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Tourists trade tarmac for beach



Above: new arrivals enjoy frozen cocktails on the beach at the Abaco Inn on Elbow Cay after the successful flight. With arrangements for Immigration to greet passengers, regular flights from Ft. Lauderdale are scheduled to start in February. For the story see page 15.

BNT raises funds for Abaco's parks with art show



Above: two patrons happy with their purchases at Art for the Parks. The annual fundraiser and social event highlights local and national artists along with entertainment and cultural talks. See page 10.

Logging resumes on Abaco under Lindar Industries



Above: lindar Industries looks to capitalize on Abaco's pine forest with refined wood products.

By Mirella Santillo

Lindar Industries, which had been granted a logging concession to cut pine trees on Abaco, started logging in the pine forest North of Treasure Cay in October, 2013. The trees cut were located on an area reserved for commercial and residential development. Logging is to resume in Treasure Cay and later near Spring City. Abaco pine is a high end product with wood as hard as maple.

Abaco was home to extensive logging operations by Owens-Illinois in the 1950's and 1960's. Owens-Illinois and the logging industry were responsible for the creation of the Great Abaco Highway and also the government's impetus to move the capitol of Abaco to Marsh Harbour from Hope Town.

What's Inside

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- Residents concerned about long-line fishing **B4**
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- Chamber hosts FACTA Tax speaker for dual citizens **A20**
- It's hard to break deadlines when you don't set them any more. "Is the Airport Open Yet?" **A22**
- 2013 in review. **B14**

What's Happening

- Jan 31: Coalition VAT Town Hall
- Feb 6-7: ECC Music Doing Good Concert
- Feb 15: Reef Ball (Hope Town)
- Feb 15: Man-O-War School Flea Market
- Feb 18-22: Hope Town Songwriters Festival
- Feb 19-23: Hope Town Sailing Club Golden Jubilee Celebrations

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Central & All Abaco

Shanty town night club legally licensed?



Residents have expressed concern that a, presumably, illegal business has taken to brazenly canvassing Marsh Harbour with posters. "Club Vila" is advertised as being "In Da Mud," which, in itself, is another illegal settlement that shirks building codes that the rest of the township must adhere to. Recently a fire burned down over 70 homes in the adjacent shanty town of "The Pigeon Pea," unenforced building and safety codes in the settlement prevented fire fighters from effectively battling the fire and allowed the flame to rapidly spread. If "Club Vila" indeed received a business license, as other enterprises in the illegal town purportedly have, it "open[s] up another can of worms," as stated by one officer.

By Timothy Roberts

In recent weeks numerous signs have popped up throughout Marsh Harbour, most notably at the traffic light, advertising a night club located in the Haitian

Shanty Town known as the Mudd which has caused a stir among residents.

The club advertises "Ladies Night" every Thursday and simply says they are located in "Da Mudd". Residents have

long complained of the loud music that often comes from the area on weekends and are throwing their hands up at the recent advertisements.

"We are second-class citizens in this country," said an Abaconian who lives near the Mudd. "The law doesn't apply to them (Haitian Immigrants); Bahamians can't get away with what they are doing in there."

When we spoke to the Business License Department the Department Head was off island and they would not confirm whether or not Club Vila specifically had a license to operate a night club. However, a knowledgeable source indicated that they were sure that the business in question was not legally licensed.

After speaking to the Island Administrator, Preston Cunningham, we were forwarded to the Police Department to look into it. Mr. Cunningham said they had just had a Department Heads meeting and discussed enforcing such matters as businesses operating without license.

After speaking with officers at the Marsh Harbour Police Station we were assured they would look into it. As of January 27 they were still investigating the matter.

It was suggested by an officer that there are some businesses in the Mudd that have licenses which he concurred "opened up another can of worms".

Road work to resume after drill approvals

By Timothy Roberts

Ongoing road works will commence this week as Bill Simmons Construction & Heavy Equipment Company Ltd. have received approvals to continue with the drilling of drainage wells and re-paving works.

Kino Simmons, General Manager of Simmons Construction said the he received a letter of approval in the middle of January and would receive the approval itself by January 24 allowing them to get back to work.

Mr. Simmons said they were in final negotiations with technocrats at the Ministry of Works to iron out the financial details and would mobilize January 27, initially doing surveying of the roads then paving.

He said the approval includes three drainage wells to be drilled in the area of Rubis Gas Station and Abaco Hardware with subsequent completion of paving on Don MacKay and the repaving of Queen Elizabeth all the way to the Crossing.

Mr. Simmons expects paving to resume by the first week of February, and weather permitting, be completed quickly.



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HOPE TOWN MERIDIAN on the hilltop of Aunt Pat's Bay, features 5b 4.5b, & 2,500 sq. ft. of decking. Views of Ocean & Bay, Pool, docking close by. **WEB: 4000039960 US\$2,200,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN PINK DOLPHIN Historic 3b 2b beach house w/ almost 3/4 acres of land. Located in Hope Town proper but very private. **WEB: 21424196 US\$1,375,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN New Price HILL TOP Harbour views, newly renovated Key West-style, 4b, 2b, pool, high-end finishes, professionally landscaped. **4000018685 US\$975,000.** Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com



HOPE TOWN QUACK CAY 3b 2b beachfront home with high ceilings & expansive ocean views. Shared backup generator. Close to all amenities. **WEB: 4000019283 US\$950,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



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 D #21525947 **New Listing** LIGHTHOUSE VIEW View of ocean & harbor and private dock. \$485K. J. Patterson
 E #4000006571 NEW SETTLEMENT Lots w/ underground utilities & concrete roads, from US\$85,000. K. Sullivan
 F #4000030203 OCEAN VIEW LOTS - Four, 1/4 acre each, ocean views, near beach. From \$165,000. Jane Patterson
 G #21577217 BEACH BON **New Listing** Best beachfront building site. \$445,000. K. Sullivan
 H #4000000689 ELEVEN AT BIG POINT 1/2 acre beachfront building site. US\$395,000. Kerry Sullivan
 I #4000044379 BREEZY HILL Lot A7 Build up to see Ocean in quiet neighborhood \$190,000 J. Patterson
 J #4000039527 SURF & SEA Aunt Pat's Bay, hillside lot with dockage. US\$220,000. K. Sullivan
 K #4000011372 BIG ROCK HILL One acre oceanfront, 140' on the Atlantic. US\$665,000. Kerry Sullivan
 L #4000007027 REEL TREASURE Dock slip & ocean view in Marnie's Landing' \$279,000. K. Sullivan



HOPE TOWN BANANAQUIT COTTAGE 2b 2b with covered decks, views of the Sea of Abaco and lighthouse. Room to expand ground floor. **WEB: 4000027817 US\$547,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



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Lots & Acreages

LUBBERS QUARTERS
ABACO OCEAN CLUB - Call Laurie Schreiner 367.5046 for more information.
 LOT 16 Steps away from the beach & dock on the south west side. **WEB: 4000040192 \$49,000.**
 LOT 21&22 Half-acre within steps of the sea & dock & boat slip. **WEB: 4000017223 \$149,900.**
 LOT 46 Waterfront oversized lot w/ room for a dock. **WEB: 4000007872 \$172,500.**
 LOT 87 Interior lot. Less than 200 sq. ft. from the Sea of Abaco. **WEB: 4000005135 \$99,000.**
 LOT 148 Elevated lot with Sea of Abaco views **WEB: 4000039728 \$90,000.**
 LOT 149 Perfect elevation for picturesque views, dockage. **WEB: 4000007445 \$99,000.**

TILLOO CAY
 BEACH LOT 27 **New Price** Superior elevation, shared dock. **WEB: 4000038102 \$75K.** Laurie Schreiner
 BEACH LOT 22 Nicely elevated for fantastic views. **WEB: 4000039059 \$137,500.** Laurie Schreiner
 BEACH LOT 17 Elevated, deepwater frontage. **WEB: 4000030533 \$187,900.** Laurie Schreiner
 SOAP POINT LOT 3 Waterfront lot, 43,560 sf elevated, dock. **WEB: 4000031352 \$199K.** Laurie Schreiner
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Central & All Abaco

MP Curry outlines government's role in environmental stewardship at Science Conference

By Canishka Alexander

At the launch of the 6th Biennial Abaco Science Alliance Conference on Jan. 17, Renardo Curry, MP for North Abaco and Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, brought opening remarks as the keynote speaker in the absence of Minister of the Environment – the Hon. Kenred Dorsett.

Curry told audience members that environmental issues are of increasing importance to The Bahamas because of its rich marine environment, which is an important aspect of our cultural heritage and livelihood. Our marine environment also gives life to one of the largest reef systems in the world.

“As a leader in the tourism sector, The Bahamas hosts millions of visitors annually many of whom come to enjoy our pristine, coastal environment,” Curry boasted. “Recognizing 50 years of environmental stewardship is important because the biodiversity of The Bahamas has a significant role to play for the continued health and economic well-being of Bahamians.”

The Bahamas Government took early steps in recognizing environmental importance in 1958 with the establishment of the



Above: Renardo Curry, MP for North Abaco and Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, speaking at the Abaco Science Alliance.

Bahamas National Trust (BNT) as the lead body for marine and land conservation in country. Over the years, there have been efforts to conserve the country's biodiversity with the designation and management of national parks and marine protected areas.

Curry indicated that another area of great interest was seen in the preservation and sustainable use of our pine forests on Abaco, Andros, Grand Bahama and New Providence.

Giving a history of the harvesting of pine and its various uses, Curry cited the Small Grants Project, which was established in 2009 as an essential source of funding for civic and community-based groups for environmental projects.

“BREEF, The Nature Conservancy and other NGOs have made Abaco a model island of how over the many years efforts to preserve the terrestrial and marine envi-

ronment have been successful and greater efforts will continue in the future,” Curry praised.

With the islands of The Bahamas spanning great distances, Curry emphasized that energy conservation is a huge part of our environmental mandate. Although our country has been marketed as sun, sand and sea to drive tourism, Curry added that the main engine for development was shaped by exploitation and use of non-renewable fossil fuels and as result energy demands are great.

In 2008, Cabinet approved the creation of the National Energy Policy Committee, which produced the National Energy Policy. He said that the government will also restructure the Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture to focus on forestry development on Abaco, New Providence, Grand Bahama and Exuma.

Curry again applauded the Government for its long history of establishing policy and regulation to protect the natural environment. Nevertheless, he urged Bahamian citizens to do their part by reducing, reusing and recycling.

Quoting Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, Curry reiterated that the No. 1 priority is to keep the resources God has given The Bahamas pristine.

“They are not just the heart of our No. 1 industry; they are the soul of our nation,” he said.

Before closing, Curry said that their support of local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private citizens is of highest importance as he commended Friends of the Environment for their awe-

some work in the community since 1988.

“The government cannot protect and preserve our environment in isolation from the people who live in it,” Curry expressed. “The people of The Bahamas and certainly the people of Abaco must support governmental and non-governmental environmental agencies to conserve, preserve and protect the environment.”

Dundas Town Local Government holds first Committee meeting of 2014

By Samantha Evans

On Tuesday evening, January 14, 2014, Dundas Town Local Government Committee held their first meeting for the 2014 term. Chairman Faron Newbold led the meeting which began at 6:30pm at the Dundas Town Burial Society. He told them that the “All Abaco Regatta” is scheduled to take place later this year and he is excited that all activities will be held in Dundas Town.

The “All Abaco Regatta” is a new, and separate, event from the annual “Regatta Time in Abaco.”

The “All Abaco Regatta” is being hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture. According to Mr. Newbold the Ministry has

Please see Dundas Page 6

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Central & All Abaco

Dundas From Page 5

promised to help them with the work left to be done at the Cultural Center at Ocean View Park. He stated that the major events of the "All Abaco Regatta" will be held at Ocean View Park.

Stalls for food and native dishes will be rented to vendors. Once the cultural center is completed, he stated that stalls will be rented on a monthly basis.

At Independence Park stalls will be set up for churches and religious groups. They will play gospel music at this site. Brown's Bay will be the location for families.

He updated the committee on the removal of an abandoned building in Dundas Town. He reminded the committee that such dilapidated buildings bring down the value of the surrounding properties and do not look nice.

The committee members decided to conclude the work on the sea wall at Ocean View Park. The sea wall had received heavy damage. Mr. Newbold stated that they will be looking for local contractors to volunteer their time to assist as well as find some local labour to help the committee complete this project.

He stated that there was a delay in the installation of the playground at Brown's Bay which was donated by BTC but he assures the community that it will still be installed.

Finally, they discussed the start of the BGCSE classes for recent graduates and high school students from the Dundas Town and Central Pines communities. They agreed to send letters out to the churches to inform them of the classes.

Committee elections are to be held this June.

Golden Jubilee service celebrates Tourism's "Year of Culture"



Above: Pastor Symonette reads the Prime Minister's address to the crowd.

By Canishka Alexander

In observance of the Ministry of Tourism's Golden Jubilee, Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie has declared 2014 as "The Year of Culture." A service was held on Abaco with Tourism and other

Bahamas Government officials at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church on Jan. 22 in recognition of Tourism's 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Officiating was the Rev. Willish Johnson, Rector of St. John's.

The order of service commenced with an opening hymn and recitation before Simmone Bowe, BahamaHost Satellite



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Central & All Abaco

CRIME REPORT

Trainer, wooed the audience with a memorable rendition of "You Are the Strength of My Life."

Abaco Tourist Manager Wynsome Ferguson and Marlique Hield, the Junior Minister of Tourism from St. Francis de Sales School, both assisted with the Scripture Readings.

After the welcome and recognition by Rev. Johnson, Harrison Thompson, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, was invited to bring remarks. Thompson said this year marks a special time for us in The Bahamas as we endeavor to increase our economic power.

Because Tourism is the main Ministry that has been mandated to promote the country, Thompson said that everyone is needed to help in that process because it affects all of us.

Taking a walk down memory lane, Thompson recalled that tourism was more of a seasonal commodity with the season only lasting three months of the year.

The product of tourism has radically changed since then.

Thompson brought to mind airlines like Bahamas Airways and Mackey Airlines that serviced the Abaco community. As tourism expanded in the mid-1970s, he said that tourism in Abaco was on the upswing and second-home residents were becoming a mainstay.

After visiting Korea last year, Thompson shared that it was through culture that Korea's tourism grew, and as this is Tourism's "Year of Culture," he said that culture is a very important component, and is where tourism is headed.

"Culture is something Abaco knows about, and Abaco can sell itself," Thompson assured. "Abaco has a high rate of



Above: Harrison Thompson, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Tourism.

returning tourists, which tells of their satisfaction.

"Today, tourism accounts for more than 60 percent of the nation's economy."

With Sports Tourism and Religious Tourism growing in popularity, Cultural Tourism will become a part of the Min. of Tourism's promotion as they embark on filling hotels throughout the entire year.

Thompson's remarks were followed by those of Renardo Curry, Parliamentary Secretary and MP for North Abaco. He also gave a brief history of Abaco's growth in tourism. Recognizing that other Caribbean islands were known for their sun, sand and sea, The Bahamas soon took into account that the nation is its people, music, festivals, food and traditions.

"The island is on the verge of acquiring city status if not already," Curry said. "I commend the wonderful hard-working staff of the Ministry of Tourism's Abaco Office for their unwavering efforts to ensure that the island remains one of the leaders in tourist destinations."

Rev. Johnson again faced the audi-

ence to give her sermon based on the Hebrews 6:1-12 Scripture Reading given by Marlique. She said that the service gave an opportunity to pause and reflect on where we have come from and where we are today.

"We enjoy many rich benefits, and it is indeed important for us as a people to recognize from whence we came [and] to recognize on whose shoulders we stand," Rev. Johnson explained. "But in truth and in fact, we as a country and as a nation have come to appreciate the fact that service is a part of our main business, and this truth is a part of our calling - our calling as human beings for Jesus Himself said to us that we ought to be servants of the servants of God."

Rev. Johnson went on question what we are doing to pass on our knowledge to others because markets are opening in international arenas, and we must be competitive in the long term. As we move on to perfection, she admonished that we must be good stewards of what we have. She recalled how people used to dress and carry themselves with dignity and respect - how there was distinction and pride in their work.

Mediocrity, Rev. Johnson warned, is the downfall of a nation, and will not allow us to grow or remain a reckoning force on the world stages. She strongly recommended that we deliberately plan and prepare for our future, and look at the reality of who we are as a people.

"As we celebrate, we must be a peo-

Please see Tourism Page 14

Housebreaking (Suspect Arrested and Charged)

At 10:30am on 24th January, 2014, a 53 year old female of Guana Cay, Abaco, reported that sometime between 6:30pm and 9:30pm on 23rd January, 2014, a male known to her broke into her residence and stole cash. Police action requested.

Suspect arrested

On Friday 24th January, 2014, sometime around 5:10pm the suspect a 35 year old male of Guana Cay, Abaco was arrested reference to this matter he was interviewed and charged for the offence and is scheduled to attend court on 27/1/14.

Attempted House Breaking

On Thursday, 23rd January, 2014 at about 5:38pm a 53 year old female of Murphy Town contacted the Marsh Harbour Police Station and reported that on same date some unknown person(s) attempted to enter her residence but was not successful, police action was requested in this matter. Investigations continue.

