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VOLUME 13, NUMBER 14, JULY 15th, 2005

32nd Independence Anniversary Is Celebrated

Central Abaco Held a Six-Hour Extravaganza on Independence Eve

By Jennifer Hudson

Abaco did The Bahamas proud for its 32nd birthday with an Independence Eve celebration extravaganza on July 9th at Marsh Harbour's Goombay Park. The organizing committee of Wynsome Ferguson, Brenda Sawyer and Jeritzan Outten are to be commended for the varied programme which spanned six hours from 6 p.m. until midnight and incorporated cultural and religious performances by a wide cross section of the community throughout Abaco.

The crowd grew slowly as most Bahamians seem not to like to turn out until after sundown, but those who arrived early were able to relax and enjoy such items as a presentation on the straw industry and bush medicine by Martha Smith, the reading of an original Bahamian short story set in Sandy Point on the eve of Independence 1973 by Richard Fawkes, a brief history on the evolution of Junkanoo by Colin Curry, the story of Independence by Island Administrator Revis Rolle, musical selections of Broadway and movie hits by violinist Jennifer

Please see **Independence** Page 2



Regatta Time in Abaco Brings Sailors

Regatta Time in Abaco completed its 30th year of sailboat races. With races during the day and parties with lots of entertainment during the evenings, the crowds were pleased with the event. Many sponsors support the event that brings many land lubbers and power boaters as well as sailors for the festivities. Ms. Jeritzan Outten, Director of Tourism for Abaco, is shown here addressing the crowd at Green Turtle Cay. The event moves through Abaco, giving visitors a great time to explore, dive and shop in several towns. The event is known internationally as a serious competition as well as a great time to enjoy the area. See story on page 10.

Reception Hosts Elected Local Government Members



Mr. Sidney Stubbs, MP, was an unexpected speaker at the reception for local government elected Committee members and Council members from all of Abaco. It was held on July 12 at Government House in Marsh Harbour. Mr. Stubbs encouraged the group to work to improve the island and push for adequate funding to fulfill their obligations to their communities. Shown here is the Central Abaco District Council members: Mrs. Kim Roberts, Mr. Jexell Tinker, Mrs. Yvonne Key, Mr. Cubel Davis, Jr., Mr. Dale Hill, Mr. Augustine Williams, Mr. Sonith Lockhart, and Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator for Central Abaco. Missing from this picture are Mr. Robert Claridge and Pastor Stephen Knowles. Mr. Davis is Chief Councillor and Mrs. Key is Deputy Chief Councillor.

By Mirella Santillo

On July 12th the newly elected members of local government were hosted at a reception at Government House in Marsh Harbour, the home of Administrator Revis Rolle. Town Committee members and Council members from all the districts on Abaco were present, from Grand Cay to

Moore's Island.

On the back lawn of the house a tent was sheltering refreshments and food, and chairs were set up for the program. One could not help but admire the incredible view of the harbour, the sea and the cays,

Please see **Reception** Page 4

Ecumenical Service Celebrated Independence



The Church of God in Dundas Town hosted Central Abaco's church service of thanksgiving and appreciation, marking the 32nd anniversary of Independence. The service was held on July 10 and included two bands and many speakers. The flag-bearing officer of the Royal Bahamas Police Force shown here leads the ministers and dignitaries at the conclusion of the service. See story on page 2.

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Ecumenical Service Commemorates Independence

By Jennifer Hudson

An ecumenical service celebrating 32 years of Independence was held on July 10th at the Dundas Town Church of God. Pastors, choirs and Praise Teams from twelve churches throughout Abaco took part in leading the service. Fifteen members of the Royal Bahamas Police Force were in attendance providing music at the beginning and end of the service while a church band ac-

companied singers.

A message from the Prime Minister was read by Island Administrator, Revis Rolle, encouraging people "to recall with gratitude the lives of our heroes who have made Independence Day possible."

The Governor General's greeting was read by Chief Councillor Cubell Davis and stated, "We have proven to the world at large that we can handle our own affairs

with dignity and without bloodshed."

Pastor Stephen Knowles, President of the Abaco Christian Council, in his sermon focused on both the home and the church in the community saying that they are responsible for our condition. We need to get back to good family values where everyone knows their place; then the nation would be a better place. Men must be responsible for heading the home, having only one home

and leading their children in the right way. Women must know their role in the home and children must be accountable. Parents

Please see **Independence** Page 23

Independence

From Page 1

Hudson, selections by the Wesley College Band and solos by members of the Magnificent Seven, a Country and Western group from Spanish Wells who were back by popular demand.

As the evening wore on, the crowd thickened and the food vendors became very busy dispensing their tasty traditional conch salad, fried chicken, macaroni and all the other goodies that no Bahamian celebration would be complete without.

Part two of the evening's programme featured lively religious performances by various Gospel groups and soloists, Praise Dance teams and the popular Jes'us male capella group which recently won first place in the Bahamas National Arts Festival.

Recognition was given and certificates presented to four persons for outstanding community service: Mr. Audric Dean, who has served with the Ministry of Works for over 20 years; the late Wayne (Big Six) Bastian for outstanding assistance in the community; Mr. Roderick Strachan, grocery store owner, for alternative shopping opportunities, and Rev. Charles Carey, founder and Principal of Wesley College, for his contribution to young people especially in the field of musical education.

Don Cornish and Jeritzan Outten from the Ministry of Tourism in their roles as joint M.C. kept a festive spirit going throughout the evening with their lively ban-



The ecumenical church service commemorating Independence was held at the Church of God in Dundas Town. The service included the Royal Bahamas Police band providing music. Pastor Stephen Knowles was the speaker.

ter and tidbits of information.

Fifteen minutes before midnight the excitement mounted as people anticipated the more formal and patriotic segment of the celebrations. At 11.45 p.m. the ever popular musicians of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band led the impressive march past of members of the Police Force which was brought up in the rear by three police motorcyclists. After an Inspection of the Guard by Administrator Rolle the Bahamian flag was raised at the stroke of midnight to the singing of the National Anthem, thus ushering in the dawn of our 32nd Independence Day.

Bringing these spectacular festivities to a close was a rush out by the Spring City Rockers Junkanoo group.



Even the trained Police dog Bob was part of the Independence celebration.



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Reception Honors Local Govt. Officials

Reception *From Page 1*

luxuriously framed by native trees, ficus, poincianas, palm trees and mangoes loaded with flowers and fruits.

The Wesley College band performed while candidates and guests made their entrance. The event was orchestrated throughout the evening by Administrator Neil Campbell, who introduced Mr. Robert Sweeting, MP for South Abaco who addressed the new electees. He warned them that being in local government was "a great labor of love. You have to feel within yourselves that what you are doing is the best," he said, reminding them that they were going to be serving the fastest growing island of The Bahamas, maybe of the Caribbean and what responsibilities that implied.

He wished God's help and guidance.

Former Chief Councillor of the Hope Town Council, Mr. Walter Sweeting, advised them to use the money wisely "because you'll never have enough money to do what you want to do." In Mr. Silbert Mills's opinion, "Local government is one of the finest. You'll be charged with the responsibility of making decisions for your community. It's a great opportunity to make decisions." But he warned them, "It's a thankless job! People always want you to do something. But what they remember is not what you did for them, but the last thing you did not do for them!" He offered the new Chief Councillor, Mr. Cubel "Star" Davis, his help, "I will make myself available at any time."

The three Administrators for Abaco introduced the Town Committee members and

Councillors for each district. Administrator Roderick Bowe, who apologized for being late, "but I had to bring the crab salad from Sandy Point!" He presented all the inductees from the South Abaco and Moore's Island Districts.

Administrator Donald Cash commented, "We are here as a strong force because you put us here. Now that politicking is over, it's time to roll up your sleeves, your pants, your skirts and start to work." He introduced the members of the new Green Turtle Cay District with Mr. Chris Farrington as the Chief Councillor and Greg Curry as Deputy Chief Councillor. Until now Green Turtle Cay was part of the North Abaco District.

Grand Cay's newly elected Chief Councillor is Mr. Roosevelt Curry. North Abaco once again elected Steve Pedican as Chief Councillor and he thanked people for their

renewed support and promised, "I'd like to take local government to another level."

All through the evening the interludes were filled with music pieces beautifully played on the violin by Mrs. Jennifer Hudson, who was invited to perform for the ceremony.

Administrator Revis Rolle presented the members of the Hope Town District. Mr. Wayne Hall, Chief Councillor, thanked the community and the Council members for "giving me the opportunity to see what could be done to maintain our way of life."

During the evening the Chief Councillor, Mr. Cubel Davis Jr., and Deputy Chief Councillor, Mrs. Yvonne Key, for the Central Abaco District were sworn in during the reception. Mr. Davis promised, "I will endeavor to strive for excellence and prove

Please see **Local Govt.** Page 23



The Dundas Town Committee has three members who have not been elected to local government previously. Shown here are Pastor Stephen Knowles, Jimmy Williams, Sonith Lockhart and Augustine Williams. Not in the photo are Faron Newbold, George Cornish and Cay Mills. Mr. Augustine Williams was elected as Chairman and Mr. Knowles as Deputy Chairman



The Marsh Harbour Town Committee has only one member, Mr. Colon Curry, newly elected to local government. Shown here are Mrs. Yvonne Key, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dale Hill, Mr. Robert Claridge, Mrs. Kim Roberts, Mr. Lowell Albury and Mr. Roger Delancy. Mrs. Key is Chairman and Mrs. Roberts is Deputy Chairman

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Sidney Stubbs Speaks at Local Govt. Reception

By Richard E. Fawkes

The surprise was palpable among attendees of the local government induction ceremony in Marsh Harbour on July 12 when Mr. Sidney Stubbs, Member of Parliament, was introduced as the keynote speaker instead of Min. of Local Government, the Hon. V. Alfred Gray, whose name was printed in the programme booklet. Before calling Mr. Stubbs's name, Assistant Administrator Neil Campbell told the audience that their next speaker was a fellow Cat Islander of "good Christian background" who would bring a special message to the newly elected and appointed local officials.

Mr. Stubbs, who is just emerging from a morass of back-to-back controversies involving his chairmanship of the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC), his handling of the Korean fishing boat affair and his legal battle to remain in Parliament after having been declared bankrupt by the Supreme Court, told the Councillors and Committee members in his rich bass voice and with professorial demeanour, "Abaco is yours; you could either make it or break it."

Mr. Stubbs was invited to address the gathering by his first cousin, Mr. Revis Rolle, the senior island administrator, after Mr. Rolle was informed that Mr. Gray would not be able to attend. Mr. Rolle, who praised Mr. Stubbs as the smartest one in his Cat Island family, said he could think of no one better qualified to speak to the newly elected leaders in the minister's absence.

The ceremony, followed by food and drinks, was held in the gardens of Government House atop Stede Bonnet Road, overlooking Marsh Harbour.

Another controversial figure, though absent, haunted the proceedings — Cay



Mr. Sidney Stubbs, MP

Mills, the former Chief Councillor of the Central Abaco District and re-elected member of the Dundas Town Committee. Mr. Mills is awaiting trial for allegedly assaulting and causing damages to Administrator Rolle during a confrontation at Ocean View Park in Dundas Town on June 8. According to the terms of a \$50,000 bond, Mr. Mills is forbidden to attend public functions at which Mr. Rolle is present.

Mr. Mills, who has not yet been sworn into office, was not once mentioned at the induction ceremony, not even by the new Dundas Town Committee chairman, Mr. Augustine Williams, when introducing the members of his committee. Mr. Mills has been succeeded as Chief Councillor by his former Deputy, Cubell Davis, Jr. of Murphy Town. Mrs. Yvonne Key, Marsh Harbour chairperson and one of Mr. Mills's greatest adversaries on Council, is the new

Deputy Chief Councillor of Central Abaco.

Mr. Rolle, along with Administrator Donald Cash of North Abaco and Administrator Roderick Bowe of South Abaco, introduced the newly elected and appointed Chief Councillors and Town Committee chairpersons, and their respective Deputies, from throughout Abaco. Included were the representatives from far-off Grand Cay in the extreme north and Moore's Island in the extreme south.

Local Government as Devolution

Mr. Stubbs compared the development of local government in The Bahamas to the

devolution process in the United Kingdom, whereby Scotland and Wales have regained considerable autonomy through their revitalized parliaments.

"I would like to see the devolution process come to The Bahamas," he said, adding that as central government becomes more consumed with global entities like the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas and the World Trade Organization, local government will have to "take care of the local kitty; of local affairs."

Mr. Stubbs reminded the officials that Abaco's contribution of an average of \$3.2

Please see **Stubbs**

Page 23

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The Editor Says . . . Inadequate Local Government Funding



Representatives of our new local government committees and councils are just returning from a Local Government workshop in Nassau. This was a working session to acquaint newcomers with the local government rules and regulations and to motivate and inspire the old-timers. They will have been given an overview of The Act and accompanying Regulations and pep talks on how to best serve their communities. The sessions were held at the Wyndham Nassau Resort and Crystal Palace Casino.

During the first and third terms, the workshops were held on Abaco with town delegates commuting to Marsh Harbour for the various sessions. Fifty or more delegates attended some of the Marsh Harbour sessions. The current workshop is being conducted in Nassau with all Family Island delegates converging there. This same method was used for officials during the second term of local government.

Besides learning about the system, the Abaco representatives were prepared to lobby for additional funding to maintain Abaco. We are not aware that the budgeted amounts for Abaco have been released yet but most people expect it will remain the same as last year which was essentially the same as the year before, even though the workload has increased dramatically.

It is strange that Abaco is recognized by Nassau politicians and others as the fastest growing island in The Bahamas, both in population gains and expanding economy. With growth comes larger responsibilities which are more costly to maintain. However, the funding is quite stingy when it comes to allocating money for the town committees and councils.

Residential garbage collection is one of the largest items in each town's budget and is a mandated service to be provided by local government. All towns are growing and generating more garbage and trash but the money available remains the same.

M.P. Sidney Stubbs recently addressed local government representatives and their guests at the induction ceremony at Government House in Marsh Harbour. He mentioned that Abaco contributes \$3.2 million

to the Treasury each month which is the largest amount by far for a Family Island. He stressed that this gives Abaco some clout when talking to government and the Abaco councils are within their rights to lobby Nassau for adequate funding when conditions justify.

The Abaco business community is growing and serving more clients and customers. Although local government is not responsible for removing commercial garbage and trash, most of it ends up at the Central Abaco public dump. Once here, it is combined with the residential trash.

Within the past 18 months, the Central Abaco dump has been further burdened by absorbing the construction trash and other garbage from the Abaco Club at Winding Bay. Additional trash and garbage comes from Guana Cay, Man-O-War and Hope Town. Those three cays are fast growing and generate large amounts of trash with little space to either store, burn or otherwise manage the debris.

To decrease the quantity of trash, Man-O-War bought a chipper which reduces yard debris to usable mulch. Hope Town is still obliged to burn some of its debris as there is not enough capacity to ship it all to Marsh Harbour. Both of these towns accumulate old appliances, junked vehicles and construction debris at their limited dump facility. Virtually all their residential, hotel and restaurant garbage is sent to the Marsh Harbour dump site.

Guana's garbage volume is presently much less than the other two cays and it is all shipped to Marsh Harbour. Guana has a further disadvantage as they have no public site for holding or managing the daily accumulation of trash.

To solve a growing garbage problem on Guana Cay and Elbow Cay with their limited space, central government absorbed cost of shipping the trash to Marsh Harbour, then trucking it to the dump. This is a substantial amount and is not presently imposed on local government. Man-O-War was the first cay to solve its garbage problem this way and its funding was initially absorbed by the residents there but is now a part of the Hope Town Council budget.

A recent development adding to the quantity of trash to be managed is the addition of containers placed at the Pigeon Peas and Mud Haitian communities. These have been a welcome addition which the residents there are using. Casual observation suggests more containers are needed or the existing ones must be emptied more frequently.

These refuse containers were bought and donated by ECHO, the European Community Health Organization. They left enough funds to provide for six cycles of emptying them and these funds are now depleted. We presume that either Local Government or the Department of Environmental Health must step in and fund the removal of this trash. Presently, there is no provision in

the budget of the Central Abaco Council to remove the garbage from these two communities. A similar situation exists for the container placed at the Sand Banks Haitian community.

The Marsh Harbour Haitian communities are to be commended as they are visibly much cleaner. PAHOE, ECHO and the Department of Environmental Health are to be given credit for recent involvement in these communities to instill community cleanliness and pride which will result in less potential health problems for the residents there. It is amazing to see the amount of debris these new bins are collecting and it leaves one to wonder how these settlements absorbed this debris in the past. However, this new source of garbage adds to the quantity to be dealt with at the dump.

It should be mentioned that E & D Waste Company maintains its own private dump site not far from the Central Abaco public dump. The trash that company collects is not a burden to the public system.

Maintaining the public dump site in Central Abaco has been a problem over the years and continues to be a challenge. The cost of dump maintenance is presently in the neighborhood of \$5000 per month. This includes bulldozing or pushing the trash to the borders and burning several times a week to reduce the volume. The money must also pay for the services of a dump manager or watchman to ensure the debris is properly placed. Without an attendant, persons tend to dump their garbage at the most convenient spot which is frequently at the entrance. This was recently the case when dump management lapsed and the debris filled the site and extended out to the highway. It is generally conceded that past funding has been inadequate for dump maintenance.

Like the airport, the two government

schools, the clinic and other facilities that serve the greater Marsh Harbour community, the dump is the responsibility of the Central Abaco District Council. Awarding the contract for dump maintenance has often been contentious as the \$60,000 to \$65,000 annual contract is often perceived to be a rich reward to be awarded to friends. Experience has shown that it requires a dedicated and professional approach. There have been few instances in the past nine years of local government when Council or the communities were satisfied that the dump was maintained properly.

During the first Council term the dump was brought under control and was well managed. However, successive Councils managed the dump situation in different ways that generally ended in disaster.

With a new Council now in place, the members must work together and give the contract to a reliable company with a good record of managing a business and with the proper equipment to do a professional job. Few of the contract holders during the past several years qualified in either of these areas. The Council members must put Central Abaco foremost and not resort to playing politics or favoritism.

We will all be watching to see how responsible the new councils and town committees will be in looking after their communities. Even when funding is inadequate, creative ways must be found to get the job done. Accepting the lowest bid does not necessarily mean we are getting the best deal. Contracts must be examined to ensure that value is received for the money spent.

The town committees and councils are starting fresh. Many members have expressed a desire to make changes for the benefit of their communities. We encourage them to keep their initial goals in mind and persevere for the next three years.

Letters to the Editor

Residents Are Upset with Developer

The people of Cherokee are a little confused. We read in your newspaper of all the things Abaco Club of Winding Bay has done for our settlement from an interview your reporter had with Mr. de Savory himself. Could it be he is misinformed or does not know all the facts.

Number one, the water line has not been extended to Cherokee but stops at the end of Winding Bays property. It is still too far away for our residents to hook up to, even though we hope to someday as the wells are situated on government land and they are pumping government water.

Next, even though we have been promised by a representative of The Abaco Club that they would do some additional work on our softball field, at this time all work that has been done there had been paid for by local government and not by any private concern. It remains unfinished and unusable.

There are no washroom facilities that have been built at our beach access site. At least, none that we are aware of, or any we are told we could use.

And, last but not least, there are no Cherokee residents working at Winding Bay out of the hundreds that are employed by The Abaco Club at the present time, first opportunity or not. We do note, however, the Haitian community seem to have found lots of jobs as well as many ex-patriots (and not just the few original designated supervisory staff).

There is no doubt Cherokee is benefiting

from the Winding Bay Project in many ways. Our local businesses are benefitting through increased business as well as some of the young people for babysitters and a few of our bonefishermen have been hired for daily jobs. Already real estate prices are climbing and rental properties are quickly being snapped up. Many of The Abaco Club guests are understandably curious about "the natives" and often visit Cherokee. We are happy to welcome them to our unique part of the world and to be good ambassadors to their clients.

We want to be good neighbours; we will be good neighbours; but, please let us set the record straight.

Signed by Ten Concerned Citizens of Cherokee Sound

Thanks to the People of Treasure Cay

Dear People of Abaco,

I would like to thank the many people that were a huge help when I was in a boating accident. Many people on Treasure Cay made everything go smoothly and made sure I was as comfortable as possible. From the great care given by the Wilsons at the clinic to the comfort that three special Spinnaker waitresses gave (Patti, Sharon and Daisy), the people of Treasure Cay made a bad experience seem a lot better. I would also like to thank Vernon for being the best and nicest taxi driver and Mr. Meister for getting me such a fast flight. Once again, I thank all of these people with all my heart.

