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VOLUME 14, NUMBER 5, MARCH 1st, 2006

Marsh H. Airport Upgrade Is Scheduled Construction on Terminal and Taxiway Will Begin This Spring

By Jennifer Hudson

The expansion of the Marsh Harbour International Airport terminal building is expected to begin sometime in March or April with a completion date anticipated for the end of 2006. The addition of 6,000 square feet to the terminal building will bring the total size of the terminal to 8,500 square feet. The project is being handled by Edwards and Kelcey, a company from Clearwater Florida.

Once completed, the building will house a sterile lounge with the capacity to hold approximately 120 people, improved overall spaces, Customs and Immigration departments including offices, bond room and open areas for baggage belts in the inspection area. Offices will be assigned for the airport manager, police and security. Provision will be made for concession areas throughout all three spaces of the airport. Security screening will take place inside the new facility instead of outside, as is presently the case, and the whole new terminal will be more passenger friendly.

Facilities presently in use will be updated and incorporated into the completed new facility. The new building will be completed first, then joined with the renovated facility, thus causing minimal disruption to business.

On January 25 Airport Manager Bobby Jones attended a meeting in Nassau at the Ministry of Works for all principles involved in the construction of the new Marsh Harbour airport facility (government and private contractors) which was chaired by

Please see **Airport**

Page 2

Visitors Learn About Available Medical Services



A seminar was held on February 15 at the Abaco Beach Resort for boaters and land-based visitors to inform them of the medical services available on Abaco. A team of professionals, both private and governmental, addressed the group of about 200 people who attended. Shown above are those who provided information. They are, back row, Dr. Johnson of Auskell Clinic, Wynsome Ferguson, Ministry of Tourism; Althea Cooper, EMT; Dr. Vitek, facilitator; Patti Toler, Cruiser's Net; Matthew Key, Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department; Dave Bluto, Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club; Bonnie Malone, Hope Town Fire and Rescue; Tom Leffler, Marsh Harbour Marina; Brian Faunte, BASRA; Prince with EMT; and Charmaine Claridge, Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. In the front row Angie Collie of Auskell Clinic; ASP Wayner Miller, Abaco's Police Chief; Iris Fernander, Nurse; Jeriztan Outten, Director, Abaco Tourism; Colin Albury, Marsh Harbour Crash and Rescue; Mickey Lowe, Marsh Harbour Crash and Rescue; and Cpl. Johnson, Police Fireman. See story on page 4.

Guana Cay Holds White Paper Meeting



The Hope Town District Council is holding a series of five meetings in each of the towns in that district, Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay, to discuss a White Paper which will provide guidelines for future development on the cays. The White Paper will be modified to reflect the wishes of the people attending the meetings before being voted on by the residents. This photo shows a discussion after the Guana Cay meeting. Shown are Roy Cash, Wayne Hall, Robert Malone, Troy Albury and Anthony Roberts.

By Lindsey Delaplaine

The second Hope Town meeting in the White Paper series was opened by Chief

Councillor Wayne Hall with prayer.

Please see **White Paper** Page 5

Marsh Harbour Gets Fire Truck



A rebuilt fire truck is now at the Marsh Harbour International Airport. An identical truck is at the Treasure Cay International Airport. See story on page 2.

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Marsh Harbour Airport Has a New Fire Truck

By Jennifer Hudson

On February 9 the Marsh Harbour International Airport received a reconditioned T 1500 series Osh Kosh fire engine, a type which is popular throughout the world. This will form an integral part of the airport crash, fire and rescue services and was acquired for the airport by the Department of Civil Aviation. Mr. Bobby Jones, Manager of the Marsh Harbour Airport, reported, "The new fire truck is state of the art and is completely refurbished with everything new except the chassis. It was built to the design of the Department of Civil Aviation and is a godsend as it replaces the old truck which has been deteriorating for years. This brings a much needed upgrade to the physical equipment and further upgrades will come regarding the human factor." Firemen will receive additional cutting-edge training in firefighting and rescue methodologies some of which will take place nationally and some extra nationally.

For the first phase of training, a representative of the manufacturer will be on Abaco with a mechanic from the Airport Authority in Nassau to conduct a one or two week programme relative to the complete operation and capacities of the truck and to impart a working and functional knowledge of the mechanics of the truck. This training will allow the firemen to fight all of the different types of fire – electrically based or fuel based, and to participate in stretcher operations in the event of an ill-fated plane.

The truck was designed and built in Texas, with a 1500-gallon capacity water tank and the ability to fight fires from the truck itself from turrets on the front bumper and on the top of the cab without having to unroll hoses. The vehicle also contains an extension ladder and Jaws of Life equipment.

Presently, three firemen are in place at the airport, but Mr. Jones states that this is

insufficient staffing. So the process is underway of hiring additional personnel to reach an optimum of seven firemen in each shift. Mr. Jones stated that it is likely there will be two crews working in shifts instead of working overtime hours as before. In addition, they will be qualified in rescue and first aid. Another duty of the firemen is to observe all air traffic so that they can advise pilots of any problems such as, if landing gear is not engaged, as sometimes the pilot's equipment may not notify him. The fire crew is expected to carry out mock exercises from time to time in order to maintain heightened awareness.

An identical truck has already been in service at the Treasure Cay airport for the past five years. In addition to the truck for Marsh Harbour, one was also sent to North Eleuthera and one to South Eleuthera.

Additional people are now being sought to man the new state of the art fire trucks at

both Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour airports. A minimum qualification of five BJC's is required but higher qualifications would be welcomed.

Airport

From Page 1

Director of Works and Utilities, Melanie Roach. The design for the new facility was presented by Edwards and Kelcey and was open for discussion amongst persons present who were given the opportunity to move or add, wherever necessary.

Regarding the airport runway, Mr Bobby Jones admits that complaints are fully justified. The job of resurfacing the existing runway and building a parallel taxiway has been awarded to a contractor, and it is planned to have this completed during the time frame of the airport expansion. "This will increase the safety of passengers and aircraft and facilitate arrival and departure," he says.



The current terminal at the Marsh Harbour International Airport shown here was inadequate from the time it was built in the 1980s. The airport is the second busiest in The Bahamas in terms of aircraft activity. The present state of the single runway is very dangerous with large potholes. Nearly all pilots complain of the damage caused to their undercarriage by the rough runway. A taxiway is badly need to relive the congestion.



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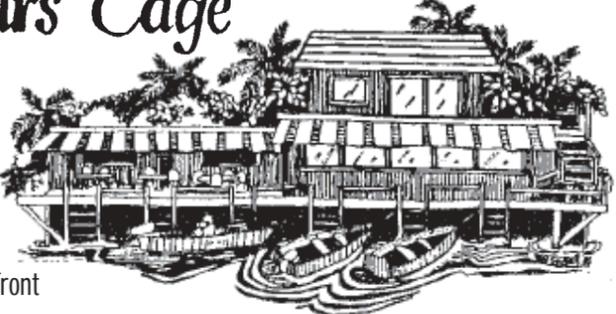
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Medical Access Seminar Was Informative

By Robert Wilson

"Comprehensive" and "cooperation" were common among the terms used to describe Abaco's healthcare and emergency services during a seminar held on February 15th at Abaco Beach Resort in Marsh Harbour. Of the approximately 200 attending, the majority were visitors to the area; however, a number of full-time residents from Marsh Harbour and surroundings cays were also present.

The medical community was represented by Charlamae Fernander, RN, and Althia Cooper of the Government Clinic Services and Dr. Dan Johnson and Mrs. Angie Colie of the Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic in Marsh Harbour.

Among the other distinguished participants were Marsh Harbour Chief of Police ASP Wayne Miller, Chris Prewitt representing BASRA, Cpl. Paul Johnson of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department and Colin Albury of Abaco Crash and Rescue.

To the delight of many of those attending, Pattie Toler of the Abaco Cruiser's Net and Tom Leffler of the Marsh Harbour Marina and Yacht Club were on hand to

address the concerns of visiting yachtsmen based upon their on-going observations and their personal cruising experience.

Dr. Johnson provided a comprehensive overview concerning the current "state of affairs" of medical services on Abaco and to the surprise of many expressed an opinion that, except for certain highly technical procedures, Abaco and the medical facilities in Nassau could deliver the quality of services similar to delivered in the United States and Canada. Being intimately familiar with the medical facilities in Nassau, he was able to provide an overview of the Nassau facilities in the absence of a representative from Doctor's Hospital who was to participate in the seminar but was unfortunately involved in an automobile accident himself the previous day and was unable to attend.

"Our 911 or 919 telephone access numbers can connect anyone with Police, Fire and Ambulance services," according to ASP Miller as he discussed the coordination between the emergency services, "and we also monitor Channel 16 and Channel 80A on the VHF radios for those without tele-

phones."

Of particular interest to visitors were the scenarios involving a variety of healthcare emergencies that would require services not readily available in Marsh Harbour. Several of the panelists commented on coordinated procedures that have been and that will remain in place to expedite critical care services, including the evacuation of patients to Nassau or to the United States.

Following the seminar, attendees were invited to observe a variety of local emergency equipment. On display was a fire truck from the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, an ambulance from the Government Clinic, a fully-equipped rescue unit from Abaco Crash and Rescue and

BASRA's response vessel from Hope Town.

The Abaco Medical Access Seminar originated at the suggestion of Dave Bluto, Commodore of the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club and was part of this year's 25th Year Anniversary Celebration.

The sponsors, including the Abaco Beach Resort, *The Abaconian*, Marsh Harbour Marina and Yacht Club, the Ministry of Tourism and the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club, were given high praise by everyone attending. BASRA's Chris Prewitt concluded, "This may become the catalyst for something that will continue from year to year. It was very well done and most informative."



A Medical Access Seminar was held on February 15 for boaters and other visitors at Abaco Beach Resort, giving an overview of available medical services on Abaco.

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News of the Cays

White Paper

From Page 1

The meeting covered four main areas: wetlands, coastal areas and open spaces, solid waste management, and wharves and waterways.

The wetlands portion was specifically written to protect the vegetation that holds the island's sand in place during storms. The main point is that no one is allowed to interfere with wetlands or the shoreline, up to 100 feet up the beach, without permission. As Councillor Hall explained, there have been instances on Elbow Cay when mangroves were there in the morning and gone in the afternoon. This is to make sure that doesn't happen anymore.

In controversial cases, Hall explained that Environmental Impact Assessments will be required, as well as interviews with all of the stakeholders, before any decisions are made. Exceptions will be made for work that needs to be done in the wake of hurricanes.

The recurring theme of the problem of enforcement was raised at this point. Mr. Hall explained that all of the laws referenced in the White Paper were already in the penal codes. The White Paper is an attempt to put them all in one place so they could be enforced more effectively.

The main topic of discussion in the coastal area section was the portion that addressed parties on the beach and on unimproved spaces on the island. The new language states that no such parties could occur without permission from the Council. There was some concern about over-regulation on this issue, and whether or not some of the area's youth, who have been

known to throw beach parties, were being targeted. Previously, the policy was that the fire department was the only official body that had to be notified about beach bonfires. Mr. Hall explained that the regulations were not just to address the current situation, but they were also designed to look to the future as Elbow Cay continues to grow.

There were concerns about illegal spearfishing and other violations that take place and the laws are not enforced. Hall encouraged people to put their concerns in writing and to send or email them to him. He can be reached through the Council's website: www.hopetowncouncil.com.

The solid waste management section contained a proposed schedule of voluntary fees that the Council would use to supplement the funds from Nassau for garbage collection. There was much discussion of the specific fees, including questions about the failure of Central Government to cover the entire expense related to garbage collection. The suggestion was made that as fines are collected locally the money should stay in the locality to help pay for government services.

The White Paper included provisions for recycling, which is not yet available other than the aluminum can collection provided by Friends of the Environment, but Mr. Hall has hopes of working with Friends and others to expand the trash collection to include recycling, thus keeping more trash out of the landfills.

The biggest outcry came during the wharves and waterways section: the provision that said boats could only be at the public dock for as long as it takes to load

and unload was met with a great deal of unhappiness. Mr. Hall reminded everyone that the White Paper was only a draft and that the purpose of the meetings was to get feedback on the ideas. There was little doubt on the feelings about this particular provision. The White Paper also moved towards banning jet skis and other water bikes from specific areas.

There was concern about the provision requiring boaters to use their holding tanks in the harbour, as currently there are no pump-out stations on Abaco. Mr. Hall explained that Hope Town Marina would soon have a pump-out station, and Boat Harbour and Man-O-War Marina are moving in that direction. When asked if older boats that do not have holding tanks would still be allowed, Mr. Hall said it would be on a case-by-case basis and would depend if people were living on the boats or not.

Guana Cay Meeting Raises Same Concerns

A similar meeting in the Guana Cay School on February 16 brought out 30 interested persons. The questions and interests of the residents were nearly identical to those of Hope Town residents several

days earlier.

Concerns were raised that a beach party with more than 10 would require a permit. It was pointed out that many families can muster 20 - 30 people without including non-family. It would further restrict gatherings under the famed "fig tree" which is used for informal town gatherings but is within the 100-foot water's edge limit.

As expected, garbage collection and handling were discussed at length with concerns about the proposed extra fees.

A proposal that the public docks be kept free of boats after they have been loaded or unloaded did not sit well as many people have no where else to keep their small boats. Then there is the issue of visitors coming in for lunch or browsing in town and needing to use one of the two public docks. It was concluded that the ferry boats and freight boats have a designated sock areas, but others must share the space on a first-come basis.

It was asked if the pilings left by Premier Cruise Lines at their turning basin and

Please see **Cays**

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PENDANT AND MATCHING EARRINGS

ABACO GOLD - SAND DOLLAR

The Editor Says . . . Studies Will Enhance Orderly Growth



Those persons interested in Abaco's future and growth patterns are about to be presented with new tools to work with. Whether politicians, environmentalists, developers or amateurs looking into the future, Abaco will soon be able to be viewed in a different light.

The Nature Conservancy, TNC, is a worldwide organization whose goal "is to preserve the plains, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive."

TNC has an office in Nassau and often collaborates with our local Friends of the Environment organization for projects either of mutual benefit or where the one organization can assist the other. TNC works closely with the Bahamas Natural Trust and the BEST Commission.

It recently contracted with Utah State University to apply GIS techniques and information to the topographic maps of Abaco. Graphical Information Systems, GIS, is a relative new discipline where a variety of data is added to maps in layers. With the right computer software, information on the layers can be accessed in relationship to the base map or to information on other layers.

Two students from the Utah State University have been contracted to work for TNC in compiling this data. Abaco is the first of the Bahamas Islands to receive this study although TNC is making similar studies elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Data is expected to be available to government in May or June with the data available to the general public sometime after that. Basic data is available from the maps which are normally made available on the Internet. Advanced data manipulation requires computer software specific to the Graphic Information System.

If the students are successful at gathering data from government agencies and others, the following information should be available:

- Water reserve areas
- Pine forests, mixed broadleaf, coppice, scrub land
- Agricultural land, either cleared and

potential

- Developed areas, cemeteries, schools, commercial areas
- Parks, marine preserves, marinas, boat storage yards
- Mangroves, swamps, shallow coastal areas

- Roads, aerial and underwater power lines, water mains
- Shoals, sandbars, coral reefs
- Dumps, junkyards and industrial sites, quarries

- Inland salt water areas
- Blue holes, historic sites
- Invasive Casuarina species
- Areas of sand and mud
- Beaches and rocky shores

Once in local hands, this could be the beginning of an overall look at Abaco with an eye toward forming some long range concepts. Some of the future benefits that this GIS data will provide will relate to:

- Water quality and quantity
- Transportation

- Growth management
- Solid waste disposal
- Wetland and urban interface
- Landscape fragmentation
- Tourism and real estate issues

The Nature Conservancy and the Utah State University students are not presenting a program to tell us where we are headed. But rather they are giving us an overall plan telling us where we are now and giving us the option of figuring out where we would like to be in 10 or 20 years.

To a large degree this is a complementary project to the White Paper being presented by Chief Councillor Wayne Hall to the three Hope Town District Townships. Mr. Hall is not going at it with maps but trying to establish rules for the orderly growth of the three cays. The two projects will mesh with each other nicely.

A North American land planning company, EDAW, completed studies on Eleuthera which has been favorably mentioned by Prime Minister Perry Christie.

He said a year or two ago that the company would be contracted by government to make a similar study for Abaco. A recent newspaper article has indicated the firm has subsequently been hired to make a comprehensive study for Exuma as rapid growth on that island is presenting problems.

Abaco has its share of growth problems, and there is little thought given to the concept of overall planning for the future. Perhaps this GIS study and the paper being formulated by Mr. Hall will bring issues to the forefront that can be reviewed to forestall future problems.

Interested parties wanting more information on GIS mapping are invited to visit the Utah State University Bio-regional Planning Program website at:

<http://ella.gis.usu.edu/bioregionalplanning> which will give some concept of the depth of information available when comprehensive data is assembled in one easy-to-view location.

Letters to the Editor

Loves the Area but Has Some Suggestions

Dear Editor:

Mary Jane and I are celebrating ten years of visiting Abaco this year.

A few observations: In 1996 our first trip was to rent a sailboat with our best friends from the Moorings in Marsh Harbour. At the indoctrination, the instructor was asked by our paranoid friend, "There are no locks for the cabins." The reply was, "Now, you don't need no locks. Dis is Abaco," and so it was. However, is this still true? The police reports would say otherwise.

You know after two years of boat rentals, we decided this is too great a place to spend exclusively on the boat and so we stayed on shore and used the ferries to go to the various cays.

Mary Jane and I bicycle all over the island to really see all its facets. A little clean up here and there wouldn't hurt and we would be glad to join in to help. We've found in the Florida Keys where we live that you can't depend on the local government to do this. Citizens have got to do it themselves and the pride you feel is priceless.

We have noticed a bit less friendliness in our dealings with the locals, perhaps due to "Hurricane Stress" of which we well know in the Keys.

Your immigration problems seem to be unsolvable, balancing compassion with reality. Abaco would seem to have less space and infrastructure to deal with the impending population explosion sure to occur. My limited knowledge of Haiti would suggest an unhealthy, violent country which I would

pray is not imported to Abaco.

A note on the airport: The old Marathon airport in the Florida Keys was very much like it. When it was modernized, the "island feeling" was lost forever and the tourists didn't like it. But safety must be maintained and replace the grumpy Customs folks with some with a welcoming attitude.

Not to complain and not mention the good and special times we have had in your wonder country. Marsh Harbour and all the cays we visit, are irreplaceable in our eyes and ten years of coming back would attest to that.

Our subscription to *The Abaconian* keeps us informed and longing to return.

Thanks for listening.

Respectfully,

Bob and Mary Jane Paans
Big Pine Key, Florida

Praises the White Paper

To the Editor,

The Hope Town Council is to be applauded and congratulated for the White Paper and for the productive meetings held in Hope Town and adjoining cays. The proposals embodied in the White Paper, when fine tuned by the open process outlined by the Council, will make Elbow Cay and the Hope Town District a better place to live and enjoy in the years ahead.

We realize that preparation of this document is both a high priority and very time-consuming task, but wish to call attention to a related matter which cries out for the Council's attention. Whereas the White Paper addresses the regulation

of individuals and privately-owned property to assure that Hope Town will continue to be the wonderful place it is now, public land in White Sound, which is under the direct control of the current Council, continues to be an environmental and visual disaster zone. Located in a residential and tourist area, a small portion of this land was developed several years ago by a private individual as a freight depot. Dredge spoil was piped into a beautiful mangrove wetland, killing hundreds of them. If the regulations proposed in the White Paper had existed at that time, development of the freight depot would not have been permitted. Proper permits and the required leases for this operation were not obtained.

We were pleased when the Hope Town Council gained control over the Crown land containing the freight depot and the surrounding area. We were told that the freight depot would be managed by the community rather than by individuals and that the adjacent area could be made into a park for the enjoyment all. We still have hopes that this will happen in the long term, but wish to call the Council's attention to what has happened in the short term.

The freight depot area has expanded way beyond the original 75 feet which was claimed in the non-existing lease. One individual dominates the area, has abandoned non-working equipment, and,

Please see **Letters**

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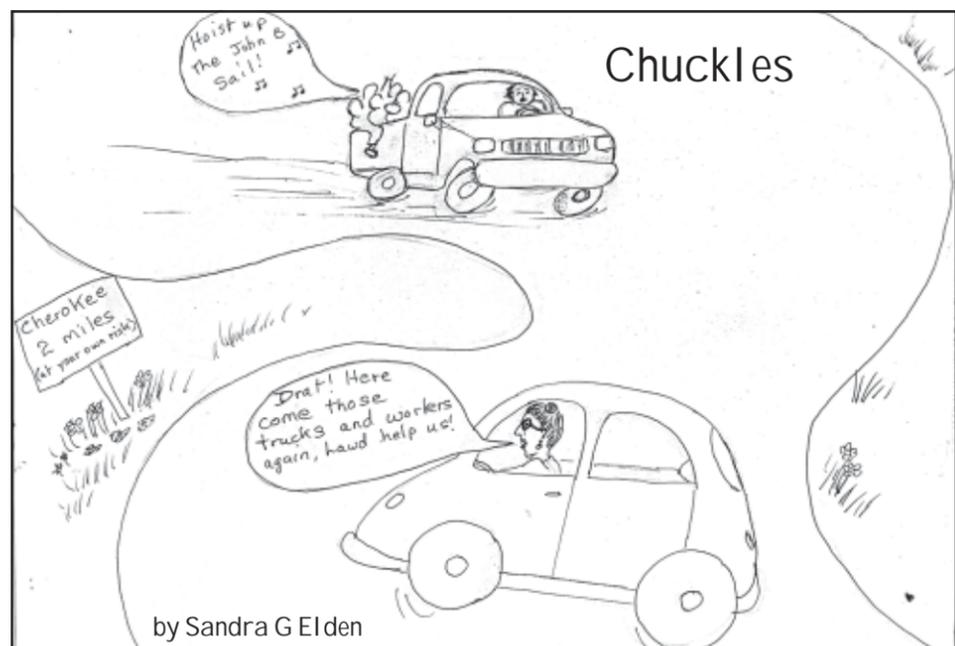
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Letters to the Editor

Letters *From Page 8*

as far as we know, continues to run a business there without paying fair rent for the use of public land. Expansion and mismanagement of the freight depot has destroyed even more native vegetation. Hurricanes have savaged the area as well. Caribbean Asphalt further damaged the area north of the freight depot and has not yet removed its rusting equipment even though the road building is completed.

All this continues to happen on a piece of land directly controlled by the Council. We think it is important that the Council set an example for what it sees as the future of the district by admitting its responsibility and taking charge of this area before the any more destruction is done. By providing effective and fair control of the freight depot, funds could be generated that could be used to clean up, restore and beautify appropriate parts of the area. Friends of the Environment may be interested in re-planting and nurturing mangroves in the shallow areas. Picnic tables and the reintroduction of native plants would make the area an asset rather than a liability to the Abaco Inn and Sea Spray. All residents of the cay would be able to see and utilize this beautiful parcel of land which the Council controls for the benefit of everyone on the island.

We feel that it is appropriate that government should do at least as much as it expects its constituents to do. We hope you agree and that the control, clean up and restoration of this once beautiful waterfront land at southeast White Sound will begin soon.

The residents, home owners and property owners of south White Sound, Elbow Cay.

Concerned About Beggars

Dear Editor,

Permit me some space in your paper to address what I feel is a concern for shop merchants and clerks in the center of Marsh Harbour. It seems like the number of vagrants, bums and beggars is increasing every day. These men spend their days walking up and down the sidewalks of Dove Plaza, Abaco Shopping Center and in front of the Chemist Shoppe and Snap Shop.