Obstructing a Peace Officer

On Sunday 26th January, 2014 at about 5:15pm officers of the MHPS arrested a male suspect, 26 years of age, from The Mudd, Abaco. He was arrested in reference to obstructing a peace officer in the execution of his duties. Investigations are ongoing in this matter.

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From the Editor's Desk // Mythical Creatures



The Bahamas is a nation of storytellers.

Stories are part of our culture. They are part of our heritage. Every island has local tales. Every family shares vaguely recollected histories.

A favourite among Bahamians are stories of mythical creatures. The fearsome lusca that hides deep in the blue holes. The yahoes: spirits of dread pirates trapped in birdlike bodies stalking Lubbers Quarters. The mischievous chickcharnies of Andros.

And with each passing month it appears we get closer to adding another legend to our mythical bestiary. The new Marsh Harbour Terminal might as well be a fairy tale for as much good as it is doing us. And the government seems to be treating it like a fairy tale too. It has become a bedtime story to repeat to cranky Abaconians who just won't settle down.

The previous government built the new terminal like a fairy tale castle, complete with unrealistic designs and childlike foresight. The current government turned it into a dungeon of broken promises and "maybe-next-months." We are the ones stuck in the middle and suffering listening to a bad story.

But the government has other stories to tell us too.

The story now is how good VAT will be for the country. The story is that they are trying to reach middle ground with the business community and Bahamian people. The story is that we are sheep and they are shepherds; no need to listen to us because they know best.

The reality is that if this tax starts in the ridiculous stated time frame we have been told then, no, it will not be good for this country. The current plan is to release the new duty and tariff schedule only three months ahead of time? That is absurd.

You need to get concerned at this. The reality is that the Coalition for Responsible Taxation, a national think tank, has put forth multiple alternatives to the government. They explain on behalf of Bahamians that VAT is folly. 'Thanks, but no thanks,' they're told as the government steams ahead towards VAT. And yet Minister Halkitis comes to us and says, "There is no use the government trying to impose something that the people will reject or be hostile to." It is safe to say that the majority of the country is hostile to this.

You need to get vocal about this. The reality is that the government works for us. Their positions do deserve respect, however, not at the cost of curtailing discussion and blind obedience. We are not parrots shaped to repeat the dogma of politics. We are Bahamians and the shapers of our own future. I have heard so many people say "Why bother?" when confronted with trying to make a difference. The government is not some invincible mythical creature that is only vulnerable every five years. They can be made to listen.

You need to make them listen. If those in charge want to act like a government then we will see concessions made and dialogue truly opened. If they want to act like politicians then we treat them like politicians.

This country is culture is full of storytellers. I just wish our government wasn't one of them.

Community Calendar

(See TheAbaconian.com for More Calendar Events)

- **Jan 31: Coalition VAT Town Hall**
- **Feb 2: Rum Runners Super Bowl party**
- **Feb 2: Snappas Super Bowl Party**
- **Feb 6-7: ECC Music Doing Good Concert**
- **Feb 13: Dr. Mitchell Podiatry Clinic**
- **Feb 15: Reef Ball (Hope Town)**
- **Feb 15: Man-O-War School Flea Market**
- **Feb 18-22: Hope Town Songwriters Festival**
- **Feb 18: Cay Topics: Dr. Lawrence Malm**
- **Feb 19-23: Hope Town Sailing Club Golden Jubilee Celebrations**
- **March 1: Reef Ball (Marsh Harbour)**
- **March 1: Little Harbour Yard Sale & Nautical Flea Market**
- **March 8: Forest Heights Grade 7 Entrance Exam**
- **March 13-16: Dania Beach Marine Flea Market**
- **March 15: Pathfinders Fundraiser (Abaco Inn)**
- **March 16: Pathfinders Fundraiser (Marsh Harbour)**
- **March 21-22: Barefoot Man Concert**

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Letters to the Editor

What's Happening in Green Turtle is a Disaster

Dear Editor:

As a tourist who has been coming to these islands for 7 years now, I am very upset about what has happened to my favorite beach on Green Turtle Cay. The access has been completely blocked by a bulkhead designed to increase the land in front of a small development of private houses out beyond the original beach. You cannot get to the beach and, if you could, there is no place to walk even at low tide.

Sand has been taken from the bay to backfill the bulkhead creating a new channel which will have effects on the land to leeward. I was told by a supervisor of the dredging that they will be creating a sand dune and a new beach beyond the bulkhead. That will probably last until the next storm. In addition, the way they are doing this will create a back eddy which will completely take out those few houses just south of the new beach.

This small development also built a breakwater a few years ago which helped them for a while at the expense of their neighbors and then they were forced to dismantle it because of the damage it had done to the rest of the

beach.

I have always thought that public access to all beaches on the islands was one of the best things the Bahamian Government has done. To allow this principal to be destroyed by the selfish actions of a few would be a disaster.

Could you please look into this further?

Honesty & Integrity at Christmas

Dear Editor:

I would like to describe for you a chain of events that has reinvigorated my faith in humanity.

My wife and I have been second home-owners on Great Guana Cay since 2004.

We greatly enjoy interacting with local residents, and we feel welcomed by what we refer to as our "Bahamian family" on each of our visits.

I lost my wallet after a trip to the Abacos in early March of 2013. There was \$500 in cash in the wallet, along with credit cards, driver's license, and, thankfully, a membership card for Sea Tow of Tampa Bay. I thought the wallet was long gone, along with all of its contents. Since that trip in early March, we also traveled to our second home in September, November,

and December. On Christmas Eve 2013, I received a call on my cell phone from Sea Tow of Tampa Bay. Sea Tow stated that they had received a phone call from Darin of Albury's Ferry Service in the Bahamas, who informed Sea Tow that my wallet had been found. I was incredulous.

I then promptly called Darin at Albury's Ferry Service. Darin said that one of their ferry boats was in for its annual servicing and maintenance, when one of the Albury's Ferry employees found the wallet. The wallet was completely intact with all of its contents (including the \$500 in cash). I was told that the employee, who found and turned in the wallet, was a gentleman by the name of Lucas. As an expression of our gratitude, we asked Darin to give the \$500 to Lucas as our sincere thanks and best wishes. We later learned that Lucas is a newlywed, so we are hopeful that he and his family had a very Merry Christmas.

I bring this story to you in order to express our heartfelt thank you to both Lucas and to Albury's Ferry Service for their honesty and integrity. We are proud to call the Abacos our second home.

God Bless to all and Happy New Year!

Truly yours,
BRIAN M. BURSA

Airfare Keeping You Down

To Timothy, Abaconian Reporter:

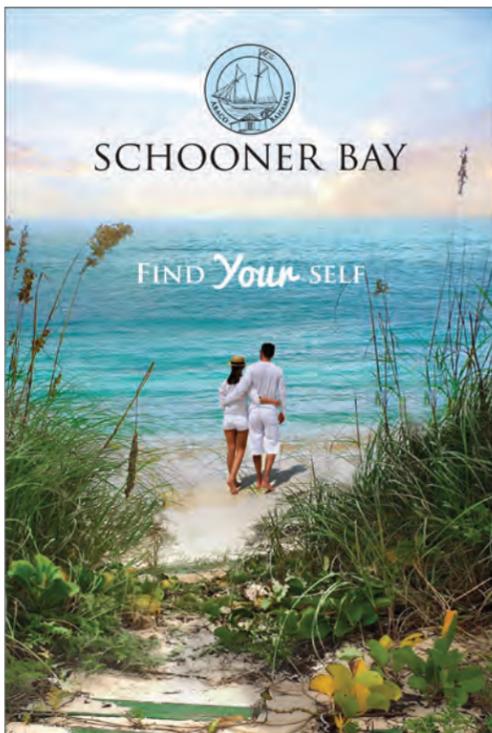
Your report on the surcharges for air travelers was very level headed. I only wish the Bahamian government was so alert and level headed.

Many tens of thousands fly from Europe over the Bahamas and on to the Caribbean. Why? Because the flights are HALF the cost of flying to the Bahamas.

Until the cost of flights come down then the Bahamas will lose out on thousands of travelers. People want direct and low cost flights. I looked at a holiday in the Bahamas last year for my family and for the cost of flights only I could stay all inclusive for 10 nights in many other Caribbean destination.

Europe is a massive area that the Bahamas has lost out on. Only six years ago on my first visit to the Bahamas I could fly with 3 UK airlines direct to Nassau now you are down to one and it is very expensive!

Kind regards
Mr Watt.
From Scotland. UK.



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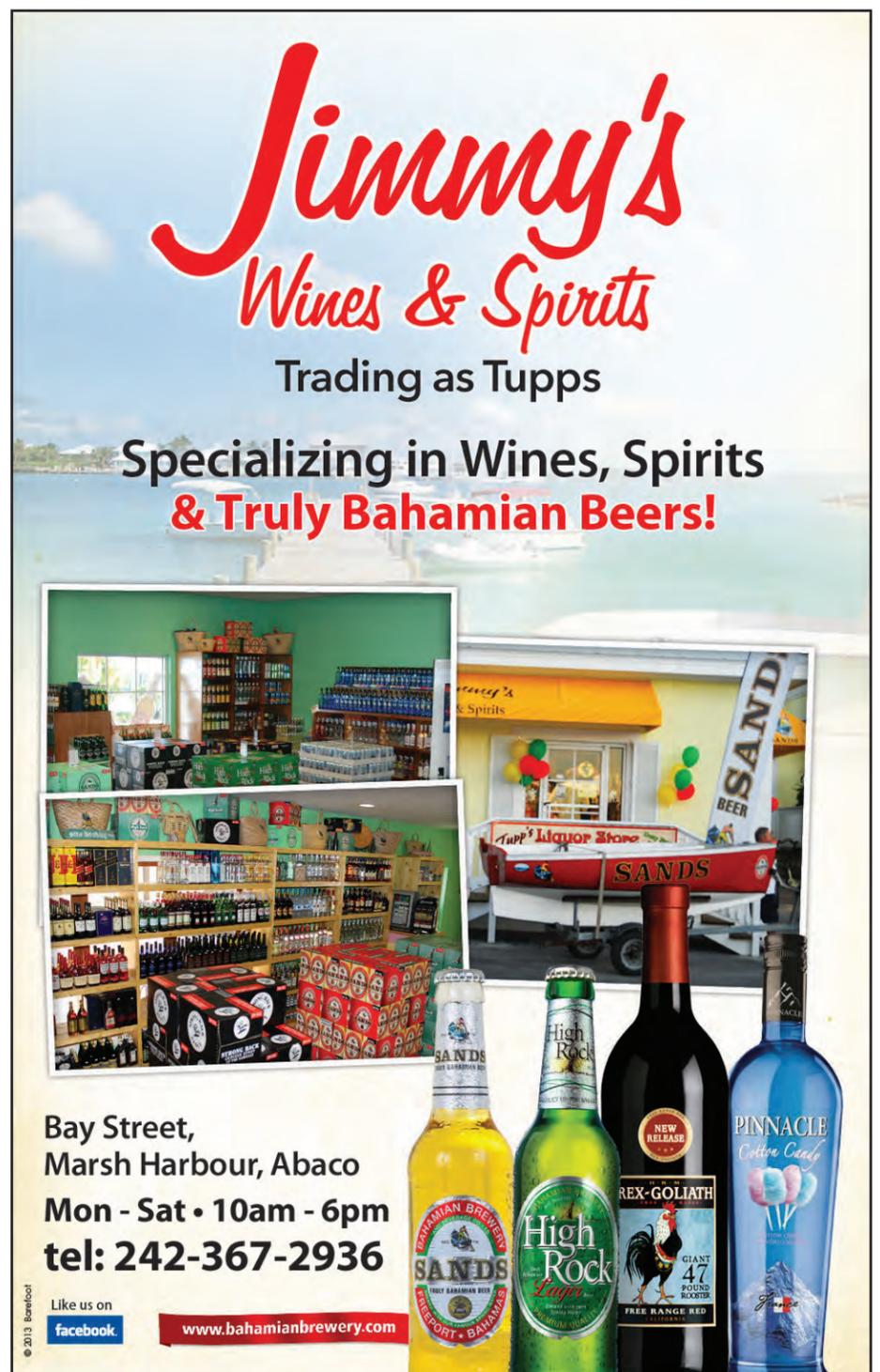
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Central & All Abaco

Art for the Parks supports Abaco's natural history

By Jennifer Hudson

This year's 'Art for the Parks' marked the fifth anniversary of the collaboration between the Abaco Beach Resort and the Bahamas National Trust (BNT) in support of the national parks of Abaco. The event began on January 25 with a gala cocktail reception providing art lovers with the opportunity to preview all of the work and meet with the artists and artisans in a social atmosphere.

During the brief opening ceremony, Lynn Gape, Deputy Director of the BNT, thanked the community of Abaco and the Abaco Beach Resort for their tremendous support. She also made special mention of various core artists and the committee who had worked extra hard to make Art for the Parks a truly wonderful event. Eric Carrey, Executive Director of the BNT, also added his thanks describing the Art for the Parks as a signature event on Abaco.

"This event makes it possible for us to do the things we need to do in the six national parks of Abaco, namely environmental education, managing the resources and providing opportunities for visitor access."

An Abaco parrot, crafted in bronze by Pete Johnson in his foundry at Little Harbour, mounted on a piece of driftwood, was presented to Andrew Sweet-



Above: Dave Lowe, left, speaks with a patron at the Art for the Parks opening night on Jan. 24. Mr. Lowe was voted by attendees as the best display in show. His original tile art work stole the show.

ing of the Abaco Beach Resort in recognition of their five years of support. Mr. Sweeting thanked everybody for attending and thanked Lynn Gape for the work she does in organising the event each year. He closed by saying that he is looking forward to five more years.

More than 30 artists and artisans from Abaco, Nassau and Freeport exhibited. The show was very well organised and the booths carefully placed so that even though there was quite a large crowd of patrons it was easy to move around and view all of the artists' work. People were very im-

pressed with the excellent standard of work exhibited. The booths were especially attractive this year due to the inception of a best booth competition.

The winner of this accolade was David Lowe with his display of tile art. His signature piece this year was a very large underwater scene comprising a variety of natural materials including sea sponges, sea fans, sea urchins corals and shells on an oil painted background interspersed, of course, with some of his signature tile pieces.

It would be nice to be able to com-

ment on all of the artists and artisans but since time and space do not allow I will focus on first-time exhibitors at the show. Frances Sakach and Christina Halliday who were sharing a booth were both making their debut performance at the Abaco show. While Christina had shown her beaded jewellery at previous shows in the United States, this was the first show ever for Frances and she was very excited about presenting her custom conch shell jewelry under the name 'Conch Diamonds'. It was refreshing to come upon something so new for Abaco. Frances described the process which results in her stunning conch shell pieces thus;

"I collect my shells from the throw-away piles of the conch vendors and take them home to clean out all the conch slop which is a very messy job. I then throw them overboard from the dock at the back of my house for the little fish to finish cleaning them out. Once clean, I use four saws to cut the shapes I want from the shells and a cabochon machine to grind and polish and give them a beautiful sheen."

Karen plans to add another line of jewelry which will be crafted from coral which has been covered with rust off shipwrecks and which she finds along the shoreline in certain remote areas. These pieces of coral polished to a high sheen are truly pieces of rare beauty. Karen's interest in rocks began as a rock collecting hobby as a young child.

Please see BNT

Page 11

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Central & All Abaco



Above: newcomers to the art scene, Celia Rogers and David Rees, received a lot of attention at Art for the Parks. David, son of famed Bahamian photographer Colyn Rees, follows in his father's footsteps with breathtaking aerial shots from his drone rig.

finished pieces present an ethereal effect. She says that she just takes any piece of board and lets the notches and imperfections speak to her as to how she will paint that particular piece which makes for interesting results. She also had on display her line of attractive, stenciled aprons.

David Rees is now following in the footsteps of his late grandfather, the well-known photographer Colyn Rees, and was participating in the Art for the Parks for the first time. Whereas his grandfather was well-known for his black and white scenic and aerial photography, David is specializing in colour photography of wildlife and

underwater scenes. He also takes aerial shots but whereas his grandfather would fly his own small plane, David is of the next generation and uses a drone to get his shots.

I also mention Nicole Angelica for although she is certainly no newcomer to the Abaco art scene, since she has exhibited at every show except last year when she was sick, she had introduced something new this year. She is well known for her exquisitely detailed paintings of the old time

Please see BNT Page 14

BNT From Page 10

Brianna Higgs has been experimenting with beaded jewelry for some time but a year or so ago she decided to turn her hand to making sea glass jewelry which she admits has now become a passion. She has also ventured into combining shells and sea fans along with the sea glass and she was excited to be showing for the first time at the Art for the Parks.

Stephanie Treco and her daughter, Lisa Higgs, made their debut appearance with their line of 'Stephie Jewelry'. Their

pieces all include different types of beads such as dyed jade, tiger eye, magnacite, black pearls and some shells all hand-crocheted together with 22 gauge different coloured wires. Stephanie also had on display a selection of her colourful resort wear.

Francoise Hedden, another newcomer to the Abaco art scene, displayed some very unique pieces which she crafts using beautiful decorative paper napkins obtained in France. She carefully takes them apart and removes the motifs she desires then applies them to boards which she has already painted in muted colours. The



Above: Nancy Albury and Brian Kakuk ready to explain the wondrous blue holes and cave systems of Abaco.

