use three to four pounds per 1,000 square feet. How could you tell me that's little or no fertilizer? I'm no golf course expert, but 242 pounds per acre sounds like a hell of a lot of nitrate to me.

So I mean, everything you say you're going to do, if you could do it, I think you'll have our blessing.

We have no trust in you right now. You haven't talked to us before. And everything you put on paper changes day by day ... I saw the EIA and there are only two pages about the reef. Two pages! ... I dive on that reef every day."



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Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

Bank Apartments 3 apts 365-4105

Bluff House 8 rm 20 cott 365-4200

Chris Plummer 3 hse 365-4648

Coco Bay Cottages 4 cott 365-5464

Green Turtle Club 34 rm 365-4271

Island Properties 34 hse + 365-4047

New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties 30 + 365-4636

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott.365-5137

Coco Paradise 8 cott 365-5197

Donna Sands 12 hse + 365-5195

Guana Beach Resort 6 units 365-5133

Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106

Harbour View Haven 365-5028

Ria-Mar Rentals 5 + 365-6241

Sea Shore Villas 365-5028

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133

Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003

Crystal Villas 6 villas 321-783-4576

Elbow Cay Prop 53 hse + 366-0035

Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095

Hope T Hideaways 63 hse + 366-0224

Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030

Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154

Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366-0266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key 43 hse + 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048

Ria-mar Rentals 9 + 365-6241

Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158

Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719

Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980

Great Abaco Club 12 hse + 367-4151

Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111

Island Dreams 45 hse + 365-8507

Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

General for Abaco

Listings for the entire island

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576

Web Sites

with general Abaco information

<http://www.abacoinet.com>

<http://www.abacoinfo.com>

<http://www.abacos.com>

<http://www.go-abacos.com>

<http://www.oii.net>

<http://www.bahamas.com>



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(242) 365-8350 FAX: (242) 365-8352
OPEN MON-SAT 8AM - 6PM AND SUN 9AM-1PM

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
 Hope Town 366-0500, Marsh Harbour 367-3752
 Guana Cay 365-5178, Treasure Cay 365-8749



Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation



Compliments of The Abaconian
www.abaconian.com

Abaco area code 242 unless listed otherwise

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



Medical Services

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

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers
 Plus extra for each passengers above two

• **Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:**
 Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr \$12 + \$3
 Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town \$10 + \$3
 Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market \$10 + \$2
 Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto \$ 6 + \$2
 Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town \$10 + \$3
 Murphy Town to Shell Sta \$14 + \$4
 Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house \$14 + \$4
 Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house \$14 + \$4
 Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house \$16 + \$5
 Great Cistern \$20 + \$5
 Spring City \$15 + \$5
 Snake Cay \$35 + \$10
 Treasure Cay \$60 + \$ 10
 Casuarina Point \$60 + \$10
 Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores \$70 + \$ 10
 Little Harbour or Cherokee \$80 + \$10
 Crossing Rocks \$100 + \$10
 Sandy Point \$135 + \$10

• **Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:**
 Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore \$ 2 each
 Jib Room \$ 3 each
 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 Nat. Insurance \$ 9 + \$3
 Mother Merle restaurant \$10 + \$3

Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour
 Children under three - free • Uncaged pets - as people
 Luggage \$.50 each over four, Surf boards \$3.00 ea.

• **Between Treasure Cay Airport and:** Effective July 2004
 Treasure Cay Resort \$18 + \$5
 Madeira Park \$12 + \$4
 Green Turtle Cay ferry dock \$6 + \$4
 Moxy \$16 + \$5
 Bahamas Star farm \$20 + \$5
 Sand Banks \$22 + \$5
 Joe's Creek \$40 + \$6
 Black Wood \$16 + \$5
 Fire Road & Cooper's Town \$35 + \$5
 Cedar Harbour \$50 + \$5
 Wood Cay \$55 + \$5
 Mount Hope \$60 + \$5
 Fox Town \$65 + \$5
 Crown Haven \$70 + \$5
 Marsh Harbour Airport \$70 + \$10
 T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour \$60 + \$10
 T 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
 T C Hotel to Moxey \$14 + \$5
 T C Hotel to Banyan Bch Club \$6 + \$3
 Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport \$70 + \$10

Airlines Serving Abaco

Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is 367-2266
 Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale 367-5599
 Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale 367-2800
 American Eagle - Miami 367-2231
 Bahamasair - Nassau & W. Palm Beach 367-2095
 Bimini Island Air - Ft Lauderdale 954-938-8991
 Calypso Air- Ft Laud & W Palm Bch 954-3594191
 Continental Connection - Miami
 Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach 367-3415
 Fla Coastal Airlines - Vero B & Ft Lauderdale 367-0179
 Island Express - Ft Lauderdale 367-0169-
 Major's Air Service - Freeport 367-4826
 Southern Air - Nassau 367-2498
 Twin Air - Fort Lauderdale 365-8677
 USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch 367-2231
 Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B. 367-4852
 Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale 954-359-0292
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S.Florida
 Abaco Air 367-2266
 Cherokee Air Charters 367-2089

Tours & Excursions

Kayak • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour . 367-5358
 Birding • Abaco Outback • Marsh Harbour .. 367-5358
 Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour 367-2936
 Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town 366-0024
 Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town 366-0431

Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted

Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16

Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach
 7:15 9 am 10:30 12:15 pm 2 4 5:45 9* 10:45*
 Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 6:15 9:45* 11:30*

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

Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) 40 min. from Conch Inn
 6:45am† 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45
 Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 6:30
 Same day fare • Adult oneway \$15 / Round Trip \$20 • Kids 6-11 half fare Free under 6
 † From Union Jack Dock * Except holidays † Hope Town late trips Fri & Sat only

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

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

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

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16

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

Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -
 Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm
 McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm
 Fare \$40 one way • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information
 Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Bahamas Ferries Between Nassau & Sandy Point under 4 Hr.
 Friday & Sunday Lv Nassau 3:30 pm • Lv Sandy Point 8 pm • Adults \$90 RT, \$50 OW
 Cars, trucks and cargo • Call Sandy Point 366-4119 or Marsh Harbour 367-5250

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

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

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone

Walker's Cay
 Walker's Cay - Closed ..

Green Turtle Cay
 Bluff House 45 F 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club 32 F 365-4271
 Black Sound Marina . 15 365-4531
 Other Shore Club 12 F 365-4195
 Abaco Yacht Service 10 F 365-4033

Treasure Cay
 Treasure Cay Marina150 F 365-8250

Man-O-War
 Man-O-War Marina 26 F 365-6008

Marsh Harbour
 Boat Harbour Marina183 F 367-2736
 Conch Inn 75 F 367-4000
 Harbour View Marina 36 F 367-2182
 Marsh Harbour Marina52 F 367 2700
 Mangoes Rebuilding F 367-2366

Hope Town
 Hope Town Marina 16 366-0003
 Hope Town Hideaways 366-0224
 Lighthouse Marina 6 F 366-0154
 Sea Spray 50 F 366-0065

Spanish Cay
 Spanish Cay Marina . 75 F 365-0083

Guana Cay
 Orchid Bay 32 F 365-5175
 Boats can clear Customs at Spanish Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour

Dive Shops - Marsh Harbour

Dive Abaco 367-2787
 Abaco Dive Adventures 367-2963

Hope Town
 Froggies 366-0431

Treasure Cay
 Treasure Divers 365-8465
 Treasure Cay Adventures 365-8111

Green Turtle Cay
 Brendal's Dive Center 365-4411

Guana Cay Dive Guana 365-5178
Man-O-War Dive Shop 365-6013

Bikes & Scooters • Boats • Cars & Carts

Rentals * Marsh Harbour

A & P Car Rentals 367-2655
 Blue Wave Boat Rentals 367-3910
 Concept Boat Rentals 367-5570
 Laysue Boat Rentals 367-4414
 Pier One Boat Rentals 367-3587
 Power Cat Boat Rentals 367-4620
 Rainbow Boat Rentals 367-4602
 Rental Wheels Scooters, Bikes, Cars 367-4643
 Rich's Boat Rentals 367-2742
 Sea Horse Boat Rentals 367-2513
 Sea Star Car Rentals 367-4887
 Wilmac Car Rentals 367-4970 or 367-4313

Green Turtle Cay

Bay Street Rentals 477-5300 365-4070
 C & D Cart Rental 365-4084
 D & P Cart Rental 365-4655
 Donnie's Boat Rentals 365-4119
 New Plymouth Cart Rentals . 365-4188 or 4149
 Reef Boat Rentals 365-4145
 Sea Side Carts 477-5497
 T & A Cart Rentals 375-8055

Guana Cay

Donna Sands Cart Rentals 365-5195
 Dive Guana Boats & bikes 365-5178

Man-O-War

Conch Pearl Boat Rentals 365-6059
 Island Treasures Cart Rentals 365-6072
 Ria-mar Golf Cart Rentals 365-6241
 Water Ways Boat Rent .. 357-6540 & 365-6143

Hope Town

Bike Shop Bicycle Rentals 366-0292
 Cat's Paw Boat Rentals 366-0380
 Hope Town Cart Rentals 366-0064
 Island Cart Rentals 366-0448
 Island Marine Boat Rentals 366-0282
 Sea Horse Boat Rentals 366-0023
 Sea Spray Resort Boat Rentals 366-0065
 T & N Cart Rentals 366-0069

Treasure Cay

Alison Car Rent 365-8193
 Cas's Carts 365-8771
 Claridge's Cart Rentals 365-8248
 Cornish Car Rentals 365-8623
 JIC Boat Rentals 365-8465
 Rich's Boat Rentals 365-8582
 Triple J Car Rentals 365-8761
 Abaco Adventures - Kayaks 365-8749



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Please bring errors, omissions or corrections to our attention

Rev 4 Mar 05

Bonefish Guides

Sandy Point
 Patrick Roberts 366-4286
 Nicholas Roberts
 Derrick Gaitor
 Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133
 Vernal Burrows
 Kendall White
 Anthony Bain 366-4107
 Floyd Burrows 366-4175
 Links Adderly 366-4335
 Valentino Lightbourne
 Ricky Burrows 366-4233

Man-O-War
 David Albury 366-6059

Cherokee
 Theodore Sawyer 366-2111
 Will Sawyer 366-2177
 Marty Sawyer 366-2115
 Noel Lowe 366-2107
 Junior Albury 366-3058
 Randy Sawyer 366-2284

Hope Town
 Maitland Lowe 366-0133

North Abaco
 O'Donald McIntosh .. 477-5037
 Pope McKenzie 477-5894
 Orthnell Russell 365-0125
 Alexander Rolle 365-0120
 Edward Rolle 365-0024

Green Turtle Cay
 Ronnie Sawyer 365-4070
 Jeff Survance 365-4040
 Ricky Sawyer 365-4261

Restaurant Guide

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

Marsh Harbour

Anglers \$\$\$ 367-2158
 Conch Crawl \$ 367-4444
 Gino's \$ 367-2002
 Golden Grouper \$ 367-2301
 Hibiscus Cafe \$\$ 367-2782
 Hummingbird \$\$ 367-2922
 Jamie's Place \$ 367-2880
 Jib Room \$\$ 367-2700
 Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch-5pm) 367-2615
 Mangoes \$\$\$ 367-2366
 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
 H T Harbour Lodge \$\$\$ 366-0095
 Munchies \$ + 366-0423
 Rudy's Place \$\$\$ † 366-0062
 Sea Spray \$ † 366-0065

Man-O-War

Pavilion \$ 365-6185
 Hibiscus 365-6380

Guana Cay

Blue Water Grill \$\$\$ 365-5230
 Guana Seaside \$\$\$ 365-5106
 Nippers \$\$\$ 365-5143
 Orchid Bay 265-5175