I see quite a few week in and week out, but to me the worst is a guy that people refer to as "Cheeks." This guy walks up and down the sidewalks of town chasing people begging for money. He is clearly unstable and often goes into businesses like the Chemist Shoppe, Snap Shop and Subway harassing their customers and being a real nuisance.

Merchants in the area have questioned the police about him. Apparently, the guy has a psychological condition that prevents them from taking action against him unless he breaks a major law. Yet, the guy spends his days scaring customers looking to do

some shopping, Bahamian and visitors alike.

He grabs on to car doors and windows in an attempt to keep people from leaving when they try pull away from him. I've even seen him attack a woman and small child because when they passed him, the child accidentally touched his pack of cigarettes.

Yet he is allowed to roam the streets without consequence. I understand if the police's hands are legally tied, the law can be weird sometimes in these matters.

However, I have seen on occasion this same guy in Royal Bank with a lady cashing his National Insurance cheque for him. I implore this lady and those others responsible for him, if you can take enough of an interest to take money from the government to give this guy, then please try and get him some help. At the very least, keep him off of the streets where he is a nuisance to so many people. Don't wait until this guy goes too far and hurts himself or someone else before you do something about him.

Alex McIntosh

Houses Are on Roadway

The Editor,

On February 13 while passing along this intersection, I noticed a bulldozer clearing land opposite the Solomon's Supermarket. This roadway is so narrow, it is hardly able for two vehicles to pass one another. The first thought that came to my mind was that the Old Road, according to Crown Lands map #78, was being reinstated 30 feet wide. Then I had other thoughts.

Carroll's house is built on the roadway and ten feet over on the Catholic property, now owned by Billy Lowe, Also Percy's house is built on the cross-road leading down to the Lowe's Pharmacy complex. Both these houses will have to be destroyed.

Now, get a life size picture of that.

Respectfully yours,

Roy Newbold

Letter Re: BTC

Many people throughout the Bahamas, Abaconians included, now own a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telephone. Word goes around that BTC is saying that it is illegal to own one of these phones. However, it has become a necessity to own such an instrument if one wants to be able to keep in touch with not only the rest of the world but even one's own community on a continual basis.

As we all know the phone system in the Bahamas and so called "customer service" is abysmal.

When one's telephone goes off, as is frequently the case, goodness only knows when service will be restored. We call the office in Marsh Harbour and the 914 number which, we are told, will see that the phone is repaired within 48 hours. But more often than not, one waits weeks and has to make repeated calls. Many people, in sheer frustration, resort to what is now becoming quite

a common practice of finding a BTC employee with a truck along the road and paying quite a large amount of money in order to entice them to their home to get the phone back on. While there may, hopefully, be some honest employees who will do a good day's work for the wages they are paid, some openly admit that this handout system is how they make their money.

It is expensive to have to use a cell phone for an extended period while one's regular telephone is out of order, but the people beyond the bounds of Marsh Harbour cannot even do that. They are totally out of luck because they are unable to get a signal. Hopefully, the new GSM towers will make it possible for people all over Abaco to be able to use a cell phone. But one needs to be wealthy to be able to afford to use one for all calls, and it must be especially hard on businesses.

Until BTC can get itself organised with a reliable telephone service, good customer representation and cheaper overseas telephone rates, they do not have the right to complain about people resorting to a more reliable (and cheaper!) system.

Public Demands Better Service

Had a Bad Experience

Sir:

I recently returned from a week long yoga retreat at the charming Dolphin Beach Resort at Guana Cay. On February 10 with a small group of friends, I strolled along the beach at Baker's Bay, an area at the north end of the cay where construction of a large new resort is underway.

As I wandered down the beach, an employee of the resort marched up to me and challenged my right to walk on the beach. "You can't walk on this beach," he said. When I replied that the beach was public and I did in fact have the right to walk there, he then told me I could not take pictures of the resort! For a moment, I wondered whether I had somehow wandered into a military installation. I shrugged, he walked off and I continued my beach walk. But there was a bad taste in my mouth.

If The Bahamas is allowing private corporations to intimidate visitors away from public beaches, it will certainly not "be better in the Bahamas" for long.

Sincerely,
Heather Gibb
Chelsea, Quebec

Explains Proposed Fowl Cay Park

Dear Editor,

We apologize for any confusion caused by the article entitled *Friends Host Community Meetings*. Although a letter in the last issue of *The Abaconian* stated many local, native Man-O-War people are opposed to the idea of a park in their "backyard," we do stand by the fact that most of the people who attended the meetings (so far held in Man-O-War and Hope Town) were in favor of the park. No one who attended the Hope Town meeting raised their hand in objection to the park, and many local Bahamians were there. Also, half of the Bahamians, while they may not be local, native Man-O-War Bahamians, who attended the Man-O-War meeting were in favor of the park.

Even more important to correct is the statement by the author that Bahamian families will not be able to enjoy camping trips or cookouts anymore. There is nothing to say that if the land does become a park that people cannot continue to enjoy using the cays. It just means they will have to catch their fish on the other side of the boundaries.

Also, the area that was originally proposed is only one and a quarter miles long. There are 90 miles of barrier reef that line the Out Islands of Abaco, which leaves plenty of area to fish and conch.

This is not being done to punish anyone. It is an attempt to ensure that when our grandchildren want to go camping or fishing, there will be fish left for them to catch. Larger fish lay exponentially more eggs. Unless some of those large fish are protected, there will be nothing left for anyone.

We also apologize for any inconvenience in the timing of the meeting; it was scheduled so that visiting scientists could attend and help to answer any questions that arose, not to ensure Man-O-War residents could not attend. It is our goal that everyone's voice be heard as a part of this process. The final decision will be left up to the Bahamas National Trust and the Bahamian government. The meeting was held to capture the thoughts of residents, and those thoughts will be shared when the proposal is submitted.

Friends of the Environment



A freight staging area in White Sound, Elbow Cay, has been turned into service yard for a local business where oil drums, heavy equipment, derelict vehicles and a variety of unsightly items spoil the view for residents and visitors. The area was intended to be a site for off-loading freight from Marsh Harbour and a park to enhance the area.

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News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 5

channel could be removed as they are a hazard to night boating. Lights were mentioned, but it was concluded that removal would be the best solution as the water is deep enough for any normal boat using that area.

Most of the items in the White Paper

were taken at face value and accepted as beneficial to orderly growth.

The next section of the white paper to be discussed will be the one dealing with zoning. The section will be over 70 pages, and, as it contains so much important information, the next two meetings will be devoted to the issue. That section can be downloaded from the Hope

Town Council website and should be available prior to the next scheduled meetings.

Auskell Clinic Goes to Man-O-War

By Jennifer Hudson

The Auskell Clinic which, since its inception a couple of years ago, has grown rapidly in both the number of specialists who now offer their services at the clinic and in the number of cutting edge diagnostic services now provided.

On February 17 the clinic branched out even further by taking its services to Man-O-War Cay. Dr. Biney, General Practitioner, Nurse Angie Collie, Managing Director of the Auskell Clinic, and Nurse Siren Davis went over on the 12:15 ferry intending to return on the 3:15 ferry but were greeted by so many people needing their services that they stayed until the last ferry of the day. Residents had been begging Ms. Collie for some time to offer services on the cay as there are people there who are ageing or indisposed and unable to get into Marsh Harbour.

Since Dr. Boyce, who used to visit the cay, had not done so for some time, people turned to Auskell for help. Nurse Collie said that so many people turned out and were so welcoming and relieved to see them that she had tears in her eyes.

The medical team took plenty of equipment with them from the clinic and were able to treat nine patients during their visit. The Man-O-War clinic is not a government owned but was built as a community effort. All the equipment in the clinic is now rusty as a result of hurricanes and it is the intention of the Auskell clinic to donate a new set of baby scales.

Nurse Collie said that the residents of the cay were so thrilled to have the medical team there and begged them to see various bedridden patients. However, there was not enough time, so for the next visit she plans that they will go first thing in the morning in order to have a full day and be able to accomplish more. Nurse Collie plans for a medical team from the clinic to visit Man-O-War Cay every two weeks. She has also been approached by Guana Cay.



Jimmie Lowe from Nassau, right, presented a cheque to Paul Gooding of the Hope Town Sailing Club. The cheque was from the Bahamas Sailing Association representing funds provided by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and is a refund of import duty on the Optimist sailboats bought by the Hope Town Sailing Club and imported into The Bahamas by the Hope Town Sailing Club earlier this year. The boats will be used for sailing lessons for the youth of Hope Town. Matthew McCoy is the instructor.

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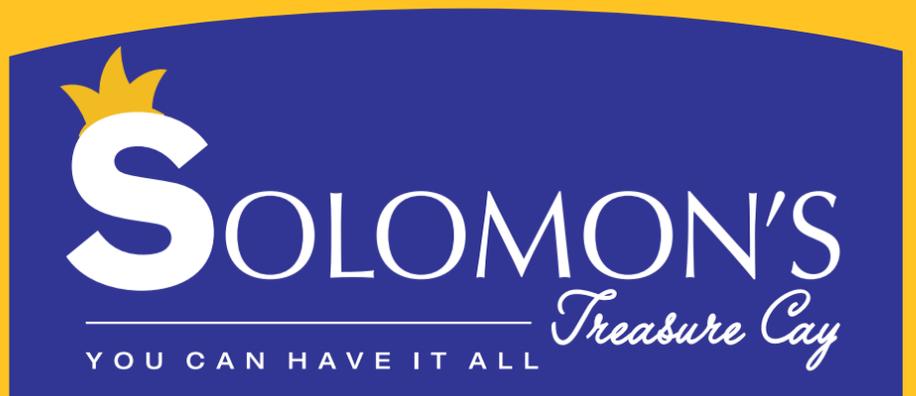


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New Airport Security Measures Are in Place

By Jennifer Hudson

Persons travelling internationally by air from both the Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay airports will have noticed the addition of new procedures at the airports since the beginning of the year as passengers must now submit to security checks. For a few days after the instigation of the new measures on December 28, domestic passengers also were under the same scrutiny. However, these measures have since been relaxed for domestic passengers. The new measures have come about as a result in the increase of world terrorism and inherent threats to safe aviation.

The Bahamas is a member of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) which is the global governing body of aviation activities throughout the world. This organization is a subsidiary body of the United Nations with power to standardise and universalise contemporary and cutting edge aviation practices with responsibility for all of its member states. It comprises various annexes and deals with certain elements in the aviation industry such as aerodromes, security and ground handling, securing international cooperation and uniformity in regulations and standards, procedures and organization regarding civil aviation matters.

Security in Marsh Harbour comes under Annex 17 of the ICAO. Basic rules are set out regarding conduct of security, to whom measures apply and general purpose. The ICAO mandated that by January 1, 2006, all member states must have implemented security screening for the purpose of checking to ensure that passengers travelling and goods travelling on the person or in the cargo hold will enjoy safe and uninterrupted travel.

Both the Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay airports officially implemented the system on December 28. Prior to this date,

persons required to fill the new positions as screeners were selected on the basis of an application and submission of all the necessary documentation. Candidates were trained by an Israeli security company, International Security Defence Systems, in all aspects, which included screening (use of detection devices such as x-ray machines and magnetometers, both hand and walk through). They were also trained to be able to identify the profile of the would-be terrorist. This two-week programme was fully funded by the government. Two hundred people from throughout The Bahamas took part in the course. Initially, 25 people from Abaco began the course, but only 16 were able to pass the stringent daily and final examinations in order to graduate. A passing grade of 80 percent was required on each test.

Bobby Jones, manager for both international airports on Abaco, has participated in several courses including a management security training course with TSA in 2005 and an Airport Terminal Operations course in Singapore in 2004.

Security screeners will work two shifts in Marsh Harbour - 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. At Treasure Cay the first shift will be the same but the second shift will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The overlap of shifts ensures that during peak passenger times double the amount of screeners will be on duty.

More screening personnel are required as there is a need for five persons per shift plus an observer. A manual search and screening with a hand wand only are the measures employed on Abaco as this is acceptable to the ICAO. The present screening does not relate to private planes or its passengers. The ICAO made these provisions, since Abaco does not have a sterile lounge but ALL international passengers MUST be screened.

North Abaco News



Nearly one year after construction started in March 2005, Phase 5 of the Bahama Beach Club in Treasure Cay, "is very much on schedule," according to developer, Mr. Craig Roberts. Thirty-seven of the planned 46 units have already been sold, explained Mr. Roberts. The \$36 million project is expected to be complete by the end of this summer or early fall.



At the beginning of January a security gate located at the entrance to Treasure Cay became operational. According to Security Officer, Ms. Madge Curry, who was on duty on February 13th, the gate is manned 24 hours a day by a team of four Security Officers. Before the construction of the gate, the security personnel was housed in a tent. This security measure is one of several that the residents of Treasure Cay have put in place after a rash of break-ins and other criminal activities during the past few months. This guard house was built by Craig Roberts.

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FAR NIENTE - 4 bed / 4 bath on the Sea of Abaco North End, Elbow Cay. Large open floor plan, fully furnished, beautiful beach **\$3,900,000.**

MARNIES LANDING - Ocean Front Lots, private marina community, covenants permit main house and guest cottage on these large dock slip included: **Lot #2 \$895,000**



BLEST NEST

High on ocean dune at North End. 3 bed / 3 bath (detached guest cottage) panoramic views, excellent rental history **\$1,425,000**

CONCH QUEST - Ocean front villa, 2 bedroom, 1 bath with room to expand. Open deck overlooks excellent surfing location. Just steps from marina and restaurant, rental history available. **\$795,000.**

Lot #2 Oceanfront with dock slip \$895,000. **Lot #2B Interior** with oceanview and dock slip \$570,000.



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Central Abaco News

Sapodilly's Hosted Wine Tasting for Friends

By Lindsey Delaplaine

A fun time was had by all at the Wine Tasting Event hosted by Sapodilly's Restaurant and Bar to benefit Friends of the Environment on February 16th.

The wine tasting featured wines from the soon to open Tupps Fine Wine and Spirits and Burns House Limited. Cost Rite provided delicious food for the standing room only crowd.

The purpose of the cocktail party was to update Marsh Harbour residents on the activities of Friends of the Environment and highlight the need for local support to address local issues. Friends is working in five different areas: the marine environment, which includes the mooring balls at the lo-

cal reefs; working against the spread of invasive species; coordination of recycling programs; the management of Abaco's National Park; and the education of children and adults about the importance of preserving the beauty, heritage and environs of Abaco.

After the update, a raffle was held with a variety of wonderful prizes. Board President Michael Albury and Penny Turtle pulled the winning tickets and Friends's auditor Ronnie Knowles selected the prizes. Monkey's Uncle Unique Gifts, a new store which will be located in the building going up next to Sapodilly's, donated a number of prizes, as did Kim Sands, the owner of Java Coffee House. Local artist Stephen

Knowles donated one of his handcrafted wooden bowls, Kim Rody gave one of her prints as did artist Marjolein Scott, and the Conch Pearl Gallery contributed a beautiful necklace.

Coffy Memorial Cemetery Gets a Facelift

By Samantha V. Evans

On February 4th Mr. Creswell Archer led a team of men to clean up the Coffy Memorial Cemetery in Marsh Harbour and to give the front wall a facelift. When asked how this site was chosen to restore, he stated that his father, the late Percy Archer, had been taking care of the cemetery for the past 40-50 years. He remembers his dad cleaning it since he was a boy, but he only started to get involved as he got older. The cemetery is named for Coffy Johnson, an early settler here, and the cemetery is more than 50 years old. Mr. Archer continued that this effort did not begin with his father but that his family has seen to the upkeep of this property for a long, long time even though they are not the owners of the site. The cemetery is cleaned regularly.

On this day the plot for his late father was being prepared for his remains will be laid to rest in the cemetery that he cared for so dearly - the Coffy Memorial Cemetery.

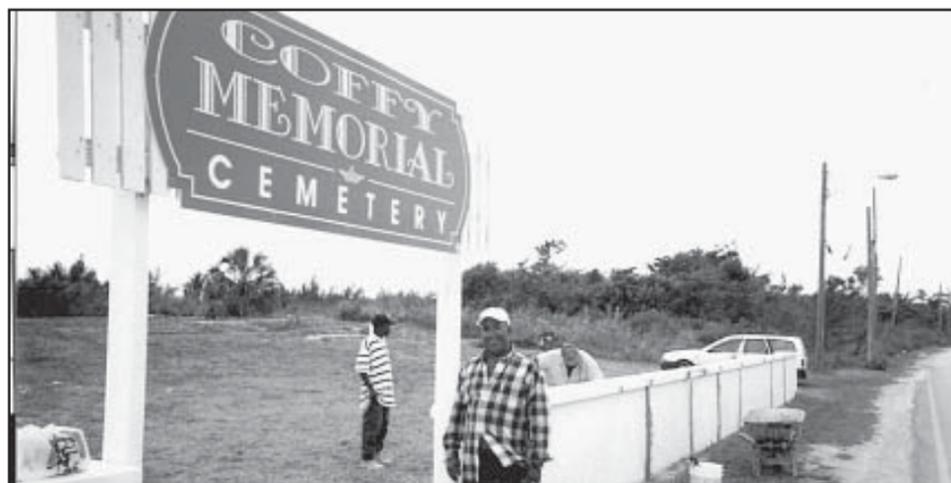
Recycling Bottles in Marsh Harbour

By Mirella Santillo

For over a year now Ms. Fillette Francois, a native Haitian but resident of The Bahamas since 1979, has been collecting bottles from the road sides in the Marsh Harbour area. Leaving her home sometimes as early as 7 a.m. Mrs. Francois drives around with a few empty boxes that she fills up as she picks empty bottles of Kalick, Heineken, Guinness and Vita Malt on her trips. Sometimes she just fills up the car in whatever containers she has with her. People bring them to her. Her yard is a sea of bottles, piled up in shopping carts, in large potato bags or just in mounds on pallets and on the ground. These bottles will have to be eventually packed in boxes to be shipped in a container to Nassau

Please see **Central**

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Coffy's Memorial Cemetery in Marsh Harbour has been lovingly taken care of by the Archer family for many years. With the death of Mr. Percy Archer earlier this month, the responsibility now rests with his children who are happy to maintain the resting place of so many of their relatives. Shown here is Mr. Creswell Archer, Mr. Percy's older son, who was sprucing up the cemetery prior to his father's funeral.



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More Central Abaco News

Central From Page 16

for recycling. "It's a lot of work," she laments, "but it's OK." Mrs. Francois said that it takes her months to fill up the 40-foot container, rented from Abaco Shipping, that holds several thousand boxes. She receives \$.75



Ms. Fillette Francois, a resident of the Mud, recycles beer and Vita Malt bottles, shipping them to Nassau. She receives \$.75 per box of empties, augmenting her income.

per box from the brewery in Nassau for her efforts. In order to facilitate her work, she is planning to add a porch to her house where the bottles will be stored.

Ms. Francois, who is now retired, worked in Nassau for four years before moving to Marsh Harbour, 22 years ago. Here, she worked for seven years as housekeeper and then opened a small grocery business in the Mud.

As a long time resident of the Mud where she built a house, she would like to see a resolution of the Haitian housing problem on Abaco. She suggested that perhaps the government should impose stricter building codes in the Mud and collect rent from the people already living there so that they would not feel that their house is a temporary abode. She thinks that everybody would profit from that. "The Bahamian government needs money," she said, "so it could collect revenues, and people would know that they will not be moved if they are paying."

Abaco Outboard Expands

By Mirella Santillo

Construction of a new showroom for the Yamaha dealership started about one month ago.

Located across from the present Abaco Outboard Engines in Marsh Harbour on approximately half an acre of land, the new building will house two separate businesses, Abaco Marine Propeller and Yamaha in 4000 square feet of showroom.

The steel frame building is scheduled to be completed sometime in May, explained Mr. Stephen Albury, the owner of the dealership. He said that the company will keep the old building that will be used as a small parts and marine supply shop.



Four pedestrian crossings have been added to the streets of Marsh Harbour - one between Abaco Shopping Centre and D & S Shopping Center, one in front of the BEC office, one on Forest Drive near the Central Abaco Primary School and one not quite finished in front of Abaco Central High School.



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More Central Abaco News

New Residents at Spring City Have to Pay Rent

By Jennifer Hudson

Word spread on January 25 that some of the occupants of the new housing subdivision at Spring City which had been developed by the Ministry of Housing and National Insurance had been forcibly removed from their homes, causing much commotion and gathering of onlookers. When questioned about the situation, Mr. Neil Campbell, Deputy Administrator, stated that this was certainly not the case, and there was no action or unrest. All that, in fact, happened on that day was that four occupants who had failed to meet their obligations

under the agreement with the Ministry of Housing were identified for eviction and quietly served with the requisite notice.

Persons who have been rehoused at Spring City were those from the small community of families squatting on government owned land at Snake Cay whose homes were completely demolished or sustained irreparable damage during Hurricanes Francis and Jeanne. Following a series of meetings between the residents of Snake Cay and the Ministry of Housing and National Insurance, seven families were identified for resettlement and the Ministry proceeded with the development of the Spring City subdivision and the construction of five - 3-bed-

room units, one - 2-bedroom unit and one - 1-bedroom unit.

The cost of the houses ranged from \$36,750 for a three-bedroom unit, \$28,500 for a two-bedroom unit and \$18,000 for a one-bedroom unit. The sale/occupancy agreements were signed by each occupant on June 10, 2005, and owners were required to pay the balance within 90 days and told to apply immediately to the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation or another approved lender for a mortgage loan.

On September 26, 2005, homeowners who had failed to comply with these terms were reminded of their responsibilities and given a further 14 days to comply. On December 6, 2005, a final notice was sent to six delinquent occupants stating a final deadline of 24th of January to comply or face eviction.

On 26th January, 2006, the Abaco Chris-

tian Council asked that the four occupants who had failed to meet their obligations and had been served with an eviction notice, be given a further extension of two weeks to February 9 to make proper arrangements for their mortgage loans. Later that day, Mr. Campbell was pleased to inform the Ministry that two of the occupants served with eviction notices had sought to secure mortgage loans with local banks in Abaco.

On January 27 the Minister of Housing, the Hon. Shane Gibson, decided that all persons who were still in the process of securing a mortgage must begin paying rent at a rate of \$250 for three-bedrooms, \$200 for two-bedrooms and \$25 for one-bedroom (this owner being handicapped).

According to Mr. Campbell, on February 15 two occupants had still not paid any rent, and this information was sent to Nassau for a decision by the Ministry.



The mangroves at the head of the harbour in Marsh Harbour appear to be dead or under severe stress. Last summer a diesel spill at the freight dock drifted into the mangroves by a west wind. Although there was a superficial effort to clean up the oil near the businesses that were affected, the oil penetrated the entire mangrove area killing plant and animal life. Some of the mangroves may grow back but the fish life is sparse.

