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VOLUME 14, NUMBER 9, MAY 1st, 2006

Seminar Is Held for Local Government Training Seminar Included Local Govt. and Govt. Agencies

Volunteers Cleared Channel to Allow Water Flow



Many school students and other volunteers did the necessary manual work to improve water flow through culverts recently installed at Cross Harbour. A causeway built in the 1920s stopped water flow to about 40 acres. The volunteers opened channels and uprooted mangroves, allowing water to flow which will further deepen the channels. See story on page 13.

A two-day seminar brought elected, appointed and government employees together to get definition and understanding of their duties and roles in the local governing process with emphasis on legal and financial obligations. The event was held in the spacious New Vision Ministries building in Marsh Harbour on April 19 and 20. Speakers included persons from Nassau ministries as well as seasoned members of the local government system on Abaco. In-house lunches and generous coffee-breaks were an incentive to keep the attendees from straying.

The Hon. V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Local Government and Consumer Affairs, spoke at an opening ceremony held at Trumpet Assembly Church on April 19. He expanded on the seminar's theme of Competence, Integrity, Commitment.

He exhorted the attendees that whatever they did, they needed to have competency. It means doing what needs to be done and doing it correctly. He reminded them that they needed to study, to learn more about their duties and responsibilities. If they have not studied, then they are involved only for the ride; they are not seriously interested in doing a good job.

They need to serve to the best of their ability. The people who put them into that

Please see **Seminar**

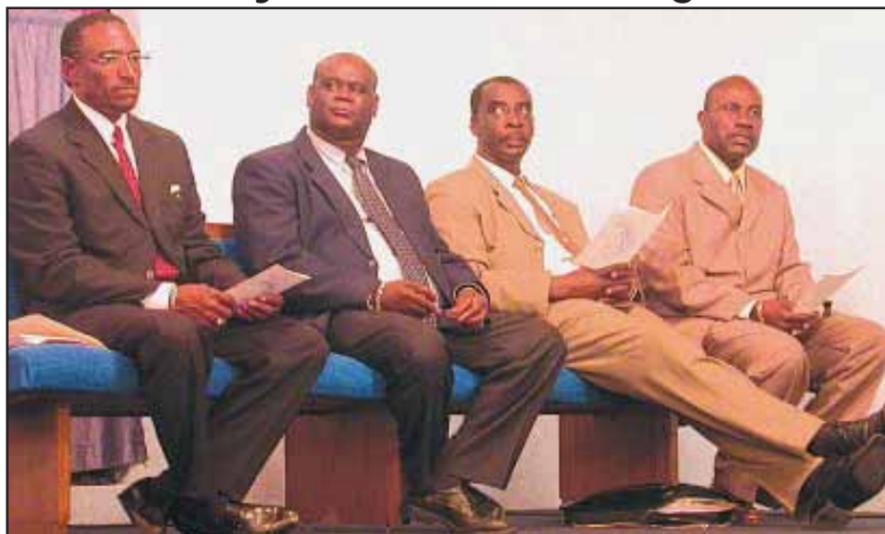
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BBC Tournament Attracted 78 Boats



The first leg of the Bahamas Billfish Championship was held at Boat Harbour in Marsh Harbour on April 17-22. Seventy-eight boats competed with Palawan winning this leg by catching three blue marlin and four white marlin. During the tournament 102 fish were caught and only three were brought to the dock. Only blue marlin are allowed to be brought in and these have to be longer than 105 inches. All catches are verified by digital camera photos that show time and date. The red streamer also indicates the day as different colored streamers were issued each day. See story on page 10.

Min Gray Exhorted to Always Do What Is Right



The opening ceremony of the training seminar for local government had the Hon. V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Local Government and Consumer Affairs, as keynote speaker. He is shown here on the left with Rev. Carlton Dorsette; Mr. Harrison Thompson, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government; and Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco. The ceremony was held at the Trumpet Assembly of God in Dundas Town.

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Working Closely with Govt. Agencies Was Stressed

Seminar

From Page 1

position are the bosses. They will know what they are like. Integrity is not for sale. Character is what a person is no matter what people think. Integrity will make a person do right even if he has to stand alone.

Mr. Gray told them to be honest in what they did for their people and to treat all people well. He warned them not to use their position to hurt people. He said, "Do what is right and God will take care of the rest."

The ceremony was followed by a review of each district's budget requests, allowing him to become familiar with and clarify their requests. This review by the Minister is a legal requirement of the Local Government Act. Each council met with Mr. Gray in the Central Abaco Council office after the evening ceremony.

Persons from all seven districts on Abaco attended the seminar including Grand Cay and Moore's Island. Their presence represents a commitment in time and expense to bring a delegation to Marsh Harbour from these two distant islands.

Permanent Secretary Harrison Thompson and Deputy Permanent Secretary Anthony McKinney, both with the Ministry of Local Government and Consumer Affairs, brought a wealth of knowledge during the seminar's question and answer periods. Questions ranged from routine but obscure issues within the shop and liquor licensing board and issues faced by the various town planning boards.

The seminar concluded with a dinner and certificate presentation at the Spinnaker Restaurant at Treasure Cay on April 20.

Initial Session

Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for



The Hon. V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Local Government and Consumer Affairs, spoke at the opening ceremony of the Local Government Seminar.

North Abaco, welcomed the participants and gave an interesting statistic that Abaco turns into Nassau between \$70-\$80 million yearly whereas Acklins and Crooked Island turn in \$6000 yearly. He wants to see Abaco move to a higher lever with more cooperation and consultation between the district councils instead of working separately. He would like to see quarterly meetings with the seven councils together.

Mr. Cash explained the duties of the five boards, Road Traffic, Town Planning, Licensing Board, Hotel Licensing and the Port Authority. He urged the members not to take biases into the meetings but make decisions based on good judgement. If the public objects to board decisions, they can appeal to the council. He did not feel that any councillors should serve as a board member because

that member would have to excuse himself from hearing an appeal. Only the three districts on the mainland of Abaco have these boards. In the other districts the councils undertake the work of the boards.

All monies are held by the council and the budget is set by the council. All Abaco councils are hoping for increases in their budgets for the next fiscal year of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. The Councils can allocate monies they have been given but cannot change the stipend that local government elected members receive. These stipends are set by central government and are \$400 for councillors, \$475 for chief councillors and \$75 for town committee members. The appointed members of the boards do not receive a stipend.

Town committees and councils need to work closely together and they need to listen to the wishes and complaints of the people. Boards need to work together, especially Town Planning and Licensing. Most council members have portfolios and need to work together with the department heads of central government here on Abaco that affect the areas of their portfolios.

The local government officials should work with the public to let them know that local government cannot do a lot but must make progress a little at a time. They need to keep the public informed. Meetings should be held in public places and are open to the public. They are required to have a public town meeting once yearly. Mr. Cash urged the councils to develop a three-year plan with goals for the three-year term that they serve.

Someone in the audience felt that there should be more than one town meeting per year. Mr. J. Anthony McKinney, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Consumer Affairs,

replied that the law requires one meeting per year but the councils can have more. The councils need to report back to the public how they are spending money.

Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator for Central Abaco, echoed the stance of Mr. Cash. He also urged the chief councillors to meet together in order to present a uniform program to central government. Local government and central government must work together. He felt that the town committees and councils should work closer with the statutory boards and central government agencies, even with non-governmental organizations including civic groups and churches. The people who voted need to be a part of the process. Nassau will take note if we all work together.

One person asked how to get the non-governmental organizations to assist with town projects. An example was given that in Freeport the non-governmental organizations helped the Freeport Council stretch their budget of \$1.2 million to \$5 million. Joint partnership of private groups with the Council have supplied computers for schools and other projects. This partnership did not give money to the council but worked with the council on projects.

Mr. McKinney pointed out that local government members needed to be very careful with any arrangement with non-governmental organizations as there can be hidden agendas. Any partnership should be assessed by central government and Cabinet approval may be required occasionally.

Mr. McKinney stressed that local government needs to show transparency to the public and members are encouraged to be open in all their work.

For more about the seminar see page 4

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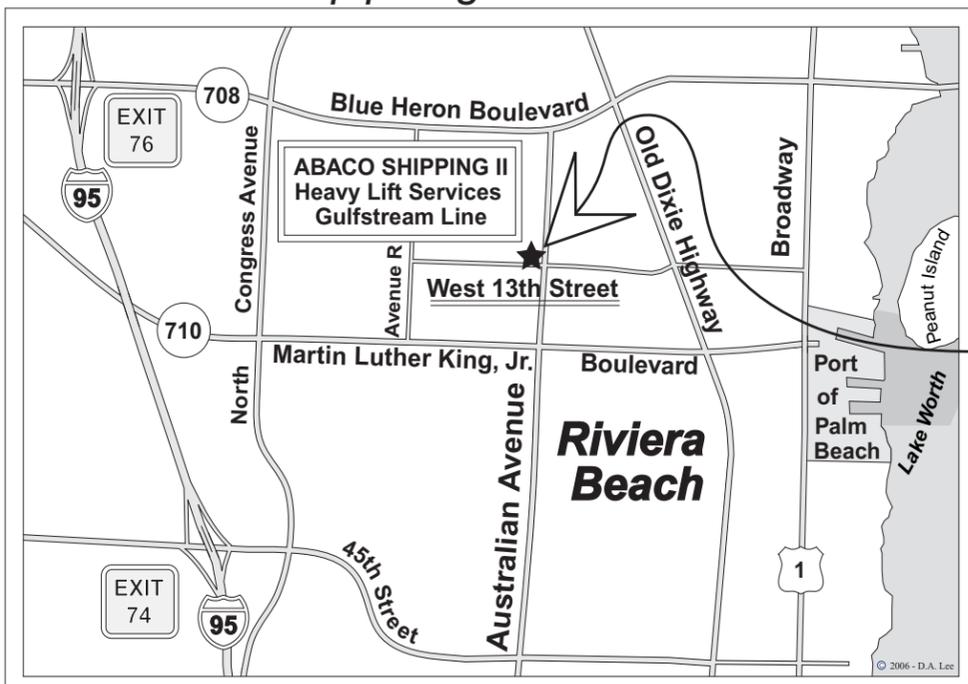
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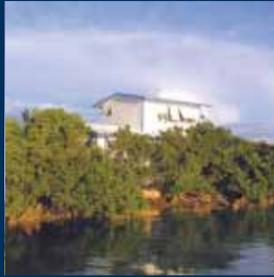
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LOTS & ACREAGE

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 BIG POINT - Beachfront property with 90 feet on the Atlantic Ocean, just south of a scenic rock cliff with oceanfront cave. US\$725,000. #2969 Kerry Sullivan: 242.366.0163

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Duties of Boards Were Discussed

Town Planning

Mr. Bill Swain is the chairman of the Town Planning Board of Central Abaco District and is passionate about town planning. He was one of five members on the first board of works set up on Abaco by Roland Symonette and now he is the only remaining member still alive.

When plans are submitted, they have to be reviewed by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Works before they are presented to Town Planning. He has a problem getting timely approvals from these departments. All new construction must show a permit number conspicuously at the construction site. The building inspector must inspect the property before construction can begin and at specific stages during construction.

Plans submitted to the Town Planning Board must be accompanied by a completed application form and three copies of the plan. The plan must conform to the Bahamas Building Code. When the plan is approved, two copies are returned to the applicant. One of these signed copies must be on site at all times. The plans must have complete electrical and plumbing details including the septic tank, and a site plan showing all boundaries, dimensions, grade of site and other structures in the area, including structures on adjoining properties. The plans need to show the LP gas storage and supply lines and need to include landscaping intentions and garbage enclosure. One story single family structures under 3000 square feet can be drawn by the homeowner but must still confirm to the building code and other requirements. All other plans must be drawn by an architect. Licensed draftsmen are permitted to draw some plans.

Mr. Swain is not a building inspector but he will advise when he sees wrong construction practices. He tries to work with people and will explain the problem and how to rectify it.

Mr. Swain regretted that Mr. Kirkland Taylor, a commissioner previously assigned to Marsh Harbour, is no longer here as he sometimes took the Board of Works out to lunch. Treats such as this never occur any more.

A question from the audience concerned the location of a liquor store and night club. Could one be built in the middle of town. Mr. Swain explained that the location of a liquor store or night club would be examined. There are criteria for turning down requests. Also the police, environmental health, works and health all have to approve. Mr. Swain explained that no liquor is allowed near a church. This is one rule that the Central Abaco Board of Works followed by the Town Planning Board has stood by for many years. The board must listen to the people and do what they want. There is no zoning except in Central Pines Estates so problems can come up. However, if persons have objections, they can write a letter to Town Planning and their objections will be considered.

Mr. McKinney emphasized that the town planning boards need to consult with the town residents and make long range plans for their towns. He felt plans need to be for at least a ten-year period and need to reflect the vision that the residents have for their town. These ten-year plans need to be presented to central government.

Another question asked by the audience concerned why web shops are allowed to stay in business, saying that they were really a front for a numbers operation.

Mr. Glen Russell, Deputy Chairman of the Licensing Board for the Central Abaco District, explained that businesses are granted licenses if they qualify. Sometimes businesses apply for a legitimate license, then switch to a numbers operation. It then becomes a police matter.

Mr. McIntosh explained that if a business was operating differently from what was approved, then different laws come into effect.

Mr. Donald Cash felt that the statutory boards should advertise all applications in the media. If they do not hear from the public, then they can assume that the application is acceptable.

One lady felt that the community should have the last say about a business. However, she felt that it was unfair to invest in a permitted building, then be denied a license. This illustrates the need for boards to work together.

Mr. McKinney continued that it is imperative that councils make long range plans for their communities. Zoning is critical to the proper growth of town. The communities have to be consulted before any plans can be made. Nassau has experts that can be consulted in various areas and who will come to Abaco to assist in the planning. With proper zoning this problem could not happen.

It was brought out that some persons bypass the local authorities and have licenses and permits granted in Nassau. Councillors were adamant that a strong message must be sent to Nassau to let us run our own affairs. Mr. Cubel Davis, Chief Councillor for Central Abaco District, wants any permits granted in Nassau to be brought to the attention of officials so the practice can be stopped. If this does not bring about results, he feels that the press should be notified.

Central Abaco Building Statistics

Annual Summary

	Applications Approved	Est. Value of Construction	Permit Fees
January 2005	19	\$3,702,509	\$6,829
February	10	\$1,879,822	\$3,272
March	8	\$1,522,342	\$2,839
April	14	\$1,823,400	\$3,100
May	11	\$3,666,960	\$6,040
June	The Town Planning Board was unable to meet due local government elections		
July	government elections		
August	government elections		
September	15	\$7,551,901	\$10,716
October	34	\$6,300,642	\$16,005
November	16	\$3,922,500	\$8,330
December	20	\$4,574,002	\$12,825
12 Month Total	147	\$34,944,081	\$69,956

Permit fees are based on square footage of buildings and not on the construction value which is given by the applicant.)

Ed. Note: The lack of activity in June, July and August is evident in this chart and a fault of the local government system. Residential and commercial construction permits were delayed for three months in Central Abaco due to an election of Local Government officials and the subsequent delay in appointments of the statutory boards. This could be avoided by a simple change requiring the boards and elected members to remain in place and function until the new officials are sworn in and the new boards are formed. The local government statutory boards perform many of the functions performed in Nassau by various civil service departments. The Civil Service in Nassau does not stop when national elections are held. Allowing the boards to function until new boards were formed would allow continuity of service to the public. Having the old boards in place would be a spur to the new council to quickly make the statutory board appointments.

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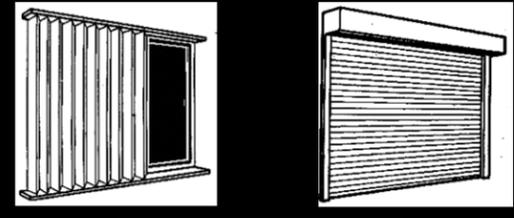
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Opinions of Residents Must Be Considered

Shop and Liquor Licensing Board

Mr. Jackson McIntosh, Chairman of the Licensing Board of the North Abaco District, discussed the functions of the Shop and Liquor Licensing Boards. Only the three districts on the mainland of Abaco have separate licensing boards. In the other four districts these decisions are made by the councils.

When licenses are issued, the goals are to prevent crime and disorder, to protect the public and to prevent public nuisance. Mr. McIntosh felt that there is blatant disregard for complying with the law, espe-

cially licensing. He changed a common saying by stating that "government is most corrupt when closest to the people," suggesting when the approval process is local, opportunities for abuse occur. It is difficult for licensing boards to be fair and impartial because they are under pressure by local people. Mr. McIntosh felt that it was hard for local officials to enforce the law and he stated that there is a need for someone from elsewhere to enforce the law.

Mr. McIntosh brought out a couple of problems he felt needed to be addressed. One is that Family Island residents do not know what licences or permits are under consideration. It is not good enough to post the list on the Administrator's wall. The

public needs to know more so the boards can make good decisions that reflect the wishes of the communities. Now the system requires that applications under consideration are posted for 14 days on a public bulletin board. These notice boards are either obscure or unavailable. He felt that a better method should be found.

Mr. McIntosh suggested the need for a booklet that listed the regulations so the public knows the requirements. He felt that communities need to be more creative in finding ways to improve their towns.

He brought out the fact that decisions by the Boards are not necessarily final. If individuals or businesses are not pleased with a decision, an appeal can be made to the

councils. From the councils, appeals can be made to the minister.

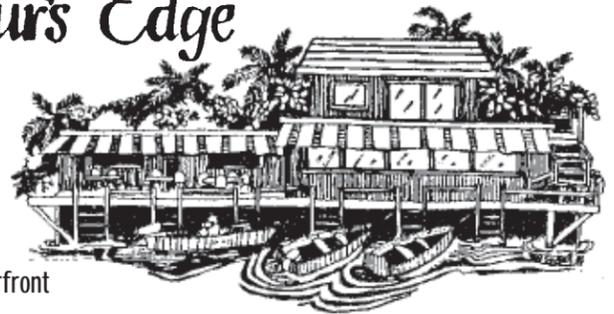
Mr. McKinney explained that before a licensing decision is made, board members should know what the community wants, what moral standards the community wants to adhere to. The community must know what applications are being considered before the board makes its decision so the board can know the town's wishes. "The will of the people is the will of God," he said. It is essential that the people have a say and their opinions must be respected. The process is abused if the people do not know.

For more on the seminar see page 18.



The New Vision Ministries building provided a comfortable location for the Local Government Seminar. A large auditorium seated the group comfortably while breaks and meals were catered and offered to one side, allowing good opportunities for participants to chat with others, discussing problems or talking with Nassau officials.

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News of the Cays

Green Turtle Cay Band Sponsors Are Honored

By Mirella Santillo

Members of the Green Turtle Cay Marching Band expressed their gratitude to their sponsors during a small ceremony held on April 8th.

In front of the Administrator's office Mr. David Bethell of the Green Turtle Cay Foundation, Mrs. Nicole Fleming, owner of Coco Bay Cottages, and Mrs. Lynn Johnson, manager of the Green Turtle Club, were presented with plaques to thank them for their generous donations, said Mrs. Marilyn Saunders, the band's treasurer. Also present at the ceremony were Mr. Floyd Johnson, the band's president, Mrs. Francis McIntosh, Secretary

and Mrs. Saunders.

The Green Turtle Cay Marching Band was formed at the end of 2004 and comprises 46 Green Turtle Cay youths ranging from eight years to 20 years old. They practice three times a week under the tutoring of Mr. Raymond Campbell, their music teacher. They have been performing in various local functions, the last one being a Good Friday church service and are preparing to play twice during the upcoming Heritage Festival scheduled for May 5-6.

Heritage Festival Planned for May 5th

By Mirella Santillo

May is around the corner and it is time once more for the Green Turtle Cay Island Roots Heritage Festival on May 5-7. Green Turtle Cay will celebrate the Conch Con-

nection with Key West.

Originally started by artist Alton Lowe in 1978 to mark the first year anniversary of the sisterhood between Key West and New Plymouth, the festival became dormant for many years. It was not until May 2004 that it was revived with the help of Mrs. Karen McIntosh and Mrs. Julie Farrington. The last two festivals were a great success. They offered fun, food, art and crafts, culture and many other activities related to the roots of the island. With a year in the planning, this third consecutive event is expected to offer even more entertainment.

The festivities will start on Friday morning and there will be poetry reading, music, school children's performances, a conch train ride, display booths, enough entertainment to keep you occupied until the opening ceremony scheduled for 6 p.m. An evening concert with The Brilanders from Harbour Island and by the number one band in the nation, The Gully Roosters, will end that first day. Saturday will not be less promising with a sculling dinghy race, calypso dance demonstration and

competition, old Bahamian games, bush medicine, rake n' scrape and more. A sailing tour on the Sea of Abaco aboard the M/S *Wolf*, the flagship of the Conch Republic, graciously brought over from Key West for the occasion, is planned at 3 p.m. both days. Many stands will offer delicious foods, conch salad, chicken n' rice, crab n' rice, to breads, guava duff, home made ice cream and cakes to mention a few. And, of course, tropical drinks will be a plenty! The Royal Police Force Marching Band will perform as well as the local community marching band and the Green Turtle Cay Junkanoo group will parade through town.

Last year's cultural event was archeology with talks by Mr. Robert Carr, a Florida archeologist who helped discover Indian and Loyalist sites in The Bahamas, and a presentation on the Lucayan Indians by author, Dr. Sandra Riley. This year's theme will be genealogy. Many Lowes, Currys and Roberts left Abaco to settle not only in Key West, but all over the United

Please see **Cays**

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Sponsors of the Green Turtle Cay Marching Band were honored by being presented with plaques. Shown above are, left to right, Mr. Floyd Johnson, president of the band; Mrs. Nicole Fleming, Mr. David Bethell, and Mrs. Lynn Johnson, sponsors; and Mrs. Francis McIntosh and Mrs. Marilyn Saunders, both with the band.



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More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 6

States. In the genealogy booth Dr. Gail Saunders, Director General of Heritage for The Bahamas, will lend her expertise along with some of these Bahamians who have traced their roots back to Green Turtle Cay. These, including Mrs. Joy Lowe Jossi and Mr. Philip Roberts, will be available to discuss family trees.