Treasure Cay

Florence's Cafe \$
 Coconut
 Harbour Cafe \$ 365-8635
 Hudson's Delight \$ 365-8648
 Spinnaker Restaurant ... \$\$\$ 365-8469
 Touch of Class \$\$\$ 365-8195
 Traveller's Rest 365-8654

Green Turtle Cay

Bluff House \$\$\$ 365-4200
 Jolly Roger Bistro \$\$ 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club \$\$\$ 365-4271
 Laura's Kitchen \$\$ 365-4287
 McIntosh's Restaurant \$ 365-4625
 New Plymouth Inn \$\$\$ 365-4161
 Plymouth Rock Cafe 365-4234
 Rooster's Rest 365-4066
 Sundowners 365-4060
 Wrecking Tree Restaurant
 Harbour Café (ferry dock) . \$ + 365-8635

Sandy Point

Big J's \$ 366-4020
 Nancy's
 Oeishas 366-4139
 Pete & Gays \$\$\$ 366-4119
 Seaside Inn \$\$\$ 366-4120
 Rickmon Bonefish Lodge 366-4477

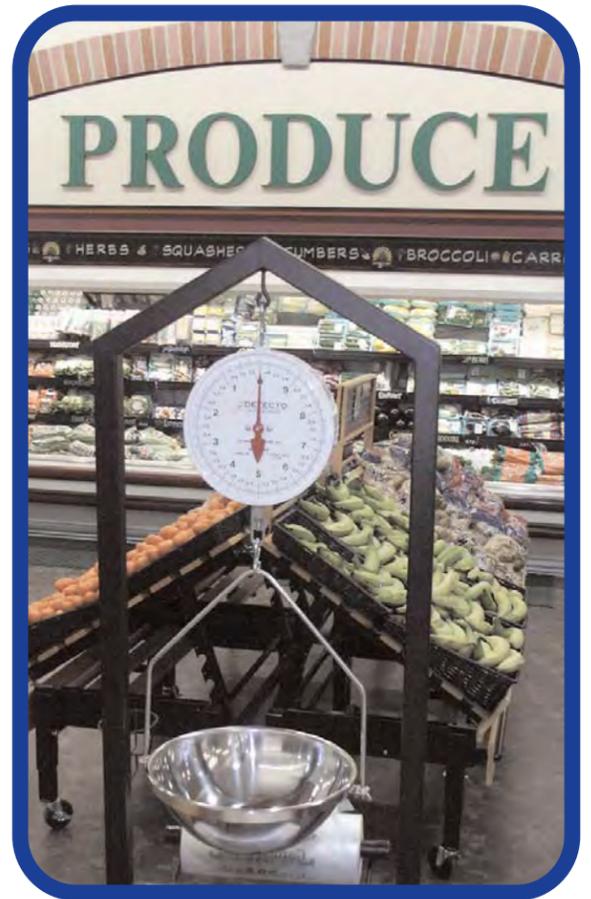
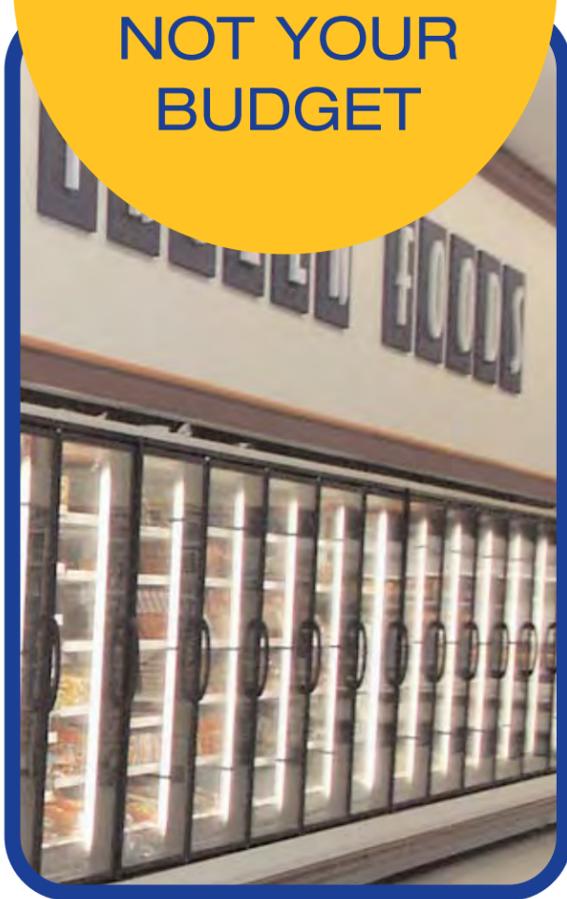
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The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 13, NUMBER 9, MAY 1st, 2005

Fishing Tournaments Encourage Catch and Release First BBC Tournament Has 70 Boats



The first leg of the Bahamas Billfish Championship was held at Boat Harbour on April 17 to 22. Only three blue dolphin were brought to the dock. This one was landed on Black Bart on the last day of the tournament and weighed in at 571 pounds. All white marlins, sailfish and spearfish were released after being photographed. The top three anglers did not land any fish.

Cerveza Captures the BBC Marsh Harbour Championship

A record fleet of 70 of the world's top sport fishing teams started this year's Bahamas Billfish Championship in grand style by catching 88 qualifying billfish during the four-day Marsh Harbour Championship on April 17-22. The record participation reflected the enthusiasm for changes in the release categories and the increased minimum length for boated blue marlin.

Cerveza, led by owner Tom Russell, fishing on his 62-foot *Spencer*, released a blue marlin on the first day of fishing. In releasing a blue marlin and white marlin on the second day, followed by another white marlin on the third and fourth days, the accumulation of 1800 points garnered the team not only the First Place Award, but also the Top Release Award.

Finishing a close Second was the *Joanna* fishing on their 54-foot *Viking*. The *Joanna* achieved 1600 points by releasing a blue marlin on the first fishing day, another blue on the second day, and two white marlin on the third.

Smooth Finish finished in Third Place with 1400 points. Fishing on a 54-foot *Bertram*,

Please see **Tournaments** Page 2

Remember Your Mother on Mothers' Day, May 8

A Seminar Emphasizes a Sound Mind in a Healthy Body

By Mirella Santillo

On April 15th BEC held a one-day seminar at St John's Parish Hall for all their employees who could attend. Mrs. Marisa Mason-Smith, Manager of Human Resources and Training for BEC in Nassau, was the hostess for the event which was meant to introduce the employees to a

holistic approach to health."

Two guest speakers from Nassau were also present: lecturer Mr. D. Paul Reilly and Seventh Day Adventist Pastor Bennington Brennen, a family counselor. A

Please see **BEC Seminar** Page 3

Earth Day Featured Pine Woods



The Hon. Ron Pinder, Parliamentary Secretary with the Ministry of Health and Environmental Services, was the key speaker at the program officially opening the Earth Day observance on April 22 on Abaco. He is pictured above with four students he singled out for giving correct answers to his questions. The students received cash prizes from him. Please see story on page 6.

Four Receive Keys to Houses



Four persons received keys to new houses from the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie in a ceremony on April 18. Shown above is the Prime Minister on the left with the Hon. Shane Gibson, Minister of Housing, presenting the key to Barbara Bethel-Kemp. Although the ceremony was held in Sandy Point where two of the recipients lived, the other two are from Marsh Harbour. These houses are replacing homes that were destroyed by the two hurricanes of September 2004.

The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie, presented keys to four new homeowners at Sandy Point on April 18. The four new homeowners were Vincent Burrows and Alonso Prosper from Sandy Point and Barbara Bethel-Kemp and Rebecca Simms, both of Marsh Harbour.

Mr. Christie said that while the government was committed to restoring the lives off those affected by Hurricanes

Jeanne and Frances in September 2004, homeowners owed a duty to themselves to properly prepare for hurricanes in the future. He emphasized that preparation is the key to dealing with hurricanes and called on those responsible for getting shelters ready to remain vigilant.

Please see **Houses** Page 8

White Marlin Open Has Successful Tournament

Last Stall was the first team to accumulate 400 points and capture the 1st Place honors in the Second Annual Bahamas White Marlin Open held at the Abaco Beach Resort and Boat Harbour Marina in Marsh Harbour on April 12-15. *Last Stall* released two white marlin on the first day of fishing and was able to maintain their position despite 28 other fishing teams trying to upset their lead.

Matt Gaston on *Surveillance* released a white marlin on the first day and a white

marlin on the second day of fishing, accumulating 400 points to take the 2nd Place Awards. The *Reel McCoy* released a blue marlin on the second day and a blue and white on the third day of fishing to take 3rd Place honors with their 400 points.

For the three day event, a fleet of 29 boats competing in the Bahamas White Marlin Open caught a total of 28 billfish in this all release tournament – eight white marlin, seven blue marlin, and 13 sailfish.

Release points were awarded using time and date-stamped digital images to verify the time of the billfish release and the species. Affidavits signed by all participants fishing on the team further confirmed that the fish was released in accordance with tournament rules.

In the Fun Fish Categories, the largest dolphin fish trophy was taken by the 2nd Place *Surveillance*, bringing a 39-pound fish to the weigh scale. *Venture Out* brought a

71-pound tuna to capture that top category. *Domarlo* weighed in a 72-pound wahoo to win that category on the last day of fishing.

Strong local interest for this tournament by the community of Marsh Harbour led to changes in this year's social events. The opening night cocktail reception sponsored by Abaco Beach Resort was followed by dinner hosted by Abaco Gold and the Sand Dollar Shoppe. High Seas Technology and PipeWelders hosted a cocktail reception on the second evening at Sapodilly's Restaurant. The Jib Room treated the participants to a steak dinner on the third night, courtesy of Gregory Pool Caterpillar.

The Bahamas White Marlin Open in its second year saw a 30 percent increase in participants for the 2005 event. Based upon fishing results and input from participants, the organizers may move the venue within the Family Islands from year to year.

The Bahamas White Marlin Open, a total release tournament in the billfish categories, awards 200 points for the target species, white marlin; 100 points for blue marlin, and 50 points for sailfish and spearfish. Prizes are awarded for the largest fish caught in the "Fun Fish" categories – tuna, wahoo, and dolphin.

Tournament Boasts Record Number of Entrants

Tournament

From Page 1

the team released two blue marlin and one white marlin for the week. *Smooth Finish*, a well known BBC participant, captured the Largest Fish of the Series Award in 2004.

The excellent fishing during the Marsh Harbour Championship resulted in 45 qualified blue marlin caught; 35 qualified white marlin were released, five qualified sailfish released and two spearfish were released. All but three of the blue marlin were released. All catches are verified using time and date stamped digital images. Affidavits signed by all participants fishing on each team further confirmed that the fish was released in accordance with tournament rules.

Rolex continues as Title Sponsor of the 2005 Bahamas Billfish Championship. This year's Rolex Grand Prize is an expense paid, round-trip to Queensland, Australia. The team will participate for the second year as the BBC's representative in the Riviera/Lizard Island Black Marlin Classic.

Hatteras Yachts and MarineMax Yachts and Brokerage were the principal hosts for the Marsh Harbour Championship, presenting their trophies to the winners and hosting numerous social functions. Abaco Gold and the Sand Dollar Shoppe hosted their traditional "conch festival" on Lay Day. Additionally, the Abaco Club on Winding Bay delighted BBC participants to a golf outing at their new development near Cherokee. John Bull welcomed the participants to a cocktail reception and raffle prizes held in their new store.

Spanning April through June, all five BBC tournaments are governed by a uniform set of rules controlling minimum lengths of 105 inches for qualifying blue marlin, line class, fishing hours and entry fees. Anglers can fish any or all of the tournaments with cumulative points determining the overall Bahamas Billfish Championships.

Throughout its history, the Championship has been a consistent supporter of billfish research and in 2000 established an

endowed Scholarship Fund to enable Bahamian students to pursue a degree in marine biology. The BBC Scholarship Fund is supported by voluntary financial contributions from anglers, BBC sponsors and the Bahamian business community.