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TREASURE CAY SAIL A VIE Canalfront 3b 2b, 1994 sq.ft. airy & bright, good value home enjoys exceptional privacy w/ dock & boat lift. Furnished. **WEB: 4000038012 US\$920,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY SURF SHACK Furnished Sunrise Point two storey 4b 3.5b home with swimming pool. Ocean views, generator, storm shutters. **WEB: 4000040986 US\$899,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY SEA SHELLS Furnished 3b 2b home with 115ft of Beachfront. Very private on Windward Beach. New Patio. **WEB: 4000018810 US\$800,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BAHAMA BEACH CLUB #2054 3b 3b tropically furnished upper condo with Golf cart garage. **WEB: 4000016240 Special Deal.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BAHAMA BEACH CLUB 3, 4 & 5 bed luxury condos on beach with great views & every imaginable amenity. Pool & Bar. **WEB: 4000019527 Starting at US\$490,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



WINDING BAY HOPE COTTAGE 4b 4b home in Ritz Carlton's Winding Bay with every imaginable option included. **WEB: 4000016528 US\$1,500,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



SOUTH ABACO SCHOONER BAY 100 Acre beachfront parcel. 2,400 feet of pristine beach with elevations up to 75 ft. Utilities present. **WEB: 4000044196 \$11,000,000** George.Damianos@SothebysRealty.com



SOUTHABACO BEACHFRONT COMMUNITY NEAR SCHOONER BAY. 40 Acres. 46 homesites. Utilities, beach cabana, roads, rainwater holding tanks & landscaping. **WEB: 4000039063 \$8,000,000.** George.Damianos@SothebysRealty.com



SOUTH ABACO SCHOONER BAY LITTLE BRIDGE S07 Lot is 5,319 sq. ft. is 60 feet by 84 feet deep. Eco-friendly community with a rich ecosystem. **WEB: 4000041730 \$440,000.** George.Damianos@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY ORCHID BAY - BAREFOOT COTTAGE 5b 4b home. Access to pool, tennis & beach. Fishing, snorkeling off private 65' dock. **WEB: 4000014653 US\$1,550,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY SEA SHORE VILLAS 3 townhouse villas with private swimming pool. 250' dock, cabanas, gift shop & laundromat. **WEB: 4000018907 US\$950,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY WATCH HILL Fantastic 3b 3b beachfront home on large lot, convenient dockage. Excellent rental. **WEB: 4000038129 US\$875,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY ALIBI 2b 2b cottage w/ bonus room. High end finishes & architectural details. Wide porches w/ ocean views. Dock slip included. **WEB: 21305619 \$720,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY SHORE THING 3b 1.5b elevated home with views of the Atlantic and access to private beach. Great Rental. **WEB: 4000034484 US\$575,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY TRIPLE COTTAGE Rustic Beach cottages, minutes walk from mile long sandy beach, close to all amenities. Good rental. **WEB: 4000030363 US\$380,000.** Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY OCEANFRONT LOT 100ft of rocky shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean with sandy beach nearby. **WEB: 4000044235 US\$240,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MAN-O-WAR CAY OCEAN PEARL 5b & 4b plus an additional 2,400 sq.ft. of covered verandahs offering panoramic views of the sea. **WEB: 4000043736 US\$1,225,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MAN-O-WAR CAY ANNE BONNY Charming down east 3 bed cottage with 360 degree views. Protected dock for two boats. **WEB: 4000014286 US\$785,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MAN-O-WAR CAY NEW PRICE OWNER FINANCING FOREVER SUMMER 3b 2b home on elevated lot, fully fenced, standby generator. Steps to beach. **WEB: 13707 US\$285,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com

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Damianos Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY



MARSH HARBOUR HIDEAWAY Sea to sea, 150' dock & boat lift. Main house with 1 1/2 bed 1 1/2 bath, guest quarters with 2 bed 2 bath. **WEB: 4000013022 US\$1,495,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MARSH HARBOUR ABACO AIR & ABACO AIR FLIGHT SERVICES Opportunity to own FBO, airport facilities & flight services. **WEB: 19151 only \$1.25m.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



MARSH HARBOUR ROBYN'S NEST, THE RESIDENCES Uniquely crafted 2b 2.5b residence is equipped w/the finest furnishings and fittings. **WEB:4000028012 US\$1,000,000.** Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MARSH HARBOUR DOOR PRIZE, GREAT ABACO CLUB Uniquely private 3b 3b on double lot with 2 large boat slips. **WEB: 4000039374 US\$950,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



MARSH HARBOUR CHATTERBOX, PELICAN SHORES Two bed 2.5 bath. Panoramic view of Fanny Bay. Cabana with summer kitchen. **WEB: 4000024885 US\$875,000.** Kristi.Wong@SothebysRealty.com



NORTH ABACO FIRE ROAD #8 Waterfront 2BR/2B furnished 1200sf home on 22,192sf Lot with dock on Sea of Abaco. **WEB: 4000030286 US\$249,999.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



GREENTURTLE CAY BLUFF HOUSE BEACH RESORT & MARINA, 46 slip marina, marina office, 2 restaurants, 8 waterfront hotel rooms, 27 residential lots with utilities. **WEB: 4000041074** George.Damianos@SothebysRealty.com



GREENTURTLE CAY SOUND HARBOUR 8b 8b home with 455 ft of waterfront on 1.3 acres. 2 private docks, boat ramp, beach. **WEB: 4000040901 MUST SEE.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



GREENTURTLE CAY SUMMERWIND Sea to Sea 4b 3b, expansive porches with breathtaking views. Dock, boat house, standby generator, staff cottage, 2 golf carts. **WEB: 4000040502 US\$3,250,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BAHAMA BEACH CLUB #2088 Beachfront upstairs VIP 5b 4b 2750sf furnished end condo. 2 balconies offer best views of the beach. **WEB:4000026852 US\$1,950,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY YELLOWFIN 3b 2b canalfront home w/ dock, boatlift. **WEB: 4000019767 US\$1,250,000.** BLUEFIN 3b 2b **WEB:4000019775 US\$880,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY CAMELOT BEACHFRONT 3b 3b, 2600 sq.ft. airy & bright, great value home. Includes car, golf cart & lots more. Furnished. **WEB:4000039232 US\$1,249,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BANYAN BEACH LOT #16, multi-family lot, 149 ft. of powder sand **Exceptional Beach near golf course.** **WEB: 4000036623 US\$1,200,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BUNGALOW B Beachfront home. Like new. Huge covered Porch 3 bedrooms have ensuite baths. Furnished. Beautiful high wood ceilings. **US\$1,199,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY COTTAGE 9 Beach front 4b 3b w/the finest furniture & is meticulously maintained. Complex also has 2 pools. **WEB: 21348864 US\$999,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY WINDWARD BEACH 90 ft of beach frontage. Beautiful rock walls on beach & road. High Elevation Homesite. **WEB: 4000039430 US\$599,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY SUNRISE POINT #1 Beachfront Lot, 27,110 sq. ft., Best Price Around! Desirable Homesite with utilities. **WEB: 4000030636 US\$499,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY BAHAMA BEACH CLUB #2015 3 bedroom 2 bath tropically furnished upper condo with Golf cart garage. **US\$505,000.** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY SUNSANTIONAL COTTAGES Waterfront cottages. Make an offer. Investment opportunity. Dredged channel. Perfect Location. **WEB: 4000038307** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



TREASURE CAY New Listing BAHAMA BEACH CLUB #2019 Turnkey 3b 2b beachfront ground floor luxury condo. **WEB: 4000046513 \$515,000** Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com



SOUTH ABACO MAIN SCHOONER BEACH F02 Lot.6,008sf, 47 feet on the ocean. Sustainable materials, eco-friendly construction. **WEB: 4000041731 \$490,000.** George.Damianos@SothebysRealty.com



SOUTH ABACO JR'S BONEFISH COTTAGES **New Price** Duplex with two 2b/1b apartments, dock & beach access. Great rental. **WEB: 4000039026 \$200,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY SONBREAKERS 6b 5b home on 135ft of beach in Orchid Bay. Fantastic snorkelling right at your back door. Great rental. **WEB: 4000028041 US\$2,500,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY ORCHID BAY Highest elevation with panoramic views. Luxury 5bed 4.5 bath on 4 acres. Patio and pool. Excellent rental. **WEB: 4000014519 US\$2,250,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com



GUANA CAY DOLPHIN VIEW & RAINBOW PARROT Two homes on a beachfront estate offers 7b 6b, convenient location close to all amenities. **WEB:4000038083 US\$1,650,000.** Christopher.Albury@SothebysRealty.com

Lots, Acreage & Other Properties



TREASURE CAY

Call Stan Sawyer for more information 577.0298

- A BANYAN BEACH LOT multi-family lot, 149 ft. of powder sand beach, 95 acres opposite golf-course. **WEB: 4000036623 US\$1,200,000.**
- B BEACH TOWNHOUSE End unit. **WEB: 4000012691 \$349,000.**



- C BAHAMA BEACH CLUB - LUXURY CONDOS ON BEACH WITH GREAT VIEWS AND EVERY IMAGINABLE AMENITY. POOL & BAR. #2004 5b 4b upper condo. Carport. Right on Beach. **WEB: 4000012702 US\$1,195,000.**
- #2022 **New Listing** 3b 2b upper condo w/ Golf cart garage. **WEB: ---- US\$505k**
- #2051 3b 3b lower condo. Steps from beach. **WEB: 4000019275 US\$939k.**
- #2054 3b 3b upper condo w/ Golf cart garage. **WEB: 4000016240 US\$875,000.**
- #2085 Beachfront 4b 3b, 2250sf VIP Condo **US1,750,000.**
- #2088 4b 4b upstairs condo. Carport. Right on Beach. **WEB: 4000026852 US\$1,950m.**
- D CROSSWINDS 4b 3b w/ beach views. **WEB: 4000005039 US\$585k.**
- E SUNRISE POINT #1 Beachfront Lot, 27,110 sq. ft. **WEB: 4000030636 US\$499k.**
- F WATERFRONT BEACH HOMESITE Lot. 90 ft of beach frontage. Beautiful rock walls on the beach & road. Utilities at Road. **WEB: 4000039430 US\$599,000.**
- G HIGH & DRY Canal view home, 1,344 sq. ft., 2 storey, 3 bed 2 bath, furnished. **WEB: 4000032980 \$465,000.**

- H MARINA LOT 5 Choice canalfront. **WEB: 4000009545 \$270k.**
- I ROCK POINT LOT 4 Waterfront 90 ft. **WEB: 4000019391 US\$320k.**
- J ROCK POINT LOT 7 Waterfront 90 ft. **WEB: 4000032169 \$185,000.**
- K ROCK POINT LOT 8 11,818 sf residential. **WEB: 4000031389 \$185,000.**

OCEAN BLVD Lot 82 10,560 sq.ft w/ utilites at road. **WEB: 4000019526 \$ BLOCK 185, LOT 2** Exceptional homesite with utilities at road. Great price. PINEAPPLE POINT 2b 2b canalfront condo w/ dock slip. **WEB: 4000023098**

New Listing LEISURE LEE 231 HOUSE 103' beachfront. 6000sf Home with wraparound porch **WEB: ---- \$995.k**

Call Stan Sawyer for more information 577.0298

GUANA CAY OCEANFRONT 100ft on the Atlantic. **WEB: 4000044235 US\$240k.** B.Albury LOT 32 & 32A 90 feet on water. **WEB: 4000019447 \$500,000.** J.Patterson LOT 74 & 74B 110 ft beachfront. **WEB: 4000046006 \$325,000.** C. Albury LOT 26 22,000 sq. ft. corner lot. **WEB: 4000019424 \$250,000.** J.Patterson

MAINLAND BAH. PALM SHRS. LOT 38 Residential lot in Section 1. \$25k. Bill Albury MARSH HBR. High Rocks waterfront lot. **WEB: 4000008281 \$480k.** B.Albury MARSH HBR. Abaco Towns #17 2b 2b with sea views. Amenities **WEB: 4000040896 \$206,000.** B.Albury MARSH HBR. Sunrise Bay #1 w/ foundation **WEB: 4000036762 \$165k.** B.Albury MARSH HBR. Sunrise Bay #33 17,000 sq. ft. **WEB: 4000038014 \$280k.** B.Albury GREAT CISTERN 27 Elevated lot w/ water views. **WEB: 4000040794 \$125,000.** B.Albury LITTLE HBR. Waterfront 1 acre. **WEB: 4000036442 \$199,500.** L.Schreiner

Central & All Abaco

BNT From Page 11

Bahamas for she says; "My heart is in the old nostalgic times. I like to be true to The Bahamas and bring people back to times long ago. I like to bring them back to the alley and the bush and paint kids especially with bare feet. Abaco likes children."

This year, instead of focusing solely on the old time scenes Nicole was displaying some unusual monochrome oil paintings which appeared almost as black and white photographs. "People have shown a lot of interest in these monochrome pictures," she stated.

Kim Roberts is also a well-known artisan who regularly shows her Bahama Dawn line of products which include quilting, ceramics and jewellery but this year she added a new dimension by giving demonstrations of how she makes her glass beads.

The Bahamas National Trust's booth at the entrance to the show carried an interesting assortment of literature on the national parks and all types of wildlife while also showing environmental videos and encouraging people to sign up as members of the trust. Brian Kakuk of the Bahamas Caves Research foundation also showed



Above: Anthony Morley.



Above: Tuppy Weatherford.

very interesting videos of the underwater world of Abaco.

Complimentary 'Yellow Glen' Pink Champagne was donated by Bristol Cellars.

Art for the Parks extended throughout the weekend with more art showings, cultural talks, entertainment and many more events.

Tourism From Page 7

ple who are looking forward, a people who are moving on to perfection," Rev. Johnson concluded.

Don Cornish, director of Product for the Ministry of Tourism, closed out the service with The Intercessions on behalf of the church, the nation and the world.

Following the service, guests were treated to a complimentary lunch at Mangoes Restaurant.

Abaco suspect charged with two counts of homicide

Press Release

Police in Abaco on Sunday, January 26, 2014, charged Pedro Dean, alias "Stitchie," of Murphy Town, Abaco with two counts of Murder.

This is in connection with the two homicides that occurred on Saturday Jan 18, 2014 in Abaco.

Both males have since been identified as:

1. Landris Lacaro Curry age 32 years of Dundas Town, Abaco
2. Drayson Forbes age 28 years of Dundas Town, Abaco

Pedro Dean alias "Stitchie" will be arraigned at the Magistrate Court in New Providence on Monday, January 27, 2014.

Police in Abaco are continuing the investigation into this matter and would like to thank members of the public for their assistance in this investigation.

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The Cays

Airline opens direct flight to Hope Town



Above: Immigration set to greet passengers who arrived in Elbow Cay via seaplane. A regular occurrence once the route officially starts in February.

After a test run last year, Tropic Ocean Airways, partnering with IJet Charters, landed a seaplane full of U.S. journalists in White Sound Harbour. The Ft. Lauderdale based airline is beginning twice-weekly regular flights directly to Elbow Cay starting Feb 14. Customs and Immigration will be available at the Abaco Inn to greet and clear passengers.

Jan 25 was a perfect day with clear, blue skies and a calm Sea of

Abaco. Shortly after 10:30 am the seaplane began circling the area right outside of White Sound, Elbow Cay before splashing down. After a smooth landing the plane taxied into the harbour and perched right onto the small beach in front of the Abaco Inn.

The plane, that day carrying journalists and PR persons from the US, was greeted by members of the Ministry of Tourism, the Abaco Chamber of Commerce, IJet Charter's Jim Swieter,

the staff of the Abaco Inn and many other curious onlookers. Tom Hazel, manager for the Abaco Inn, handed out frozen cocktails to the passengers as they disembarked.

After mingling on the beach and securing their bags, the visitors walked up to the Abaco Inn's deck overlooking the ocean where they were greeted by Immigration officials. It was all smiles as the passengers were stamped in to the country.

Mr. Swieter said about the service, "I wanted to stabilize the airfares and make it easy for the people of Hope Town and its visitors to come and go from FLL and PBI nonstop."

Tropic Ocean Airways will begin regularly scheduled flights from Ft. Lauderdale into Elbow Cay Feb 14. A route from West Palm Beach is scheduled to start in March. Roundtrip tickets start at \$599. The seaplane can hold up to eight passengers.



Above: a perfect day to arrive in the Abacos via seaplane.