Many more are the activities planned for that weekend. It will be an event that will not only revive the fellowship between Key West and New Plymouth, but it will be a weekend of family fun and togetherness for all Abaconians.

On Sunday the ecumenical service will take place at 11 a.m. officiated by the minister of the Gospel

Chapel, Mr. Garth Roberts. All the churches on Green Turtle Cay will be combined and will participate in the service.

Mrs. Karen McIntosh, Chairman of the

Heritage Roots Festival Committee, wishes to thank the Committee members for their help, especially Ms. Jeritza Outten and to all the businesses and people of Abaco for their continued support.

Alton Lowe's Art Gallery Reopens

By Mirella Santillo

Renown Green Turtle Cay artist, Mr. Alton Lowe, is reopening his art gallery to the public for a period of two months, from May 1 to June 30.

Located just outside New Plymouth, the gallery is set up in a wing of the artist's home.

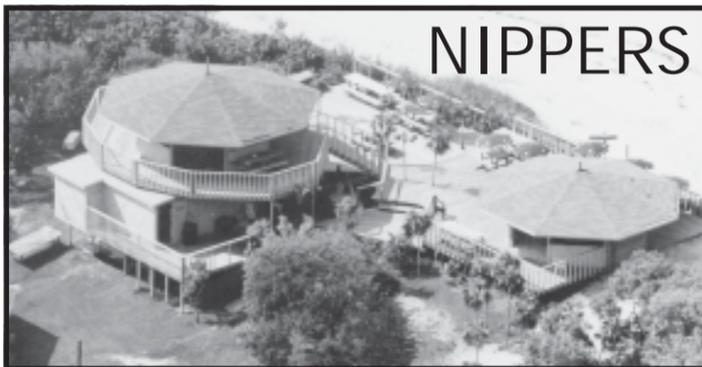
Meandering amidst a large landscaped garden boasting beautiful tropical flowers which have been the inspiration of many of the artist's paintings, the driveway leads you to the top of a hill at the foot of a majestic Victorian mansion that commands a spectacular view of the ocean and the harbor. There could not be a better setting for the display of paintings encompassing all aspects of Bahamian life: a couple feeding the seagulls, Anglican children after Mass, a man sculling a dinghy, a man walking along a lane in Hope Town.

Please see **Cays**

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Alton Lowe's paintings depict Bahamian landscapes scenes, flora and people. This picture of a Junkanoo drummer is on display at the art gallery located at the artist's residence on Green Turtle Cay. The gallery will be open for the months of May and June.



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The Editor Says . . . **Uniting for a Better Deal**



The Bahamas' geography presents government with difficult choices as it is an archipelagic island nation scattered over 700 miles. The logistics of serving the diverse needs of these islands are awkward and expensive. There are 32 district councils in the local government system throughout the Family Islands, each clamoring for money and attention.

Furthermore, Abaco is an archipelagic island state with six towns on offshore islands, presenting logistical challenges at the local level. With seven district councils, Abaco has 20 percent of the local government councils.

If that is not challenging enough, the Hope Town Council represents an archipelagic district with responsibility for Elbow Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Guana Cay. For good measure, they get to look after Lubbers Quarters, Tilloo Cay, Lynyard Cay and a few small inhabited cays in-between.

Abaco's local government began with three districts, North, Central and South. Grand Cay and Green Turtle Cay were part of the North Abaco District which extended south to Treasure Cay. Without being represented as a separate entity, the Leisure Lee residential area formed the southern boundary of the North Abaco District.

Moore's Island was included with South Abaco whose district extended north to include Cherokee and Little Harbour.

Central Abaco was and still is the largest district in terms of funding and activity in the Family Islands outside of Freeport. It was originally comprised of Spring City, Marsh Harbour, Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay.

The districts in North, Central and South Abaco are classified as Schedule Two councils. The workload is shared among the council, town committees and five statutory boards. Town committee members are elected by popular vote and they chose representatives to form the councils.

The five boards are comprised of appointed members chosen by council. They look after 1) building permit applications by Town Planning Board, 2) liquor, bar and shop licenses by the Licensing Authority, 3) dock and maritime matters by the Port Authority, 4) Hotel Licensing is solely

oriented to hotel issues, and 5) Road Traffic Authority issues taxi, bus and rental car franchises. It looks after other road traffic matters and are made up of representatives of the three districts on mainland Abaco connected by road.

With the second three-year term, government separated Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay and made this a Schedule Three Council. The thinking seemed to be that these three island towns had unique issues to contend with and awkward transportation links to Marsh Harbour for attending meetings.

Similarly, Grand Cay and Moore's Island were divorced from their respective parent councils and given a Schedule Three designation. At the recent fourth term of local government which began in July 2005, Green Turtle Cay was separated from the North Abaco District and given a Schedule three designation. Attending meetings in Cooper's Town was awkward and expensive for the Green Turtle Cay representatives.

These Schedule Three councils operate without statutory boards but all matters are handled by the five or seven elected members which form the council. The thinking behind this is that a single governing body on an isolated island settlement can efficiently manage the town affairs. This is generally the case.

Although Hope Town District operates this way, it has three separate towns to look after, each with an expanding and thriving economy. Furthermore, Man-O-War and Guana Cay are four and eight miles away respectively from Hope Town by boat. Since there is no commercial traffic between these three towns, ferries must be chartered to hold meetings or use private boats. This is expensive.

A local government seminar concluded

on April 20 in Central Abaco which brought representatives together from the seven district councils and the 15 statutory boards. Complaints were heard, suggestions made, rules and regulations were discussed and explained.

We are into our fourth term of local government with very few changes to the original structure. Changes are being contemplated and are expected to be presented to Parliament this year. Any changes are believed to be minor adjustments to the system.

During the seminar, several speakers representing central government strongly urged the chief councillors to get together, perhaps quarterly, to exchange ideas, discuss common problems and, when appropriate, represent Abaco as a unified body when dealing with Nassau. The Act urges district councillors to "cooperate between themselves for the better welfare of the island and of the districts which they represent."

Several of the councillors are now aware of the benefits that might come from such a meeting. The first Abaco get-together of this nature may occur within the next three to four weeks.

It was repeatedly emphasized that all the local government meetings are open for public observation. An annual town meeting is required by all town committees in which the public can interact with committee members. Open meetings can be held more often if they are found to be useful.

Whether Abaco's economic success is due to ability, location, natural resources or other factors, we should not be penalized by inadequate funding by central government, whether direct funding for maintenance expenses or capital improvements to the island infrastructure. The framers of the Local Government Act originally con-

sidered allowing areas to receive a percentage of the revenue they generated. That idea was discarded when they realized that only Grand Bahama and Abaco contribute significant revenue to the Treasury. All revenue is sent to the consolidated fund and government then allocates funding to the 32 local government districts.

However, government is beginning to realize that one-size does not fit all; neither one rule nor one set of circumstances. The archipelagic nature of these far flung islands requires innovative and fresh thinking and may require that different islands operate under different rules.

In this vein, it is possible that the percentage funding originally considered would be appropriate for some districts, particularly those islands or districts which generate substantial revenue for the treasury. Economic success and growth by the private sector should be paralleled by adequate funding by government.

Our success has meant growth which in turn requires increased support in utilities, education, transportation, garbage removal and other services. Abaco's growth is acknowledged and praised by politicians. However, government's response to this growth in services or funding has been dismal.

The national census six years ago showed Abaco to lead the country in population growth. That trend remains but government's funding has essentially remained constant.

Hopefully, some or all of our seven district chief councillors can find the time to have lunch together to discuss the common issues and approach government as a unified body speaking for Abaco. Local government supported by the private sector needs to pressure central government for adequate funding to support our growth.

Letters to the Editor

Clarifying My Position

Dear Sir,

Let any of my PLP friends extract any ill-conceived notion that I have jumped ship and am now a card carrying member of their (PLP) party because of my criticism of the Ingraham administration for not getting anything accomplished at the Marsh Harbour airport, I think a further offering of my current views on politics would be in order.

Admittedly, I am still just a little angry about the fact that it was arrogance that helped the FNM to get booted from office in 2002. Therefore, I believe it to be an accurate assessment that the PLP won the last general election due to the FNM's arrogance, as much as by way of their own merit. Considering this, the urban legend that tells of the late Sir Lynden Pindling calling both Hubert Ingraham and Perry Christie to his death bed and telling Mr. Ingraham, the Prime Minister at the time, to promise that he would give Mr. Christie

a chance at being Prime Minister seems almost believable considering how it almost appeared intentional on the part of Mr. Ingraham in losing the last general election, given his actions and words at the time. Truth, it is said, is stranger than fiction.

Let's understand something here. I take a great deal of pride in the fact that I helped to break the spell on the Bahamian people in 1992 when the FNM finally defeated a very corrupt and aimless PLP. In the ten years that the FNM held office, their accomplishments far out-weighed those of the PLP in their last ten years in office. Victory was sweet, and the fact that the Bahamian people as a whole were benefitting from the actions/policies of the FNM - the party that I supported - was a good feeling.

I find it very ironic that those who promise us a bright future today - the "new" PLP - are some of them, the sons and daughters of those who denied us that future in years gone by, and, in fact, some of them are the very same individuals. I wonder, is Perry Christie now living a part of his Pindling death bed promise, in that it is he who is now providing hope to Abaco, and not the Abaconian, Hubert Ingraham? Hmmm.

I'll believe that Abaco is, in fact, getting a much deserved, newer airport facility when it actually happens - that is to say when construction of everything that we have been promised is complete. I am hopeful, but none-the-less doubtful.

I'm sure that those who were offended by my remarks criticizing Hubert Ingraham will get over it, as will those who might be put off by my lack of excitement about the deeds of the PLP thus far. I reserve the right to question and/or rebuke any mortal man that seeks any position of leadership over me, be it political, religious, or otherwise.

Finally, there is only one Man whom I will follow without question, and that is because He has proven His love for me already. Furthermore, He has promised me a lot more than any Prime Minister can, and He is capable of delivering on that promise. Jesus Christ is his name. Do you know who He is?

Billy Roberts

Appreciates the MH Fire Department

At this time last year I wrote an in-depth article as a reporter for this newspaper on the dedication of the firefighters of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade and the excellent job they had done fighting the many bush fires which had threatened Marsh Harbour, Casuarina Point and Bahama Palm Shores. With very limited equipment and resources they managed to prevent the fires from damaging any of the homes in these areas.

This year I write in appreciation from the perspective of a homeowner whose house was recently threatened by fire and the very personal insight I gained into the work of these valiant firefighters. About 11 a.m. on April 4 I looked out of the window and saw what I thought was a huge black rain cloud lying over my house. I hurried out to fetch in some washing I had on the line only to discover that this was not a rain cloud but a huge cloud of black smoke. As I went out of the door, I heard a sound as of a rushing train and saw a huge ball of fire hurtling towards me from an adjacent spare lot. Smoke was already engulfing the end of my driveway. I hurried down to the road where I discovered fire engines and

Please see **Letters**

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 8

firefighters already on the scene working to prevent fire from engulfing my neighbour's house opposite from me.

Four fire engines were in place along the road with a number of firefighters at the ready. It was obvious from watching the operation, under the expert leadership of Fire Ground Incident Commander Steve Skulnick that there was a detailed plan in place which was expertly followed. He was assisted by Michael Parrotti, Norwel Gordon and Claude Sawyer. They told us that there was not enough water to fight fires in the forest, but they would do all they could to prevent the fire jumping the road and they would make sure that they protected every home.

Unfortunately for the firefighters, there was quite a strong breeze that day, which made their job even harder. Though the wind spread the fire throughout the Great Cistern area and into Murphy Town, the firefighters did a miraculous job of saving every house even though at times it looked to me as if it would be an impossible task. Fortunately, they knew what they were doing and were confident. Mr. Gordon, Retired Fire Chief, who never gives up on the job, drove up and down the entire day throughout the affected area, keeping his very experienced eye on things.

By the date the fires reached the Great Cistern area the firefighters were already exhausted having fought fires since the 28th of March, but they soldiered on with cheerful countenance and encouragement to worried homeowners. During the previous week they had already had to deal with fires across a huge area from the S.C. Bootle Highway and Bahama Coral Island in the north to Spring City in the south. That meant going without a lot of sleep, inhaling intense smoke for hours on end and having to take time off work, sometimes unpaid.

These dedicated and generous spirited people put their lives in danger for us in order that we can be safe and still have homes to live in. A great, big thank you to ALL you wonderful people.

Jennifer Hudson

Great Cistern resident

Support the White Paper

The Editor,

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is my wish to encourage all registered

voters in the Hope Town District to exercise their right and add their support to allow our beautiful settlements to continue to develop in a sensible manner so that our children and children's children can enjoy the beauty and tranquility that my parents, grandparents and great great grandparents helped to build.

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed Bye Laws that Chief Councillor Wayne Hall and his fellow Councillors have taken so much time and effort to draw up. I thank them for myself and my family for their efforts to enact common sense guidelines that reflect our wishes to protect and preserve the place that my family have called "home" for centuries.

Yours faithfully,

Leonie "Gladys" Jones (nee Cash)

Disappointed Citizens Are Denied Affordable Housing

To the Abaconian:

The Ministry of Housing in The Bahamas has caused a rage on the Island of Abaco concerning the new "supposed to be" affordable homes.

We, the Abaconian families, are furious with the Department of Housing and the Bahamian Government because of their negligence. Housing is charging \$105,000 for a three bedroom, two bath home on Abaco whereas in Freeport these same houses are costing \$70,000. This is unfair to Abaco.

Housing made calls and told us that we were awarded one of the houses. They put the houses on hold but never called us to say that. Then they gave the houses to another set of people but never called us to say that. The original people approved for the houses made arrangements and plans to move in these houses and had to find out on the streets that they weren't awarded the house anymore. We think this is poor treatment and unfair to those that really need a home of their own.

On another level, housing has awarded the houses to single persons when there are families with three, four and five kids that really need those homes. Persons that already have homes have been awarded affordable homes. This is so unfair.

We feel that the government needs to deal with this matter. Every Minister in Parliament is looking out for what they can get for themselves. It's time that decisions be made wisely, looking out for the Bahami-

ans that need help. The ones that need it most are always the ones to get screwed.

Abaco needs the attention of the Prime Minister in this matter as soon as possible.

Disappointed Abaconians Supports Baker's Bay Project

Dear Editor:

I write respectively in response to two letters published in newspapers in Nassau written by Mr. Robert Emory Miller and Mr. Chester. Thompson.

I would like for the record to show that Baker's Say Golf and Ocean Club has always maintained that anyone who wants a tour of the project need only to make a request at the Development Office in Marsh Harbour and a tour would be arranged. To date, less than a handful have actually accepted this offer, and those who did were amazed and delighted at what they saw. I suspect that both of the aforementioned persons did not take the time to come to Baker's Bay before casting judgment.

I write this letter not to "The Prime Minister of the Bahamas", but as a Bahamian I write this letter to "MY" Prime Minister of "MY" Bahamas and to all of my "FELLOW" Bahamians. Let it be understood that I am a "nationalist" first and foremost and I love my country. As such., if I saw anything that was contrary to the Baker's Bay ETA or best practices for protecting our precious environment, I am in the position to address these concerns and would be the first to set things in order. I firmly believe that the affairs of my country should be dealt with by those who were democratically elected to do so, without fear, prejudice or interference.

To those that would venture an attempt to influence our Prime Minister without knowing or presenting the facts, they ought to know that decisions made in this country and for this country are made in order to improve life for Bahamians.

My fellow Bahamians, I would like to allow you to take a look into my life and experience since I began my new career at Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club. I began on September 19, 2005, and from the interview I knew this place was special. As I was being introduced to the executive team as a potential employee I remember vividly the warmth and kind reception I got. I was given a tour of the entire site and was appraised of every aspect of the development. My questions were answered very candidly and I appreciated that. At the end of my tour the VP for Development gave me a copy of the EIA and invited me study it and learn as much as I could because it was the gospel according to Baker's Bay Club. Immediately I knew this was the place for me.

After 14 years working at BEC I decided to tender my resignation and join Baker's Bay Club. Friends, I tell you, the two best decisions I have every made in my life was marrying the woman I did and joining Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club.

I have just completed my six-month tenure and my position remains secure. I never one day wondered to myself if this was the right decision I made. I knew in my heart that my being in Baker's Bay was by divine order. I can't sleep at night because I look forward to the morning when I catch the ferry to go to work to be with my extended

Please see **Letters**

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78 Boats Competed in BBC Tournament

By Jennifer Hudson

From April through June each year the islands of Abaco welcome hundreds of boaters here for a series of major fishing tournaments. The first leg of the prestigious Bahamas Billfish Championship was held April 17-22 at Boat Harbour. The Bahamas Billfish Championship is a series of five tournaments which has grown to be a world-class event. This year three of the tournaments are based on Abaco: the Marsh Harbour Championship, April 17-22; the Treasure Cay Championship, June 4-9 and Boat Harbour Championship, June 18-23. Of the other two, one is based in Harbour Island, April 30-May 5, and for the first time this year a tournament will be held at Emerald Bay, Exuma, from May 14-19.

This year, according to tournament organiser, Mr Al Behrendt, all five tournaments are sold out. During the first and last tournaments, both of which will be held at the Abaco Beach Resort, 78 boats will be fishing. For the third tournament in Treasure Cay the maximum capacity is 70 boats, and there is a wait list of seven or eight boats. Harbour Island is alleged to be a very popular venue but has only a 53-boat capacity so since 60 boats have registered for that leg some people will use private docks while others will anchor out. The marina at Emerald Bay, Exuma, is still being completed and can presently offer only 50 boat slips. This is the first time a major tournament has been held in the South Central Bahamas. The fishing boats come from all over

the United States including Louisiana, the Carolinas, New Jersey, Maryland, Florida, and quite a few from Texas.

This year the weather cooperated well for the fishermen. Though there was a west wind during the first day, which usually produces slow action, they did, in fact, do extremely well in the number of fish caught that day. Wednesday was very calm, Thursday was Lay Day and Friday and Saturday saw winds of 15 to 20 knots out of the southeast which is a good wind direction for fishing.

Though no records were set, two very big fish were brought into the dock. Both were blue marlin, one weighing in at 628 pounds and the other at 718 pounds. The only fish that are boated and brought to in are blue marlin, and in order to be boated must be longer than 105 inches. All white marlin, sailfish and spearfish must be released.

Each time there is a release the boat will call into the recording team at Boat Harbour and the data is noted. They call in when they first have the fish on the line and then again when it is released. A photograph is taken of each catch and on arrival at Boat Harbour the memory chip from the camera is presented for recording and catches are verified using these time and date stamped digital images. Affidavits are also signed by all participants fishing on the team to further confirm that the fish was released in accordance with tournament rules.

The final results for the Marsh Harbour championship were:

1. Palawan / Captain Thomas Watson, III, - three blue marlin, four white marlin.
2. Captain Gas / Captain Jeffrey Miller, - four blue marlin.
3. Joanna / Captain Bill Gallo - three blue

marlin, one white marlin.

Fishing is allowed within a 60-mile radius from the resort but, according to Mr Behrendt, there is no reason for a boat to run that far from the Abaco Beach or Treasure Cay resorts in order to find good fishing grounds. There are various bottom structures with names such as "Mushroom" and "Jurassic Park" where the fishermen know to find heavy concentrations of fish.

Lines are allowed into the water at 8 a.m. and must be pulled in by 4 p.m. unless a fish on the line. Boats are free to go out at any time in the morning to be in place for lines in the water at 8 a.m. This enables the slower boats to be ready without penalty.

A website gives up-to-date scores on a daily basis so that neighbours and family back home can see exactly how their fishermen friends are doing at any given time.

The Bahamas Billfish Championship has taken place annually since 1973. All tournaments are governed by a uniform set of rules containing minimum lengths for qualifying billfish, line class, fishing hours and entry fees. Anglers can fish any or all of the tournaments with cumulative points determining the overall Bahamas Billfish Championship.

In a major move towards conservation of the species, the Bahamas Billfish Championship established a minimum size for billfish. This has significantly increased the number of billfish released during the tournament as well as increasing the overall average weight for boated fish.

The continual growth of the Bahamas Billfish Championship means greater economic impact for tourism in The Bahamas. It is estimated by the BBC committee that approximately \$20,000 per week per person is spent on accommodation, airfare,

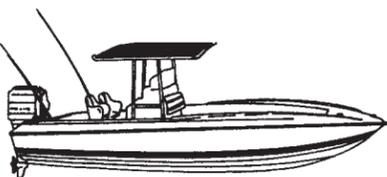


This is one of three blue marlin brought to the dock during the first leg of the Bahamas Billfish Championship held at Boat Harbour on April 17-22. It was caught by Bob Horneier on the boat D'Nile on April 21 and weighed in at 493 pounds.

fuel, groceries, entertainment, travel, liquor and other supplies. During any one particular tournament, each boat burns about 800 gallons of fuel which means a great boost

Please see BBC

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family guardian's calendar photo contest a celebration of nature

14 winning entries will appear in Family Guardian's 2007 calendar. Winning entries receive a gift certificate valued at \$400 each. Entry deadline is May 31, 2006

RULES

- 1 Family Guardian's Annual Calendar Photo Contest is open to all photographers. The title for the company's 2007 calendar will be "A CELEBRATION OF NATURE". Photographs may be of any subject (animate or inanimate) or a scene which is a striking example of nature as found in The Bahama Islands. All photographs must be taken in The Bahamas.
- 2 DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS MAY 31, 2006.
- 3 All entries are to be delivered to Family Guardian's Corporate Centre, Village and Eastern Road Roundabout, Nassau, between 9:00am and 5:00pm weekdays only. Envelopes should be marked "Calendar Contest".
- 4 All entries must be accompanied by an official entry form, available at any Family Guardian office or when published in the newspapers.
- 5 Only colour images in horizontal format will be considered. Images must be provided as 35mm film or digital images on CD. 35mm film can be positive (slides) or colour negatives. Digital images must be of high quality (2700 x 2100 pixels or larger). Digital images showing signs of photo manipulation or compression will be rejected. To ensure the best colour reproduction, digital images should be supplied in RAW, TIFF or high quality JPEG and in the original colour format the camera uses (LAB or RGB). All entries must be supplied with prints which will be used in the judging process. (Note: prints submitted without 35mm slides or negatives or CDs will not be eligible.) The photographer's name and photo subject should be written on the reverse of the print.
- 6 Judging of entries will be based on beauty, interest, composition, colour, originality and quality of photograph. Preference will be given to fauna photographed in its natural state, rather than in captivity. The photographs selected will appear in Family Guardian's 2007 calendar. The decision of the judges will be final.
- 7 All entries are submitted at the owner's risk. It is the company's intention to return all entries in their original condition. However, Family Guardian will assume no liability for any loss, damage or deterioration.
- 8 A gift certificate - valued at \$400 will be presented for each of the photographs selected. More than one entry from a single photographer may be selected. Photographic credits will be given in the calendar. The number of entries per photographer is limited to a maximum of 5 photos.
- 9 The winning photographs, along with all publication and reproduction rights attached thereto, become the property of Family Guardian and the company reserves the right to use such in the future.
- 10 Employees of Family Guardian, its affiliated companies or family members are not eligible.
- 11 Previously published photos not eligible.