Next, the Bahamas Billfish Championship anglers will head to Harbour Island on Eleuthera for Leg Two which begins May 1st and continues through May 6th. For the first time in the history of the Bahamas Billfish Series, all tournament venues are "sold out" for the remainder of the fishing season.



Frank Knowles - Sales Agent
frank@paradisebahamas.com

Mike Jones - Sales Agent
mike@paradisebahamas.com



Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas
375-8655

Lubber's Quarters - Lots starting at \$48,000
Lots with private dock slip starting at \$89,000

Elbow Cay - Adjacent to Aunt Pat's Bay Subdivision
This 1.034 acre lot with sea views is located on Elbow Cay. \$606,000

Half acre also available for \$364,000

Spencerville Lot 4 - 1/4 acre, elevated, residential lot. One of the few lots still available under \$100,000 on Elbow Cay. \$85,000

"Southern Breeze" - Lubbers Quarters
2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Offers sea views, a beautiful patio, custom cabinetry, central air, a modern kitchen, and a 9,500 gallon cistern. Great rental history. Private dock slip available for purchase. \$387,000

"Moon Shadow" - Lubbers Quarters
2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathrooms, This charming 1,600 sq. ft. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom home sits on 4 acres. It enjoys spectacular views of the ocean and cays and 150 foot of dockage space including "T". \$1,150,500

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- TEXACO QUALITY STAR
- VERNON'S GROCERY - HOPE TOWN
- BAHAMAS FAMILY MARKET
- K & S AUTO SERVICE LTD
- SOLOMON'S SUPERCENTER
- LOWE'S FOOD STORE - GREEN TURTLE CAY
- SEA SPRAY RESORT AND MARINA

BEC Staff Urged to Live Healthy Lives

BEC Seminar

From Page 1

nutritionist, Ms. Adamae Hanna, also gave advice. Mrs. Smith explained that BEC was hosting a campaign of preventive health, after having noticed an increase of diabetes, hypertension and kidney failure among the employees. As a result of these health problems, the company is experiencing higher insurance premiums. The purpose of the seminar was to help BEC employees to reduce stress, practice good nutrition and to develop a positive attitude in order to be more successful and more productive.

Dr. Reilly started by mentioning that a positive mental attitude was the key to everything. He said that 95 percent of people in the world have a negative attitude be-

cause of conditioning that stated at a very young age and has become embedded into the subconscious. That negative impact produces a low self esteem which in turn produces negative results. He advised parents not to say anything negative to their children, but on the contrary to praise them and love them. However, as adults we are in charge of our actions and our thoughts and "we can change if we want to."

He reminded the audience, "The body is the servant of the mind." By changing the way we think, we can change our lives. We are always moving towards our most dominant thought." He also said that as we develop a stronger mind, we have to keep a healthy body to serve that mind better. Good eating habits and exercising are a

must. He jokingly said, "If there is anything wrong in your life, go to a mirror; you'll see who is responsible."

He explained that being successful is an attitude that requires setting goals and working hard to achieve them. He listed some very successful Bahamians who achieved status by hard work and determination.

Pastor Brennen spoke about family life. He said, "People have to set their priority about family life and marriage. A spouse or a family should come before a career. To give an optimum performance on the job, a valuable relationship at home is needed, whether one is single or married." So Pastor Brennen encouraged the audience to re-evaluate their personal relationships and give their spouse and family first place.

Before a lunch break, the employees had the opportunity to have their blood pressure and their glucose checked. Ms. Angie Collie, Managing Director of Auskell Clinic, performed the test on 34 employees, the results of which, she said, "were OK." They were encouraged to have yearly physical check-ups for prevention and screening tests to catch things before they get out of hand.

The nutritionist reminded them about a balanced diet including fruits and green vegetables and the importance of exercising daily. The seminar ended with the employees invited to give their impressions on the day, which all of them described as being very educational. They expressed their gratitude for the interest the company was showing them.

AA and AI Anon Meetings

The AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Mondays and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AIAnon group of Marsh Harbour meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please call 357-6511 for information and location.

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the library.

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



One of the guest speakers at a seminar sponsored by BEC for its employees was Seventh Day Adventist Pastor Bennington Brennen, a family counselor who discussed family life with the group. He is seen talking with Mr. Benjamin Beneby, BEC's general manager for Abaco. The seminar was held to make the BEC staff conscious of healthy living habits to improve their lives.

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"Surf Song" - Clear aqua ocean and 125 feet of white powder sand beach to be enjoyed at this 3 bedroom 2.5 bath beach house. Located at the north end of Elbow Cay in Hope Town Point Subdivision. Spacious kitchen and open living room, dining rooms. Tropical landscaped grounds, central A/C, back up generator, garage and more. Offered for sale at US\$1,500,000. Internet Ref. #2785 Contact: Jane Patterson - (242)366-0569 - jane@damianos.com

Police Crime Report

A resident of the Mud was arrested on April 5 for attempting to cash a forged cheque for \$435.84 at the Scotia Bank.

A Murphy Town man was threatened by death by a man he knew who was wielding a screwdriver. This occurred on April 5 near the Magistrate's Court in Marsh Harbour

A man was arrested on April 5 on vagrancy charges in Hope Town when found near an apartment building but unable to account for his presence there.

Four cellular phones worth \$1161 were stolen during a night break-in on April 4 from the Batelco station on Grand Cay.

Two young men are being sought for having sex in January with a 15-year-old girl living in Pigeon Peas. The incident came to the attention of the girl's mother on April 6.

A Wood Cay man was arrested on April 10 for threats of harm, assaulting a police officer and resisting arrest.

A resident of the Mud received treatment for a cut on his hand caused by an attack by his girlfriend. During the investigation at the government clinic on April 10, it was discovered that a woman living in the Mud was there whose upper lip had been bitten off and was being flown to Nassau for further treatment.

Classic Coin Wash was broken into during the night of April 12 and thieves made a clean haul of six bottles of Pine Sol, two packages of fabric softener, 11 bottles of Joy detergent and four bottles of Clorox with a total value of \$79.

A Pigeon Peas man was arrested on April 12 for causing harm. He was later released on \$500 bail.

Three 18-year-old men were arrested on April 14 in Marsh Harbour while in the vicinity of D & S Plaza for fighting and carrying arms, specifically a cutlas. They were residents of Spring City, Hope Town and Marsh harbour.

A Treasure Cay resident was arrested in Marsh Harbour on April 14 for being drunk and for disorderly behavior.

Ruby Russell, 88 years old, died in the early evening of April 14 at her home in Government Subdivision. The body was pronounced dead by Dr. Boyce.

On taking over the office of J.S. Johnson Insurance Co, in February 2005, the manager began a review of the business and subsequently discovered \$35,911.74 missing from night deposits sometime between October 4, 2004 and February 7, 2005. Investigations are being conducted internally and with the Commercial Crime Office in the Freeport Police Department.

Police responded to a fight at St. Francis de Sales school on April 15 after classes were dismissed when a student was threatened by a group of young men armed with bottles and a cutlas.

A Cooper's Town man was arrested and subsequently released on April 15 for causing harm at a local bar.

On April 17 a resident of the Mud was standing under an almond tree just before noon when he was beaten about the body by a man he knew.

Over the April 15 weekend, the One Son Liquor Store near the Treasure Cay turn-off was broken into and \$2500 worth of liquor was stolen.

Police were notified of a shoplifter dis-

covered in Solomon's SuperCenter before noon on April 20. A resident of Spring City was later arrested and charged with stealing.

Sometime between April 10 and 20 the Marsh Harbour Seven Day Adventist Church was broken into and a \$350 Yorkville speaker was stolen.

An Abaco Central High School female student was attacked by another female student while on the school bus going home on April 20 to Sandy Point.

A Marsh Harbour woman was beaten on April 22 about the body by her brother who was later arrested.

Three boys at Abaco Central High School pulled a girl student into the boys' bathroom and touched and fondled her inappropriately. This happened on April 22 just after school was dismissed.

Jacob Nesbit died April 24 about 5 p.m. when his vehicle veered off the road north of the Treasure Cay airport and crashed into a power pole. He was alone in the car and no other vehicles were involved.

A Treasure Cay resident was arrested on April 22 for causing grievous harm.

A woman living in the Mud was beaten about the body and punched in the eye before dawn on April 26 by her boyfriend. She was taken to the clinic for treatment.

A Murphy town man was arrested on April 26 for assaulting a police officer, using obscene language and resisting arrest. He was later released on bail.

On April 18 a police officer discovered a white powder in the area of the gas tank refill on his car. It was subsequently found to be sugar which damaged the engine.



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**Leisure Lee
Marsh Harbour**



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#2176

**Turtle Rocks
Marsh Harbour**



\$242,000.00

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



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#2147

**'Clifford Sawyer House'
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This lot is located near Fry's Mangrove on Elbow Cay. It is situated between the Sea of Abaco & a creek making it an ideal location for nature lovers & boating enthusiasts. The property is approx. 41,000 sq. ft. & is just a few minutes from Hope Town. This is a great investment opportunity for those that want their own little piece of paradise.

#2134

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Earth Day Attracted Hundreds of Youth

By Jennifer Hudson

The Earth Day celebrations was presented by the Friends of the Environment in association with the Ministry of Tourism on April 22nd under the banner *Protecting Our Children's Health and Our Future*. It provided a day of both educational opportunities and fun and was well attended by school groups from all over Abaco. The theme this year was *Abaco's Pine Forest Ecosystem* and various environmental organizations and schools took part in the event which was held on the grounds of New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour.

Interesting display booths were presented by students of the various schools who had spent time and care researching their themes. The Every Child Counts School handled the theme of recycling and reptiles while Hope Town School had studied owls of The Bahamas, an endangered species. S.C. Bootle High School presented some good artwork of the pine forest and wild hogs while Forest Heights Academy Senior High Department presented a very well documented and scientifically researched project on the ages of trees in the pine forests.

Awards were presented to the following schools for their winning displays :

Lower Primary Division: First: Man-O-War; Second: Amy Roberts

Upper Primary: First: Hope Town

Junior High: First S.C. Bootle; Second Forest Heights Academy

Senior High: First: Forest Heights Academy; Second: Abaco Central High School and S.C. Bootle; Fourth: St. Francis.

S.C. Bootle was recognized for being the school which signed up the greatest number of students that day as student members of the Friends of the Environment. Thirty seven signed up and the school received a tree for its grounds.

Various ecological activities and games had been planned to keep the students informed and amused.. Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey members used a Smash the Trash game to inform the students about pollution, presenting some amazing statistics about the time it takes for marine debris to degrade. Plastic bottles and disposable diapers take 450 years; aluminum cans 200 years and Styrofoam 50 years but the worst culprit of all is fishing line which takes an unbelievable 600 years to degrade. Thousands of whales and dolphins are killed each year by the ingestion of or entanglement in marine debris.

The Marine Mammal Survey group also had on display a whale skull from an Antilles beaked whale which was beached at Allens and Pensacola Cay in June 2000.

Mrs. N. Smith, a teacher at the Abaco Central High School, displayed a fine selection of medicinal plants from the bush

and was most willing to share her vast knowledge of the subject. "Everyone is turning to bush medicine now," she said. "Children are becoming interested because

their grammies are telling them about it and they are drinking it, too."

The Friends of the Environment showed environmental movies and Ron Pagliaro

from Friends' led several forest hikes. A young student from the Hope Town School, on his return from a hike, proved how valuable the experience had been as he had been able to identify the Caribbean Pine, Five Finger, Guanaberry, Passion Flower, Poisonwood, Wild Sage, Powderpuff and a Bahamaian Swallow and "had got some good pictures."