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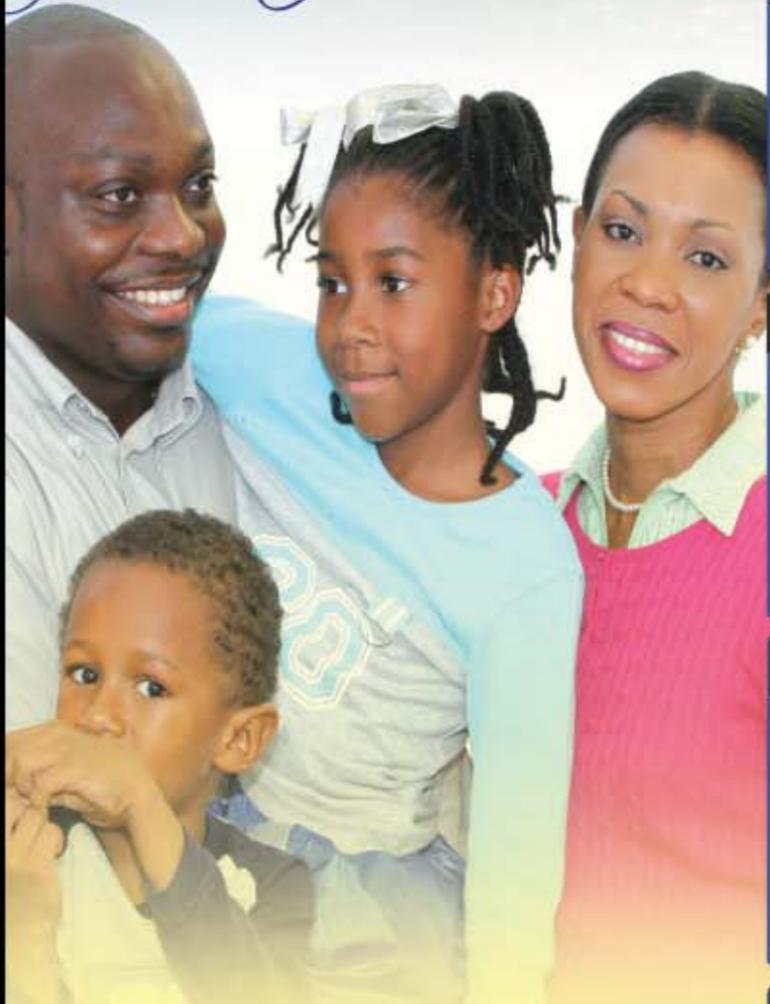
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P R O P O S E D

National Health Insurance

for the Bahamas

Frequently Asked Questions



"WHY DOES THE BAHAMAS NEED A NHI PLAN?"

Most Bahamians enjoy good health. However, when faced with a serious illness or injury many have to borrow, ask for donations or hold cook-outs to raise money for care. Many also delay seeking care and are forced to live with the pain and discomfort. The Government of The Bahamas firmly believes that health care is a right, not a privilege of the few. However, with the rising cost of care, the public budget will not be able to pay for all the services needed by Bahamians.

NHI WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF FINANCING TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BAHAMIANS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR PERSONAL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

"WHAT IS NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE?"

NHI is not new. First implemented in Germany in 1883, NHI exists in most of the world's developed countries such as France, Japan and Canada. In comparison to countries without NHI, such as the United States, NHI countries generally have lower health costs, and better health outcomes (e.g. life expectancy and infant mortality.) Lessons from other countries have been taken into account to create a unique Bahamian NHI Plan.

Health care is not free. NHI seeks to encourage personal responsibility by sharing the cost of that care. Government will pay contributions for the indigent and children. In that way, NHI lightens the burden of cost on the individual and spreads the benefit of timely access to quality care to all.

"WHO WILL BE MEMBERS OF THE NHI PLAN?"

The NHI Plan will be universal. Membership will be open to all legal residents of The Bahamas, regardless of age, income, or health status. All legal workers will be required to contribute to the plan.

Tourists, non-residents and illegal immigrants will not be enrolled. When these individuals need health services they will be required to pay for the cost of that care at the point of service

ALL LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE BAHAMAS WILL BECOME MEMBERS OF NHI.

"WHAT BENEFITS WILL BE OFFERED THROUGH NHI?"

The NHI Plan will cover a broad package of benefits. This will include:

- Outpatient visits • Prescription drugs • Laboratory tests and imaging services • In-hospital care
- Overseas care for services not available locally and in emergency cases
- Emergency transport for patients from the Family Islands

NHI WILL ESTABLISH AGREEMENTS WITH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PROVIDERS FOR THESE SERVICES.

"WHO PAYS FOR NHI AND HOW MUCH WILL I PAY?"

The NHI Plan will have 3 contributors groups:

(1) **Workers, employers and the self-employed.** They will pay 5.3% of wages. It is proposed that the contribution will be shared equally between employers and employees (2.65%ea.). Examples of an employee's monthly NHI contribution, at varying times are shown below.

(2) **Pensioners.** Pensioners will be asked to contribute about \$1 per day

(3) **Government.** Government will pay contributions on behalf of the poor and children. Also, as with all employers, it will be responsible for a 50% contribution for its employees.

Salary	\$800	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$5,000 and up
NHI Contribution	\$21	\$32	\$48	\$66	\$80	\$133

"HOW WILL THE NHI PLAN FUNCTION?"

Membership and Contributions: After legislation is passed, the National Insurance Board will register all members, issue membership cards, and collect contributions from the three groups of contributors.

Use of Health Services and Payments: When Health care services are needed, members will visit private or public providers for services in the benefit package. Providers will swipe the membership card and claims will be submitted to the NHI Office for payment. Persons using private health facilities may be asked to make co-payments for their services. As currently proposed, no co-payments will be required for public health services.

"WHEN WILL THE NHI PLAN START?"

There is no set date for implementation. The NHI Plan is still in the design stage as there are some key actions which must be undertaken. These include: • Consultations with stakeholders and the public; • Preparation and passage of legislation; • Improvements in services provided by public health centres and hospitals.

AFTER THIS CONSULTATIVE PHASE IS COMPLETE, A FINAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL WILL BE UNDERTAKEN.

"HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT NHI?"

This is the first in a series of public education pieces on NHI. Please look for additional supplements in the upcoming weeks! We welcome your questions and suggestions regarding the proposed NHI plan. Please contact us:

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NHI Implementation Project

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Ph.242-502-1786

E-mail: stanley.lalta@nib-bahamas.com

Etoile Pinder

NHI Implementation Project

Health Financing Specialist:

Ph.242-502-1793

E-mail: etoile.pinder@nib-bahamas.com

To schedule a presentation on NHI for your group please contact:

Elizabeth Keju

NHI Implementation Project

Administrative Coordinator

Ph.242-502-4724

E-mail: elizabethkeju@bahamas.gov.bs

www.bahamas.gov.bs

More Central Abaco News

Update on The Mud and Pigeon Pea

By Jennifer Hudson

A complete clearing and cleaning of the entire fire affected area of the Mud was carried out on February 12 at which time all derelict vehicles were also removed. Mr. Neil Campbell, Deputy Island Administrator, stated that it is the intention of the administrator's office to fence in the cleared area, which will then be a green space and a "no build" zone.

In phase 1 of the reclamation process all houses in the Mud were counted, and all houses from now on must be numbered. The administrator's office has moved towards involving other government departments in its campaign. If a matter is reported to the police, a house number must be given so that the police will know where an individual lives. Accurate information must be given, and evasiveness will not be condoned. This will allow for better monitoring of persons in the area.

The Min. of Housing, the Hon. Shane Gibson, asked for recommendations from the Central Abaco Council as to where residents from the Mud and Pigeon Pea could be moved to. Two areas were suggested: 1) just north of the BEC power station 2) south of Spring City. The Minister will look at the logistics of these locations and make a decision.

The area selected will be for Bahamians,

Please see **Central**

Page 25



Cpl. Rammy Minnis, left, has been specifically assigned to interact with the residents of the Mud and Pigeon Peas. He is in those communities daily and is working with them to bring about a better relationship between those communities and the police. He is shown here with ASP Wayne Miller, Officer in charge of Abaco.



A meeting was held in the Mud for residents there to learn more about fire safety and the problems faced by the fire department when called to a fire in the Mud or Pigeon Peas. The meeting was organized by NEMA, the police department and the fire department. About 50 attended and learned first hand some of the difficulties, lack of water, lack of accessibility and other dangers the firemen face. Those present were urged to become part of the fire department and train so they can help their community when another fire breaks out. On March 18 anyone interested in becoming a fireman will meet at the Resource Center. Seated here are police officers, Cpl. Johnson, ASP Wayne Miller and Cpl. Rammy Minnis. Standing and acting as interpreter is Pastor Meme.



The debris from the fire on November 17 in the Mud when approximately 70 houses were destroyed has been cleared away and derelict vehicles removed. The area will be fenced so no further construction can take place there. It has been suggested that it would make a good soccer field, a sport that the Haitians are very keen on.



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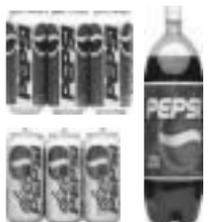
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Toys were distributed al all needy children on Abaco from Sandy Point to Crown Haven, including Moore's Island and Grand Cay. Town elders, local civic organizations or churches were selected to make the local distribution and ensure that the needy benefited, not the greedy.

We have made every effort to recognize the many individuals and organizations who have helped us by supporting this endeavor. However, If we have inadvertently omitted a name, we sincerely apologize.

HAPPY NEW YEAR !! 2006

Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral for **Percival Gerald Archer**, 78, of Marsh Harbour was held on February 11 at New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour. Rev. Charles Carey assisted by Rev. Dr. Colin Archer and Pastor Dansbury Hudson officiated. Interment was in the Coffy Memorial Cemetery in Marsh Harbour.



Percy Archer

Mr. Archer has been a leader on Abaco for many years. His construction company, P. Archer Construction, built many homes and public buildings including Abaco Central High School and Central Abaco Primary School. He built and operated the first supermarket on Abaco, Archer's Supermarket, in Dundas Town.. He was involved in several other businesses including the Ambassador Inn, the Job Room, and Aero Coach Aviation. He served on the Board of Works which preceded Local Government and was an elected member when Local Government came into existence in 1996. He was a founding member of the Abaco Businessmen's Association, the Abaco Regatta and the Marsh Harbour Junkanoo Committee. He was prominent in the Methodist Church.

For his service to his community he was made a Member of the Most Distinguished Order of the British Empire and

was a Justice of the Peace.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years Evelyn; sons Creswell and Ivanhoe Archer; daughters Belinda McIntosh, Ancela Gay and Kamala Archer; sister Sybil Archer; brothers-in-law Barnabas and Cornelius Johnson; sisters-in-law Coreen Dean, Vernice, Rozena, Francis and LaVenia Johnson and Vyrona Archer; grandchildren Robert, Omarb, Christopher and Creswell Archer, Jamal McIntosh, Dexter and Denton Gay, Cara, Creslin, Ashnic and Paige Archer, Alexis Gay; adopted grandchildren, Rodney McIntosh, Cecil Grant, Natasha Gay, Tyree Gay and Chantell Smith; great-grandchildren Kirshawn, Kiano and Kirrisa Bain; sons-in-law Roosevelt McIntosh and Wilfred Gay; daughter-in-law Lisa Archer; nieces Sherrine Styles, Paulette Campbell, Pamela Robertson, Antoinette Hamilton, Guillima Archer, Gleander Knowles, Angie Collie, Dr. Denise and Renee Archer, Veronica and Deanne Archer and Joy Demeritte; nephews John, Joseph, Samuel, Cyril, Wayne, Ryan, Emmitt and Fabian Archer.

Other relatives include Donald and Marina Moss, Andy, Earl, Howitt and Lillian Moss, Rosemary Williams, Gleaka Campbell, Lilla Strachan, Nadeen Beneby, Dr. and Mrs. Colin Archer, Patrick Roberts, Dansbury, John and David Hudson, Valderine Smith, Noel Thompson, Freddie Archer, the Campbell, Archer, Johnson, Roberts, Smith, Bethel, Hudson and Moss families; a host of friends including Rev. and Mrs. Charles Carey, the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, Joyce Smith, Garfield McPhee, William Mortimer, Sheila

McDonald, Vernal and Jane Adderley, Administrator Everette Hart, Retired Administrator Clayton Stuart, George Riviere, Earnest and Jay Dean, Patrick Bethel, Pastor Lernis Cornish, Cay Mills, Esther Lewis, Patricia Gillmore, Annie McIntosh, Gloria Mikula, Fletcher McIntosh, the Aldersgate Methodist Church family.

The funeral for **Cecil Ingraham**, 73, affectionately called "Papa Cec" of Dundas Town was held on February 4 at New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour. Pastor Silbert Mills assisted by Pastor Kenneth Knowles officiated and interment was in the Public Cemetery in Dundas Town.

He is survived by his wife Ona Ingraham; son Cecil Ingraham, Jr.; daughters Hyacinth Swann, Shirley Mills, Olga Delancy, Della Ingraham, Kevie Thomas, Lydia Williams, Licina Ingraham, Tammy Sabota, Catherine and Elvira; grandchildren Rex, Ricky, Natasha Hanchell, Nicholas, Nevin, Jamaal, Darryl, Tasia, Dayneth, Sierra, Javon, Howard, Summer, Payton, Hayley, Davonte, Savannah and Jenna; great-grandchildren Shakeem, Donte, Darryl Jr., Amaya, Rex Jr., Fantasia and Marcus; nieces Dionne, Elizabeth, Fredericka, Ruby and Dawn; nephews Daniel, George, Trevor, Mark, Dale, Natt, Livingston, Julius, Corner Gray, Chief Minister of Turks and Caicos Island Mike Missick, Paul Missick, Bew Martin and Clifford; daughter-in-law Jan Ingraham; sons-in-law Cecil Delancy, Perry Thomas, Raymond Saunders, Coby

Williams, Thomas Swann and Paul Sabota; brothers-in-law including Thomas Gray; sisters-in-law including Alice Carter, Maryjane, Rosalee, Edith and Bernice; and many other relatives and friends.

Dr. Keith Densel Albury, 43, passed away on January 24 after a long fight



Dr. Keith Albury

against cancer. He was the President of the Bahamas Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, a position he held since January 1996. He was born in

Harbour Island but grew up in Nassau. He was in the ministry for 21 years. Before he was named President of the Bahamas Conference, he was pastor of several churches and held other offices in the church. He leaves his wife, Ann Marie; sons, Keith Anson, Alden and Brendon; and his mother Fanette Albury.

The Prime Minister, the Hon. Perry G. Christie, acknowledged the contributions of Rev. Dr. Keith Albury during the funeral service in Freeport. He spoke of Dr. Albury's "indomitable spirit," of not giving up when being knocked down, of getting up, and moving forward to

Please see **Obituaries** Page 23

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More Obituaries of Family and Friends

Obituaries

From Page 22

achieve his goals.

William H. Kennison, 88 passed away on February 10 at his home in Tavernier, Florida, after a lengthy illness. He was born in Massachusetts and was one of the first settlers in Little harbour. He was a resident and visitor to the Bahamas for 40 years. For many Bahamian the *Zephyr* and Mr. Kennison's girls were a familiar sight.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Jean; daughters Barbara, Dorothy, Ginny and Janet; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral for **William Keith Russell**, 65, of Hope Town was held on February 5 at St. James Methodist Church in Hope Town. Rev. Carla Culmer and Lay Preacher Vernon Malone officiated and interment was in the Middle Town Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family wished donations to be sent to the Cancer Society, Marsh Harbour Branch.

He is survived by one brother, Richard James Russell; one sister Suzanne Bethel; long time friend and business partner Rudy Moree; one sister-in-law Christine Russell; one brother-in-law Willard Bethel; two nieces, Cynthia Lynn Gittelmacher and Amanda Louise Bethel; two nephews, Phillip Richard Russell and Thomas Lester Bethel; one aunt Clara Louise Albury; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Patricia Lee Swain**, 41, formerly of Murphy Town was held on February 11 in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her daughter Lashandra Coleby; granddaughter Verneka Cox; sister Stephanie Barnett; adopted sister Joycelyn Bootle; aunts Cynthia Curry, Louise and Firstina Swain; uncles Bradford

and Raynoid Swain; nephew Ashjuan Barnett; brother-in-law John Barnett; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Sharmaine Jenova Russell**, 35, of Crown Haven was held on February 11 at the Pentecostal Church of God in Crown Haven. Rev. Burnell Parker and Bishop Tyrone Mills officiated.

She is survived by her husband Paul Russell; parents Violet and Wilton Bain Sr.; mother-in-law Lillian Russell; daughters Jaliza Albury, Sharlyn, Georgia and Linsay Russell; step-daughter Olandthia Russell; step-son Clarence Russell; sisters Daphenie Hall, Joan Barsett, Stephanie Hield and Jacqueline Bain; brothers Wilton Bain Jr., Hanford, Charles, Sylvan and Absalom, aunts Priscilla, Ella, Victoria Thompson and Gloria Bain; uncles Joseph and Preston Thompson and Marcell Bain; brothers-in-law Dennis Hall, Nathaniel Hield, Wendell Barsett, Willis Munroe, John Albury, James and Wilfred Russell, Godfrey Greene and Jacqueline McIntosh; nieces; nephews; grandnephews; grandniece; aunts-in-law Gewndolyn Bain and Anna Thompson; and many other relatives and friends.

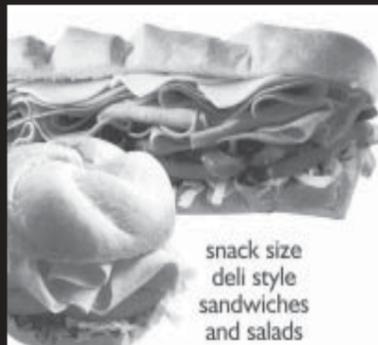
The funeral for **William Roderick "Rock" Archer**, 90, formerly of Marsh Harbour was held in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

He is survived by his sisters Brunetta Sherman, Veronica Gibbs, Christine Fountain and Louise Archer; brothers Norman, Oswald and Howard Archer; nieces Grace, Agatha, Beverley and Ernestine Sherman, Audrey Dean, Yvonne Bullard, Lisa and Janice Moss; nephews Edison and Winston Sherman and Eugene Gibbs; in-laws Hallet Fountain, Sylvia, Gloria and Sheila Archer; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Lottie Genevie Evarityi-Butler**, 76, formerly of Green Turtle Cay was held on February 18 in Nassau. Interment was also in Nassau.

She is survived by her children Eugene, Jr., Louise, Abraham, Paul, David, Nathaniel, Michael and Elizabeth; sons-in-law Harry Simmons and Tyrone McMinns; daughters in-law Edith, Rosebud, Maxine, Rose, Jennifer and Katie; grandchildren Revaughn Simmons, Omar, Rose, Melissa Butler-Lesbot, Benjanique, Benique, Jennifer, Abraham Renaldo, Jr., Monique, Michelle, Paul, Jr., Daneisha, Denia, Nathaniel, Jr., Kirk, Edwin, Keziah, Michael Butler, Eugene and Matthew McMinns; brothers Nathaniel and Michael Levarity; sisters Mabel Levarity, Iris Miller and Adelaide Levarity-Pinder; adopted sisters Iteah Ritchie and Ruby Davis, Cametta Rahming, Jocelyn Hanna and Minerva Benson; nephews Rev. Dr. Ivan Butler, Jr., Wrensworth, Johnathan, Samuel, Nathan,

Emmanuel "Kevin" Butler, Earl Miller, Paul Butler, Steve Butler, James, Williard, Frank Ward, Anthony Boone, Rev. Clement Neely, Maxwell Bain, Arthur, Rudolph, Malcolm and Rev. Patrick Levarity, Ademian and Alexian "AP" Pinder, Lester, Bernardo, Dennis, Willis, Rontonio Levarity, Kirk Pedican and Andre Thorpe; nieces Marie Lyvonne Thorpe, Christine Neely, Theresa White, Joan Levarity-Smith, Ingrid Levarity-Bain, Virginia Levarity-Rolle, Tanya Levarity-Mackey, Una Delancy, Alelia Adderley, Carron Green, La Trese Torris, Breanne and Cindy Levarity; brothers-in-law Arlington Miller, Rev. Ivan Butler, Sr. and Adolphus Pincer; sisters-in-law Erma Levarity and Melrita Levarity and Victoria Levarity; and many other relatives and friends.



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Club News

The Rotary Club A Special Evening

By Jennifer Hudson

Barry Whiting, Marsden Lawley and David Albury were honoured with Rotary's highest award at a special meeting on February 7. Certificates, medallions and pins were presented to the three in recognition of their outstanding service to Rotary, making them the three newest Paul Harris Fellows in the Rotary Club of Abaco. The Paul Harris Fellowship was established in honour of the founder of Rotarian Paul Harris.

Presenting the awards was District Governor, Tom Lightbourne, a member



David Albury



Marsden Lawley



Barry Whiting

of the Rotary Club of Providenciales in the Turks and Caicos Islands, who is himself a multiple Paul Harris fellow. Mr. Lightbourne was accompanied by Assistant Governor, Murray Forde from Nassau, who introduced Mr. Lightbourne as speaker.

District Governor Lightbourne congratulated each of the recipients. Barry

Whiting, a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Abaco and Past President was recognised for enabling the club to raise a large amount of money over the years for all of the very worthwhile causes Rotary supports.

Marsden Lawley was described by President of the Rotary Club of Abaco, Jo-Ann Bradley, as the best kind of

Please see **Clubs**

Page 25



The Rotary Club of The Bahamas is donating a plaque to each government high school in the country with the Rotary's Club code of ethics. Several club members presented the plaque to the student body of Abaco Central High School. Shown above are Cindy Hayworth, Rotarian; Euthal Green, school principal; Sandra Albury, Al Cooper and Brian Thompson, Rotarians; Tom Lightbourne, District Governor of the Rotary Club; Steve Davis and Jo-Ann Bradley, Rotarians; and Ken Roberts, Senior Master at the school.



The Rotary Club of Abaco, with help from the Interact Club and Pinewoods Nursery, completed the beautification of the roundabout near the M&R Food Store on February 4. Reg Patterson showed his strength by pickaxing through the road and four feet of bedrock to prepare the ground for the bedding of landscape plants. Interact Club members who are students at St. Francis de Sales School assisted with the work under the guidance of their Interact Adviser, Ms. Plossl and Mr. Lawley, teacher at the Every Child Counts school. Many people from Murphy Town and Dundas Town showed their appreciation by bringing along refreshments for the workers and either hooting when passing by in their vehicles or stopping to say thank you. Recognition goes to Bryan Thompson and Gentry Morris for all their preparation and to the nursery for their help, both physically and financially.

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Clubs *From Page 24*

Rotarian, as he can always be counted upon to be there to help. Mr Lawley replied by saying that he was humbled and shocked to have been awarded this honour, and he feels it a privilege to be able to serve an organisation where the motto is "Service Above Self."

The third award went to David Albury who, though actually a non-Rotarian, is married to Past President, Sandra Albury, and was described as very much a part of the family of Rotary who extends tremendous help to the club throughout every single event.

In his speech to the club, District Governor, Tom Lightbourne, reminded members that Rotary Clubs exist in 168 countries throughout the world, spreading peace and goodwill. He encouraged the Rotarians to keep on doing what is right and continuing to serve their community.

Earlier in the day the District Governor, Assistant District Governor and members of the board of the Rotary Club of Abaco visited Abaco Central High School and donated a bronze plaque in front of the entire student body. One such plaque is being presented to each of the government high schools throughout the

Bahamas and President Jo-Ann Bradley will shortly bring a plaque back from Nassau to be presented to the S.C. Bootle High School. All students are being encouraged to be aware of the things they think, say or do and to follow the tenet of Rotary's Four Way Test

Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Central *From Page 21*

naturalised persons or permanent residents, not just those from the Mud but anyone qualifying for a low cost lot. While it is recognised that persons here on work permits should have adequate housing, they should not be granted the same privileges as for those here permanently. It has been suggested that funds be deducted from their salaries to pay for rental of adequate housing, stated Mr. Campbell. A deadline will be given and a grace period allowed after which time houses still remaining in the Mud and Pigeon Pea will be demolished.

Friends and Royal Bank Partner to Provide Opportunity to Schools



Last week Friends of the Environment's Office Manager, Mrs. Anita Knowles, accepted a check from Mrs. Joyce Coleby-Riviere, manager of the Royal Bank of Canada, for its sponsorship of January's Abaco Science Alliance Conference.