HOPE TOWN HIDEAWAYS

Inclusive of Chris Thompson Real Estate
www.hopetown.com

<p>Casa Luisa - Situated in a great neighborhood just a short walk to the beach. This 3 bed, 2 bath offers views of the Atlantic Ocean, a private pool and has numerous decks and patios. \$660,000 USD</p>	<p>Lower Harbour - Tilloo Cay - One-of-a-kind offering w/3.5 acres incl. dock house & deck. High elevations, spectacular views of harbour & Atlantic Ocean, 250' of waterfront and a safe haven for vessels. \$899,000 USD</p>	<p>Ocean View Lot 1 - Ocean View Subdivision is located in White Sound, Elbow Cay. Build up on this property to capture wonderful views of the ocean beyond. Quiet location with great rental properties. \$140,000 BSD</p>
<p>Breezy Palms - Stunning 5 bed, 5.5 bath beach house with private pool situated in Dorros Cove. Features include panoramic ocean views, generator, high end furnishings & dock slip. \$3.5 M USD</p>	<p>Sea Winds - Guana Cay - The definition of immaculate! This 3 bed, 3 bath home is situated on a spacious 16,720 sq. ft. lot overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in Dolphin Beach Estates. \$899,000 USD</p>	<p>Coco Plum - Well-built 3 bed, 2 bath home and 2 bed, 1.5 bath cottage in Breezy Hill Subdivision across from one of the best beaches on the island. Ideal for full-time residence w/income property. \$800,000 BSD</p>
<p>A New Hummingbird Hill - 48/48 Sleeps 8. From the magnificent exterior stone kitchen with rooftop dining & viewing deck, to the endless horizon of the pool, this home is guaranteed to take your breath away. \$488/wk per person plus tax Price based on maximum occupancy</p>	<p>Blue Heaven - 2B/2B Sleeps 6. Blue Heaven is on Hope Town's most wonderful beach & has its own private pool. It's conveniently located just north of the Hope Town Harbour Lodge. \$667/wk per person plus tax Price based on maximum occupancy</p>	<p>Bali Hai Cottage - 2B/2B Sleeps 4. Island home with private dock directly on Sea of Abaco at Tahiti Beach. Comprising of multiple terrace levels, garden decks and a screened Bahama room. \$750/wk per person plus tax Price based on maximum occupancy</p>

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HOPE TOWN HIDEAWAYS

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MARSH HARBOUR

- Pelican Shores waterfront lot 1.3 acres elevated hilltop on the harbour, dock & seawall \$895,000
- Eastern Marsh Harbour lot, plans passed for 7 unit multi-family complex \$350,000
- Commercial lot near hotel \$125,000
- Iggy Biggy complex & residences - call for details
- Commercial lot between Conch Inn & Boat Harbour

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The Cays

Evening of Elegance raises funds for BASRA



Above left to right: Tatum Thompson, Tania Duncombe and Erica Pinder at BASRA's Evening of Elegance at the Abaco Inn. The evening, sponsored by Burns House and Veuve Clicquot, raised money for the award winning emergency and rescue service.

The Abaco branch of the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association (BASRA) held their annual Evening of Elegance fundraising dinner and auction on January 25 at the Abaco Inn on Elbow Cay. BASRA is a volunteer organization that is committed to providing emergency services and saving the lives of distressed boaters and airmen in The Bahamas.

In 2013 the Abaco branch of BASRA was awarded the prestigious Association for Rescue at Sea Caribbean Search and Rescue. In November 2011 the local chapter of BASRA responded in severe weather conditions on the Sea of Abaco and saved 61 lives.

The Evening of Elegance was sponsored by Burns House Ltd and by Veuve Clicquot & Hennessy. The fundraising dinner was \$125 per plate. Also raising funds for BASRA was a silent auction that ran from Jan 20 until that evening.

Included among the many items on the auction block were: a seat on the "Abaco Rage", a one week stay at Lubbers Quarters, and Albury Sail Shop bag, artwork by Guy Harvey, spa treatment and lunch for two at Baker's Bay, a half day excursion with Captain Plug, a unique Hope Town Canvas bag, a week stay in Ireland, hand-painted bicycles by Kim Rody, and many more.



Above left to right: Answell Johnson- LVMH Brand Representative, Matthieu Florentin-Veuve Clicquot LVMH Caribbean Marketing Manager, Chantell Sands and Tom Hazel.

One of the most hotly contested bid items was a large, hardback 007 James Bond Archive book. It was signed by James Bond himself – Sean Connery – and dated January 2014.

Complimentary Veuve Clicquot champagne was served to the well-dressed crowd.

The auction was presided over by the energetic Tania Duncombe. Throughout the evening she encouraged everyone to open their wallets and support BASRA, as well as get a chance to win the many great prizes. Judging by the busy auction floor and flurry of activity as time was counting down, many happily responded.

The Abaco Inn served an indulgent meal for those in attendance: Portabello Mushroom & Brie Soup, Belgian Endive Salad, Filet Oskar (beef tenderloin topped with lobster and béarnaise sauce) and a

dessert of Pavlova. Manager Tom Hazel was on hand to ensure everyone was having a good time.

BASRA celebrated 50 years of "Volunteers Saving Lives at Sea" this year.



Above: Abaco Inn manager, Tom Hazel, horsing around with his staff and friend, Jack Russell, at the BASRA Evening of Elegance.



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Central & All Abaco

Team surveying Abaco for compliance with the Stockholm Convention



Above: looking through the Cooper's Town dump site for discarded chemical containers.

By Mirella Santillo

In August of 2013, SEV Consulting Group led by Stacey Moultrie was contracted by the Government of The Bahamas, through the BEST Commission and the Ministry of Environment and Housing to conduct an inventory on POPS (Persistent Organic Pollutants). The main objective of the project is for The Bahamas to fulfill its obligations under the Stockholm Convention.

The project is to be conducted in three phases on five islands, Grand Bahama, Andros, Abaco, Eleuthera and New Providence with SEV surveying Andros, Abaco and Eleuthera and the Department of Environmental Health Services along with the Pan-American Health Organization taking care of New Providence and Grand Bahama.

Firstly an inventory of all POPS, such as DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin,

Hexachlorobenzene and Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) among others and herbicides as well as by-products of chemical industries, is to be taken.

Secondly, all the chemicals found are to be put in a database, in order for the Government to track what is coming into the country and whether it is being properly disposed of.

Thirdly, an implementation plan is to be developed.

Under the Stockholm Convention agreement, the Government of The Bahamas made the commitment to phase out certain chemicals and to reduce others as well as to find safer alternatives that will be recommended by SEV.

POPs are organic substances that once released into the environment remain intact for an exceptionally long period of time. They become widely distributed and bio-accumulate in fatty tissue of living organisms, including humans. They are toxic to humans and wildlife.

"The project objectives are to prepare the ground for implementation of the Convention requirements; to satisfy its reporting and fulfill other obligations stated in the Convention and to strengthen the national capacity to manage POPS and chemicals in general."

A survey to determine which chemicals are entering the country is being presently undertaken. So far Mrs. Moultrie and her group have visited farmers and hardware stores on N. Andros, and on the main island of Abaco, asking farmers what chemicals they use, discussing with hardware stores what their inventory of chemicals is and visiting the dumps to see what is being discarded.

She also wants to interview key personnel of the major shipping companies to get an idea of what is coming into the country.

Once the survey is completed, the products found will be studied and analyzed to find out if they contain some of the hazardous chemicals mentioned on a list of twenty five POPs and their by-products.

The implementation plan will outline which chemicals should be either eliminated or their unintentional release reduced.

The Department of Environmental Health Services and the Pan-American Health Organization are taking a strategic approach and adopting a global plan of action to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle, so that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

Locally, the National Implementation Plan (NIP) will consist of assessing the institutional capacity needs of establishing the economic and social implications of POPs; of achieving an assessment of laboratory, research and development capacity; of identifying the socioeconomic, public health and environmental issues; of putting forward action plans for priority POPs and of implementing targets, timeframes, implementation costs and indicators of success.

The SEV team is comprised of a chemist, Stefan Moss, a database specialist, Nekia Brice and with Stacey Moultrie as the team coordinator. The project coordinator for the BEST Commission is Gammell Deal.

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ON GREEN TURTLE CAY:

- UNDER CONTRACT!!!** Hilltop commercial lot on entry road to settlement of New Plymouth.
- Great Opportunity!** "Twin Palms" offers two immaculate attached furnished waterfront townhouses on the Sea of Abaco. Each side mirrors the other with 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. A/C throughout. Internet and satellite. 2 Kayaks. Mini putts. Newly built 60' dock accommodates 42' boat. .537 acres.
Asking Price \$1.65m.
- JUST REDUCED!!!** 9,600 sq.ft. lot just steps to the Atlantic Ocean Beach. Quiet residential area. **B\$55,000.00**
- UNDER CONTRACT!!!** 85 x 120 lot with start-up foundation. Less than 300 steps to the Atlantic Ocean Beach.
- 20,000 sq.ft. parcel** 125' from Long Bay Beach. Water view possible. Water and power accessible.
B\$195,000.00
- Chic furnished artist's home** with two master bedroom suites plus 1/2 bath. Water view of White Sound. Within walking distance to a public dock with ramp. A/C throughout. Artist studio with north light exposure. Garage, workshop, golf cart.
\$495,000.00
- PRICE REDUCTION!!!** "The Pink Pearl" Completely re-furbished 115 year old historic wood building centrally located in the heart of New Plymouth. Commercial/or residential use. Excellent tenant in place. Short walk to Settlement Creek and ferry service. Parking area.
B\$169,900.00
- "The Golden Reef"** Large two story commercial building in the heart of historic New Plymouth. Shop/office space on ground floor. Two furnished two bedroom one bath apartments on second floor with good rental history and sea views. Parking space.
\$550,000.00
- Two elevated waterfront parcels** on the Bluff overlooking the Sea of Abaco. Stunning sunsets. Approximately 1/4 acre each with 85' each on the water. Naturally deep water for a dock. Priced to sell TOGETHER for a total of **\$395,000 + 7 1/2% to close**

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TREASURE CAY
Houses

"Girasole" # 1551- Delightful 4 bed, 4.5 bath elevated Italian villa style beach home, plus 2 bed, 2 bath separate guesthouse. Elegantly furnished, many upgrades. 45,000 s/f landscaped grounds, 100' + beach frontage. **\$4,450,000.**

"Casa Pita", Ocean Blvd. #2334 - Luxurious 5 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 5,234 s/f furnished beachfront estate home on 51,452 s/f landscaped lot w/110' beach frontage. Includes guest house & 2 double garages. **\$3,495,000.**

"Hayes House" #2452 - Luxurious 3 level, 4 bed, 5 bath beachfront estate home on Treasure Cay Beach. 3,600 s/f under roof, plus 3,400 s/f covered verandahs. Elegantly furnished, meticulously maintained. Includes vehicle & golf cart **\$2,995,000.**

"Summertime" # 1550 - Exquisite 5 bedroom, 4 bath Ocean Blvd furnished estate home & guest house, total 3,800 s/f under air, plus 4,100 s/f patios & porches on 1.37 landscaped acre with 133' Treasure Cay beach frontage. **\$2,695,000.**

"The White House" - # 2131 - Awesome 4 bed, 4.5 bath, 2 level tastefully furnished Ocean Blvd. beach home, 3,312 s/f under air, plus garages 58,500 s/f landscaped parcel - 150' beach frontage. panoramic sea & beach views. **\$2,655,000.**

Brigantine Bay Canal Home - # 1589 - Luxuriously furnished 4 bedroom, 4 bath, 4,850 s/f under roof, double garage, covered verandah, 15,306 s/f parcel, 91' canal frontage, 25' finger dock, boat lift. **\$2,495,000.**

Cutwater Way Canal Home - # 1524 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 3,600 s/f home on Brigantine Bay. Elegantly furnished, many upgrades. 144' bulkhead, 70' dock, boat lift. **\$1,995,000.**

12 Ocean Blvd. # 1007 - Elegant 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath 3,500 s/f furnished beach home. 100' beach frontage, pool. Recently refurbished. Excellent vacation rental income earner. **\$1,995,000.**

"Trident House" - #317 - 3 Bed, 3.5 Bath 3,500 s/f furnished beachfront home. 2 garages, 16,000 s/f parcel, 100' beach frontage. Fabulous Sea Views. **\$1,850,000.**

"Green Gecko" # 2283 - 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 2 level furnished canal home. 2,870 s/f under air, plus 1,045 s/f covered verandahs. Immaculate condition. Many upgrades. Garage, dock, gazebo, dolphin pilings. **\$1,495,000.**

"Windward Palms" # 1454 - Splendid 3 bed, 2 bath furnished beach home. 2,500 s/f under roof, 1,600 s/f patios & walks, 16,000 s/f landscaped parcel, 100' sandy beach. Meticulously maintained, Many extras, **\$1,349,000.**

"Rising Sun" # 1780 - Windward Beach, 3 bed, 2.5 bath 2,118 s/f furnished home on 25,925 s/f parcel with 150' of sandy beach frontage. Superb sea views! **\$1,310,000.**

"Hull's Landing" - # 2204 - 3 bed, 3 bath plus loft, turn-key furnished Galleon Bay canal home. 2,700 s/f under air, + garage & covered porch. Pool & dock. Many extras. 10,000 s/f parcel w/80' canal frontage. **\$1,185,000.**

"Helen's Point" - # 1791 - 4 bed, 3 bath, 1,800 sq. ft. furnished home on 27,908 s/f Sea of Abaco waterfront parcel with 153' of bulkheaded seawall & dock. **\$1,095,000.**

"Pisces" - # 2085 - Elegantly furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath harbourfront home, 2,189 s/f under air, plus 1,269 s/f double garage & covered patio. 13,716 s/f property with 71' deep water dockage. Private pool. Owner Downsizing **\$997,000.**

"Harbour's Edge" - # 2000 - 3 bed, 3 bath furnished Harbour front Home, panoramic harbour views, 3,033 s/f under roof. 15,210 s/f landscaped parcel, 90' deep water frontage. **\$949,000.**

"Treasured Times" # 2365 - 3 bedroom, 3 bath turnkey furnished canalfront home, 3,430 s/f under roof, fully refurbished in 2007, double garage, many upgrades & extras. 16,000 s/f lot, 90' canal frontage. **\$949,000.**

"Full Moon" - # 2163 - 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 level furnished canal home, 2,990 s/f under air, recently renovated, many upgrades. 86' deep water dock & boat lift. **\$895,000.**

Palm Bay Harbourfront Townhouse # 2 - #1071 - Newly constructed, furnished 3 bed, 3.5 bath, 2,077 s/f. Great water views. Owner Financing Available **\$749,500.**

"Yellow Coconut Cottage" - # 2211 - Elegantly furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2 level Brigantine Bay canal home. 1,541 s/f under air, plus balconies, patios & garage. Private boat slip & 20,000 boat lift, golf cart, many extras. **\$749,000.**

"Sea Cliff" # 2179 - Luxury 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 level sea view home. 2,550 s/f under roof, tastefully furnished. 12,589 s/f elevated landscaped lot. Excellent rental income potential. **\$599,000.**

"Deelarrys" #2305 - 4 bed 2 bath furnished Sea of Abaco home. 1,674 s/f under air, + covered patio & garage. 16,326 s/f parcel, 100' seawalled frontage. **\$599,000.**

TREASURE CAY
Houses

"Laguna" - # 1875 - Charming 1,550 s/f 3 bed, 2 bath furnished Galleon Bay canal home. 102' canal frontage with "T" dock & 16,000 lb boat lift. **\$595,000.**

Palm Bay # 9 - # 2108 - Newly constructed 4 Bedroom, 3.5 bath, 2,077 s/f turn-key furnished harbourfront townhouse. Golf cart included. Private boat slip, Excellent vacation rental income potential. **80% 15 Year Financing Available!** **\$579,000.**

Treasure House # 11 - # 1592 - Delightful 2 bed, 2 bath comfortably furnished 1,000 s/f Topsider style beachside villa. Community pool, well maintained villa. Exceptional sea & beach views. **\$499,000.**

"Sunny Side" # 2013 - Luxurious 3 bed, 2 bath, 2,704 s/f furnished sea view home on 15,750 s/f landscaped lot. Well maintained, close to Treasure Cay Beach & Windward Beach. Many upgrades. **\$499,000.**

Treasure House # 2 - #1777 - 2 bed, 2 bath topsider style 1,000 s/f furnished beachside villa. Exceptional elevated Sea & beach views. Close to beach & pool. **\$499,000.**

"Elysium" #1460 - 4 bed, 2 bath, 2,840 s/f under roof furnished home on 2 lots (22,000 s/f) on Ocean Blvd. Includes double garage. Close to beach. **\$497,000.**

Beach Villa # 715 - # 2072 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 950 s/f turn-key furnished beachfront villa. Well maintained, excellent vacation rental income potential. **\$449,000.**

Beach Villa 676 - #2488 - Exceptionally large 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,250 sq. ft. furnished villa near beach. Owner occupied, but with excellent vacation rental income potential. **\$349,000.**

Treasure House # 8 - #1697 - Beachside 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f furnished Topsider villa. Community pool, great sea views. **\$345,000.**

Treasure House # 7 - #2455 - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f furnished Topsider style home in beachfront development. Community pool. One of only 12 units. Well maintained. Excellent rental income potential. **\$329,000.**

#1898 - "Starfish Cottage" Beach Villa 503A & B 2 adjoining, self contained 1 bed, 1 bath furnished villas near beach. Great Rental Income Potential. **\$329,000.**

Beach Villa # 638 - #2306 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,127 s/f tastefully furnished home on large double lot, washer/dryer in unit, near beach, good rental income potential. **\$324,000.**

Beach Villa # 655 - # 2241 - 2 bed, 2 bath exceptionally large 1,013 s/f attractively furnished villa near beach. Excellent vacation rental income potential **\$299,000.**

Ocean Villa 923 - #2332 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 900 s/f furnished villa near to beach, marina & shopping. Well maintained, Excellent rental income potential **\$299,000.**