The proceedings were officially opened at 1 a.m. by guest speaker, Mr. Ron Pinder, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health and Environment. Mr. Pinder's theme was *Pollution* and he mentioned five ways he had noticed Marsh Harbour being polluted within just a one hour drive that morning before arriving for the ceremony.

- Man burning rubber off wires, releasing dangerous pollutants from the smoke into the air
- Truck dropping garbage off the back
- Man draining radiator fluid into the water

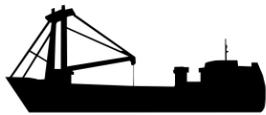


Schools and environmental organizations had displays, ecological activities and games which were educational as well as fun. Field trips into the pine forest gave the young people a close up of that environment.

Please see **Earth Day** Page 7

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Earth Day

From Page 6

- Man throwing peanut shells into the marina
- Indiscriminate dumping in the Mud

He urged all the students to encourage everyone to preserve the environment beyond the confines of their school into the community. "Garbage causes rats, roaches, flies and mosquitoes and they do not discriminate. This is our country, a gift from God to us and what we do with it demonstrates to God how we appreciate His gifts."

Earth Day was held as part of Coastal Awareness month, the slogan for which was, "If not us, who? If not now, when?" Another activity for the month had been a coastal clean up and awards were presented at the Earth Day ceremony. Nine schools participated and the winner was the school which collected the greatest number of garbage bags of trash. Some of the more unusual items found were engine parts, fluorescent lights and toilet seats.

Prizes went to S.C. Bootle with 20 bags; Every Child Counts with 26 bags and the winner Amy Roberts School in Green Turtle Cay which collected the grand total of 54 bags.

The winning schools received gift certificates and decorative trees while each participating school was awarded a certificate and CD and each child was given a certificate.

Friends of the Environment will be awarding two scholarships. One is for a student to spend ten days working with the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey at Sandy Point studying whales and dolphins. The other is for a teacher to attend an Island Teachers' Conference in Eleuthera. Both will be awarded in May and application forms are now available.

Change Ministries Members Visit Florida

Change Ministries International truly became international this past week. Pastor Samuel Cornish and five church members traveled to Florida to minister to hundreds of inmates at two maximum security prisons in Central Florida.

The plan originated when Mr. Zef Fessenden of Tampa and Little Harbour mentioned to Pastor Cornish that there was a great need in Florida prisons for ministering to inmates. The idea took root and Pastor Cornish arranged the trip. Brent Brooks, Mark Douglas, Terrell Russell, Nehemiah Sanders and Matthew Taylor accompanied him on a two-day intensive program to correctional institutions in two Florida counties.

At the Hardee Correctional Institution, the group was welcomed by Warden Watson, who explained the need for guidance for his 1500 inmates. As he put it, "The only way to turn around these inmates' lives is through spiritual growth."

The group held Bible study sessions with a group of 25 inmates and toured the prison. Pastor Cornish accompanied Mr. Fessenden to solitary confinement where inmates spend between 15 to 120 days locked up in a cell alone. He was able to talk to and counsel over 80 inmates. This, for him, was a unique experience. The day included lunch and dinner in the chow hall (nutritious food, but not exactly restaurant quality!) The evening Praise and Worship service was the highlight of the day. Over 100 inmates attended. Music was provided by the prison music group and Pastor Cornish spoke inspirational words to men who may have lost hope. One inmate exclaimed, "We haven't had a service with this much energy in the two years I've been at Hardee!" When the service ended, many men hoped the group

would return, impressed with the Abaconian's willingness to travel so far to minister and share the word of God.

The following day the group went to the Polk Correctional Institution where Chaplain Clanton welcomed the group session with about 125 inmates. Pastor Cornish spoke about *Character* in his afternoon address. The real worship message was given at the evening service. After dinner "outside the fence," the visitors returned to a packed chapel and were welcomed by the inspirational voices of the prison choir. The pastor's message was simple and straightforward. Change is possible; it comes from

within and can only begin by surrendering to God. Inmates were on their feet clapping and praying, and by the end of the service 20 inmates came forward to be anointed. Again the men asked for a return visit from the Abaconians.

According to Pastor Cornish, they will return. Although travel is expensive and time is precious, the need is so great. How could Change Ministries refuse? Brent Brooks has been asked to spearhead this prison program. According to Mr. Brooks, another trip is tentatively planned for six months from now.



Pastor Samuel Cornish of the Change Ministries Church along with five of his members visited two prisons in Florida to speak with the inmates about their faith. The response was so encouraging that the men are hoping to make more trips. They went at the invitation of Mr. Zef Fessenden, who has a home in Little Harbour.

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05/04/15

PM Is Committed to Assist Hurricane Victims

Houses

From Page 1

"Do the work on the shelters now," he said. "We have a duty to recognize that we must learn as much as we can from our experience of dealing with disasters."

The island administrator ought to have beforehand a list of the equipment necessary to deal with hurricanes. "We (government) have an obligation, but we can't do all this for all people, for all communities right now," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said residents have an obligation to ensure that their homes are "prepared to withstand hurricane force winds that can exceed 160 miles per hour."

On the economic front Prime Minister Christie predicted good things for Abaco

which already served as a magnet for visitors and for those who built second homes. Visitors are looking more and more for a destination that is both attractive and family oriented. Abaco is the right choice, he said, as it offers among other things, sailing, fishing and sea bathing. "That is why when we look to the future Abaco has nothing but win, win, win," he said.

The Prime Minister's comments came as the controversy over the proposed development at Guana Cay continues to rage. Mr. Christie did not mention Guana Cay by name, but he did allude to the fact that Abaconians were entitled to enjoy the benefits of economic development, which was not detrimental or harmful to the environment and the future of the children. It is a question as we move forward of what we

want for our country.

Mr. Christie was guarded in his comments on the proposed Guana Cay development as the matter is presently before the courts. The expected construction of the first phase is scheduled to begin June 1, 2005, and to be completed by June, 2008. It includes a 180-slip marina, a freight dock a desalination plant, 75 villa-style rooms. Infrastructure for 350 residential lots, marketing facilities and a community centre for the residents of Guana Cay.

On December 22 of last year, 10 Abaco families received keys to newly built homes; a further 11 received keys on February 11 and four more families got their keys on April 18. The four homes were built at a

cost of over \$130,000.

Prime Minister Christie was happy to see that 84-year-old Rebecca Simms received keys to her new home. "Notwithstanding the fact that she is 84 years of age, the programme of the Ministry of Housing and NEMA has recognized her needs, and that she is entitled to the benefits of the programme. We do as much as we can for as long as we can for (the elderly) and those in the twilight of their years."

Accompanying the Prime Minister were the Hon. Shane Gibson, Min. of Housing and National Insurance; Mr. Luther Smith

Please see **Houses**

Page 9



The students of the J.A. Pinder Primary School provided entertainment for the visit of Prime Minister Perry Christie during his visit to Sandy Point on April 18. The Prime Minister was there to present keys to four persons who lost their homes in the hurricanes of last September.



The Prime Minister paid a visit to the students of the Crossing Rocks Primary School during his trip to South Abaco on April 18.



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PM's Visits Developers' Office

Houses From Page 8

from the Prime Minister's Office; Mrs. Leila Green, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and National Insur-

ance; and Mr. Jack Thompson, NEMA's Abaco Coordinator.

While on Abaco, Mr. Christie and party paid a courtesy call to the students of the J.A. Pinder Primary School in Sandy Point

and to the students of the Crossing Rocks Primary School.

The group inspected nine houses under construction in Spring City. These are for the remaining families now at Snake Cay. These consist of five 3-bedroom houses, three 2-bedroom houses and one 1-bedroom house. The Prime Minister said that these houses cost a total of \$168,000 and are expected to be ready for occupancy by Mothers' Day. It was announced that all the lots in Phase I of the Crossing Rocks subdivision are sold and Phase II may be undertaken. A courtesy call was made to the Baker's Bay office in Marsh Harbour prior to the Prime Minister's return to Nassau.



The Prime Minister stopped by the Marsh Harbour office of Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club, developers of the north end of Great Guana Cay. He is shown here speaking to Mr. Doug Shipman representing the developers. He was accompanied by Mr. Shane Gibson, Minister of Housing. In the background is ASP Wayne Miller, Abaco's police chief.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco

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

Pilot Club of Abaco

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

Pilot Club of South Abaco

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

Rotary Club of Abaco

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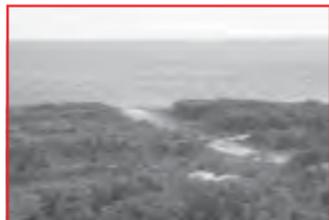
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BAIC Holds Small Business Seminar

By Jennifer Hudson.

"The mission of the government of The Bahamas is to improve the quality of life for all the Bahamian people through the creation of a stable, fully employed society in which every Bahamian who is willing and able will become economically empowered. A vibrant small business sector can be the basis of a fully employed Bahamas."

To achieve this goal by setting Bahamians up in business, keeping the businesses successfully running and thus attaining financial independence, the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation held a three-evening Small Business Management Seminar at St. John's Parish Hall in Marsh Harbour from April 18-20. About 20 persons with the enthusiasm and desire to become entrepreneurs and begin their own businesses gathered. They listened to speakers who had been invited from different sectors of the business community to impart their knowledge to the participants. Some high powered motivational speakers from the BAIC office also spoke to the group.

Mr. Ejnar Cornish, Domestic Investment Officer for the northern region with responsibility for the Abaco area, opened the seminar by commenting on the timeliness of this seminar when so many new developments are happening in Abaco. In addition to the Winding Bay and Baker's Bay projects there is another which may be coming on stream in North Abaco, all of which will be bringing in more people who will need many services such as restaurants, apartments and cars. "Everybody who wants to make money when all these businesses come on stream will be able to make money," emphasized

Mr. Cornish. "We are here to let you know how to do it."

Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Chairman of BAIC, Mr. Michael Halkitis, told the new business hopefuls that the government, through BAIC and the Bahamas Development Bank, will offer advice and support to assist persons to become successful in business but, "Your success will depend on your dedication to your plan." He was here to get feedback and the feedback obtained on their last visit indicated that they must redouble their efforts.

In presenting a course overview, Mr. Don Major, Deputy General Manager of

BAIC, echoed Mr. Halkitis' words in reminding the participants, "We are looking for big dreamers; we will give you the tools but the success is up to you." He advised persons wishing to start their own businesses that accounts and record keeping are vitally important and that they should minimize their risks through insurance. Anybody can start a business but the key is to STAY in business. Small businesses are a very perishable commodity with 80 percent failing within the first three years. BAIC would give the means to reduce the likelihood of them becoming a failure.

Mr. P. Benjamin Bailey, Assistant

Manager Business Services Division, during his topic *Selecting a Legal Entity for your Business*, advised persons to obtain the advice of a trained professional before embarking on anything.

Other topics covered during the three sessions included: Developing a Business Plan; Record Keeping; Customer Needs and Insurance for Small Businesses.

Persons were advised that once they have an idea for a business they should visit Mr. Cornish in the BAIC office in Marsh Harbour and he will forward it to the main office where a plan will be worked out for them.



About 20 persons took advantage of a three-night seminar offered by Bahamas Agriculture and Industrial Corporation in management of small businesses. People who were competent in a variety of areas of business acumen discussed aspects of being a small business owner. Mr. Michael Halkitis, Chairman of BAIC, was one of the guest speaker.

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Obituaries of Family and Friends

Haziel L. Albury was a man of many hats. Born on November 16, 1924, to Edgar (Papa Eddie) and Fleetie (Mama) on his



Haziel Albury

beloved island, Man-O-War Cay. His sensitive boyhood years came during the depression of the 1930s. He and all the island

worked, as they said, from "Can to Can't" or sunrise to sunset. At the age of 2½, he was stricken with an illness that affected all the joints of his body. The pains were not necessarily all the time, but bouts of the illness lasted until he was about 15 years old. There were times when he was laid up and could not walk for two to four weeks and would often be seen carried by a family member or crawling down the hill to the harbour for therapy in the salt water. As a young boy, he learned to scull, fish, farm, build boats and build

household furniture. He attended the small school on the island of which he later became the Principal for 32½ years.