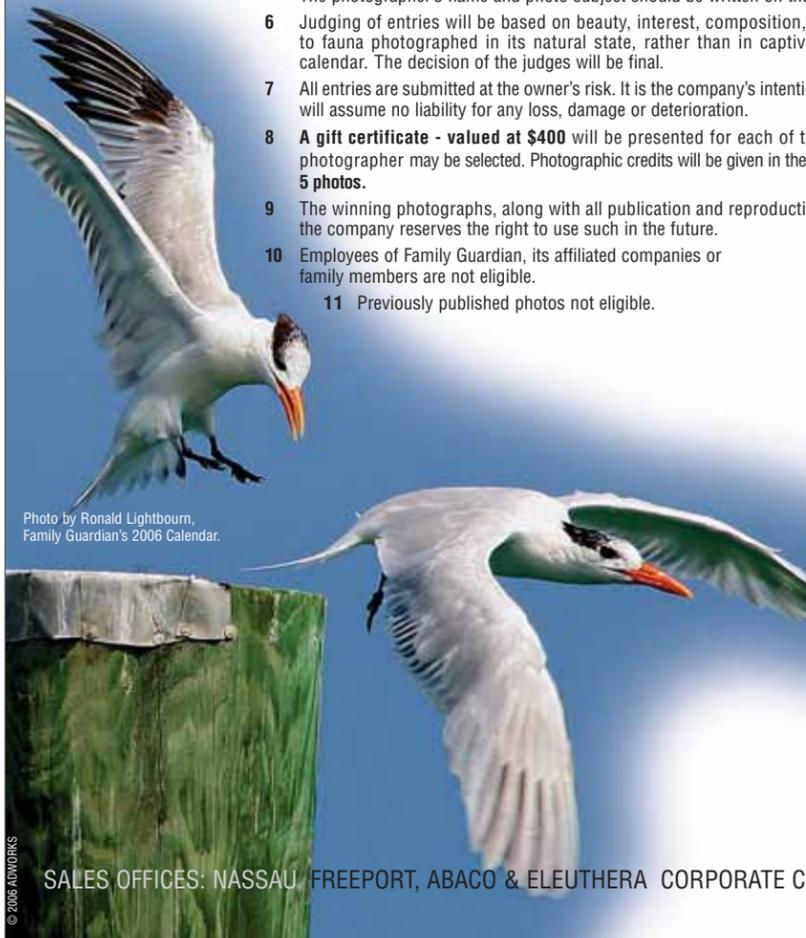


Photo by Ronald Lightbourn,
Family Guardian's 2006 Calendar.

2007 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME

TEL BUSINESSHOME

P.O. BOX STREET ADDRESS.....

I agree that in the event one or more of my entered photographs is selected as a winner in the 2007 Family Guardian Calendar Photo Contest it will become the property of Family Guardian Insurance Co. Ltd., and I assign to Family Guardian all rights pertaining to its use in any way whatsoever. I also confirm that the photos entered in this contest were taken in The Bahamas by the undersigned and have not been previously published.

SIGNATURE

DATE NUMBER OF PHOTOS ENTERED.....
(maximum of 5)

Return with photos to: Calendar Contest, Family Guardian Corporate Centre, Village & Eastern Road Roundabout, Nassau, Bahamas
ENTRY DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2006



SALES OFFICES: NASSAU, FREEPORT, ABACO & ELEUTHERA CORPORATE CENTRE: EAST BAY STREET, NASSAU P.O. BOX SS 6232

Anglers Caught 102 Billfish, Released 98

BBC *From Page 10*

to gasoline retailers here.

Entry fees alone are \$1,500 for each of the BBC tournaments. A large proportion of this money makes its way back into the Abaco economy as these funds are used to pay for social events, award banquets at the end of each tournament and the championship rings, which are designed and made by Abaco Gold, which donates five percent of the money received to the BBC scholarship fund.

The BBC scholarship fund was set up by the steering committee in the year 2000. This scholarship programme, which is ad-

ministered by the Lyford Cay Foundation, assists Bahamians studying marine biology at college level.

Normally, only the crews stay aboard the boats, which means that boat owners, their families and friends are all accommodated either at the resort or in facilities within the communities of Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay. The tournament organisers and Mr. John Neophytou, Manager of the Abaco Beach Resort, state that they try to minimise the number of functions at the host resort in order to spread the dollars throughout the community, thus allowing other establishments such as Java, Sapodillys, Hummingbird and the new Curly Tails to enjoy

an increase in business. During the final three tournaments, many women and children accompany the fishermen as by that time schools in the U.S. are out for sum-

mer. While the men are out fishing, other family members make use of rental cars,

Please see **BBC**

Page 23



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Celebrates
**Employee of the Year
2005**



Left Mr. Yvenair "Jarvie" Bienaime, Employee of the Year at The Abaco Club on Winding Bay, right Mr. Floyd Swain, General Manager at The Abaco Club.

The Abaco Club on Winding Bay has recently announced, honored and rewarded its employee of the year.

The hard working, focused individual goes by the name of Yvenair Bienaime but is dependably known by all of his coworkers and friends as "Jarvie."

The bountiful rewarding employee incentive program launched a year ago by Mr. Peter de Savary, founder and chairman of the Abaco Club, has rewarded many individuals on staff at the club for superb service and job dedication. Mr. Bienaime is the first to receive the coveted employee of the year award.

Jarvie began his tenure with The Abaco Club at its inception almost three years ago. He came on board as the automobiles' detailer for the company's fleet of vehicles. He performed all of his duties with excellence.

During his first year of employment he demonstrated dedication, dependability and the desire to excel. All of his superb work ethics did not go unnoticed by Mr. Mark Scott, Project Director, and many others at the club, subsequently affording Jarvie a promotion.

When the project went into the construction phase, he was awarded a new position and more responsibility as the leader of his own Grounds Works team. Having no reservations as it relates to hard work, he aced this also.

Jarvie presently holds the position as the company's first Transportation Manager as he continues to climb the ladder of success.

Some of the perks associated with winning the title are an all expense paid, one-week stay for two at any of the other magnificent properties in the Mr. de Savary's chain of exclusive retreats and one thousand dollars cash spending money. He has previously won the Employee of the Month as well as the same for the quarter.

Mr. Floyd Swain, the General Manager at the club, said, "Jarvie has always demonstrated commitment to the job. Give him any task and one can consider it done. We also wish to encourage all of our employees to endeavor their best as all are qualified for the same and more, it is entirely up to the individual."

Mark Scott, who has worked with Jarvie from day one, had this to say, "Jarvie joined the Club in the very early days before we broke ground at Winding Bay. He has helped in so many ways they are too numerous to mention. What really stands out is his willingness to do whatever is needed when it is needed and his desire to succeed in life professionally. I fully expect to see Jarvie become a successful businessman in his own right one day."

Photo & Article by Stone McEwan, Public Relations & Club Ambassador
The Abaco Club on Winding Bay, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

The BTC Connection



May 1, 2006

Vol. One - Issue Two

BTC Partnering With the Youth!!



This past week BTC presented the athletes of the Junior C.A.C Games with backpacks and T-shirts for their trip to the Guadalupe. The team will be traveling

to Guadalupe on Thursday, April 13, 2006, where they will compete against a number of Caribbean countries. BTC wishes the athletes all the best and we

will continue to support the youth of our country as they strive to bring home the gold!

Mike Sands (B.A.A.A.) and Mrs. Margo Gibson (BTC).

Pictured are the Junior CAC athletes,

BTC Presents AMC Reps With Prizes for Fun Walk



BTC presented Darren Bastian and Alana Ingraham, Atlantic Medical Center (AMC) representatives with 2 Motorola Razr phones and twenty-five (25) \$3 Tonique

Williams Darling Signature Hello® cards for the AMC Fun Walk.

Pictured (left to right): Alana Ingraham AMC, Darren Bastian and Margo Gibson BTC.

The BTC Connection Radio show TUNE IN & WIN!!!



Episode 2 of the BTC Connection Radio show was hot, hot, hot! Featured guests were Mr. Antonio Stubbs, Acting Senior Vice President & Chief Technology and Information Officer (CTIO) and Mr. Henry Romer, Acting Vice President of Northern Bahamas. Also on hand was host Clint Watson, and co-host Mr. Leon Williams, Acting President & CEO of BTC.

Pictured is Mrs. Margo Gibson (right) of BTC's Marketing & PR Department

presenting the first prize trivia question winner Mr. Shelton Lightbourn (left) with a Motorola Razr. Other BTC Connection radio show trivia question winners included, Kelly Moss who also won a Motorola Razr, L. Forbes winner of a nokia phone and Bridgette Smith won a \$20 Hello card.

Tune in every Tuesday night on ZNS 1540 AM from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm as BTC keeps you connected to the world.

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Creek Restoration Is a Success

By Lindsey Delaplaine

After months of planning, a series of community meetings and a lot of hard work, Friends of the Environment announced that the Cross Harbour tidal creek restoration was a wonderful success with more than 50 acres of wetlands reclaimed and put back into use as nursery habitat for a variety of marine life.

The causeway to Cross Harbour was cut on April 3rd and five culverts were installed so that the water could flow under the road. After some creative engineering, overseen by FRIENDS' President Michael Albury and lead scientist Dr. Craig Layman of Yale University, the culverts were weighted down and the road was replaced over them.

But the work wasn't done yet. A huge amount of volunteer work was needed to

help recreate tidal channels that had overgrown due to the decrease in water flow caused by the road. A number of volunteers from surrounding communities pitched in. Students from Sandy Point volunteered on two Saturdays assisted by Earth Watch intern Monica Arso. Thanks to Ms. Eunice Mills and Ms. Patricia Campbell over 60 6th graders from Central Abaco Primary traveled down to volunteer on April 7th. FRIENDS' Board Member and Forest Heights teacher, Jim Richard, took a group of students to volunteer and camp for the weekend.

Science teachers Ms. Michelle Bailey and Ms. Janet Wedgewood led their science students from Abaco Central High on April 10th. Hope Town School also made the trek to Cross Harbour on April 10 led by Princi-

pal Candace Key and teacher Nancy Burnett. Man-O-War Primary School traveled to Cross Harbour on April 11 led by Principal Kelli Janes.

Once the volunteers overcame their initial fears about wading through the muck, they all seemed to enjoy their visit. By the end of each day everyone was covered in mud but pleased with the work that had been accomplished. A number of the volunteers had never been in a mangrove area, and their importance as a nursery for fish, conch and crawfish was news to many.

In total, over 200 students and community members participated in the restoration and Friends would like to thank all of them for their time, energy and effort.

When the dust had settled on the project it was easy to declare it a success. Already a huge difference could be seen in the speed of the water flowing through the area. It is now possible to kayak from the causeway all the way to the ocean. The water clarity in area that had been blocked by the road is already improving. Even more exciting, according to Mr. Layman, was the fact that within a few days fish that had been tagged before the restoration were spotted swimming through the culverts into the restored area.

Friends of the Environment invites anyone who is interested in visiting the restoration to contact their office at 367-2721 or write info@friendsoftheenvironment.org.



It was hard work pulling mangroves out of channels to allow water to flow once again after years of being blocked off at Cross Harbour. These students are sixth graders from Central Abaco Primary who put in much effort to restore the creek back to its original state.



Dr. Craig Layman of Yale University organized the work of opening up Cross Harbour so about 40 acres beyond a causeway would once again be open. More than 200 students and interested community members volunteered to help with the work after five culverts were put in place. Fish that had been tagged began moving between the two areas shortly after the flow was established. Once channels are cleaned out, the tidal flow will keep them clean.

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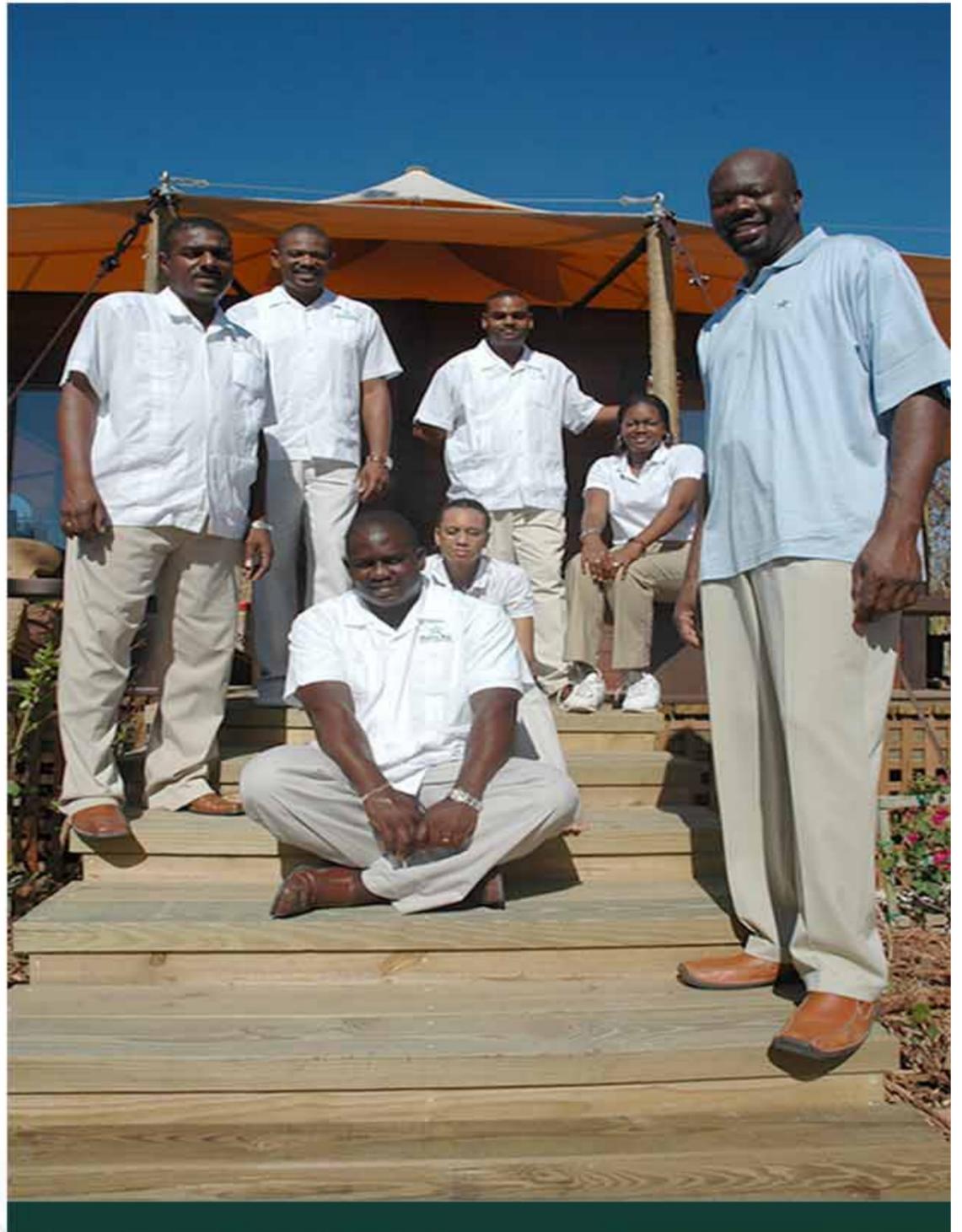
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Baker's Bay Club on Great Guana Cay, The Abacos, aims to be the most environmentally sensitive development of its kind ever undertaken in The Bahamas and has major benefits for all Bahamians based on the following:

- ★ The land plan for the project was developed with input from key stake holders including local government, Abaco Members of Parliament, the Out Island Council and in consultation with Guana Cay residents through a Town Meeting on Guana Cay on August 20, 2004. Further refinement will continue through additional dialogue on island and throughout The Abacos.
- ★ The Baker's Bay Community is appropriately sized with fewer than 400 residences on 585 acres, and over 50% of the property is open space. Other developed areas of Guana, Elbow and Green Turtle Cays have twice as many houses per acre; other parts of The Bahamas have three times as many houses per acre.
- ★ Over 6 miles of shoreline are preserved with residential structures set back more than 30 feet from the high water mark, providing open beach access to all Bahamians. Individual docks from each homesite will not be permitted which will preserve the appearance of the shoreline.
- ★ The project will eliminate over 100 potential dock structures and restore sand dunes thereby increasing and preserving turtle habitats.
- ★ 49% of all leased Crown Lands are being placed into a Preserve for use by all Bahamians and will be managed by a foundation inclusive of academic institutions, non - government organizations and the developers.
- ★ The tropical links style golf course is being designed to the highest international standards with environmentally friendly grasses and a closed drainage system. This system, along with native shoreline buffers, will dramatically reduce fertilizer deposits into the ocean and mangrove areas.



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BREAKERS - Ideal ocean and interior lot on surfers dream, Garbonzo Beach. Perfect for single family homes or villas, and just steps away from restaurants and marina facilities. Ocean front lot **\$499,000** and interior lot with beach access **\$249,000**



CROWS NEST

Ocean front North End Elbow Cay - large 1.5 acre property, 2 bed / 2bath villa, generator room, can be subdivided **\$4,460,000**



MAGNUSON HOUSE

Quiet North End Elbow Cay, 3 bed/3 bath (detached master efficiency) overlooking white sandy beach, large wrap deck, sold fully furnished, great art work, boat, golf cart included **\$1,485,000**

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.**



FINDERS KEEPERS

Great rental cottage one lot from ocean, 2 bed 1.5 bath, excellent rental history **\$465,000**



HIGH HOPES

Atlantic Ocean, North End Elbow Cay 3 bed 3 bath, large ocean side deck, excellent history **\$1,450,000**

JACKS JUNGLE - Lubbers Quarters Cay consists of 2 parcels, waterfront lot over 1/2 acre **\$240,000**, and interior lot over 1 acre **\$120,000.** Deeded dock slips for each lot included.



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BLEST NEST

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WHITE SOUND - Rare Ocean front find in White Sound, large lot with Dock on White Sound Bay. 150' on the ocean and White Sound Bay, 129' on North Boundary, and 94' on South Boundary. Ideal spot to build second home, or income producing rental **\$899,000.**



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Chris Thompson

Greg Roberts

South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound Shell Show Raises Funds for School

By Mirella Santillo

On April 15th Cherokee Sound held its annual shell show. Displayed in the W.W. Sands Community Center, hundreds of shells - common and unusual - captivated the attention of the shell collectors and others who attended the event. And many are the ones who attended went several times around the display tables.

Many displays, judged by Kim Sands, Blaine Sweeting and David Ralph, won awards. Some won for the unusual size of

the shells shown, such as the winner of the first and second place and best display. The best display comprised two huge and beautiful helmet conchs, two large queen conchs, an array of sea biscuits and sea urchins, shark eggs of the sea urchin family, tun shells, tulip shells and various types of large cowries.

Some displays were awarded for the creativity of their display such as Mrs. Shirley Higgs, who made a Christmas tree topped with an angel out of scallops, star fish, tellins, urchins and more. A special award was given to Mrs. Peggy Albury for jewelry made with whelks. An honorable mention went to Mrs. Lee Pinder, the organizer of the show, for two assortments of sea scal-

lops arranged under glass and framed. Other honorable mentions went to a huge sponge that belonged to Mr. Garth Russell and one to Mr. David Bethel for a shell framed mirror.

The school children, helped by Mrs. Michelle Lowe, were given an award for their display of shells and drift wood.

Outside on the school grounds under the shade of a spectacular poinciana tree and a huge almond tree that both must have seen many decades were crafts and food tables. The craft stand was packed with quilted items: a bed quilt, cushions, place mats and bags very colorfully and artistically created

by Mrs. Corella Sands. Her husband, Mr. Stuart Sands, a retired carpenter, had built little houses to be used as bird feeders, little benches made as picture holders, all painted and decorated and reasonably priced, perfect gift items. The usual hamburgers and hot dogs were available with all the trimmings as well as a tasty mahi-mahi fish burger. Hazelnut and coconut rum cakes, packaged in a gift box could be bought along with spice sachets, dry soup condiments, pickled onions and Bahamian seasoning, all made by Mrs. Lee Pinder.

Please see **South**

Page 17



A display of sea shells, shell art work and crafts, and sea oriented craftwork attracted people to Cherokee Sound on April 15. This annual event raises money for the Cherokee Sound School. Roof repairs are not completed yet from hurricane damage and they hope to complete the work before any severe hurricanes threaten.

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South Abaco News



These beautiful shells, all found on Abaco, won the whole kit and kaboodle at the Fifth Annual Sea Shell Show and Exhibition in Cherokee Sound on April 15th. The near perfect Queen Helmut Conch Shell won First Place in the single shell category as well as The Best In Show 2006 Trophy. The King Conch Shell won Second Place in the single shell category and the extended display, including some very unusual sea urchin specimens that won the First Place Ribbon in the grouping category. These fantastic shells were found and entered in the show by Hartie Albury, local Cherokee Sound resident, construction worker, avid fisherman, an accomplished miniature boat builder and sometime beach scavenger. He is also a collector of old bottles and artifacts and has quite a collection of things he has found over the years. Congratulations, Hartie, and thank you for sharing your beautiful shells with us, if only for a day.