Atlantis 2107 - # 2392 - Well maintained 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,075 s/f ground level "turn-key" furnished condo on Brigantine Bay. Includes private dock & slip. Close to beach. **\$299,000.**

Beach Villa 685 - #2360 - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 886 s/f "turn-key" furnished villa just 2 minutes from beach. Renovated & refurbished. **\$299,000.**

Beach Villa 506 - #2495 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,250 s/f furnished garden villa comprising 2 back units. Ideal as a prime vacation rental income property. **\$299,000.**

Beach Villa 673 - #1847, 2 bed, 2 bath furnished 1,000 s/f, Near pool/beach, refurbished, well maintained. **\$275,000.**

Beach Villa # 605 - # 1635 - 2 bed, 2 bath well maintained & elegantly furnished "turn-key" villa. Washer/dryer. Many extras & upgrades, new air conditioning & asphalt architectural shingles. Close to beach. **\$249,900.**

Beach Villa 607 - # 1982 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 900 s/f villa, furnished near beach, pool, shops & marina. **\$229,000.**

Beach Villas # 651 - # 2230 - Charming 2 bed, 2 bath furnished villa near beach, pool & shopping. **\$209,000.**

Beach Villa # 601 - # 2240 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 865 s/f "turn-key" furnished villa. Recently upgraded, well maintained, near beach. Priced to Sell! **\$199,000.**

Beach Villa 648 - # 2420 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,050 s/f furnished villa near beach. Recently renovated and expanded. Excellent vacation rental income potential. **\$199,000.**

Condos

Bahama Beach Club 2020 - # 1139 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,650 s/f 2nd level beach condo, elegantly decorated. Superior beach & ocean views. **\$872,000.**

Bahama Beach Club 2047 - # 1468 - 3 bed, 3 bath, ground level Phase 5 unit, 1,750 s/f living space condo, close to beach, tastefully furnished, numerous upgrades & enhancements. Superb sea views. **\$795,000.**

TREASURE CAY
Condos

Bahama Beach Club 2030 - # 2364 - 3 bed, 2 bath elegantly furnished 1,650 s/f 2nd level luxury beach condo. Well maintained, owner occupied. Many upgrades. **\$699,000.**

Bahama Beach Club # 2025 - #2057 3 bed, 3 bath ground level condo, 1,650 sq. ft. Tastefully furnished, well maintained. Great views. Excellent rental income. **\$599,000.**

Carleton Landing - Carriage House # 1 - # 1621 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,755 s/f ground level furnished condo on Brigantine Bay. New construction. Includes community pool, finger dock/private slip, 2 garages. **FURNISHED - \$599,000.**

Carleton Landing - Carriage House # 2, 3 & 4 - # 1620 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 1,755 s/f unfurnished condos on Brigantine Bay. New construction. Community pool, finger dock/private slip, 2 garages. **NOW EACH \$599,000.**

Royal Palm 2480 - # 2310 - 3 bed, 3 bath, 2nd level, 1,264 s/f furnished condo on Brigantine Bay. Deep water dock, artwork, van & golf cart included. Near beach. **\$463,000.**

Bahama Beach Club # 2035 - #981 - 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,650 s/f furnished ground level condo. Overlooks pool & beach. Best Priced Condo at Bahama Beach Club **\$449,950.**

Bahama Beach Club 2023 - #2456 - BEST PRICED 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,645 s/f ground level fully furnished, owner occupied beachfront villa. Includes golf cart garage. Excellent vacation rental income potential. **\$449,000.**

Royal Palm # 2435 - # 1881 - 3 bed, 3 bath 2nd level turn-key furnished 1,264 s/f harbourfront condo. Well maintained end unit. Sensational panoramic views **\$399,000.**

Royal Palm # 2437 - # 2286 - Well maintained 3 bed, 3 bath 2nd level 1,264 s/f furnished harbourfront condo. Panoramic harbour views. Boat slip & dock. **\$399,000.**

Sand Dollar Condo # 7 - #1456 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,000 s/f ground level furnished beachfront condo. Well maintained, superb sea views, community pool. Best Value! **\$369,000.**

Royal Poinciana # 2511 - # 1483 - Deluxe 2 bed, 2 bath ground level furnished 1,300 s/f beachfront condo. Well maintained. Great sea views, excellent rental income potential. **\$349,000.**

Royal Palm 2419 - #2294 - 3 bed, 3 bath 2nd level 1,264 s/f furnished harbourfront condo with loft. Elevated harbour views. Private finger dock & slip. Excellent rental income potential. **\$349,000.**

Royal Poinciana # 2512 - #2060 - 2 bed, 2 bath, ground level furnished beachfront condo, on site pool & tennis court. Great sea views, excellent rental income potential. **\$325,000.**

Royal Palm 2301 - #2311 - Well maintained 2 bed, 2 bath ground level 1,000 s/f furnished harbourfront condo. Desirable "end" unit. Private finger dock & slip. Golf cart. **\$299,000.**

Atlantis 2107 - #2392 - Charming 2 bed, 2 bath, 875 s/f ground level furnished canalfront condo. Includes private dock slip **\$285,000.**

Royal Palm 2325 - #2285 - Well maintained 2 bed, 2 bath ground level 1,000 s/f furnished harbourfront condo. Great harbour views. Private finger dock & slip. **\$259,000.**

Mariner's Cove Condominiums

2010 - 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 1,236 s/f 2nd level furnished harbourfront condo. Refurbished in 2008. Close to beach & marina **\$374,000.**

#2480 - Mariner's Cove 1511 - 1 bed, 1.5 bath, 2 level 845 s/f furnished condo overlooking Treasure Cay marina. Well maintained, near beach, close to shops. **\$239,000.**

#985 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level harbourfront end unit. Totally upgraded in 2013. Priced for immediate sale. **\$ 225,000.**

#2390 - 2 bed, 1.5 bath, 2 level 832 s/f "turn-key" furnished harbourfront condo, includes garage. **\$219,000.**

#1942 - 1 bed, 1 bath, 450 s/f 2nd level furnished unit overlooking community pool. **\$199,000.**

#2391 - 2 bed, 1 bath, 2 level 825 s/f furnished harbourfront condo, includes garage. **\$195,000.**

#655 - 2 bed, 1 bath condo with marina view **\$189,000.**

#2073 - Condo # 1211 - 1 bed, 1 bath, 462 s/f ground level furnished harbourfront condo. Great views. **\$149,000.**

#2359 - Condo # 1108 - 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 2nd level, 540 s/f furnished condo overlooks harbour. **\$139,000.**

2321 - Mariner's Cove 1217 - 1 bed, 1 bath, 2nd level, 540 s/f furnished unit overlooking harbour & marina. Great vacation rental income potential. **\$139,000.**

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TREASURE CAY
Vacant Land
Treasure Cay Beach Parcels

Thurston Bay Development Parcel - #1579 - 108 acres at entrance to Treasure Cay w/2,300' shoreline w/1,300' sandy beach frontage. Abaco Highway & Treasure Cay Dr. frontage. Great development potential. **\$53,900,000.**

Ocean Blvd. Beach Lots 92A & 93 - # 2361 - Exceptionally large 2.0 acre beach parcel w/174' sandy beach frontage. Cleared & level lot, electricity installed. Incredible sea views. **\$2,300,000.**

Ocean Blvd Lot 10, # 1842 - Oversized 54,963 s/f parcel w/165' pristine sandy beach frontage. All utilities available. Phenomenal sea views. **\$1,495,000.**

Beach & Canal Lot Package #941- Windward Beach lot of 17,542 s/f with 100' beach frontage on Sea of Abaco, PLUS Galleon Bay lot of 17,955 s/f with approx. 76' of sea-walled canal frontage. **\$1,205,000.**

Beachfront Lot 11, Treasure Cay Beach: # 2270 12,866 s/f elevated, cleared parcel with 118' sandy beach frontage. Fabulous panoramic beach & sea views. All utilities available. **\$1,199,000.**

Windward Beach Lots 12 & 13 # 2031 - 100' sandy beach frontage each, 21,675 & 23,000 s/f cleared, walled parcels. All utilities available. Fabulous sea views. **EACH \$599,000.**

Beachfront Lot 58, Windward Beach - # 2333 - 22,900 s/f level parcel with 101' Sea of Abaco beach frontage. All utilities available. Fantastic sea views. **\$599,000.**

Rock Point Beach Lot 9, Block 233 - # 2140 12,257 s/f parcel with 90' beach frontage. All utilities available. **\$149,000.**

Treasure Cay Canal Parcels

Treasure Cay Harbourfront Lot - #1804 - 13,678 s/f landscaped parcel, 153' of bulkheaded seawall, 140' of lay-along docks, garage, water & electricity **\$499,000.**

Brigantine Bay # 1598 - Cleared lots 1 & 2A, 19,300 s/f 130' bulkheaded frontage, new dock. **\$495,000.**

Galleon Bay - # 1441 - 28,072 s/f cleared parcel, 64' of bulkhead with dock & dock house. **\$389,000.**

Galleon Bay # 422 - Prime 10,295 s/f cleared canal lot, 88'+ protected canal frontage. Sea-walled, plus dock & davit pilings. All utilities available. **\$350,000.**

Harbour Canal Lot 4, Block 206 - # 2500 - 20,000 s/f parcel with 131' sea-walled frontage. All utilities available. **\$329,000.**

Galleon Bay Canal Lot 10, Blk. 203 - # 1905 - large 18,330 s/f parcel, 91' bulkheaded canal frontage, 480 s/f garage & dock. All utilities available **\$325,000.**

Galleon Bay Canal Lot 4 # - 1963 - 10,000 s/f cleared lot/w 80' seawalled canal frontage, New deep water sheltered "T" dock with power & water. **\$315,000.**

Galleon Bay Canal Lot 102 - #1580 - 12,000 s/f elevated parcel w/108' deep water sea-walled frontage. Utilities available. **\$275,000.**

Galleon Bay Canal Parcels: # 1319, 1320, 1801 - Your choice of 3 lots, each with 111'+/- seawalled canal frontage, from 15,270 s/f per lot, utilities available. **EACH \$275,000.**

Brigantine Bay # 1494 - 18,807 s/f cleared parcel 120' deep water bulk-headed frontage. **\$270,000.**

Brigantine Bay # 1622-1625 - 4 adjoining level & cleared canal lots from 11,693 s/f to 13,876 s/f with canal frontages from 74' to 87'. All lots with sea walls installed. Utilities available. Great water views along sheltered Brigantine Bay. **From \$266,000. to \$592,000.**

Galleon Bay Canal Lot 34, Blk. 203 - # 2320 - Cleared 15,045 s/f parcel with 126' seawalled canal frontage, dock with power & water, dolphin pilings. **\$249,000.**

#1173 - Brigantine Bay Lot 8, Block 191 - 11,200 s/f parcel with 80' seawalled canal frontage. All utilities available. **\$195,000.**

Sea of Abaco Lot 5, Rock Point - # 1543 - 11,700 s/f cleared lot/w 77' sea front. Utilities available **\$179,000.**

TREASURE CAY
Treasure Cay Canal Parcels

Sea of Abaco Lot 74, Blk. 199 #2510 - 14,139 s/f elevated parcel, 91' bulk-headed sea frontage. Great sea & harbour views. **Priced for Immediate Sale! \$149,000.**

Treasure Cay Inland Parcels

St Andrews Estates Golf Course Lots 8 & 9 - # 2467 - 2 adjoining lots, total 28,713 s/f w/317' of golf course frontage. Partially cleared, good elevation, all utilities available **\$79,500.**

Treasure Cay Drive Inland Lot - #1692 - Prime residential lot # 3 less than 200' from Treasure Cay Beach. All utilities available. 10,000 s/f **\$77,850.**

Treasure Cay Drive Inland Lot - #2036 - Prime residential lot # 17, close top Treasure Cay Beach. All utilities available. 10,000 s/f **\$77,850.**

#2217 - Lot 78, Block 1 - Prime 10,000 sq. ft. parcel on Flamingo Dr. 80' road frontage. Near to beach & golf course. All utilities available. **\$49,995.**

Multi-Family Lot 45, Block 167 - # 2436 - 15,000 s/f parcel, near beach, shopping & marina. **\$39,950.**

Treasure Cay Development Parcels

Sandbank Creek Open Zoned Acreage: #2504 - 12.5 acres with frontage on Treasure Cay Dr. & water frontage on Sandbank Creek. Good elevations, utilities available, ideal for commercial venture. **\$499,000.**

3 Prime Commercial Lots on Treasure Cay Dr. # 2502 - Each lot features 15,000 s/f with 100' of road frontage. near Treasure Cay entrance. Zoned for retail business. Utilities available. **EACH \$85,000.**

GREAT CISTERN CAY

2176 - "Rivendell" - Rustic 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,284 s/f furnished beach cottage on 17,090 s/f parcel with 110' of Sea of Abaco frontage. **\$359,000.**

1197 - Beachfront Lot # 7, 17,095 s/f with 126' hard rock & sandy beach frontage. Electricity & telephone available. Enchanting Sea of Abaco views. **\$259,000.**

GUANA CAY

"Ridge Runner" # 1185- 6 bed, 4 bath, 3,100 s/f furnished home-main house, separate master suite, guest cottage, pool & dock. 1.74 elevated acres, 330' shoreline. Superb panoramic water views. **\$1,899,500.**

Orchid Bay Beach Lot # 25 - # 1530 - 1.173 acre beach lot with 135' Atlantic Ocean beach frontage. Usage of Orchid Bay amenities. **\$1,499,000.**

"Ocean Symphony" # 6 Ocean Ridge Estates - # 2346 - 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath newly built & furnished 2,235 s/f Atlantic Ocean home with pool on 16,725 s/f parcel with 111' hardrock shoreline. Includes dock slip on Sea of Abaco. **\$1,495,000.**

"Wave Watch" - # 2030 - Newly constructed 3 bed, 2 bath, elevated 2 level, 2,000 s/f turn-key furnished Atlantic ocean view home. Golf cart included. **\$449,000.**

Sea View Lot K-82: # 2298 - 8,744 s/f lot located less than 200' from Sea of Abaco dockage. Access to Atlantic Ocean beaches. **\$199,000.**

"Secret Beach" # 1267/1268 - Ocean Front Elevated Parcels 9A (19,190 s/f) & 9B (16,144 s/f) lots, each with 100' +/- of Atlantic Ocean rocky shoreline & sand beach frontage. Prime building sites. **EACH \$199,000.**

BAHAMA PALM SHORES

Beachfront Lot 5 B - # 714 - 1 acre elevated parcel with 100' Atlantic Ocean sandy beach frontage, utilities available. **\$195,000.**

Inland Lot - Near Beach - # 3022- Large 21,450 s/f choice corner lot on main road in Section 1, electricity & telephone available. **\$49,000.**

Inland Lot - Near Beach - # 76 - Large 21,450 s/f level lot on main street. Electricity & telephone available. **\$35,000.**

Inland Lots 17 & 18, Blk. 4 # 1868 - 2 adjoining lots of 10,000 s/f each. Short walk to beach. **Each at \$27,500.**

TURTLE ROCKS

#2269 - Turtle Rocks West - 2.50 acre waterfront parcel extends from S.C. Bootle Hwy. to Sea of Abaco, 148' hard rock shoreline. Good elevations, great sea views. **\$299,000.**

CASUARINA POINT

"Casuarina Cottage" # 1866 - 2 bed, 1 bath, 816 s/f semi-furnished cottage on 14,000 s/f lot with 127' of canal frontage with boat ramp. **\$175,000.**

NORTH ABACO

"Fisherman's Paradise Marina", Loggerhead Creek - # 2355 Under development on 47 acre tract w/1,500' shoreline. Designed for 67 deep water slips for vessels up to 35'. Electricity installed. **"As Is" \$2,495,000.**

Sugar Plantation 36: #2238 - Lovely 4 bed, 3 bath, 3 level 3,400 s/f tastefully furnished Sea of Abaco waterfront home, plus 1,000 s/f garage & guest house. Pool, private dock, boat lift. 21,926 s/f lot with 100' shoreline **\$995,000.**

Boiling Hole # 1029 - 10.9 acre wooded tract with 156' Sea of Abaco bayside Sea of Abaco frontage. Utilities available at road boundary. **\$107,800.**

Boiling Hole - # 1030 - Two Sea of Abaco waterfront lots (16,689 s/f & 18,192 s/f) 73' & 80' water & highway frontage. Hard rock shoreline. Utilities available. **EACH \$65,900.**

SOUTH ABACO

156 Acre Beachfront Parcel - #2435 Elevations to 60' w/3,152' sandy Atlantic Ocean beach frontage adjacent to Long Beach community. Sensational sea views. Ideal for residential or resort development **\$4,500,000.**

SCOTLAND CAY

#2198 - Waterfront Lot 7, Block "K": Large 34,993 s/f parcel with approx. 386' of Sea of Abaco frontage. Good elevation, adjacent to private harbour entrance. **\$439,500.**

MARSH HARBOUR

#2265 - Central Pines Duplex - 2 bath each, 2,200 s/f total, 12,000 s/f parcel. **\$180,000.**

Regattas of Abaco # 27 - #1853 - 2 bed, 2 bath, 825 s/f 2nd level "turn-key" furnished condo near to beach, shops, marina, etc. **\$168,000.**