In 1939 Mr. and Mrs. Murdo McKenzie and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Fell of the United Kingdom visited Man-O-War to preach the gospel. These gospel meetings were held in the open air on the street corner. It was at one of these meetings that Haziel's brother, Cyril, was converted. Some years later Haziel also accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.

Haziel married Ena Albury on September 24, 1946, and this marriage produced three daughters, Minerva, Denise, and Winnie. When Winnie was a baby, Ena was called home to be with the Lord. Later Haziel married Mary Albury and they had one daughter, Martha.

Haziel has served his island community in many capacities. He was the former postmaster, a barber, the first propane gas agent, and the first and only agent for the first airline to serve the Abacos, Bahamas Airways. He was the manager of the telephone and telegraph office from 1952 till 1984. Haziel was a realtor, and although he was

never able to study law formally, he familiarized himself with legal terminology and practices. He wrote wills and deed conveyances for the islanders and many of the American residents. He has been a Justice of the Peace by appointment of the Governor's Office since 1948. He has received numerous awards and certificates over the years. One of the most outstanding was in 1966 when he received the Queen's Badge and Certificate of Honour.

Haziel was one of the local preachers and mainstays at the Gospel Chapel on Man-O-War, and this was the favourite of his capacities. He, along with his brothers, Cyril and Eddie, continued in the Lord's work at the chapel for many years. His last time out to the chapel was Easter Sunday night, March 27th, 2005.

Haziel was diagnosed with congestive heart failure in November 2000 and most

recently has had difficulty walking. The weakness of his legs was the reason for his fall and injury to his shoulder. Haziel succumbed to these illnesses on April 9th, 2005.

Haziel is survived by his loving wife Mary; daughters Minerva, Denise, Winnie and Martha; sons-in-law Billy, Wallace, Walter and Richard; grandchildren Bruce, Paul, Jeff, Valerie, DeeDee, Patti, Charmaine, Madeline, Haziel, Fred, Junea, Rich and Pete; grandchildren-in-law Eve, Shann, Heather, Dita, Sam, Glenn, Dave, Cheryl, Netica and Rebekah; great grandchildren: Sheila, Andrew, Sarah, Wayne, Alyssa, Tommy, Annie, Cassie, Micah, Shauna, Makayla, Felicia, and Aaliyah; sister Florrie, brothers-in-law: Ritchie, Hilland and Harcourt, sisters-in-law Lois, Sarah, Patricia, Sylvia, Kathryn, Vashti and Liz; and many other nieces, nephews, family and special friends.

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Beachfront- ½ acre lot located virtually on the Atlantic beach Sold!

Black Sound - 2 acre deep water harbour side lot near settlement ideal for boaters. \$910,000

Waterfront with Pool & Dock- Three bedroom 2 1/2 bath located in beautiful White Sound, overlooking the Harbour. This new house is sure to be a pleaser. Offered at \$1,100, 000

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Coco Bay Waterfront with Dock- Beautiful lot overlooking Coco Bay, has a deep water dredged channel and dock. Property is landscaped and ready to build. Offered at \$ 482,000 Sold!

White Sound- One acre lots on White Sound with good elevations and magnificent views of the Harbour. Last two remaining lots on White Sound. \$545,000

Coco Bay- Good investment property located near Coco Bay. The property consists of 1.5 acres of elevated land with natural foliage. \$325,000

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#9092: Only two-years old, modern triplex with efficiency apartment. Well-built, solid concrete construction, tile floors. Spacious back yard. Convenient to Government Primary school and all amenities. Nice quiet cul-de-sac location. Fully furnished, this won't last long! **\$298,000**

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#7735: Lovely wooded home site, cleared and ready for building. A fresh water well is in place to service the property. Nice elevation for views of the South Side of Abaco. Power and telephone line run close to this property. **\$20,000**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES



#8928: Secluded 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in the lovely community of Bahama Palm Shores. Located directly across the lane from Eight Mile Bay and its gorgeous beach. Rooftop deck enjoys some of the best views in the area. Room to expand and put your personal touch to this promising home. **\$422,000**

LYNYARD CAY



#9297: Bordering the Sea of Abaco with the Atlantic Ocean to the east, this expansive parcel boasts 77 fabulous acres, including high elevations, a pond, dense native coppice, numerous coconut palm trees and pristine white sand beaches. **Serious inquiries only, please.**

EASTERN SHORES



#9486: NEW! Rare homesite located on the secluded peninsula of Eastern Shores. Eastern Shores. Property runs sea-to-sea, 66' on the protected "Creek", western boundary runs 120', eastern boundary 133'. **Serious inquiries only, please.**

COVE ESTATES



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#8551: 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath family home in Cove Estates. Custom built, tongue & groove interiors, tile, master bath spa with hot tub, double vanities, deluxe master suite. Many built-ins, gorgeous gourmet kitchen. Offered "where is, as is". Roof needs to be re-shingled. Owner motivated! Price is firm.

GUANA CAY



UNDER CONTRACT

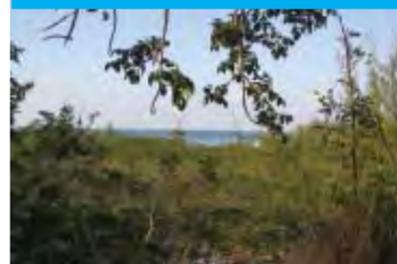
#8842: Magnificent Atlantic Ocean beachfront home site encompassing more than 1.5 acres. Frontage on the beach is approximately 100 linear feet and runs inland 700'. Properties of this size are fast disappearing and this offering will not last long on the market!

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#9484: NEW! Newly built 3 bed/2 bath family home located in Cooper's Town, North Abaco. Cooper's Town has all infrastructure, including Government medical facility, schools and grocery shops. **\$154,900**

BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND



#9492. NEW! Lovely homesite in secluded Bahama Coral island; just 10 minutes north of Marsh Harbour. Elevated and just across from natural wildlife area and 5 minutes to the secluded beach area. Great views if "built up"! Buy now for the future! **\$21,000.**

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 Fabulous villas located at the mouth of Hope Town Harbour. Each 2 bed / 2 bath, incredible West Indian decor, open decking and shared pool. Excellent rental **\$865,000 each**

MAGNUSON HOUSE - quiet North End Elbow Cay, 3 bed/3 bath (detached master efficiency) overlooking white sandy beach, large wrap deck, sold fully furnished, great art work, boat, golf cart included **\$1,525,000**

SWEPT AWAY - perfect family home located one lot from the ocean in White Sound steps to restaurant and marina. 2 bedroom/2 bath, large open kitchen with pass through dining bar. Fenced back yard, room to add pool or cottage **\$793,000**

ATLANTIC HORIZONS - Dorros Cove ocean front home, 3 bed/3 bath, pool, dock slip at Tahiti Beach, furnished, great rental history **\$1,500,000 SOLD**

JOES CAY - 3 acre private cay located in White Sound. Great elevations and surrounded by deep water perfect for dock **\$1,762,000 UNDER CONTRACT**



BLEST NEST
 High on ocean dune at North End. 3 bed / 3 bath (detached guest cottage) panoramic views, excellent rental history **\$1,725,000**

CASA LUISA - located one lot away from long sandy beach just south of Turtle Hill. Custom 3 bed/2 bath home, good rental history, turnkey **\$630,000**

AUNT PATS BAY - Rare opportunity, 5.18 acres located on the Sea of Abaco in White Sound. High elevation, white sand beach, deep water dockage. **UNDER CONTRACT**

SEA TO SEA ESTATE PROPERTY PARCEL 4 - last available lot on this lush estate property. On the Sea of Abaco, North End Elbow Cay, access to incredible beach, and perfect spot for a deep water dock **\$785,000 PARCELS 1, 2, 3, AND 5 SOLD**

DORROS COVE - 1/2 acre lots with Atlantic views, seconds away from Tahiti Beach. Some with dock slip starting at **\$152,000 to \$230,000**

BREAKERS - White Sound, great ocean front lot located on surfers dream, Garbonzo Beach. Great building site for single family home, or 2 villas, convenient location, walk to marina and restaurant **\$595,000**

OCEAN HOUSE - Just at the edge of historic Hope Town located on beautiful beach. 2 bed / 2 bath, large lot with room to expand, **\$1,300,000 SOLD**

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BEC Abaco in 2005 and Beyond

By Jennifer Hudson

With the new development of Winding Bay now a reality and the Baker's Bay development, and possibly others, hovering on the horizon, Mr. Benjamin Beneby, General Manager of BEC Abaco, gave some insight on how this growth will affect BEC's operation. Mr. Beneby kindly answered not only that question but many others to give the community a picture of BEC's current situation and plans for the future.

Personnel at headquarters in Nassau are currently looking at what the future requirements will be. At the moment there is no need to make any changes and no new expansion has been required to accommodate the demands of Winding Bay at this moment as that development is still in the first stage. However, as increased development takes place at Winding Bay, new infrastructure will be added next year.

There has been a general increase in demand and the Winding Bay and the Baker's Bay developments will just cause it to happen faster. Over the past several years there has been a steady four and a half to five percent growth in load demand but the Winding Bay project and others have led to an eight percent increase this year. The fuel consumption

is about 20,000 gallons per day and the peak load is approximately 20 megawatts between May and September. Abaco is the next largest BEC operation after Nassau.

The Planning Department in Nassau is looking at expansion for Abaco which presently has ten engines. However, it is difficult to maintain ten engines, some of which are old and unreliable. New and larger engines are needed. This year will make the third year that rental sets will have to be brought in to cope with the summer demand in the case of equipment failure. One additional generator will be placed in Green Turtle Cay, one in Treasure Cay and two in Marsh Harbour. Any of these will be able to be connected into the system to add to their total capacity.

The current location of the power station is no longer suitable for many reasons. The location is too small and additional space is already needed for expansion. It would be best moved to an area of 10 acres or more which would give room for any future expansion. Also it needs to be located where the fuel can be piped from the tanker directly to the plant.

A very important consideration is that where the power station stands now, it is in close proximity to a growing housing development. It needs to be moved away from residences and isolated by sufficient land to act as a buffer against noise and exhaust emissions. It is not known what types of fuel will be used in the future. If it is coal, space will be needed for storage; and if it is LPG, then there must be a buffer against dangerous gases.

There is now a contract to extend the grid from Crossing Rocks to Sandy Point, and this will be accomplished later this year. The present plant at Sandy Point will be left as a stand-by.

Redundant cables are being laid to the cays. A new cable from Marsh Harbour to Great Guana Cay will be tied into Scot-

land Cay within two to three weeks, then to Man O-War in a couple of months. In order to prevent voltage problems on the cable to Man O-War which could arise due to its length, voltage regulators will be used.

Plans and materials are all ready for installation of electricity on Matt Lowe's Cay with a technical question being dealt with in Nassau. A feed will go from Crossing Beach to Matt Lowe's Cay, then to Man-O-War and Hope Town.

Yellow Wood near Cherokee now has primary power. BEC's policy is that when it puts primary power into an area, poles beyond the main line are paid for by customers.

Little Harbour is one of the last places on Abaco not fed by BEC, but a scheme to get power in is waiting for Nassau's approval.

BEC is looking at replacing the fuel line in Green Turtle Cay. Fuel is presently barged in and transported by truck to the power station. There is now a concern about this method since the recent tanker spill in Marsh Harbour.