Sincerely,
Andrew Traylor

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Photo credit: Tuppy Weatherford for parrot & lighthouse on page 1

Reporters/Writers: Jennifer Hudson, Portia Jonsson, Mirella Santillo

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PAHO and ECHO's Representatives Visited Abaco

By Mirella Santillo

Mr. David Taylor with the Pan American Health Organization's office in Nassau and Mr. Daniel Urena-Cot with European Commission for Humanitarian Aid came to Marsh Harbour on July 12 to assess the results of the ECHO-funded project that was aimed at helping the "at risk" communities of Abaco. ECHO worked with PAHO and the Ministry of Health. The three-month program was designed to implement post disaster strategies and to educate residents of The Mud, Pigeons Peas and Sand Banks about health management and vector control. The program ended early in June.

"The purpose of this week's visit," said Mr. Urena-Cot, "is to evaluate if the project was efficient, fast enough, to see how the Red Cross and PAHO implemented the program and find out what can be improved."

ECHO, based in Brussels, was founded in 1992. "It is a very autonomous organization," explained Mr. Urena-Cot, "that does not respond to governments or other donors. It depends on assessments of the Red Cross or PAHO and does not need external requests." ECHO makes financial decisions to support countries through the United Nations, the Red Cross, PAHO, Doctors Without Borders, and other organizations. In emergencies local volunteer organizations submit a proposal to convince ECHO of the need for help. If the proposal is convincing enough, a contract is assigned without even a field trip verification and funds are allocated.

ECHO's presence on Abaco was a response to health problems generated by the hurricanes. Financial aid was distributed through PAHO and the Red Cross. Within

the three most affected islands, Grand Bahama, Abaco and Eleuthera, the Red Cross supported 15,000 people with food packages, plastic sheeting, water containers, hygiene kits and more.

On Abaco after the hurricanes, the three most at risk communities were confronted with serious health problems, such as vector control, solid waste management and general health issues. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Urena-Cot, who had originally visited Abaco in October to assess the extent of the problem, said they found a definite improvement on this last visit. They toured the three communities again and were happy to note that the garbage containers purchased by ECHO were being used. They talked to people to find out if training continued and notice improvements in the general look of the communities. However, Mr.

Urena-Cot explained, "ECHO is only concerned with short term emergency involvement. It is not involved with the political aspect of living conditions in the three settlements." An on-going program with the Ministry of Health must be co-ordinated with other ministries to provide a long term solution. Mr. Taylor said that PAHO continues to provide help since they are concerned with general health problems in correlation with the Ministry of Health.

A 12-month project for The Bahamas has been approved by ECHO to support several Red Cross branches in the region for preparing themselves for hurricanes. The Bahamian Red Cross has to strengthen itself to better respond to emergencies. That will involve training, developing emergency procedures and holding pre-hurricane meetings.



Five large garbage containers were supplied by ECHO to the immigrant communities of The Mud and Pigeon Peas in Marsh Harbour and Sand Banks at Treasure Cay. These communities have appreciated the bins and additionally have cleaned up their surroundings of trash, derelict vehicles and other debris. ECHO paid for the bins to be emptied once per week for six weeks. However, the money has been used up and it is now the responsibility of either local or central government to pay the costs to empty the bins.

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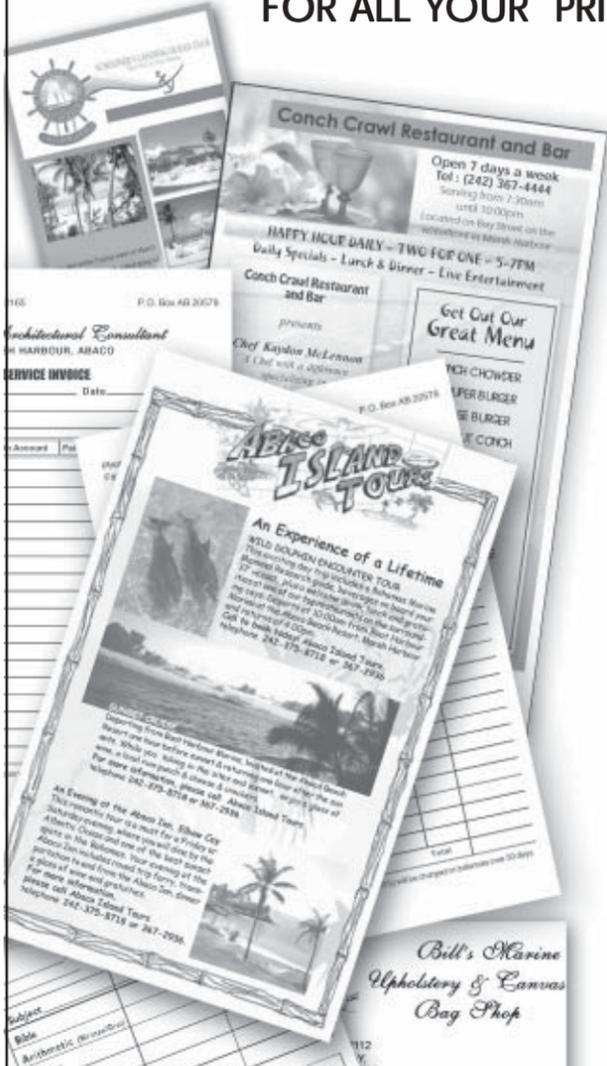
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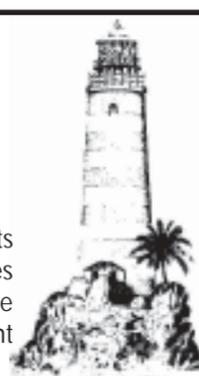
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Feb 2005

Regatta Is 10 Days of Sailing and Fun

Regatta Time in Abaco, the annual series of sailboat races, has just completed another successful year, its 30th, providing sailors with lots of racing and shore fun. As the fleet moves through Abaco, the crowd of spectators, fun loving power boaters and party goers fill resorts, marinas and restaurants to capacity.

The Regatta annually brings many yachtsmen to The Bahamas for ten days of racing and shore activities. The visitors, both participants and spectators, come from all over the United States as well as Nassau. It is an event which is anticipated year after year and has been instrumental in drawing many summer visitors to Abaco.

The goal of the Regatta is to provide entertainment for our many cruising sail boaters and for that reason the Regatta developed the concept of Mother Tub

racers. These are for cruising boats which are not intent on serious racing but of friendly competition. Their boats are usually loaded down with canned food, pets, children, diving gear and all the other paraphernalia which makes for a varied and fun vacation. Most racing sailboats are stripped of much of the normal gear sailors carry for living aboard. In addition to the Mother Tub fleets, the Regatta has two racing fleets as well as a fleet for multi-hulls.

Events such as the Regatta bring many new visitors to Abaco. They contribute heavily to the economy by flying in crew and families, renting cottages, getting rooms in hotels, eating in restaurants, shopping in gift shops, stocking up in the grocery stores and buying liquor from liquor stores and bars. Most stay for much longer than the 10 days of the Re-

gatta. They enjoy their stay on Abaco and are enthusiastic in promoting Abaco back in their home towns.

Abaco has a unique waterway system adjacent to one of the biggest markets of boaters in the world. This natural protected waterway is an Abaco asset which will give us many dividends if promoted and used properly. The Regatta helps bring some of those boaters to our shores to boost our economy.

This year proved to be another event that all sailing boaters could enjoy with shore activities planned for each day. The Regatta moved the fleet through the heart of Abaco having races in the waters of five different towns. This gives the boaters a variety of towns to become acquainted with. Parties were hosted by various resorts, restaurants and liquor companies. The overall sponsor was the Min-



One of our consistent winners is Jeff Gale from Hope Town shown here with an award and his young son, Joey. With him are Carter Redd, manager with the Baker's Bay project that sponsored one Regatta party, and Jon Ewing, Race Committee Chairman.



The five races of Regatta Time in Abaco were all great. Winds were heavy for a couple of races as shown here on the last day of racing when Hurricane Dennis gave the racers a 20 to 25 mph wind. That kept some of the participants at anchor.



Continental Airlines, one of the overall sponsors of the Regatta, donated tickets which were raffled off. Shown here are Bianca Knowles representing Mount Gay Rum, an overall sponsor; Ruth Saunders, coordinator of the Regatta; and raffle winner Lisam Shofner off the sailboat Thalia.

Please see **Regatta**
Page 11

strength in numbers



Hope Stubbs
CLU

Family Guardian congratulates Hope Stubbs, Staff Manager, Abaco, on her achievement of the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) designation.

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Racing and Shore Parties Make for a Great Time



Two of the parties included a Junkanoo rush, always a favorite with our visitors. Even the youngest Junkanoo members enjoyed the festive atmosphere. This young dancer belongs to the Spring City Rockers.

Regatta

From Page 10

istry of Tourism which has supported the Regatta for many years. This year they were joined by Corona Beer, Mount Gay Rum and Continental Airlines. Bristol Wines sponsored a couple of parties and the Rotary Club of Abaco organized the bar at the Crossing Beach party which is a very popular party of the event.

For the past several years the Regatta gets off to a roaring start with a Cheeseburger in Paradise party on deserted Fiddle Cay sponsored by Bobb Henderson, a second home owner on Green Turtle Cay..

The weather this year was not particularly cooperative. Several entrants did not arrive because of the threat of Hurricane Dennis while others left early to get back to Florida in case the storm changed course. The last race was held with 25-30 mph winds which reduced the number of number of boats racing.

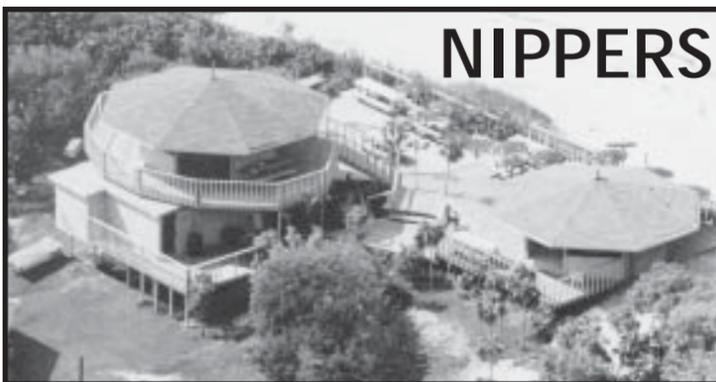
The races started this year as they have for many years off Green Turtle Cay. The fleet moved to Guana Cay, Man-O-War, Hope Town and ended the fifth race off



The awards party at Green Turtle Cay after the first race is held at Centennial Park in town. Bristol Wines and Spirits sponsored the party and offered a variety of spirits to enhance the party and get the Regatta off to a great start.

Marsh Harbour. The overall winners were *Whisper* from Jacksonville, Florida, and *Thin Ice* from Coral Gables, Florida.

Although another Regatta is past, already sailors are making their calendars for next July and are making plans for their next competition here.



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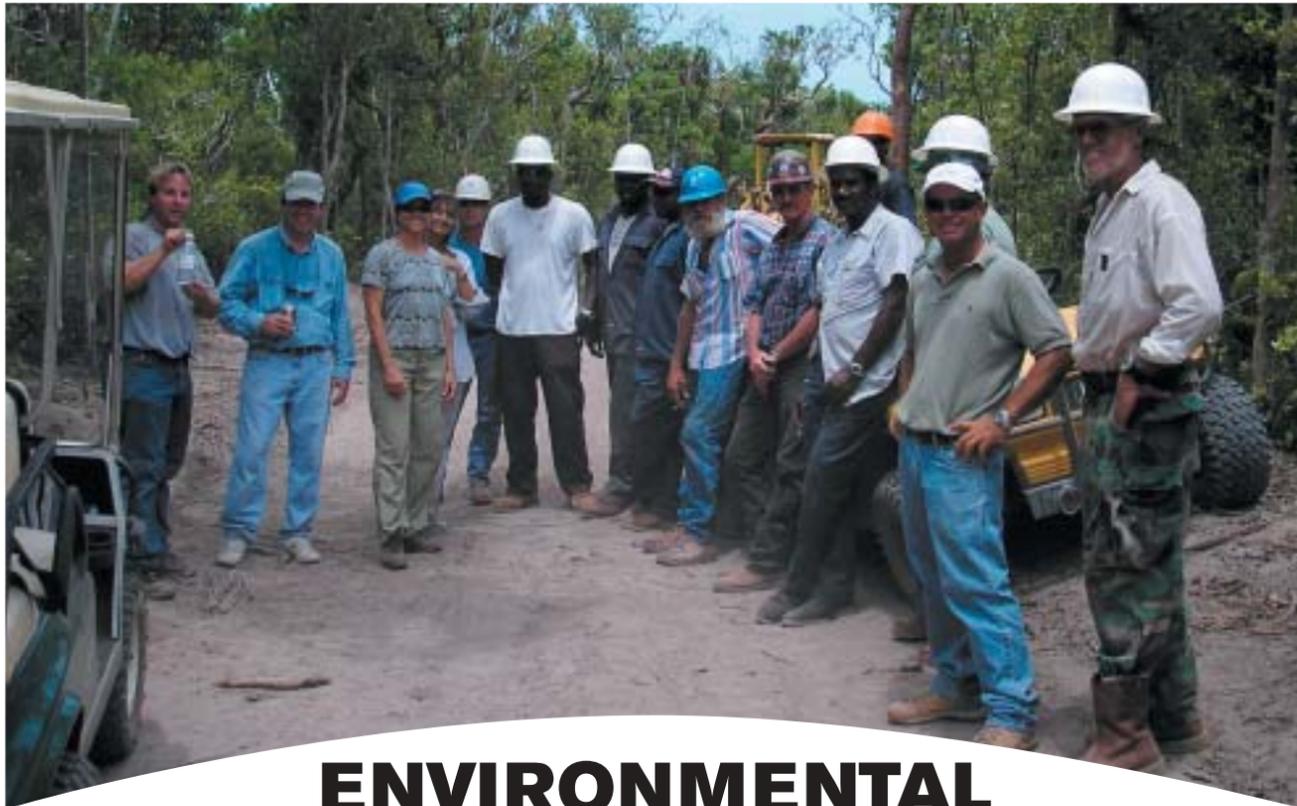
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Baker's Bay Club at Great Guana Cay



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

The Baker's Bay development will be monitored to ensure that it follows guidelines set out by the environmental impact assessment.

The EIA was researched and produced under an arm's length grant to the University of Miami, which is solely responsible for its content.

Dr Kathleen Sullivan Sealey was the principal investigator and is an approved consultant for the BEST Commission, which is responsible for environmental oversight in The Bahamas. Baker's Bay personnel will coordinate their activities with the independent environmental management team - consisting of the University of Miami, the College of the Bahamas and the Institute of Regional Conservation.



Regular reports will be submitted to the BEST Commission comparing field research to pre-development data, and offering solutions to any problems that may arise.

Anyone may complete an incident report describing unplanned negative impacts to the environment that may potentially violate EIA guidelines.

Internal reports are processed through the development team. External reports will be posted on a website now under construction. Reports will be actioned by the environmental management team.

The team includes Dr Livingstone Marshall, senior vice president of environmental and community affairs for the Baker's Bay Club, an environmental manager overseeing day-to-day affairs; a local nursery and landscaping expert; a Phd-led group of five researchers from the University of Miami; and an internationally recognized plant expert from the Miami-based Institute for Regional Conservation.

The monitoring programme is designed to enforce the overall environmental objectives of the Baker's Bay development. These are:

1. To maintain the island's natural vegetation as far as possible.
2. To maintain onshore and nearshore water quality at pre-construction levels.
3. To enhance wildlife habitat in the coastal zone, in wetlands and in the nature preserve.
4. To promote coastal stability by maintaining dunes and aiding the recovery of beaches from storms.

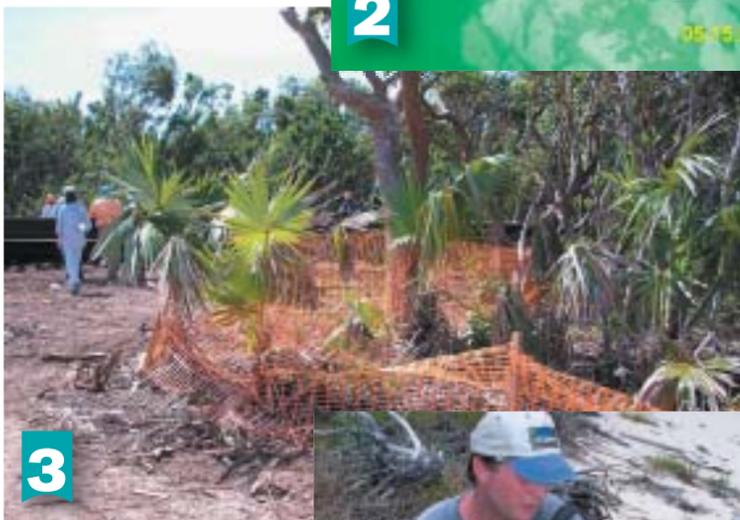
The monitoring programme will also improve industry-wide knowledge of compatible development practices for small islands.



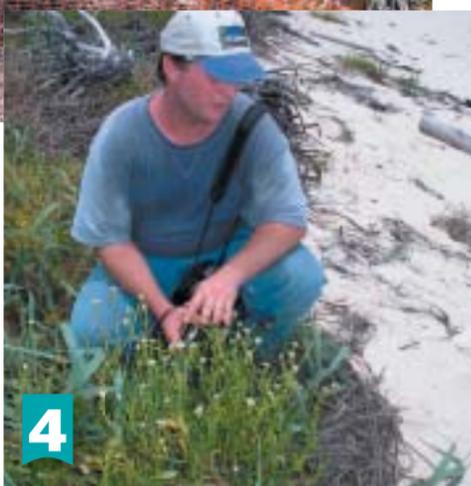
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Baker's Bay
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South Abaco News

Sandy Point A Traffic Accident

An accident on the Great Abaco Highway early in the morning of July 12 resulted in the driver being air lifted to Nassau. The roll-over accident occurred on the big curve near the Hole-in-the-Wall turn off south of Crossing Rocks. The lone person in the car, Euphemie Adams of Sandy Point, had multiple injuries and was taken to the Marsh Harbour clinic before she was flown out to the hospital.

Spanish Club Is Popular

By Shawn Roberts

"Amistad" brings learning and fun for the youth

The evening of July 8 was an exciting

one for some of the young people of Sandy Point who were given the opportunity to become members of a new Spanish Club called "Amistad" which translates "friendship." The organizers are Mr. Shawn Roberts and Mrs. Lauretine Fox, who reside in Sandy Point and have given of their busy schedules to lead this club. Mr. Roberts spoke fondly of the original Amistad club which is held in Nassau. "I enjoyed the meetings immensely and I took part in the Amistad to converse in a foreign language with Hispanics, professors, teachers and also Bahamians who spoke the language. It encouraged me to study and practice the language regularly.

"I am quite pleased with my past achievements such as receiving high marks in both

BJC and BGCSE in Spanish and also a certificate/ diploma from Grovenor Academy International Language Resources Spanish Level in Nassau.

The club meets weekly and each member has a Spanish name. The main objective is for every participant to learn and use the language. Emphasis is given to listening and speaking but not excluding reading and writing.

"In the near future I am looking forward to seeing our club grow, physically and intellectually, as we become passionate about promoting professionalism as our country enters globalization.

The last meeting of every month the club celebrates with *una fiesta* where there are refreshments and everyone practices speaking in Spanish. There are many great plans ahead for the Amistad members such as outings, performances and traveling. This

can only be described as *estupendo*.

There are presently about 20 members/participants of the Spanish Club Amistad. They are passionate about promoting Spanish in the school system and the wider community. *Amistad! Espanol para todos!*"

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Road Accident

Carroll and Loraine Sawyer had a blow-out on their little truck on the way into Marsh Harbour on July 4th just past the Snake Cay turn-off. Their vehicle flipped over a couple of times and Lorraine received a few cuts and bruises while Carroll's injuries were much worse. He had to be flown to Palm Beach for emergency attention to

Please see **South**

Page 26



Amistad Club has been formed in Sandy Point to learn Spanish. Twenty members are eager to learn from Mr. Shawn Roberts and Mrs. Lauretine Fox.

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School News

Ed note: These school stories were intended to be in the July 1 issue but because of a printer error they were omitted.

Abaco Central High School Our Time to Shine

By Portia Jonsson

Under the theme *Our Time To Shine*, 63 graduates of Abaco Central High School held their heads high with pride as they received their diplomas on June 21st at New Vision Ministries.

Guest speaker for the evening was Ms. Terez Davis, who studied to be a teacher at the College of The Bahamas but said teaching was not for her and instead went into studying theatre. She is an actress, comedienne and director playwright for Conch Salad.