The sponsorship allowed Friends to invite all of the Abaco teachers and students to attend the conference for free. Over 100 students and teachers took

Friends and Royal Bank up on the offer. Students and teachers from S.C. Bootle High School, the Man-O-War and Hope Town primary schools, Forest Heights Academy, Agape Christian School, St. Francis de Sales School, Abaco Central High and teachers from Abaco Primary all were in attendance. Both Friends and Royal Bank believed that having the students and teachers in attendance was an important part of making the conference a success. Both teachers and students learned a lot from the conference, and many of the students will now have the opportunity to work with the scientists in the future. Yale scientist, Craig Layman, has already taken students from Forest Heights Academy into the field as part of the preparation for the tidal creek restoration project he is working on with Friends. Many of the students who attended wrote thank you letters to Royal Bank, appreciative of the opportunity to attend and learn about the science that is happening in their own backyard.

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People in the News

Book on Bush Medicine Published by Local Teacher

By Portia Jonsson

Bush Medicine in Bahamian Folk Tradition is a new book on bush medicine published by veteran teacher, Mrs. Martha Hanna-Smith of Abaco Central High School. The book helps to preserve the practice of using plants for medicinal purposes in Bahamian culture handed down from generation to generation.

African slaves brought this tradition to The Bahamas, and it is still widely used



Mrs. Martha Hanna-Smith of Abaco Central High School has published *Bush Medicine in Bahamian Folk Tradition*, a book about the historical use of natural plants used for medicinal purposes. She has been interested in bush medicine since she was a child. She is the wife of the District Superintendent, Ministry of Education, Mr. Rudolph Smith.

today. Bahamians use herbs and plants to cure everything from sunburns to insomnia. Bush medicine gained importance in the Family Islands where doctors were rarely available.

Mrs. Smith grew up in Delectable Bay, Acklins, drinking bush tea and aloe every morning. Her parents did not see the need in spending money for medicine while there were plants readily available, free and all natural.

As a young girl growing up, she was always fascinated with bush medicine; but it was not until she came across a book on the subject by the late Leslie Higgs that it prompted her to delve further and learn more.

She has worked on her book for over five years and the 66-page handbook features over 80 plants found throughout The Bahamas and their uses, a quick reference photo index – from Aloe to Wild Rice and an ailment index and its remedies – from Appetite (lack of) to Worms (In Children), which have all been tried and proven effective.

Mrs. Smith says more and more doctors today are now turning to bush medicine to treat patients, like Dr. Michael Ingraham, who states in her book that he has been using bush medicine (herbs) for the last 20 years as an integral part of his practice.

Mrs. Smith desires to carry out further research on this topic with one of the objectives being to see if Bahamians can arrive at standardized pharmaceutical formulas for at least some of the various plants.

She is extremely pleased that she persevered and that her book *Bush Medicine in Bahamian Folk Tradition* is now a reality.

Bottle Brings Message

A bottle with a message has been found, this time near Carlton Point. The message

was written by a high school student from Tampa. He had thrown the bottle in the water at the mouth of Tampa Bay in a science experiment. He is now a student at University of Florida in Gainesville. The message did not have a date so it is probably between one and five years that it was floating. The bottle was found by Bill and Jackie Bowen and Merrill and Diana Givens, both couples second home owners of Treasure Cay.

Sandy Point Man Records CD

Jason Roberts has just released a single of his music entitled *I'll Fly Away*. This is his first solo recording although he has been part the group from Sandy Point that has produced two CD's previously. The group CD's proved to be very popular and were even sold overseas.

News of the Touchtons

Bro. Kenneth Touchton recently had surgery to have one of his legs amputated. If anyone would like to send him cards of get well wishes, the address is Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Touchton, P.O. Box 60930, Palm Bay, FL 32906-0930.

He and his wife, Joyce, devoted many years to the children of Marsh Harbour and surrounding towns. Many of those now grown-up will remember them both very fondly from their school days at the Touchton School.

College Students Do Well

Several of our college students have made outstanding records for themselves at Florida Southern College. Three Abaco students are on the Dean's List for the fall semester. They have a GPA between 3.7 and 3.99 on a 4.0 scale while carrying 12

or more credit hours. They are Amanda Megan Sawyer, a senior and daughter of Trevor and Jennifer Sayer of Cherokee Sound; Jamie Jordan Benjamin, a senior and a daughter of Derek and Terry Benjamin of Marsh Harbour; and Jamal Roosevelt McIntosh, a senior and the son of Roosevelt and Belinda McIntosh of Marsh Harbour.

Florida Southern College is a liberal arts college in Lakeland, Florida, offering majors in 38 undergraduate majors.

Barefoot Man Returns

The 5th annual Barefoot Man Beach Concert is slated for March 5th at Nippers. George (Barefoot Man) Nowak and his band of merry-makers will be performing all their popular Bahama tunes and, of course, songs from his latest CD.

The event draws huge crowds and by the concert weekend most boat slips and rooms are sold out on Guana Cay.

The Barefoot Man who makes his home on Grand Cayman, makes several trips here each year and considers Abaco his second home - his daughter lives on Green Turtle Cay.

Performing with Barefoot will be Sean B and Bahamian singer Stone McEwan. See you there.

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Spanish Cay

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Wood Cay

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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

Points of Interest	
Albert Lowe Museum	Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits	Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	Green Turtle Cay
Wyannie Malone Historical Museum	Hope Town
Elbow Cay Light Station	Hope Town
Walk to & swim on Mermaid Reef off M Harbour Pelican Shore	
Drive to & swim in Blue Hole off Treasure Cay farm road	

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 B, Ft. Laud	367-2095
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 Calypso - Fort Lauderdale	367-0140
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	
Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour	367-2936
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0024
Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town	366-0431

Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted

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

Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach

7:15	9 am	10:30	12:15 pm	2	4	5:45	9 ⁺	10:45 ⁺
Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm 3 4 5 6:15 9:45 ⁺ 11:30 ⁺								

Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach

10:30 am	12:15 pm	2:30* (M-Sat)	4	5:45
Return 8 am 11:30 1:30 pm 3:15* (M-Sat) 4:30				

Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) 40 min. from Conch Inn

6:45am†	10:30	1:30 pm	3:30	5:45
Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 6:30				

Same day fare • Adult oneway \$15 / Round Trip \$20 • Kids 6-11 half fare Free under 6
† From Union Jack Dock * Except holidays * Hope Town late trips Fri & Sat only

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

Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport

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

8:30 am	10:30	11:30	1:30	2:30	3:30	4:30	5
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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 \$45 OW / \$90 RT • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information

Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Bahamas Ferries Between Sandy Point & Nassau under 4 Hr. • Adults \$95 RT, \$55 OW • Call Sandy Point 366-4119 or Marsh H.367-5250 • Vehicles & freight accepted

Islander Express - Bus - M Harbour & Sandy Point -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.

The Great Abaco Express Marsh Harbour bus to N Abaco • Call 367-2165

Lv Marsh H. 5 am & 12:30 pm, connect with ferry to Grand Bahama & bus to Freeport

Lv Crown Haven 9:30 am & 5:30 pm bringing ferry passengers to Marsh Harbour

From Freeport take cruise ship to Ft. Lauderdale or ferry to West Palm Beach

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

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

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
(Based on dinner entree range)	
+ Picnic tables & restroom only † Provides ride from town	
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
Mother Merle's	\$\$
Hope Town	
Abaco Inn	\$\$\$ 366-0133
Cap'n Jacks	\$ 366-0247
Harbour's Edge	\$\$ 366-0087
H T Harbour Lodge	\$\$\$ 366-0095
Munchies	\$ + 366-0423
Sea Spray	\$\$ † 366-0065
Man-O-War	
Pavilion	\$ 365-6185
Hibiscus	365-6380
Island Treats Snack Bar	365-6501
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
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$\$ 365-4066
Sundowners	Open Nights Only
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



Everyone reads The Abaconian

Please bring errors & corrections to our attention

Rev 15 Feb 06



YOUR FIRST CHOICE IN BAHAMIAN REAL ESTATE

GUANA CAY



NEW!!

#10181. Super Bahamian style two-story home on Guana Cay. Concrete block on the ground floor & frame above. An 8' wide wrap-around deck for great views! Main living area on second level with two bedrooms, full bath & shower, modern kitchen all amenities, open living, dining areas. Ground floor has bedroom & bath, a 13,000 gallon water cistern & utility/storage area. Includes 5500 watt gas backup generator, golf cart, tools **\$512,500.**

TREASURE CAY



REDUCED

#9601. Building site situated in Anchorage Estates, the perfect location for a small multi-family project. Located adjacent to the round-about, this 14,000 sq.ft. lot is zoned multi-family and could be developed for a small boutique style resort. **\$69,500.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES



NEW!!

#10202: Gorgeous, generously-sized home site on Eight Mile Bay beach. Encompassing approx. 1.7. acres of nicely elevated land. Thickly treed with native hardwoods. Wonderful views, wide sugar sand beach and community offers underground utilities, telephone and internet access **\$615,000.**

LYNYARD CAY



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

GUANA CAY



NEW!!

#10195: One acre Atlantic Ocean front home site adjacent to Orchid Bay. Lovely high rock shore and nice 20' plus elevations. Superb views of the coast to north and south and just 150' from beach access. Densely vegetated, nature coppice and native trees. License to use area that has been set aside for dockage on Sea of Abaco **\$641,000.**

LEISURE LEE



#9770: Leisure Lee. Lovely, oversized wooded home site containing 18,204 sq. ft. Inland location, road-to-road site with possible views of canal system and the Sea of Abaco if buyer "builds up". A greenway borders one boundary making the site secluded and private. **\$68,500.**

CROSSING ROCKS



#9510: Greenland Bay. Gorgeous, unspoiled beach front, dazzling white sand, rolling grassland interior. Parcels encompass 100 to 200 feet on the beach, depth of +/-300'. 30 miles south of Marsh Harbour. Only one parcel may be sold in each instance; the entire acreage is not offered a whole. Starting at **\$120,000.**

MURPHY TOWN



REDUCED

#9323. Just built and never lived in! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, nicely detailed with arched interior doorways, tile and modern fully equipped kitchen. The perfect starter home for a young family. Near Government high school and all conveniences of town living. **\$135,000.**

EASTERN SHORES



UNDER CONTRACT

#9486: Rare homesite located on the secluded peninsula of Eastern Shores. Property runs sea-to-sea, 70' on the protected "Creek", western boundary runs 120', eastern boundary 133'. **Serious inquiries only, please.**

BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND



UNDER CONTRACT

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

SWEETINGS VILLAGE



UNDER CONTRACT

#9073. NEW! Almost new! Nicely elevated cottage overlooks the Sea of Abaco and catches every tropical breeze. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, hobby room, laundry nook, home is wired for generator power. Tiled living areas, carpeted bedrooms. Sturdy cement construction, tongue and groove ceilings. The perfect first home or retirement cottage! Move in condition! **\$230,000.**

BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND



UNDER OFFER

#9935. Lovely home site of approximately 10,000 sq.ft with high elevation and views of the sea on the west of Abaco and the South side. Conveniently located just 3 miles north of Marsh Harbour. **\$35,000.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES



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

PELICAN SHORES



#9934. "Southwind". One of the first homes built on the lovely peninsula of Pelican Shores. Encompassing just under one acre of land, fronting on Duck Pond. Comprised of 2 bedroom/2 bath, den/library, open living and dining area and galley style kitchen. Included is a guest cottage, pool, enclosed 12Kw generator and dock. A promising property with superior land value and great potential for the discerning, imaginative buyer.

BAHAMA PALM SHORES



UNDER CONTRACT

#3646: Two nice side-by-side home sites just 300 feet from Eight Mile Bay Beach. Good elevation, cleared and ready to build. Buy both for a generous building envelope and 'build up' for Atlantic Ocean views and breezes. **\$41,000 each.**



www.bahamasrealty.bs

Email: abaco@bahamasrealty.bs

Telephone: (242) 367-3262 ♦ Fax: (242) 367-3260

"These offerings are subject to errors, omissions, change of price or withdrawn with out notice."





The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 5, MARCH 1st, 2006

Seminar Focused on Forest Health

Scientists Studied Results of Controlled Burn on Pine Woods



A visit to the horse preserve in North Abaco interested a group of scientists and others who are studying the pine forests. They walked to an area of nearly virgin woods where the trees were somewhat larger trees than normally seen.

Early in February a team composed of various U.S. and Bahamian government and NGO organizations worked together, first in Florida, then moved to Abaco on February 9 to review data on fires in the pine forest. Approximately 20 foresters, biologists and other scientists in allied fields converged in Marsh Harbour to share their data and spend some time in the woods.

Forest fire strategies and results of recent controlled fire studies and practical applications in the forest were studied. Friends of the Environment gave logistical assistance and provided a base location for the program on Abaco.

Morning presentations in Marsh Harbour were February 11 and 12 in classroom settings. Field trips were made in the afternoons. A Saturday trip went south to the prescribed burn area near the Abaco National Park and then into the Cross Harbour area. On Sunday afternoon the group visited the horse preserve in North Abaco and ventured into a near virgin woodland area.

Fire is now understood to be a natural part of the health of the forest. Small fires on a regular basis are healthy. The fires keep the

Please see **Workshop** Page 2

Hope T. Celebrates Heritage Day

Hope Town's Heritage Day, a function of the Wyannie Malone Historical Museum, is always a treat with residents in authentic period costumes and activities to please everyone. Presentations include historical and interesting anecdotes from the past. It is a good occasion to meet friends seldom seen from other islands and make new ones. The Museum will be open with new exhibits and an extensive shell collection. It is a fun oc-

casation to pick up a wealth of local history.

This year Heritage Day will be celebrated on March 3 and will feature a talks on historic architecture, boat building and bush medicine. There will demonstrations of May Pole plaiting and sculling and a beautiful knee contest. A wood carver will have a display of items many from local woods. Lunch and refreshments are available.

**The Barefoot Man
Will Perform at Nippers
March 5**

Cherokee Gets Measured for Water



Water and Sewerage Corporation employees recently measured the roads in Cherokee Sound as part of the information needed for government to put in water pipes through the community. Cherokee Sound is dependant on wells which frequently have water of questionable quality. Mr. Peter de Savary has offered to supply water to the town when government puts in the necessary infrastructure which will involve digging up concrete roads. Extending water through the community of Cherokee will now depend the Ministry of Works but no schedule has been announced for this work. Repairing the roads will also have to be scheduled.

Police Conduct Traffic Checks



The K & S corner in Marsh Harbour was the scene of a traffic check on February 17. Many infractions of the law were found with those people having to show up in court.

By Jennifer Hudson

Road checks were carried out by the police on Don McKay Boulevard and Queen Elizabeth Drive at approximately 7 p.m. on February 17. A total of 20 persons were reprimanded for a variety of traffic offences, including having only one headlight, no brake lights, shattered windshields, unlicensed vehicles, uninspected vehicles, and an uninsured vehicle.

These persons will be summonsed to appear before the Magistrates Court and required to pay a fine. There are no fixed penalty notices here as in Nassau, whereby an offender is given a ticket and can pay the fine without going to court. ASP Miller, Abaco's Chief of Police, says that he is trying to get the fixed penalty notice system in place in Abaco.

Group Studied Fire Effects and Health of Pine Woods

Workshop From Page 1

underbrush in check and prevent the young hardwoods from expanding into the pine forest. Dead limbs and forest debris are eliminated by the regular fires which keep the fires to a smaller less-damaging size.

It is the regular occurrence of the fires, on three- to seven-year cycles, that keep the pine forest intact. Without the fires, the coppice growth around the forest edges would encroach and become the dominant species. The pine forest would eventually disappear.

Massive fires, as might be experienced after a severe hurricane with downed trees creating a huge fire load, can be very destructive to the forest.

An interesting fact emerged that normal fires do not severely impact the nesting parrots. Instruments showed that the fire passing over the nest entrances did not raise the nest temperature of any consequence. In fact, carbon monoxide levels fell in the nest cavities as the fire passed above. Smoke samples were taken from the nesting cavities during the burn exercise and these

samples will be analyzed in the lab. However, lab analysis will not resolve the parrots' tolerance or annoyance level to the smoke. It was noted that the parrots and the fires have co-existed for centuries. It is possible that the below-ground nests offer more fire protection than conventional nests in trees.

These studies are continuing with major players being the following:

- Chris Bergh, The Nature Conservancy, Florida Keys
- Joe O'Brien, Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
- Frank Lowenstein, The Nature Conservancy, N.E. U.S. and Caribbean
- Dr. Ronald Meyers, The Nature Conservancy, Senior Fire Ecologist
- Dr. James Snyder, Fire Ecology Researcher, U.S. Geological Survey
- Dale Wade, Fire Researcher, U.S. Forest Service
- Christopher Russell, Senior Forest Officer, Bahamas Dept. of Lands and Surveys
- David Knowles, Abaco Agriculture Officer, Bahamas Department of Agriculture
- Randolph Burrows, Bahamas National Trust



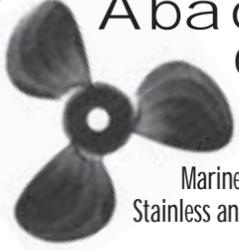
About 20 scientists, foresters, government officials and environmentalists concluded a seminar on Abaco. The workshop had begun in Miami and followed up with field trips on Abaco. They were interested in the results of the controlled burns that have been done near the Abaco National Park.

Keep up with the Happenings on Abaco
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Early Bird Breakfast Cafe

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Bahamian Breakfast

Tuna, Corned Beef or Sausage with Grits
 Sheep Tongue Souse, Chicken Souse,
 Stewed Conch/Fish, Boiled Fish

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 web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

BEST BUYS ON ABACO



1216 - NEW EXCLUSIVE - 3/2 home upstairs with 2/1 and 1/1 apartments downstairs. All units fully and tastefully furnished. A must see!! Call for more info.



Yellowwood hillside 1208 - Hillside lot with great views of Cherokee and the mainland beaches and ocean looking south and views of Winding Bay.



1234 - Beach Walk is a 3/2 home in the settlement of Guana Cay. Just steps to the beach. Call Today



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



Guana Beach House 1117 - two bedroom beach house on beautiful beach perched on high dune. Great views. Excellent rental



Bahama Palm Shores Bahama Palm Shores EXPERTS!!! No one sells more Bahama Palm Shores lots than us. Call today for available lots and prices.



1226 Royal Harbour waterfront - Ideal protected dockage in Marsh Harbour. Close to town, all underground utilities.



Guana hillside home - 1251 - Two bedroom home with spacious patios overlooking the Atlantic and The Sea of Abaco. Great price Call today



1218 - NEW EXCLUSIVE - Two story home in Bahama Palm Shores offering two beds along with detached one bedroom guest cottage. A GREAT BUY!!



Tilloo Sea to Sea 1107 - Great new price on over 3 acres of bay and oceanfront land. Unlimited possibilities.

Please call us for information on these fine listings or any of our other listings throughout Abaco
 web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

1 Feb 06

abaco inn

TAN YOUR TOES IN THE ABACOS

Annual Artist Cuncheon

March 18th, 2006
 Festivities begin @ 11:00

Painting
 Drawing
 Sculptures
 Jewelry
 Woodwork
 Pottery, Glassware



ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST SIGN UP
 NO LATER THAN MARCH 9TH, 2006
If you are an artist or know of an artist, sign up today

Back by Popular Demand!!!
 "Kiddie Corner"

By the winners of each grade in Abaco

Ferries leave Marsh Harbour
 10:30, 12:15 & 2:00pm
 Return to Marsh Harbour
 1:30, 3:00, 4:00 & 5:00pm

RESERVATION REQUIRED
 FOR LUNCH
 Seatings 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00

Call us on VHF 16 or Phone 366-0133



SUGAR LOAF CAY

WATERFRONT "Parrot Point" Unique 4.96 acre property. Private marina with 278 linear feet of dock space. Five water cisterns, electricity, telephone, furnished main house and guest cottage. US\$4,000,000. #2817 George Damianos: 242.362.4211



TREASURE CAY

BEACHFRONT "SERENITY HOUSE" Modern 5,600 sq.ft. 2 storey 4 Bed 4.5 Bath CBS home. Incredible ocean views from every room. 2 expansive lots with 290 ft. oceanfront. Newly refurbished, immaculate turn-key estate. \$4,900,000. #1660 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



HOPE TOWN, ELBOW CAY

OCEAN VIEWS "SILVER PLUME" Charming 2 Bed, 2 Bath home with cozy pine interior & tiled floors throughout. .4098 acre property has lots of room for additions or garden. Dock & beach access steps away. \$800,000. #2649 Jane Patterson: 242.366.0035



TILLOO CAY

WATERFRONT "HUNKALOO" Beautiful waterfront property with 2 Bed 2 Bath home & a 1 bed 1 bath guest house. Two + acres that are Sea to Sea with protected docking on the Sea of Abaco. \$995,000. #2724 Laurie Schreiner: 242.367.5046



TREASURE CAY

WATER VIEWS "GARDEN VILLA 675" Charming 2 beds 2 Bath villa on a corner lot, just one minute from beautiful Treasure Cay beach. Great rental opportunity or family retreat. Community pool. Very private. \$300,000. #3072 Stan Sawyer 242. 477.5821

NEW LISTING



TREASURE CAY

BEACHFRONT "SEAGRAPES" World famous location. Beautiful residence with awesome ocean views. Professionally decorated featuring 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, open concept kitchen, & living rooms -ideal for entertaining. \$3,500,000. #2887 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TILLOO CAY

WATERFRONT "TILLOO DREAM" Two parcels, 1 acre on the Sea of Abaco, & 1/3 acre with a 1 Bed 1 Bath cottage which has a spacious deck & access to the Atlantic Ocean with a shared dock. \$597,000. #2723 Laurie Schreiner: 242.367.5046



HOPE TOWN, ELBOW CAY

SEA VIEWS "SIROCCO" This 4 Bed, 3 Bath home overlooks beautiful gardens with the bluegreen Sea of Abaco in the distance. Central A/C, tile throughout with cypress tongue & groove. US\$1,850,000. #3125 Jane Patterson: 242.366.0035



TREASURE CAY

WATER VIEWS "CROSSWINDS" 4 Bed 3 Bath 2,800 sq. ft. family home and apartment. Located in multi-millionaire neighbour-hood. Family room, 2 central A/C's, 2 generators, 2 fresh water wells and garden. \$820,000. #2516 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

BEACHFRONT "SANDY SHORES" Beautifully laid out 3 Bed 2.5 Bath family home. This two storey home features an elevator and spacious living areas. Enjoy panoramic 360 degree views and serene ambience. \$1,700,000. #2934 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



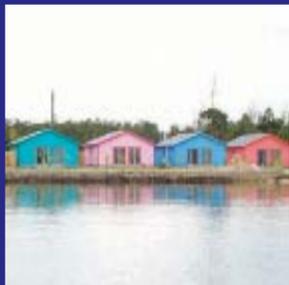
TREASURE CAY

BEACHFRONT "CASTLE ROCK" Nestled amid palm trees and tropical foliage is this 4 Bed 4 Bath home with heated fresh water swimming pool. World famous location. Excellent rental history. US\$1,700,000. #3029 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

SEA VIEWS "HILLTOP ESTATES" Hilltop 3 Bed 2 Bath home located 60 feet above sea level with scenic views. The five acre property features hundreds of fruit bearing trees, hillside cottage and double carport. \$650,000. #2115 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

WATERFRONT Prime development. Ten acre property with 460 feet waterfront, including a 120 foot beach. Four Bed 2 Bath cottages. Development potential as a marina, resort or fishing lodge. Price upon request. #2407 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

NEAR THE BEACH "CARIBE " With just a 3 minute walk to fabulous Treasure Cay beach, this 3 Bed, 2 Bath home features landscaped property and a spacious master bedroom. \$215,000. #2841 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

NEAR THE BEACH "HOME SWEET HOME" Package deal with 2 deeded parcels of land. 1 vacant lot & a spacious 2 Bed, 2 Bath home on the other lot, together 1/2 acre. Fully furnished & with A/C, heating, & ceiling fans. \$350,000. #3032 Stan Sawyer 242.477.5821



TREASURE CAY

NEAR THE BEACH "RUBY'S LOVE" Comfortable 3 Bed, 2 Bath family home 5 minutes from Treasure Cay's world famous white powder sandy beach. Needs some TLC but is fully furnished. \$205,000. #3028 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



GREEN TURTLE CAY

WATERFRONT Beautiful lot overlooking Coco Bay's tranquil harbour. A dredged channel to an existing dock is a great bonus for the avid boater. Perfect for your future vacation home! \$650,000. #3031 Stan Sawyer: 242.477.5821



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This amazing **Guana Cay 3 bedroom 3 bathroom** home is built on a 50,730 sq. ft. lot with 130 ft of protected waterfront. Ideal spot to build your own private dock. Located on the water between the settlement & Blue Water Grill. Construction & finish work are of the highest quality available. Beautifully landscaped with manicured gardens and flowers. Generator house with standby generator and r/o water system. This home is beautifully furnished and is "turn-key". Must be seen to be appreciated. "By appointment only."