Although BEC has effected a 90 percent recovery since the hurricanes, there are a large number of street lights still damaged or missing. BEC is doing its best to replace or repair them, especially on roads that are dangerous. But it is difficult to keep up the schedule. They possess two bucket trucks. One is presently

down, and it is not easy to manage with only one since it is used for both construction and maintenance.

The same employees who would repair the street lights are the people who have to deal with emergencies. Street lights are a high maintenance item. It is the manager's opinion that they should not be used as the first line of defense for road safety, but that other departments should assist by installing reflectors (cat eyes) and reflective line painting. There is just not enough staff or equipment to maintain all the lights so that they are always operational. Priority items, such as making sure that there is enough power, must be dealt with first.

The BEC line on South Side Road between S.C. Bootle Highway and Murphy Town which has been down since the hurricane will be removed. There were plans to remove it much sooner but emergencies have had to be dealt with first.

BEC is doing its best to cope, but there are many community functions which take place all the way from Grand Cay to Sandy Point for which local governments and the Ministry of Tourism request BEC to install power free of charge. Requests of this nature must be approved by authorities in Nassau. These installations take time and money and put BEC behind with its regular schedule and the manager asks that people be mindful of BEC's total responsibilities.

Club News

Rotary Club of Abaco Karaoke Fun

By Jennifer Hudson

The evening of April 12th was a time of Karaoke fun at Sapodillys when Rotary Club of Abaco members took to the microphone to raise funds for their club with five dollars per song going into the kitty.

Some brave souls who had said that "they only usually sing in the shower and badly at that" swallowed their pride and actually gave some commendable performances.

People who were too timid to get up and perform were only too happy to make their donation and ask well loved tenor Bryan Thompson to perform in their place. Bryan seemed delighted to oblige and entertained the crowd with a wide variety of songs including a great rendition of *New York, New York* and *I Did It My Way*.

Joanne Bradley was a good sport and got the audience joining in the chorus of her tuneful rendition of *Puff, the Magic Dragon* but a highlight was the duet by Cindy Hayworth and Bryan Thompson of the song *Summer Days* from *Grease* in which their voices blended so well and they obviously had a great time singing it.

Later in the evening as people began to feel more relaxed, several visitors and tourists joined in the fun which helped to make the evening a great success and over \$500 was raised for club funds.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco

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

Pilot Club of Abaco

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

Pilot Club of South Abaco

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

Rotary Club of Abaco

Tuesdays, 6 p.m., weekly at Anglers Restaruant, Abaco Beach Resort

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She also serves as Estate Agent with H.G. Christie, Ltd. with six years of extensive and varied experience in real estate, both in the U.S. and the Bahamas, four of these years in Abaco. She maintains licenses in both countries. She has completed many continuing education courses, having received her Bahamas Real Estate Institute designation, and can be considered one of the best trained realtors in Abaco.

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



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Pathfinder Scholarship Winners Are Announced

Abaco Pathfinders' Scholarship Foundation has had a successful fund raising year, despite the local economic hardships created by two hurricanes. This has been due to the generosity of local residents and businessmen and visitors to our islands. Our fund raising efforts again culminated this year with a very successful and popular silent and live auction event held at the Abaco Beach Resort on March 19. We are pleased that these efforts will allow us to continue the partial support of our previous recipients and to award ten new partial scholarships for this, our fifth, year. After the application review process and the personal interviews, Pathfinders' scholarship committee made the following selections.

Christina Basden, daughter of Keith and Deborah Basden of Dundas Town, is a graduate of Abaco Central High School and is currently attending The College of The Bahamas where she is majoring in biology and chemistry. Christina plans to enter medical school following her graduation from COB.

Jamie Benjamin is a graduate of Forest Heights Academy. She is currently majoring in elementary education at Florida Southern College. Jamie is the daughter of Derek and Terry Benjamin of Marsh Harbour.

Samantha Gaitor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gaitor of Moore's Island, is a 1998 graduate of Abaco Central High

School. She has been attending Miami Dade Community College where she will graduate with an AA in business administration. She will then enter the college's dental hygiene program in August.

Raenell Lowe will be graduating from Forest Heights Academy this year, where she won an Outstanding Students in Bahamian High School 4.0 Academic Award. She is the daughter of Raymond and Bessie Lowe of Green Turtle Cay. She will be attending Palm Beach Atlantic University and will be pursuing a BSN in nursing.

Delvano McIntosh will graduate from Sherlin C. Bootle High School this year. He is the son of Dwight McIntosh and Lucinda Forbes of Fox Town. Delvano will attend either The College of The Bahamas or Bahamas Baptist College. He hopes to become a teacher and will major in history and computer systems.

Veronica Nairn, the daughter of Veronica Nairn of Marsh Harbour, is currently majoring in psychology at Florida Memorial College. She formerly attended Abaco Central High School where she graduated in 2002.

Terrinique Pennerman is attending Francis Marion University where she is preparing to become a certified financial analyst. She previously attended The College of The Bahamas and Abaco Central High School. She is the daughter of the late Margaret Meeres of Dundas Town.

Joan Pinder will graduate this year from

Sherlin C. Bootle High School where she is Head Girl and was awarded one of the Outstanding Students in Bahamian Schools Award. She plans to attend The College of The Bahamas and intends to study culinary arts. She is the daughter of Eaturpy McIntosh of Treasure Cay and Green Turtle Cay.

Raymonde Saintil is the daughter of Raymond and Elisemane Saintil of Hope Town. She is presently attending Hesston College in Kansas, but will be transferring to Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia to prepare for a career in nursing. Raymonde is a 2000 graduate of Abaco Central High School.

Malisa Singh is completing her first semester at York College in New York. She is a graduate of Abaco Central High School and the daughter of Partap and Gaulty Singh of Marsh Harbour. Malisa's field of study is accounting and she hopes to become a certified public accountant.

Felicity Simms, the daughter of Jonathan and Agatha Simms of Murphy Town, will be graduating from Agape Christian School this year where she received one of the Outstanding Students in Bahamian Schools Award. Felicity plans to attend The Col-

lege of The Bahamas and hopes to become a mathematics teacher.

Jesse Tador is a 2001 graduate of Abaco Central High School and attended Florida Memorial College. Seeing the growth in businesses on Abaco, he intends to complete a degree in accounting. He is the son of Daniel and Louse Tador of Marsh Harbour.

These students were selected on the basis of academic preparedness, motivation, realistic goals and financial need. They join the other 43 students to whom Abaco Pathfinders has provided aid in achieving their educational goals. We are very proud that this year we will see our first graduating class, our 2001 recipients. These students have either already graduated or will graduate this year. Congratulations to Keora Brown, Tabitha Cash, Rory Duggan, Darlene Higgs, Madeleine Joseph, Benadette Jean-Noel, Jerome Menard, Olivia Patterson, Waseela Rahim, and Tecuma Sherman.

A reception honoring this year's recipients and the first graduating class will be held June 12 at the Below Decks Restaurant at the Abaco Beach Resort.



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Museum Wants Sea Life Donations

By Lindsey Delaplaine

The Wyannie Malone Historical Museum is looking for donations of items from the sea. Anything "dead" says volunteer Teleri Jones, who is working on a creative educational display of sea life for the museum. "We just want to make sure no one kills anything," said Jones. They are looking for everything from sponges to shells, urchins and sea fans. Thus far one of the more rare donations has been a chambered Paper Nautilus found on the beach by Curator Tony Bennett.

Ms. Jones, an artist and product designer by trade, is attempting to create a different

type of display. "It will be more of an organic composition." She has been in touch with the museums around the world to get help with preservation and presentation ideas. The Smithsonian Natural History Museum in Washington has been extremely helpful, she said.

Ray Brown, a Board Member of Museum, says they are working to have a living museum that puts the past, present and future on display. They hope by reminding people of what is here now it will increase everyone's sense of their island heritage.

All donations can be taken to the museum.

Bird Watchers Sight Rare Species

By Mirella Santillo

On April 17th a group of bird watchers under the leadership of Reg Patterson sighted an Indigo Bunting and a Summer Tanager in the area of Bustic Bight, just North of Marsh Harbour. These two feath-

ered visitors come to Abaco only from November to the end of April and are not commonly seen. All together 32 species of birds were sighted that day within four hours.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE SUPREME COURT
Common Law and Equity Division

2005 / CLE / QUI /00300

IN THE MATTER of ALL THAT piece parcel or tract of land comprising Eleven and Fifty-four hundredths (11.54) acres more or less originally granted to John Cash by Crown Grant B-219 which said John Cash Grant is situate on the Southern edges of the Township of Marsh Harbour on the island of Great Abaco one of the islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and runs from the Sea on the East Westwards between the Northern edge of the Nathan Key Grant (Grant K-145) on the South and a Road Reservation to the North and bounded Westwardly by a Road Reservation sometimes called "Pole Line Road" or "Nathan Key Drive"

AND

IN THE MATTER of The Quieting Titles Act, 1959

AND

IN THE MATTER of the Petition of Roy Carlisle Newbold, Sr.

NOTICE

The Petition of ROY CARLISLE NEWBOLD Sr. of Stede Bonnett Road in the Township of Marsh Harbour in the Island of Great Abaco one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas in respect of:-

ALL THAT piece parcel or part of a tract of land comprising Eleven and Fifty-four hundredths (11.54) acres originally granted to John Cash (Grant B-219) which said John Cash Grant is situate on the Southern edges of the Township of Marsh Harbour and runs from the Sea on the East Westwards between the Northern edge of the Nathan Key Grant (Grant K-145) and a Road Reservation to the North and bounded Westwardly by a Road Reservation sometimes called "Pole Line Road" or "Nathan Key Drive" and generally having the position shape boundaries marks and dimensions as shown for Grant B-219 on Bahamas Registered Plan 436 ABACO and which said hereditaments is bounded ON THE WEST by the said Road Reservation sometimes called "Pole Line Road" or "Nathan Key Drive" and running thereon Four hundred and Thirty-three and Five hundredths (433.05') feet more or less, ON THE SOUTH by the aforementioned Nathan Key Grant (Grant K-145) and running thereon One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-four and Three hundredths (1744.03) feet more or less ON THE NORTH by the aforementioned Road Reservation to the North and running thereon One Thousand Seven hundred and Fourteen and sixty-one hundredths (1714.61) feet more or less AND ON THE EAST by the High Water Mark of the Sea and running thereon by straight transect One hundred and Fifty and Eighty-three hundredths (150.83) feet but following the configurations of the coast running thereon One hundred and Seventy and Ninety-two hundredths (170.92) feet more or less and which said piece parcel or part of a tract of land has the position shape boundaries and dimensions as are shown on plan filed in the above Action and thereon coloured Pink.

Roy Carlisle Newbold Sr. claims to be the owner in fee simple in possession of the said land

free from encumbrances and has made application to the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas under section 3 of the Quieting Titles Act, 1959 to have his title to the said land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted by the Court in accordance with the said Act. A Plan of the said land may be inspected during normal business hours at the following places:-

1. The Registry of the Supreme Court, Ansbacher Building, East Street, Nassau, Bahamas.
2. The Office of the Administrator, Local Government, Central Abaco District, Dove Plaza, Don MacKay Boulevard, Marsh Harbour, Abaco.
3. The Chambers of the Petitioner's attorneys, Messrs. Maillis and Maillis, Chambers, Fort Nassau House, Marlborough Street, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having dower or right of dower or an adverse claim or a claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the 31 st day of July A.D, 2005 file in the Supreme Court and serve on the Petitioner or the undersigned a Statement of his claim in the prescribed form verified by an Affidavit and other prescribed papers to be filed therewith. Failure of any person to file and serve a Statement of his claim within the prescribed time will operate as a bar to such claim.