JOE'S CREEK

Lot "B" - Joe's Creek Vicinity - # 2253, Large 20,807 s/f lot adjacent to Leisure Lee, close to beach. Electricity, telephone & DSL available **\$50,000.**

LEISURE LEE

"Tranquil Palms" # 2366 - Well maintained & inviting 3 bed, 2 bath, 2,790 s/f turn-key furnished split level canal front home, good elevations. 110' sea-walled canal frontage, deep water dock, tropically landscaped grounds. **\$795,000.**

Canalfront Home #1865 - 2 bed, 2 bath furnished home, recently built in 2003. 11,378 s/f parcel, 120' bulk-headed canal frontage, 78' lay-along dock. **\$489,000.**

#2213 - "Leisurely Times" - 2 bed, 1 bath, 845 s/f furnished canal home on 12,100 s/f parcel w/110' bulkheaded canal frontage & 50' layalong dock. **\$299,000.**

Residential Parcels

#130 - 22,949 s/f beachfront parcel with 365' of Sea of Abaco water frontage. Great Sea of Abaco views. Electricity, water, telephone & DSL internet at road boundary. **\$365,000.**

#1593 - 10,590 s/f canal lot with 120' of bulkheaded seawall installed. All utilities available. **REDUCED TO \$149,000.**

1080 - 12,100 s/f canal parcel with 110' sea walled canal frontage. Boat davits installed. **Reduced \$147,500.**

#2054 - Lot # 204 - 10,590 s/f lot with 105' deep water canal frontage. All utilities available. **\$149,000.**

Lot # 15 - Great Abaco Hwy - Near Leisure Lee - # 567 - 2.139 acre parcel w/ 50' elevations & 119' frontage on both highway & Coromont Pond. Utilities available. **\$129,000.**

1844 - 2 adjoining deep water, sheltered canal lots, 9,900 s/f each, 50' x 50' shared dredged boat slip, 150' lay-along docks each. Near beach. **EACH REDUCED TO \$125,000.**

Canal Lot 186 - # 2469 12,535 s/f parcel on quiet cul-de-sac with 174' of deep water sheltered canal frontage. All utilities available. **Best Priced Canal Lot at \$119,000.**

811 - 10,400 s/f sea view corner lot with 194' of road frontage. Walk to beach. All utilities available. **\$69,900.**

1902 - Lot # 170 - 13,459 s/f, close to beach. Ocean views from your 2nd level home. All utilities available. **\$49,900.**

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Central & All Abaco

Central Abaco Town Planning - 27 Jan 2014

By David Ralph

All six members were present to review eight plans totaling \$1,373,600 of construction value. Seven were routine residential plans or modifications while the last one was for improvements and expansion to the Murphy Town block plant totaling \$1.2 million.

Extensive discussions took place on the unchecked construction in the Mud and Pigeon Peas settlements along with the many unlicensed businesses operating there. In order for a business license to be considered proof of ownership or a lease by the property owner must be provided.

The Mudd is all government land whereas Pigeon Peas is a land-grant dating into the mid-1800s and ownership or a proper lease would be difficult. Besides ownership issues, complying with the building code, sanitation and public health would be extremely difficult to overcome. A further bar to obtaining a business license relates to citizenship as foreigners are not allowed to compete with Bahamians for most common businesses.

Members of this Town Planning Board were concerned that Nassau does not provide sufficient support for the local Ministry of Works department to carry out their mandated inspections and subsequent destruction of illegal construction in these communities.

Chamber hosts CPA to speak to Abaconian dual citizens on FACTA compliance

On Jan 17 the Abaco Chamber of Commerce hosted a US based Certified Public Accountant to discuss the new FACTA taxes and taxation regarding dual citizens (Bahamian/U.S.A) living in Abaco. The CPA, Scott Williams, is a long-time visitor to Abaco. Over 120 people came to the meeting, which was held at the Anglican Hall.

Dual citizens living in The Bahamas are still considered by the US to be US citizens.

The USA tax code requires citizens to report their worldwide income from all sources. There are three forms Dual Citizens should be concerned about: Individual 1040, FACTA 8938 and the FBAR.

Mr. Williams explained the difference between filing your income with the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and having to pay United States taxes on that income.

Worldwide income exceeding \$10,000 must be filed with declared to the IRS. Deadline for filing in every April 15 for citizens living in the US, but for US citizens living abroad the deadline is not until June 15. Even then an extension can be requested until October.

While income over \$10K must be declared it may not be necessary to pay taxes to the US gov't on that income.

The IRS recognizes "Foreign Earned Income." Meaning if you are a dual citizen living and working in The Bahamas, your



Above: Scott Williams, left, receives the "Cruisers' Guide to Abaco" as a gift from Abaco Chamber of Commerce president Dennes Lightbourne. Mr. Williams explained some of the facets of the new FACTA and FBAR requirements.

wage falls under this category. Foreign Earned Income up until \$97,600 is exempt from taxes. However there are wrinkles in what is not considered Foreign Earned Income including certain rental income, investments and other income. An expert should be consulted if this applies.

There are penalties for late filing.

Mr. Williams told the crowd that there is no specific initiative by the IRS aimed at Bahamians. Instead this is a blanket that covers all US citizens and they are expected to comply.

The FACTA and FBAR represent separate filing requirements. These are fairly new laws and are the reason education is needed. These are mostly filing and reporting laws and generally no taxes are due.

The FBAR (Report of Foreign Bank & Financial Accounts) must be filed when a dual citizen has more than \$10,000 in any non-US bank at any given time throughout the year. Being a signature on an account that holds over \$10K requires filing as well. Again, taxes are not generally due, it is simply a filing requirement for the US government to keep an eye US citizens money to prevent laundering and terrorism.

With the FBAR there is a \$10K penalty for not filing, even if no taxes are due. The FBAR filing is due by June 30. There are no extensions for filing the FBAR.

The FACTA (Foreign Account Tax

Please see FACTA Page 22



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North Abaco



Above: the crew from Lindar Industries.

Logging From Page 1

Owens-Illinois produced pulpwood. Lindar Industries harvests and markets whole planks and finished wood products from Abaco pine.

The cut trees are hauled to the Marsh Harbour area where they are processed to fill orders for flooring, ceiling panels and crown molding intended for Nassau. A state of the art computerized sawmill slices the logs into flooring planks.

Another machine produces the crown moldings and quarter-round moldings made of scrap pieces.

The wood is planed by another sophisticated machine and further processed into tongue and groove boards with a width of four, five or six inches and in lengths

starting at two and a half feet up to ten feet.

Before this final step, the sliced wood is dehydrated through a combination of air conditioning and heat. AC units and kilns are used for this process.

Flooring is sold by square feet with the lowest quality sections going for \$3.00 per square foot.

Owner of Lindar Industries, Robert Roman, came to Abaco on January 16 for one of his regular visits to the island. Although based in Nassau, he supervises the Abaco operation and is aided by the field manager, Jeff Bonnet. Mr. Bonnet oversees the daily operations and the proper maintenance of the equipment.

Meeting with Mr. Roman on the site, this reporter saw the crew busy feed-

Please see **Logging** Page 22

"Coconuts"

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The Hope Town Sailing Club Welcomes Everyone to
Join Us for Our 50th Anniversary

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION



February 19 - 23, 2014

Wednesday, February 19th

FOUNDER'S CUP RACE

- 11:00 am START..... Open to ALL Cruising Class Sailboats
- 9:00 am..... Captain's Meeting to Register
- 4:30 pm..... **STAND UP for All Participants** at the Hope Town Sailing Club

Thursday, February 20th

STUDENTS OPEN HOUSE

Classes from Local Schools have been invited to Tour the Hope Town Sailing Club Junior Sailing Club Opti Boat Display and Information

REMINISCING 50 YEARS

at the Hope Town Sailing Club
* Open to the Public *

History Highlights, Humor and Nostalgia with Founders, Past Commodores and Guest Speakers

Friday, February 21st

FLEET REVIEW

- 9:45 - 10:30 am..... Boats will Parade in the Harbour
- 10:00 am..... Judges and Viewers will gather
- 11:00 am..... FLEET REVIEW Begins
- Boats will Pass Judges in Review
- 5:30 pm..... **Awards STAND UP for All Fleet Review Participants** at the Hope Town Sailing Club

Saturday, February 22nd

HOPE TOWN SAILING CLUB OPEN HOUSE

Open to the Public

10:00 am - 3:00 pm..... Videos of Races, Display of Trophies
Golden Jubilee Items will be displayed and for Sale

JUNIOR SAILING CLUB Exhibits

Opti Boat Display with Wish List & Fundraising

11:00 am - 12:00 pm..... HTSC History Book Signing by Kitty Donnan

Saturday, February 22nd

GOLDEN JUBILEE COCKTAIL PARTY

at the
HUMMINGBIRD ART GALLERY
6:00 pm - 10pm

Open to the Public

Tickets: \$25.00 per person

includes Commemorative glass & first drink
Tickets available at HTSC, HG Christie and Abaco Inn

Food, Drink and Music

Catered by Abaco Inn and Member Donations

REMARKS and POEMS

MULTIMEDIA DISPLAYS

Jubilee Silent Auction

Sunday, February 23rd

1:00 pm START..... **BAVERSTOCK TROPHY REGATTA**

For Abaco Dinghies, Sunfish and Optis
INFORMAL AWARDS GATHERING

After the races for Participants
at the Hope Town Sailing Club

COME CELEBRATE WITH US THE WEEK OF February 19th through the 23rd, 2014

Central & All Abaco

FACTA From Page 20

Compliance Act) is related to certain foreign financial assets like stocks and bond. Real estate is not considered a foreign asset under FACTA.

The filing threshold is \$200K or more at the end of the year OR \$300K at any time throughout the year. FACTA is filed alongside the Individual 1040.

There is a \$10K for not filing the FACTA.

FACTA & FBAR are usually just disclosure documents with no taxes necessarily involved. Regardless, willful failure to file these documents once you reach the filing threshold carries the steep penalties.

There is "Reasonable Cause" associated with not filing. This includes questions such as: "When did you become aware of these requirements?" Professional help should be consulted in this situation.

Regarding expatriation, relinquishing one's US citizenship, Mr. Williams explained it was not that simple. For expatriation a dual citizen must certify past compliance with all US tax laws. Heavy penalties and interest on penalties may be involved with the process if compliance cannot be proven.

On the question of how far back must dual citizens file who had "Reasonable Cause" and who were not aware of these tax laws: around three years.

There is no specific age when teenagers should begin filing. Filing is only necessary once a citizen surpasses \$10K in income. Taxes are only necessary once a citizen passes \$97,600 Foreign Earned Income.

Bahamian entity businesses with Dual Citizen partners are not required to pay US taxes. The only taxable income from a Bahamian business would be in relation to the dual citizens income and dividends from said business. Again, taxes may not be required on said income and dividends. Professional help should be consulted.

After the meeting Chamber President Dennis Lightbourne presented Mr. Williams with a gift of the new "Cruisers Guide to Abaco." Mr. Williams, after seeing the large turnout and productive question and answer session, agreed to return to Abaco for another town hall later in the year.

Logging From Page 21

ing logs into the sawmill. Among the pine trees there was also a huge Genip tree that Mr. Roman rescued and shipped to Marsh Harbour to use it in a productive way rather than have it rot away.

Mr. Roman explained that the logging in Treasure Cay was to resume momentarily, and later on in Spring City. Logging in Buckeroon Bay will follow, probably in February.

"I want to get everything set-up, organized and working properly. The first priority is to fill the order for Nassau," he said.

Asked about the challenges facing such an operation, he explained that because Abaco Pine is a high end product, its marketing is more difficult. Abaco Pine (*Pinus Caribaea Bahamensis*) is a wood as hard as Maple. Its high resin content, which causes it to be resistant to termites, makes it a prime wood for indoors projects, such as flooring and cabinet making.

"The first hurdle to overcome is the acceptance of the local market," he explained.

"Internationally, it is more tricky. Because it is a new product, people have to become familiar with it. Also the FDA requirement concerning wood import to the United States have to be respected. A certification from the Department of Forestry is needed, attesting that the wood has been heat treated at 140 F.

The owner has confidence in this endeavor. He thinks the quality and the uniqueness of the product will allow him to make a success of an operation which had previously suffered a few setbacks in 2010.

The Abaconian presents

"Is the Airport Open Yet?"

Part III



No.

Why? It's difficult to get any official to say anything so rumors are flying. You know what isn't flying? Delta into Marsh Harbour. We have two representatives on our island. Call them today. Call the Ministry of Works. Demand answers.

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- MP Renardo Curry: 699-0241•
- MP Edison Key: 367-2537•

Check Back Next Issue for Another Exciting Installment in:

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REGULAR FERRY SCHEDULE

Marsh Harbour to Hope Town

20 minute ride

7:15am / 9:00am / 10:30am / 12:15pm 2:00pm
4:00pm / 5:45pm

Hope Town to Marsh Harbour

8:00am / 9:45am / 11:30am / 1:30pm 3:00pm
4:00pm / 5:00pm / 6:30pm

Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War

20 minute ride

7:15 / 10:30am / 12:15pm / 2:30pm*

4:00pm / 5:45pm

*Except Sundays and Holidays

Man-O-War to Marsh Harbour

8:00am / 11:30am / 1:30pm / 3:15pm* / 5:00pm

*Except Sundays and Holidays

Marsh Harbour to Scotland/Guana Cay

30 minute ride

6:45am / 10:30am / 1:30pm / 3:30pm 5:45pm

Scotland/Guana Cay to Marsh Harbour

8:am / 11:30am / 2:30pm / 4:45pm / 6:30pm

Any stops outside the main harbour will be a minimum charge of two persons. Two persons or over will remain at regular charge.

During the month of August through December there are some adjustments made to the schedule. You are advised to contact the office for any changes.

REGULAR FERRY FARES

One Way: \$17.00

Round Trip - Open Return: \$27.00

Children 6-11: Half Price

Children 5 and under: Free

Hope Town and Man-O-War ferries depart from the Ferry Dock at Crossing Beach.

Guana /Scotland Cay depart from the Conch Inn.

Prices subject to change without notice.

Hotels and House Rental Agents

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

Island-wide Abaco Listings

Abaco Cottage 114 hse 366-0576
Abaco Vacation Planner + 25 hse 367-3529

Casuarina Point

Sea Grape/Coco Plum 2 Units 367-2107

Cherokee

Lee Pinder 3 hse 366-2053
Marina Albury Cottages 5 cottages 366-2075

Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

Barefoot Homes 14 hse 577-4092
Bluff House Club 12 units 365-4200
Cocobay Cottages 6 cott 800-752-0166
Green Turtle Club 35 rm 365-4271
Island Properties 34 hse 365-4047
Leeward Yacht Club 5 hse 365-4191
New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161
Ocean Blue Properties 34 hse 365-4636
Other Shore Club 365-4226
Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dive Guana 11 hse 365-5178
Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott. 365-5137
Guana Sunset Beach 13 units 365-5133
Ocean Frontier 6 cott 519-389-4846
Ward's Landing 4 units 904-982-2762
Ruth Sands 9 hse 365-5140

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133
Crystal Villas 5 villas 321-452-0164
Elbow Cay Prop 53 hse 366-0035
Firefly Resort 7 villas 366-0145
Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095
Hope T Hideaways 63 hse 366-0224
Hope Town Inn 6 rm 4 Villas 3 Suites 366-0003

Hope Town..cont

Hope T Villas 3 hse 366-0266
Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154
Sea Gull Cottages 4 hse 366-0266
Sea Spray Resort 6 villas 366-0065
Tanny Key 43 hse 366-0053
Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers' Quarters Cay

Lubbers' Landing 4 villas 577-2000

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 2 hse 365-6048
Waterway Rentals 14 hse 365-6143

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158
Abaco Real Estate 6 hse 367-2719
Abaco Towns 16 apts 367-0148
Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022
Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000
Living Easy 16 hse 367-2202
Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776
Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681
Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600
Regattas 32 apts 577-6764
HG Christie 11 hse 367-4151

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139
Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119
Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 800-628-1447

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Abaco Estate Services Mult hse 365-8752
Bahama Beach Club 88 units 365-8500
Brigantine Bay Villas 5 units 877-786-8455
Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Turtle Rock

Villas at Palmetto Beach 3 villas 262-820-1900

Web Sites with Abaco Information

www.abaconian.com www.abacoinet.com www.abacocottage.com
www.abacos.com www.oii.net www.bahamas.com



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Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation
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Emergency Services		
Police - Marsh Harbour	367-3437 •	911
Police - Hope Town		366-0667
Police - Man-O-War		365-6911
Police - Treasure Cay		365-8048
Police - Green Turtle Cay		365-4550
B. Electricity Corp	367-2727, 367-2846,	367-4667
Water & Sewerage	475-1499,	475-5518
The following services are provided by volunteers		
Fire - Marsh Harbour		367-2000
Fire - Hope Town	VHF Ch 16 • Fire - Green Turtle Cay	475-1768
Fire - Man-O-War		365-4019
Treasure Cay Fire & Rescue		365-9111
BASRA Bah Air Sea Rescue.....	Marine VHF 16.....	366-0282
Hope Town	366-0549	Marsh Harbour 367-3752
Guana Cay	365-5178	Treasure Cay 365-8749