Ms. Davis spoke to the graduating class about "their light" and compared it to lighting a candle and then blowing it out, ending life. She went on to tell them that if they lit a lantern and put God in it, then the

Please see **School** Page 15



A group of 5th and 6th grade students from Fox Town Primary School took an educational field trip to New Providence during the month of March. Among the places of interest visited on the five-day trip were the House of Assembly and the Senate where they were given a lecture and tour by Mr. Maurice Tynes, Government House where they were addressed by the Governor General, Dame Ivy Dumont, Atlantis on Paradise Island, Ardastra Gardens, Adventure Learning Center and the Straw Market. The students were fortunate to meet the Minister of Education, the Hon. Alfred Sears, who took time to speak with the group of 18 students and three chaperones (Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Curry and Raffaeta Russell) about his book club and their future goals and dreams. They would like to especially thank Min. Sears and Mr. Sandy Sands for making their trip a most memorable one. They are already looking forward to next year. Photo and text provided by Yolanda Curry, 6th Grade Teacher

family guardian's 40th anniversary calendar photo winners

We are pleased to announce the winners in the Company's 40th Anniversary Calendar Photo Contest.

Congratulations to:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Keith Bethell | Ronald Lightbourn | Michael Toogood (2) |
| Tony Hepburn | Melissa Maura | Tracy Toogood |
| Linda Huber (2) | Eric Rose (2) | Nancy Young |
| Mark Lacey | Olga Stokes | |

The 14 winning photographs will appear in Family Guardian's 2006 Calendar, "A Celebration of Nature."

Family Guardian thanks all the talented photographers who entered the contest and together submitted 400 entries.

All photographs may now be collected at Family Guardian's Corporate Centre, Village Road and East Bay Roundabout.



More School News

School *From Page 14*

light of life cannot be blown out. She told them that violence, sex before marriage and drugs are three things that will put out the light. Ms. Davis urged the Class of 2005 not to be involved in those activities.

Also bringing remarks was school principal, Mr. Euthal Green who gave a report for the school year and spoke about persons having misconceptions about Abaco Central High. He invited these persons to come to the source and ask about the good things happening at the school.

This year's graduates were Allita Bain, Rashad Bain, Santino Bain, Jamescy Beauzile, Michael Bien-Aime, Lakita Bodie, Loretta Bootle, Elliot Burrows, Latora Burrows, Loretta Burrows, Javon Cambridge, Andrew Charles, Analdo Cooper, Khadijah Cooper, Tyshula Cunningham, Jeremy Davis, Samantha Davis, Travis Davis, Cordero Dean, Daio Dean, Dwight Dean, Britney Edgecombe, Karis Edgecombe, Chaqua Ferguson, Ashley Fox, Seaga Fox, Keven Gabriel, Kettelie Gedeus, Oral Gentles, Bernardo Green, Evelina Henfield, Sharkara Johnson, Dwayne Jones, Kristin Jones,

Santonio Knowles, Jean Michel Louis, Nicole Louissaint, Denardo McIntosh, Adnardo Major, Robinson Maurancy, Neoshie McKinney, Sherrell McKinney, Daliesha Murray, Carl Nesbitt, Kareem Parker, Tanique Pratt, Shaniqua Reckley, Cardinal Rolle, Germanie Sanon, Torrianno Saunders, Edward Sawyer, Deon Smith, Louisdin St. Luc, Josephine St. Remy, Phylcia Stuart, Valentino Stuart, Chrishna Stubbs, Collin Swain, Kieshchelle Thurston, Elmanie Tido, Charles Walker and Litisha Woods.

Forest Heights Academy Postscripts

By Leslie Kennedy

Another school year comes to an end as Forest Heights Academy turns the key after a year of many accomplishments. The school has been a flurry of activities up until its last day. After receiving the results of their final exams, the students were ready for some celebration. On June 15 a group of 80 students were treated to a day of fun

Please see **School** *Page 16*



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More School News

School *From Page 15*

and games at Camp Abaco. "Survivor Abaco" was a huge success as teams built model shelters, went on treasure hunts for puzzle pieces, conserved water in a sponge and bucket relay and finally were enlightened by a game of teacher trivia. It was a perfect day for the beach and Forest Heights would like to thank Bro. Bob for his hospitality. It was a wonderful conclusion to the school year.

However, up until the last day, academic accomplishments were still being awarded. On June 19 the winners of the Environmental Essay Competition were honored by the Minister of Health and Environment, the Hon. Dr. Marcus Bethel. Seventh graders Julianne Sands

and Avery Thompson were given prizes for Second and Third Places respectively for their essays on *Green Cities*.

Abaco Central High School Preparations for a New School Year

By Mirella Santillo

What is Abaco Central High School's outlook for the future? This is the end of a school year that was marked by the destruction inflicted by the two hurricanes, marred by student violence and an arson fire that completely burned down the administration building. But the year also was enlightened with some very positive results in the sport sector: soccer, field and track, volley ball and basketball. What are the expectations of the principal, Mr. Euthal Green, and the administrative staff, Mrs. Nadeen Beneby,

Head Mistress, and Mr. Roberts, Head Master, as they prepare themselves for another school year?

"Our goals are to improve the academics, the physical infrastructure and environment and to build discipline," said Mr. Green in an interview with the three of them shortly after graduation.

The school suffered severe damage from the storms, "the worst I have experienced during my career," said the Principal. "The roof, the ceilings with insulation were damaged, all the electrical wiring had to be replaced. And we lost nearly all the text books and electronic equipment," added Mrs. Beneby.

The roof is repaired and most of the interior work has been done except for painting, but the windows still have to be changed. Mr. Roberts mentioned that the windows that were back ordered but had

arrived and were presently in a container on the school ground. Mr. Green thought the broken and damaged windows were responsible for most of the water damage incurred during the hurricanes. He explained that there will be a meeting with the contractor, Mr Swain, to find out the extent of the work he was contracted to do. The remainder of repairs will be assigned to a maintenance person appointed by Central Government.

The exterior of the buildings have been painted but the interior remains to be done. "I hope that the school will be ready by September, but it is doubtful that the administration building will be completely rebuilt by that time," said Mr Green. (There is a new temporary structure presently used

Please see **School** *Page 23*



Abaco Central High School still has damage from the two hurricanes last September. Many of the windows are in a similar stage of disrepair as this one. There is no protection for the students, equipment, furniture and books in the classrooms.



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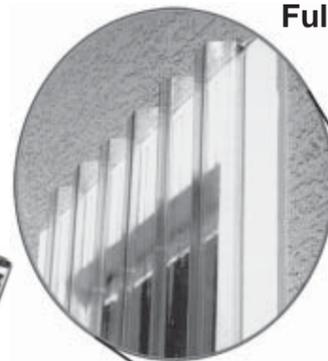
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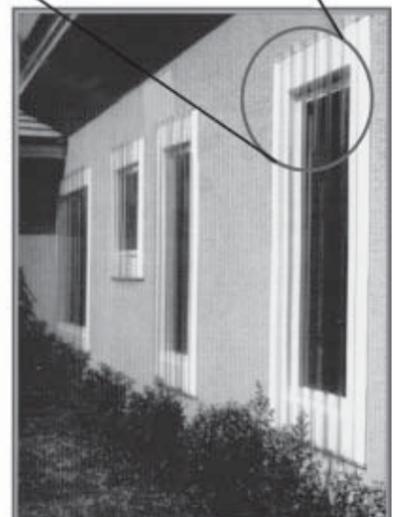


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Abaco Division

Police Crime Report

A resident of The Mudd reported that on June 6 while at his residence he was beaten about the body by a lady known to him, also from The Mudd, resulting in injuries to his head. The woman was arrested.

A 32-foot cabin cruiser docked at Treasure Cay Marina caught a fire on July 7. Aboard were the owner, his wife and two children, all from Florida. The police officer observed that smoke came from electrical wires before the boat burst into flame. The estimated value of the boat was \$200,000.

A resident of Cooper's Town was arrested for assaulting a police officer and disorderly behavior on June 13.

A resident of Treasure Cay reported that on June 12 while at the Three K's bar in Cooper's Town he was hit on his arm with a piece of wood by a young man he knew. He received minor bruises and swelling.

Someone entered a residence in Murphy Town on June 13 and stole \$2000 in cash from the resident's purse.

A vehicle owned by a resident of Marsh Harbour that was left at a me-

chanic shop in Marsh Harbour on June 13 was damaged by someone using a crowbar to pry the vehicle open.

Two residents of Cooper's Town were arrested on June 16 by two Fisheries officers for having an illegal compressor hose and undeveloped conch. The incident took place near Spanish Cay. The Fisheries officers handed them over to the police. They were released on \$500 bail with one surety.

Someone broke into the Abaco Youth Ministry building in Dundas Town on June 16 and stole a CD recorder cassette player, a microphone and a suitcase, all valued at \$890. A glass louver window had been pried open.

A break-in at 3 a.m. at a Regattas' apartment was reported on June 17. A locked sliding glass door had been opened. The occupants reported that nothing was stolen.

A resident of The Mud reported that her ex-boyfriend damaged her front door and window and threatened to kill her and burn her house down on June 22 at 3 a.m.

A Green Turtle resident reported that

two tires with rims were stolen from his vehicle parked at the Treasure Cay ferry dock between June 21 and June 23.

A resident of Bahama Coral Island reported that he was attacked by a group of men while he was at Sapodilly's Bar and Restaurant in Marsh Harbour at midnight on July 2. He was injured on his chin.

The residence of a Marsh Harbour couple was broken into on July 1 or 2. It was reported to the police by their son.

A resident of Marsh Harbour was threatened by a man he knew on July 2. The man threatened to break all his bones which put him in fear for his life. The suspect was arrested and later charged.

A visitor from St. Petersburg, Florida, reported that someone boarded his boat docked at a Marsh Harbour marina on July 3 and stole a camera valued at \$280.

A resident of Marsh Harbour reported that on July 2 someone stole a CD cassette player valued at \$260 from her car.

A Fisheries officer arrested four visi-

tors on July 3 who had egg-bearing crawfish and no fishing permit. They were released on bail of \$1000 and will appear before Magistrate Court.

A Grand Cay resident and a visitor were arrested on July 3 for having crawfish and cocaine.

A resident of Fire Road reported that on July 3 a Dundas Town man broke the front windshield of his car. The suspect was arrested.

A 15-year-old female of Marsh Harbour was placed in the care of her grandmother after she had illegal intercourse during the night with someone she knew on July 7.

A resident of Cherokee reported on July 5 that someone broke into a house that she was caretaking. A shutter had been removed and jewelry and a stereo system were missing.

A golf cart was stolen at the Great

Please see **Police**

Page 19

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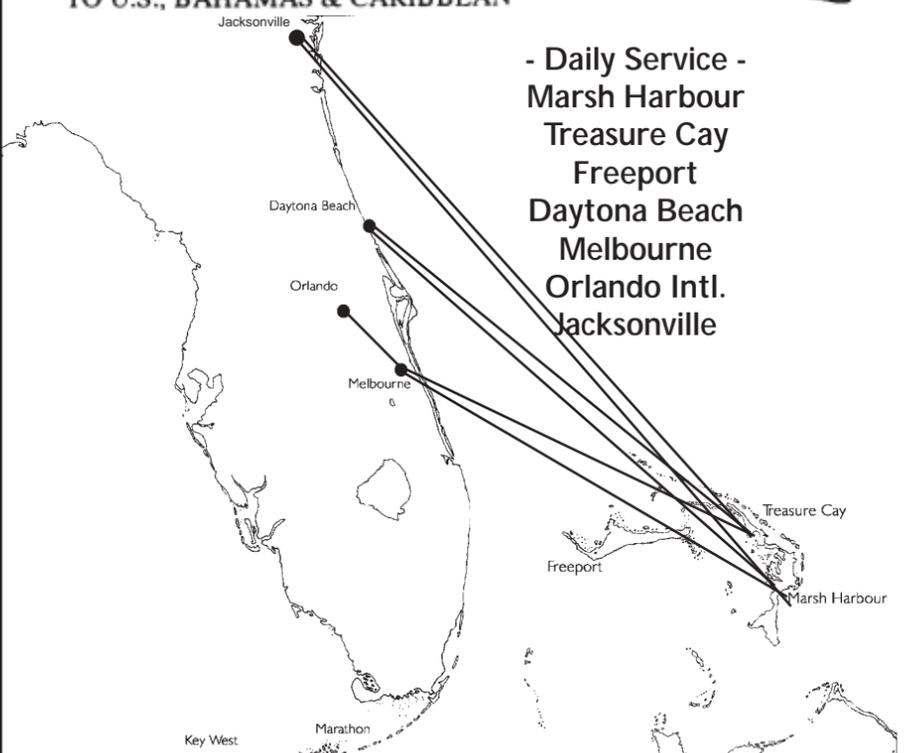
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Police Crime Report

Police *From Page 18*

Abaco Beach Club on July 5. It was later found, damaged, near a house under construction.

A house was broken into in Little Harbour on July 5. A shutter had been removed from a window and a flat screen DVD player and a television combo were stolen.

A resident of Long Beach reported that his house was broken into on July 1 through a window. Keys, two pocket knives and a watch were stolen.

A visitor reported that someone broke into his residence on Tilloo Cay on July 6 and stole a Direct TV card.

An employee of Marco Air Conditioning of Marsh Harbour was caught on video camera stealing money from the cash register. Money was missing on July 1 through July 7. The employee was arrested.

Six residents of Dundas Town were arrested at the Surfside Club in Dundas Town on July 7 for possessing 25 foil wrappings containing marijuana with the

intent to supply. A Treasure Cay resident was arrested on July 7 for possession of marijuana.

A second home owner reported that someone broke into his home at the Great Abaco Club on July 8 and stole \$380.

A resident of Marsh Harbour was arrested on July 8 at a Marsh Harbour bar and restaurant for having a marijuana cigarette.

Five Haitians of Murphy Town and Dundas Town were arrested on July 8 for possession of marijuana. Only one of the men was charged.

A resident of Marsh Harbour was attacked at the Solid Gold Night Club in Marsh Harbour by a man he knew on July 10. The man had a cutlass and bit him on his shoulder.

A resident of Murphy Town reported that a man he knew entered his property and attacked him with stones and bottles on July 10. The man was charged.

A Murphy Town man in custody reported on July 10 that a bartender from a club in Marsh Harbour had punched him in the face and hit him in the head with a

piece of steel pipe. Dundas Town resident reported that two men that he named threw bottles at him, hitting him in the back and upper arm.

A visitor staying in a Marsh Harbour hotel reported that someone entered her villa on July 11 and stole her handbag. It was later found in nearby bushes with all its contents.

A 36-foot Intrepid boat was stolen on July 11 from the Marsh Harbour Marina. The bow and spring lines had been cut. The boat was later found.

A Florida resident was charged on July 12 for entering Abaco Outboard Marine in Marsh Harbour without permission.

Nothing was stolen. A resident of The Mud was found dead on July 12 near the softball park in Marsh Harbour. No foul play is suspected as he was previously known to be an alcoholic and have chronic liver disease.

A resident of Murphy Town was charged for entered the storage room of the Abaco Youth Building without permission.

A resident of Cooper's Town opened the door of his house and was approached by a man with a flare gun loaded with shotgun pellets shooting him in the face. He was treated locally and was later sent to a hospital in Freeport. The suspect was taken into custody.

TB Cases Are Being Monitored

Two cases of tuberculosis have been confirmed on Abaco. The Department of Public Health is investigating the problem and has screened all contacts of the two person who are from the Mud are of marsh Harbour. The screening includes skin tests

and chest x-rays. If they find additional cases, they will be treated immediately. The Ministry of Health reminds the public that good hygiene, good nutrition and a clean environment can help to prevent the spread of disease.

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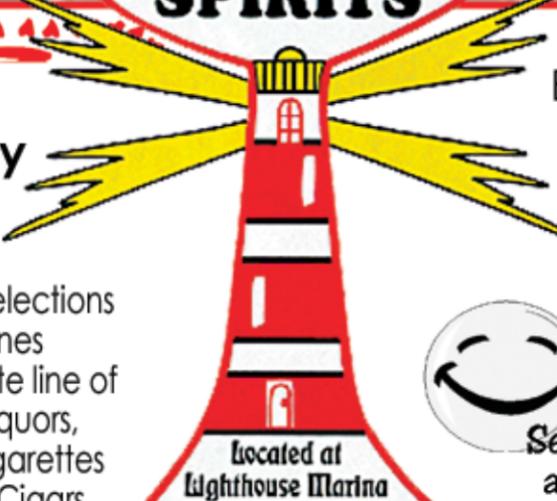
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Central Abaco News

NEMA Holds Service of Thanksgiving

By Jennifer Hudson

A service of thanksgiving for safe passage through the hurricanes of 2004 and also for the work of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) since the storms was held at the Church of the Latter Rain in Dundas Town on July 4th. Now that the major portion of NEMA'S work in assisting the people of Abaco to rebuild their homes is complete the office will be down-sizing. The NEMA office will remain in the same location but with a smaller staff.

The service included Mr. Neil Campbell, NEMA Co-ordinator, welcoming the small congregation and expressed gratitude to his staff for a job well done. A special musical selection was presented by three of the NEMA staff, Vernita Reckley, Yvonne Dames and Carl Mills.

Host Pastor Alex Archer's message was that while God is a God of mercy and compassion, he is also a God of wrath. If Abaco

continues to go the way in which it is going, it will see the wrath of God. "He will remind people that He is God if they stray from His ways."

"This service is for us to come and realize that it was the strength of God that saved us in the hurricanes, not our own wisdom or strength. People made many trips to the dump but no one made a trip to the graveyard. People cried out to God for help during the hurricanes promising that if He spared them they would serve Him but afterwards forgot what they had promised." Pastor Archer reminded the congregation that the hurricane season is here again and advised them to "hold onto God through change."

In attendance at this service, which closed with special prayers for protection throughout the 2005 hurricane season, were Chief of Police ASP Wayne Miller, Central Abaco's newly elected Chief Councillor Cubell Davis and members of the NEMA staff.

Price Right Gives \$500 Worth of Groceries

By Portia Jonsson

On July 7th five lucky Price Right shoppers raced against the clock and each other for a chance to win \$500 worth of groceries absolutely free. Each participant had five minutes to run through the aisles filling his or her shopping cart with goods. The shopper who came closest to the \$500 mark won the com-

petition. The participants were chosen by a drawing.

As the time neared for the contest to begin the shop filled with onlookers, some appearing as anxious as the contestants. Whilst the clock ticked away and the bystanders cheered them on, the participants hurriedly stuffed their trolleys with whatever they could get their hands on while making mental calculations of their total.

When all was done, it was Charlamae Fernander, who was the winner. Her groceries totaled \$498.81, just \$1.19 shy of \$500. Ms. Fernander attributes her win to the fact that she visited the store ahead of time making notes of the prices of the items she wished to select. Despite not winning the top prize, the other contestants were awarded \$100 gift certificates.

This shopping spree was the first for the year and the second in Price Right's history. Last year's winner was Mr. Billy Roberts. So far this year Price Right has given away a 27-inch television, \$200, \$100 and \$50 gift certificates, grills, vinyl swimming pools, cellular phones and gazebos.

The other participants in this year's shopping spree were Maria Edgcombe \$494.40, Willann Mills \$486.11, Beatrice Moxey \$514.22 and Joel Hepburn \$677.75.

Pete Sears Retires From BEC

By Jennifer Hudson

After a record 45 years of service with the Bahamas Electricity Corporation, Mr. Pete Sears finally bade them farewell as he commenced his pre-retirement leave on July 1st. His official retirement begins on October 1st, and he is looking forward to just taking it easy for four to six months and enjoying a cruise through the Panama Canal.

Although Mr. Sears joined the staff of BEC on January 18th, 1961, he has not worked all those years on Abaco. He began in Nassau as a labourer in the Generation Department and worked his way up the ladder in the departments of Genera-

Please see **Central**

Page 21



NEMA held a service of thanksgiving on July 4. Some of the special music was provided by a trio of NEMA staff shown above.



Mr. Pete Sears retired after working for BEC for 45 years. At his retirement he was in charge of generation. He is shown here on the right at a retirement party in his honour with Mr. John Hudson under whom he worked for several years.

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More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 20*

tion and Operations to reach the position of Generation Foreman at the Blue Hills Power Station. In 1995 he was seconded to Abaco as Acting Assistant Manager, Generation, and was confirmed in the position of Assistant Manager, Generation, in 1996, a post which he held until his retirement.

A retirement party was held for him by fellow staff members on July 1st at which he was presented with a plaque and gifts.

Mr. Sears thanked the two managers, Mr. John Hudson and Mr. Benjamin Beneby, under whom he had worked during his tenure "for making his job a pleasant and rewarding one." Alluding to changes he had seen during his time with BEC, Abaco, Mr. Sears said, "I have seen the system grow at a phenomenal rate. We have been through

some rough times such as hurricanes and break downs, but I thank everyone for their exemplary support." He ended by saying, "I would like to see more people taking the opportunity for training that is always afforded them."