DATED the 26th day of April, A.D. 2005

MAILLIS AND MAILLIS
Chambers
Fort Nassau House
Marlborough Street
Nassau, Bahamas
Attorneys for the Petitioner

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ON GREEN TURTLE CAY:

New! 90' beach front on gorgeous Bight O Bay on the Atlantic Ocean. .4 acre \$500,000 plus 7% to close. ONO

New! Furnished one bedroom one bath cottage located high on a ridge overlooking Ocean Beach where the reef is close enough to swim to. Spacious screened live-in porch. Outstanding views of the ocean. 30' x 30' garage and small shed on 18,800 sq. ft. of land. \$580,000 (All closing costs included.)

New! Two inland lots 8,500 sq. ft. and 9,000 sq. ft. respectively. Located near Green Turtle Club and a public dock. A short walk to Coco Bay and ocean beaches. B\$46,000 (All closing costs included.)

New! Family estate consisting of a two story furnished house on 1.67 acres with 120' dock on Black Sound with 5' draft at low tide; 2 vehicles; 3.9 acres on Gillam Bay beach with over 300' of beach front and Gillam Bay House with four bedrooms; four baths and pool on 3/4 acre with 140' of water front. Gillam Bay House has repairable hurricane damage. Details available to serious inquirers. \$5.34 million (All closing costs in.)

New! 90 feet of white sandy beach front on Coco Bay with elevations throughout of approximately thirty feet. 360 feet in depth running towards the Atlantic Ocean. Residential, 3/4 acre, located at north end of island near Coco Bay Cottages. Great for viewing the sunset and watching small boats sail by towards South Abaco. US 595,000 plus 7% to close

New! 1854 sq. ft. lot with wood building located in the heart of New Plymouth. Just a short walk to Sea of Abaco & public dock. \$72,000 plus 6% to close

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

Motivated Seller! Brand new two bedroom two full bath home located within five minutes walk of Coco Bay Beach and Ocean Beach. Central A/C. 40 x 32. Tile floors; porch and deck. Fully landscaped with white picket fence. 9 ft. high ceilings throughout. Centrally located near public dock; beaches and a major resort. Perfect for first time buyers or retirees! B325,000 gross

New! Spacious two bedroom two bath furnished home on the beach at beautiful Gillam Bay. Excellent rental history. Within one mile from historic New Plymouth and two miles from two major resorts. A/C in bedrooms. Full kitchen with separate dining room. Laundry room. 135' on beach. 19,735 sq. ft. of property. \$775,000 gross

New! Prime water front commercial / residential location in the town of New Plymouth on Green Turtle Cay. Site of take-away restaurant plus two bedrooms and two baths; kitchenette and great room. Private deck. Furnished two story building. Near public dock. Views of water from both floors. \$350,000 plus 2% to close

A perfect site on White Sound. 2 bedroom 2 bath main house with deck and porch. Boathouse and 2 Whalers. Guest cottage with one bedroom and one bath. Waterfront on the Sea of Abaco. Only accessible by boat. \$660,000 ONO
Two bedroom one bath basically furnished home with large deck and view of Coco Bay. Just steps away from beautiful Coco Bay Beach. 18,000 gallon rain water tank. Basement. Garage. Good elevation. 1/3 acre. B \$398,000 firm

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

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

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

New! 112' x 200' ocean front lot on north end of island. Outstanding ocean views. Reef is close enough to swim to. \$495,000 plus 7% to close

MUNJACK CAY:

1/4 acre on Atlantic Ocean. 125' frontage. \$183,000 gross

SOLD:

Lot 12 & 14 Coco Bay Tract

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Lot 8 A Coco Bay

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Treehouse No. 2

Seabreeze Cottage

Lot 9 Coco Bay Tract



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Sweetings Village-# 5224-Two bed/2bath 1400 sq ft island beauty, immaculate condition. Excellent elevation. Built in 2001 and has lovely views of the Sea of Abaco. \$325,000



Yellowwood-#5263- Adorable 2B/2B cottage, newly built, and never lived in! Large lot 100' x 150'. Features laundry room, hobby room, outside patios, and central A/C. A MUST SEE!-\$219,000



Great Harbour Cay-#2096- Charming 1B/1B house on elevated in the beautiful Barry Islands. There is also an attached 14x22 building with its own entrance ready to become a second bed and bath. This island style home also features a 1B/1B guest cottage and looks over the golf course and Ocean.-\$230,000-



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



Marsh Harbour-#5219- Vacant property comprises of approx 1.25 acres. Could serve as residential or commercial property. Call today for more details.



Boat Harbour #5203-Great Guana Cay Vacant property featuring water on both sides. Accessible by boat only. THIS LOT WON'T LAST LONG! \$198,000



Sandy Point -#5072- This 1 1/2 story home is located on a pretty powder white beach. This home consists of 3bed/2bath, utility garage and boat house.



Dundas Town-#5276 Incoming producing property, unfinished duplex on elevated lot. Can be finished to ones own taste. Situated on lot 100x128-\$92,000. Call for more details.



Marsh Harbour-# 5220-Large Parcel of property 100' X 270' with two concrete warehouses, would be ideal for certain commercial adventure. Property fenced in. Call today for more details.



Marsh Harbour-#5106. Great opportunity. Established commercial complex. Currently features several retail stores and two rental apartments. All currently rented. Ideally situated on the main tourist strip. FANTASTIC INVESTMENT.



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

- Bahama Coral Island-vacant lot situated in subdivision. Elevated.-\$40,000
- Long Beach- Beautiful area featuring gorgeous white beach. All lots approx. 1/4 acre, and have beach access. Financing available. Call today.
- Bahama Coral Island- vacant property in Bahama Coral Island, financing available, Call for details.
- Treasure Cay- Canal Lots in desirable location, sea views, great buy-UNDER CONTRACT
- 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.



Chris Farrington, BRI
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Green Turtle Cay- #0272 Unique "Pod Style" luxury estate situated high on a bluff overlooking the Sea of Abaco. This three bedroom three and 1/2 bathroom consists of 3,289 square ft. and over 2,000 sq. ft. of decking. Built with attention to detail, this can be described as "Island living at it's best". Offered at \$1,980,000.



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

Preservation of Coastal Areas Is Critical to Development

An expert committee comprising environmentalists, business, civic and government leaders from throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas says the preservation of the country's coastal areas is critical to the future socio-economic development of The Bahamas.

"It is very important for us to preserve our coastal areas because our social and economic future lies in the healthy development of those areas," says Earlston McPhee, General Manager of Sustainable Tourism Development at the Ministry of Tourism. "Unlike a number of other countries, the entire Bahamas is a coastal area and most of us either reside on the coast or in close proximity thereof. Our beaches, oceans, wetlands, mangroves, dunes and blue holes are all an integral part of our coastal resources, and therefore we must all do our best to preserve these areas," Mr. McPhee adds.

The coastal region is a "major" reason why millions of visitors journey to the country's shores annually, spending hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign currency that creates a "number of lucrative jobs for Bahamians and residents alike." It makes good "business and environmental sense from an economic and social standpoint" for all Bahamians and residents to properly manage these resources.

"A number of visitors have indicated through the Ministry of Tourism's Exit Surveys that they selected The Bahamas over other destinations due to our white, sandy beaches and clear, crystal water," says Mr. McPhee. "As a matter of information, we get our beautiful, white, sandy beaches as a result of a healthy coral reef system. But if we pollute our waters, there is a good chance that we will destroy this reef system and there goes our beaches along with future economic opportunities which it supports.

Mr. McPhee says pollution is one of the greatest challenges The Bahamas faces with regards to maintaining its coastal environment. "Seventy per cent of all marine pollution is land-based. Our entire islands are littered with abandoned automobiles and other consumer goods such as refrigerators and stoves that have been and are still being indiscriminately dumped by persons living in our country and that pollution reaches our oceans," says Mr. McPhee.

"The preservation of our mangrove system is also very, very important as the mangroves act as a filtering system for our marine ecosystem and serve as a habitat for juvenile fish. The filling in of wetland areas is another major challenge we face in The Bahamas, which ultimately will result in more flooding and increased insurance rates," Mr. McPhee adds.

Other areas of concern over-harvesting of fish resources, climate change, invasive species and habitat destruction.

Figures provided by the National Ocean

and Atmospheric Administration reveal that sustainable development within the Caribbean region - The Bahamas being no exception - cannot occur without healthy watershed and marine ecosystems.

The NOAA report further revealed that coastal populations worldwide are on the increase with those figures expected to reach to 75 percent within the next 10 to 15 years. Already, 50 percent of the world's population lives in coastal areas.

The over-harvesting of fish resources is a major concern due to the fact that fish accounts for up to 60 per cent of the animal protein consumed by persons living in developing economies such as The Bahamas.

However, some 70 per cent of the world's fish stock is already fully fished or over-fished.

Improper building techniques, adverse weather conditions such as hurricanes, the presence of invasive species and littering are other factors that can all contribute to accelerated coastal erosion.

Hope Town Real Estate Goes Crazy!



Abaco is well aware that real estate prices seem to have grown dramatically in the last few years, and nowhere have they grown faster than in Hope Town, as demonstrated by this wooden shed with a sign on it. The \$350,000 price tag does not even include the land.

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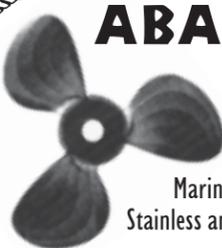
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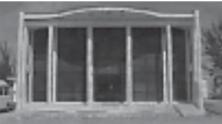
Sunday Services: 11:00 a.m.
Radio Ministry: Radio Abaco 93.5 FM
Monday through Friday at 7:55 a.m.

Minister
The Reverend Charles A. Carey
Congregational Board Chairman
Brother Percival J. Archer

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charlescary@wesleycollegebahamas.org

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Sunday	Weekdays	(Prayer Meeting)
Prayer Meeting 6:00 a.m.	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 5:00 a.m.	
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.	Monday Night 7:00 p.m.	
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.	Wednesday Night E.T.H. 7:00 p.m.	
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.	Friday Youth Night 7:00 p.m.	
Jesus Saves	Tuesday, Thursday Family Night	

For Transportation call Rev. Jerry Cornish at 367-2457
or 367-4719 (church) or contact Bro. Val Nesbitt at 367-5565

Bishop Anthony Campbell
242-367-4718 or cell phone 242-457-5565 • Dtcog@coralwave.com

*"Speaking where the Bible speaks;
Silent where the Bible is silent."*



Church of Christ

Schedule of Services
Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Radio Abaco 93.5 FM 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday
Devotion/Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Church of Christ
P.O. Box AB 20543 Marsh Harbour, Abaco
242-367-3496/366-2103 quashie@coralwave.com
Minister Jason G. Quashie

Catholic Churches

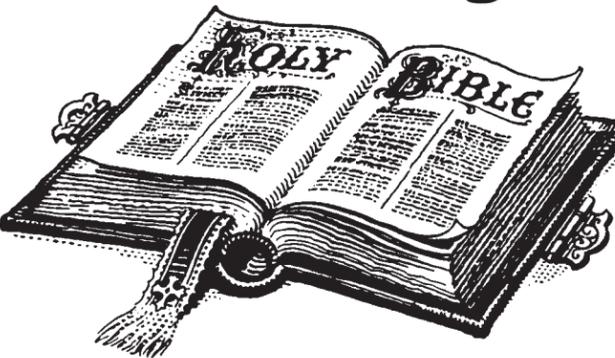
Saturday Mass - Treasure Cay
3:00 p.m. Bahamas Farm Chapel (Creole)
5:00 p.m. Saints Mary and Andrew Church

Sunday Mass - Marsh Harbour & Hope Town
9:00 a.m. St. Francis de Sales Church
12:45 p.m. Jarrett Park (Hope Town)
5:00 p.m. St. Francis de Sales Church (Creole)

Weddings and Funerals (by arrangement)
Confession (before Mass or by appointment)
Baptism (every Sunday before Mass or within Mass)

Rev. Father Rogelio (Roger) P. Madraza
Parish Priest
242-367-2714 romad16@yahoo.com

Church Page



Announcements

The Dundas Town Church of God will host Randy Paris, May 12 - 15 at 7 P.M. for his topic: *PULSE- The Heartbeat of the Next Generation*. Call 367-4719 for more information.