Please see **South**

Page 16

The event, set in the sleepy and laid back settlement of Cherokee Sound, blessed with a beautiful sunny and mild weather, was a Bahamian experience at its best. The funds raised will all go to the school for repairs for the roof. The town is hopeful that the work on the roof can be completed before the bad months of hurricane season.

Ritz-Carlton Is Partner with Abaco Club

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company and Peter de Savary signed an agreement on

April 20 that will mean that a Ritz Carlton affiliate will assume management of The Abaco Club on Winding Bay. This will go into effect on July 1, 2006. Mr. de Savary, Founder of the Abaco Club on Winding Bay will continue as Chairman of the Member's Club. Under the terms of the agreement, RC Abaco Holding Company, Ltd. has become a 50 percent equity partner.

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company is an award-winning hospitality organization that manages 61 hotels and resorts in North and South America, The Caribbean, Mexico,

Please see **South**

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Councillors Were Urged to Unite for Improved Results

Hotel Licensing

Ms. Monique Hepburn, Director of Hotel Licensing, explained that the mission of hotel licensing is to assure visitors that hotels are clean, safe and comfortable. It monitors the standards and collects a room tax and a hotel tax. Any accommodation with four or more bedrooms or 10 or more beds comes under the Hotel Licensing Authority. These include hotels, resorts, guest houses, bed and breakfasts and motels. She brought out the fact that it can be very difficult to recognize second homes that rent. Sometimes a location will have some short term and some long term rentals but be

under a common management.

Since 1996 the hotel licensing board has been decentralized. There are now boards in Nassau, Grand Bahama and the Family Islands. The boards can grant licenses, cancel, defer or transfer licences. They can also close a facility for non payment of the fees.

The Hotel Licensing Board from Nassau makes an annual inspection of every facility the beginning of each year. The group includes people from Tourism, the Police, the Health Department and the Fire Department who check the facility for their specific area of expertise. They work with the administrators

and request that local hotel licensing board members accompany them.

The duties of the local government hotel licensing boards are to follow up on the initial inspection to make sure that the problems are solved and to see that the hotel taxes and room taxes are being paid in a timely manner. The annual hotel licensing fee is \$3 per bedroom. The room tax is six percent of the total room rate collected. This is collected on complementary rooms as well. Even if there were no guests, each hotel must submit a monthly summary form.

Mr. Cash would like to see trained hotel inspectors on Abaco. Local people supported him and felt that sometimes Nassau officials did not want to give up power to Family Island control.

Mr. McKinney explained that the Local Government Act gave power to the local bodies but that sometimes they did not take advantage of the power. Tourism is our

number one concern, and by using Nassau inspections we assure having one standard throughout the country. It is a fragile industry and needs to be protected. The power is slowly devolving, but not necessarily immediately. Sometimes it takes long for central government agencies to give up power. Central government offers free expertise for training in many areas. Some islands never get expertise. There needs to be a partnership between central government and the business community. He urged local government to take the power and use it.

A question was asked about the status of Walker's Cay. Mr. Rosie Curry, Chief Councillor for the Grand Cay District, said that the new owners have not closed on the sale. There is a lot of work to be done before the resort will be able to reopen because of the extensive damage from recent hurricanes. The new owners are already cleaning the island from the hurricane damage.



Administrators were able to discuss problems with Nassau officials at the recent Local Government Seminar. Here Mr. Donald Cash of North Abaco, Mr. Roderick Bowe of South Abaco and Mr. Revis Rolle of Central Abaco talk with Mr. Anthony McKinney, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Consumer Affairs and organizer of the Local Government Seminar. The two-day seminar was a training course for elected members and appointed board members. Also invited were heads of government agencies on Abaco.

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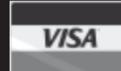
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Over 6,000 Vehicles Are on Abaco's Roads

Road Traffic Authority

Mrs. Belinda McIntosh, Senior Supervisor of the Road Traffic Department in Cen-

tral Abaco, explained that Road Traffic's goals are to provide safe roadways, licence and inspect vehicles, issue drivers licences and regulate franchises and taxis. There are five types of vehicle licences and four types of drivers licences. The Road Traffic

Department is a central government agency staffed with government employees.

The Road Traffic Board is one of five boards that is appointed by local government. It is a unique board in that the three councils on mainland Abaco each name members to form this board. This multi-district board approves franchises annually.

Mrs. McIntosh brought out that during the past three years traffic has increased tremendously in Central Abaco. In December 2003 the number of vehicles registered was 5,095 and two years later by December 2005 it had increased to 6154, an increase of 1059 vehicles. This increase requires more traffic lights and better control. From Dove Plaza to Royal Bank in Marsh Harbour there is a need to regulate traffic. The area needs more signs designating school zones and speed limits. Bus stops are beginning to appear.

Mr. Revis Rolle, Senior Administrator

for Central Abaco, brought out the fact that there is a moratorium on all franchises except self drive vehicles. The Road Traffic Authority is assessing all franchises to find out which ones are active. Abaco has many inactive franchises. The holders of these can ask for a 90-day extension to get their vehicles back on the road and retain their licenses. If they are not activated, these taxi licenses will be reissued.

Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco mentioned that all franchises belong to the government.

A question was asked if there was any consideration on raising the age for young people getting a driver's license. It was brought out that drivers in the 17-25 year old range have a much higher accident rate than any other age group. Changing the age is under consideration but there has been no decision.



Chief Councillor Steve Pedican and the North Abaco District Council make a point with Min. Alfred Gray on their budget. Administrator Donald Cash, Mr. Harrison Thompson and Mr. Anthony McKinney sat in on the budget discussions.

announcement

Family Guardian announces Senior Management appointment.

Patricia Hermanns, President & CEO of Family Guardian, has announced the appointment of Linda M. Jarrett to the position of Vice President, Group Life & Health Division.

Mrs. Jarrett will manage the further development, marketing and administration of the BahamaHealth group of medical plans and Family Guardian's group life, dental and vision, and long term disability product lines.

Mrs. Jarrett brings to Family Guardian a wealth of experience and expertise in financial services and a strong background in the development and management of group health operations. Her notable career began with banking and finance, moving to the life and health insurance industry in 1984 where she has held senior management positions in sales and administration.

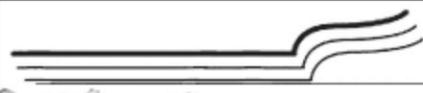
Family Guardian welcomes Mrs. Jarrett to the senior management team.



Linda M. Jarrett, FLM
Vice President
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Officials Must Operate with Transparency

Other Topics

Mr. McKinney spoke on several topics that were useful to the group. He felt there is a need for further training. There are seven districts on Abaco of a total of 32 for all the Family Islands. Three are second schedule districts and four are third schedule districts. This means there are seven port authorities. He said that the only way for local government to work well is to have better trained people.

Mr. McKinney reminded the group that they were elected to represent their towns, to make their communities better places and to improve the conditions. New developments are coming on stream and the role of local government can be key in making sure these development benefit the local communities.

The councils should study ways that their constituencies can be benefitted. They need to develop a data base of available labour. If labour needs training, the Bahamas Technical and Vocation Institute could be contacted about offering training sessions on the island. Sometimes just six months of training can mean a better job. There will be a need for construction workers. After projects are in operation, there is a need for cooks and other skilled workers. He urged them to take full advantage of the opportunities that will be available.

New development creates multiple effects. It opens up business opportunities for local residents to take advantage of. The Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation and the Bahamas Development Bank are institutions on Abaco that will assist entrepreneurs to get started. BAIC helps self employed person to open viable

small businesses. The Development Bank gives financial advice as well as providing start-up money.

Mr. McKinney encouraged communities to have cultural events that would benefit the communities. Home comings, crab fests, regattas and other events generate economic activities that can bring economic gain to that area. Local government can partner with businesses to organize these events.

He urged the local government persons to get to know key person in the Nassau in ministries that could be helpful such as the Ministry of Works. He suggested that they go in groups to meet with Transport or other ministries. There is a lot of expertise in Nassau that is available to guide local agencies.

The preservation of the environment and historical sites is important. Educate the younger generation not to litter, to protect our trees and natural vegetation. Do not allow the destruction of our environment.

The Bahamas has much land that can be put into cultivation. Food security is an important reason why there is a need for more farming to be undertaken. Cooperatives are one good way of coming together to build viable businesses.

Marine resources are important factor in our community. There is a need to exploit the fisheries industry.

Urban Renewal is actively working to relieve poverty. It involves young people and are getting them active to make communities better.

The National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, is training people on all the islands in responding to emergencies of all types. The training is up to international standards. The Family Island committees are doing a good job. All buildings needs

to be up to the building code to resist storms.

Persona should be trained in protocol procedures. Experts from Nassau can come for training. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs can be helpful in the protocol process when there are foreign government officials or their agents.

There should be an island-wide local government association. At least one representative should attend from each council. Local government in The Bahamas seems to be operating better than some others in the Caribbean. This could be because it is not political.



The seminar gave Nassau officials the chance to learn first hand about the problems facing local government persons on Abaco. Here Wayne Hall, Chief Councillor for the Hope Town District, is talking with Mr. Harrison Thompson, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Consumer Affairs.



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Dock Approvals May Take Two or More Years

Capt. Cyril Roker, Assistant Port Controller for the Port Department, heads the Port Department on Abaco. The Port comes under the Ministry of Transport and Aviation. He is finding that dock owners are cooperative in paying their dock fees. One problem that he is concerned about is getting dock applications approved. They are recommended locally, then are sent to Nassau for approval which may take two to three years. There is a need for closer ties between the local authorities and central government.

He gave the group an update on the barge grounded on the reef just south of Man-O-War. A crew is pumping the hull out and a tug is expected shortly.

Dredging is going on at Angel Fish Point which concerns the people of North Abaco. They are upset that people get permissions in Nassau, completely bypassing local authorities. It seems that no one locally knows if they have the necessary permits or who issued the permits. They were told that they can ask to see the permit and can stop work if the project cannot show a permit.

Green Turtle Cay's Island Roots Heritage Festival on May 5-7



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Linda (Boo) Leffler and Mary Petsock, a fire fighter, put together a tag sale on April 1st at the Jib Room. Marina members and guests had a bake sale with all proceeds going to the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. We would like to thank Tom & Linda Leffler, of the Marsh Harbour Marina & Yacht Club (Jib Room Restaurant) for assisting. Ladies thank you - all of the baked goods were yummy.

- Members of the Art Guild donated 10% of profits
- Jeep Byers print - brought \$300
- Marjolean Scott's silk print brought \$60
- Christine McCully - Lighthouse coloring books
- Cracker P's - one case of Hot Sauce
- Stephen Chea brought two beautiful cakes by Elliot Sawyer of Treasure Cay - auctioned
- A generous second home owner donated \$1500

The marina effort raised \$3800

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Come Join Us at the Island Roots Heritage Festival

Friday 5th May - Sunday 7th May 2006

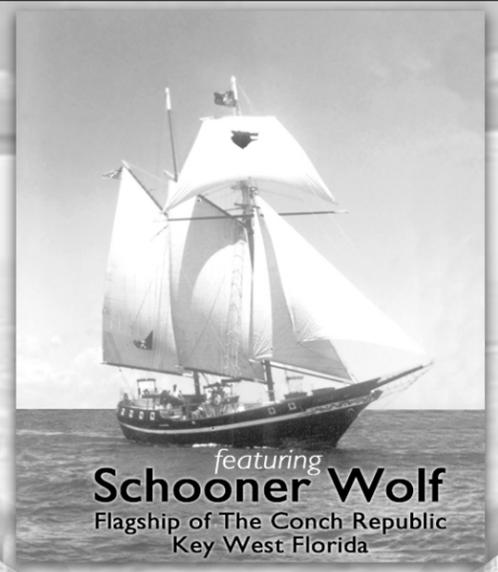
Schedule of Events :

Friday 5th May 2006

Time	Stage Schedule	Other Activities
10 am	Opening Prayer	Check the Amy Roberts School Booth for Conch Train tours throughout the day
12:00	Music and poetry by Garnell Stuart and friends	Amy Roberts School Booth: Conch Talk with Dr. Davis-Hodgkins (15 min)
12:45	Music by Jonathan Curry	
1:00	Tiny Turtles Preschool Performance	Purchase tickets for Schooner Wolf Sailing Trip at IRHFC Information Booth
1:15	Announcements	
1:30	Dynamite Daisy Comedy Skit (15 min)	
2:00	Interactive games in front of the stage area with prizes for all the winners	
3:00	Loyalist Fashion Show	Schooner Wolf Sailing trip (1 1/2 hours) boarding at the Long Dock Abaco Dinghy Demonstration with Joe Albury near festival entrance
4:00	Music and poetry by Garnell Stuart and friends	Conch Talk with Dr. Davis-Hodgkins at the Amy Roberts School Booth (15 min)
4:30	Brian Petty	
5:00	Kevin McIntosh's Island Spice	Don't forget to purchase your IRHF 2006 T-shirt and hat
5:30	Green Turtle Cay Marching Band	
6:00	Opening Ceremony of Festival 2006	
7:00	Maypole demonstration	
7:30	Kevin McIntosh's Island Spice	
8:00	From Harbour Island, Eleuthera: The Brilanders	It's dark, check out IRHFC Booth for glow in the dark toys, cups and jewelry!
9:00	Music by the #1 Band in the Nation: The Gully Roosters	Don't forget to check tomorrow's schedule of events so you don't miss one thing!
9:30	The Brilanders to closing	
11:00	Festival Park is closed. See you Saturday!	

Saturday 6th May 2006

Time	Stage Schedule	Other Activities
10:00	Opening Prayer	Game Booth competitions for hopscotch, tops and marbles with prizes
	All booths: food, crafts and information open	
10:30		Sculling Dinghy Race Leg One
11:00	Amy Roberts Primary School Presentation	Check the School Booth for Conch Train Tour Schedule
11:45	Royal Bahamas Police Force Band Marching Display	
12:15		Dr. Davis-Hodgkins Conch Talk (15 min) at Amy Roberts School Booth
12:30	Green Turtle Cay Marching Band	Learn the conch style and calypso dance demos and competitions at the Game tent (30 minutes)
12:45	Enjoy the gospel sounds of 'New Direction' (30min)	Purchase your tickets for today's Schooner Wolf sailing tour at IRHFC Information Booth
1:00	'New Direction' continues	Game Tent competitions for hula hoop, 3 leg race, lime & spoon and sack race with prizes (one hour)
1:15	Music by Joel Reckley	
1:30	One man calypso band Gary McDonald	
2:00	Maypole demonstration With audience participation at 2:30	Dr. Davis-Hodgkins will give a Conch Presentation at the Captain Roland Roberts' Environmental Center (1 hr.)
		Sculling Dinghy Race Leg Two Finals
2:45	Rake and Scrape performance by 'Ophie and the Boys' (30 min)	Time to board The Schooner Wolf For the 3pm sailing Tickets at IRHFC Info Booth
3:00		Abaco Dinghy Demonstration with Joe Albury near the entrance of Festival Park
		Sailing Tour on the Sea of Abaco aboard Schooner Wolf (1 1/2 hours)
3:15	Music by Matthew Lowe and friends	Conch Cracking Contest at the Games Tent. Win prizes!
3:45	Music by Billy Roberts	



Saturday 6th May 2006

4:00	Storey Telling	Coconut Bark Boats with Seagrape leaf sails Race meet at the Games Tent. Conch Talk with Dr. Davis Hodgkins at the School Booth
4:30	Junkanoo Parade from the Stone Dock along the seaside to Festival Park	
5:30	Royal Bahamas Police Force Band Parade (same route as Junkanoo)	Dinner Time!! Check out many delicious dishes at all the food booths
6:00	Music by Avery Thompson	
6:30	Rake and Scrape Performance by Ophie and the Boys	Blinky Glow toys for sale at The Island Roots Heritage Info Booth
7:30	Our very own #1 Band in the Nation The Gully Roosters	Don't forget to purchase your IRHF 2006 T-shirt!!
9:00	The Royal Bahamas Police Force Pop Band	
11:00	Festival Site closed Thank you all for coming.	Time to mark your calendars for Festival 2007: 4-6 May

Check out the Genealogy Booth with Dr. Gail Saunders, Joy Lowe Jossi and Philip Roberts.

The Island Roots Heritage Festival Committee invites everyone to attend a Thanksgiving Service in front of the Festival Stage on Sunday, 7th May, 11am. A family that worships together, stays together. Please join us in thanking God for this tremendous weekend of fellowship.

All Abaco Revenue Goes to the Treasury

Finance Report

Ms. Donna Delancy, Deputy Treasurer of The Bahamas, spoke to the group at length about local government finances. She began by explaining that local government allows the Family Island communities to make many local decisions. Previously, central government assumed that the islands needed to have these decisions made for them. This proved to be inefficient and ineffective. She emphasized that there needs to be a good working relationship between the councils and the administrators to function properly. It is a challenge to provide a system to sustain effective local government.

The budget for the coming fiscal year is in process now and should be complete by the end of April when it is presented to Cabinet. After Cabinet approves it, it goes for final approval to the House. The budget shows the vision that the government has for the country. Any projects that the government undertakes need to be in harmony with the overall program for the country. The budget is supported by the funding that is collected. This funding needs to be collected diligently if we want sustainable development and reduced unemployment.

Seventy percent of the country's revenue comes from customs duties. International bodies are encouraging The Bahamas to develop ways of raising revenue other than through duties and studies are underway of other systems. First world countries are wanting to discourage investors from putting money into countries such as The Bahamas to escape taxation in their primary country. Revenue systems based on customs duties allows this to happen. One system being studied is the VAT or Value

Added Tax.

When Local Government was first instituted in 1996, the plan was considered to give the districts rebates on the monies their districts collected. However, Grand Bahama and Abaco were the only islands that collected substantial fees, about 90 percent of the fees collected. So the decision was made that districts would receive money from the general fund.

Mrs. Delancy is encouraging various central government departments to visit the Family Islands to become familiar with the local situations. She feels that many need to realize that The Bahamas is not exclusively Nassau but includes all the islands. There is a need to change the mind set of many departments and visits to the Family Island can help. They need to visit before they can hear properly.

No government body can open a bank account for any reason for the Bahamian government. The Minister of Finance has to authorize the opening or closing of any account. Local government bodies cannot overspend. If a project is underway at the end of a fiscal year, then the funds to complete the work are placed in a reserve account. These funds are accessed only by the Permanent Secretary and only with support documentation to assure that the work is done. Monies from all other government departments other than local government go back to the Treasury at the end of each fiscal year.

Government has a purchase order system in place to assist in controlling expenses. It is required by law that all purchasing be approved prior to purchase with a signed purchase order.

A question was raised about the Regatta

Village at the Treasure Cay ferry dock. It was built for the All Abaco Regatta but that event is now scheduled to be held in Central Abaco this year. The person was concerned that quite a sum of money had been invested in the site but would now not be maintained. She was assured that Regatta Village will be maintained and will not be abandoned. Abaco will receive \$30,000 for the sailing event. Local Government has taken the initiative to maintain Regatta Village with funding of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Mr. Harrison Thompson, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Consumer Affairs, explained that Bahamian work boat regattas now come under the Local Government Ministry rather than the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture as local government gives the town committees the duty of maintaining parks.



The Chief Councillors for all seven Councils in Abaco attended the Local Government Seminar. They are shown here at the Awards Banquet held at the Spinnaker Restaurant in Treasure Cay on April 20. In the picture are, left to right, Mr. Floyd Johnson of the Green Turtle Cay District, Mr. Roosevelt Curry of the Grand Cay District, Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco, Mr. Wayne Hall of the Hope Town District, Mr. Roderik Bowe, Administrator for South Abaco, Mr. Harrison Thompson, Permanent Secretary, Mr. Rovel Roker of the South Abaco District, Mr. Tommy Dames of the Moore's Island District, Mr. Cubel Davis of the Central Abaco District, Mr. Steve Pedican of the North Abaco District and Mr. Revis Rolle, Administrator for Central Abaco.

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Cays *From Page 7*

The brilliant colors of native orchids, frangipanis, plumbago, sailor's caps, birds of paradise, the Junkanoo dancers in bright costumes, the vivid turquoise of the marine scenes and the pastel shades of the cottages lining the sunbathed streets of the settlements jump at you from the wall of the formal room.

A painter since early childhood, Mr. Lowe is a complete artist. He is as successful with portraits, landscapes, marine scenes as he is with flowers and gardens. The details in each painting are so accurate and the scene so real that you are tempted to lean and smell a flower or tell the man holding the glass buoy to be careful not to drop it. The gallery not only holds the paintings of Mr. Lowe but also numerous wonderful bronzes by sculptor James Mastin. As part of the present show are 16 paintings of native flowers that are the templates for a new issue of Bahamian stamps to be inaugurated in July.

The artist himself will be your host from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., or will meet you by appointment at any other time. He can be contacted at 365 4264. Whether an art lover or a collector your visit to Alton Lowe's gallery will be a memorable experience.

BBC *From Page 11*

mopeds, golf carts, boat rentals, beauty parlours, shops and restaurants within Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay while some make use of the ferries to visit Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay where Nippers is a special favourite.

Many local residents benefit from the need for extra employment which is created in all departments of the resort during the tournaments and are called back from year to year. Mr. Neophytou states that he employs up to 20 extra full-time staff during this time each year. Extra persons are employed for the front desk since, as one employee puts it, "the phone rings off the hook during the tournaments." Nine persons are hired as banquet staff and others as dock hands and ground staff. Boat owners also hire locals as boat cleaners. Many of the crews aboard the fishing boats are from Abaco

In addition to the immediate monetary boost to the economy, much far reaching valuable exposure is gained for the islands of Abaco from these tournaments as they are widely advertised abroad and covered by major sport fishing publications such as *Billfishing Magazine*.