Ministry of Tourism Welcomes Church Group

By Portia Jonsson

On June 27th Ms. Jeritzan Outten and her team at the Ministry of Tourism hosted a reception at Regattas of Abaco to welcome Bishop David Pike and his evangelistic team of 38 from Source Nation in Gainesville, Georgia, to our beautiful island.

Ms. Outten told the group that Abaco has a little of everything and bragged about its diversity. Bishop Pike thanked the ministry for their hospitality and said it is his goal to

bring 100 persons to the island next year.

Source Nation Ministries staged a three-day crusade donned *Unite Bahamas 2005* at the Murphy Town Park on June 29th - July 1st. The Abaco Christian Council, through the leadership of President Stephen Knowles and Vice President Bishop Clifford Henfield, hosted the group for this crusade along with a seven-day Christian retreat. It is envisaged that this historical occasion be the first of an annual event every June in The Bahamas.

On May 27th - 30th Pastor Knowles and Bishop Henfield along with Bishops John McIntosh and Anthony Campbell visited The Source in Georgia and the seed for this

crusade was planted. A month later, this seed bore fruit and Bishop Pike delivered a message from God to the people of Abaco.

Boat Was Seized By Customs

By Jennifer Hudson

A 1994 31-foot Jupiter with two Mercury engines was impounded by Customs in Marsh Harbour after the vessel arrived in Hope Town and failed to report to Customs. This vessel is presently impounded by Customs in Marsh Harbour and is liable to seizure by the Customs Department for breach of Customs Regulations.

The vessel is owned by a prominent Bahamian businessman who lives between Abaco and Lyford Cay in Nassau.



Bishop David Pike and 38 members of his evangelistic team visited Abaco for a seven-day crusade in Murphy Town. The Ministry of Tourism hosted a reception at Regattas of Abaco in their honour.



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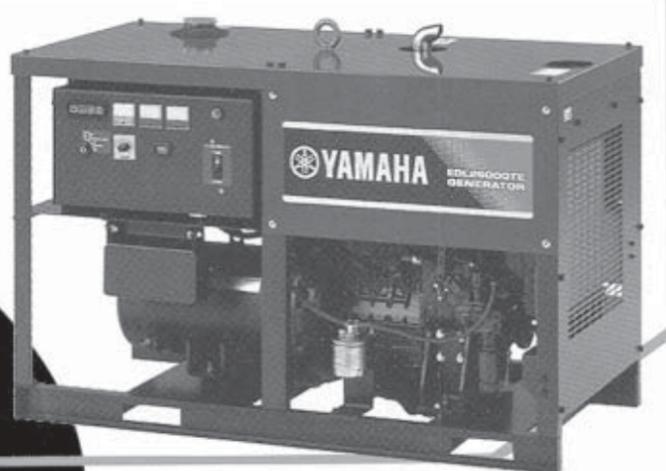
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Business Briefs

Bahamas Waste Names Abaco Manager

Bahamas Waste Limited is pleased to announce the appointment of Roscoe Thompson III, as Operations Supervisor for Bahamas Waste Limited for Abaco and the cays. Mr. Thompson's appointment will commence immediately. Bahamas Waste is pleased with the growth it is currently experiencing on Abaco and welcomes Mr. Thompson's experience and eagerness to oversee the challenges faced in a new market. We are confident that he will provide the level of service necessary to keep Bahamas Waste as the industry leader in the Out Islands.



Bahamas Waste Ltd. has named Mr. Roscoe Thompson III as Operations Supervisor of their Abaco business. He is shown here with Ms. Ethelyn Davis, Operations Manager in Nassau.

Coldwell Banker Moves to New Office

Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty has upgraded to new premises in Marsh Harbour in response to the burgeoning real estate market. Rather than renovating its hurricane-damaged office, Lightbourn Realty relocated to a building next to the fire station in Marsh Harbour, doubling its office size.

"We had planned to move to larger premises because we had outgrown our old office. Hurricane Jeanne stepped up our timetable," said Mr. Mike Lightbourn, president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty. He said the upgrade reflects Lightbourn Realty's growth and vibrancy.

Hurricane Jeanne devastated Marsh Harbour last September. The surge from the harbour flooded the old office, destroying furniture and flooring.

With its new location, the company still enjoys a premier spot on Queen Elizabeth Drive in the heart of Marsh Harbour. In addition to painting the building and renovating the interior of the new office, Lightbourn Realty landscaped the front garden. "We wanted to contribute to the beautification of the area," said sales agent Mailin Sands. Mr. Lightbourn said the investment demonstrates his company's confidence in the future of Abaco.

Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty opened doors in Marsh Harbour in 2000 and has since opened a second office on Abaco in Green Turtle Cay. Mr. Lightbourn teamed up with

Coldwell Banker, the largest retailer of luxury real estate property in the United States, in 1999.

In addition to its new office in Nassau and the Abaco offices, Lightbourn Realty has offices in Bimini and Harbour Island, Eleuthera, and representation throughout much of the Bahamas.

The Coldwell Banker system has more than 3,700 residential and commercial offices and 120,000 sales associates in 26 countries and territories.

New Businesses

By Portia Jonsson

T's Undergarments located on Forest Drive opposite the Murphy Town Track opened its doors on May 30th. This small but well stocked boutique specializes in bras, panties, girdles, lingerie and bathrobes from all the top brand names like Vanity Fair, Goddess, Maiden Form, Delta Burke, Olga, Curvations and Flexies. All merchandise is sold at U.S. prices and sizes for bras range from 32B to 54I. If you are not sure about your bra size, no need to worry because you can be discreetly measured and fitted

properly for the correct size at the store. Store hours are 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday or telephone them at 559-9599.

For all your DVD rentals and electronics, be sure to check out Video World on Forest Drive next to Long Bay School. Video World carries a wide selection of New Generation games, televisions, VCR, DVD and CD players, car audio systems, air conditioners and microwave ovens. Store hours are 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. – 10 p.m. Friday to Saturday and 2 p.m. – 10 p.m. on Sunday. For a limited time only the store has air-cooled and electric start diesel and gas generators from 1KW to 10KW.

Please see **Business** Page 25



Coldwell Banker sales associate Mailin Sands is with Mike Lightbourn, president, outside their new premises on Queen Elizabeth Drive in Marsh Harbour.

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From Page 4

worthy of the trust that has been put in me. I want to assure the Administrator that it is time to restore the good name of Abaco Central District.”

Only three representatives from Dundas Town were present. The Chairman, Mr. Augustine Williams; Deputy Chairman, Rev. Steven Knowles; and board member Mr. Sonith Lockhart were introduced. They were followed by Marsh Harbour’s Chairman for the Town Committee, Mrs. Yvonne Key, accompanied by Deputy Chairman Ms. Kim Roberts and board members Mr. Dale Hill and Mr. Collin Curry.

Mrs. Key, who is on her fourth term with local government said, “Only death will prevent me from running. I do plan to serve Marsh Harbour well.” She also apologized for the absence of several of her board’s members, stating how embarrassed she was that people living right here in Marsh Harbour did not show up while Moore’s Island, Grand Cay or Sandy Point inductees made the effort to come.”

The Chief Councillors were called to take their oaths of allegiance and their judicial oaths.

It was dark when all the presentations and speeches were terminated, but torches had been lit around the lawn and a bright moon crescent decorated the sky. The heat of the day had left replaced by a cool breeze. It was time to partake in the libations and the delicious Bahamian food prepared for the occasion. Dancing was planned to the tunes of the Wesley College Band.

Stubbs

From Page 5

million monthly into the Public Treasury gives them a lot of clout. “That is no small feat,” he said. “It empowers each Councillor and district representative to be

emboldened with voice, money and power.”

Mr. Stubbs said local government leaders should make demands on their MP to improve central government’s responsiveness to their demands. He had always thought a fundamental flaw in the 1996 Local Government Act was its failure to spell out the relationship between local government representatives and their MP’s.

He said that in all of his work abroad on Wall Street and with the United Nations in Latin America, he had never met entrepreneurs who possessed the tenacity, drive and integrity of Abaco business people. He said in this, the fastest growing island in the country, the Abaco entrepreneurial drive could help push The Bahamas from being a \$5.5 billion economy to a \$10 billion economy.

School

From Page 16

by the academic staff on campus.) The school grounds will be completely fenced again shortly, and four security officers are now on permanent duty to control the flow of traffic through the school.

Abaco Central High is the largest high school in the Family Islands with an enrolment of 520 students in grades 6 through 12. Sixty-five graduated this year. They will be replaced in September by a similar number of students coming from various primary schools around the area. Mr. Green even expects an increase of at least ten more students. To handle this increasing amount of students, the high school will get three more teachers and a guidance counselor, making the teaching staff 37 with an administrative body of three.

“Academic improvement and discipline are topics that are going to be dealt with seriously starting the next school year,” said Mr. Green. The academic level is not what they would like it to be. The

administrative trio has a vision of what the school should be. “Objectives for the next five years are going to be developed and applied,” according to Mr. Green. “Students will be made accountable for making sure they improve themselves. Social promotion will be looked at closely. Moreover, any students who finds himself or herself disrupting the teachers or other students will be dealt with in the firmest way.”

The Principal will encourage parents to talk to the teachers and find how their children are performing. They will continue to bring in people such as religious leaders to motivate the students and will institute extra curriculum activities by creating clubs like music and drama for example and hold competition between the houses, as inspired by the show *It’s*

Academic. The administration want to instill pride, house pride and school pride in students. A public relation team will be created consisting of adults and students from the students council. Mr. Green has a vision of Abaco Central as “the school to be in, as a school to be proud of.”

Independence

From Page 2

are to blame for allowing young people to get into trouble. The churches need to learn unity and work together to help the nation to be where it should be.

Department Heads, Managers of Public Corporations and other local dignitaries were in attendance.



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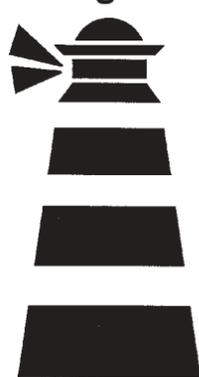


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Club News

Rotary Club Holds Installation Banquet

By Jennifer Hudson

The "Changing of the Guard" for the Rotary Club of Abaco took place on June 25th at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge when the baton was passed to incoming president Jo-Ann Bradley. Installing the new president was District Assistant Governor, Murray Forde, from the Rotary Club of East Nassau, who was accompanied by his wife Elaine.

A review of the past year was given by outgoing president George Riviere, who listed the many achievements of the club. Monetary contributions were made to the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey and Ev-

ery Child Counts School and donations of refrigerators and stoves were made to needy hurricane victims in addition to clothes and bedding. After the hurricanes hundreds of book bags were received and distributed to school children throughout the whole of Abaco as a result of great organization by Bill Schweizer, Jo-Ann Bradley and a Rotary sister club in the United States.

Contributions of radios and flash lights were made to the Red Cross for hurricane preparedness. The wheelchair programme was a great achievement with 30 being donated to needy and deserving persons. The annual Rotary speech contests were very successful with close and exciting finishes. A special dinner was hosted for the elderly and at Christmas 200 food boxes were dis-

tributed to the needy from money collected during the annual bell ringing.

The Interact Club at St. Francis de Sales School was finally chartered which was a great achievement and, it is felt, should do well under the guidance of its very motivated advisor.

The late Mr. Haziell Albury of Man-O-War Cay, who as a child suffered from polio, was remembered for his generosity in allowing his photograph to be used on the club's collection bottles in their fight against polio throughout the world. In all, it was felt that, for a small club, much had been achieved.

Special thanks were given to Rotarian Bill Schweizer, who has been instrumental in doing such a great deal for the club, and he and Jo-Ann Bradley were named "Rotarians of the Year."

Mr. Murray Forde said that it had been a very exciting year for Rotary as February 23rd marked its 100th anniversary. He congratulated the Rotary Club of Abaco, in which he sees a strong spirit and great sense of fellowship, and said, "I look forward to working with the club throughout the coming year." He challenged the club to grow its membership and was pleased to install Barbara Johnson, President of the Abaco branch of the Red Cross, as its newest member.

Incoming President, Mrs. Bradley, stated that it will be her goal to look at social issues during the coming year. The first problem to tackle is that of garbage which is not only a turn-off for everyone but is environmentally unhealthy. She suggests that Rotarians take the initiative and reach out to other civic clubs to partner and tackle this big problem. "By educating kids, do-

ing public relations work in the community and working out an 'adopt a road' scheme, we can put little pieces together to achieve a great deal."

Mrs. Bradley mentioned the desire of the Principal of Abaco Central High School for an auditorium where all the students could be brought together for talks and functions to try and eradicate some of the tension between young Haitian and Bahamian students. The building could be used by others for concerts and community events. "This will be an expensive project and can the Rotary Club of Abaco do it alone?" she asked. "No, but with the help of Rotary International, yes, we can," she stressed.

Other goals for her year in office are to build the membership by ten, have "hands on" work days in the community, hold four "fun" fund raisers during the year and look at new and different ways to serve the community.

Board members for the coming year are Jo-Ann Bradley, President; Sandra Albury, Secretary; Steve Davis, Treasurer; Bryan Thompson, Vocational Services; Peter Bradley, International Service; Cindy Hayworth, Club Service; Cleola Cooper, Membership; Fred Gottlieb, Sergeant at Arms.

Pilot Club Installs New Officers

The Pilot Club of Abaco had its installation of new officers on June 29 at Back Street Café. The officers are Claudius Rolle, President; Charlamae Fernander, President Elect; Zali Chu, Secretary; Joyce Riviere,



Mr. Murray Forde, District Assistant Governor, attended the meeting of the Rotary Club on June 25 for the installation of new officers and the induction of a new member. Shown here is Mr. Forde congratulating Mrs. Barbara Johnson, a new member, while Mrs. Jo-Ann Bradley, the new president of the club, looks on.

Please see **Clubs**

Page 25



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<http://www.oii.net>

<http://www.bahamas.com>

Cable Bahamas Announces Basic Cable Channel Changes

Cable Bahamas, a provider of cable television and broadband Internet services, has announced coming refinements to the basic cable television packages in New Providence, Grand Bahama, Abaco and Eleuthera beginning this August through September.

Several new channels including Discovery Channel, Food Network, and Tempo, a new Caribbean-focused music network, will be added to basic cable. Sci-Fi and E! Entertainment Television will now become part of basic cable for all four islands.

When the changes are complete, all cable television customers on these islands will have identical basic cable packages for the first time.

Cable Bahamas Director of Marketing, David Burrows, stated that while New Providence, Grand Bahama and Abaco will have several channel changes, replacements and additions, Eleuthera customers will see a near-complete revamp of their basic cable package with the addition of numerous new channels.

In addition to the channel changes, basic cable channels will be realigned so that channels offering similar programming genres are grouped together. Burrows stated, "For example, if you are following a news story it will be easier to surf from one news channel to the next using your

remote control. With the major networks, family and children's channels grouped together, it will be easier and faster to find just what you want."

All these changes are possible because of a recently completed \$2 million technical upgrade investment in the company's processing facility in Nassau. This project is part of the company's overall cable television digital cable upgrade strategy that will introduce many new television services.

A detailed schedule and a listing of the revised basic channel lineup will soon be posted to the company's web site, www.cablebahamas.com.

Cable Bahamas Ltd. is majority owned by 2,500 Bahamians and the Government of the Bahamas. The company's 248 employees provide world-class broadband cable television service on 16 Bahamian islands; high-speed Internet access services on Grand Bahama, Abaco, Eleuthera and New Providence; connectivity between The Bahamas and the rest of the world with a 850-kilometre, submarine, fibre-optic system owned and operated by wholly-owned subsidiary Caribbean Crossings Ltd; and web-hosting, data centre, and disaster recovery services through wholly-owned subsidiary Maxil Communications Ltd.

Tourism Booths Will Provide Information

By Portia Jonsson

Since May of this year a Ministry of Tourism Information booth has been open on Green Turtle Cay. Despite being open only two days a week on Monday and Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., this booth serves as a presence of the Ministry of Tourism providing valuable general information of the island to visitors and assisting in making

recommendations and distributing brochures.

Construction of the Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay Tourism information booths is expected to begin this month and Ms. Wynsome Ferguson with the Abaco Tourist Office says that the Ministry hopes to present plans to the Hope Town Council for the implementation of booths on that cay.

Business

From Page 22

Give them a call today at telephone 367-0267.

On April 4th Let's Talk Wireless next to First Caribbean Bank opened for business. Specializing in cellular phones and accessories, the store also carries an array of computer accessories, electronics and games. Quickcell and Rocket phone cards are sold in store as well. Let's Talk Wireless is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.. To contact them call 367-0610.

Bargain Car Rentals offers daily and weekly rentals of full size cars and mini vans at low rates. This business, which opened a two months ago, is located on Don MacKay Boulevard next to Abaco Wholesale and operates between the hours of 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Sunday. To reserve your car, telephone them at 367-0500.

Clubs

From Page 24

Treasurer; Adrenne Spicer, Director Operations; Andrea Chu, Direct of Fund Raising; and Neulessa Major, Director of Youth and Projects.

A special guest attended that meeting - a six-year-old boy who is deaf and mute, having both physical and mental impairments. He was invited to put a face on the Pilots Club's purpose to help persons with brain-related disorders and disabilities. It was a moving experience for all in attendance. The theme was Building Life-long Friendship.

The Pilot Club is a proud supporter of Every Child Counts and is an advocate of its Brain-Minders Program that teaches young children how to protect themselves from head injuries and brain trauma.



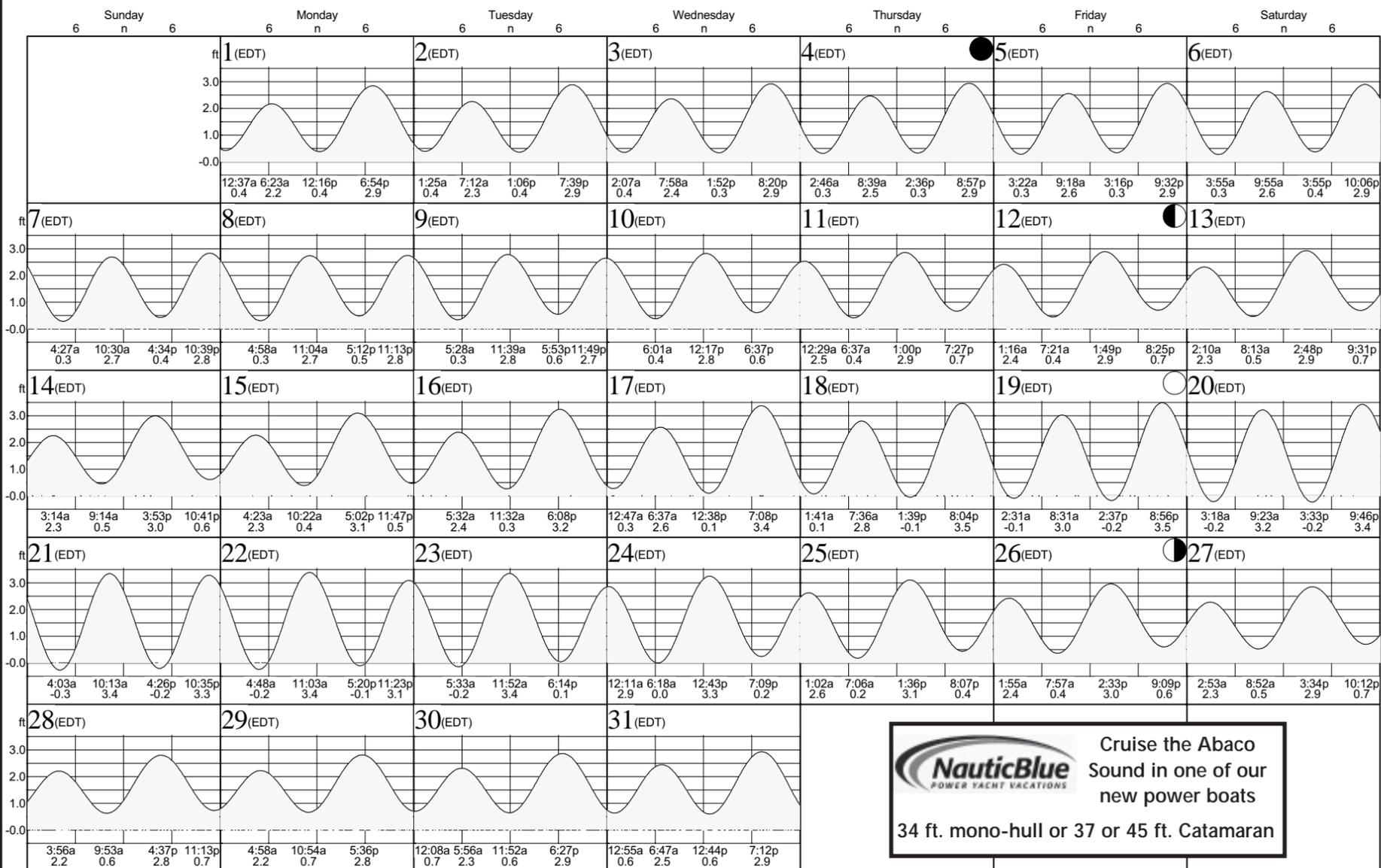
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More South Abaco News



A church in Chicago sends a group of young people to Abaco annually to hold Bible camps for Abaco youth. Twenty came this year. The young people enjoy the structured sports, crafts and Biblical studies that the camps offer.