New Vision Ministries is celebrating The Family between Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Friendship Tabernacle Church is having a special service May 1 to honour Police Officers. A computer will be given them in appreciation.

Call 367-2677 with the special events at your church.



Friendship Tabernacle Church

Pastor Silbert Mills

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Youth Meeting on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

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Schedule of Services

Sunday	Holy Eucharist	Evening Prayer
	Marsh Hbr.	Sandy Pt.
1st (ACW)	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	7:30 p.m. (Both)
2nd (CYM)	11:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m.	7:30 p.m. (Both)
3rd (AYA)	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	7:30 p.m. (Both)
4th (ACM)	11:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m. (M.H.)
5th	11:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m.	7:30 p.m. (S.P.)

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Sunday Worship	11:00 a.m.
Sunday Kids' Korner	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday Interactive Bible Study	7:30 p.m.
Thursday Prayer Time	12:10 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Friday Youth Night (high school & up)	7:30 p.m.

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Youth Pastor: Brooks Russell

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Grace Baptist Church

Sunday Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Divine Worship
7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

Every second and fourth Sunday
8:00 a.m. Morning Glory
(no evening service)

Tuesday Evening
Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Evening
Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Friday Evening
Youth Night 7:30 p.m.



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Sunday
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E-mail: strongtower@coralwave.com

Abaco Dog Owners Bring Home the Ribbons

By Maureen Koepp and Candace Key

Four dogs and their owners traveled to Nassau for the 24th Annual Bahamas Kennel Club Dog Show. They did Abaco proud and returned home with ribbons, trophies, prizes and a great sense of accomplishment.

There were various competitions in Breed and Obedience. To enter in Breed the dog must be a pure breed registered dog, with an exception for the special potcake class. Any breed, mixed breed or potcake, can enter Obedience, after all we know that our potcakes are very intelligent. Many dogs and owners traveled from the United States, Canada and Bermuda to compete, hoping to achieve an obedience title or become a coveted Bahamian Champion.

A dog competing in obedience must follow commands and patterns directed by its owner or handler. A dog earning a certain number of points per show will earn a "leg" toward its championship. There are several levels of obedience titles the dog may earn leading to a championship.

Although most dogs entering the show

are pure breeds, the Bahamas Kennel Club recognizes the Potcake dogs as a breed. The kennel club has a committee to ascertain if a dog possesses the traits established by the club to classify it as a true Potcake. Potcakes compete in breed, obedience and handling classes.

The club also holds Junior Handling Competitions for different age groups of children to be judged against each other on their dog-handling abilities.

Austin Koepp of Marsh Harbour showed his Pomeranian *Meeko* and won first place in his class of Junior Handling, first place in Pure Breed dogs special spay/neutered class, second place in veteran dogs (over seven years of age) and third and fourth places in Beginner Obedience. Quite a feat for a young man who has only shown for two years.

Austin's mom, Maureen Koepp, did well showing her Shetland Sheepdog *Katie* for the second year in Obedience. Maureen guided *Katie* to winning "high in trust" which is the highest score in her



Three dogs with their owners traveled to Nassau to compete in the Bahamas Kennel Club Dog Show and all three did very well, bringing home ribbons and other honors. Shown above are Austin Koepp with his Pomeranian *Meeko*, Maureen Koepp with her Shetland Sheepdog *Katie* and Candace Key with her Bedlington Terrier *Breezy*.

Please see **Dog Show** Page 21

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Appeal for Funds for Peter Albury, Who Is Awaiting a Heart Transplant

54-year-old Peter Albury suffered a major heart attack. He was flown to Nassau for surgery and later airlifted to Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, Florida, where he is awaiting a heart transplant.

His family is appealing to the people of Abaco to assist in any way possible to enable Peter to have this heart transplant.

We have opened an account at Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in Marsh Harbour. Any donations can be deposited there for transfer to Tampa General Hospital.

We would like to thank you for your generous assistance at this time and ask for your prayers for Peter at this time.

Sharlyne Thompson, Sister
Clarissa Albury, Sister

Dog Show

From Page 20

Novice Obedience Class.

Candace Key showed her two Bedlington Terriers in Conformation classes. Her champion *Muffin* was officially retired after winning another Best of Breed and International Terrier Group Placement. Her eight-month-old Bedlington Terrier puppy *Breezy* began to make his mark by winning his championship and an International Terrier Group second place.

The Abaco dog handlers are interested in having other dog owners join them. If you are interested in showing your dog in Conformation or Obedience, please call Maureen Koepp at 367-2597, Kim Roberts at 367-4442 or Candace Key at 366-0059.

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Hints for Helping Our Environment

- Help keep our island clean.
- Do not throw trash out car windows.
- Do not dump trash except in designated dumps.

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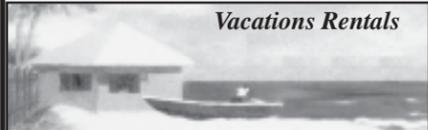
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Great Cistern: Stylish and cozy, 149' of water front, 3 bed/ 2 bath villa with dock. \$574,700

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Treasure Cay, Dormy Villa, 2 bed 2 bath villa. Call for price. 366-4046 or 357-6823

Industrial Accident Kills Well Liked Community Volunteer

By Richard Fawkes

Stanton Chea died late April 22 on the way to a hospital in Miami, Florida, after suffering massive trauma sustained in an industrial accident on his job at Sunshine Trucking in Marsh Harbour.

Mr. Chea, manager, mechanic and heavy equipment operator at Sunshine Trucking on Pole Line Road, was filling a tyre with a rubberized foam-epoxy (to make it puncture resistant) on a front-end loader when the rim ruptured, hitting him in the chest and upper abdomen. The accident occurred mid-day on April 20.

Mr. Chea was taken to Dr. Bernard at the Abaco Family Medicine Clinic before being

airlifted to Doctors Hospital in Nassau where he was treated until Friday afternoon when he was airlifted to Florida.

News of his death came late in the afternoon on Friday.

Before Mr. Chea could be moved from the work site, the epoxy, which had sprayed all over him, had to be cleaned up so that it would not set.



Mr. Chea was accompanied to Nassau and then on to Miami by his wife Michelle, who is 12 weeks pregnant. The couple has a 10-year old son, Vicente, and an eight-year-old daughter, Tatiana. Mr. Chea is survived by his mother Iris Pinder and his stepfather, Phillip Pinder, of Cherokee Sound and other relatives.

Mr. Chea was very active the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire and Rescue and his death came as a shock to the other firemen. Close friend, Mr. Shane Sands said Mr. Chea was like a brother. They worked together as volunteer firemen in the fire department, where Mr. Chea was also chief engineer and mechanic.

"When we would go to a fire," a tearful Mr. Sands recalled, "no matter how long it took or tiring it got, he would always find a way to make people laugh to keep their spirits up. He was a person who did not like confrontational situations, but would always try to make peace. Abaco will miss him for a long, long time"

Mr. Chea was a very kind, compassionate man who was willing to assist anyone

who needed help. Many have come forward since his accident to comment on kind acts he did for them. After the hurricanes last fall, he went door-to-door in Cherokee to see how he could assist residents there.

Mr. Chea's company worked with the Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC) to install transformers. He personally supervised the replacement of numerous utility poles throughout Abaco following Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. Sunshine Trucking provided a mobile lighting plant for public events such as fairs and festivals.

"Only feelings could describe what he meant to us," said Bert Capron, who worked as a heavy equipment operator with Mr. Chea for five years and was waiting at the Sunshine Trucking yard with coworker James McKenzie, also a volunteer fireman, for other operators to return from the various jobs they were on. They had no idea what to expect with the company, except for them to keep doing the jobs they were obligated to complete.

The police are continuing to investigate the accident. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

Talent Search Is Set for May 14

By Portia Jonsson

Garnell Stuart, a young, talented and motivated musician, has been involved with music since birth. Her parents Garnett Stuart and Patti Limperes Stuart, both now deceased, were a part of the popular music group Funk Connection back in the 1980's. Many Abaconians may be familiar their songs, especially an all time favourite and big hit *Abaco People*. Since their deaths, Garnell feels that the torch has been passed to her to carry on the legacy.

Along with playing the piano, Garnell writes short stories, poetry and lyrics and not long ago started a poetry club called The Abaco Poets Society. She teaches piano lessons to children of all ages. Last year she joined the group Holla Back and has since performed at numerous events.

She soon recognized that the young people in Abaco have tremendous talent but no way to display it. As a young and upcoming artist herself, she believes that others, too, can go far in the music industry.

Two months ago she formed G-Star Productions which will allow her to find young talent

and inspire them to continue. G-Star Productions will host its first Abaco One Love Talent Search at the Parish Hall on May 14th at 7:30p.m. This show will feature 15 performers between the ages of 13 - 26 and afford them an opportunity to perform on stage and get a feel for what it is like to be recognized. Cash prizes of \$300, \$200 and \$100 will be awarded to the first, second and third winners respectively in three categories, singing, dancing and rapping. Tickets are \$10 adults and \$ 7 for children 10 years and under at the door and food and drinks will be on sale.

If this show is a success, Garnell says G-Star Productions she will continue to stage searches every few months showcasing young artists, promoting and exposing their talents in an effort to keep Abaco fresh and one day form a network of talent throughout The Bahamas.

Garnell thanks all of her sponsors for their donations and assistance in helping her realize the dream she started to help other youths expand their talent to the fullest. She appeals to the community for its support in encouraging our youth to reach their dreams.

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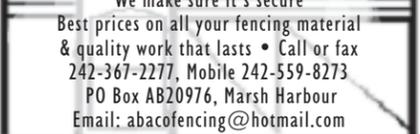


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The Bahamas HIV/AIDS Programme Was Praised

By Portia Jonsson

Earlier this year during his second visit to The Bahamas in less than three years, the former President of the United States, Bill Clinton, praised The Bahamas for its success rate in clinical care against HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Clinton met with the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, before touring the Specialty Clinic at the Princess Margaret Hospital. Initially the antiretroviral (ARV) medicine was very expensive, but Mr. Christie said as a direct result of funding by the Clinton Foundation it has been drastically reduced. He added that the death rate has been reduced

by 50 per cent and The Bahamas has scored remarkable results in its treatment of HIV/AIDS patients.

The Minister of Health, the Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel, was praised by President Clinton for his leadership in the reduction of HIV/AIDS cases. Last year The Bahamas recorded no new cases of children born HIV positive from mothers infected with the virus who were receiving treatment. This was facilitated by the help of the Clinton Foundation.

More than 1,600 people are receiving the ARV medicine, up from an estimated 470 who were on the cocktail in 2002. More than 2,000 HIV-positive individuals are

receiving health care and support under the Clinton Foundation programme. Between the end of 2002 and 2004, the mortality rate for persons with HIV/AIDS was reduced from 250 deaths per year to 140 deaths yearly. The percentage of HIV-positive pregnant women declined from 2.7 percent in 2001 to 1.6 percent in 2004.

Assisting Caribbean countries in building their capacity in the fight against AIDS is a major priority of the Clinton Foundation. This initiative was also implemented in Africa, India and China, reducing the cost of AIDS drugs and diagnostic tests.

The Bahamas government and a number of businesses created a plan in October 2002

under which all HIV-positive persons will be in care and receive the necessary medications by the end of December 2005. Its aim is to reduce the HIV transmission rate by 25 percent.

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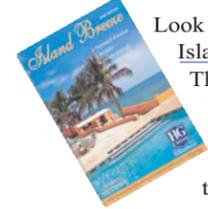
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