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LAUNDROMAT

5 Washers & 5 Dryers, bathroom

STORAGE BUILDING

22,000 Gallon Gistern, r/o water maker, Ice Maker, 3 Big Chest Freezers, Central A/C., 100kw Generator

DOCK

250 ft. x 8 ft wide dock & 2 beah cabanas, Great marina potential.

For more photos and information on this business, please see www.guanacayvillas.com



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Top floor; 2 bedrooms with Queen Beds, 1 bathroom, one single room with futon, full kitchen, living room, Dining room, full balcony. One single unit with 1 bedroom, 1 bath & futon. These 2 units can open into one. Central A/C, T.V. Satellite, VCR, & CD Player, Ground floor; 1 bedroom with Queen bed, 1 bath, ground floor office, Cistern 48,000 gallon.

Exclusive Listing by Appointment only
@ **B\$1,750,000**



SUNRISE COTTAGE

2 Bedroom 2 bath, fully equiped kitchen, Central A/C., Satellite TV., CD Player

For more photos and information on this business please see www.guanacayvillas.com

● GUANA CAY ●

ORCHID BAY

1.07 acre lot 144' waterfront on Sea of Abaco **\$849,000**

GUANA BEACH FRONT

Large beach front lot 300 yards NE of Nippers **\$495,000** gross

2 / 2 HOUSE IN SETTLEMENT

Great location 150 yards to beach Next to Batelco & School 21,000+ lot nice 2 / 2 house **\$585,000** gross

3 VACANT LOTS

Located in settlement next to Batelco
1) 8251 sq. ft.
2) 7922 sq. ft. **\$160,000** each
3) 7593 sq. ft.

2 VACANT LOTS

Dolphin Beach Estates, side-by-side lots, Great Sea of Abaco views, each lot 33,500 sq. ft., **\$200,000** each

1 VACANT LOT

10,400+ sq. ft. great views, near Boat Harbour, **\$125,000**

● SOUTH ABACO LISTINGS ●



WATCHING BAY, CHEROKEE

"New" Subdivision, limited number of investor lots available.
Interior lots from **\$48,000**
Ocean view lots from **\$120,000** gross

OLD KERR

2 miles south of Bahama Palm Shores 10.8 acres, Great elevations **\$165,000** gross

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

6 Interior lots from **\$25,000**

LONG BEACH

2 Interior lots from **\$55,000**



YELLOW WOOD CREEK

1.6 Acre lot w/226' on the ocean overlooking Winding Bay **\$450,000** Gross

YELLOW WOOD CREEK

1.17 Acre Hilltop lot Winding Bay **\$300,000** Gross

SANDY POINT

5 Acres near airport **\$100,000** gross

SANDY POINT

2 Beachfront Lots **\$89,900** each

UNDER CONTRACT

● MARSH HARBOUR LISTINGS ●

COMMERCIAL LOT

near Spooners Dept. Store **\$150,000**

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

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Large Interior Lot **\$165,000**

SUNRISE BAY

only 9 lots remain in this beautiful subdivision from **\$142,000**

CROSSING BEACH AREA

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2 bed 1 bath next to Abaco Hardware **\$120,000**

BUSTIC BAY

5 minutes north of Marsh Harbour 2 1/2 acre lots w/ 100' waterfront each **\$89,000**

● HOPE TOWN ● LUBBERS ● TILLOO CAY ●

HOPE TOWN

50' waterfront 300' deep in Hope Town Harbour on Back Creek **\$570,000** gross

LUBBERS

2 acres 115' waterfront **\$600,000** gross



TILLOO CAY

Happy Cats, nestled on 3 acres of Sea to Sea property with private dock, Fresh water, swimming pool, 4 bed 3 bath 3,380 sq. ft. Home, central a/c standby generator, Caretakers cottage, 5,500 gallon cisterns **\$1,650,000** gross

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#2200 & #2201

**Abaco Ocean Club
Lubbers Quarters**



2 lots available
each lot priced at

\$70,000

Only minutes from Marsh Harbour & Elbow Cay, there are two 80 x 125 choice lots available. Identical in size & price, both lots can boast picturesque sunsets, & views of the Sea of Abaco. There is soon to be dockage close by. Roads are in great condition, & this desirable location is walking distance from the local restaurant. Tahiti Beach is a skiff ride across.

#2136

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



\$868,000

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.

#1852

**'West Wind'
Buttonwood**



\$1,500,000

Beautiful home overlooking the Sea of Abaco. Private dock permit already approved. Ideal family hideaway w/ private water access. 2 of the 4 beds have private quarters & baths. Ideal for entertaining, there is a bar set into the living room & a cosy fireplace to enjoy on those cooler tropical evenings. Wraparound decks are the perfect spot to enjoy the ocean view.

F E A T U R E D P R O P E R T Y



#1883 'Ekali Estates' Elbow Cay

\$6,200,000

Ekali Estates is a magnificent commercial property, situated on 463 ft of beachfront, with a private 60 ft dock. This vast estate is home to 7 vacation rental properties including 5 upscale villas & 1 cozy cottage. With only 1/3 of the 7 available acres of property developed, the Estate offers lots of room to expand. An excellent investment property & is currently being operated with very little overhead, hence is strictly a profit making venture. Ekali lies in a lush tropical setting on the Sea of Abaco. Beautifully landscaped & laden with mature fruit trees, one can marvel at the spectacular views & sunsets from this choice location. You can find further details of each of the 6 properties that make up 'Ekali' at www.grahamrealestate.com choose by reference number, MLS #1883. This unique island estate is spectacular, must be seen to be appreciated!

#2175

**Tamarind Hill
White Sound**



\$1,200,000

Incredible hilltop home named for the ancient Tamarind tree that stands proudly surrounded by the breezy wraparound verandah. Beautiful, fully furnished 2 bed 2 bath home with one bedroom apartment and one acre of land in very private Lucayos Subdivision. Awesome view of the Sea of Abaco. Community dock steps away.

#2168

**Beautiful Wooded Lot
Elbow Cay**



\$144,000

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.

#2147

**'Clifford Sawyer House'
Hope Town**



\$692,000

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.

NEW LISTING!

#2226

Casuarina Point



\$462,000

Sits on a double lot with over 150' canal frontage. Hardy panel exterior, concrete base, Very well constructed. The interior needs to be completed to new the owners specifications. 10ft ceilings, large walk-in master closet. Decking out back, very private. 1 floor, no garage. brand new, never lived in. This is the "Bone Fishing Capital" of Abaco

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School News

School and Urban Renewal Challenge Girls

By Portia Jonsson

Central Abaco Primary School and Urban Renewal of Abaco have teamed up to challenge all the girls in grades 3-6 at the school to read as many books, magazines, stories and newspaper articles as they can and submit a report on each one.

The challenge, spearheaded by Mrs. Coral Johnson, teacher and librarian at the school, began on February 1st and will continue until February 28th. Because February is known as the "Love Month" the girls were asked to read about love and the parents invited to get involved and encourage their daughters in this reading challenge.

At the launch of the challenge on February 1st Ms. Elaine Martinborough, Officer In Charge-Department of Urban Renewal on Abaco, spoke to the students on the importance of reading. They heard that reading is the key to all learning, and children who are good readers get off to a good start in school. They were also told that children who are confident about reading have a positive attitude toward learning, and those who read with their families develop a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.

Ms. Martinborough further advised that reading is important because it helps us speak and write properly. Before you can start speaking and writing English properly you have to learn how things are said in English. Reading is a good way to develop

your English; and if you read a few books, you will see that your English would be much better. She warned them that if they only read when their teacher told them to, they would not make any progress. She challenged them to take charge of their reading and read on their own because reading will dramatically improve their English.

Parents were also given the challenge to make reading fun, read everyday, set an example, talk about books, listen to their child read aloud, create their own library at home and know what their children like

to read.

Helping our children enjoy reading is one of the most important things we can do as a parent and well worth the investment of our time and energy.

Abaco Central High School

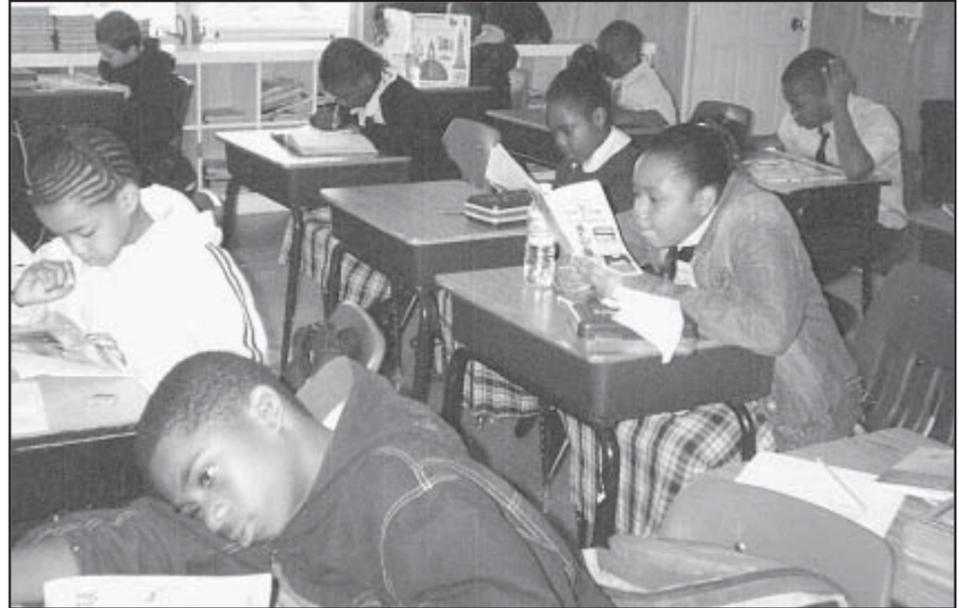
Abaco Central High School prepares for inter-house sports. The Arawaks, Caribs, Lucayans and Tainos are ready to go at it once again at Inter-house Sports scheduled

Please see **School**

Page 9



Ms. Elaine Martinborough, Officer in charge of Urban Renewal on Abaco, talked to students at Central Abaco Primary School on February 1st about the importance of reading. An All Girls Reading Challenge was launched at the school for the entire month of February.



Grade 5 students of St. Frances de Sales Catholic School spend time reading every day after lunch. The class teacher, Mrs. Diehl, believes that reading enhances every subject a child takes. It is evident when students read regularly because they perform well in all subjects in school. She stated that students should read for at least 20 minutes each night. It will greatly enhance their performance. She encourages parents to read to their children from when they are young and to buy them books so that when they get older, they will love reading.

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Elevated Waterfront, Lynard's Cay



\$144,000

No. 739

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Man-O-War-#5439- 2/bed/bath island home. 1,280s q.ft. Features generator, tool shed, wrap around covered porch. Partially furnished and awaiting its new owner-\$399,000-Call Mailin



Green Turtle Cay-#5532-Beach house on Bita Bay features 2beds/2bath and panoramic views of the turquoise ocean. Ideal spot for great snorkeling just off shore. Central A/C, fully equipped kitchen, water maker and more. Great rental history-Call Chris



Orchid Bay-#5428- Gorgeous bay front lot available in Orchid Bay. Over 1/2 acre, and runs more than 100' on the Sea of Abaco. Picturesque views of the sea and surrounding cays. Best of both worlds-dockage and beach access. 705,000-Call Mailin



Manjack Cay- 10 acres of property with beautiful beachfront at both ends. Protected anchorage on west side. Close to Green Turtle Cay. Great development property -\$2,000,000-Call one of our agents today!



Green Turtle Cay- #5191 Luxurious home located on a 2.5 mile sandy beach. Consists of five bedrooms, four bathrooms with wrap around verandas. Careful craftsmanship and attention to detail describes this villa. Offered at \$2,300,000-Call Chris



Marsh Harbour- #5464- 2bed/ 2 bath home situate in Sweeting's Village, a fast growing neighbourhood. Furnished, central A/C, hobby room and outside patio space. \$250,000-Call Mailin



Green Turtle Cay-#5347 - this island dream is a rare find for the discerning yachtsman who's looking for privacy and all the amenities the island has to offer. 2 bed/2bath home also has a private dock and dredged channel. Offered at \$2,300,000.00-Call Chris



Man-O-War Cay # 5509 3 bed/3bath, two story home. Short distance to the Atlantic Ocean. Features an upstairs loft, 17.5 KW generator, several outdoor patios, basement, manicured lawn. \$750,000.00-Call Mailin



Man-O-War Cay-#5451-Two cottages, both with 2beds/2baths located on 16,000 sq. ft. of waterfront property. Features 60,000 gallon rain water cistern, generator house and 15KW generator. Endless views of the Atlantic Ocean. Great vacation getaway. Post card pretty view. \$1,100,000.00-Call one of our agents.



Yellowwood-#5484-Large waterfront lot available. Comprising 37,368 sq.ft of property, this parcel commands endless ocean views and runs 184' on the Atlantic. Great lot for your dream ocean front home. Close to The Abaco Club on Winding Bay and only minutes from Cherokee Sound-\$275,000-Call Mailin



Lubbers-#0350 -vacant lot in Abaco Ocean Club is available. This lot comprises 10,125 sq.ft. , and is a great building lot. Quiet, and peaceful surroundings. Don't delay -\$70,000-Call Mailin



Long Beach- #5520- Long Beach is a peaceful 40 minute drive from Marsh Harbour. Lot 115 is a corner lot and 1/4 acre in size. All lots have access to a beautiful powder white beach. \$55,000.00-Call Mailin



Yellowwood-#5492-Vacant property features elevations and views of Cherokee Sound. This 33,690 sq.ft. lot is in a great location for a home.. Close proximity to Cherokee Sound and Little Harbour-\$82,000-Call Mailin



Leisure Lee-PRICE REDUCED #5366- 3 bed, 2-bath home in quiet neighborhood. 1,600 sq.ft. living space, extensive wrap around screened in porch and central A/C. All lots have beach access. \$325,000.00 - Call Mailin



Marsh Harbour-#5106. Great Opportunity. Established commercial complex. Features several retail stores and two rental apartments. All currently rented. Ideally situated on main tourist strip. GREAT INVESTMENT - Call Mailin



Yellowwood-#5263-2B/2B cottage newly built. on large lot -100' x 150'. Features a laundry room, outside patios, and a hobby room.central A/C, and all appliances are included. Close to Cherokee Sound. A MUST SEE!-\$219,000 -Call Mailin



*Where will you stretch
 Your hammock?*



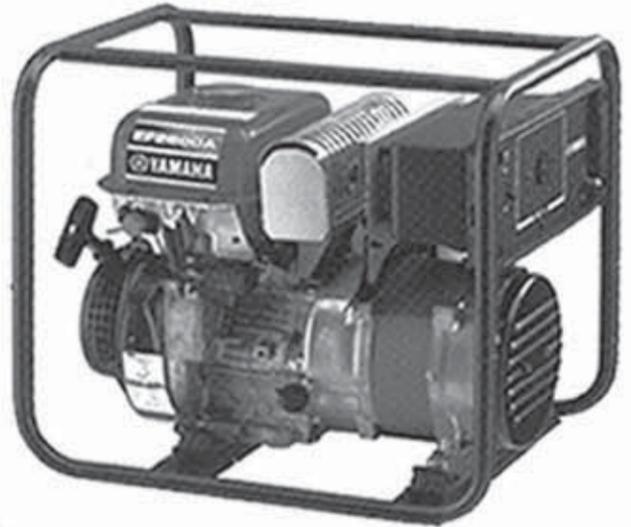
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More School News

School *From Page 6*

for February 16th-17th at the school field. The Arawaks won house sports last year with the Caribs and Tainos close behind. However, Caribs predict that they will win by a landslide this year. Coaches at the school are Patrice Charles and Charles Poitier. Practice is held every day after school on the school grounds.

Female Track and Field Star Wins Gold

By Samantha V. Evans

Thirteen year old Zinnia Miller won a gold medal in the high jump at the Trackers Club Track and Field meet in Nassau over the weekend of January 28th, 2006. The record for this event is 1.52m and she

jumped 1.50m, a mere smidgens away from breaking a record. A few weeks before this event, she won a bronze medal in the 400m at Neymour's Classics in Freeport.

Zinnia stated that she has been running since age six and remembers winning her first medal while in grade three at May Star in Freeport. So far she has won some 12-13 medals ranging from gold to bronze. Besides high jump, which is her best event, she also runs the 400m and the 200m.

Presently she is preparing for the Carifta Games which will be held over the summer of this year. Her aim is to win the gold in all of her events. She attributes her success to her hard work and determination, as well as the inspiration from her parents Robert and Sophia Miller. Her coach is Mr. Jerry Wisdom, who ran in the Olympic Games

years ago. He ensures that she is physically as well as mentally prepared for each event.

Besides being a great athlete, one of her teachers, Senora Brown, stated that she is an excellent student, kind, loving and pleasant. She makes mainly A's in all of her classes.

Zinnia wants to encourage other youth who are thinking about becoming a track star like she is that to win all of these met-

als, you must be prepared to work very hard and to keep up your training even when you do not win your event.

She plans to continue her pursuit of track and field until she gets to college. She is looking to receive a scholarship to attend college so that she can make it to the Olympic Games one day. A grade 8 student at

Please see **School** Page 10



The first sporting event for Abaco Central High School, the road race, was held on February 10th beginning at Central Abaco Primary School. The race began at 9:45 a.m. with approximately 16 long distance runners. Twenty minutes after the race got started the first runner completed the road race and made one lap around the school track. The winner of this event was Arawak House.

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"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.

"Beachfront Vacant Lot"

(Ref #462) 1.82 acre cleared lot with 144' of prime beach frontage, located on prestigious Ocean Blvd, all utilities available, limited beach lots available in this area. Price \$1,550,000.

"Harbour's Edge"

(Ref #191) 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,500 s/f harbour front home, 90' of bulkhead for dock with 8+/- depth, waterfront views through large glass doors, open kitchen, interior decor includes hand painted tropical mural, 2 car garage, 1/3 acre lot with privacy walls, Mediterranean style pool, fully furnished. Price: \$1,265,000.

"Four Bedroom Mariner's Cove"

(Ref #454) Luxurious fully furnished 4 bedroom, 3 bath two level waterfront condominium overlooking both Treasure Cay Marina and poolside. Large kitchen for entertaining, master suite overlooks marina with sitting area and balcony. Price \$485,000.

"Brigantine Beach Condo"

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

Canal Lot on Brigantine Bay

(Ref #321) Oversized, cleared, 130' canal frontage, deep water \$365,000.

"Two Bedroom Mariner's Cove"

(Ref #454) 2 bedroom, 1 bath fully furnished, two level poolside unit within view of Treasure Cay Marina and just a 5 minute walk from the Treasure Cay Beach. Can be combined with listing #455 to make a 3 bed/2bath with open living area. Price \$317,900.

"Galleon Bay Canal Lot"

(Ref #422) Prime Canal Front cleared lot totaling 10,295 s/f and 88+ feet of protected canal water frontage situated on the wide expanse of pictureque Galleon Bay, quick access to the Sea of Abaco. Great price. \$275,000.

"One Bedroom Mariner's Cove"

(Ref #455) 1 bed, 1 bath fully furnished ground floor poolside unit. Mariner's Cove offers pool, tennis courts, laundry facilities, on site management, good rental potential. Price \$200,000.

"Residential Inland Lot"

(Ref #442) Choice residential lot on paved Flamingo Drive, located just one block from Ocean Blvd. 10,000 s/f & 80' on the road. All utilities are available at the property boundary, including TV & DSL. Price \$45,000.

LEISURE LEE:
"Canal Front Home"

(Ref #214) 2 bedroom 2 bath single story CBS construction home, open living/kitchen on the end of a finger canal, tile floors, central A/C, low maintenance, 50' of bulkhead canal front with deep water and dock, fully furnished, includes vehicle. Close to beach access \$465,000.

"Rock's Cleft"

(Ref #466) Fully furnished, topsider home, 3 bedroom, 3 bath with 2,600 s/f on 2 levels located on peninsula with 360 degree waterfront views, canal front dockage for 100'+ yacht, boat ramp, lots of amenities includes vehicle and boat. Price: \$986,000.

"Waterfront Lot"

(Ref #479) Large Lot, with a generous 16,345 sq. ft., overlooking the flats of Bone Fish Creek, deep water channel and a 108 feet of frontage. Water, electricity, telephone & DSL available, beach access privileges. Price: \$100,000

LITTLE HARBOUR:

"Waterfront Property"

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

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.

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.

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.

SPLIT ROCK:

"Waterfront Parcels"

(Ref#299) Large waterfront lot(s) in new "Split Rocks" subdivision. This prime property consists of 1.39 acres and features over 100 feet of frontage on the beautiful Sea of Abaco. Call for pricing.

MARSH HARBOUR:

"Great Abaco Club Canal Lot"

(Ref#440) Choice cleared lot ready for construction in highly desirable gated community, dockage potential for 55' vessel plus 26' runabout, location provides great rental home possibilities and use of all resort amenities. Limited number of lots available in this community! Price - \$499,000.

"Great Abaco Residential Lot"

(Ref#493) Select residential lot in Great Abaco Club, 7,750 sq. ft. in size, fing4r dock for 25' vessel, direct access to Sea of Abaco, gated community, all utilities available, use of all resort amenities, close to restaurants, shops, etc - \$425,000.

SOUTH ABACO:
"Long Beach Ocean View"

(Ref#349) Two choice adjoining corner lots with great elevation, cleared with views of the Atlantic Ocean and the marls to the South, walking distance to beach, quiet neighborhood. Price - \$59,175 each.

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More School News



Zinnia Miller won a gold medal in the high jump at the Trackers Club Track and Field meet in Nassau over the weekend of January 28th, 2006. She has won many medals as is shown here. She is hoping to compete in the Carifta Games to be held in the summer of 2006.

School From Page 9

St. Frances de Sales, she has already started looking through college brochures to get an idea of what she needs to do to prepare to make her dream a reality.

She would love to attend a Christian college because she lives in a Christian home and wants to maintain that standard of living in her life. Zinnia Miller is a great inspiration for young people all across Abaco.