South *From Page 13*

his left arm and hand but was soon back home and is now on the slow road to recovery. Dr. Boyce said that if they had not had their safety belts on, their injuries would have been much worse.

Steak-Out Held

Our young people continue with their enthusiasm to raise money for their Recreation Center and held another successful Steak-Out on July 16. Don't let them become discouraged; continue to support them. When they want something so badly, we need to do all we can to help them.

Our "Long Dock"

Little by little, plank by plank, our Long Dock is coming along. This time of the year there are lots of visitors here, and they are coming forward to give a few hours of their precious vacation time to volunteer. The work is all done by volunteers and we cer-

tainly appreciate all the help we get.

Vacation Bible Camp

Through Pastor Weatherford's church in Marsh Harbour a group of young people has been coming to our island for 11 years from Calvary Church in Chicago, Illinois, to have a vacation Bible camp for the children of Abaco. Twenty persons in all came this summer to do crafts and play games. Everyone enjoys themselves; the children meet new people and got necessary spiritual training; and the islanders

appreciate the interaction with these dedicated young people and are always glad to welcome them back.

Cherokee Residents Refute Claims Made by Winding Bay

By Jennifer Hudson

Residents of Cherokee Sound are irate over statements from Winding Bay that improvements have been made to their settlement by the developers and have voiced their disappointment that the improvements promised have not been effected.

While it was implied that a water line has been extended to within easy reach of the settlement for home owners to tap into, residents say, "It only extends to the edge of the Winding Bay property, a couple of miles short of the settlement. In order for us to obtain water from that source, government would have to lay all the pipes."

Mr. Kenneth Albury, Local Govern-

ment Committee Member for Cherokee and Deputy Chief Councillor for the South Abaco District, made statements regarding two meetings which took place with the developers. "A meeting was held in the W.W. Sands Community Centre when the Winding Bay development was in its initial stages, between Mr. Peter de Savary, the Hon. Allyson Maynard-Gibson, Min. of Financial Services and Investments, and residents of Cherokee. This meeting was to discuss bathrooms to be built at the public access site to the beach. However, contrary to recent statements made, there is no sign of any bathrooms."

Mr. Albury also reported that another meeting was held some time ago at which Mr. Mark Scott, Project Director for Winding Bay, promised to clean up the ball park, make it bigger, put in quarry, dirt and grass and build it up three or four feet by August 1st, 2005. "However, nothing so far has been done by the people from Winding Bay. The ball field has recently been mowed but this has been done by local government. Another

person from Winding Bay did come to a further meeting about the ball field two or three months ago but subsequently broke his leg and nothing further has been heard."

A very angry lady who wished to remain anonymous refuted the claim that no one from Cherokee had applied for a job there saying, "I know of 12 applications which were sent in by individual persons but I and the applicants believe that they were thrown in the bin."

The lady who works for Sunshine Cleaners which has a contract to clean at Winding Bay, said, "I and two others from Cherokee worked there for three days with the company cleaning the cottages. However, tilers and other contractors were still working in the building and there was no running water which made it impossible to clean properly. I worked for three days and then quit. The other ladies stayed on for a few more days and were then fired because they were told they were not doing their job regardless of the fact that working conditions were less than satisfactory."

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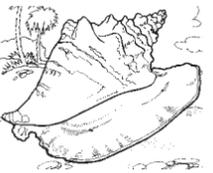
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Fire - Dundas Town	367-2935 or 4935
Fire - Hope Town	VHF Ch 16
Fire - Green Turtle Cay	365-4133
Fire - Man-O-War	365-6911
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas	Marine VHF 16
Hope Town 366-0500	Marsh Harbour 367-3752
Guana Cay 365-5178,	Treasure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

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
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Government Clinic Hope Town	366-0108
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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 Moxy	\$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
Calypto 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

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367-5822 • Fax 367-5823 • www.abaco-chamber.org

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.	

Points of Interest	
Albert Lowe Museum	Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits	Green T Cay
	Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	Green Turtle Cay
Wyannie Malone Historical Museum	Hope Town
Elbow Cay Light Station	Hope Town

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 Marina	150 F 365-8250
Man-O-War	
Man-O-War Marina	26 F 365-6008
Marsh Harbour	
Boat Harbour Marina	183 F 367-2736
Conch Inn	75 F 367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36 F 367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52 F 367 2700
Mangoes	..... 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	
Dive Abaco, Marsh Harbour	367-2787
Abaco Dive Adventures, Marsh H.	367-2963
Froggies, Hope Town	366-0431
Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay	365-8465
Treasure C. Adventures.	365-8111
Brendal's Dive, Green T. Cay	365-4411
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
Bargain Car Rentals	367-0500
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	Man-O-War
Patrick Roberts 366-4286	David Albury 365-6059
Nicholas Roberts	Cherokee
Derrick Gaitor	Theodore Sawyer 366-2111
Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133	Will Sawyer 366-2177
Vernal Burrows	Marty Sawyer 366-2115
Kendall White	Noel Lowe 366-2107
Anthony Bain 366-4107	Junior Albury 366-3058
Floyd Burrows 366-4175	Randy Sawyer 366-2284
Links Adderly 366-4335	Hope Town
Valentino Lightbourne	Maitland Lowe 366-0133
Ricky Burrows 366-4233	North Abaco
Marsh Harbour	O'Donald McIntosh .. 477-5037
Jody Albury 375-8068	Pope McKenzie 477-5894
Terrance Davis 367-4464	Orthnell Russell 365-0125
Buddy Pinder 366-2163	Alexander Rolle 365-0120
Justin Sands 367-3526	Edward Rolle 365-0024
Danny Sawyer 367-3577	Green Turtle Cay
Jay Sawyer 367-3941	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	\$
Coconuts	.....
Harbour Cafe	\$ 365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$ 365-8648
Spinnaker Restaurant	... \$\$\$ 365-8469
Touch of Class	... \$\$\$ 365-8195
Traveller's Rest	..... 365-8654
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	\$\$\$ 365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	... \$\$ 365-4200
Green Turtle Club	... \$\$\$ 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 14, JULY 15th, 2005

Summer Time Is Goombay Time

Bahamian Food, Music, Dance and Crafts Are Featured



The Goombay festivals, held every other week during the summer, showcase Bahamian culture. Here a fire dancer shows visitors some of the dance steps inherent in Bahamian culture.



Junkanoo, distinctly Bahamian, is featured at every Goombay production. Goombay is held at Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour and is always well attended.

By Portia Jonsson

It's Goombay summer time in Abaco again! The summer festival, sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, got off to a roaring start on June 17th at Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour and from now until end of August Bahamians and visitors from all over the world will come together to have fun, be entertained and participate in the activities of this street festival highlighting Goombay, the rhythm of Bahamian music. It is a glimpse inside our culture experience featuring native music, food, dance and arts and crafts.

Goombay, the traditional music of The Bahamas, has in recent times also become known as "rake and scrape" and the music's origins date to the time of slavery. As slaves

had to be resourceful when devising musical instruments, traditional bands were comprised of drums made of beef, pork and lard barrels with goat-skin, saws scraped with metal files, maracas and rhythm sticks.

A number of different performers have displayed their talents during the festival including the world famous Royal Bahamas Police Marching Band, Jay Mitchell, Nehemiah Hield, Geno D, Colin McDonald, The Spank Band and Impact Band. There were also native dance performances from the Bahamas Flame Dancers and the New Wave Dancers and of course, Junkanoo rush-outs from the Spring City Rockers.

The remaining dates for the Goombay Summer Festival are July 29th, August 12th and August 26th. See you there.

Donations Assist Volunteer Services



The Bertram Hatteras Shootout, the prestigious billfish tournament held annually at Abaco Beach Resort and Boat Harbour, recently made a donation to the Every Child Counts school, Abaco Crash Rescue Squad Assoc. and the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. Shown here are Mr. Colin Albury representing the Crash Rescue, Mr. John Neophytou of Abaco Beach Resort giving the checks and Brent Key of the fire department. Every Child Counts representative was not present. Each organization received \$6667.

Apology for Errors in July 1 Issue

The July 1 issue of *The Abaconian* had several problems in Section B. The printer in Miami replaced the July 1 pages with several pages from the June 15 issue and repeated one page from Section A in Sec-

tion B. We regret these mistakes. We have included in this issue the stories that were either missing or only partly printed in the last issue. The printer was most apologetic for the mistakes.

Cooling Off the Abaco Way



Police Hold Summer Camp

By Jennifer Hudson

The Royal Bahamas Police Force, Abaco, is doing its part to provide safe wholesome activities for young people during the school's summer break to try to prevent the children becoming involved in gang violence and drugs. On July 4th almost 100 children gathered at the Central Abaco Primary School for the start of a summer camp which will be run by police from North and Central Abaco. The camp opened with an assembly at which Police Chief ASP Wayne Miller welcomed the children, and the two leaders from North and Central Abaco spoke of their plans and activities for the camp.

Woman Sergeant Johnson from North Abaco challenged the children to "come with your minds open and ready to learn." She and fellow Woman Police Officer Whymms bused 29 children from all of the settlements in North Abaco into Marsh Harbour for the

Education Conference Challenged Educators

By Richard E. Fawkes

Abaco District Education Superintendent Rudolph Smith took a delegation of almost 30 to the 18th National Education Conference held July 3 through July 7 in Nassau. The delegation included principals, teachers, counselors, parent and youth representatives from schools, including at least two private institutions, throughout the island.

After a busy week of interacting with over 700 colleagues, government leaders and education consultants from throughout the archipelago as well as from abroad, the challenge now is how best can Mr. Smith and his team impart the charges and information to the general community to bring Abaco on board in helping to transform "Bahamian Education in the 21st Century," according to the conclave's theme.

Minister of Education and Attorney General, the Hon. Alfred Sears, both in his opening remarks on the first day of the conference and in his closing remarks, held to the dictum enunciated by South Africa's Liberation President Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."

The two most provocative addresses to the conference were incorporated into its Declaration of Commitment to Education in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas as challenges for the educational establishment to face. They were the address by Central Bank economist John Rolle on reforming the educational system to meet the country's development needs nationally and in the global arena and the address by Dr. Ethley London, executive director of the University Council of Jamaica, titled, *The Impact of 21st Century Realities on Education*. This includes the need to establish accreditation for institutions of higher learning crossing Bahamian borders from abroad physically and by internet.

The Abaco delegation had opportunities to interact in smaller group discussions built around such themes as strategic planning, teaching and learning, school reform, policy and management issues, school safety and discipline, professional development and capacity building and special populations such as the disabled.

Among the strands issuing from those themes were such workshops as numeracy across the curriculum, in the teaching and learning theme, aimed at finding ways to improve math skills.

Also under teaching and learning, a workshop focused on raising the quality of education through the use of information and communication technology, while another focused on distance learning. At least two focused on expanding technical and vocational education as a way of diversifying the curriculum in a diversified economy. One of the latter workshops was led by Frank Comito of the Bahamas Hotel Association; another on skills for life and health in adolescent education was led by Mr. Comito and Samuel Gardiner of the Ministry of Tourism's training division; and another included representatives from Bahamas Vocational and Technical Institute (BTVI) and the building trades.

Dencil Kerr, assistant manager for curriculum and training at BTVI, said the institution has been laying plans, in collaboration with Administrator Revis Rolle, to establish program on Abaco, beginning in September.

There was also a special session on community and parental involvement in education, a particular challenge in public schools on Abaco. This was led by Dr. Desiree Cox of Community Transformation and Andrea Archer of the Ministry of Health.

Two other workshops were of particular interest to Abaconians. One dealt with using English as a second language across the curriculum as a way of effectively reaching the large Haitian immigrant population whose first language is Creole. The other dealt with practical approaches to dealing with disruptive behaviour.

The conference has charged the Abaco and other delegations to develop commissions of parents, community and policy leaders, as well as subject councils to carry out the directives of the conference. In addition to that, it is hoped the delegation would mount an effective, interactive communication exercise in schools and communities throughout the island to apprise colleagues, parents and community leaders of what they learned at the conference and how it could help move forward the Abaco education agenda in the coming year.



Members of the Abaco delegation to the 18th National Education Conference held in Nassau on July 3 - 7 numbered about 30. In the foreground are the Hon. Alfred Sears, Minister of Education and Attorney General; Ms. Veronica Owens, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education; and Mr. Rudolph Smith, Abaco District Superintendent.

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 Restuarant, Abaco Beach Resort

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Bahama Islands Are Most Impacted by Hurricanes

The Bahamas has the greatest frequency of tropical storm activity in the entire Caribbean Basin, according to the Department of Meteorology in Nassau which has studied the history of hurricanes in The Bahamas over the past 150 years.

Mr. Trevor Basden, Deputy Director of Meteorology, revealed that for the entire Caribbean Basin, which stretches from the Leeward and Windward Islands in the east to Hispaniola and Cuba in the west, The Bahama Islands have the greatest frequency of hurricanes.

Even more disturbing to residents here is information that the Caribbean Hurri-

cane Network has indicated that the hurricane capital of the Caribbean is Abaco with 18 severe hurricanes since 1851, which is an average of one hurricane every eight to nine years. Grand Bahama has seen the most hurricanes, 40, which averages of one every four years.

This means that this country should always be on the alert for storms. It was no surprise to weathermen as to what happened during last year's hurricane season in the Northern Bahamas as the greatest probability of The Bahamas being hit are those islands in the northwest sector of The Bahamas.

Abaco and Grand Bahama are still in

the recovery stage from last year's storms but we need to take necessary precautions to minimize the impact of any hurricanes that might come our way this year.

In the past the country has responded to hurricanes after they have taken place but the Department of Meteorology stresses that we must focus on risk management, preparation and disaster planning in place beforehand. The country needs to look at building codes and enforce them better. Individuals need to prepare better.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA) has predicted 12 to 15 named storms, six to nine of which are expected to become hurricanes; three to nine major storms, meaning wind speeds of up to 111 mph or greater.

However, noted professor Dr. William Gray has predicted 15 named storms, eight of which are expected to become hurricanes and four major storms. Both predictions have indicated a 39 percent increase in the possibility of hurricanes making landfall in the southeastern United States. This obviously means that the experts are expecting an increase in hurricane activities through The Bahamas.



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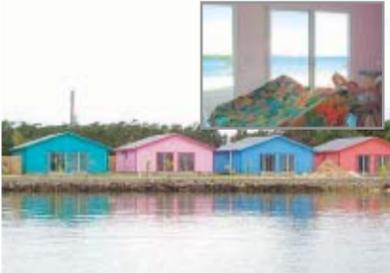
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| Marsh Harbour: (242) 367-5046 | Lubbers Quarters Cay: (242) 366-3143 |
| Hope Town: (242) 366-0040 | Eleuthera & Harbour Is: (242) 332-2820 |



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<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>"Serenity House" is a modern 5,600 sq. ft. two story CBS home offering incredible ocean views from every room. All floors are marble and ceilings are open wood-beam in this four bedroom, four and a half bath, two car garage home. Designed by noted Bahamian Architect John Darville. Two fully landscaped lots with 290 ft. oceanfront. US\$3,900,000. Stan Sawyer: (242) 477-5821 - stan@damianos.com</p>	<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>Casa Bella - Luxury 3 bed 3.5 bath beachfront home bordering white sand and crystal blue water. Professionally decorated 5,200 sq. ft. of living space with 12' ceilings. Quality finishes include: custom cabinetry, Monogram stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, marble floors and designer furnishings. Study, attached 2-car garage and more. Offered at US\$3,100,000. Internet Reference #2640 Kerry Sullivan: (242) 366-0040 - kerry@damianos.com</p>	<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>"The Blue House" - Uniquely designed 4 bed 5 bath beach house on Treasure Cay Beach. Great ocean views, master suite and bedroom/study, three bedroom suites with private baths; each bath has access to the outdoor deck. Hurricane shutters, 3 central A/C units, open kitchen, cathedral ceiling in main living area and more. Offered at US\$2,090,000. Internet Reference #2086 Nick Damianos: (242) 322-2305 - nick@damianos.com</p>
<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>Mango House is a magical island haven, RIGHT ON THE BEACH. Nestled in a tropical garden with coconut palms it features 3 bedrooms 2 baths, 2nd floor living, dining and bedrooms opening to verandahs with sea views. Listen to the whisper of surrounding tall palms, and the lapping of the turquoise blue waters on to the shore. Relax in privacy at this unspoiled and unsurpassed location. US\$1,550,000. Ref. #2671 Stan Sawyer: (242) 477-5821 - stan@damianos.com</p>	<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>"Windsong" - Stylistic, cozy and very private beachfront residence. Island style three pod residence with centre pod comprising living, dining, kitchen and patio areas. Master suite pod with Jacuzzi bath takes advantage of refreshing ocean views through sliding glass doors. Two guest bedrooms each with private baths in a separate pod. Lush tropical environment. \$1,550,000. Internet Ref. #2722 Stan Sawyer: (242) 477-5821 - stan@damianos.com</p>	<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>"Crosswinds" - Four bed three bath 2,800 sq. ft. family home and apartment. Located in multi-millionaire neighbourhood. Solid CBS construction inside and out. Family room, 2 central A/C's, 2 generators, 2 fresh water wells and manicured garden. Apartment with large bedroom and bath, living room and kitchen; great rental history. Offered for sale at \$820,000. Ref. #2516. Stan Sawyer: (242) 477-5821 - stan@damianos.com</p>
<p>MARSH HARBOUR</p>  <p>"Pelican Point" lies in a very private cul-de-sac in Pelican Shores. The elevated property has 435 feet of waterfrontage and has 75 foot dock with 6,500 pound boat lift. The main house encompasses 2,900 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms 3 baths and spacious deck with hot tub. It sits on a bluff with fantastic sea views. Garage and private one bedroom apartment. US\$1,690,000. Internet Ref. #2769 Laurie Schreiner: (242) 367-5046 - laurie@damianos.com</p>	<p>TREASURE CAY</p>  <p>PRIME WATERFRONT COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT - Ten acre property with 460 feet waterfront, including a 120 foot beach. Four cottages, each with two bedrooms, ensuite baths, kitchen and living area. High quality, low maintenance materials. On-site furniture, fixtures and Reverse Osmosis water system. Development potential as a marina, resort or fishing lodge. Price upon inquiry. Internet Ref. #2407 Stan Sawyer: (242) 477-5821 - stan@damianos.com</p>	<p>HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY</p>  <p>"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. Ref. #2785 Jane Patterson: (242) 366-0569 - jane@damianos.com</p>

Youth Are Benefitting from Police Youth Camp

Police

From Page 1

opening assembly. Sixty applications were sent out to children in the north and Sgt Johnson expects that most of that number will turn out to the camp. She wishes to publicly thank Bishop Terrance Strachan and associates of Life Gate Ministries in Cooper's Town for so kindly donating the use of their bus for the entire duration of the camp.

Also assisting in the north will be Mrs. Athena Mackey, a teacher at S.C. Bootle High School.

Activities planned will be both educational and recreational and cover a vast array of subjects including arts and crafts, cosmetology, nail care, hair braiding and barbering, auto mechanics, floral design, needlecraft, etiquette, drama, banking and the importance of savings, a talk on dental care by Agape Dental Clinic, health talk by Cooper's Town clinic, classes in maths and

English, Junkanoo costume design using newspaper, paint and dye, and the making of home made cowbells. "Our theme," said Sgt. Johnson, "Is use what ya' got!"

A field trip will take place to Different of Abaco on July 20th and on August 13th Jim Richards, teacher and environmentalist, will lead a hike to the Blue Hole just outside Cedar Harbour.

Officer Charles Wells, organizer for Central Abaco, challenged the children to dream, illustrating his point with the story of how a man who once dreamed of getting a package across the world in one day established what became the vast Fed X company. Activities planned for Central Abaco include field trips, talks on health and family life, respect, discipline and how to protect against sexual predators. Persons from the Environmental Health Department will teach about caring for the environment. Music will also be an exciting part of the

programme with many of the children already involved in the new youth band. Sports will be another feature and a basketball tournament will be held between North and Central Abaco.