Medical Services	
Abaco Family Medicine, Marsh Harbour	367-2295
Abaco Medi-Center.....	367-9999
Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic	367-0020
Chiropractor-Dr. Lewis.....	367-0020
Chiropractor-Michael Hendley, D.C.....	242-439-0768...367-0020
Corbett Clinic, Treasure Cay	365-8288
Integrated Medical Center	367-1304
Emergency	458-1234
Marsh Harbour Medical Centre.....	367-0050
Government Clinic, Marsh Harbour	367-2510
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
Kidney Centre, Marsh Harbour.....	367-3310
Out Island Chiropractor.....	367-2584

Dental Services	
Agape Family Dental, Marsh Harbour.....	367-4355
Abaco Dental Asso.....	367-0164
Diamante Dental, Marsh Harbour.....	367-4968
Man O War Dental Clinic.....	365-6508

Pharmacy	
Abaco Island Pharmacy, Marsh Harbour.....	367-2544
Treasure Cay.....	365-8061
Chemist shoppe, Marsh Harbour.....	367-3106

Veterinary	
Caribbean Veterinary Centre, Marsh Harbour.....	367-3551
Island Veterinary Clinic, Marsh Harbour.....	367-0062

Airlines Serving Abaco	
Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is	367-2266
AirGate Aviation - New Smyrna Beach.....	1-386-478-0600
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
US Reservation.....	1-800-433-7300
Bahamasair - Nassau, W. Palm B, Ft Laud	367-2095
Craig Air - Jacksonville	367-3522
Island Wings - Ft. Lauderdale.....	1-954-274-6214
Regional - Freeport	367-0446
Silver Airline - Orlando, Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach	367-3415
US Reservation.....	1-800-231-0856
Sky Bahamas - Nassau	367-0996
Reservation.....	1-242-377-8993
Western Air - Nassau	367-3722
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S. Florida	
Abaco Air	367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	367-1920

Dive Shops	
Dive Abaco Since 1978, Marsh Harbour.....	367-2787
Dive Time, Man-O-War.....	365-6235
Froggies, Hope Town.....	366-0431
Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay.....	365-8571
Brendal's Dive, Green T. Cay.....	365-4411
Dive Guana.....	365-5178

Taxi Cab Fares one or two passengers	
Extra \$3 for each passenger above two	
• Marsh Harbour Airport to: Effective Dec 08	
Clinic, Downtown, Stop Light,	\$10
Ab Bch Resort, Eastern Shore dose, Ferry	\$15
Spring City.....	\$15
Dundas Town, Nat Ins Bldg, C Abaco Primary Sch	\$15
Murphy Town & Great. Cistern.....	\$20
Snake Cay	\$35
Casuarina Point.....	\$60
Cherokee, Winding Bay, Little Harbour	\$80
Bahama Palm Shore	\$90
Crossing Rocks.....	\$105
Sandy Point.....	\$150
Leisure Lee	\$50
Treasure Cay Airport, G Turtle ferry	\$80
Treasure Cay Resort.....	\$85
Fox Town	\$165
• Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:	
Clinic, downtown, Ab Beach Hotel.....	\$ 10
Nat. Ins. Bldg, Murphy Town, Gr. Cistern	\$10
Wait time \$0.40 per minute, Hourly rate \$40 per hour	
Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people	
Luggage \$0.75 each over two, large bags \$1 ea.	
• Treasure Cay Airport to: Effective Dec 08	
Green Turtle Cay ferry dock.....	\$10
Madeira Park	\$20
Sand Banks	\$25
Treasure Cay Resort.....	\$30
Leisure Lee	\$45
Black Wood	\$20
Fire Road & Cooper's Town	\$40
Cedar Harbour	\$60
Wood Cay	\$70
Mount Hope	\$80
Fox Town	\$85
Crown Haven	\$90
Marsh Harbour airport	\$80
Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport	\$80
Treasure Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$85
Treasure Cay Hotel to Green Turtle Ferry	\$25
Treasure Cay Hotel to Blue Hole	\$30

Ferry Schedules • Departure times shown • Daily service unless noted

Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War - 20 minutes, Guana Cay - 30 minutes

Albury's Ferry Service - Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16 • Hope Town & Man-O-War from Crossing Bch
Marsh Harbour>Hope Town 7:15am 9:00am 10:30am 12:15pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 5:45pm
Return: 8:00 am 9:45am 11:30am 1:30pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:30pm
Marsh Harbour>Man-O-War 10:30am 12:15pm 2:30pm* 4:00pm 5:45pm
Return: 8:00am 11:30am 1:30pm 3:15pm* 5:00pm
Marsh H.>Guana Cay/Scotland cay From Conch Inn
(6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30am 1:30pm 3:30pm 5:45pm
Return: 8 am 11:30am 2:30pm 4:45pm 6:30pm
Fare • Adult prepaid one way \$17 / open return \$27, • Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free (Phone after hours 359-6861)
Note: During the month of August through December there are some adjustments made to the schedule. You are advised to contact the office for the changes.

Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128 • VHF Ch 16 • Ten minute ride
T Cay Airport>Green T Cay 8:30am 10:30am 11:30am 1:30pm 2:30pm 3:30pm 4:30pm* 5:00pm
Return: 8am 9am 11am 12:15pm 1:30pm 3:00pm 4:30pm**
* Note: 4:30 pm trip to GTC not on Sundays ** Note: 4:30 pm trip will be made from New Plymouth only
New Plymouth :One way adult \$12 (Children \$7) • Round trip \$17 (Children \$10) • Extra to some GT Cay docks

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 or 375-8123 VHF Ch 16 Charters Available
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday departs 11:00am & returns 3:30 p.m. \$50 Round Trip
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Saturday departs 9:30 am, \$60 Round Trip

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 - return 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 Winter Schedule only (Jan 3rd to Apr 15th, 2014)
Mon & Wed: Dep Nassau 2 pm...Arrive S. Abaco 8 pm... Dep S. Abaco 9 pm. Tue & Thu: Arrive Freeport 6 am...Dep Freeport 4:30 pm. Wed & Fri: Arrive S. Abaco 1:30 am...Dep S. Abaco 2:30 am...Arrive Nassau 8:30 am. Call Abaco Agent: 225-0741 or Nassau Office 242-323-2166 for rates.

Attractions	
Albert Lowe Museum	Green Turtle Cay
Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits..	Green Turtle Cay
Memorial Sculpture Garden	Green Turtle Cay
Wyanne Malone Historical Museum.....	Hope Town
Elbow Cay Lighthouse.....	Hope Town
Swim Mermaid Reef off Marsh Harbour	Pelican Shore
Drive to & swim in Blue Hole.....	Treasure Cay farm road
Art studio & working foundry	Little Harbour
Man-O-War Heritage Museum.....	Man-O-War Cay
Man-O-War Boatyards.....	Man-O-War Cay
Hole-in- Wall lighthouse -very rough road.....	South Abaco
Cedar Harbour plantation ruins - need guide..	North Abaco
Blackwood blue hole & sisal mill.....	North Abaco
Abaco wild horses by appointment.....	367-4805
Bird watching - ask tourism.....	367-3067

Beaches	
Pocket	
Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour	
Witches Point - 3 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
Little Harbour - 20 miles S. of Marsh Harbour	
Cherokee - 23 miles S of Marsh Harbour	
Miles of beach (most exposed to ocean)	
• Treasure Cay • Green Turtle Cay • Guana Cay • Elbow Cay	
• Man-O-War Cay • Casuarina Point • Bahama Palm Shore	
• Sandy Point & more	

Tours & Excursions	
Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour.....	367-2936
Abaco Neem • Marsh Harbour	367-4117
Abaco's Nature Adventure	577-0004
Adventure on Prozac - T Cay	365-8749
Brendals Dive - Green Turtle Cay.....	365-4411
C & C Charters - Treasure Cay	365-8506
Dive Abaco Since 1978 • Marsh Harbour.....	367-2787
Excursion boat, Froggies • Hope Town	366-0024
DSB Eco-Adventures • Schooner Bay.....	376-9858
The Great Abaco Express Eco & Historical bus tours	
Call 367-2165 or 559-9160	

Abaco Marinas - Slips - Fuel - Phone	
Green Turtle Cay	
Bluff House	38..... F.....365-4247
Green Turtle Club	40..... F.....365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15..... F.....365-4531
Other Shore Club	15..... F.....365-4226
Abaco Yacht Service.....	10..... F.....365-4033
Leeward Yacht Club.....	26..... F.....365-4191
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Cay Marina	150..... F.....365-8250
Man-O-War	
Man-O-War Marina	28..... F.....365-6008
Marsh Harbour	
Boat Harbour Marina	192..... F.....367-2158
Conch Inn.....	72..... F.....367-4000
Harbour View Marina	40..... F.....367-2182
Mangoes Marina	29..... F.....367-4255
Marsh Harbour Marina	62..... F.....367 2700
Hope Town	
Hope Town Marina	62..... F.....366-0003
Lighthouse Marina	6..... F.....366-0154
Sea Spray	60..... F.....366-0065
South Abaco	
Schooner Bay	15..... F.....475-7626
Spanish Cay	
Spanish Cay Marina	40..... F.....365-0083
Guana Cay	
Bakers Bay Marina	158..... F.....365-5802
Guana Hide-aways	37..... F.....365-5070
Orchid Bay.....	66..... F.....365-5175
Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour	

Wi-Fi Hotspots	
Marsh Harbour:	Green Turle Cay:
Abaco Beach Resort	Sundowners
Snappas Grill & Chill	McIntosh Restaurant
Curlytails	Jolly Roger Bar & Bistro
Mangoes Restaurant	Leeward Yacht Club
Hope Town:	Bluff House
Abaco Inn	Guana Cay:
Cap'n Jacks	Guana Grabbers
H. T. Harbour Lodge	Nipper's Bar & Grill
Sea Spray	

Charter Fishing Boats	
Lucky Strike - Hope Town.....	366-0101
Sea Gull - Hope Town.....	366-0266
A Salt Weapon - Hope Town.....	366-0245
Down Deep.....	366-3143
Local Boy.....	366-0528
Back Breaker.....	365-5140

Bikes & Scooters • Boats	
Marsh Harbour	
A & P Car Rentals	367-2655
Abaco Dorado Boat Rentals.....	367-1035
Bargain Car Rentals	367-0500
Blue Wave Boat Rentals	367-3910
Cruise Abaco.....	577-0148
Quality Star Car Rentals (Texaco).....	367-2979
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
The Moorings Boat Rentals	367-4000
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendals Dive Bikes & Kayak rental	365-4411
C & D Cart Rental	365-4311
Cruising Cart Rentals.....	365-4065
D & P Cart Rental	365-4655
Donnie's Boat Rentals.....	365-4119
Harbour View Golf Carts.....	365-4411
Kool Karts	365-4176
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts & Bikes	365-4147
T & A Cart Rentals	365-4259

Green Turtle Cay	
Brendals Dive Bikes & Kayak rental	365-4411
C & D Cart Rental	365-4311
Cruising Cart Rentals.....	365-4065
D & P Cart Rental	365-4655
Donnie's Boat Rentals.....	365-4119
Harbour View Golf Carts.....	365-4411
Kool Karts	365-4176
Reef Boat Rentals	365-4145
Sea Side Carts & Bikes	365-4147
T & A Cart Rentals	365-4259
Guana Cay	
Donna Sands Cart Rentals	365-5195
Dive Guana Boats & Bikes.....	365-5178
Orchid Bay Cart rentals.....	365-5175
Lubbers Quarters	
Cruise Abaco	321-220-8796
Man-O-War	
Conch Pearl Boat Rentals.....	365-6502
Ria-Mar Golf Cart Rentals.....	365-6024
Waterways Boat Rental	357-6540 & 365-6143

Hope Town	
Cat's Paw Boat Rentals	366-0380
Elbow Cay Cart	366-0530
Hope Town Cart Rentals	366-0064
Island Cart Rentals	366-0448
Island Marine Boat Rentals	366-0282
J R's Cart Rental.....	366-0361
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	366-0023
T & N Cart Rentals	366-0069
Treasure Cay	
Abaco Adventures - Kayaks	365-8749
Blue Marlin Rentals.....	365-8687
Cash's Carts	365-8771
Cornish Car Rentals	365-8623
JIC Boat Rentals	365-8582
Triple J Car Rentals	365-8761
Wendal's Bicycle Rentals.....	365-8687

Schooner Bay	
T's Carts.....	557-1015
DSB Bike Rentals.....	376-9858

Everyone reads **The Abaconian**
All phones use area code 242 unless noted
Bring errors & revisions to our attention
Revised July 2013

Bonfish Guides	
Casuarina Point	Marsh Harbour cont...
Junior Albury.....	366-3058
Cherokee	
Donnie Lowe.....	366-2275
Maxwell Sawyer.....	366-3058
Marty Sawyer.....	366-2115
Randy Sawyer.....	366-2284
Will Sawyer.....	366-2177
Crossing Rocks	
Tony Russell.....	366-3259
Green Turtle Cay	
Rick Sawyer.....	365-4261
Ronnie Sawyer.....	357-6667
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0234
Tom Albury.....	366-3141
Marsh Harbour	
Jody Albury.....	375-8068
Sidney Albury.....	477-5996
Richard Albury.....	577-0313
Terrance Davis.....	375-8550
Buddy Pinder.....	366-2163
Justin Sands.....	359-6890
Danny Sawyer.....	367-3577
Jay Sawyer.....	367-3941
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh.....	477-5037
Alexander Rolle.....	365-0120
Edward Rolle.....	365-0024
Pedro Thurston.....	365-2405
Sandy Point	
Valantino Aderley.....	366-4323
Anthony Bain.....	366-4107
Rickmon's.....	366-4139/4477
Pete's Guest House.....	366-4119
Patrick Roberts.....	366-4285
Treasure Cay	
Capt. Joe Pritchard.....	559-9117
Carey McKenzie.....	365-8313

Restaurant Guide	
Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper	
Marsh Harbour	
Abaco Pizza.....	\$.....



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Elbow Cay
 - 24,916 s.f. - 0.571 Acre
 - 800 s.f. - 2 Bd - 1 Bth
 - 16.5' x 12.4' Shed/Work
 - Shared Dock on Sofa
 - Off Grid / Solar
 - Wired - power available
 - Built 2011
 - Atlantic Beach access
 #HTH1217 - \$549,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 22,330 s.f. - 0.512 Acre
 - 155.59' on Sea of Abaco
 - 1083 s.f. - 2 bd - 2 bth
 - Deltec Home
 - 15,000 gal cistern
 - close to Gilliam Bay
 - Close to town
 #GTH1235 \$610,000



Man O' War Cay
 - Northern Tip of MOW
 - Sea to Sea Parcels
 - 3 Options Available
 - Private Marina 8' MLW
 - Private Beaches
 - Exceptional Estate
 - Great Elevations
 - Price Upon Request



Elbow Cay
 - Best Estate on Elbow Cay
 - Beach lot 2.24 Acres
 - 419' Atlantic Beachfront
 - 395' on Canal
 - 2 Cottages with dock
 - Creek Parcel 1.39 Acres
 - 160' on High Creek
 - 25' Elevations
 #HTH1200 \$2,999,900



Green Turtle Cay
 - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
 - 976 s.f. under air
 on two levels
 - 12,577 s.f. - 0.288 Acre
 - 85' protected Bita Bay
 Beach frontage
 - 822' wrap around porch
 - vaulted ceilings
 - hurricane glass
 #GTH1236 - \$699,000



Central Pines Marsh Harbour
 - 12,000 s.f. - 0.275 Acre
 - 2,851 s.f. Residence
 - 2 Bed - 1 Bath
 - Screened Porch
 - 130 s.f. efficiency
 - 206 s.f. Apartment
 #MHH1229 \$405,000



Great Guana Cay
 Two houses available
 - 12,105 s.f. - 0.277 Acre
 - 60' Atlantic Beach
 - 642 s.f. - 2 bd - 2 bth
 - 1,558 s.f. - 3 bd - 2 bth
 - Beautiful views of Atlantic Ocean
 - Close to town
 #GGH1191 \$449,000
 #GGH1190 \$699,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath
 - 1,461 s.f.
 - 22,249 s.f. - 0.51 Acre
 - 98.6' pristine beachfront
 - Offered for sale at \$920,000 or
 - \$1350,000 inclusive of
 - 1 bed, 1 bth cottage
 - 16,144 s.f. or 0.37 Acre
 - 127' on Black Sound w/
 14,000 lb boat lift
 #GTH1237 - GTH1238



Marsh Harbour
 - Cove Estates
 - 17,288 s.f. - 0.39 Acre
 - 2,540 s.f.
 - 3 Bed, 2 Bath
 - Duel central a/c
 - Metal Roof
 - 6.5 KW Generator
 #MHH1223 - B\$430,000



Great Guana Cay
 - 2,000 s.f. - 3 bd. 2 bth
 - 7,408 s.f. - 0.170 Acres
 - 1,000 s.f. wrap around
 Decks
 - Beach Access
 - Shared Dock
 - Great Elevations/Views
 - Beach lot available
 #GGH1214 \$640,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 3 Bedroom, 3 Baths
 - 1,282 s.f. under air
 - 887 s.f. ground floor -
 bed-bath-garage
 - 1,597 s.f. decks
 - 15,710s.f. - 0.360 Acre
 - 200' on Coco Bay Beach
 - 8,000 gallon cistern
 #GTH1152 - \$1,175,000