Two Schools Begin Award Program

By Samantha V. Evans

Forest Heights Academy and St. Frances de Sales School have recently started their units of the Governor General's Youth Award Program at their schools under the leadership of Mr. Richards and Mr. Simon respectively. Mr. Richards is also the Island Coordinator for the Governor General program.

The only other school to have a unit is S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town. That unit got started four years ago, and the students have already received their bronze level pin. The unit leaders for this group are Ms. Simone Baptiste and Mr. Kawalram.

They have had many expeditions and in 2002 12 students went to seven islands on a mailboat. They have hiked everywhere from Grand Bahama to Inagua. They presently have 10 students in their unit.

This award program teaches personal development for young people ages 14-25 years of age. It is an international award program that was originally called the Duke of Edinburgh Award but was renamed so

that students could identify with the name.

The aim of the program is to provide worthwhile volunteer activities, assist youth with personal development, help them help themselves and provide equal opportunities for all.

There are four components of the pro-

Please see **School** Page 11



Grades 4, 5 and 6 of Agape Christian School held their annual bike-a-thon on February 16th. Students, teachers and parents rode their bikes through the Central Pines Subdivision. This is just one of the ways the school raises funds throughout the year. Pictured are some of grade 4 students eager to "hit the road."

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ATLANTIS

Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool
Bldg 1 Lower unit 2 bed / 2 bath, 15' wide boat slip, includes car. Newly decorated. MUST SEE \$430,500
Bldg 4 Upstairs end unit 2 bed / 2 bath, totally redone, includes golf cart. MOTIVATED SELLER \$406,000

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"Cross Winds" Split level CBS home extra large lot across from 2 beach greenways. Private. Master bed/ bath suite upstairs. Lower level 2 bed / 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/ dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1bed/ 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus! Plus! Plus! \$868,000 + 7.5% closing

BRIGANTINE BAY

"Dolphin" Very special canal front CBS home, 2 bed / 2 bath with dining/kitchen opening on porch. Also garage/ utility room and dock and boat lift. MUST SEE \$984,000

GALLEON BAY CANAL / ESTATES

"Seaductress" / "Harbour's Edge" Modern CBS 3 bed/ 3 bath home including private entry suite, pool, detached 2 car garage Exceptional location and view. Many more features, must see to appreciate. NEW PRICE \$1,265,000 + 7.5% closing

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"Darnell House" REAL PACKAGE DEAL Canal front home fully furnished, vacant beach front lot, car / golf cart / 23' boat. Well planned home has 3 bedrooms / 3 bath, including master suite with 2 guest bedrooms, den, open livingroom, dining, kitchen, utility room, screened-in porch on canal side, large garage and covered carporte/breezeway, landscaping with fenced section. MUST SEE \$1,284,000

ROCK POINT

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More School News

School *From Page 10*

gram: skill, physical recreation, service and adventurous journey. There are three levels that persons could aim to reach: gold, silver and bronze. To achieve each pin, a certain number of hours must be put in as well as a certain number of expeditions.

An interview with Ms. Lauren Riviere, who recently moved back to Abaco from Nassau, revealed her role and expectations for the program here on Abaco. She has been involved with GGYA for the past seven

and a half years at Aquinas College in Nassau. Now that she is back on Abaco, she will assist with the structuring of the unit at St. Frances de Sales.

She stated that the kids work at their own pace because this is not a competition. Levels achieved are based on personal improvement and achievement. When they meet the goals, they receive their award.

She is excited about the number of students to sign up at St. Frances and Forest Height Academy; especially the good showing of males. She stated that in Nassau the

kids were excited initially about the adventurous journey and camping, but when the other components of the program were introduced, some dropped out.

She recommended that students are introduced to all components around the same time so that they will be aware of what is expected. She continued that these hours can also be used towards graduation community service hours. There is no pay involved when they serve the community. They usually volunteer after school or on

the weekends.

Over the weekend of February 18-19th the groups from Forest Heights and St. Frances de Sales will go on their first expedition as they work towards achieving their bronze award. They will depart from Forest Heights to Bahama Palm Shores main entrance. Students will commence the hike at 1p.m. at the highway entrance to Cross-

Please see **School** Page 12



On the afternoon of February 17th Long Bay School had its County Road Race as students ran their hardest to win one of the top three coveted medals. Pictured above are all of the winners. Junior Boys medals went to Donnell Pubin, first; Timothy Clarke, second; Alfredo Cornish, third; Junior Girls medals went to Tenajh Wilson, first; Leann Albury, second; Donise Fleures, third; High School Boys medals went to Justin Nottage, first; Elvano Burrows, second; Dino Bain, third; Senior Girls medals went to Kristin McIntosh, first; Alda Pierre, second; Dezelene Garcon, third. They also had a teachers' race and the medals for this went to Ed Solijon, first; Marlon Carby, second; Ednal Collie, third.



The Ministry of Education, Abaco District held its annual Grade 4 Spelling Bee Competition of the 2005/06 academic school year on February 10th at the Learning Resource Centre in Marsh Harbour. Vying for the title of Top Speller were 24 students from 12 schools. Like any other competition, there can only be one winner and emerging victorious was Leandra Rolle of Agape Christian School. Second place went to Virgil Bain of J.A. Pinder Primary and Axcel Simmons Jr. of Cooper's Town Primary received third place. From left to right: Virgil Bain, Leandra Rolle, Miss Laura, Agape Christian School Spelling Coach, and Grade 4 teacher and Axcel Simmons Jr.

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More School News

School *From Page 11*

ing Rocks.
The expedition is designed to expose students to various aspects of outdoor activities example hiking, camping, exploring the countryside and moreover, building a spirit of cooperation/cohesiveness in achieving goals together.

Accompanying the students on this expedition are Mr. Richards, Mr. Simon, Ms. Riviere, Mr. Ajero and a Defence Force Officer who serves on GGYA expedition panel.

It's Academic Time at Central Abaco Primary

By Portia Jonsson

In an effort to help Grade 6 students prepare for their final exams, both by the Ministry and the school, a series of "It's

Academic" competitions are going on at the Central Abaco Primary School. This event, organized by sixth grade teacher Mrs. McQueen, is a joint venture with and sponsored by FirstCaribbean International Bank, Marsh Harbour branch.

The competition has divided the students into four groups or houses – Grouper, Marlin, Flamingo and Yellow Elder. Employees of FirstCaribbean are also placed into one of the four houses. Mr. Bartlett, Bank Manager is in house Flamingo, which is currently in last place.

Every Wednesday the students are prepped with questions from the Ministry of Education's curriculum in the subject areas: mathematics, social studies, science and general knowledge. There are over 1500 questions. The competition, which "kicked off" the first week in Janu-

ary will culminate in the grand finale on March 29th. The house that wins will receive a floating trophy.

Mrs. McQueen is looking forward to having this competition continued throughout the school for years to come and is fortunate to have FirstCaribbean Bank sponsor the event. The bank has provided the school with t-shirts, trophies, folders, pencils, photo-copying and audio-visual equipment.

Presently, the groups' standings are: Grouper 150 points, Yellow Elder 140 points, Marlin 130 points and Flamingo 100 points.

Boys Club President Met with Urban Renewal

By Samantha V. Evans

On February 7th Mr. Samuel Rolle and Ms. Elaine Martinborough met to discuss the formation of the Boys Club in Abaco. Mr. Rolle has run the Boys Club of The Bahamas in Nassau since 1989 so he has a wealth of knowledge that he can share with the organizers of a Boys Club for Abaco. Ms. Martinborough heads the Urban Renewal office on Abaco.

Please see **School** *Page 13*

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More School News

School *From Page 12*

Mr. Rolle agreed to assist with the formation of a chapter of the Boys Club on Abaco with Urban Renewal being responsible for the running of the club. They discussed many exciting plans for the club which will begin in a matter of months. Meanwhile, Ms. Martinborough will get the

ball rolling by presenting the plans to ASP Miller and the Hon. Shane Gibson, Min. of Housing.

Fund Raising for Every Child Counts Was Successful

Every Child Counts School's recent fundraiser was a success, thanks to the sponsorship of businesses including Price Right, Bristol Wine and Spirits, Bahamas Palm

Grove, Froggies Out Island Adventures and Abaco Beach Resort. Guests gathered at the Below Deck's Restaurant on February 18 for a wine and cheese tasting with music being provided through the generosity of Estin Sawyer. The highlights of the evening were the silent auction of various art works

donated by local artists and the raffle drawing for a special BMX bicycle that was built by the country music performer, Aaron Tippin, and his band members during their

Please see School Page 25



Hope Town Fire and Rescue organization gave a very practical gift to their community for a Christmas present. Community members, hotel workers, visitors and school children in grades 5 and 6 were treated to a course in first aid and life saving techniques. Hope Town Fire and Rescue invited Mr. Don Ferris from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, to instruct several classes over a one week period, offering the classes at various time to accommodate work schedules. The "present" was very well received and the Hope Town Sailing Club venue was full for every class. The members of the Fire and Rescue helped Mr. Ferris instruct and demonstrate. Our picture shows Hope Town students and their parents practicing CPR techniques on the models.

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ON GREEN TURTLE CAY:

New Listing! Business project for sale! Four lots surveyed off with electricity already in. 3,670 to 5,016 sq. ft. parcels. Building plans already passed for a single family home on each lot. The first home on the fifth lot is already sold. Property is located close to two beaches and a major resort in an up and coming residential neighborhood. Trailer of building materials included. BS\$350,000 with all closing costs in.

New listing! Striking furnished block construction, 3 1/2 bath 4 bedroom home on beautiful Coco Bay with private dock appointed with water, electricity and air. Large turning basin. Dredged designated channel. 6' draft at low tide. 11,941 sq. ft. of land with 100' on the water. Central A/C. 18,000 gallons cistern. Satellite TV. Telephone. Reverse Osmosis system. W/D, 2,300 sq. ft. of interior living space with 2,500 sq. ft. of screened porch and decks. Three minutes walk to beach. \$1,740,000 with all closing costs in.

New listing! 75' x 181' lot in Coco Bay just a few steps to the beach. Telephone and electric lines at site. Good elevation. Residential area near public dock and major resort. BS\$108,000 with all closing costs in.

New listing! Seven lots for sale near two major beaches; a public dock and a major resort. 8,000 sq. ft to 14,134 sq. ft, BS\$158,600 to BS\$244,000. with all closing costs in.

New listing! Five lots for sale in quiet high end residential Coco bay area within walking distance of three major beaches and a resort. Lush wooded land. 10,000 to 19,000 sq. ft. BS\$78,000 to \$183,000 with all closing costs in.

New listing! Family estate located on Gillam Bay and Black Sound consisting of one two story furnished house with three bedrooms; three baths; two kitchens and two living areas. Sits on rise of land with spectacular views of both Gillam Bay and Black Sound. 1.67 acres. Two vehicles. 2 car garage. Caretaker's cottage with one bedroom and one bath. House has 120' dock on Black Sound in hurricane sheltered waters. 3.9 acres of property with 340' of beachfront on Gillam Bay. Estate can be sold as two parcels. \$1.99 million for 2 story house. \$3 million for beachfront parcel. Viewing by appointment only.

New listing! 118 feet of beachfront on north end of Bight O Bay. 174' deep. 1/3 acre. Gorgeous beach cove lot with stunning views of Atlantic Ocean. \$620,000 (all closing costs included)

New listing! Waterfront lot on Coco Bay. Dock to be decked over with 10' draft protected during storms. A few steps and you are on Coco Bay Beach. Outstanding water views. 12,000 sq. ft. \$650,000 plus 7% to close.

New listing! 90' of beachfront on south end of Bight O Bay. 560' deep. One acre of spectacular white sandy beach. \$840,000 (all closing costs in)

New listing! Two newly constructed three bedroom, two bath 40x36 furnished cottages plus porch on approximately one-half acre of land each on the Atlantic Ocean beach on the north end of the island. "Conch Shell" and "Conch Pearl" are landscaped and feature an 18' vaulted living room ceiling; 9,000 gallon rain water tank; and a ground floor store room for golf cart storage. Use of shared private dock on Coco Bay included. Dock has 4 1/2 ft. draft at low tide. Just 75 yards off shore is an incredible snorkeling reef. Amenities include: Central A/C; W/D; hand painted cabinets by local artist; and storm shutters. \$1.55 million each (closing costs included)

For the discerning buyer seeking privacy and a secluded location. Two bedroom three bath furnished Bahamian style home overlooking Bluff Harbour and the Sea of Abaco. Good elevation. 30,000 gallon cistern. Dock with sling on Bluff Harbour. 2 acres with over 1,000 feet of shoreline. Gazebo to watch the sunsets. \$3 million gross.

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

Three bedroom two bath newly constructed home in residential area overlooking green space and pond. Jacuzzi. A/C throughout. Fully fitted out kitchen. Vaulted ceilings throughout. Large decks. Screened porch. Landscaped. 1/4 acre. Close to town and within walking distance of Ocean beach. BS\$660,000

North End: Stunning three bedroom two bath home block construction home with fireplace. Outstanding views of Atlantic Ocean. 35' high elevation. Spacious screened in porch. One acre. 125' on ocean. \$1.32 million plus 7% to close.

Under Contract: Wood building on lot in New Plymouth Deck House Lot 8A and 9 Coco Bay Gillam Bay House

Sold: Getzaway Cottage Gillam Bay Lots H1 and H2 Three lots in Settlement Creek



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Pelican Shores - Elevated Lot on the Harbour. Great views -
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High Rock - Beautiful home, 3 bed / 2 bath, furnished, family room, central air, over 2,000 sq. ft.
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Little Orchard
Triplex - Two, 1 bed, 1 bath apartments
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Pelican Shores - elevated lot on the harbour. One of the last (Beautiful views) Lots available on Pelican Shores. Can be made into 2 lots.
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CASUARINA POINT

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#13312 Price: \$600,000



ISLAND DREAM

Three and 3/4 acre sea to sea 2 bed, 1.5 bath cottage with protected boat basin including horseshoe dock. Bring your yacht. Motivated seller has reduced the price.

#2840 Reduced to \$1,850,000



CASUARINA POINT

Beautiful building lot in the peaceful community of Casuarina Point. All utilities available with beach access.

#13348 Lots for \$86,000



TOM CURRY'S POINT

On the ridge overlooking three bodies of water, prime building site, great elevation and views.

#13003 Price: \$550,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

One hundred and forty feet on the water in quaint Little Harbour. Extraordinary views, great elevation.

#13001 Price: \$500,000



LITTLE HARBOUR

Build the home of your dreams on this beautiful hillside lot overlooking the harbour. Offering 15,400 sq. ft. of property.

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BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Lovely island style 3 bed, 3 bath beachfront home on one acre of property.

#13081 Price: \$580,000



BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Great starter home still under construction. One bed, 1 bath located in a quiet area.

#13415 Price: \$105,000



HARBOUR FRONT

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

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Abaco Author Updates Cruising Guide

By Jennifer Hudson

I recently enjoyed reading the book, *Abaco, The History of an Out Island and Its Cays*, by Steve Dodge and then had the pleasure of speaking with Mr. Dodge about the interesting way in which he came to write both this book and several others.

Mr. Dodge, Professor Emeritus of History at Milliken University in Decatur, Illinois, is a yearly visitor to Abaco. Having built a residence at White Sound, Elbow Cay, in the late 1970s, he says, "I fell in love with the place the first time I was here and within two weeks had decided to buy land. I bought every book available on Abaco. I discovered early on that no one had done a comprehensive job with its history and decided that writing the history of Abaco would be fun. I wanted to write a history for the people; I did not become a historian to write for historians. I discovered Abaco five years after completing my PhD and realised that this would provide an opportunity to write for people.

"I met author Michael Craton, who encouraged me, along with Dr. Gail Saunders, Chief Archivist of The Bahamas. I then put in for a sabbatical but postponed it for a year or so in order to build a small house in White Sound. I placed my two boys in school in Hope Town and sailed around Abaco in my 20-

foot sailboat, interviewing people assisted by Bill Reukauf. I would just go up and knock on the door and ask people about their life. I would also spend two to three weeks at a time in Nassau, spending entire days, with no time for lunch, in the Bahamas National Archives where files cover everything from the 1650s to the 1970s."

The end result of all this research was the book, *Abaco: The History of an Out Island and Its Cays*, first published in 1983 and updated in 1995. A third edition was published in 2005 and includes such up-to-date developments as the Abaco Club on Winding Bay and the Baker's Bay Club on Great Guana Cay. "This most recent edition," says Mr Dodge, "benefitted greatly from the back files of *The Abaconian* and the assistance of my wife Marjorie and sons John and Jeff. The book has been a family affair rather than an individual effort." This interesting book spans all aspects of life in Abaco from its origin to the present day.

Mr. Dodge's first visit to Abaco was in January 1973 when he came with seven students from Milliken University for one week to experience nautical history and sailing in The Bahamas with an emphasis on the techniques of navigation and sailing. Mr. Dodge had previously taught for two years in the Virgin Islands, but immediately fell in love with Abaco. For his sailing exploits he used the existing cruiser's guide, which was Harry Kline's *Yachtsman's Guide to the Bahamas*, and also Julius Willensky's *Guide to the*

Northern Bahamas.

Then Mr. Dodge decided to write his own. The way it came about was one day, as he sat around the dinner table with his family, he bragged that he could write a better, more up to date cruiser's guide than Mr. Kline's which, by that time had not kept the content current with all the changes on Abaco. Though he thought about writing it, he could not get a sabbatical because it was non-academic. In January 1989 when he was alone with his older son Jon, Jon said, "Let's do

that cruising guide," and although they had only eight days left on Abaco and knew it would cost them a lot in gasoline, Steve said "Yes."

The cruising guide began as a very small publication in black and white with only 28 pages. Priced at \$2.95 and titled *The Small Boat Sailors' Guide to Abaco*, it was an instant success. The book was later given the title by which we know it

Please see **Dodge** Page 16



Steve Dodge



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03/01/06

Historian Found Abaco's First Loyalist Settlement

Dodge From Page 15

today, *The Cruising Guide to Abaco, Bahamas*. Mr. Dodge felt that the success of this book had been helped by the fact that he had written a history book six years earlier, and people knew his name so he was able to get advice. The book included tide tables and up-to-date charts. After being reprinted the book price went up to \$3.95. The response was great. In 1991 it received a colour cover, increased to 40 plus pages and sold for \$6.95. At this point, West Marine, the largest marine retail chain in the United States, started selling it.

At first Mr. Dodge took water depth measurements with a stick marked at one-foot intervals and a hand bearing compass. This he felt was easier than lead line and hand bearing compass, although it was very tedious. In 1992 his son Jeff told him about GPS (Global Positioning System). At that time Magellan was the only producer of the product. Mr. Dodge wrote to the company president and told him that he wanted to use his device to make charts of Abaco as there were currently no really accurate charts. The cost of the GPS was around \$4,000 - \$5,000 at that time, which Mr Dodge could not afford and so he asked if they could make some kind of arrangement. The president of Magellan said he would love to have him do it and lent him a unit for one year. He later told Mr Dodge he could keep it.

In 1992 his son Jeff suggested that his father buy a laptop on which they could automatically record data from the depth finder and the GPS. He bought a used laptop, and, although it weighed 17

pounds, it was a great boon to them. They were using GPS to make charts before most people here even knew what it was, working off a 20-foot Mako and then a 24-foot Rampage. The publication has increased to 184 pages for which Mr Dodge attributes much credit to his son Jeff, who did all the electronic work, and Jon, who critiqued and proofed all charts. Now between 9,000 - 10,000 books a year are sold, more than Mr. Dodge ever dreamed possible.

The Cruising Guide to Abaco, Bahamas, 2006 is now in bookstores. This 17th edition of the only comprehensive updated cruising guide to Abaco includes summer 2005 re-surveys. "Accurate colour charts based on original hydrographic research, colour aerial photographs of all principal harbours, a proven system of GPS waypoints, inclusion of local knowledge and excellent organisation with clear and concise cruising directions on charts make this book the choice of most cruisers and the best selling guide to Abaco."

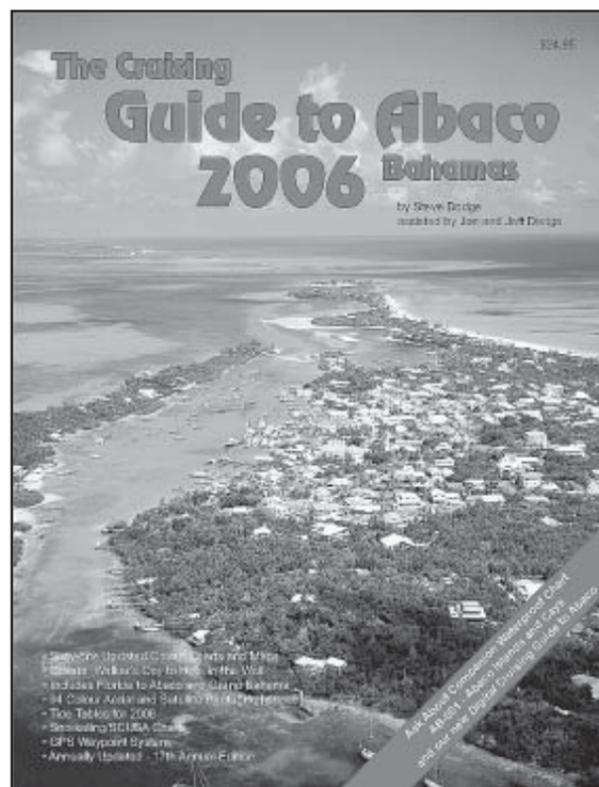
Non-boaters find the *Cruising Guide* informative and interesting. The full color aerial photographs of many Abaco towns and harbours are a valuable enhancement to anyone's visit here. For boaters, the aerial photos of channels and sand bars can be more helpful than numbers on a chart.

In the late 1990s, inlets along the east coast of Florida had not been charted, yet they are some of the most treacherous areas that boats can encounter. They were the last uncharted navigable waters in the United States of America, and Mr. Dodge decided to chart them, using his

son's 17-foot outboard. Once in Florida, Mr Dodge realised that jetskis are very seaworthy; when they roll over, they can start up again and go on. Therefore, they could be a valuable research tool for these inlets. So he obtained a Kawasaki jetski and, armed with a laptop, he charted the area from Chesapeake Bay to Miami on the world's "smallest hydrographic research vessel," covering 34 inlets along 1,000 miles of coast. This resulted in the book *Inlet Chart Book of South Eastern USA*, written by Steve, assisted by his sons Jon and Jeff.

Mr. Dodge's love of the sea began at a very early age when his grandparents retired from the Bronx to the Hamptons where he spent many happy summers. He was allowed the use of their 9-foot boat, then their 16-foot outboard and received the first boat of his own at age 10. He was later taught to sail by a girlfriend's mother and, although he later ended the relationship with the girlfriend, to this day he continues to sail with her mother.

In addition to the aforementioned books, Mr. Dodge has also written *A Guide and History of Hope Town* co-authored with Vernon Malone; *The Com-*



A valuable guide for all boaters, this Cruising Guide to Abaco is also very useful for all visitors to Abaco. It is updated yearly, reflecting changes in navigational hazards as well as changes ashore.

plete Guide to Nassau and Christopher Columbus and the First Voyages to the New World. He has worked with Dean Collingwood in editing *Modern Bahamian Society* and has served as editorial adviser for *The Bahamas Index and Yearbook*. He divides his time between White Sound, Elbow Cay, and New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

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Church News

Church Celebrates 10th Anniversary

By Jennifer Hudson

The Presbyterian Kirk of the Pines celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special service on February 12. Church members and friends gathered to give thanks for its 10 years of service, but unfortunately, a group of church members and Elders from the mother church, St Andrew's Kirk in Nassau, were not able to be present due to the cancellation of their flight owing to bad weather.