Please see **South** *Page 17*

Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. These include private homes, a part ownership of the Ritz-Carlton Club, golf communities, spa and wellness facilities and restaurants led by noted chefs. The Ritz-Carlton name is recognized around the world for providing the finest levels of guest service.

The Abaco Club, about 20 miles south of Marsh Harbour on the way to Cherokee Sound, is an exclusive golf course and sporting retreat. Luxuriously appointed cottages and other real estate choices provide a setting for members to enjoy the world's first Scottish style links golf course in the tropics. A clubhouse, spa, tennis courts, fitness and equestrian center offer recreational opportunities which compliment the club's magnificent two-mile pristine white sand beach. The club has its own dock and mooring facilities for member's pleasure boats.

Residents Patch Roads



Residents of Bahama Palm Shores keep busy maintaining their subdivision. Here they are shown patching the potholes in their road.

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More Letters to the Editor

Letters

From Page 9

family. My former co-workers at BBC continue to compliment me by saying how happy and contented I look, and they are right. Joining Baker's Bay Club, however, did not come without challenges. I did gain 20 pounds.

I would like to publicly thank Discovery Land company for coming to my country and providing opportunities for Bahamians who want to be more than just average and who want to be a part of something magical. I hereby again extend an invitation to anyone who wants to know what Baker's Bay Club is all about to accept this offer, and come for a tour. Let the truth be known and told.

Thank you for your time and this opportunity to provide a glimpse of what Baker's Bay really means for me, Abaco, and my country.

Sincerely,

Eban Q. Hanna, Engineer
Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club

Resigned to Changes

Dear Editor,

Thank you for allowing me space in your paper.

In the last couple of years I have read a number of stories in Bahamian newspapers in which Bahamians are expressing great upset over a very real issue, an issue often (and understandably) referred to as "the foreign invasion." These stories have been of interest to me because in 1994 I noticed my island home of Hope Town was beginning to change. One day I noticed a sign about a

Town Meeting that was being held to discuss the building of a pavilion on public land near the parking lot in front of the Hope Town Harbour Lodge. The pavilion was to serve as a place to have concerts and to provide shelter from the weather for people waiting for the ferry boat.

Sounded like a good idea until I discovered that the idea for this pavilion belonged to a group of second home owners. I just couldn't wrap my brain around the idea that second home owners were actually trying to debate/discuss what could be built on Bahamian Crown Land. Further to that, when I approached the leader of the group, he elaborated on the idea and started to share a list of performers that he thought could come to the pavilion. There wasn't a Bahamian or any Bahamian music on his list...umm...the anger really started to boil inside me. I had lived in Hope Town for 26 years; both of my grandparents were born in the settlement of Hope Town and their parents before them. Because of my strong heritage I had developed a lot of pride for Hope Town. This was my island, *how on earth* could non-Bahamians start having Town Meetings to decide what was going to happen in my community? Honestly, I was beyond angry; it all cut so deeply into my soul.

With heritage as my sword and shield, my brother and I hit the pavement and got a petition signed by our fellow Bahamians—and we put a stop to that pavilion. We got those signatures by making two arguments: one, the leader of the second-home owner group had written and produced a compact disc of

songs describing local situations like, for example, the experience of riding the Hope Town ferry. No one minded that a non-Bahamian had done this. What we did *not* like was the idea of his and his group now attempting to build a pavilion to showcase music because, without fail, some of these concerts would have showcased his music. The second part of our argument focused on the proposed location of the pavilion: Crown Land. We said that if the second-home owners want a pavilion, then we think they should buy a piece of private land and put their pavilion there. The pavilion was never built.

So we stopped the pavilion, but I still felt angry. And the anger stayed with me until I discovered its true source. One afternoon I was sharing my story with a cousin and, ironically, we were standing on the Crown Land where they had wanted that pavilion. He said something to me that I have never forgotten and have repeated many times, "DP, there is no stopping the almighty dollar." And that was IT, I completely realized what was happening. This wasn't about a pavilion; it was about the changes taking place to Hope Town, the new houses, the new faces, and with them the **new and different ideas** that come with

them.

For the past 12 years I have been trying to cope with the changes that have come, the changes that I couldn't stop. And, it has NOT been easy. So I am trying to accept the things I cannot change, and I am trying to find the courage to change the things I can while asking God to grant me the wisdom to know the difference. I think some of the changes that non-Bahamians have brought us have been good, in some cases, even great. Yet, I also think some of the changes that have come have not been good. So I just try to deal with it as best I can.

One of the ways that I deal with it is by remembering that this issue is occurring all over the world. Today's news from almost every country shows that people are crossing borders from country to country and almost everyone is feeling the change of having new and different people in their hometowns. So, now what? Seems to me, only God has the answer. And time will show whether we as the human race can learn to live together while overlooking nationality, race and different ideas.

Deb "DP" Patterson

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1 desert spoonful, margarine
1/4 teaspoon, salt
3/4 cup sake
3/4 cup bottled clam juice
1 tablespoon minced peeled ginger
1 garlic clove, flattened
4 5-oz. sea bass fillets (or red snapper)
2 large green onions, chopped
4 teaspoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon oriental sesame oil
3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
2 teaspoons sesame seeds,
toasted

Salt and Pepper, to taste. Bring 1-3/4 cups of water to a boil in a 2 quart heavy saucepan. Add margarine and salt, if desired. Stir in 1 cup rice. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes or until all water is absorbed. Meanwhile, combine sake and next 2 ingredients in large skillet deep enough to hold steamer rack. Bring liquid to boil. Reduce heat; simmer 5 minutes. Arrange fish on rack; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place rack in skillet. Top fish with onions; drizzle with soy sauce and sesame oil. Cover skillet; steam fish until opaque in center, about 5 minutes. Remove steamer rack. Mix cilantro into juices in skillet. Spoon rice onto plates. Top with fish, juices from skillet, and sesame seeds. Makes 4 servings.

THE NUMBER ONE RICE... "ALL OVER THE BAHAMAS"

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Urban Renewal Works to Improve Communities

By Samantha V. Evans

Many persons on Abaco have been asking the question, "What is urban renewal?" The answer to this question is as follows: Urban Renewal is the transformation of a community's environment and the changing of the residents' mindset so that communities can be changed for good. Hence, communities could be safer and healthier.

This new department on Abaco, headed by Ms. Elaine Martinborough, seeks to change the mind set of individuals so that each member of a community will embrace a sense of community. Urban Renewal raises the awareness about many activities whether they are a social or cultural pro-

cess. It seeks to erase inequality of living standards, employment opportunities and education in the country.

Urban Renewal assists with the removal of derelict vehicles, demolition and removal of dilapidated buildings, and oversees the cleanup of overgrown properties. It transforms the views held by local residents of the police, and as a result residents are more willing to cooperate and assist the police.

The Urban Renewal Department works with other government agencies including Social Services, Police Officers, Environmental Health and community volunteers. Task Force is the collective term used to describe the holistic approach to dealing

with the problems of poverty and deprivation in lower income "urban" areas of the country. Also urban renewal incorporates self-empowerment programs into its portfolio.

The activities of the Urban Renewal Office in Marsh Harbour to date are as follows:

- Held a domestic violence and child abuse seminar for females
- Conducted fire prevention and fire safety seminars in the Mud and Pigeon Peas. This was done in conjunction with the Royal Bahamas Police Force Fire Services and the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Service.
- Launched a Boys' Club at Abaco Cen-

tral High School. This is being done by Cpl. Minnis and P/C Ellis

- Launched a Reading Competition for Girls at Central Abaco Primary
- Launched an Out Island Carpenters and Affiliates program

The Urban Renewal Department is on the move and with the help of every resident in the various communities in this district, each program can have a positive effect on every man, woman and child in Abaco.

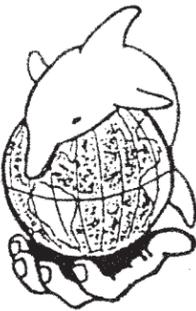
Remember to Buckle Up

Friends of the Environment

Invites you to

Native Plant Expo

Special Guest Speaker



Come and see what you can do to prevent plants like this invading YOUR Abaco Natural habitats.



Come and do your part in ERADICATING INVASIVE SPECIES on Abaco

Each attendee will be give one native tree to plant or replace an invasive on your property.

When: Saturday, May 27, 2006 at 10:00 am

Where: Friends of the Environment Office
(Above Doug's Place and Abacom in Marsh Harbour)

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Construction Continues on Solid Waste Landfill



Central government is building solid waste landfills on several islands including Abaco. Waste from the entire island will be trucked to this site for disposal. The site is in a hilly area inland from Snake Cay and was supposed to be operational by the end of 2005. No date has been announced for the completion of this facility. Bahamas Hot Mix has done much of the preparatory work. Eventually large trenches will be dug, then lined with impermeable material to contain all waste material. When a trench is filled, it will be covered with fill. This will eliminate the burning of garbage. The road from Spring City to Snake Cay is in the lower right and is paved to the new facility.



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Lee Pinder + 3 hse 366-2053

Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

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Island Properties + 34 hse 365-4047
New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161
Ocean Blue Properties + 30 365-4636
Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott. 365-5137
Donna Sands + 12 hse 365-5195
Guana Beach Resort 6 units 365-5133
Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106
Harbour View Haven 365-5028
Ocean Frontier 519-389-4846
Sea Shore Villas 365-5028
Ward's Landing 4 units 904-982-2762

Hope Town

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

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals + 8 hse 365-6048
Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158
Abaco Real Estate + 6 hse 367-2719
Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460
Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022
Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980
Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000
D's Guest House 6 rms 3 367-3980
Great Abaco Club + 12 hse 367-4151
Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776
Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681
Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600
Regattas (Prev. Abaco Towns) 32 eff 367-2227

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

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

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500
Island Dreams + 45 hse 365-8507
Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villa 365-2222

Web Sites with Abaco Information

<http://www.abaconian.com>
<http://www.abacoinet.com>
<http://www.abacoinfo.com>
<http://www.abacos.com>
<http://www.go-abacos.com>
<http://www.oii.net>
<http://www.bahamas.com>

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Notice of Race

The 16th annual

Homer Lowe Memorial Regatta

Scheduled for May 13, 2006

Sailing Venue: In the Harbour of Marsh Harbour
Lunch: Snappas Grill, Marsh Harbour, Abaco

Sunfish Class: Open to all sailors
Optimist Class:

Pre-registration only, please

Entry fee Bah \$70 plus
ISCA Membership Bah \$8

Entry fee includes lunch at Snappas

E-mail to pre-register: liann@batelnet.bs

Skippers' meeting: 0930 am Snappas

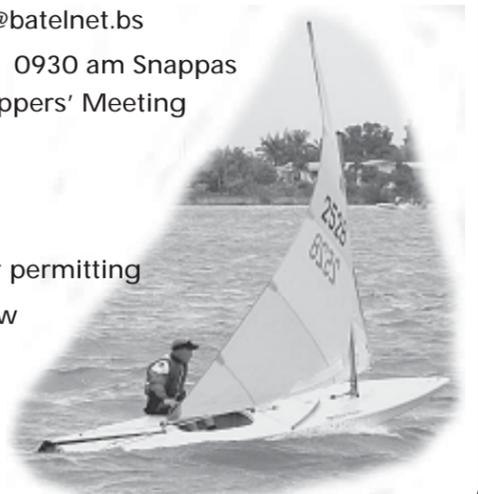
****Please be on time for Skippers' Meeting

Bring your own boat

First race warning 1045 am
Six races scheduled weather permitting

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at Snappas, May 13, 2006

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Abaco Chamber of Commerce

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Emergency Services	
Police - Marsh Harbour	367-2560
The following services are provided by volunteers	
Fire - Marsh Harbour	367-2000
Fire - Dundas Town	367-2935 or 4935
Fire - Hope Town	VHF Ch 16
Fire - Green Turtle Cay	365-4133
Fire - Man-O-War	365-6911
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc - all areas	Marine VHF 16
Hope Town 366-0500	Marsh Harbour 367-3752
Guana Cay 365-5178	Treasure Cay 365-8749

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

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers	
Plus extra for each passenger above two	
Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:	
Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr	\$12 + \$3
Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market	\$10 + \$2
Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto	\$6 + \$2
Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town	\$10 + \$3
Murphy Town to Shell Sta	\$14 + \$4
Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house	\$14 + \$4
Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house	\$14 + \$4
Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house	\$16 + \$5
Great Cistern	\$20 + \$5
Spring City	\$15 + \$5
Snake Cay	\$35 + \$10
Treasure Cay	\$60 + \$10
Casuarina Point	\$60 + \$10
Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores	\$70 + \$10
Little Harbour or Cherokee	\$80 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135 + \$10
Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore	\$2 each
Jib Room	\$3 each
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 • Caged pets - as people	
Luggage \$1.00 each over four, Surf boards \$4.00 ea.	
Between Treasure Cay Airport and: Effective 13 Nov 05	
Treasure Cay Resort	\$20 + \$5
Madeira Park	\$14 + \$4
Green Turtle Cay ferry dock	\$8 + \$4
Moxy	\$18 + \$5
Bahamas Star farm	\$24 + \$5
Sand Banks	\$24 + \$5
Joe's Creek, Leisure Lee	\$44 + \$10
Black Wood	\$18 + \$5
Fire Road & Cooper's Town	\$37 + \$5
Cedar Harbour	\$55 + \$5
Wood Cay	\$60 + \$5
Mount Hope	\$65 + \$5
Fox Town	\$70 + \$5
Crown Haven	\$75 + \$5
Marsh Harbour Airport	\$75 + \$10
T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$65 + \$10
T C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry (Blue Hole \$24)	\$18 + \$5
T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles	\$22 + \$5
T C Hotel to Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
T C Hotel to Moxey	\$16 + \$5
T C Hotel to Banyan Bch Club XX	\$6 + \$3
Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport	\$75 + \$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
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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
Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay	
8:30 am	10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
One way adult \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$12 Extra to some destinations	

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16	
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT	
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT	
T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25, call for time	
Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -	
Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm	
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm	
Fare \$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 Sandy Point to Nassau under 4 Hr. Call Sandy Point 366-4119	
Wednesday, Friday & Sunday • Lv Sandy Point for Nassau • Adults \$90 RT, \$50 OW	
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	

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

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 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

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	

Use Abaco area code 242 unless listed otherwise

Bonefish Guides	
Sandy Point	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286
Nicholas Roberts	
Derrick Gaitor	
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133
Vernal Burrows	
Kendall White	
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Floyd Burrows	366-4175
Links Adderly	366-4335
Valentino Lightbourne	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233
Marsh Harbour	
Jody Albury	375-8068
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Justin Sands	367-3526
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-6059
Crossing Rocks	
Tony Russell	366-3259
Cherokee	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Randy Sawyer	366-2284
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0234
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	477-5037
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Green Turtle Cay	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff Survance	365-4040
Ricky Sawyer	365-4261

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Everyone reads The Abaconian
 Please bring errors & revisions to our attention
 Rev 21 Apr 06

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
Harvey's Island Grill	\$\$ 365-4389
Laura's Kitchen	\$\$ 365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$\$ 365-4625
Plymouth Rock Cafe	365-4234
Rooster's Res	Open Nights Only 365-4066
Sundowners	365-4060
Wrecking Tree Restaurant	
Harbour Cafe (ferry dock)	\$ + 365-8635
Sandy Point	
Big J's	\$ 366-4020
Nancy's	
Oeishas	366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$ 366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$ 366-4120

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Treasure Cay Shopping Centre • Treasure Cay, Abaco
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Don MacKay Blvd. • Marsh Harbour, Abaco.
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The Abaconian

SECTION B



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 9, MAY 1st, 2006

Students Visit Museums and Marine Center

Hope Town Students Viewed the King Tut Show in Fort Lauderdale



The fifth and sixth grade students of the Hope Town School make a trip each spring, usually to another Family Island. But this year the group visited the King Tut display on tour in the United States. They also went to several other attractions in South Florida. They enjoyed the sea life displays at Loggerhead Marine Life Center. Behind the students is a preserved leatherback turtle shell which is the rarest and largest of sea turtles. A few of these inhabit The Bahamas.

By Candace Key

Grades 5 and 6 of the Hope Town School usually tour a different Bahamian island each spring as their class trip. Each island we have visited holds special lifelong memories for us. However, this spring we deviated from the norm when we heard that the fabulous King Tut exhibit would be in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It took much planning and work by several class mothers including Cha Boyce, Jane Patterson and Ana Albury and the teacher, Candace Key, but we all looked excitedly to the date of the trip with great anticipation.

The trick was to balance a lot of museum visits interspersed with active kid "stuff," shopping and several movies to make it a success. We all flew to West Palm Beach and bunked at Mrs. Key's condo in Jupiter which was used as the jump off spot each day. Follow us as we relive our trip for you.

Loggerhead Marine Life Center - Juno Beach, Florida

By Aly Boyce

The first morning of our trip we visited Loggerhead Marine Life Center. It is a place where turtles are taken when they are injured or sick to be rehabili-

Please see **School**

Page 2

Local Crew Is Given Command of M/V Discovery

By Jennifer Hudson

A stunning new lady has recently taken up residence at the Conch Inn dock in Marsh Harbour. She is Baker's Bay's new motor yacht *Discovery*, designed by naval architect, Ward Setzer and, as Eric Sorensen aptly describes this deep red beauty in *Yachting Magazine*, she is "drop dead gorgeous, with an exterior matched by an interior just as

impressive."

Capt. Perry Thomas and First Mate Anwar Moss are proud to be at the helm of this beautiful new cruiser which was built for its original owner in 2001 at a cost of \$7 million. It was bought by the Discovery Land Company, developers of Baker's Bay, in 2005 for the purpose of carrying prospective homeowners and clients to its develop-

ment on Guana Cay. Many of the people who come to view the development at Baker's Bay are members of Discovery Land's other clubs throughout the United States. They are able to stay on the *Discovery* if accommodations on Baker's Bay are full and sometimes clients ask to do so just for the experience of staying on this beautiful yacht. The *Discovery* also at times takes guests and clients on evening cruises when the company chef comes on board to pre-

pare the meal. The distance of nine miles from the Conch Inn dock over to Baker's Bay takes 25 minutes and clients are sometimes picked up from Hope Town and Treasure Cay. The boat goes out most days and sometimes up to three times a day.

Discovery has an overall length of 77.4 feet, a draft of 4 and a half feet and beam of 18 foot 2 inches. It holds 1,775 gallons of

Please see **Baker's Bay**

Page 12

Hurricane Damaged Doors Are Being Repaired



The roofs and the large doors on the freight warehouses at the freight dock in Marsh Harbour were badly damaged by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in September 2004. The roof repairs on the international warehouse have finally be made. Shown here is Rudy McKinney of the Abaco R & R Roofing company of Treasure Cay replacing one of the doors on the domestic warehouse. He previously replaced the doors on the international warehouse. Customs is pleased that the work will be completed before hurricane season begins again in one month. Electricity in both building is still off.

Taylor University Choir Sang at Awards Ceremony



A choir from Taylor University visited Abaco on March 28-31. They sang at the Awards Ceremony for Outstanding Students held at New Vision Ministries on March 30. The group was on Grand Bahama prior to their first visit to Abaco and came on Pinder's Ferry from McLean's Town. During their time here they held workshops with church choirs at the Full Gospel Assembly of God Church in Treasure Cay and New Vision Ministries in Marsh Harbour. There was enough free time for them to visit Green Turtle Cay, Hope Town and Man-O-War. They enjoyed their time on Abaco and are hoping to return. They found Abaco people very hospitable. Taylor University is an evangelical, interdenominational Christian liberal arts college with two campuses in Indiana.

School News

School *From Page 1*

tated. People sometimes see them while they are out in their boats or sometimes they are found on the beach. We learned that most turtles there are loggerheads and most of their sicknesses are caused by their eating our garbage thrown overboard or from discarded fishing lines thrown away in the sea. Some get bitten by sharks, too. The center has a room that has a lot of examples of types of turtles, turtle eggs and all kinds of sea life exhibits.

Then you go into a yard where they have large plastic tanks with the sick and injured turtles in them. Our class "adopted" a little turtle names Jonah It got that name because a year ago a fish-

erman was cleaning a fish he had caught in the ocean, and Jonah was found in the fish's stomach - still alive! Jonah is really growing and will be released as soon as he can take care of himself. When you donate money to "adopt" a turtle, the center has money to help more turtles. After we left there, we went to Fun Depot to have more fun!

Fun Depot

By Ricardo Cunningham

We drove to West Palm Beach to the Fun Depot Center It is a huge building that could be a casino, but it is really a huge arcade for kids or adults. We had so much fun playing games and driving the go carts around the track. Everyone drove the carts as much as they could.

We won a lot of prizes playing the games. If you ask me, this was the most fun part of the trip!

Masa's Sagami Restaruant

By Ben Patterson

We had a special treat on the second night - we went to this great restaurant where they cooked the food right in front of your table on a metal grill called a hibachi. Some people got sushi and we all got really different foods that were delicious. The fun part was the chefs all did tricks with the food. They used these metal spatulas to flip eggs in the air and catch them on their hats! When they got ready to break the eggs on the grill, they flipped them out of their hats and the eggs landed on the edge of the spatulas and broke on the grill. It was so neat! Another trick they did was to cut the onions up into rings and pile them up like a volcano. Then they poured special oil in the middle and lit them - they looked just like a volcano. It was a great place to go.

Florida Historical Museums and Treasure Museum

By Bronson Roberts

We toured a neat museum that showed us the history of Florida and all about the life of the early settlers. It told about the Indians that lived in the southern part of Florida; they were called the Seminoles. We saw the clothes they wore and the things they used to hunt in the swamps. It showed how the early settlers built the railroads and what type of mail and phone service they had so far away from the other states. In another part of the museum they had a really neat Treasures-from-the-Deep Exhibit. That exhibit showed great buried treasure found off the coast of Florida. A lot of it was 400-800 years old. We saw sword handles, Civil War weapons, coins, carved ivory jewelry, pieces of pottery, vases and a lot of valuable things they dove up. The Jupiter lighthouse is on the same property

Please see **School** Page 4



Grade six students from Hope Town School, Laura, Mauria and Aly, gaze into the eyes of an injured loggerhead at Juno Beach's Loggerhead Park Marine Life Center Turtle Hospital. The students visited the center on their recent school trip to South Florida.