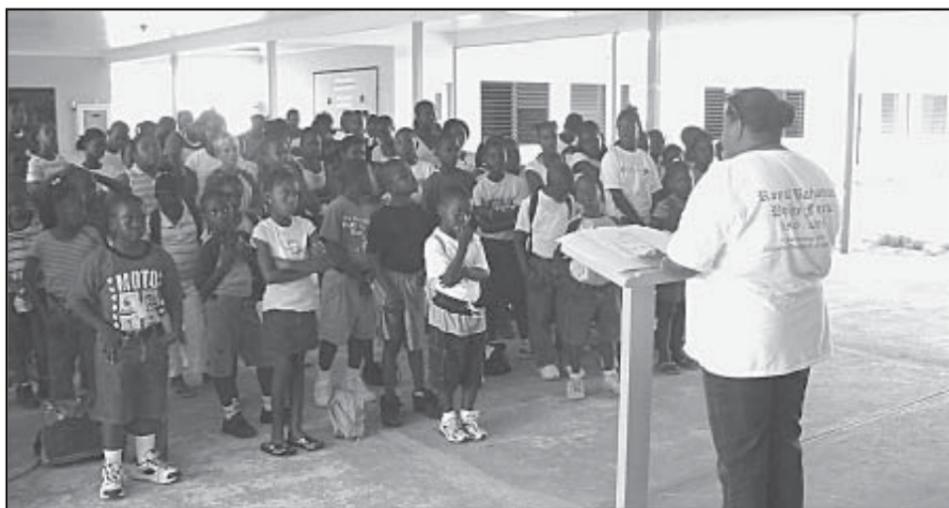
ASP Miller told the children, "This will be the best summer programme you have ever attended." He advised that they can expect a well disciplined and structured programme but there will also be fun days and sports days. It is his desire for all the children of Dundas Town, Murphy Town and Marsh Harbour get to know each other and all the settlements in the north to inter-mingle.

"Today we are targeting young people,

you are the future of Abaco, our most important citizens and the wealth of the nation," ASP Miller told the young people. "We will be giving you ideas so that one day you can become successful at whatever you attempt to do, and Abaco will be the better for you coming here to this summer camp."

A closing prayer was offered by Pastor Charles Lewis, who thanked the team for what they are doing and the impact which the camp will have on the community.

Also assisting in the camp, which will run for four weeks from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., will be Woman Corporal Campbell, Rev. Lewis and several parents.



The police force has organized a summer program for the children of Central Abaco. Activities include sports, recreational activities and academics and will be run on a very structured basis.

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each lot priced at **\$70,000.00**

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#2136

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



\$868,000.00

One of the finest homes on Elbow Cay & overlooking the beautiful crystal blue Atlantic Ocean. Centrally located on the island, 'Peek-a-View' is a great choice for a second or retiring home. The property is beautifully landscaped & the home is open & spacious. This 4 bed, 3 1/2 bath home has a large, open kitchen, Jacuzzi tub & his & her closets in the master suite.

#2134

Bahama Palm Shores



\$41,000.00

2 blocks from this stunning sandy white beach and crystal Atlantic Ocean, walking distance. This lot is perfect for those who want their own little piece of paradise. It is located in the peaceful and quiet Bahama Palm Shores.

#2175

**Leisure Lee
Marsh Harbour**



UNDER CONTRACT

\$110,000.00

This lot is located in beautiful Leisure Lee, just 15 minutes north of Marsh Harbour. It is situated on a protected canal waterway, great for boating enthusiasts & nature lovers. It is approx. 9000 sq. ft. & is the perfect place to perch your dream home. This lot is in a great neighbourhood that is fast growing, so don't miss your opportunity to own your own little piece of paradise.

#2147

**'Clifford Sawyer House'
Hope Town**



\$780,000.00

This magnificent property is comprised of three lots. A gorgeous 2 bed, 2 bath cottage w/ all new quality furniture, state-of-the-art kitchen appliances, computer, television & new laundry facilities. The house also has new septic, cistern, IPE decking, & new hurricane windows. The entire house has also been re-roofed. Must be seen to truly appreciate all of its wonderful features.

#2172

Bahama Palm Shores



UNDER CONTRACT

\$156,000.00

Located just 20 minutes from Marsh Harbour in beautiful Bahama Palm Shores is this great parcel of land. Just across the street is the beautiful eight mile beach. This property is approx. 22,000 sq. ft. & is the perfect spot for your island dream house. The community of Bahama Palm Shores offers second home owners & full-time residents a personal atmosphere.

#2176

**Turtle Rocks
Marsh Harbour**



UNDER CONTRACT

\$242,000.00

Located just 15 minutes north of Marsh Harbour is this beautiful lot. With 100 feet of Sea-of-Abaco frontage & 125 feet on the main road you will be well secluded from the outside world. The entire property is 2.5 acres & can be sub-divided at a later date into no more than 5 1/2 acre lots. This is the last one available in this area, so call our office today for more details.

#2168

**Beautiful Wooded Lot
Elbow Cay**



\$144,000.00

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.

#2171

Bahama Palm Shores



\$89,000.00

This offering consists of three consecutive lots on Banyan Tree Drive in beautiful Bahama Palm Shores. Priced to sell at a mere \$89,000 you can build your home on one lot and keep two for future use or resale. Only a short walk from the beach, this property is an excellent buy. Call our office or make an appointment today.

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Baker's Bay Development Begins Work

Jennifer Hudson

"The developers of the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club on the extreme northern end of Guana Cay are very excited about how the project is coming along, because it is easy to be excited about something you believe in," says Mr. Doug Shipman, Vice President of Development.

Mr. Shipman has been developing country clubs for the past 28 years and knows "how important it is to be in tune with what is happening in the environment or a lot of damage can be done." It is Discovery Land's core philosophy "to enhance the natural character and spirit of each property it develops in order to provide its residents and members with a unique golf and lifestyle experience."

"Every place," says Mr. Shipman, "has a different ecology and plant and animal

life so we hire experts to tell us what we need to know and be careful about."

When completed, the 585-acre Baker's Bay Club will feature approximately 400 residential units, a mixture of oceanfront homes, golf villas and marina village homes, an 18-hole golf course, marina village and club house plus a luxury inn with villa style accommodations for rent.

During a tour of this development I had the opportunity to survey what has already been accomplished, learned about further plans and observed what is being done to preserve the environment.

A temporary marketing village is presently under construction at Baker's Landing in the north so that it will be possible to entertain prospects and guests while construction is in progress at the south end of the development. Baker's Landing, set on

an incredibly beautiful shoreline of crystal clear azure waters and white sand tinged with pink, will eventually become the beach and ocean club area.

Over \$3 million will be spent on eight tent structures which will include four resident guest tents, sales office, dining facility, full spa and exercise centre and locker rooms. Pursuits manager for both land and sea activities will be Abaco's Bobby Russell.

The word "tent" conjures up pictures of Boy Scouts or family camping trips. However, these guest tents at Baker's Landing are a far cry from what normally comes to mind. Though the roofs are made of canvas, that is where any real similarities end. The canvas used in this construction is of military grade, and these unique structures are mounted on steel pylons which are pounded six feet into the rock. Walls and floors are constructed from beautiful Brazilian cherry wood and the structures are

built to withstand winds in excess of 100 miles per hour. They are very well designed ecologically and blend well with the landscape into which they are nestled. "This will help clientele get a feel for what it is to live in The Bahamas," believes Mr. Shipman, who foresees this becoming "an heirloom community for families for years to come where kids and parents will develop memories together."

Great effort is being made to embrace the natural character of the area and clean up the debris left by Premier Cruise Lines. On average a coastal buffer with 30 feet of coastal vegetation is being left to prevent beach erosion. Markers along the coast designate this coastal buffer and workers are not allowed to do anything within that area. As many native trees as possible are being

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 7



The developers of Baker's Bay are preserving and propagating native species to use in the landscaping that will replace the hundreds of casuarinas that are being eliminated. Native orchids, bromeliads along with many other plants indigenous to Abaco will be grown in shade houses until they are needed.



Baker's Bay is restoring the beaches to their original form. This is the north end of the project where the developers are setting up a temporary marketing village which will be used while they work on the south part of the property.



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BASIN W/ HORSESHOE DOCK.
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3.719 ACRES - COCO BAY TO ATLANTIC OCEAN
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2836 BAHAMA PALM SHORES
BEACH FRONT PROPERTY WITH GORGEOUS ATLANTIC VIEW.
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27 WATER FRONT ACRES JUST NORTH OF
LEISURE LEE \$520,000.

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On the harbour in Pelican Shores, this elegant, spacious, 5 bed, 4.5 bath home is perfect for a family or corporate investor. Call for details.



BEST VALUE IN ABACO

13240 PELICAN SHORES HARBOUR FRONT

200 +/- feet of road and harbour frontage. This 3 bed, 3.5 bath with good elevation is situated on approximately 2 acres. Great potential for condominiums/ townhouses with private marina. \$1,735,000.



13312 CASUARINA POINT

LOVELY 4 BED, 2 BATH CANAL FRONT HOME, SITE ON 120 FEET OF SEAWALLED PROPERTY. A BOATSMAN'S DREAM. COME RELAX WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!
\$750,000



13137 Tilloo Dream

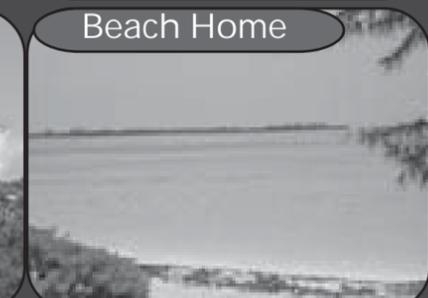


13137 TILLOO DREAM
1 1/3 ACRE WATERFRONT PROPERTY
WITH 1 BED/1 BATH COTTAGE AT BACK
OF PROPERTY WITH ALL AMENITIES DOCKSLIP
PERFECT TO STAY IN WHILE BUILDING
WATERFRONT HOME, DOCK SLIP.
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Hunkaloo



13151 HUNKALOO
2 BED/2 BATH WITH GUEST COTTAGE
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BEAUTIFUL VIEWS. LANDSCAPED
GARDEN WITH DOCK SLIP.
\$1,100,000



Beach Home

2818 CASUARINA POINT
SPACIOUS BEACH FRONT, 4 BED
AND 4 BATH. GORGEOUS VIEW
OF BAY AND ATLANTIC OCEAN
OFFERED AT \$580,000

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Marketing Village Is Group of Tents

Baker's Bay From Page 6

left in place right up to and almost abutting structures. Any indigenous trees which had to be removed from building sites are being preserved in the plant nursery and will later be transplanted to other areas when construction has been completed. Homeowners will be required to leave 80 percent of the indigenous vegetation on their land.

Blaine Sweeting, nursery and landscaping manager, enjoys working with plants and landscaping, talents he has inherited from his mother, Mrs. Sally Sweeting, who is herself a landscape gardener. Mr. Sweeting says, "I appreciate working for the staff at Baker's Bay because they are concerned about the environment and want to protect it." He presently manages a crew of 12 but expects that eventually there will be 50 staff in the landscaping and grounds-keeping department. "The entire area will be kept native, and we will specialize in plants that are indigenous to Guana Cay," he stresses.

A hot house with misters is nearing completion, but in the meantime Mr. Sweeting is using the old huts left by Premier Cruise Lines as his plant nursery. Here he is cultivating many bromeliads and orchids including a rare "dollar orchid," all of which he has rescued from the hardwood coppice. He will relocate these plants to form orchid forests. Mr. Sweeting also takes cuttings of all the indigenous plants including bay lavender, sea ox-eye, sea oats, silver buttonwood, bay cedar and sea grape to be cultivated in the hot houses and then replanted in place of the casuarina trees which are to be eradicated from the site. The casuarina is an invasive species which not only strangles native plants but is also a danger during hurricanes due to its shallow root systems. The removal of the casuarinas is scheduled to begin in November after the hurricane season is over.

Another preservation project has been "to rescue 160 corals of about eight different species from the old pylons and debris which were left by Premier Cruise Lines. These have been attached to specially built

16,000 pound artificial reefs and are growing freely and well and which the fish love."

A team from the University of Miami is present on a monthly basis to report to the BEST Commission in Nassau on environmental issues.

A roll-on roll-off dock built by the Baker's Bay development to serve their shipping and freight needs will also be for the use of the entire Guana Cay community, according to Mr. Shipman. "This facility, while not being able to solve their

trash problem, should be of considerable help."

The development owners are desirous of making the 180-slip marina Blue Flag compliant. The Blue Flag designation is awarded by an exclusive eco-label owned and run by the Foundation for Environmental Freedom. This organization works towards sustainable development at marinas and beaches throughout the world through adherence to

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 8

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

Bahama Palm Shores
Seven lots exclusively listed starting at \$12,750. Bahama Palm is HOT! HOT! HOT!

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

Bahama Coral Island - 1200 - Two adjacent parcels listed at \$12,900 each.

Coral Point - 1007 - Two adjacent parcels of land approximately 1/2 acre each with 100' of frontage. One parcel is vacant, other has partially completed home of 3/2

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

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

"Brigantine Beach Condo"
(Ref #369) 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse with ocean views just steps from the beach, furnished, rental history \$458,000.

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

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

Canal Lot on Brigantine Bay
(Ref #321) Oversized, cleared, 130' canal frontage, deep water \$299,000.

Canal Lot Package
(Ref #396) Two adjoining canal lots sold together as a package for a total of 20,000 +/- sq. ft. on Galleon Bay Drive and 168'+ of bulkhead, cleared, possible ocean views \$540,000.

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

"Sam's Landing"
(Ref #398) 3 bed/3 bath plus office area, 2,400 sq. ft. two story open concept canal front home with 102' of water frontage with dock and davits on Brigantine Bay. Fully furnished, central A/C, garage, unique glass front living area provides gorgeous 180 degree panoramic views. Call for pricing.

"Tigh-Na-Mara"
(Ref #179) 7 bedroom 7.5 bath 3 storey Ocean Blvd. Beachfront Estate with freshwater pool, landscaping with mature coconut trees and privacy walls. 80' on the beach. Interior requires some renovations, materials on site. Pre-Renovation Price: \$1,388,000.

BAHAMA PALM SHORES:

Beach Front Parcel
(Ref #337) Spacious 17,129 sq. ft., 124 foot sandy beach frontage on Atlantic Ocean, Spectacular ocean views \$299,000.

Ocean View Parcel
(Ref #302) Oversized ocean view lot with 17,000 sq. ft., less than 100' from the beach, exceptional value for ocean view property \$145,000.

ELBOW CAY:

Elevated Parcel
(Ref #380) large 66,600 s/f 148' x 450' parcel located near lighthouse. Can be subdivided, natural vegetation, public dock access \$586,000.

LEISURE LEE:

"Beach Reach" House/Canal Combo
(Ref #249) 2,030 sq. ft. beach front 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Fully furnished, Immaculately maintained, panoramic sea views \$599,000.

(Ref #234) Located on a quiet deep water finger canal. 9,689 sq. ft. with 70' of waterfront, complete with seawall, dock and boat lift \$145,000.

TURTLE ROCKS:

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

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

GUANA CAY:

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

BUSTICK BIGHT:

Waterfront Acreage
(Ref#381) 2.73 acres, featuring 900'+ of water front on protected Bustick Bight, located just 6 miles north of Marsh Harbour, open zoning, ideal location \$425,000.

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15 June 2005

Environmental Protection Is Top Concern of Developers

Baker's Bay

From Page 7

strict environmental criteria.

The sewerage of entire project will go through a waste treatment plant which will produce tertiary water suitable for using on the golf course.

Baker's Bay will have the first pump-out facility on Abaco. A reverse osmosis plant will provide fresh water for the development, and all residences will be serviced by a sewage treatment system.

According to Mr. Shipman, a few managers have been brought in from the United States but long term employment for Bahamians is the objective. Mr. Revie Fox, a native carpenter who owns his own company, Island Design and Home Builders based in Dundas Town, has been employed to do the finish work such as hanging doors and the inside paneling for the tents. He is only one of many Abaconians filling positions at Baker's Bay.

The brother team of Capt. Willis Levarity and First Mate Ron Levarity have been with the company since day one. These two very able seamen say that they make several trips a week taking clients from the Conch Inn dock to the site on the company's elegant and extremely comfortable 38-foot Hinckley

yacht or, for larger groups, the luxurious 74-foot Lyman Morse. They offer iced water and cold citrus-scented cloths to the clients to keep them comfortable during the 30-minute ride.

Mrs. Jan Ingraham and Ms. Tanya Sands work in the sales office in Marsh Harbour and say that although no lots can be sold yet, they are kept very busy with enquiries mainly from the United States but also some from Europe. Many of the enquiries are from clients who are already members of Discovery Land's other clubs in Arizona, Hawaii, Arizona, Mexico and California.

A Bahamian field environmentalist reports to Dr. Livingstone Marshall, Senior Vice President of Environmental and Community Affairs. Mr. Silbert Mills is in charge of Public Relations. Several members of staff expressed the opinion, "The owners are very open to Bahamian input. They are willing to sit around the table and talk and put suggestions into place."

While there is still strong opposition to the development from some of the Guana Cay residents, it is the opinion of sales person Ms. Tanya Sands, herself a Guana Cay resident, that "most people of Guana Cay are for the project. Only a small group are against it and most of those are not Bahamian."

Special Choir Came for Independence Program



The Magnificent Seven, a country singing group from Spanish Wells, came to Abaco specifically to sing at the Independence program held on July 9. They are a popular singing group who had performed in Marsh Harbour on May 7. With them is Yvonne Key, who arranged for them to come.

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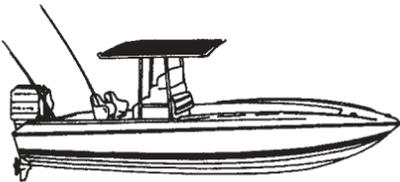
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Indian Culture Is Part of Our Heritage

By Mirella Santillo

The Bahamas were infused with various influences over the course of history. Some of these influences have stayed with us and have become part of our culture. What have we kept from the first inhabitants of these islands? Their ways of life have been buried into the ground and there has not been enough interest to reconstruct a complete picture of

their customs and keep them as a vivid part of our history.

It may seem that an odd piece of pottery or a tool which use is difficult to imagine are not enough to reconstruct a people. Has not it come to your mind when you walk the shore, go fishing or cultivate your garden to wonder how it was done 500 years ago when no metal tools were known to the early inhabitants of this area.

We know they built huts out of wood and palm. We know they grew manioc, sweet potatoes, peanuts, maize, beans, chili pepper and probably ate fruits such as guava, soursop, cocoplum, genip, sapodilla, pigeon plum, a fare that we still enjoy now! They probably supplemented this with fish and conch which shell they used for tools and decorative items. Not so different from what we still do! So why do we have so little interest in finding more about them? Some of us do and in particular a Marsh Harbour resident that we call our native archeologist, Mr. David Bethel.

The first research that Mr. Bethel did was actually directed at

finding Loyalist artifacts. He explained that this interest was awakened after reading Sandra Riley's novel *Homeward Bound*. However, it was not only Loyalist remains that he discovered, but also Indian relics. According to Mr. Bethel there are many more Indian sites on Abaco than the 45 he has found so far. He believes that there was a huge Indian population on Abaco, contrary to what was originally thought. Archeologists assumed until now that the southernmost islands of The Bahamas had a larger Indian population than the northern ones.

So far, Mr. Bethel has found pieces of pottery, stone tools, hair barrettes made of conch, beads, buttons, jadeite ceremonial

pieces and possibly trading stones. He encountered sites as far south as Hole-in-the-Wall and as far north as Little Abaco. From the extent of objects recovered in certain areas, he deduced that "some sites were villages, extending over more than two acres while others were only camp sites." As recently as a few months ago after the hurricanes he discovered another site north of Treasure Cay. So perhaps as more sites are discovered or more objects unearthed, it might become possible to actually describe and re-constitute more accurately a culture that was destroyed nearly half a millennium ago and to re-introduce in our folklore that long forgotten heritage.



David Bethel has discovered over 40 locations on Abaco where he has found Indian artifacts. The Indian population here was much greater than previous thought. This is a piece of pottery made from local clay that he found.

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Church Group Offers Baseball Camp

By Mirella Santillo

Two families from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, spent a week on Abaco to coach Murphy Town and Dundas Town young people in baseball. Mr. Bart Smelley and Mr. Robbie Barrineau came to Abaco with their wives and children on June 27th to organize two baseball camps: three days in the Murphy Town area and two days on Guana Cay.

While the men coached the boys in baseball, their wives played other sports with the girls and the younger kids or taught them to do arts and crafts. The event took place at the Murphy Town Park with the assistance of Mr. Ismael "Stretch" Morley, the Youth Coordinator for Abaco, and was put together with the help of Rev. Carla Culmer, who acted as a liaison between the visiting families and the local children. Mr. Smelley

and Rev. Culmer decided to have a joint sports program and spiritual one in lieu of the Bible School usually held during the summer. Rev. Culmer advertised the workshop on the radio and distributed flyers in the neighborhoods. She said, "The program was directed mainly to boys because there is less to do for boys than for girls, but some girls still came along."