The service was led by the church's present pastor, Rev. David Stapleton, who gave an overview of the Kirk of the Pines' early days.

Messages were presented by church members John Hudson, Cathy Key and Hugh Cottis and special items were performed by the choir. The joyful service was followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.

The church first began when Mrs.

Veronica Saunders brought together a small group to worship each Sunday at the primary school with Joel Chinapen as its leader and preacher. Rev. Jim Berger and Rev. Gary Carson, ministers of the Nassau and Freeport Presbyterian Churches respectively, were great encouragers of this new group which became set up as a mission station of St. Andrew's Kirk in Nassau. The congregation now holds services in the music room of Forest Heights Academy but is looking forward to the day when it will be able to build its own sanctuary. Following the service, ways were discussed to raise funds towards a church building.

Singles Hold Conference

By Samantha V. Evans

Zion Baptist Church in Murphy Town held its first Single's Conference on January 19th-21st under the theme *Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places*. The pastor saw a need to

provide single Christian men and women with positive ways to date without compromising their integrity and dignity.

Guest speakers for this life changing event were: Elder Shandlene Parker, Ms. Shirley Burrows and Min. Zedall Carey. The presenter for Thursday night was Elder Parker from Mount Tabor Full Gospel Baptist Church in Nassau. She serves as a full time Associate Producer of the Walking in Victory Broadcast as well as Praise and Worship Leader. Locally she serves as advisor to the Abaco Women of God Ministries. She was the opening speaker at the conference.

On Friday night Ms. Shirley Burrows presented at the conference. She is presently employed with the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Local Government as a Senior

Secretary at the Administrator's Office in Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera. She is the Founder of Living Word Ministries. She ministers the Word at conferences in The Bahamas and internationally. She has assisted in organizing crusades in Eleuthera for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Associate Team.

Min. Zedall Carey was the keynote speaker for the conference. He is a long-serving member of the Zion Baptist Church in Freeport where the Rev. Peter Pinder is the pastor. For the past 27 years he has been actively engaged in evangelism throughout The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, South Eastern Caribbean and parts of the United States.

The organizers of this event were Ms. Cindy Armbrister and Sister Emma Dawkins (Deacon in Training).

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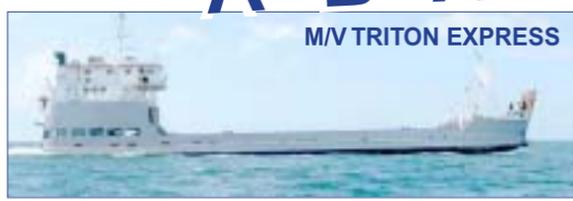
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Police Crime Report

Batelco reported a telephone was stolen from one of the phone booths at the Marsh Harbour phone station during the weekend of December 30, 2005.

A Cooper's Town man was arrested in the afternoon of January 3 with refer-

ence to causing harm, using obscene language, disorderly behaviour and making threats of death to two Marsh Harbour women on January 1.

A Blackwood man was arrested on January 3 for using obscene language,

disorderly behaviour and making threats of death while in Cooper's Town.

A 77-year-old resident of Murphy Town died on January 5 while at the Marsh Harbour clinic where he was under treatment for high blood pressure. He had an earlier history of strokes.

The Marsh Harbour Business License office was broken into during the weekend of January 6 by the door being smashed. Stolen were checks valued at \$8369 and \$1220 in cash.

A Dundas Town resident was hit in the head by a piece of wood and beaten about his body while in the Charlie Boo section of Marsh Harbour by a man he identified.

The Marsh Harbour Service Station was broken into during the weekend of January 21. Stolen were two televisions, assorted tools and a pack of Backwoods.

A Grand Cay resident was arrested on January 23 for an attempt on January 8 to take four pounds of marijuana to Freeport on a commuter airline. He escaped apprehension during the January 8 incident.

Sacrilege was committed against the Seventh Day Adventist Church during the night of January 22 when someone broke into the building and stole a small generator.

The K & Fee shop in Hard Bargain, Moore's Island, was broken into during the night of January 22. One hundred dollars was taken from the register.

Stewart Stratton was found dead in his home a little after midnight on January 25. He was 81 and known to have heart problems.

Ten Haitian immigrants found in Marsh Harbour were taken into custody by the Immigration Department on January 25 and sent to Nassau.

Abaco Pizza in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of January 24 and a small amount of coins was taken.

BEC. reported a Murphy Town woman paid her electric bill with a counterfeit American Express Travellers cheque. A woman was subsequently arrested for obtaining credit by fraud.

A 20-year-old man of Bahama Coral Island was arrested on January 26 when found trespassing at Abaco Central High School and carrying arms, specifically a silver knife.

A Treasure Cay woman was assaulted on January 26 about 5:30 p.m. while at Memorial Plaza in Marsh Harbour. She was sworn at and threatened to have her

Please see **Police**

Page 19

Intruder Is Shot and Captured

By Jennifer Hudson

Shooting in Marsh Harbour

On February 9 at approximately 1:33 a.m. the police at the Marsh Harbour Police Station received a report that a prowler was in the establishment of Marsh Harbour Auto Parts on Don MacKay Boulevard. A special duty team arrived at the scene within minutes and noticed a dark male inside the establishment. According to one of the officers upon arriving at the rear, he noticed the suspect exiting the building and shouted to him to stop, indicating that it was the police. The suspect looked at him and attempted to stab him with a sharp object, putting him in fear of his life. He states, "You will have to kill me." As a result, the officer drew his service revolver and fired at the suspect, hitting him in the hand.

The suspect then took off on foot and fled the area heading towards Don MacKay Boulevard, where the two officers arrested him. Upon searching the suspect, the officers found a small crowbar, a one and a half foot long sharp, shiny object with a pointed edge along with a pocket full of coins.

The suspect, who gave his name as Lionel Thomas, a.k.a. Rasta, was taken to the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic

where he was seen by Dr. Swarna, who recommended that he be flown to New Providence for further medical treatment. He was accompanied into Nassau by a police officer on board Abaco Air.

Drug Arrests in Marsh Harbour

On February 18 at approximately 12:40 p.m. a team of police officers, acting on information received, searched a hotel room in Marsh Harbour and found a quantity of suspected dangerous drugs, namely cocaine. As a result, five persons were arrested in reference to Possession of Dangerous Drugs with Intent to Supply. Two males were from Grand Bahama, two females from Florida and one male from Spring City, Abaco.

The total weight of cocaine found was 7 1/4 pounds and a homemade marijuana cigarette was also found in the purse of one of the women.

Information received is that the two male suspects travelled from Grand Bahama to Crown Haven on the 7 a.m. ferry and may be part of an international drug ring to transport drugs through Abaco on to Florida via drug mules.

The suspects were detained at the Marsh Harbour Police Station until arrangements were made to transport them and the drugs to New Providence for further inquiries.

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Police Crime Report

Police

From Page 18

head knocked off. She identified a local Marsh Harbour businessman.

A Sandy Point woman discovered smoke coming out of her neighbour's bedroom window about 7:30 a.m. on January 26. Neighbours confined the fire to a bedroom which was severely damaged. The house was not occupied at the time.

A Dundas Town woman was home with her boyfriend on January 26 about 10 p.m. when an ex-boyfriend broke into the house brandishing a cutlass. Both occupants were injured with the current boyfriend being sent to Nassau for further medical attention. The assailant was arrested the next morning in Cooper's Town.

A resident of the Mud was beaten and robbed just after midnight on January 28 by four men he vaguely knew. Stolen were his \$305 Motorola cell phone, a green cowboy hat and \$400 in Bahamian cash.

An American visitor had his rental van stolen on January 29 just after midnight while in the vicinity of Solomon's Super Centre in Marsh Harbour. The van was taken by a dark male. The van was discovered the next morning in Cooper's Town, having been involved in an accident. The driver was not located.

While in the Central Pines Subdivision during the night of January 29, the police discovered a wooden construction shed on fire about 2:25 a.m. The fire department was called. The shed was

destroyed but the nearby house was saved.

A second pre-dawn fire consumed the Rebecca Bar and Restaurant in Murphy Town on January 29.

A resident of the Mud had his house broken into during the night of January 28 by someone who stole three passports and a \$300 Nokia cell phone.

A resident of the Mud was arrested for throwing missiles January 29 about 3 a.m. in the vicinity of Club Jam Rock in Marsh Harbour. Two other men of the Mud and Pigeon Peas were under investigation at the same establishment for picking up rocks, using obscene language and acting in a disorderly manner.

An 84-year-old Murphy Town woman was discovered dead at her residence by an aunt on the morning of January 31. The aunt disclosed that the deceased had been paralyzed and suffered from a stroke.

Marsh Harbour Electronics on Don MacKay Boulevard in Marsh Harbor was broken into during the night of January 30 by someone who smashed the front door.

A Treasure Cay man was arrested on January 31 about noon related to an armed robbery on December 6

A resident of Fire Road had a ladder stolen during the night of February 1 at a house he had under construction in Cooper's Town.

A Marsh Harbour resident was beaten by an unidentified assailant around 8 p.m. on January 31 while in the vicinity of Abaco Beach Resort. Head and stomach

injuries required that he be flown to Nassau for further treatment.

Responding to a disturbance at Debra's Snack Bar in Murphy Town about 5 p.m. on February 4, a Murphy Town resident was arrested for disorderly behaviour, causing a disturbance, resisting arrest, using obscene language, assaulting a police officer and making threats of death.

A man at his home February 5 about 7 a.m. in the Pigeon Peas section in Marsh Harbour was chopped on his arm by a cutlass wielded by his girlfriend. He was treated locally but required further treatment and flown to Nassau. The assailant was arrested about 2 hours later.

A resident of Marsh Harbour's Mud section had his house broken into during the morning of February 6. Stolen were

\$850 in cash, six came pants and two shirts valued at \$350.

A road check on the S.C. bootle Highway and the Treasure Cay turn-off about 6:30 p.m. on January 31 found nine illegal immigrants who were handed to Immigration and seven traffic violations.

During the night of February 6 Abaco Pizza was broken into and a small amount of coins were stolen.

A young man from Dundas Town was named February 7 as having sexual intercourse with a 14-year-old underage girl. The incident was disclosed during a medical exam.

Two Dundas Town persons were ar-

Please see **Police**

Page 20



Blue Sky GALLERY

Original Art ♦ Prints ♦ Framing

Originals by

Lou Lihou Anne Ray
Malcolm Rae William Johnson
Shula Raney Alvin Moss
Photography by Tuppy

Local Artists

Beth Sweeting Zandrck Jones
Lori Thompson Dion Lewis

Located Queen Elizabeth Drive, Marsh Harbour
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Patti Love

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The Main House on 2 levels is "Ekali", a beautiful 3 bed, 3 bath house that has a rich English flair. The Guest Quarters is on the ground level & boasts another 2 bed, 2 bath with full kitchen, open dining & sitting room.

Villa San Paulo is a spacious, beautiful, 3 bed, 2 bath villa resembling a Swiss chalet. Only a step away from the villa is a beautiful 27 ft swimming pool edging the sea with a cabana at one end which affords spectacular views to those relaxing within.

Cashmere House is a unique home that offers a view of the ocean from every room as well as magnificent views of the nearby English gardens. This home is very spacious and can accommodate a very large family.

Tucked away for privacy is The Cottage, a cozy 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom villa built with a richly woven Brazilian wood. The Cottage is only steps away from all of the other amenities that the property has to offer.

Alcantara I and Alcantara II are two identical 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom homes, built using the best craftsmanship. Alcantara I and II sit on very high, solid concrete bases hence they stand above all the other cottages, overlooking the entire estate with an excellent view of the Bay of Abaco from the wrap around porch. Just below these two homes sit a large, spacious 35 ft. pool with nearby decking for your comfort and relaxation.

Other features of this impressive estate include 463ft of beachfront, extensive wooden canopy style walkways to the beach, luscious landscaping w/ mature fruit trees, water purity filter & 2 diesel generators.

To view more details about 'Ekali Estates' go to www.grahamrealestate.com

Since its inception in 1990, Graham Real Estate has distinguished itself as one of the premier real estate and rental firms for exclusive and luxurious real estate properties in The Bahamas.

Police Report Cont.

Police *From Page 19*

rested about 10 p.m. on February 7 related to earlier charges of causing harm.

Two men living in Marsh Harbour's Mud and Pigeon Peas areas were arrested on February 8, a little after midnight, related to a robbery committed with violence five days earlier.

Three residents of Pigeon Peas area of Marsh Harbour were arrested on February 8 about 1 a.m. when marijuana was discovered in their house while a search warrant was being executed.

About 1 a.m. on February 9, the police shot and captured an intruder at Marsh Harbour Auto Parts. See expanded details on page 18.

Burns House in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of February 7 through a smashed window. An undetermined amount of product was stolen.

The DNR Sports Bar in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of February 7 through a smashed window. An undetermined number of items were stolen.

A resident of Marsh Harbour's Mud section was arrested on February 9 as a result of a complaint made on January 28.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to break into Lowe's Pharmacy in Marsh Harbour during the night of February 8.

Abaco Dickie's store above Island Bakery in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of February 8.

A motorcycle collided with a Jeep at the intersection of Crockett Drive and Charles W. Sawyer Boulevard, M & R

Grocery corner about 4 p.m. February 9, resulting in the motorcyclist being taken to the clinic where he was treated and discharged.

A Marsh Harbour couple renting an apartment on Eastern Shore reported that between the night of February 9 and February 12 someone stole \$562 from the apartment and a likely culprit was named. At mid-afternoon on February 12 a Murphy Town man was arrested and found to have \$300 in his possession, admitted to having spent the rest at a local night club.

A woman living with her boyfriend in Marsh Harbour reported him early in the morning of February 14 for beating her about her body with his hands, then he left the house. Several hours later he physically assaulted her again, slapping her and twisting her hand.

Sea Star Car Rentals at the Marsh Harbour airport was broken into between 2:50 p.m. - 4 p.m. during the afternoon of February 14 and someone stole \$1200. A suspect was named.

A resident of Marsh Harbour watched his neighbour throw an empty gas tank through his front door on February 14, causing damages. This may have been the result of an altercation between the two on the previous day.

At 6:30 a.m. on February 15 at the Marsh Harbour ferry dock three immigrants were found without documents and turned over to Immigration.

A Bit of Abaco History

By Jack Lowe

My father, T. Eldred Lowe, was a surveyor of land on Abaco. He was trained by Mr. William Aranha of Crown Lands in Nassau and he surveyed Crown Lands as well as private land.

When I was a boy, steel and cement were not available on Abaco. So when land was surveyed, a pyramid of stones was built at each marker. My father also planted a piece of gumelami at each marker. After years passed, all you had to do was look for the gumelami trees.

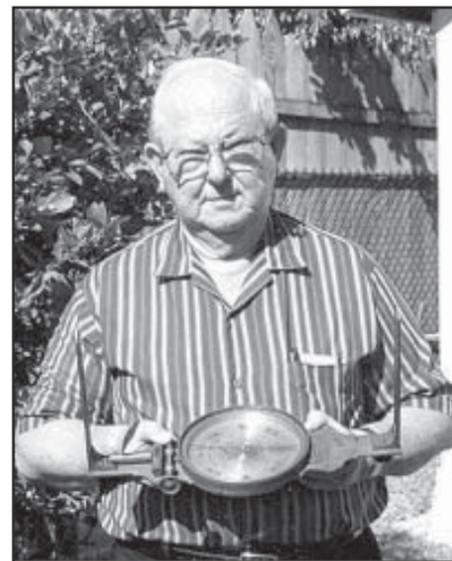
My father had surveyed the old Cherokee road for the government from the traffic light corner to Big Mangrove, on the mainland across the sound from Cherokee, a total of 16 miles.

When J.B. Crockett came to Abaco, under Lucien and Stewart Stratton's advice, he had his tractor open the road and grade it for traffic. My father had a track road done with cutlasses. By this time they had steel and cement to make markers.

One day in later years, Marcel Albury (Carroll's brother) came to my house and gave me the pillar with a number 3 on top and said someone had cleared land and pushed the marker from its place. He brought it to me knowing that my father had put it there. I have it at the corner of my driveway of my residence in High Rocks in Marsh Harbour.



When I was about 13 years old, my father, Gladstone Russell, my brother Eric and myself left home early one morning to measure the first eight miles of the road. We went to the eight mile stake and measured from there back to Marsh Harbour. We used a survey chain approximately 66



Jack Lowe with old land compass

feet long to get the length of the road. I asked my father, "Why do we walk to the other end of the road to start measuring?" He said if we measured from Marsh Harbour, we would be tired when we reached the eight mile marker, and we would still have to come back to Marsh Harbour. The way we did it, we were back home in Marsh Harbour when we became tired. I still have the chain and land compass used to survey roads and measure distances. Edison Key told me that he bought a piece of Crown Land opposite Royal Bank which my father surveyed. When Edison sold the land years later, he had another surveyor do the job and found that all of my fathers stakes were right. Out of eight brothers, my brother Eric was the only son interested in surveying. I have written this because a lot of the young people do not know anything about the Old Cherokee Road.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

HOPE TOWN DISTRICT

TOWN MEETING ON PLANNING AND ZONING

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MEETING SCHEDULE

GUANA CAY

Location: All Age School

Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm

Day: Thursday Night

Dates:

February 2nd, 16th, 2006

March 2nd, 16th, 30th, 2006

MAN-O-WAR

Location: All Age School

Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm

Day: Monday Night

Dates:

January 30th, 2006

February 13th, 27th, 2006

March 13th, 27th, 2006

ELBOW CAY

Location: St. James

Methodist Church

Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm

Day: Wednesday Night

Dates:

February 1st, 15th, 2006

March 1st, 15th, 29th, 2006

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- ✕ Week One: Introduction
- ✕ Week Two: Waste Management and Wetland Protection
- ✕ Week Three: Zoning - Open Spaces and Residential
- ✕ Week Four: Zoning - Business and Commercial
- ✕ Week Five: Conclusion

For More Information visit us at: www.hopetowncouncil.com

Lyford Cay Representative Met with Students

By Portia Jonsson

For three days last month, January 25th-27th, Ms. Monique Hinsey, Coordinator Special Scholastic Assistance Search Program and Scholars Association with the Lyford Cay Foundation met with 10, 11 and 12 grade students from the island's high schools to acquaint them with the Lyford Cay Foundation Scholarships and help prepare them for college.

The Lyford Cay Foundation enhances the well being and progress of the Bahamian community by contributing generously in the area of education. They support the College of The Bahamas as well as administer their extensive academic, technical and vocational scholarship programs for Bahamians studying abroad and annually conduct the Special Scholastic Assistance Search.

The Lyford Cay Foundation provides annual academic scholarships of \$5,000 each year toward the tuition of Bahamian students enrolling in colleges/universities in the United States, the United Kingdom,



Canada and the Caribbean at undergraduate and graduate levels. These scholarships are merit-based though other important considerations are taken into account. These include quality of college, field of study, personal character and financial need

For academic scholarships the following fields of study are currently considered most valuable in serving the needs of The Bahamas: agriculture, arts, economics, education, engineering, environmental studies, foreign languages, health professions, hospitality management, quantity surveying, sciences and tourism.

The Foundation also provides annual technical training scholarships of \$5,000 each year towards the tuition of Bahamian students enrolling in career schools and colleges of technology outside the The Bahamas. These awards are directed primarily for students who seek to train or upgrade skills in areas where there is a shortage of well qualified Bahamians in the work force. Financial need among the applicants in this program is a particularly important consideration as well as the reputation of the school and personal qualities of commitment and interest.

Important consideration for technical training scholarships will be given to the following fields of study which are currently considered most valuable in serving the needs of The Bahamas: agriculture and fisheries; air conditioning/refrigeration; automotive, marine and aviation mechanics; construction and related trades (electrical, carpentry, plumbing, painting, masonry and welding); heavy equipment operation; machine shop; computer service technology; hospitality/tourism; education (technical Instruction) and health care technology.

In addition to the academic and technical scholarship programs, the Foundation also administers a number of other scholarship programs.

Special Search Program

At the beginning of every academic school year, Ms. Hinsey conducts the Special Scholastic Assistance Search and joins forces with the guidance counselors of local private and government high schools and the College of The Bahamas to identify the top graduating students who are academically and emotionally ready to study abroad.

The aim is to assist high caliber students who will act as excellent ambassadors for The Bahamas and enrich life at the institutions they will attend through their academic prowess, cultural diversity and fine character. It is also to heighten local awareness of financial assistance available from colleges in North America for international students.

The criteria to be a part of the Special Scholastic Assistance Search requires students to have a GPA of 3.5 or above (3.3 at

Please see **Lyford**

Page 23

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



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Sports News

Soccer Association Searches for soccer field

By Mirella Santillo

The President of the Soccer Association, Mr. Malcom Spicer, said, "Although five teams have actually been formed, the league has not officially begun, waiting for a decision on the availability of the soccer field at Murphy Town park which might be used for the carnival." Mr. Spicer hopes that a favorable decision for the Soccer Association will be reached since soccer is one of the sports played in the Bahama Games this summer and the Abaco players are planning to participate. However they need a field to play.

Two of the teams are from Treasure Cay and the other three from the Marsh Harbour area. Mr. Spicer added that if the league is

formed by the end of February, there will be four months of games, at the end of which the winning team will play the best team in Nassau and the best team on Grand Bahama to qualify for the National Championship, which will take place at the end of spring.

Mr. Spicer commented, "Abaco has the best soccer players of The Bahamas. "I have made an application to the government to have the area of the Mud that burned last November granted to the Abaco Soccer Association, so it could be turned into a permanent official soccer field."

While waiting to find out whether the Murphy Town park will be used for the Carnival grounds, friendly soccer games resumed at the beginning of February and are taking place every Sunday at 3 p.m.

Dart League Prepares for Gold Cup

By Mirella Santillo

Five dart teams, the Dragons, the Foundation, the Stars, the Widows and the Sixers, are preparing to participate in the Gold Cup on March 3rd and 4th in Nassau. The teams meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at either the D&R Sport Bar, Russell's Sport Bar or Spring City Bar for the Gold Cup practice.

On May 5th and 6th the National Masters will take place in Great Britain. The Championship Cup will be disputed on Abaco at the beginning of June and the Caribbean Cup is planned for the week of July 14th to 24th. So dart fans, mark your calendars.

Basketball Game Results

By Mirella Santillo

A good crowd gathered at the Ocean View Park basketball court on the evening of February 11th to watch three games.

The first game was between the Treasure Cay Full Gospel Crusaders and the Sandy Point Royals, Sandy Point winning 62 to 60.

The best players during the game were Royals Timmy Dean with 22 points and Terrence McDonald for Treasure Cay with 18 points.

The second game between the Hope Town Ballers and the Marsh Harbour Frigid Ballers was won by Marsh Harbour 53 to 32. The best players were Pekito for the winning team with 14 points and Francis Charles for Hope Town with 12 points.

The last game of the evening took place between Elvis McIntosh Construction and the Jam Rock Brawlers. Dwain Adderley scored 49 points and Jarred Douglas 22 points for Elvis McIntosh Construction who won 90 to 79, while Jamal Hepburn contributed 24 points to the losing team.

Remote Control Sailing Boats Are Raced

Laser sailing on February 11 brought the competitors, once again, to Snappas in Marsh Harbour. We sailed nine quick races in two hours. A large crowd of spectators and patrons observed the races on a beautiful Saturday afternoon.

Winds started out of the southwest at 15 mph and gusting to 20. The winds were expected to increase with the approaching cold front, but actually died to almost a flat calm by the last race. Jim Kaighin won seven of the nine races, so the rest of the sailors were left to fight it out for second place. Dave Muloch of Little Harbour had his best ever showing, finishing second, and Charlie "Bad Dog" Cooke dusted off his boat to finish third.