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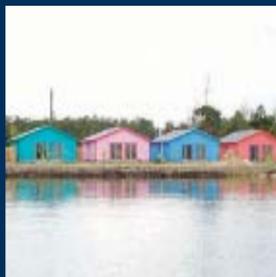
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More School News

School *From Page 2*

as the museum. The Jupiter lighthouse is very similar to ours, except that it is all red. It is just about the same age as ours and about the same height, too.

King Tut Exhibit

By Laura Albury

This was the first time I had ever been to the United States. I am Bahamian but was born and grew up in England where my mother is from. We just moved back to the Bahamas two years ago. The trip was so much fun for me. The morning we went to the King Tut Exhibit we left Jupiter at 5 in the morning to avoid the traffic to Fort Lauderdale where the exhibit was in the Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art. It was a huge museum. This was the only spot the exhibit

would be in the southeast, and it is the last time the exhibit will tour the U.S. So I am thrilled we got to see it! It was the chance of a lifetime!

We went into the museum and collected our headphones and audio sets, then went into the rooms to listen to the recordings explain some of the more important exhibits. The exhibits were all numbered so you gazed in wonder at the object that was nearly 3,000 years old as you listened to the recorder explain its importance. It was amazing. A lot of items came from tombs of King Tut's grandparents and other relatives.

There was so much gold and jewels to be seen in the items, it was unbelievable. The carvings were amazing in all the items. There was even a chair that King Tut used as a boy. We really learned a lot about the Egyptian culture and way of life.

Before we left on the trip, we had watched a movie about King Tut's life and that helped us to understand a lot about the items. I thought the whole experience was so interesting. When we finally finished there, we walked along the river through the historic district and another museum.

The Museum of Science and Discovery and IMAX Theater

By Lance Roberts

We walked along the river front until we got to this next museum. This huge building was filled with wonderful exhibits. They had exhibits of all kinds of animals and snakes and spiders, and a lot of hands-on activities and neat science games we could try. The best was the space simulator ride we got to go on. You enter a machine and when they closed the door, you really feel like you have taken off into space. During this ride we got to learn a lot about space and planets. When it was over, one of our dads said he almost got sick inside and would not be a good astronaut.

Then we went to look at some dinosaur

fossils. Then we went to the IMAX theater in the building to see a 3D movie about an African Safari. We had to wear 3D glasses to watch the movie, and it made it seem like we were right in the movie ourselves. It gave some of us headaches, though. It was the first IMAX movie most of us had seen, and it was pretty cool.

Our Shopping Adventures

By Mauria Etienne

This was the first trip to the United States for me, too. We were all looking out the plane windows waiting to see the outline of Florida. It was exciting for me. We all planned our money for shopping and we got to go to a Super Target and a WalMart, too. I really liked the two times we got to go to the Garden's Mall to shop the best. We all bought presents for our family members and ourselves and still came home with some money. We ate at neat spots and stayed up late at night talking about our adventures long after we had finished writing in our journals each night during quiet time.

Please see School Page 6



Hope Town students spent quiet time writing in their journals each night about the day's exciting events before turning in for the night. It kept the educational edge on the field trips

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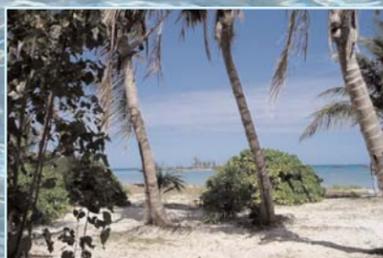


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CASUARINA POINT Canal front lot with ocean access in quiet community. Water, electricity, cable and phone ready. **Price \$95,000**
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More School News

School From Page 4

My Extended Trip

By Noah Albury

I was really lucky because my family and I went on a skiing trip before my class trip. We went to Colorado, and I went skiing and snowboarding. My favourite spot at the ski lodge was the terrain park where you got to go over jumps and slide on rails. Then we flew to Florida to meet with my class. In the King Tut exhibit, I liked the golden dagger the best. It was found between layers of the mummy's linen wrap. I learned a lot about how the Egyptians believed in their after-life and how they preserved the internal organs of the royalty in special jars that were very fancy. I also liked the hieroglyphics. After my class left to go

back to Abaco, my family and I went to Miami where I got to go to Cirque de Soleil. The acrobats were amazing. I was scared that they would fall. The costumes were strange and wild. The stage moved and the floor opened and closed! My whole trip was a blast!

My Special Trip to Nassau

By Roddie Joseph

I did not get to go with my class to Florida, but I took a real fun trip to Nassau while they were gone. My Aunt Madeliene is in Nassau doing her residency to become a doctor. She took time off and took me all over. We went to Ardastra Gardens to see all kinds of animals. I saw Bahama parrots and iguanas and a lot of other beautiful birds and wild animals they have. I really enjoyed watching the flamingoes march in the show they do there. Then my auntie took

me to the new National Art Gallery, too. There were some really beautiful paintings in a very old building they fixed up. I got to visit with my mother and brother, too. It was a very fun time.

Other Fun Times

By Ashton Kemp and Shawn Loinee

We did not get to go with our class on the trip to Florida either, but we will tell you

about some other fun times we have had. Ashton: I got to ride on a dinghy boat during the annual Heritage Day festival. We had a boat parade, and each student that rode in a dinghy was flying a flag that was once over the Bahamas. We rode around the harbour while the announcer told about

Please see **School** Page 8



During Heritage Day Hope Town School students rode in dinghys waving the flags once flown over The Bahamas. Here a student waves the English Union Jack as the dinghy parade circles the harbour.



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Beach front
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Ripe for development

Treasure Beach Lot
155ft x 700ft deep
Beach front

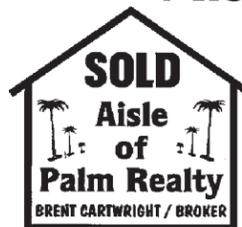
Treasure Cay
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1216 - NEW EXCLUSIVE - 3/2 home upstairs with 2/1 and 1/1 apartments downstairs. All units fully and tastefully furnished. A must see!! Call for more info.



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. \$299,900



1256 - Guana Cay beachfront home on double lot. Home offers 3/2 on two levels. Excellent rental home. Priced Right to sell



1248 - Great Cistern hillside lot with great views of the Sea of Abaco. 28,000+ square feet. \$65,000



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



1265 - Marsh Harbour commercial - One acre prime commercial with 60' x 36' building. Lots of room for expansion. Priced Right!!



1218 - NEW EXCLUSIVE - Two story home in Bahama Palm Shores offering two beds along with detached one bedroom guest cottage. \$355,000



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



1258 - Scotland Cay beach lot - Half acre beach lot ready for dream home. Over 100' of pristine beach

Please call us for information on these fine listings or any of our other listings throughout Abaco

web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

E X C L U S I V E L I S T I N G S

#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.

#1927

Ekali by The Shore
Hope Town



\$310,000

Ekali lies in a lush tropical setting on the Sea of Abaco which offers breathtaking views of the ocean. Now you can be a part of this idyllic community by the sea. There are 6 available, 1/2 Acre lots w/ own dock slip. All of these lovely homesites come with full access to the facilities of Ekali Estates. This includes, magnificent oceanfront, own dock slip in brand new marina, lush landscaped grounds and pool.

#1929

Kashmir House
Ekali by The Sea, Hope Town



\$1,600,000

Kashmir 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 1 storey, 3 bed, 2 bath very attractive, well built home is constructed w/ aluminum & hurricane proof glass. This home is spacious & can accommodate a very large family. The kitchen is ideal for entertaining, w/ lovely breakfast area.

#1926

Ocean View Cottage
Lubbers Quarters



\$518,000

Ocean view Cottage is a one of a kind tree house secluded in Lubbers Quarters Cay. On the side of Ocean view Cottage is a hill that is 50ft above sea-level. The living room w/ hardwood floors & 6 French doors which open onto a screened porch is on the main floor. The porch wraps around on 3 sides w/ an enticing view from every door to window. This charming cottage is a must see!

#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.

#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.

#1852

'West Wind'
Buttonwood



\$1,200,000

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.

#2205

Long Beach



\$75,500

Breathtaking views await you once you are standing upon this lovely 10,000 square foot hill top property in Long Beach. Lot # 370 is a corner lot with great elevation and views of the open Atlantic Ocean. Nestled in a quiet neighbourhood about 30 minutes south of Marsh Harbour with quality neighbours to entertain once you build your dream home.

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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More School News

School *From Page 6*

our particular flag. It was great fun!

Shawn: Ashton, Roddie and I got to go on the trip to Cross Harbour to help in the mangrove wetlands restoration project. We took a very long bus ride, and then we finally got to the spot. It is down on the same road as the Hole-in-the-Wall Lighthouse. The scientist, Dr. Leyman told us how we would be helping the wetlands by removing some mangroves so that the water could flow back and forth from the ocean to the wetlands area. Then the baby conch, fish and crawfish can hide, eat and grow in the safety of the other mangroves once they get there.

There was a lot of mangroves we had to remove by pulling hard down by the roots. My class worked very hard all morning. We got very wet and also very muddy, but we sure had a wonderful time. We got to see how they tagged the fish that were beginning to swim back up into the cleared out area so that they will learn where the fish go and how long they will stay in the

wetland area. We all want to go back down and help again!

Abaco Central High Teacher of the Year Is Honored

By Portia Jonsson

Far too often teachers are not recognized or appreciated for their hard work, dedication and the crucial role they play in society nor the vital contributions to the education and development of our children and future leaders.

On April 11th the administrators, teachers and students of Abaco Central High School staged a special assembly to salute and applaud their Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Lori Thompson.

Sharing this special day with her were her husband, Roscoe Thompson III, son Rocky, mother and sister, also a teacher. Also attending this ceremony were Ms. Felemease Sawyer, Education Officer; Mrs. Elva Davis, Abaco Central's Teacher of the Year for 2005; and Mrs. Arlene Moss, Abaco District's 2005 Teacher of the Year. A motorcade through the streets of Marsh

Harbour got the celebrations off to an exciting start. Tributes were paid to Mrs. Thompson in song, poem and dance, and each home room class presented her with a gift.

Principal Euthal Greene described Mrs. Thompson as caring, dedicated, soft spoken and kind. He told all that she epitomizes a dedicated teacher and is their pride for the day. He advised that she is cutting a big road for many to follow.

In her brief remarks Mrs. Thompson said she did not set a goal to be Teacher of the Year but instead strives to be the best teacher for the day. Being named Teacher of the Year is a tremendous honour, she said, adding that she works among the best teachers and most hardworking staff in this coun-

try. She thanked the teachers, staff and students for making her feel special.

A special luncheon followed the ceremony.



Mrs. Lori Thompson is Abaco Central High School's Teacher of the Year for 2006 and was honoured in a special assembly at the school on April 11th. She is pictured with her husband Roscoe Thompson III and son Rocky.

Please see **School** *Page 10*

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- 3. THE COTTAGES** Now the newest oceanfront development on Treasure Cay beach comprising individual luxury units
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- 4. BAHAMA BEACH CLUB**
Luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 3 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features
Starting at \$742,500 Plus 14% closing

ROYAL PALM

Canal Front Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool Phase I - 3 bed / 3 bath upper end unit, 12' wide slip with boat lift, includes golf cart. \$553,500

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 redecorated, slip, includes golf cart. MUST SEE \$406,000

ROYAL POINCIANA

Ocean Front Condos with on site pool and tennis
2 bed / 2 bath downstairs end unit with wrap-around deck. Never rented. Fully and tastefully furnished. Special must see unit. \$738,000

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Pool side / garden location 2 bed / 2 bath \$369,000
Second row beach with direct ocean access. Great view. 2 bed / 2 bath, many special features. MUST SEE \$553,500

MARINERS COVE

Townhouse Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool Marina View. 2 bed / 2 bath, end unit, extra features. Never rented \$212,000

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"Trident"/"Turquoise Seas" You cannot be more "on the beach" than in this special home. Offering 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath in the main house with detached garage / bed / bath / attic plus storage. Vast deck oceanside with widow's walk. WOW! \$2,500,000 + 7.5% closing
"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 wrap-around porch/kitchen opening on to pool. Also garage/ utility room as well as 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 Except ional location and view. Many more features, must see to appreciate. NEW PRICE \$1,265,000 + 7.5% closing

WINDWARD BEACH ROAD

"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

WINDWARD BEACH ESTATES

"Bahama Sunset" Canal front two storey CBS home with 141 ft. water frontage with dock. Upper level has living / dining / kitchen, master bedroom with ensuite bath, den / optional bedroom and bath, and large covered dock. Downstairs 1 bed / 1 bath / living also large garage / workshop. Unique property with fantastic sunset view as well as sunrise ocean view. \$1,107,000

ROCK POINT

"Pilot House" special unique location with a commanding, enviable view of the Sea of Abaco. Water front home, 2 storey, CBS/ frame. Upstairs master and guest bed, 2 baths, large living/ dining/ open kitchen; lower level 1bed / 1 bath, 2 car garage plus 1 car/boat garage. \$1,230,000

Apartment four-plex, 2 storey CBS building, each level has 2 full apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen. Great rental investment. MUST SEE! \$400,000

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 - Sunrise Point Beginning at \$875,000
- Canal Front Beginning at \$264,500
- Rock Point Waterfront, bulkheaded Beginning at \$175,000
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Dolphin Beach Estates, Guana Cay - #5572- 2 bed/2bath home, 768 sq.ft This home is being sold fully furnished including appliances, hurricane shutters and a back up generator are also included \$307,000.00-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



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



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



Sand Banks Near Treasure Cay -5432 2.8acres of property with a 1bed/1bath home features a canal and dock. Great bonefishing! Property has lots of potential, Call today.



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



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



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



Lubbers - #5617- Lubbers is a 25 minute boat ride from Marsh Harbour. This lot comprises 10,094 sq.ft and is one lot in from the Sea of Abaco. \$110,000.00- Call one of our agents today



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

- Vacant Lots for Sale Green Turtle Cay**
- Three lots situated on the Atlantic Ocean with over 90 ft. of beach front each lot. \$440,000 each.
 - Sea to Sea Lot on White Sound. Lot has a cottage already built, and is ideal for a dock with good depth at the shoreline. \$550,000
 - 1/2 Acre lot on Blacksound ideal for a dock and home site. Owner financing available. \$602,000
 - Building lot with a shared 100' dock on beautiful Blacksound. Just outside of the settlement and near to beaches at Gillam Bay. \$550,000
- Vacant Lots for Sale Bahama Palm Shores**
- Several lots in Bahama Palm Shores and Pinehurst starting at \$13,000.00
- Sweeting's Village, Marsh Harbour**
- Great building lot available in fast growing area, 11,000+ sq.ft, \$52,000.00 - Call today
- Casuarina Point**
- Vacant Lot, 10,000 sq.ft. +, US \$ 42,000.00 (UNDER CONTRACT)



Where will you stretch Your hammock?

Abaco Dog Wins Best of Show in Nassau



Candace and Will Key's Bedlington Terrier earned the distinction of Best in Show at a recent dog show held in Nassau that was sponsored by the Bahamas Kennel Club. The dog, Champion Sandon N'Oakhill Bahama Breeze, actually answers to the name Breezy. The dog is shown here with Mrs. Key and the judge who named him the champion.

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School

From Page 8

Agape Christian School Easter Musical Is Performed

By Portia Jonsson

On April 6th the drama and choir electives classes at Agape Christian School, taught by Mrs. Rhonda with the help of Mr. Bill and Ms. Jessica, performed an Easter dramatic musical, *Alive!* Complete with chimes, choral singing, solos, skits, mime, sign language, monologue and readers' theatre, the performance displayed skills that the students have been developing in their electives.

It was a very memorable evening as parents from all over Abaco came to watch their children perform. There was a great turnout with over 150 persons in attendance.

It was a challenging road in preparation for the performance. As drama and choir electives occur only once a week, after school practices were necessary for the weeks leading up to the performance. Students from the cays had to arrange special transportation so that they would be able attend. Last minute lines were frantically memorized and the finishing touches were made on the choir pieces. It was certainly a beneficial learning experience for both directors and students as they discovered what worked and what did not. It certainly paid off in the end to see the students perform their best.

More importantly, the message of Jesus' death and resurrection was proclaimed to all who were there. Tears were shed as the drama team mimed the story of Christ's crucifixion, and joy was spread through the crowd as the audience sang *Jesus, we celebrate your victory!*



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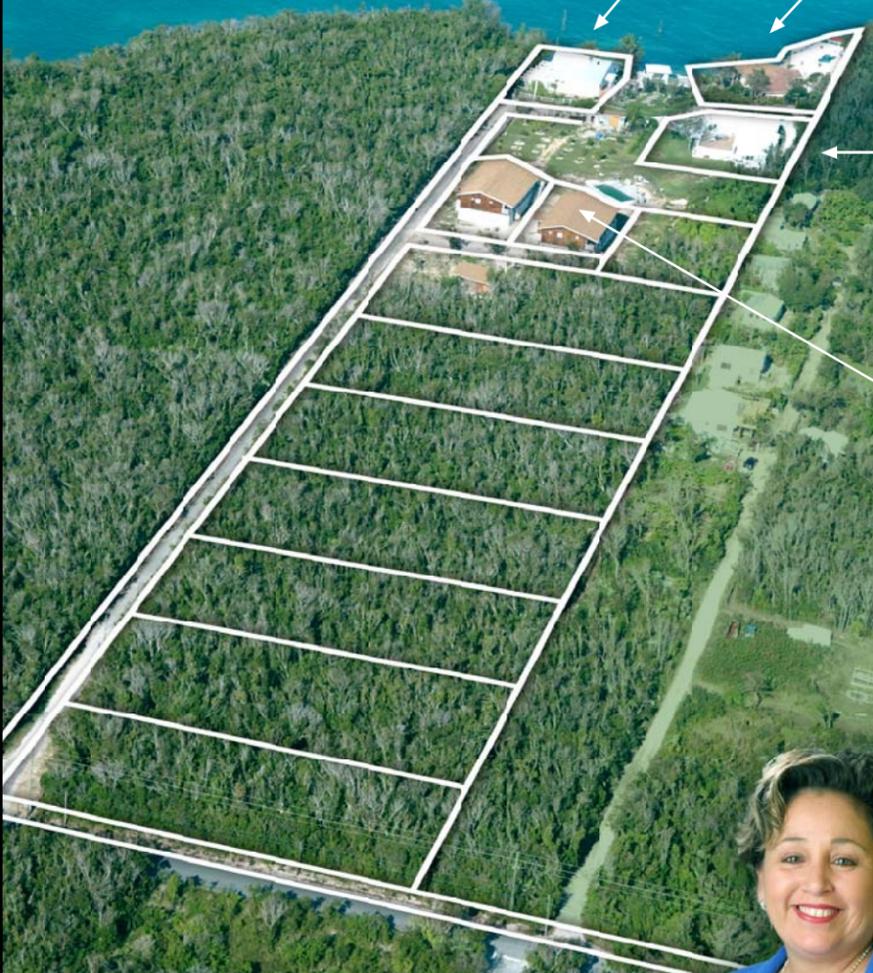


NOW SUBDIVIDED INTO AN OCEANFRONT COMMUNITY WITH EXISTING HOMES FOR SALE

Ekali by The Sea

Ekali by The Seas a magnificent commercial property consisting of 5 upscale villas & 1 cozy cottage. Ekali lies in a lush tropical setting with beautifully landscaped gardens on the Sea of Abaco which offers breathtaking views of the ocean during the day and unimaginable evening sunsets. Now you can be a part of this idyllic community by the sea. Choose from one of these unique existing homes.

Call Patti Love at Graham Real Estate today to find out more about this exciting investment opportunity!





The Main House on 2 levels is **Ekali**, a beautiful 3 bed, 3 bath house that has a rich English flair. The Guest Quarters are on the ground level & boast another 2 bed, 2 bath with full kitchen, open dining & sitting room. Just outside the lovely French doors on the sea side is a spacious deck. The existing 60ft dock is included with this property. **\$2,100,000**



Villa San Paulo is a spacious, beautiful, 3 bed, 2 bath villa resembling a Swiss chalet. It also features wide, covered decks which are ideal for entertaining just 20ft from the sea. Only a step away from the villa is a beautiful 27ft swimming pool edging the sea with a cabana at one end which affords spectacular views to those relaxing within. **Under contract.**



Set back on a hill **Kashmir 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 very attractive, well built home sits at the center of the estate and is constructed with aluminum & hurricane proof glass. This home is spacious & can accommodate a very large family. **\$1,600,000**



Alcantara I & Alcantara II are 2 identical 4 bed, 4 bath homes, built using the best craftsmanship. Alcantara I & 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 2 homes sit a large, spacious 35ft. pool. **\$1,750,000**



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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."

BS\$2,875,000 Gross. (Exclusive of 1/2 Stamp Tax and Purchases own legal fees)

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Business comprises of:-



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LAUNDROMAT

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STORAGE BUILDING

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

DOCK

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

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



HARBOUR VIEW HAVEN

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• 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

"New" Abaco Ocean Club
LUBBERS Lots 39 & 40
\$99,000 gross each

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 **\$1,750,000** gross

• 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., **\$315,000** each

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10,400+ sq. ft. great views, near Boat Harbour, **\$135,000**

• SOUTH ABACO LISTINGS •



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LONG BEACH

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• MARSH HARBOUR LISTINGS •



PELICAN SHORES HARBOUR

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SUNRISE BAY

only 7 lots remain in this beautiful subdivision from **\$170,000**

CROSSING BEACH AREA

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M/V Discovery Hires Local Captain

Baker's Bay

From Page 1

fuel and 459 gallons of water. Fully loaded, this Lyman Morse can cruise at 22 knots for a distance of 590 nautical miles. Normal cruising speed is 29 knot with a top speed of 34 and a half knots.