The camp ended on Wednesday in Murphy Town with more drills and games and barbecue at noon. Mr. Smelley said, "The Abaco children were the most well behaved kids we had dealt with so far and they were very athletic and also very responsive to the drama of the Gospel. They enacted the drama of the God's Creation of man, man falling into sin and Jesus coming and dying to save us in a 10-minute play."

He said, "At least 40 of the children received Christ as their savior."

The two families left Abaco the following Sunday, looking forward to coming back next

year and hoping to convince more people back home to participate in this rewarding program.



Two Alabama families held a camp which combined sports, crafts and Bible studies. They worked with youth in Murphy Town and Dundas Town for part of the time and then went to Guana Cay.



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Abaconian Launches New Website

The Abaconian newspaper has a new website to be found at www.abaconian.com. The site has the complete current issue as well as archived issues for the past six months. To view the papers it is recommended that you have either cable or DSL capabilities which take less than one minute to download the entire paper. If you have a dial-up system, it will take a long time to download and we recommend that you ask to use a neighbour's computer with a faster system. As well as the newspaper there are other pages with photos, maps, historical data and will eventually have much more information. All businesses that advertise regularly in the paper will

have their websites included. We hope to make it a site where people can access any information they might want about Abaco. We hope that you go online and then get back to us with your comments and suggestions.

If your internet provider is Batelnet, you will not be able to view the new website at this time as Batelnet in Nassau has not updated their domain name server. However, anyone on Abaco can access the website with CoralWave, Abaco Wireless or oii.net. The site is available around the world as we have had comments from the United States, England and Australia. Perhaps by the time this paper is out, Batelnet will have upgraded their ip system.

Last Year's Hurricanes Were Costly

According to the Acting Prime Minister, the Hon. Cynthia Pratt, the total losses sustained in The Bahamas as a result of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne have been estimated at \$551 million or ten percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Mrs. Pratt said that the losses are a clear indication that the country must embrace available risk management practices. She urged Bahamians to be very thorough in their preparations for this year's hurricane season which opened June 1, saying that disaster preparedness should be viewed as a team effort.

Government has created a permanent national emergency relief agency known as NEMA to spearhead the work of preparing for and responding promptly to emergency disasters.

She said that The Bahamas is facing increasing threats from various forms of disasters, both natural and man-made and including flooding, coastal erosion, airline and shipping accidents, hazardous material spills and fires.

"Go through your hurricane preparedness check lists and get your emergency supply kits ready at this time," Mrs. Pratt said.

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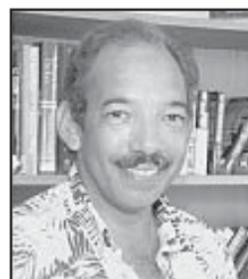
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The Abaco Club Offers a Special Lifestyle

Ed. note: Sections of this story appeared in the July 1 issue but the story was not complete because of printing problems in Miami. We are repeating it so our readers can appreciate the relaxed, pampered lifestyle that guests to this resort are treated to. We have corrected one paragraph to more accurately describe benefits that The Abaco Club is considering for Cherokee Sound and residents of that area.

By Jennifer Hudson

"A piece of paradise" would aptly describe the stunning Abaco Club on Winding Bay. On a secluded area of 550 acres and two miles of powder white sand beach on the edge of a breathtaking bay, this exclusive tropical golf and sporting retreat has been developed, offering a one-of-a-kind vacation of peace and tranquility.

From the moment guests are greeted on

arrival via private jet or the club's luxurious 12-seat turbo-prop aircraft, by PR representative, Stone McEwan, in the Abaco Club lounge at the club's modern private terminal, service is second to none.

The marketing staff including Kristen Cartwright pays close attention to every detail. Once at the club guests are greeted at the Welcome Centre with a "guest bag" which gives them all the information they need to help make their stay as active or leisurely as desired.

I was recently invited to spend a day at the Abaco Club to experience its unique lifestyle and speak with all the people who work together to produce a seamless and enriching experience for its members and guests.

On the beach I met with three first-time guests from Alabama who were almost at

the end of a week's stay and were glowing in their praise of the Abaco Club. They had all left behind very stressful jobs and said that the Abaco Club had provided a great hideaway and place to unwind. "The beach is without a doubt one of the prettiest we have ever seen and one of the beauties of the place is that it is so remote," they enthused. They liked the fact that there are activities for all and while the men play golf the ladies can relax at the spa. These well travelled ladies said, "Of all the places we have ever been, these are the friendliest people we have ever seen."

If a lazy day at the beach is what is desired the courteous and friendly staff at the Beach Bar are always ready to serve a cool drink to guests relaxing on their loungers under a shady umbrella and light lunch is available. For those guests who, after enjoying a leisurely swim in the incredibly beautiful water of the sheltered bay, may

want to try something a little more adventurous, the beach staff is well qualified to take guests scuba diving, sailing, kayaking, deep sea or bonefishing or snorkeling off a nearby reef to observe the myriad of fish and corals. All of the "beach boys" are trained life guards and offer sailing and surfing lessons. They will also organize an energetic game of beach volleyball or nerf football if desired. Their aim is "to introduce the guests to the full Bahamian flavour." So in addition to taking them around to see the native Bahamian trees, learn their names and sample their fruits, they show them how to shuck a coconut and crack a conch. Family-oriented activities are highlighted and children's programmes are also offered.

All water sports activities are co-ordinated by Keith Greene, who is the club's

Please see **Abaco Club** Page 13



One of the features of The Abaco Club at Winding Bay is a well equipped spa which offers personalized service. It includes a fitness studio with a variety of exercise equipment, massage therapy and steam saunas all adjacent to a gorgeous pool overlooking a fantastic view of Winding Bay.

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Development is Well on Schedule

Abaco Club

From Page 12

tennis pro. Mr. Greene assists the guests in warming up on the two all weather courts before a game with a "hitting lesson and drill of the day" which allows the guests to work on their shots. If anyone needs a playing partner, he obligingly pairs up guests. A short distance along the road in Yellow Wood is the club's bonefishing and kayaking dock. While the bonefishermen go out with their guides and kayakers leisurely paddle around amongst the mangroves, landlubbers can enjoy the ambience of this peaceful little haven which is a favourite among many of the guests. Here an old fisherman's cottage has been restored to look just as it would in days gone by and the rustic chairs placed around the cottage provide a relaxing spot for one to enjoy the peace and quiet and either gaze on the water or watch the butterflies flitting amongst the

colourful flowers.

Golf pro at the Abaco Club, Kenny Gargiulo, has high praise indeed for its Scottish-style tropical links championship golf course, the first of its kind. "It is marvelous not just for Abaco and the Caribbean but for the world," he says. "It is a spectacular world class course, blending aesthetics with playability and is unique in its blending of beautiful Abaco weather with a Scottish links style setting. The course is very diverse; the wind changes frequently so that one can be playing a different type of golf course every day. Whilst very challenging, the course is accessible to all levels of players, which is a characteristic of a great golf course and there is also a marvelous practice facility." Although Mr. Gargiulo says he has played in some very nice places, he admits, "I have never seen better than at the Abaco Club." He also enjoys teaching and is always available for

lessons

A leisurely ride on horseback along the beach and back across the golf course is a wonderfully relaxing way to spend a couple of hours. The five Texas quarter horses, Cupid, Slim, Valley, Skip and his big brother Zack, were hand chosen by an equestrian expert in South Carolina to make sure that they are all sure footed and safe steeds for the guests to ride. "Children particularly enjoy going into the water on horseback where the horses swim with them on their backs," says Abaco Club Secretary Tanya Duncombe, who is experienced in the care and management of horses and oversees the equestrian programme. All of these horses stay on property in an attractive barn just inside the club gate where a mosquito misting system continually takes care of the stalls and surrounding area.

The fitness studio, with its state-of-the-art equipment including exercise bikes, full

body stretching machine, leg and chest presses, provides plenty of opportunity for guests wishing to keep in shape during their vacation. The fantastic views of the beach and bay through its windows help to take one's mind off the rigours of the exercise and there is always the exquisite pool right outside to dive into afterwards.

Just upstairs from the fitness studio is the tranquil Elemis European style spa run by Karen Rolle assisted by Sheryl Andrews where a relaxing massage, steam sauna or any one of the treatments with such exotic names as Lime and Ginger Salt Glow and Exotic Frangipani Body Nourish Wrap or Float are always a welcome treat. All one's cares melt away in this calm retreat with its pampering treatments and soothing music.

No day can go by without a good meal

Please see **Abaco Club** Page 16

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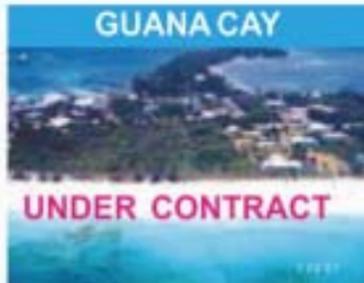
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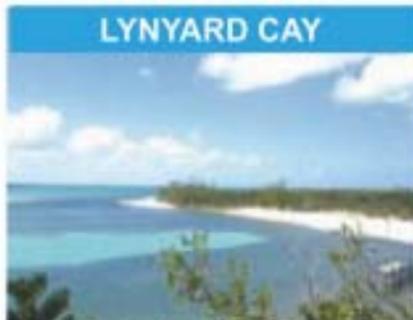


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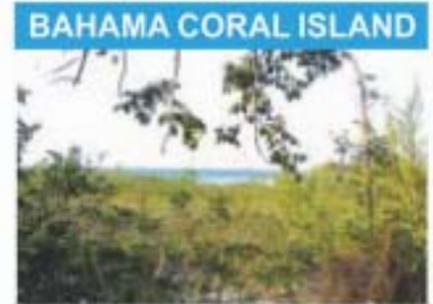
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MAGNUSON HOUSE - quiet North End Elbow Cay, 3 bed/3 bath (detached master efficiency) overlooking white sandy beach, large wrap deck, sold fully furnished, great art work, boat, golf cart included **\$1,595,000**

located one lot from the ocean in White Sound steps to restaurant and marina. 2 bedroom/2 baths, 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**

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**



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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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Abaco Club Offers Seclusion with Impeccable Service

Abaco Club *From Page 13*

and exactly that awaits guests in the Clubhouse. While many guests opt for a light lunch at the Beach Bar, the casual dining area in the clubhouse offers a larger and more exotic menu for both lunch and dinner. Chef Samuel Favella hails from Hawaii and tropical accents permeate his menu as he achieves a balance between Asian and Bahamian cuisine. The chef is always happy to cater to any special preferences in his display kitchen while affable 'mixologist' Archie, welcomes guests with his winning smile. The octagonal clubhouse, which stands on a headland 65 feet above sea level, capturing cooling breezes, provides magnificent views from its balcony of the aquamarine bay in one direction and the deep blue ocean in the other.

According to Mr. Julian Surget, Director of Food and Beverage, within 18 months a "Fine Dining" restaurant will be added and the present clubhouse will remain for casual dining. "Also in the pipeline are plans for intimate dinners on Sugar Cay, the tiny island in the bay, and champagne sunset horse rides along the beach."

Mr. Kristen Whyly, Director of Mem-

ber Services, who has been in the hospitality industry most of his life, gaining experience in many different countries, holds the concierge position for the club, co-ordinating every department to ensure that members and guests at the Abaco Club are "well taken care of and have a good time." Mr. Whyly endeavours to fulfill any requirements guests may have whether it be to stock a refrigerator in one of the cottages in preparation for their arrival or packing a picnic for them to take for a day out in the boat, a round of golf or their plane ride home.

Mr. Peter de Savary is justifiably proud of the lifestyle he has created for his guests at the Abaco Club which has come up to every one of his expectations and he is pleased with the way in which everyone has interpreted the local character, embracing it in a subtle way. "The club delivers a five star environment while keeping a simple and rustic blend with an Abaco Island feel," he says. Always on the lookout for that special extra touch, his latest innovation is for a little Bahamian thatched market stall to be placed near the Welcome Centre where guests can come each day to purchase fresh Abaco grown fruits and vegetables.

Presently, 12 of the proposed 75 ocean front cottages have been completed and two of the 60 estate homes with full completion expected within five to six years.

Mr. de Savary is an environmentalist who ensures that everything he does is compatible with the environment and community. No herbicides or fungicides are used on the golf course; it is watered with a mixture of sea water and fresh well water and this brackishness helps reduce disease and weeds.

He is also a philanthropist "with a long term view of engendering community spirit and a vision for the club as a catalyst for the good of Abaco." The nearby village of Cherokee will be a beneficiary in several ways. The line which brings water from 30 wells three and a half miles away to the development will be extended to Cherokee when government installs a town distribution system for residents there. The Abaco Club is committed to assisting the town in improving their ball park. Improvements to the historic public beach access are being considered. Although employment notices are often posted initially in Cherokee Sound to give residents there first opportunity, it is recognized that there is little unemployment

in Cherokee. And frequently the qualifications for employees require specific skills that are not available locally.

Several young people are benefitting from scholarships awarded by Mr. de Savary for study abroad and he expressed his delight at being able to provide a day of fun at Winding Bay recently for the special students of the Every Child Counts School.

I soon discovered that at the Abaco Club on Winding Bay one leaves the cares of the world behind. It is like stepping into another realm where the serenity and beauty of the surroundings and the graciousness of the staff provide an experience which is second to none.

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Abaco Club Launches Incentive Program

Provided by Stone McEwan

Standing on the back of a "Gator" utility vehicle and surrounded by his Winding Bay staff of 109 Bahamians and 14 foreign workers, Mr. Peter de Savary, the founder and the chairman of the Abaco Club on Winding Bay, launched his employee incentive programs.

Determined to offer only the best in everything to members and guests at the club, with service and hospitality the pinnacle, Mr. de Savary and the department heads at the club formulated three very generous, rewarding plans to enhance their goal.

Mr. de Savary spoke of days gone by when the majority of persons involved in the service industry throughout The Bahamas wore a smile and courteousness was expressed by all. "This is what I want everyone to receive when they enter the Abaco club," he said. He expressed how they all need each other, how the success of the club depends on them and how important they are to him and each other.

Mr. de Savary first announced the employee of the month program with its rewards totaling \$1800 each month of which \$1000 will be awarded to the first place



Mr. Peter de Savary

winner, \$500 to the second and \$300 to the third.

He then went on to inform them of the Chairman's award. This award carries a \$10,000 cash prize which will be presented every quarter to the three most courteous, productive, dependable, most advanced and hard working employees. The funds will be distributed as follows, \$5000 for first place, \$3000 for second and \$2000 for third. It is possible for one employee to win all categories throughout the year.

Having no connection to the club's earnings, the \$40,000 per year chairman's give away will be donated directly from Mr. de Savary's personal funds.

Last, Mr. deSavary introduced the employee Trust Fund Program. He said, "The company will establish an account and deposit a percentage of every employee's salary into it. The amount will not be deducted from the employees pay check, but will be funded entirely by the business. He continued, "Contributions will reach maturity after three, seven, 12 and 20 years of continuous service. It will then become possible at each of these points for the em-

ployee to withdraw a percentage of the funds or reinvest them."

The amount of funds that would be available to an employee would be based on a points system similar to the Chairman's awards.

In closing Mr. de Savary said, "I am totally dependent on all of you for the success of my investment as you are dependent on me to secure your employment." He further went on to say, "We are not turning a profit as yet, but I have generously extended my hand and all I am asking in return is that you do the same to our members and guests."

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Hurricanes' Effects on Business Were Mixed

By Jennifer Hudson

Although it took some businesses longer to recover after the hurricanes due to the amount of damage sustained, most tourism related businesses bounced back quickly with the exception of Snappers which is still in the reconstruction stage after being totally devastated.

Owners of some of the establishments located along the "tourist strip" in Marsh Harbour have reported that business has not picked up for them yet since last September which seemed to point towards a possible drop in tourist figures. But in delving further I found that this was not the case across the board and, in fact, many businesses are reporting a definite increase in business.

The Iggy Biggy store in Marsh Harbour has suffered a 30 percent loss in business, with sales at their store in Hope Town also down. Just a few yards further along the road Sunset Souvenirs has felt the same pinch and Wally's reported that they have experienced a decrease in business in both their restaurant and boutique. Donna Darville, owner of Sunset Souvenirs, put the lack of business down to the fact that so many docks in the area were destroyed by the hurricanes and have not been built back. There are, therefore, not the usual boaters docking and coming into town.

Another establishment which has experienced a very sluggish season is Java Coffee Shop which also sells art and craft work by Abaco artisans. "The number of visi-

tors to the shop is way down, and they have not been buying like they used to," said owner Kim Sands. "It is the local residents who are buying the artwork these days. However, a few visitors have begun coming in from Winding Bay which has helped boost sales a little."

Business at Joe's Studio on Man-O-War Cay was reported to be "non-existent" during the fall with just not the usual people around during the winter and not many boaters. Business picked up during spring break and Easter but dropped off again though it is beginning to pick up now.

Several establishments in Hope Town experienced a lean season. Debbie Patterson, owner of Ebb Tide, said that sales have definitely been down but are just beginning to pick up and she sees the trend now changing towards a slow winter and good summer. She echoed the opinion of the manager of Hope Town's Iggy Biggy that business has been dead in Hope Town as a result of bad publicity after the hurricanes. "Information was posted on the internet that Hope Town was devastated by people who had not even been here."

Occupancy at the Hope Town Harbour Lodge has not been what they would have liked to see, according to Manager Tom Hazel. Immediately following the hurricanes the Lodge was full as it was the epicentre for many second home owners who needed somewhere to stay while they effected re-

pairs to their damaged houses. Since their departure occupancy has been down and is only just beginning to pick up.

Hotel business on Green Turtle Cay suffered due to major hurricane damage. The Green Turtle Club did not reopen until November 14th and business from January until April was very slow. However, occupancy began to pick up in May and Manager Lynn Johnson says, "After a weak start I am hoping for a strong finish."

Bluff House also suffered badly and their docking facilities are still not open but business is looking more positive now.

Business at Native Creations, a gift shop on Green Turtle Cay, has picked up well again now after a substantial drop following the hurricanes right through the beginning of this year apart from a brief respite at Christmas.

Now for the "other side of the coin" and the more encouraging news.

Though souvenir sales in Hope Town were down, liquor sales apparently were as good as ever. (Does that mean that most of the spirits in Hope Town are consumed by residents?)

Despite all of the misinformation on the web read by the tourists regarding Hope Town's condition after the hurricanes, many of the renters knew to check the Hope Town Fire Department's site where they received accurate information. The rental business as a result has continued to flourish. Mrs. Peggy Thompson of Hope Town Hideaways says,

"Business was only lost during the actual hurricanes; since the storms it has been very consistent with previous years and this is proving to be a great year." She reported that guests are very surprised and happy at how well the island has recovered and have named it "The Island of Fresh Paint."

The management of Elbow Cay Properties had to cancel all bookings for October but from the time they reopened in November have done better overall than last year. Apparently, Hope Town has even gained business from the hurricanes as recently one of the hurricane adjusters was seen strolling through town and said that he enjoyed the place so much he had brought his mother to see it also.

Abaco Gold reports a year which has been comparable to last year. According to the manager, "While some months were a little 'off,' other good months have made up for the slower ones so that business has been as strong and maybe even better than last year." John Bull also has been enjoying "a great tourist clientele."

Sapodilly's reports a great year with more tourists than ever, though Manager Carol Sweeting mentioned that they probably picked up a little extra business due to the fact that Snappers has not yet reopened since the hurricanes.

Please see **Economy** Page 19

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Spending Was Down From Previous Years

Economy *From Page 18*

Manager and chef at Mangoes, Nick Doyle, said, "While business had been a little below normal, it was better than expected. We have been up to 200 dinners many evenings. Our season normally tapers off gradually after July but this year I am expecting the season to drop off rapidly in mid-July as I think people are worried about hurricanes and visitors are very aware of the predictions for a bad year again this year. The new developments at Winding Bay and Baker's Bay are proving a plus," he says, "as top personnel are frequenting Mangoes for their business lunches."

The Abaco Beach Hotel, according to Manager John Neophytou, has been experiencing the best occupancy it has ever had. The hotel never closed after the hurricanes, having not been too severely damaged and was able to quickly take care of hurricane "mess." It provided accommodation for business people and the many insurance adjusters who arrived immediately following the hurricanes and stayed for several months. "Tourism was good throughout November and December, and from Janu-

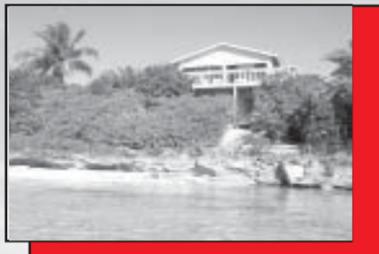
ary through April has been even better. During the fishing tournaments throughout April to June the hotel has enjoyed a 90 to 100 percent occupancy rate," stated Mr. Neophytou, who feels that the excellent occupancy rate throughout the winter months is due in part to their advertising efforts paying off. In order to extend the season they have been focusing on the Boston, New York and Toronto markets to target winter residents. Mr. Neophytou feels that ways to progress must be found by the tourism related businesses. One way to encourage more business for tourist shops would be to extend their hours so that the tourists have somewhere to go in the evenings and weekends.