The sailors were hampered by many breakdowns after most boats took on water during the first few heavy air races. Lenore Muloch of Little Harbour did a great job as race committee. We really appreciate the use of the facilities at Snappas. It is a great location for sailors and spectators. A few of the group stayed for dinner and watched the sunset at Snappas following the races.

Please see **Sports**

Page 23



Youth in Action, attracting about 100 youth, teaches soccer, basketball and softball. It was started a few years ago by Mr. Lyndon Davis, Commonwealth Bank manager who has since been transferred by to Freeport. Now it is only Mr. Stretch Morley and Mr. Patrice Charles, who continue the volunteer work. Some of the youth are seen here at Ocean View Park in Dundas Town at their practice on a Saturday morning.

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More Sports News

Sports *From Page 22*

The next regatta is set for March 25.

For more information, contact Jim Kaighin at 367-3086.

Results of the Valentine's Day Regatta sponsored by the Marsh Harbour Sailing Club are as follows:

- Jim Kaighin 9
- Dave Muloch 18
- Charlie Cooke 22
- Chris Dingle 41
- Vince Hampshire 47
- Kellie Janes 48
- Lynne Key 55
- Kurt Key 65
- Emmet Hampshire 71
- Andrew Janes 80

Volunteers Are Needed for Youth in Action

By Samantha V. Evans

Youth in Action sports club, with over 100 members, meets every Saturday at Ocean View Park in Dundas Town. The organizers of this club are Mr. Stretch Morley and Mr. Patrice Charles. This club has been operational for several years with much success, but they are in dire need of volunteers.

Presently, only Mr. Morley and Mr. Charles manage this very large group of young people. So far, the club leaders have been able to teach them basketball and soccer skills with more of the children showing interest in basketball. Mr. Charles stated that they plan to introduce softball at the end of the basketball skills.

On February 11th I spent some time observing the male members play basketball and they are very good. Everyone adhered to the rules and waited their turn. There were no conflicts, just a peaceful, fun game of basketball.

Mr. Morley has provided a wonderful outlet for the students. However, both he and Mr. Charles volunteer their time to teach the students. It can be taxing for them but they love what they do. Hence, they need the support of the community not only in the form of adult volunteers but for persons to donate water, cups, ice and more basketballs for the club to continue to meet the demand.

Last year they were able to take some of the club members to Freeport and New Providence to play other clubs but this takes money. They need businesses, banks and other agencies to make donations towards the youth.

Many persons complain about the crime rate increasing and the lack of activities for the young people. Now that there is a club that teaches fundamental sporting skills to both males and females, they need your support. This is a way for you to help keep the youth involved in something positive that they enjoy.

They invite you to come out every Saturday morning from 9:30-12 noon to help manage the youth or to call Mr. Morley at the Ministry of Youth to pledge your support. The Ministry of Youth is located in the Administrator's Office in the Dove Plaza.

Lyford *From Page 21*

COB), minimum SAT score of 1100 (critical reading and math must be included), eight BGCSE's with at least 5 A's and three or more advanced level subjects such as A Levels, AS or AP with grades A, B or C.

Approximately 60 percent of the candidates interviewed are accepted into the program. Profiles based on interviews as well as from the detailed application form and essay, school reports and other relevant information are sent to institutions in which a student has expressed an interest, or to whose attention the Coordinator would like to bring a candidate in the hope of initiating mutually beneficial relationships.

Over 100 institutions of higher education in North America annually await these profiles and work closely with the Special Scholastic Assistance Search to find financial assistance for Bahamian scholars. This group includes prestigious institutions such

as Harvard, Beloit, Lehigh, Macalester, Vassar and Richmond. Since its inception in 1992, the Special Scholastic Assistance Search Program has helped over 200 Bahamian students secure more than \$7 million in scholarships and financial aid from the colleges and universities they attend.

The decision to attend college is a major one which requires the attention of the parent and the student alike. While college is an excellent choice for high school graduates, it should not be seen as the only immediate option. There are a number of options from which he or she may choose including finding employment right away, keeping busy by participating in various skill development projects or just taking time off to travel for a while. Whatever the choice, it should be made after careful review of the available alternatives and their contribution to the overall personal and vocational goals.

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Sounds Like Fun, Let's Go Cruising!

By Robert Wilson

Sounds like fun...and it has to be exciting. As anyone that saw the movie *Captain Ron* can attest, there is a lot more to the decision than climbing aboard and setting sail. An enjoyable venture is dependent upon how well one is prepared.

Our friends, Lynn and Lois Peck, whom we had met at Sunrise Cove many years ago, put the bug in our ear. They had sailed to Mexico, then on to the South Pacific and Hawaii. The stories they shared and the books they passed along started four years of planning and preparation prior to our maiden voyage.

Cruising would be an exciting way to visit new places and meet a lot of people. We had always enjoyed sailing, but never considered ourselves as proficient and daring as the Pecks. However, we made ourselves a list, revised it many times and committed ourselves to adhere to the "five year plan."

I was the leader, and with few exceptions Carolyn followed it to a tee. She went along with buying a new boat and encouraged me as I enrolled in almost all of the courses offered by the US Power Squadron. Rarely did I have to justify purchasing a piece of equipment, especially if the purchase could be couched by me as being a comfort or safety "must have."

In no time we had set a target date, and I

soon found myself caught up in a whirlwind of excitement. I was ready to sell the house, move on the boat and sail off into the sunset.

That's when her brakes went on. Thirty years worth of "precious memories" were stored in the house and promising her the moon would not change her conviction. "I am not giving up my house!" A course change would be necessary.

The boat projects frantically continued, as did my nudging and persistence until one day she announced she had something to show me. She had seen it on the way home, and in her mind she had resolved what could have become a major issue. "Everything will fit in this new house. We can afford it if we sell ours, and then we can go sailing." Instantly, she was given a nautical promotion. All I could say was "Welcome Home, Admiral!"

With that out of the way, we focused on other matters of practicality. We would have bills to pay, provisioning to complete and have need of developing a means to stay in contact with family and friends. The recommendations of friends and reading volumes of books helped to establish a proper perspective and helped to solidify our plans.

St. Brendan's Isle in Florida was used as a mail service. Mail from home was forwarded to them, and upon our direction the mail would be mailed to us. Monthly util-

ity bills were paid in advance and other financial matters were handled via internet or auto-pay. Soon into our trip we discovered having an ATM card was easy to access cash and the machines were available most places.

Communications were handled using PocketMail, an email service used extensively by boaters and recreational vehicle enthusiasts. Internet access was unavailable, and while it was toll-free in the US, a paid telephone card was required elsewhere. When it was necessary to use the Internet, we found service available at internet cafés, marinas and libraries for an additional fee.

Provisioning was the Admiral's passion. For months she was sifting through newspapers and coupon stuffers to take

advantage of discounts. The pantry was so full at one point there were boxes in the dining room. She re-packaged much of it in order to keep critters from coming aboard via the cardboard boxes. Carolyn had planned meals in mind and included a lot of nice snacks for the Captain in her shopping.

There is always the unexpected. During our first year of sailing we had to replace two alternators and a regulator. Another year we ran aground three times, damaged a stanchion that needed replacing, rebuilt both heads and spent eleven days in a marina (\$100 per day) due to weather. We started the New Year with a ten-day emer-

Please see **Cruising**

Page 25

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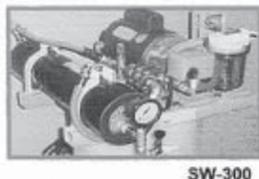
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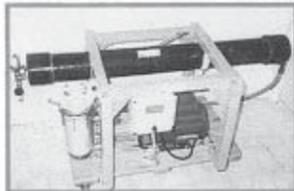
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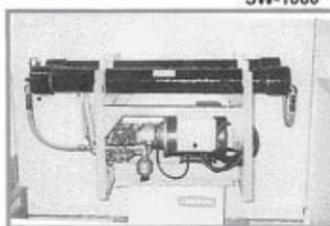
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 or call our distributor in Abaco : Mr. CLAY WILHOYTE : (242) 366-0087



SW-300



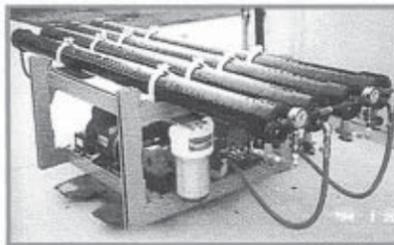
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SW-2300



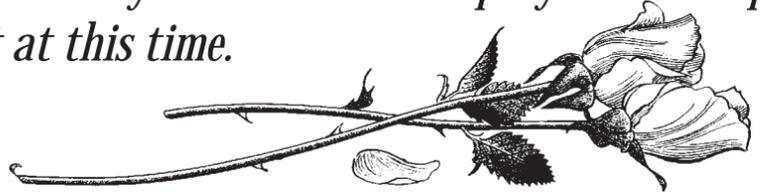
SW-10800



SW-7200

Special Thanks

The family of the late William Keith Russell would like to say "Thank You" to the doctors and staff at Family Medicine, Nurse Warren Knowles and Dr. James Hull for their kindness during our time of sorrow. "Thank You" to all of our many friends for their prayers and support at this time.



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 Marsh Harbour, Abaco
 Bahamas

or call Randy Key at
 (242) 367-2674

Our Experiences Getting Started in Cruising

Cruising *From Page 24*

gency flight home and having to rebuild a bilge pump and generator. What's the old saying "Bring Out Another Thousand." Well, that is a part of cruising, but all in all it is much less expensive than we originally anticipated.

Our sailing ventures have taught us well. It requires a lot of preparation and planning, but it also involves a serious commitment on the part of everyone. The more detailed the planning and the stronger the commitment, the more enjoyable the experience.

So often we hear, "I wish I could do

that" or "I wish we had done that." It can be done; and if you have the desire to go cruising, now is the time to start planning. We know not what the future holds, and it is much easier just to maintain the status quo.

From my perspective, it has been an exciting time in our lives. Had it not been for Carolyn's enthusiasm and tireless efforts my hopes and dreams of cruising would have quickly gone aground. Without the support and encouragement of our friends our travels would have been less fulfilling. Without the hopes and dreams of those that went before and allowing us an opportunity to share the dream with those that choose to follow, it would be somewhat meaningless.

School *From Page 13*

recent concert here. The bicycle was donated to Every Child Counts. Over 1100 raffle tickets were sold and the lucky winner is Ernest Pierre. The event raised approximately \$5,000 which will go toward the expenses of the construction of badly needed classrooms at the expanding school. Lyn Major, the principal, thanked everyone for their on-going support of this school for special needs students.

**Ads in
The Abaconian
Bring Results**

AA and Al Anon Meetings

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

The AlAnon group of Marsh Harbour meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m. at the Hope Town Library.

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

Please call 357-6511 for additional information.

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Marsh Harbour, Abaco

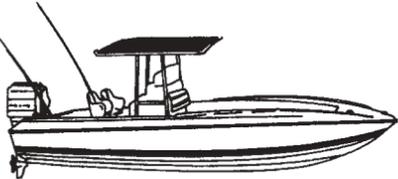
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Garnett Archer Mem. Blvd., Suite #6
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Emergency 242-554-8327
Email: dentalspecialistabaco@yahoo.com

- **Dr. Barry L. Russell** *March 24*
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Orthodontics (Braces)
- **Dr. Kendal Major** *March 15*
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Implants
- **Dr. J. Denise Archer**
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General Dentistry

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Minimum for 3 lines in one issue \$9
Picture and 4 lines \$25
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Guana Cay 2 bed, 1 1/2 bath cottage, furnished. Yearly rental. \$1300/ month. Call 242-365-5040

Hope Town Specialist. A collection of upscale homes with pools, private docks, etc., ideal for special occasions, reunions, honeymoons. Hope Town Hideaways 242-366-0224 or hopetown.com

Marsh Harbour 2 bed, 2 bath house, fully furnished, central A/C, fenced yard, ready to move in. on Nathan Key Drive. Call 367-3295 after 5 p.m.

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Marsh Harbour, commercial shop/ office spaces available in Royal Harbour Village shops. Great location, high traffic area. Please call for details. 242-367-3262

PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE

Cherokee - Yellow Wood, vacant property in view of Cherokee Sound and overlooking Windy Bay. 13,478 sq. ft. Call 366-2005 for more details \$100,000

PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE



Dundas Town apartment, near Grace Baptist Church, hilltop, fully furnished, 6 bedrooms, split level triplex, air conditioned rooms. For sale by owner. Asking \$350,000. Call 365-0448 or 392-1335. David Henfield or John Stuart

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

Leisure Lee Lovely home site with views of canal system and Sea of Abaco. For sale by owner. \$75,000 Call 242-362-1021

HOME FOR SALE

Lantana, Florida - 5 mi from PBIA
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Just refurbished - \$299,000
R. Denkin, owner/agent
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Lubber's Quarter, beachfront lot. 1 acre, dock and electric. \$525,000 Call 375-8313 or info@watercolourscottages.com

Tilloo Cay charming hideaway, 1 br/ 2 ba cottage, safe haven, tucked in cove with dock. Panoramic view of ocean in all directions from top of hill. On approx. 3.75 acres, sea to sea. Generator, battery and solar powered. Call 508-540-3240 or e-mail jylvworthington@adelphia.net

Treasure Cay canal lot, Galleon Bay, almost 1/2 acre, 122' water frontage with sea wall. \$300,000 Call 366-3010

NEW DELUXE CONDO FOR SALE



The Moorings at Lantana - on Intracoastal 5 miles from PBIA
2/2 indoor park - Marina space available
Call R. Denkin, owner/agent at 561-683-8810 M-F 9-5 pm or 561-641-9080
Leave message on tape

US Embassy Has New System for Visas

The United States Embassy in Nassau announced that as of February 22 it will be introducing a new system for processing non-immigrant visa applications.

According to a release from the embassy, the new system will help potential applicants get the information they need to prepare application materials and will eliminate the need for applicants to stand in long lines while waiting for a visa interview.

"Beginning February 22, 2006, all potential non-immigrant visa applicants must first contact the embassy's Visa Information Service before coming to the embassy in Nassau.

"The service, based on similar models operating today in more than 25 countries across Europe, Latin America and Asia, provides timely and accurate information to the public regarding how to

apply for a visa to visit the United States," said the release.

The embassy said callers to the Visa Information Service will be able to speak to operators who can provide information on the visa application process and its requirements and will be able to schedule an appointment for their visa interview, "working with the operator to find the most convenient time for an appointment."

The Visa Information Service will start accepting calls for appointments on February 16.

US Ambassador John Rood said, "This new system will give applicants a guaranteed date and time for a visa interview. The certainty of having a confirmed appointment will help everyone, but it will be particularly useful for applicants from the Family Islands and the Turks and Caicos. Right now they must travel to

Nassau without knowing exactly when they'll be able to get in. That won't be the case anymore.

"Since our workflow will be spread more evenly through the day and applicants will know exactly what documents they need to bring, we expect we'll be able to get people in and out in under one hour. That's a better system for us and for the travelling public," he said.

Potential applicants will need to get a Personal Identification Number (PIN) before placing a call. A PIN can be bought at a local distribution center, where instructions will also be received on how to place a call to the Visa Information Service.

A list of PIN distribution centers is available at < www.usvisascratchcards.info > , the embassy said.

Mark Your Calendars

Heritage Day

Hope Town
March 3 • 10-1:30

Reef Ball

Abaco Beach Resort
March 4 • 7 p.m.

Annual Yard Sale

Treasure Cay
March 4 • Morning

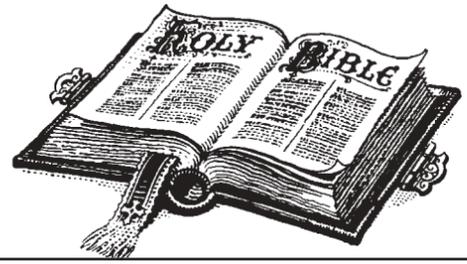
Barefoot Man Concert

Nippers on Guana Cay
March 5 • Noon

Pathfinders

Abaco Beach Resort
March 11 • 6 p.m.

Church Listing



New Vision Ministries



Our Mission
"Turning people into devout followers of Jesus Christ"

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

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Train, Love
and Send



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Prayer Meeting	6:00 a.m.	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	5:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.	Monday Night	7:00 p.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.	Wednesday Night F.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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Bishop Anthony Campbell

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(Presbyterian)

"Seek and Ye Shall Find"

Sunday Mornings at Nine
Welcome

Saturday Morning Children's Club at half past ten

Saturday and Sunday at Forest Heights Academy
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The Effect of Seismic Operations on Beaked Whales

Earlier this year at the Abaco Science Conference, Diane Claridge of the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey based in Sandy Point discussed the problem that beaked whales suffered when exposed to naval and seismic sounds emitted that military operations use. She has been studying marine mammals in Abaco waters since 1991 and was present at a major stranding of Balinville's beaked whales in March 2001 when 14 whales were stranded on the Sandy Point beach. Blainville's whales are a medium sized whale reaching 14 to 16 feet at maturity.

During their years studying these whales Ms. Claridge and her associates they have determined that the whales associate into groups by age. They feed mostly on squid.

The animals do not have teeth but the males have two tusks which are used in fighting other males. The males show many wounds from these fights. These mammals are capable of diving for very long periods, of over an hour, and at great depths, up to 1800 feet. The whales that Ms. Claridge has been studying were in the deep canyons between Abaco and Eleuthera and New Providence.

Since the canyon walls have a greater concentration of food, the dominant whales claim that area leaving the less desirable feeding areas to the less mature whales. This could be a reason why more immature whales stranded on the beach as they would have been closer to the ships in the area testing the anti-submarine sonar equipment.

When the strandings occurred, Dr. Claridge froze the heads of the animals which were sent to the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts for examination. It was determined that they died of hemorrhages in the brain and pressure in their ears.

The Abaco Science Conference brought together many scientists from a variety of disciplines who have done research on Abaco or in The Bahamas that are important to our environment. Ms. Claridge does research on marine mammals with her husband, Dr. Ken Balcombe.



Ms. Diane Claridge is shown here at the Abaco Science Conference.

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Green Turtle Club - multiple positions available. All applicants MUST possess an outgoing personality and have the ability to interact with upscale clientele. Pay commensurate with experience.
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H.G. Christie, Ltd. proudly announces that, in keeping with the company's commitment to career advancement, **Kathleen M. Albury, B.R.I.** has successfully met the requirements of and been awarded the status of **Broker** by the Bahamas Real Estate Association.



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- Ocean Waterfront
- Amazing Views
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- Furnished.
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- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
490 s.f. Apartment
- Workshop
- Great Views
- Near Settlement
#AS10689 - \$640,000.



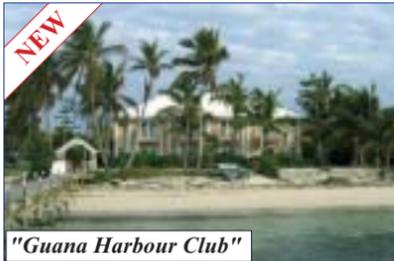
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Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club
- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
- 2,300 s.f. Residence.
- On 2 Lots totaling 10,180 s.f.
- Swimming Pool
- 100' Of Private Dockage
- Fabulous Views
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Elbow Cay - Hope Town
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- 1,300 s.f. Residence.
- 630 s.f. of open decks.
- 91' of Harbour Frontage
- Superb Views
- Great Rental History.
- Furnished.
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Great Guana Cay
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- 6,000 s.f. Hotel
- 365' of Water Frontage
- 60,027 s.f. - 1.37 acres
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- Immaculate Condition.
#AS10604 - \$685,000.



"Hope Town Apartments"

Elbow Cay - White Sound
- 7 Apartment Units
- Total of 3,800 s.f.
- 4 - 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Apartments
- 3 - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Apartments
- Central A/C
- All fully furnished
- Great Rental History
#AB156 - \$925,000.



"New Plymouth Inn"

Green Turtle Cay New Plymouth
- 10 Rooms
- 40 Seat Restaurant
- Pool - Patio
- 12,723 s.f. of land
0.29 acre
#AB27 - Price on Request



"Wings of the Dove"

Marsh Harbour Cove Estates
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 2,216 sq.ft. Residence
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Downstairs Apartment
- 14,500 s.f. of Land
- Good Central Location
#AS10598 - \$491,500.



"Sea-esta"

Great Cistern - Abaco
- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
- 1,680 s.f. Residence.
- 155' of Water Frontage
- 20,580 sq.ft - 0.5 acre of land
- Great Views of the cays
- Private
#TS10557 - \$483,000.



"Viking"

Man-O-War - Dickies Cay
- 5 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths.
- 3,360 s.f. Residence.
- 1,200 s.f. Covered Deck
- 0.84 Acres Sea-to-Sea
- Private 136' Dock
- Auxiliary Generator
- Superb Harbour Views
- Furnished.
#PS10693 - \$2,000,000.



"Heavenly Cove"

Marsh Harbour Little Orchard
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,800 sq.ft. Residence
- Brick Patio - Wooden Deck
- Pool
- 14,500 s.f. of Property
- Nicely Landscaped
#AS10601 - \$375,800.



"Surfside"

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
- 5 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
- 3,000 s.f. Residence
- Open Decks.
- 100' of Beachfront
- Over 1/2 Acre
- Superb Ocean Views
- Fully Furnished.
#AB123 - \$1,425,000.



"Sunsplash"

Man-O-War Cay
- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
- 1,921 s.f. Residence.
- 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 400 s.f. Guest Cabin
- 172' Ocean Beach Front
- 1.189 Acres
- Beautifully Landscaped
- Semi-Private Dock
- Fabulous Views
#AB150 - \$1,840,000.



"Summer Camp"

Scotland Cay
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,300 s.f. Residence
- 300' of Ocean Beach
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Guest House
- "Playhouse" with Bar
- Covered & Open Decks
- Fabulous Ocean Views
#AB160 - \$2,315,000.



"Coco Di Mama"

Great Guana Cay
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 930 s.f. Residence
- 750 s.f. of Decks
- 250' on Sea of Abaco
- 47,930 s.f. - 1.1 acres
- Ample space for additional Residences
- Great elevation
- Fabulous Views
- Dock Permit approved
#TS10559 \$1,385,000.



"British Colonial"

Man-O-War Cay Settlement
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
- 1,400 s.f. Residence.
- 330 s.f. Screen Porches
- Land - 15,000 s.f. Parcel
- 25,000 gals Fresh Water
- Beautifully Landscaped
- Furnished
#AS10596 - \$695,000.



"Casa Bueno"

Scotland Cay
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,470 s.f. Residence
- 124' of Ocean Beach
- 2,000 s.f. of Decks
- Central A/C
- 30,000 gal Fresh Water
- Fabulous Views
- Furnished
#AB161 - \$1,100,000.



"Watch Hill"

Great Guana Cay -
- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
- 1,686 s.f. Residence
- 725 s.f. Open Decks.
- 80' of Prime Beachfront
- Over 1/4 Acre
- Superb Ocean Views
- Semi-private Dock
- Fully Furnished.
- Great Rental History
#AB142 - \$1,380,000.



"Golden Palms"

Man-O-War Cay Settlement
- 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath.
- 1,270 s.f. Residence.
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
400 s.f. Guest House
- Workshop - Crow's Nest for great views.
- 0.373 Acre
- Beautifully Landscaped
#AS10585 - \$650,000.



"Villa Gladys"

Wood Cay Little Abaco
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,147 s.f. Residence
- 9,849 s.f. of land
- 12' easement to water to build dock.
#AS10593 - \$211,000.

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