The impressive interior, reflective of luxurious sailing yacht interiors of the 1920s and 30s, is finely crafted in mahogany and teak which is impeccably hand carved with insets of three strand rope and shell motifs. Its four spacious staterooms and three head cabin layout accommodate eight people. Up a few steps from the cockpit, the pilot house features a pair of L-shaped settees and tables, raised six inches for better viewing. The galley, which is open to the salon, is fully equipped with large refrigerator-freezer, dishwasher, four-burner cooktop and Corian counter tops. Meals can be eaten in a raised salon dinette.

Although the *Discovery* has now taken over as the company's flagship for transporting clients to the development on Guana Cay, the company owns other boats which it uses for the convenience

of clients. The 36-foot Hinkley, captained by Ron Levarity, was formerly used for transporting clients from the Conch Inn to



Capt. Perry Thomas

Baker's Bay and is now used to take guests island hopping and fishing while the 36-foot *Predator*, captained by Willis Levarity is used mainly for sport fishing. A 60-foot sailboat is available for guests who desire to sail and an island hopper takes staff to and from the island.

Perry Thomas was hired as Captain of the *Discovery* on February 26, 2006, and on March 10, his very first day taking the boat over to Baker's Bay, he had the CEO, Mr. Michael Meldman, on board which he said, "was plenty of pressure." However, he now appears very relaxed at the helm and takes everything in his

stride. He took over from American Peter Colgan, who was the delivery captain and worked for the company for one year.

Capt. Thomas hails from Fox Town where he received his early education before moving to Hawksbill High School in Freeport. He has been handling small boats since the age of 13 but returned to Marsh Harbour in 1982 and progressed to a larger craft when Capt. Willard Rose hired him as first mate and taught him how to run bigger boats. Capt. Rose gave the young Perry Thomas plenty of excellent training and experience on his 52-foot Hatteras with crossings to the United States. This was before GPS and Perry was taught to steer by compass. He would have to take the boat across the Gulf at night, steering only by compass, with no autopilot, while Capt. Willard slept.

In 1985 Perry received his first B class licence, which he held until 1995 when he received his A class licence which allowed him to captain larger boats. He then captained five different boats ranging from 47 feet to 61 feet for people from Florida and also did many boat de-

liveries, up to 75-footers. The biggest he captained was a 120-foot Broward. Capt. Thomas has several other strings to his bow having also worked as a loans officer in a bank, as a realtor and qualified dive master, but he is delighted to have received this position with the *Discovery Land Company* at Baker's Bay because it gives him the opportunity to get back on boats and still be at home. Most other jobs on boats require the person to be away from home but this "gives me the perfect opportunity to run a really nice boat, be based 500 yards from my house and have more time to spend with my kids. I have turned down other opportunities, but good things come to those that wait."

Capt. Thomas speaks with much praise of his first mate, Anwar Moss, who joined the Baker's Bay team in September, 2005. Originally from Nassau, Mr. Moss fell in love with Abaco about nine years ago and has returned frequently for fishing and crawfishing. He began his boating experience as a young boy on

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 13

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Plush Boat Serves Baker's Bay Clients

Baker's Bay

From Page 12

fishing trips to Andros with his father. After leaving school he worked several land-based jobs in Nassau, finally serv-

ing for three years as a firefighter at Nassau International Airport. He trained at the Defence Force Base in small boat operations and is a certified open water diver. His first job with Baker's Bay was helping on the 36-foot Hinckley but in

December he had the opportunity to fill in for the first mate on the *Discovery*, proved his aptitude for the job and was kept on as first mate. "He has the right attitude and leadership skills needed to remain calm under pressure and make good decisions," says his captain who is training him to be able to captain the boat also.

Both Mr Thomas and Mr Moss are in excellent physical and mental shape for their task. Both have undergone the

SCTW training course for all captains and crews working on boats. This very rigorous internationally recognised course was held at the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Base at Coral Harbour, New Providence. Course participants are drilled in firefighting skills and required to carry out search and rescue in smoke-filled buildings, fully suited in high tempera-

Please see **Baker's Bay** Page 23



The M/V Discovery is a 77-foot cruising boat that Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club has for entertaining their guests and prospective investors. It is now captained and crewed by local men. Standing in the cockpit are Capt. Thomas and First Mate Moss.

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TREASURE CAY:

"Argyll House"

(Ref #483) Elegant & luxurious 4 bedroom, 5.5 bath Ocean Blvd. Estate approx. 6,900 s/f, on 1.6 acres with 153' on the beach, landscaped, fully furnished, high ceilings, marble floors, 2 car garage, includes vehicles. \$5,100,000.

"Peace & Plenty"

(Ref #503) Splendid 7 bedroom, 4.5 bath 2 storey, fully furnished Ocean Blvd beachfront estate, situated on 1.453 superbly landscaped acres with 163' feet of spectacular beach frontage, magnificent views, covered balconies, superior finishes, guest cottage, ideal location with privacy. \$3,800,000.

"Trident House"

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

"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.

"Oceana"

(Ref #498) Furnished 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath private home with open floor plan and British Colonial decor for elegant and comfortable living, located on Sandpiper Beach with magnificent views, garage, landscaped, beachside deck. \$1,875,000.

"Alexandre"

(Ref #510) 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath harbour front residence, 3,000+s/f with loft, CBS construction with high ceilings, French doors overlooking harbour, 60' dock plus boat lift, landscaped double garage, screened patio, fully furnished, pool, Price \$1,850,000.

"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 \$1,200,000.

"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 though 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 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.

"Waterfront Lots"

(Ref #260) Four adjoining sea-walled waterfront lots on Galleon Bay Rd with spectacular views of the Sea of Abaco, cleared ready for construction, excellent value, Price \$220,000 each.

"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 picturesque Galleon Bay, quick access to the Sea of Abaco. \$350,000.

"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.

"One Bedroom Mariner's Cove"

(Ref #439) Fully furnished and meticulously maintained one bedroom, one bath ground level, poolside condominium, recently completely renovated, all new appliances & furnishings, customs cabinetry, terracotta tile floor, lots of amenities. Rental potential Price \$185,000.

"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.

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.

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, lot#8 \$299,000, lot#9 \$349,000.00.

BUSTICK BIGHT: "Waterfront Acreage"

(Ref #381) Two 1 acre parcels, featuring 150-200 feet of water front on protected Bustick Bight, located just 6 miles north of Marsh Harbour, open zoning, ideal location. Call for pricing.

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.

SCOTLAND CAY: "Waterfront Lot"

(Ref #319) Large lot with 125 feet on Sea of Abaco, Private island with air strip, elevations up to 50'+/- \$500,000.

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 22' 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, finger 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.

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#10181. Super Bahamian style two-story home, fully furnished. Concrete block ground floor & frame above. 8" wide wrap-around deck affords great views. The second level offers a modern kitchen with all amenities, open living/dining area, 2 bd & full bath with shower. All tongue & groove southern pine interiors. The ground floor houses a third bd & bath, a 13,000 gallon water cistern & utility/storage area. Includes 5,500kw backup generator, golf cart, tools. Great rental potential, the perfect island getaway **\$480,000.**

TREASURE CAY



#9601. Building site situated in Anchorage Estates, the perfect location for a small multi-family project. Located adjacent to the roundabout, 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



#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. Will consider subdividing **\$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



#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



#9323. Just built and never lived in! 3 bedrooms, two 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.**

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**

BAHAMA CORAL ISLAND



#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



#9073. 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



#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. Motivated seller! **\$35,000.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

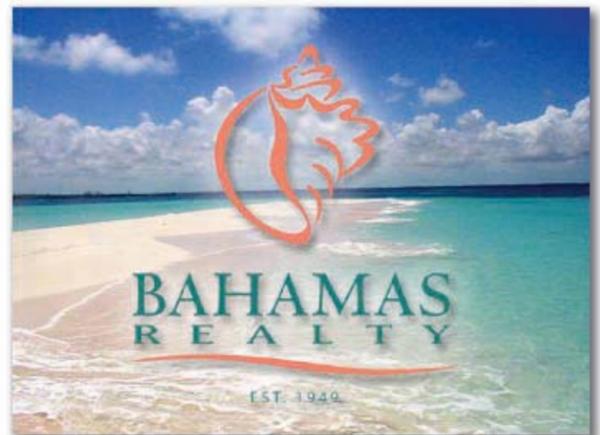


#3646: Two nice side-by-side home sites just 300 feet from Eight Mile Bay Beach. Good elevation, cleared and ready to build. Buy both for a generous building envelope and 'build up' for Atlantic Ocean views and breezes. **\$41,000 each.**

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.



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Central Abaco News

Ground Breaks on Condominiums at Abaco Beach Resort

Abaco Beach Resort has announced that construction of condominiums is now underway. With little or no impact on the resort and marina this new project will consist of two condo buildings, one with nine units, the other with 14 units as well as a new swimming pool.

Phase I of the project included 62 single-family home sites, each with a private dock, which have been completed and sold. The second phase of the project will be completed within 18 months and pre-sales are currently available.

The residences at Abaco Beach Resort will feature units ranging from 1,800 square-feet to 3,500 square feet. The marina residences will offer two-bedroom flats and three-bedroom, two-story lofts, with four styles to choose from. Owners will have the option of offering the units into a rental program. The residences are designed with a lockout section so that even partial units may be rented if desired.

The architectural style of the residences feature traditional Bahamian inspired themes with Bermuda roofs, dormer windows, and wide verandas creating a unique character. Each unit will provide for parking as well as spaces for golf carts. The residences are equipped with back-up generators and hurricane proof windows.

The residences will have an open floor plan with the kitchen, dining and living room overlooking the Sea of Abaco. The spacious bedrooms will feature walk-in closets and the second bedroom can be used as a lock-out room.

"Owners of the Abaco residences will enjoy all the benefits and amenities that a resort has to offer," said John Neophytou, Vice President of Operations for Abaco Beach. "Abaco Beach Resort is an established resort with a strong occupancy rate."

Upon completion, the entire expansion project at Abaco Beach Resort will include more than 100 condo units, a marina expansion, a larger restaurant, additional meeting and convention space and a spa and fitness center. The entire project will take between five and 10 years to complete. The resi-

dences start at just over a million dollars.

Easter Bash at Goombay Park

By Portia Jonsson

Goombay Park was the place to be on April 15th when Central Pines Association staged its first Easter Bash sponsored by the Abaco Tourist Office in conjunction with Coastal Awareness Month.

Children of all ages enjoyed the day's activities and fun-filled competitions. There was an Easter egg hunt and Easter basket competition as well as face painting and bouncing castle. Two round trip tickets to Fort Lauderdale was the grand prize in a raffle drawing also made that day. All the favorite Bahamian dishes were on sale along with ice cream and conch salad.

Funds raised from this bash will go towards registering the Central Pines Association and assist Local Government with garbage collection, road signs and general sub-division maintenance.

Central Pines Association committee members are Mrs. Bernadette Harding - President, Mrs. Leazona Richard - Secre-



This youngster enjoyed the fun activities at the Central Pines Easter Bash on April 15th at Goombay Park. He is decorating an Easter egg.

tary and Ms. Benita Altidor - Treasurer.

Please see **Central**

Page 17

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If you'd like to chat about real estate opportunities in Florida's "SECRET" Community, call (TOLL FREE) or email me at your convenience. By the way, I'm very familiar with your wonderful

Family Islands, having cruised there on my sailboat from 1985 to 1988.

Thank you!

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More Central Abaco News

Central From Page 16

Reggae Concert

By Mirella Santillo

Marsh Harbour has been the site of quite a few concerts lately. The Soca /Calypso beats of the fund raising concert for the Abaco Regatta was held at the end of March, which included such famous Bahamian artists as KB, Xtra Band, and Ronnie Butler. On April 8th the Magnificent Seven entertained with country western music. On that same day Gospel Reggae was introduced to Abaco for the first time by Mr. Jessie Burrows and Mr. Frankie Floridor of Kingdom Production.

The stage for the Gospel Reggae event was set at the Ocean View Park in Dundas

Town, and by early evening a crowd was assembling and music was blasting. Since the theme was religious, Sean Robins introduced the concert with prayer and soon local artist Tito entered the stage. He was followed by more locals, Flip, Anderson and Luchner Pierre, performing individually and then together, to mark the end of the first part.

Disk Jockeys Donovan and Frankie sang and played CDs between performers to maintain the mood.

The second part of the evening was reserved for the Freeport musicians. Avalanche, Monty G. and Mr. Lynx all drew ovations from the public. It was the wee hours of the morning when the music stopped.

Mr. Floridor, one of the organizers who

wants to make the performance an annual event, said, "I am very pleased with the attendance." He estimated that "over 200 people showed up."

Mr. Floridor mentioned that he intended to hand a check for \$200 from the profits to Ms. Anita Rolle to be used for the Youth in Action program.

Walkway Is Vandalized

By Jennifer Hudson

Recently, the walkway adjacent to the BEC substation in central Marsh Harbour was renovated but soon vandalized. The

blue rope which was originally placed along the walkway in memory of Capt. Garnet Archer having been taken off his mailboat, the *Deborah K*, after his death, had become worn and frayed and was replaced with wooden struts to neaten it up since this walkway is now a part of the Marsh Harbour Memorial Park.

Lumber was purchased through the generosity of Greg and Gillian Albury of the

Please see Central Page 18

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<p>NEW</p>  <p>"Secret Beach"</p>	<p>Great Guana Cay -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beachfront Building Site - 16,500 s.f. - 0.3787 Acre - 100' Beach Frontage - Over 200' of depth - Good Elevation - Superb Ocean Views - Lush Native Vegetation <p>#TS10564 - \$425,000.</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p>  <p>"Lot # 30"</p>	<p>Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5,207 s.f. Building Site. - Semi-private dock. - Dock rated for a 55' Vessel and a 25' Runabout. <p>#AB5187 - \$520,000.</p>	<p>PRIVATE ISLAND</p>  <p>"Carrington Cay"</p>	<p>Sea of Abaco near Leisure Lee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.4 Acres - 300' from mainland - Excellent Elevation - 8' water at western end - 3 Miles south of Treasure Cay <p>#AB51471 \$375,000.</p>

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More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 17

Travel Spot while Charlie Sweeting gave his time to build it. Reportedly, within 10 days the lumber began to be maliciously broken down. It was then replaced, but the same thing happened again. The decision was made to take it all down and to remove

the 4 x 4 uprights. Nothing will be put back along the walkway since the committee of the Marsh Harbour Memorial Park has decided that it is too expensive to keep replacing the lumber. They state that they know who the persons responsible for this act of desecration are and believe that this maliciousness will, unfortunately, continue.

The committee expects to develop a park in the vacant land by the walkway. It hopes that clearing the land will commence in early May.

New Boat Ramp at Goombay Park

By Jennifer Hudson

Construction has begun on a boat ramp at Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour, and it is hoped to that the work will be finished by mid-May. This is a Local Government project for which Heath Higgs will be doing the construction work. Mrs. Yvonne Key, Deputy Chief Councillor and Marsh Harbour Town Committee Chairman, said that there is a great need for this new boat ramp since Marsh Harbour has grown so rapidly that launching boats on the main street at Iron Point is no longer viable. The ramps where boats were formerly launched are in too constricted an area which causes parking problems and traffic gridlock.

All persons will be able to launch their boats from the new ramp in Goombay Park, and there will be plenty of parking for trailers and vehicles during the day. All boats, trailers and vehicles must, however, be moved by evening, or they will be towed away.

The 30 to 40 boats which go out for Marsh Harbour's annual Sail Away will, in this its fourth year, leave from the Goombay

Park ramp which will provide adequate parking and thus avoid the problem of trucks and other vehicles being parked in people's yards and along the street as in previous years.

Local Government will also shortly be building an additional 30 to 40 feet onto the existing dock at Goombay Park, construction to be done by Brandon Thompson of Drill Rig. When this dock is completed, Albury's Ferry will use that dock for the early morning and late afternoon trips taking workmen to Scotland Cay and Guana Cay instead of using the Union Jack Dock which is now too congested and lacks adequate parking.

Lack of Support from Locals Is Disappointing

By Jennifer Hudson

Following the very successful coastal clean up on April 1 in Marsh Harbour, the clean up which was scheduled for the Central Pines Estates, Murphy Town and Dundas Town areas on April 8 was very disappointing as only one person, a teacher from Forest Heights Academy who is very environmentally concerned, showed up apart from the two organizers, Bernadette Harding and Dornell Swain from the Ministry of Tourism office.



Everyone who drives along Queen Elizabeth Drive in Marsh Harbour is impressed with the beautiful changes that are taking place. Randy Key of Pinewoods Nursery has lovely plantings from the traffic light east. These are colorful and well maintained. Mr. Key has staff that regularly water and care for the plants. Mrs. Yvonne Kay, Marsh Harbour Town Committee Chairman, is putting in additional sidewalks to make the roadway even more attractive. Mr. Charlie Sweeting has a crew who is doing the work. We can all thank these two people for all the work they are putting into the town to make it more attractive.

Central

From Page 19

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More Central Abaco News

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The majority of people who assisted with the coastal clean up the previous week were visitors to our island who saw the need to rid it of garbage and so gave their time to do so. When the residents of Abaco were asked to do something about cleaning up their own communities, they showed no interest!

The organizers were, of course, not only extremely disappointed but also disgusted at the lack of support. Not to be beaten, the three who turned up got to work picking up as much garbage as they could. Ms. Swain said that she was at least able to go and round up "a couple of kids" to lend a hand.

According to Ms. Swain, an announcement was made over Radio Abaco concerning the clean up, and Chief Councillor Cubel

Davis was contacted and asked to give his support and spread the word throughout the targeted areas. However, nothing happened and trucks which had been promised did not show up either. Urban Renewal had also promised support.

As the Ministry of Tourism official said, "It is a disgrace when visitors are the only people who have any interest in doing anything about cleaning up this island and it is very sad that locals show no pride in their environment."

Construction Picks Up in Central Pines

By Samantha V. Evans

The Department of Housing in Marsh Harbour has sold all of the property in the first section of Central Pines and is waiting for more property to be released for sale. The office has a long list of persons wait-

ing to acquire lots in this sub-division. Recently, construction has picked up in the area as more persons are seeking to build their own homes. Driving through this area, it is surprising to see how quickly homes are being constructed. Mr. Gibbs, in charge of government housing on Abaco, anticipates that property will be released for sale in additional parts of Central Pines in a matter of months.

Abaco Markets Announces New CEO and President

The Abaco Markets Board of Directors announced the appointments of the Company's new CEO, President and Ex-

ecutive Vice President. The company's Chairman, R. Craig Symonette, has been appointed Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Gavin Watchorn has been appointed President to succeed David J. Thurlow. In addition to these appointments, Shervin Stuart, Senior Vice President, has been appointed Executive Vice President.

The appointments were announced by the Board's Personnel Committee Chairman Robert Sands at the Abaco Markets' corporate headquarters.

Please see **Central** Page 20



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<p>Mrs. Andrea Moss - <i>Physiotherapist</i> May 2, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Daniel Johnson - <i>Podiatrist</i> May 5, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Jerome Lightbourne - <i>Pediatric Cardiologist</i> May 5, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Paul Hunt - <i>Pediatrician, Asthma and Allergy Testing</i> May 6, 2006</p> <p>Dr. May Hestmo - <i>Hand and Orthopedic Surgeon</i> May 6, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Rosetta Ingraham, <i>Dermatologist</i> May 6, 2006</p> <p>Dr. K.J.A. Rodgers - <i>Ophthalmologist</i> May 10, 2006</p>	<p>Dr. Michael Caplia - <i>Optometrist</i> May 11, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Richelle Knowles - <i>Dermatologist</i> May 13, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Duranda Ash - <i>Ophthalmologist</i> May 19-20, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Hubert Minnis - <i>Ob Gyn / Ultrasound</i> May 20, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Edwin Demeritte, <i>Neurologist / Neurophysiologist (Adults & Children)</i> May 20, 2006</p> <p>Dr. Frumentus Leon - <i>Obstetrician / Gynecologist</i> May 27, 2006</p>
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More Central Abaco News

Central

From Page 19

Chairman and new CEO Craig Symonette, a well known businessperson with various interests throughout The Bahamas, has served as Abaco Markets' Chairman for nine years.

Abaco Markets Limited is a publicly owned Bahamian company with eight wholesale and retail grocery and consumer product operations in New Providence, Grand Bahama, Abaco and Turks and Caicos and 11 franchise locations in New Providence and Grand Bahama.

Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club Donates Fans

On April 20 the Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club purchased 100 20-inch box fans that

they will give out in their third Scurvy Few Fan Club. This is a program started by the club to give fans to elderly folks from Little Abaco to Sandy Point who do not have the luxury of air-conditioning during the hot summer months. This year the program is under the leadership of the club's new President, Heath Higgs, along with a number of the other Scurvy members.

The club would like to say Thank You to Standard Hardware for their assistance in getting the fans at an affordable price. This is just another of the many things that the club does within the community, and they look forward to doing even more in the future.

For additional information, please contact Heath Higgs at 359-6276 or Sid Dawes at 367-2681.



Some of the firemen of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department worshipped together on April 23 to honour their fallen comrade, Mr. Stanton Chea, who died a year ago as a result of an industrial accident. They are Brent Key, Matthew Key, Danny Sawyer, Mary Petsock, Steve Skulnick, Cpl. Johnson, Stanton's young son Vicente, Sharmane Claridge, Robert Claridge, Jessica Cooke and John Hall.



The Scurvy Few Motorcycle Club annually gives fans to needy people who cannot afford air conditioning or fans. Some of the club members are shown here picking up the fans from Mr. Bobby Higgs at Standard Hardware. They are, left to right, Henry Darville, President Heath Higgs, Bobby Higgs, President Emeritis Skeet Lachance, Treasurer Sid Dawes, Chad Effinger, Rex Albury, Joe Maggio.

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Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral for **Mr. Wendell Anthony "Swain" Armbrister**, 63, formerly of Murphy Town, was held in Freeport on April 15. Interment was on Grand Bahama.