While Wrackers cannot compare figures with the beginning of last year since they only opened for business last May, Manager Linda Wiltfang, says that business in the shop and art gallery has been steady. Wrackers does remain open later each evening and opens on Sundays to provide greater shopping opportunities for both tourists and residents. She did point out that businesses do need to be more competitive now due to more competition on the "strip."

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Smart Concrete Produces Concrete Items

By Mirella Santillo

Entrepreneur Ms. Justina Winder opened Smart Concrete in November 2004. Fabricating concrete objects is something she said she always wanted to do. She owned a piece of land on the S.C. Bootle Highway approximately four miles out of Marsh Harbour and thought that would be the perfect location for that type of business.

So the building of a show room was started in July of 2004 and by the end of the summer she was ready to set up business. After visiting a concrete plant in Nassau and learning the formula, she hired two workmen and taught them how to make the pavers.

She started with simple paving blocks of different sizes, bought the molds and finally by November Smart Concrete was opened to the public.

Seven months later Smart Concrete now

produces lawn pyramids, parking blocks, benches and tables and decorative items such as lions and seahorses.

Ms. Winder divides her time between Marsh Harbour and Nassau where she markets her merchandise. Her dream is to expand the business by buying more molds and diversify her creations. "I have had requests for large bird baths," she said, "but the mold is very expensive. I'd also like to make columns, Roman and Greek columns." She is excited about her new endeavor, but thinks business has been slow locally. She said, "I have to go to Nassau to sell. I carry photos of the products and people buy them. Here I am not getting much response."

Smart Concrete is open six days a week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Telephone 367-0333 or 559-8538.



Ms. Justina Winder has opened a business making concrete items for landscaping. The business offers a variety of stepping stones and decorative items. It is located on S.C. Bootle Highway just north of the South Side Road.



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Bahamas Was Commended for AIDS Program

The Bahamas was commended by the United Nations for its National AIDS Program. The program has been very successful in responding to the epidemic of AIDS. Several other countries were also commended.

The disease continues to expand worldwide as each year more people become infected with HIV and more people die from the disease.

The Bahamas has been involved in the battle against this disease for 20 years. The country now ranks fourth in the region in the number of HIV/AIDS cases but health officials feel that there is more work to do to reduce that ranking.

In this country there has been a decrease in the prevalence of HIV from six percent to three percent. Over 1700 people are in full treatment and care. The prevention of babies contracting the disease from their mothers has decreased from 30 percent to less than two percent last year. And the number of deaths from it has decreased from 309 in 1997 to 113 in 2004.

The Clinton Foundation has made a significant contribution to this problem in getting the necessary drugs at greatly reduced cost for the patients.



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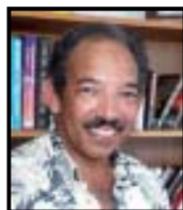
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Red Cross Discusses Disaster Preparedness

By Mirella Santillo

Although it never threatened us, Abaco felt the winds of Dennis around July 6 and 7. It was the fifth named hurricane of a season that started very early, with the aftermath of Frances and Jeanne still lingering after nearly a year. So it is none too soon to think about preparedness and security measures should we be again be confronted by a disastrous storm.

As an humanitarian organization, the Red Cross is here to advise and help physically and mentally. But in an emergency, the care providers must first organize themselves to be ready to respond quickly if the need arises. Hence the special meeting called on July 14 to discuss preparedness. The meeting was aimed at the Red Cross members, but except for

board meetings all the organization's meetings are open to the public. Mr. Sarone Kennedy, training officer for the Abaco Red Cross's office was there, happy to discuss preparedness, answer questions and distribute a few words of advise to those present.

His first statement was that, at the beginning of the hurricane season, everybody should have an emergency kit ready. The kit should include extra batteries, a flashlight, a radio, a passport or an ID document. You should have a first aid kit with it. Do not forget any medications you might need to take. Have some toiletries ready, a blanket, a pillow, toys or baby things to keep the children occupied and comfortable, and a good book or playing cards for yourself.

Finally, if you know you have to go to a shelter, do not forget all your keys. Take water. Have a can opener handy since you'll be living on canned goods for a few days. Have an ample supply of water at home if you stay there. Mr. Kennedy said that for "most Bahamians emergency equals hurricane," but one should be prepared for any kind of disaster.

He further mentioned that people should listen to official government news and mind the warnings they give. If you have to go to a shelter, do not wait until it is too late; give yourself a few hours before the storm is supposed to hit. Once the storm is down, stay where you are. If you feel threatened, find a secure place in your home, a room without windows, and take your kit with you. Close and seal the door. Do not use matches, candles, or kerosene lamps. Check your home every year before the hurricane season and make the necessary repairs. Look at your vulnerability ahead of time,

Please see **Red Cross** Page 23

A Curly Tail Surveys His World



Curly tailed lizards are common on Abaco but are not endemic to all The Bahamas. This one has a perch allowing him to survey his whole world.

Dock Has Been Taken Apart



This is the South Side dock at Murphy Town. Someone has removed two planks allowing them to remove the bolts holding the stringers. Without the bolts this section of the dock is sagging badly. The center piling was originally under the decking.

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



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Red Cross *From Page 22*

try to minimize the effects a hurricane could have on you. He said, "I am happy to notice that since Floyd, people are paying more attention to preparedness." As we all know, the aftermath of a hurricane is more difficult to cope with than the storm itself. One has to deal with the destruction, the lack of water, electricity and communications. "The mental trauma must be helped," he said, "and the Red Cross is there to help people get back to normal." While discussing hurricane aftermath, Mr. Kennedy mentioned the role of volunteers in a community. In times of dis-

stress, people find comfort in working together. He feels, "There is a growing sense of the need to work together. I hope that the Red Cross will be the catalyst to bring communities together." As for the Organization itself, how well prepared is it? He made the re-assuring statement that the national headquarters in Nassau has enough supplies on hand until additional help is available. Moreover, last year the local office was given a HAM radio that will enable communication with other regions or to call upon other partners according to a pre-arranged agreement to assist us should the headquarters in Nassau be impossible to reach. He praised the recently received government's attention to

the local Red Cross and the new relationship that is developing. "Even without a disaster, the Red Cross supplements what the government does." You can reach the Red Cross at 367-0734 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Membership is \$ 10 per year and the only requisite is to be a humanitarian and to be willing to help in case of need. Attending the meeting were Ms. Gwen Jones, Mr. Jerry Cornish, Mr. Loran Coleby, the Treasurer for the Abaco Chapter, and Ms. Anita Rolle.



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Marsh Harbour, Abaco



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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.
	Tuesday, Thursday Family Night

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

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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
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Minister Jason G. Quashie

Catholic Churches

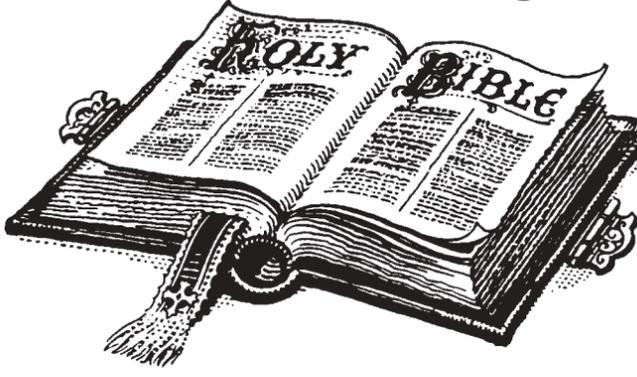
Saturday Mass - Treasure Cay
3:00 p.m. Bahamas Farm Chapel (Creole)
5:00 p.m. Saints Mary and Andrew Church

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)

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Church Page



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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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Snake Cay Residents Received Keys to New Homes

By Portia Jonsson

On June 10th 16 very happy and grateful residents from Snake Cay, South and North Abaco received the keys to their new homes built by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) during a Key Presentation Ceremony in Spring City.

Mr. Neil Campbell, Coordinator of NEMA on Abaco, was proud to report that after Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne his agency assisted over 400 persons with the

issuance of assistance vouchers and there was not a cay or settlement that was not visited. NEMA has employed 19 persons and 300 persons by extension. Mr. Campbell told of the criticism his department received at times along with the praise.

On Abaco to make the key presentation to new homeowners were the Hon. D. Shane Gibson, Minister of Housing and National Insurance, and the Hon. Melanie Griffin, the Minister of Social Services and Community

Development. Min. Griffin remarked that whenever there is an opportunity to see good out of misfortune, then it is a time to be joyful. She joined in commending the organization that put its shoulder to the wheel and brought this day to fruition.

Pleased to be in Spring City on this occasion, Min. Gibson was truly elated to share in that special moment in time with the residents who received keys to their newly built houses. He said NEMA and his Ministry has been busy on Abaco presenting keys to residents in Moore's Island, Cooper's Town, Murphy Town, Green Turtle Cay and now they were continuing to keep their word and present 15 more keys to deserving Abaconians.

Following the passage of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne through The Bahamas, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie moved speedily to organize systems and mobilize persons to effect recovery and restoration of our communities in the shortest period of time.

The Minister, sharing in the joy of the 15 additional families who in the months since the hurricanes have been living with friends and relatives because their homes were destroyed, said, "Today, their help has come." He stated that government's response has been swift and relentless, its resolve remains unchanged and what we are witnessing was evidence of a government determined to bring relief to hurting Bahamians, regardless of race, class or political persuasion.

Seven of the residents who received keys

were those who had to be relocated from Snake Cay following the hurricanes. They have been moved to Spring City where they are nearer to schools for their children and shopping areas for their basic living. Min. Gibson advised that in Spring City, the Snake Cay residents are away from the coastline that lent itself to easy destruction and almost complete annihilation of places they used to call home.

These residents of Snake Cay have endured much hardship. They lived in circumstances without electricity and running water, but today they are enjoying the benefits of new roads, electricity and clean running water. They have a new place to call their own in Spring City and Min. Gibson is sure they can now proclaim, "It's different now."

The housing program in Spring City has been developed at a cost of \$393,000 to provide ownership and rental facilities on the following terms. Persons will be required to apply for a mortgage. Those who do not qualify will have to rent at a monthly cost of \$200 for a two-bedroom house and \$300 for a three-bedroom home. For disabled and/or needy persons, the cost will be \$100 per month.

Those persons who received keys to new homes were Sanday Dames, Rebecca McIntosh, Annie McIntosh, Carl Mills, Hermis Newbold, Ann Marshall, Beatrice Roberts, Vernita Rolle, Lisa Rolle, Roberta Russell,

Please see **New Homes** Page 26

Skeleton Is Washed Ashore



Two Crown Haven ladies were crabbing on nearby Water Cay south of Crown Haven when they came across a skeleton. They took it to be a crocodile or alligator and called The Abaconian. Nancy Albury identified the skeleton as a porpoise and took extensive photos for further identification. The ladies are Eleanor Pedican and Lousa Sullivan. They were accompanied on their excursion by Alexander McIntosh, not pictured.

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Department of Fisheries
13th June 2005



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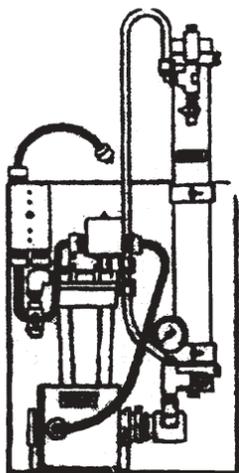
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The Central Abaco public dump has not been managed property for several years. It is under the direction of the Central Abaco District Council but those members have not been able to get the various person holding the contracts to fulfill their obligations. This was the scene recently - garbage all the way out to the road. It was subsequently bulldozed back away from the road.



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Scenes from Goombay



The Royal Bahamas Police Force Marching Band is always popular entertainment. Their fancy maneuvering is fascinating to watch. Members of the band have been here for two of the Goombay festivities this summer.



Hair braiding is offered and visitors enjoy their new look.

New Homes From Page 24

Therese Huyler-Dean, David Smith, Don and Annie Mills, Scott and Theresa Moss, Brenda Gideon and Alfred Watkins.

In his brief remarks Mr. Gary Sawyer said he was truly touched by Snake Cay after the hurricanes. He clarified that his only interest and involvement in Snake Cay is to enhance the lives of persons who resided there. He advised that persons have tried to smear his character and names and stressed that he has no interest in the property at Snake Cay. He thanked the Minister and government for bringing help and hope to the needy and not the greedy. Mr. Sawyer donated native plants to the residents to beautify their surroundings and a computer system for the new Urban Renewal Office to be opened shortly.



Effective First Time Supervisor/Managers Workshop

Date: July 2005
Time: Evenings 6-9 p.m.
Venue: Cyber Learning Center, Marsh Harbour

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Man-O-War Celebrated Independence

By Man-O-War Independence Day Association

On July 9th Man-O-War Cay celebrated the 32nd anniversary of Independence of The Bahamas. As usual there was a great turn out of supporters. Over 70 kids 16 and under participated in events such as ball throw, egg 'n' spoon, sack, distance running, sprint, swimming, diving for money and diving. There were also events for the adults,

such as conch breaking, wood sawing, nail hammering, tug of war, and our famous slippery pole.

This year we also had a demonstration of rope making by the Lewis Albury sons that was very informative and interesting. Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, mac'n' cheese, beans and sweets, were all on the lunch menu. ALL participants 16 and under ate lunch FREE.

Later that night, medals and awards

were presented to the participants, and we all enjoyed a beautiful fireworks display. Many thanks to all our supporters

who made this another year of fabulous fun!

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NEW LISTING

"Flower Garden"

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"Hope Town Apartments"

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- ★ **Sand Banks Creek** - "Dannie's Den" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath new home + 80' Waterfront - Almost 1 1/2 wooded acres. - Private Dock - # AB73 - **\$355,000.**
- ★ **Turtle Rocks** - "Hidden Paradise" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,200 sq.ft. Beach-Front Home - Almost 1,600 sq.ft. of Covered wrap-around veranda. Over 2 acres with 100' of Sea of Abaco Beach-front. Fabulous views of the sea and outlying cays. Fully Furnished. #AB139 - **UNDER CONTRACT**

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Marsh Harbour, Central Cays and South Abaco

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- ★ **Man-O-War Cay** - "Ceylon's Isle/Rosewood" - 3 + Acres Sea-to-sea. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,920 sq.ft. residence. 1 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath guest complex on beach. 259' of beautiful Sea of Abaco beach. Lush landscaping. Fully furnished and equipped. Superb Views. # AB111 - **\$3,900,000**
- ★ **Man-O-War Cay** - "Utopis" - 5 Bedroom, 4 bath, 3,000 sq.ft. home, 2,400 sq.ft of covered verandahs. set on over 1/3 Acre with 100' of Beach-front. Fabulous ocean views. Swimming Pool, Generator, Water-maker. Fully furnished. #AB138 - **\$1,400,000**
- ★ **Man-O-War Cay** - "Cézanne" Ocean Beach-front. Superb, beautifully maintained, 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath 3,300 sq.ft. home on two levels. Wrap-around covered and open decks. Fabulous ocean views. Central A/C, Generator. #AB134 - **\$995,000.**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - "Robin's Nest" 3 bedroom, 2 bath home - 1,487 sq.ft. 2 Lots - totalling 11,895 sq.ft. Home on Lot 16 - New Swimming pool on lot 17. 89' Loyalong dock with great versatility in sizes of vessels. #AB136 - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ★ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - "Sea View" - 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 1,400 sq.ft of living space. Private Dock Slip. Superb views of the Sea of Abaco Fully Furnished and Equipped - Good Rental Income Producer. # AB68 - **SOLD**



NEW LISTING

"Twin Dolphin Point"

Elbow Cay - 2 Two Storey Waterfront Homes. A total of 9 bedrooms, 8 baths in 4,000 sq.ft. Set up as four separate rental units with great history. About 1 1/2 Acres with 170' of Sea of Abaco frontage. Furnished. Fabulous views. Private dock. #AB141 - **Each Home Separately - \$975,000. The Complete Estate - \$1,925,000.**



NEW PRICE

"Sugar Apple"

Man-O-War Cay - Charming, exquisite, traditional Bahamian home on over 1/4 acre corner lot. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in 1,047 sq.ft. Two screened porches. 249 sq.ft. Guest House with 1/2 bath and attached workshop. Crows nest for great 360 degree views. Private boat mooring. Furnished. #AB131 - **\$395,000.**



Kathleen Albury, BRI
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 Elbow Cay
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"Watch Hill"

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



NEW LISTING

"Bay Lodge"

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



"Casa Sirena"

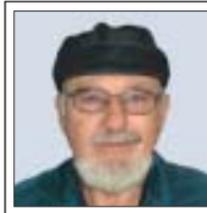
Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,474 sq.ft. Canal Front Home - Over 900 sq.ft. of porches and Decks. Two Car Garage. Private dock for 55' boat and 10,000 # Boat-lift for 25' boat. Fully Furnished and Equipped. #AB121- **\$1,035,000**



NEW LISTING

"Samahab"

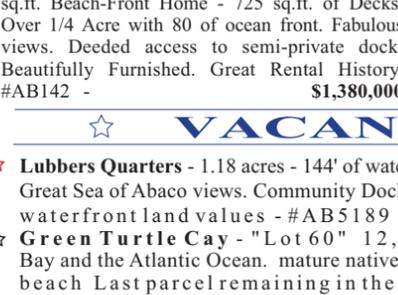
Scotland Cay - 162' of Sea of Abaco Frontage. 3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath 2,150 sq.ft. home on two levels with Central A/C, 360 sq.ft. Shop, 260 sq.ft. Bar, 1,137 sq.ft. of covered and open decks. Fabulous views. Private Dock . #AB158 - **NEW LISTING \$1,545,000.**



Bill Johnston
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 Cell: (242) 357-6674
 e.mail: abacobill@hotmail.com

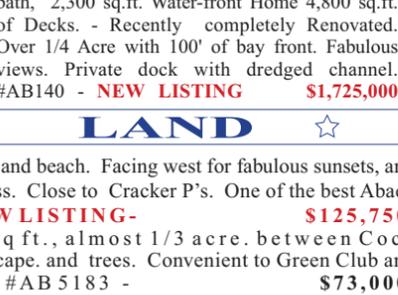


Chris Plummer, BRI
 Assistant District Manager
 Estate Agent
 Green Turtle Cay
 Tel/Fax: (242) 365-4648
 Cell: (242) 554-9451
 e.mail: bpepperinn@abacoinet.com
 VHF - Channel 16



"Casa Bueno"

Scotland Cay - 124' of Atlantic Ocean Beach-front. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,470 sq.ft. home with Central A/C. Over 2,000 sq.ft. of covered and open patios and decks. 19,000 gals fresh water. Aux. Generator. Fabulous views. #AB161 - **NEW LISTING \$1,100,000.**



NEW LISTING

"Summer Camp"

Scotland Cay - "Summer Camp"- 300' of prime Ocean Beachfront. 2 Bedroom & Bunkroom, 2 Bath 1,300 sq.ft. home on two levels. Guest Cottage, "Playhouse" with Bar. Covered and open decks. Fabulous ocean views. #AB160 - **NEW LISTING \$2,315,000.**

☆ **VACANT LAND** ☆

- ☆ **Lubbers Quarters** - 1.18 acres - 144' of waterfront and beach. Facing west for fabulous sunsets, and Great Sea of Abaco views. Community Dock access. Close to Cracker P's. One of the best Abaco waterfront land values - #AB5189 - **NEW LISTING - \$125,750.**
- ☆ **Green Turtle Cay** - "Lot 60" 12,235 sq.ft., almost 1/3 acre. between Coco Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. mature native landscape. and trees. Convenient to Green Club and beach. Last parcel remaining in the area. #AB 5183 - **\$73,000.**
- ☆ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Canal Front Building Site - 5,207 sq.ft. dockage for 55 'Vessel and 25' runabout - #AB5187 - **NEW LISTING - \$545,000.**
- ☆ **Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - Canal Front Building Sites
- ☆ #40 - 9,778 sq.ft. - AB5155 - Extra Large Corner Parcel - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ☆ #41 - 7,070 sq.ft. - AB5156 - Good Elevation - Sea View - **UNDER CONTRACT**
- ☆ **Sand Banks Creek** - One Acre plus - Wooded lots with over 90' of water frontage on Bay - 3 miles south of Treasure Cay - Limited Number Available. #AB5069 - from: **\$63,700.**