He is survived by his wife Patricia Armbrister; mother Ida Swain; children Samantha, Lakeisha, Theola (Big T), Indira and Theola (Lil T) Armbrister, Laverne (Barbie) Armbrister-Archer, Samuel (Sparky), Vernal, Wendell, Wenzal, Reno Armbrister; grandchildren Jonnae Penn, Precious Armbrister, Sherwin Delancy Jr., Terneisha Winder, Samantha, Shaquille, Demetri and Tenajh Bootle, Shaniqua, Wayde Jr., and Candace Archer, Lavardynae, Tianna, Shermeco, Cordero, Cordesha, Damasio, Sameka, Avery, Sonovia, Shanethia, Samuel Jr., Sukura and Kadeidra Armbrister; great grandchild Dashawn; brother James (Jimmy) Williams; sisters Carolyn and Leanamae Armbrister, Louise Bain and Patricia Jones; daughter-in-law Erica Armbrister; sons-in-law Wayde Archer and Sherwin Delancy Sr.; parents-in-law Cliff and Nerva Bowe; sisters and brothers-in-law Gloria Williams, Princess and Reginald Farrington, Bloneva and Lawrence Rolle, Bertram and Judy Winder, Dwayne

and Sonia Winder, Shirley and Susan Bethel; uncle Edison Armbrister; aunt Louise Cornish; nieces and nephews; god-children; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Agatha Sybil McKinney**, 56, formerly of Cooper's Town, was held in Freeport on April 15. Interment was on Grand Bahama.

She is survived by her husband Bishop Ivan McKinney; sons Timothy, Craig and Martin McKinney; daughters Mary, Florence, Brenda McKinney and Judyette Brown; grandchildren Ivarene Jones, Kayla Tucker, Destiny Huyler, Franklin Ramsey Jr., Dwayne Marshall Jr., Shantar, Salyna, Sabrainer, Serena and Christopher McKinney; sisters Paula Dickenson Hall, Ettamae Austin, Karen McKenzie, Barbara Russell and Michellene Poitier; brothers Maxwell Russell Sr., Steven Rolle Sr., Rev. Derrick Russell and Clarence Poitier; sisters-in-law Lula and Lorraine Burrows; brothers-in-law Richard, Robert, Basil, Alex McKinney and Arthur Lightbome; sons-in-law Ricardo Brown and Franklin Ramsey; nieces and nephews and many other relatives and friends.

Dr. Roger Van Sherman (psychologist),

aged 53, formerly of Nassau, passed away on April 13th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife Dr. Vivica Sherman; daughters; sisters; brothers including Eugene Sherman of Dundas Town; brother-in-law; and many other relatives and friends.

Thelma Cynthia Williams, 73, of Sandy Point passed away at her daughter's residence in Freeport on April 15.

She is survived by ten adopted daughters and five adopted sons, 40 grandchil-

dren, 20 great grandchildren; brothers; sisters and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.

Ian Gerald Carroll was born on September 27, 1965, and died on April 17, 2006. He is survived by his mother, Zula Carroll; his father, Carol Carroll; brothers Gerald, Mark, Pater and Gary; sister Kathy; and many other family members and friends. His funeral was held in Treasure Cay on April 29, 2006

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Now Listing! Two bedroom two bath furnished home in quiet residential area. A short walk to Ocean Beach or reserved beach lot for homeowner's use. A/C throughout. Bonus room can be used as third bedroom. Enclosed porch plus deck. Telephone. Covered parking shelter. Stand-by generator can run whole house. B\$485,000 including closing costs.

Business project for sale! Four lots surveyed off with electricity already in. 3,670 to 5,016 sq. ft. parcels. Building plans 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. B\$350,000 with all closing costs in.

Now 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, B\$158,600 to B\$244,000. with all closing costs in.

Family estate located on Gillam Bay and Black Sound consisting of one two story furnished home with three bedrooms, two kitchens and two bathrooms. Large lot with rise of land with 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 282' 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.

Now listing! 80 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! 85' of beachfront on south end of Bight O Bay. 560' deep. One acre of spectacular white sandy beach. \$840,000 (all closing costs in)

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

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. B\$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:
Deck House

Sold:
Getzaway Cottage Gillam Bay
Lots H1 and H2
Three lots in Settlement Creek
Wood building on lot in New Plymouth
Lot 8A Coco Bay
Gillam Bay House

North Abaco News

Treasure Cay Hosted The Bahamas White Marlin Open

Treasure Cay Resort hosted the Third Annual Bahamas White Marlin Open, a three-day event sponsored by Hatteras Yachts on April 5-8. A fleet of 19 boats competed, catching a total of 35 billfish in this all release tournament - 19 white marlin, 11 blue marlin, four sailfish and one spearfish. Release points were awarded using digital cameras with time and date-stamped to validate the time of the billfish release and the species.

Reel McCoy from Ocala, Florida, was the tournament winner with 1,000 points by releasing four white marlin and two blue marlin. Coming in second place was *Juel*

Marie from Knoxville, Tennessee, that released four white marlin and one blue marlin, earning a total of 900 points. Third place was won by *Black Gold* from Boca Raton, Florida, with 550 points earned with two white marlin, a blue marlin and a spearfish.

In the Fun Fish Categories, the largest dolphin/mahi-mahi trophy was taken by *Lethal Weapon* which brought a 39-pound fish to the weigh scale. Team *Tormenta Ramera* brought in a 38-pound wahoo to capture that category. Fisherman Joe-Kel weighed in a 28-pound tuna to top that category. The Fun Fish Categories have a 25-pound minimum weight requirement.

The highlight of the Bahamas White Marlin Open's social events was the Tabasco Recipe Contest. Distinguished judges including Tabasco hospitality chefs Lionel and Peggy Robin had a real challenge selecting the top three recipes from the twelve entries. The entries were judged upon presentation, taste and best use of Tabasco products.

Top prize, an LCD television, was won by the Fisherman Joe-Kel. The recipe was a side dish named Eggplant New Iberia. The all-female team from *Mary Bess* placed second with a Tabasco Cheese Ball. Mama Who's Tort placed third with an interesting blend of Tabasco, pesto and cream cheese.

Sponsor Hatteras Yachts of New Bern,

North Carolina, hosted its popular Hatteras Hangover Clinic, providing coffee, espresso, bagels, aspirin and goodies each morning at 6 a.m. on fishing days. In addition to their active participation, Hatteras sponsored the closing night awards dinner featuring the Cajun cooking of Lionel and Peggy Robin at Treasure Cay's Spinnaker restaurant.

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

23rd Annual Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament Will Be in June

Treasure Cay Hotel Resort will hold its 23rd Annual Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament on June 11-16. This tournament is a qualifier for IGFA's International Tournament of Champions and the World Sailfish Championship and will offer four days of fishing, social parties, dinners and fun competitions. Multiple awards will be given for billfish as well as awards for tuna, dolphin and wahoo. Release point standings will be verified by participant's digital and/or video camera that had time and date on the photo.

Treasure Cay Resort is renowned for its great food and camaraderie, with social events families can enjoy. An average of

275 anglers and guests attend each tournament from many states as well as other countries.

Proceeds from 2006 fund raising efforts will benefit the Guy Harvey Research Institute, a nonprofit research center at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida. The Institute conducts basic and applied scientific research for effective conservation, bio-diversity maintenance, restoration, and understanding of the world's wild fishes.

Treasure Cay will also host the fourth leg of the Bahamas Billfish Championship which is scheduled for June 4-9.



The body of a sperm whale was washed up on Carlton Point near Treasure Cay about April 13. The whale had been badly mangled and was covered with shark bites. The tail section was completely gone. The carcass was about 20 feet long and it is estimated that its full length would have been about 27 feet. The body was examined by Monica Arso of the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey based in Sandy Point but it was too far gone for any testing. The body had been discovered floating by Charles Adams but soon after floated ashore. This is the second body of a whale to be found in Abaco waters this year. The other whale was seen near Grand Cay.

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FNM Held Fund Raising Cook-out



The South Abaco Branch of the Free National Movement held a cook out on April 22. Dinners were sold at the lot next to Bellevue Business Depot in Marsh Harbour. Attending the cook-out was Mr. Brent Symonette, MP, from Nassau. Shown here are Mrs. Anne Parotti, Mr. Jack Albury, Mr. Symonette, Mr. Franklyn Russell and Mr. Edison Key. A funeral in Nassau kept the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, MP for North Abaco, from attending. The informal get together lasted all afternoon with many dinners sold.

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Local Government Authority Hope Town District Public Notice to Registered Voters Vote of Proposed Bylaws

Be advised that there will be a specially called Town Meeting for the purpose of holding a special vote with regard to the Proposed Bylaws for the Hope Town District.

Each meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

All registered voters are advised to come out and vote.

May 15 - Man-O-War Cay, School house
May 16 - Great Guana Cay, School house
May 17 - Elbow Cay, Methodist Church

Baker's Bay

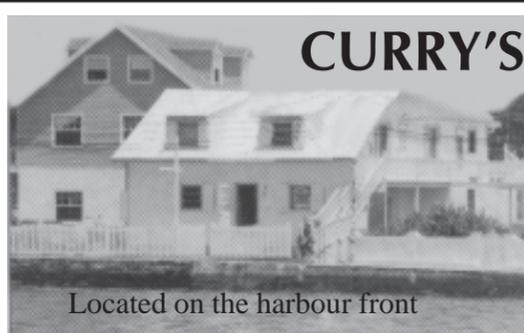
From Page 13

tures. They learn to deal with all types of fire and as part of the course are put into a lit container with five people. They are also required to do a rescue at sea in which they must tread water for half an hour, then turn over a six-man life raft by themselves, swim out and retrieve an unconscious person whom they must put into the boat by themselves.

Capt. Thomas is of the opinion that, despite all the controversy and antagonism from some of the residents of Guana Cay, the development is good for Abaco. "The Discovery Land Company has resorts in 12 other locations throughout the United States which have the

strictest rules in the world for environmental operations. If they can operate in the U.S., then they can operate in The Bahamas. This will be good for Abaco's economy and will put it on the map. Those in Guana Cay who are protesting the development are being unreasonable. Why would you ruin something which drew you to the area in the first place? The reef is a valuable asset to Baker's Bay which the company will want its clients to enjoy; so the owners will do all in their power to maintain it and only seek to enhance it."

Of his good fortune in being selected for this new position, Capt. Thomas says, "I believe good luck is preparation meeting opportunity."



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Church News

Church Holds Groundbreaking Service

By Jennifer Hudson

Following its Easter morning service, the congregation of St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town assembled atop a nearby hill on land belonging to the church for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new church manse. The former manse, which stood on the same site for over 40 years, had to be demolished a few years ago due to structural inadequacies. Since that time the church minister and congregation have looked forward to the day another manse could be constructed.

The short service began with the biblical reminder "Except the Lord build a house, they labour in vain who build it." Following a selection of hymns, choruses, invocation and Scripture readings, selected persons came forward to turn the soil. Ground was first broken by Rev. Carla Culmer, minister of St. Andrews Methodist Church, and 85-year-old Mrs. Joyce Smith, oldest member of the congregation. They were followed by the Congregational Board,

Prayer Band, Men's Fellowship, Ladies' Fellowship, Youth Group and Sunday School. The service closed with all members holding hands while singing *Bind Us Together, Lord*.

A special gift day is scheduled for the last Sunday of June, when all members, including children, will bring a gift towards the building of the new manse. The manse will be built in phases, and the church looks forward to beginning the first phase, the foundation, as soon as possible. Several members of the St. Andrews congregation are contractors by profession, and they will be donating their labour free of charge.

The St. Andrews Methodist Church has served the Dundas Town community for the past 50 years and, according to Rev. Culmer, holds the distinction of being the first church of any denomination in Dundas Town.

Men's Day at Zion Baptist

By Samantha V. Evans

On March 13th Zion Baptist Church in Murphy Town celebrated its men of God. The theme for this event was *A New Mind Set* based on the Scripture Philippians 2:5. Members learned to honor the men in their



St. Andrews Methodist Church in Dundas Town broke ground for a manse on April 16. It is on the site of a manse that stood there for 40 years. Shown here is Rev. Carla Culmer, right, assisting Mrs. Joyce Smith, oldest member of the church, as she turns the soil. Looking on is Mr. Gary Smith and other church members.

church and in their lives. Pastor Dean talked about Saul and how he allowed arrogance and disobedience to turn him away from

God's graces. During the evening service,

Please see **Church**

Page 26

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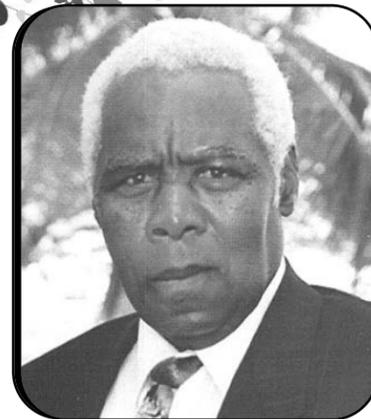
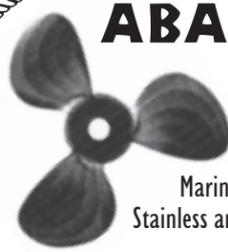
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Our sorrow is easier to bear with help from God and friends like you. We thank you.

We also wish to thank Rev. & Mrs. Charles Carey, Dr. & Mrs. Colin Archer, Pastor Dansbury Hudson, Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, Administrator Everette Hart, Pastor Dereck Benjamin, Pastor and Mrs. Silbert Mills, Pastor and Mrs. Earlyn Balliou, Dr. Marc Binand. Dr. Frank Boyce and Staff.

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BEC Replaces Pole After Fire



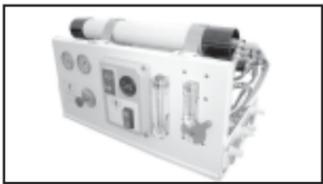
A crew from BEC is shown replacing an electric pole immediately after a woods fire on the highway near the Green Turtle Cay Ferry. The fire is still smoking as can be seen in the picture.

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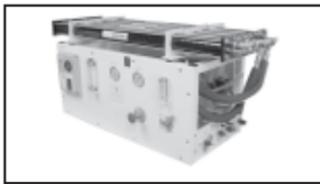
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Any persons wishing to contact Attorney PERICLES ALEXANDER MAILLIS are asked to do so by writing to P.O. Box N-4014, Nassau, Bahamas.

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Church *From Page 24*

Ms. S. Evans spoke at the night service about the Junior Achievement Program and the significant difference it could make in the lives of the youth. The pastor and members of Zion Baptist Church are committed to exposing the youth of their church to as many positive programs, events and speakers as possible because they believe that the children are the future. Hence, as the adults, they have an obligation to train and bring them up properly.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Great Abaco
 Tuesday, 7 p.m., weekly at Mackerel's Restaurant, Dundas Town, 367-5932

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

Pilot Club of South Abaco
 Last Thursday, monthly, J.A. Pinder School, Sandy Point, 366-4001

Rotary Club of Abaco
 Tuesdays, 6 p.m., weekly at Anglers Restuarant, Abaco Beach Resort

Remember: Register to Vote

Thank You

from the Family of the late Robert Leslie McDonald

We would like to thank EVERYONE for everything that was done for us during our time of sorrow. The blood donations, cards, phone calls, prayers, donations, etc... Everything was and is very much appreciated.

Thank All of You Edna & Paul McDonald

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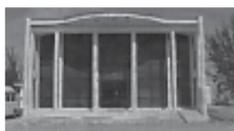
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
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 Thursday Prayer Time 12:10 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
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Body Washed Ashore On Green Turtle Cay

By Jennifer Hudson

At approximately 9:30 a.m. on Easter Monday, April 17, police on Green Turtle Cay received a call indicating that the body of a white male had been seen floating in waters near Sundowners Restaurant. The body was noticed to be that of a white male, completely nude and floating face up.

ASP Wayne Miller and a team of officers left the Marsh Harbour police station for Green Turtle Cay and on arrival there were able to confirm this. The body was then identified as Ian Carroll, a 40-year-old male from Treasure Cay.

Armed Robbery Attempted

By Jennifer Hudson

At 9 p.m. on the night of April 15, the Manager of Solomon's SuperCenter was accosted by two armed assailants while attempting to make a nightly deposit at a local bank. A struggle ensued between the Manager and the armed bandits resulting in the Manager hitting one of the armed assailants across the face. The assailants then fled across the street in

The body was ferried to the mainland and was taken to the Cooper's Town clinic where the doctor pronounced the body dead. It was officially identified by a family member. Preliminary examinations showed that the victim had apparently suffered a broken neck. The body was flown into Nassau where an autopsy will be performed to determine the exact cause of death.

Investigations are continuing into what is deemed a suspicious death, based on the fact that the body was nude and may have suffered a broken neck.

the direction of the Haitian community of the Mud.

Both assailants were masked and both were said to be armed. Due to the quick thinking of the Manager who, when he saw the assailants approaching, quickly pushed the pouch into the night safe and flipped up the lid, the would-be robbers escaped with nothing.

Police Crime Report

Causing harm - About 10 p.m. on March 26, a resident of Crockett Drive in Marsh Harbour was slapped in the face by a woman she knew while visiting a friend in The Mud

Death threat - A resident of Spring City reported on April 7 that her estranged husband phoned her and threatened to kill her which put her in fear of her life.

Assault - A Dundas Town woman was slapped in the face while at work at the Surf Side Restaurant and Bar. This happened about 2 p.m. on April 7 and the assailant was identified.

Death threats - While at his residence about noon on April 9, a Dundas Town man was given death threats by a man he knew. A suspect was arrested a few minutes later.

Shop breaking - At 2:43 a.m. on the morning of April 9, the alarm at Burns House Liquor store in Marsh Harbour was activated. Police responded quickly and found the glass was smashed on the front door. A dark male wearing red shorts and with a white shirt around his face was observed in the vicinity but he managed to escape on foot.

Shop breaking - The Hudson Laundry on the S.C. Bootle highway near Treasure

Cay was broken into during the night of April 9. A 19-inch television worth \$250 and an assortment of snack food worth \$55 were stolen.

Stealing - In mid-morning on April 10, a 55-gallon drum of diesel fuel valued at \$300 was stolen from a quarry pit in Marsh Harbour. A suspect was named.

Drug possession - About noon on April 12, a search warrant was executed at a residence on Crockett Drive in Marsh Harbour. As a result, marijuana was found and six men were arrested.

Shop breaking - The Ministry of Works office located at the Goombay Park in Marsh Harbour was broken into during the night of April 12. Stolen were a microwave worth \$88 and a radio worth \$15.

Robbery - Two dark teenage boys snatched the purse off the shoulder of a visitor about 8:30 p.m. on April 12 in the vicinity of Mangoes Restaurant in Marsh Harbour. Credit cards and \$400 were taken.

Uncontrollable child - A Guana Cay woman surrendered her 15-year-old son to the police on April 13 as he was out of control, possibly due to drug use.

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Harbour View Grocery, Hope Town, Teller/Stock person wanted. Must be computer literate. Call Thomas 366-0033 for appointment.

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94 Ford Taurus, fully loaded, good running condition. Asking \$2000. To view or make offer call 559-8656

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22' Boston Whaler Outrage, '87 w/twin '97 Yamaha 90 HP motors, 254 hours use. DUTY PAID At Abaco Yacht Services. \$19,000. Call 365-8430 or 847-438-8692 or email pregowtd@comcast.net

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22' Abaco-built fiberglass boat, 200 HP Evinrude motor, float-on trailer, Garmin colour map GPS, VHF, fishfinder. Asking \$30,000 OBO Contact Earl, Ph 367-2289 or 357-6813

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32' Island Gypsy Sportfish, 175 Ford Lehman, 8 KW Westerbeke, air conditioned, etc. \$44,000 Call 365-4120



34' Sailboat 1974, Volvo Penta diesel. Located on GTC. Asking \$18,000 OBO Call 365-4119

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- 6 Bedrooms, 5 Baths.
- 3,600 s.f. Residence.
- 2 Connected Buildings
- Ocean Waterfront
- Amazing Views
- Swimming Pool
- Private Boat Slip
- Furnished.
#AB112 - \$1,750,000.



Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
- 1,150 s.f. Residence
- 760 s.f. Covered Porch
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 490 s.f. Apartment
- Workshop
- Great Views
- Near Settlement
#AS10689 - \$640,000.



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.



Elbow Cay - Hope Town
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
- 1,300 s.f. Residence.
- 630 s.f. of open decks.
- 91' of Harbour Frontage
- Superb Views
- Great Rental History.
- Furnished.
#PS10565 - \$1,190,000.



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



Marsh Harbour Great Abaco Club
- 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths.
- 2,300 s.f. Residence.
- On 2 Lots totaling 10,000 s.f.
- Swimming Pool
- 90' Of Private Dockage
- Fabulous Views
#AB149 - \$1,525,000



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.



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.
#AS10693 - \$2,000,000.



Marsh Harbour Royal Harbour
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
- 1,900 sq.ft. Residence
- In-ground Swimming Pool and Patio
- Fenced Back Yard.
- Furnished
- Immaculate Condition.
#AS10604 - \$685,000.



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 - \$399,500.



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.



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.



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.



Man-O-War Cay - The Creek
- 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath.
- 974 s.f. Residence
- 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- 268 s.f. -Dock House
- Land - over 1/2 Acre
- Private 66' Dock.
- Superb Views
- Furnished.
#AB122 - \$1,450,000.



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.



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.



Man-O-War Cay - Settlement
- 4 Bedrooms, 4 Bath.
- 1,255 s.f. Residence
- 768 s.f. Covered Decks
- 812 s.f. Open Decks
- Rooftop Skydeck
- Land - 17,792 s.f.
- Fabulous Views
- Furnished.
#AS10609 - \$975,000.



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.



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.



Man-O-War Cay - Settlement
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths.
- 1,400 s.f. Residence.
- 330 s.f. Screen Porches
- Land - 16,583 s.f. Parcel
- 25,000 gals Fresh Water
- Beautifully Landscaped
- Furnished
#AS10596 - \$695,000.



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.



Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates
- 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths.
- 2,100 s.f. Residence
- 670 s.f. Raised Decks.
- Over 1/2 Acre
- Great Views
- Beach & Dock Access
- Furnished.
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