Pelican Shores at Marsh Harbour
 - 1,300 s.f. Residence
 - 16,862 s.f. - 0.39 Acre
 - 2 Bedroom 2.5 Bath
 - Situated on Bluff
 Overlooking Harbour
 - 1583 s.f. open porches
 - 117' on the Harbour
 #MHH1228 - \$685,000



Great Guana Cay
 - 500,940 s.f. - 11.5 Acres
 - 695' of Atlantic Frontage
 - 555' on Sea of Abaco
 - 500' of well protected
 boat basin frontage
 - 500 s.f. - 3 bd - 2.5 bath
 - 6' MLW
 - Great Elevations/Views
 #GGH1226 \$2,995,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 4 Bd, 4 Bth
 - 4,948 s.f. / 2 levels
 - 19,083 s.f. - 0.438
 - Each level private
 living space/kitchen
 - Sea of Abaco
 - Dock/boatlift/10,000
 #GTH1181 - \$1,475,000



Pelican Shores at Marsh Harbour
 - 5 Bd, 4.5 Bth
 - 5,600 s.f.
 - 38,289 s.f. - 0.878 Acre
 - 115' on the Harbour
 - Great elevation
 - Pool
 - Private Dock
 - Turn Key
 #MHH1227 - \$2,970,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - New Plymouth
 - 1,726 s.f. - .039 Acre
 - 890 s.f. Loyalist Cottage
 Settlement Harbour
 - 2 Bed, 1 Bath
 - Historic
 - Shed/Wash house
 #GTH1222 - \$225,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 33,342 s.f. - 0.765 Acre
 - 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath
 - Covered Porch
 - Impact Doors/Windows
 - Turkish Tile Floors
 - Pickled vaulted ceilings
 - Community Dock Access
 #GTH1162 - \$1,999,000



Scotland Cay
 - 1 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath
 - 612 s.f.
 - 79,150 s.f. - 1.82 Acre
 - 300' pristine beachfront
 - Garage/Laundry
 - Cistern 25,000 gal
 - 30 kw auxiliary gen
 - Lifetime landing rights
 - Boat Slip / Lift
 #SCH1094 - \$1,150,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 2 Bedroom, 3 Bath
 - 1400 s.f. Residence
 - 12,469 s.f. - 0.286 Acre
 - 757 s.f. of open decks
 garage/workshop
 - Native trees
 - 20,000 gallon cistern
 - City Water
 - Public dock - dive shop &
 GT Club steps away
 #GTH1239 - \$499,000



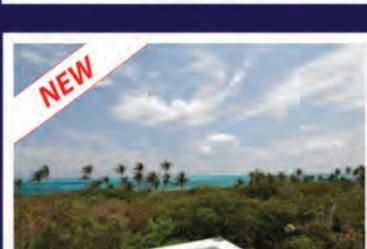
Man O' War Cay
 - 10,056 s.f. - 0.23 Acre
 - 1,200 s.f. Residence
 - 192 s.f. Snore Box
 - 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath
 - 16,000 gal. cistern
 - 17 KW Diesel Gen.
 - Central A/C + Split Unit
 #MWH1024 \$499,000



Scotland Cay
 - 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
 - 1,900 s.f.
 - 38,107 s.f. - 0.874 Acre
 - 145.70' on the Sea
 of Abaco
 - Dock Slip in Private
 Marina
 - Lifetime landing rights
 - Panoramic Views
 #SCH1148 - \$1,200,000



Green Turtle Cay
 - 31,816 s.f. - 0.730 Acre
 - 197.46 Bonefish flats
 frontage on Sofa
 - 1,700 s.f. - 2 bd, 1 bth
 - Artistic Studio loft
 - Garage/workshop
 - 40' useable beach
 - Private water views
 #GTH1221 - \$599,000



Man O' War Cay
 - 94,089 s.f. - 2.16 acre
 - 146' Atlantic Beach
 - Private 90' dock
 - 1,975 s.f. residences
 - 758 s.f. Main residence
 - 374 s.f. Master suite
 - 713 s.f. Guest cottage
 - 130 s.f. Snore box
 - Unique Estate
 #MWH1232 - \$2,475,000



South Abaco - Private Island
 - 1,864,368 s.f.
 - 42.8 Acres
 - 900 s.f. pavilion w/grill
 - improved roads
 - Flats boat ramp
 - Yellow Wood Creek
 #SAH1234 \$3,065,000

Great Guana Cay - Green Turtle Cay - Man-O-War Cay
 Hope Town - Marsh Harbour - Scotland Cay
 Treasure Cay

Chris Plummer - Green Turtle Cay - Guana Cay 242-365-4648
 Faron Sawyer - Scotland Cay - Marsh Harbour 242-367-3450
 Silbert Mills - Marsh Harbour 242-367-2935
 James Pleydell-Bouverie - Man O' War Cay 242-365-6416
 Paul Thompson - Elbow Cay 242-366-0029

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VOLUME 22 NUMBER 03 February 1st 2014

Min. Halkitis speaks to Abaco on VAT Tax



Above: Minister Halkitis speaks to a crowd in Abaco about the Value Added Tax. See what he had to say as well as the Coalition for Responsible Taxation's rebuttal starting on page 10.



Above: Patricia Curry greeted by her family back in Marsh Harbour.

Patricia Curry places in Top 20 at Miss Tourism International Pageant

By Canishka Alexander

Patricia Curry's road to fame began in December 2012 when she became the 2012 Miss Abaco winner before going on to capture the Miss Bahamas Tourism title.

Since she was 12 years old, the former track athlete and Abaco beauty queen has been modeling at various events on the island.

"I love being in front of a crowd; it gives me adrenalin," she expressed. "Growing up, I was always told I had the stature of a model. Once I started modeling, I grew to love it."

Recently, Patricia's love for modeling led her to embark upon a three week-long journey to Malaysia where she competed in the Miss Tourism International Pageant and placed in the Top 20.

"On the final night of the pageant on December 31, 2013, I placed in the Top 20. It was a surprise to me as I knew I did well in the judges' interview, but the favorites were obvious."

Although elated by her accomplishment, Patricia's time in Malaysia was one filled with wonderful memories, but mixed with disappointments and challenging moments.

Lifestyles

Pageant From Page 1

"While it was a trip of a lifetime, and I am grateful of the opportunity afforded to me, representing my great country called The Bahamas, it was definitely not a smooth ride," she explained.

Patricia shared that she was given three different departure dates from the Miss Abaco Pageant Committee, and on the day of her departure on Dec. 10, there was no ticket in the system for her.

"After speaking to President Mr. TJay Stubbs, he continued to give me 'hope' that my ticket would be purchased. After the numerous calls of hope, a close friend of mine called Mr. Stubbs and asked that he meet with them at the travel agency, and my friend agreed to cover the majority of the cost for my travel.

"The only portion of my ticket that was purchased by the Committee at this time was from Marsh Harbour to Miami. With time not on my side, I left Abaco two days behind schedule on December 10 without a ticket from Miami to Malaysia, as the travel agency had to just make the booking for the remainder of my trip."

During check-in at the Marsh Harbour Airport, Patricia received her evening gown and national costume sans the head piece minutes before her departure.

When she arrived in Miami, she contacted her friend who sent the confirmation for her flight to Malaysia, which he absorbed most of the cost for.

"At this point, I was in tears; torn and disappointed, contemplating whether I should continue on to Malaysia or return home," Patricia lamented. "After encouraging words from my family, I decided to go on with my trip to Malaysia. It took me



Above: Patricia Curry on stage in Malaysia as Miss Tourism - Bahamas.

two days - December 10 to 12 - to arrive in Malaysia however, once I got there, I put all of my frustrations aside and went straight into competition mode."

Upon arrival at Hotel Marriott Putrajaya on Dec. 12, Patricia was ushered straight into hair and make-up in preparation for a press conference.

There was no turning back at this point, so Patricia was determined to give her all.

Patricia's schedule was quite demanding with her days beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at midnight.

"Malaysia is 13 hours ahead of Baha-

mian time, which was a huge adjustment for me. The preparation for my trip was not properly coordinated, so I was made aware of items such as a portfolio and additional evening gowns that I should have, which I was advised that Mr. Stubbs should have shared with me prior to my travel.

"This was another distraction for me as I was caught totally off guard; however, with the good Lord on my side and my roommate from Guatemala, she had extras of everything and was kind enough to share with me."

Patricia said that interacting with contestants from 59 other countries and building lasting friendships with women like Wonda from Guatemala, Michelle from the Dominican Republic and Lebo from Swaziland, is something she will always remember.

As a result, the 25-year-old beauty plans to travel around the world visiting friends she bonded with.

While visiting Malaysia, Patricia learned that it is similar to The Bahamas in terms of natural beauty and great weather, but Malaysia is far more advanced in its architecture.

While there was no platform for contestants to speak on, Patricia said that the main objective of the Miss Tourism International Pageant is to promote Malaysia. She was also given the opportunity to promote The Bahamas as a gem of the Caribbean when the opportunity was available.

She noted that the long hours of preparation and sacrifices paid off in the long run. Throughout the competition and pre-judging segment, Patricia recalled feeling relaxed and feeling as though she was talking with friends. The final night, she said, felt natural and she enjoyed every moment

being on the stage.

On Jan. 5, Patricia was welcomed home by her family who surprised her with a float parade and welcome home party. No one from the Miss Abaco Pageant Committee met her at the airport or telephoned her during her travels back home.

Although disappointed, Patricia welcomed the love and support of her family.

Special thanks was extended to all who supported her in her journey to Malaysia particularly Terry Frank for his generous monetary donations; Cina Ingraham, owner of Boy Meets Girl; Keli Albury of Island Girl Boutique; Shaquera Newbold of Kera's Fashion for her wardrobe; Bernadette "Bernie" Davis and Novia McKenzie of Najah's Salon & Spa; Allita Bain of A & G Beauty Supplies; and her mother Donna Ferguson, family and friends.

"My trip to Malaysia had its up and downs, but I thank God for the opportunity to represent my country, and I was able to leave a mark internationally," Patricia reflected.

"I am now a pageant girl, and this will not be the last of me in pageants."

Patricia plans to enter The Miss Bahamas World Pageant later this year, and if successful, she will represent The Bahamas once again on the international stage.

Patricia Curry's final remarks ended on a note of encouragement: "Dream big, stay focused and believe in yourself. In life there will be stumbling blocks in your way, but you must persevere, stay focused and reach for your goals.

"Persons will doubt you, but use the doubt as your fuel and soar. Young girls don't let society influence you, trust in the Lord, and through Him all things are possible."

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<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Guana Cay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Developers 2.5 acres 325' Ocean underground electric. Must see.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19879 - \$799,900</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Cistern</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Two Homes One Great Price. 3B/2.5B & 1B/1B Pool & Ocean.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19891 - \$798,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW BRING OFFERS</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Guana Cay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Coconut Tyme - 3B/2B up 1B/1B down. 18,601 s.f., Dock Slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#15560 - \$399,950</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW REDUCED</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Guana Cay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Sandy Feet - Beautiful 3B/2B Ocean Front home w/ private dock slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#18923 - \$739,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Sunrise Bay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Ridgeview 4B/2.5B designer built 2.8 Acre home in Sunrise Bay. Must see Main, 2B/1B Cottage, Beach & Dock.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19221 - \$699,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">REDUCED</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Green Turtle Cay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Sea to Sea Estate. 3B/2B home in Sunrise Bay. Must see Main, 2B/1B Cottage, Beach & Dock.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#18869 - USD\$3.25M</p>
<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Sea View - 3B/2.5B, Great views of Hope Town. Boat slip included.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#16937 - \$525,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">BRING OFFERS</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">3B/3B never lived in home with appliances, generator, 50' yacht slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#18632 - USD\$710K</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Lea ~ Sing - 2,200 sq. ft. 4B/4.5B. Gated community, 50' dockage.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#15664 - USD\$875,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Pelican Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Pelican Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Fanny Bay - 3B/2B with 230' on water awesome views, must see.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#17197 - \$650,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">ADJACENT TO #15946</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">GAC Lot #29 - Gated Community Grouper Therapy - 4B/4B, 50' +/- secure deepwater dockage. 7ton lift, 60' protected yacht slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#17435 - USD\$295,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Abaco Club</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Therapy - 4B/4B, 50' +/- secure deepwater dockage. 7ton lift, 60' protected yacht slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#15946 - USD\$859,000</p>
<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">REDUCED</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Central Pines</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Triplex - 3250 s.f. 2B/1.5B, 2B/1.B, 1B/1B, 14,000 s.f. fenced lot.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#18174 - \$370,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Even Tide / Low Tide</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Eastern Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">3B/3B rental history, turn key, waterfront.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#14322 - USD\$975K</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Eastern Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Eastern Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Sur La Mer - 2B/2B + bonus room Rental history. 130' Sea of Abaco.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#15269 - USD\$700,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Eastern Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Eastern Shores</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">1 acre Sea to Sea - 3B/3B + Guest Cottage & Garage. Rental history</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#17759 - \$1.15M</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Marsh Harbour</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Marsh Harbour</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Below appraisal - 2B/2B + 2 bonus rooms easy duplex conversion.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#15783 - \$210,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Great Cistern</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Great Cistern</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Coral Point Villa - 2,250 s.f. 3B/3B 170' Waterfront 1+ acre.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#17857 - \$750,000</p>
<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Marsh Harbour</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Sunrise Bay "awesome views" Hilltop Lot 3 w/ private boat slip.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19565 - \$242,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Joes Creek</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Leisure Lee Lot 4 28,000 sq. ft. 100' beachfront.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19601 - \$199,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Yellow Wood</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Next to Winding Bay - "BIG CAVE" 11.4 Oceanfront acres.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19532 - \$595,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">NEW</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Guana Cay</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">Waterfront Lot 101 Dolphin Beach Estates "Great Buy" 2B/2B 2150sf duplex ready to finish.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#19052 - \$189,000</p>	<p style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">OPPORTUNITY HURRY!</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">Central Pines</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080;">BELOW APPRAISAL ready to finish.</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">#18175 - \$80,000</p>	<p style="font-size: 8px; color: #000080; font-weight: bold;">FOR ADDITIONAL LISTINGS LOTS & ACREAGE LEASES & RENTALS PLEASE SEE SECTION B PAGE 5</p>

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CASUARINA POINT \$140,000
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MURPHY TOWN \$180,000
Triplex investment.

DUNDAS TOWN \$48,000
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CENTRAL PINES \$160,000
Duplex property has great rental income potential.



LITTLE HARBOUR \$340,000
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BUTTONWOOD SUBD. \$300,000
Income producing property includes 4 apartment units.

MARNIE'S CREEK \$650,000
20,000 sq. ft. hilltop lot with partially completed house.



NEAR BIG HILL \$1,100,000
Four 2 bdrm, 2 bath pool and ocean view villas located just across the street from a stretch of white-sand beach enjoys all the amenities of Turtle Hill Resort.

FISHING POINT \$2,200,000
One-of-a-kind, 1.14 acre waterfront estate has a 3 bdrm house, outdoor kitchen, beach, dock and hurricane hole.

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ABACO OCEAN CLUB \$499,000
A fully equipped and turn-key, 3 bdrm ocean view home with space for a rental unit.

SEAVIEW SUBD. \$125,000/\$165,000
Approx. 20,000 sq. ft. hilltop lots with dock slip.

GREEN TURTLE CAY



COCO BAY \$575,000
A collection of wrap-around porches highlight this 3-storey, 3 bdrm Bahamian-style home.



BLUFF HARBOUR \$1,700,000
Unique 2 bdrm waterfront home on 2 acres, plus dock.

GILLIAM BAY \$2,400,000
4 bdrm pod-style beach home on a half acre.

SUNRISE BEACH \$600,000
Three beachfront lots available for the price of two.



HARBOUR VIEW ESTS. \$349,000
Low maintenance 2 bdrm home with great rental income

GUANA CAY

SHIPWRECK SUBD. \$70,000
A fantastic value, this fully serviced 6,811 sq. ft. lot has potential sea and ocean views from a two-storey home, and is located near the community dock and just a short walk to the beach.



DOLPHIN BEACH ESTS. \$14,000,000
78.1 acre island development and hotel opportunity has 8,000 ft. of waterfront, a private island, undeveloped peninsula, resort, plus acres of subdivided lots.

DOLPHIN BEACH ESTS. \$149,000
25,703 sq. ft. lot offers panoramic sea views.

PUBLIC DOCK \$95,000
Quaint fixer-upper has commercial potential.



GUANA SEASIDE VLG. \$249,000
Classic cottage restored to almost brand new is just steps from miles of white-sand beach and features a breezy floorplan complemented by 2 bedrooms with beautiful ocean and bay views, plus a relaxing and well shaded porch.

TREASURE CAY



OCEAN BLVD. \$1,250,000
Experience privacy and luxury amenities at this 1.2 acre lot with 100 ft. of beach.



WINDWARD DRIVE \$580,000
Charming 3 bdrm, 3.5 bath canal home with great sea views is unbeatably priced.



ROYAL PALM CONDO 2314 \$295,000
2/2 furn. with boat and dock.

ATLANTIS CONDOS \$300,000
2 bdrm bay view condo.

OTHER CAYS

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30 acre Private Island has beaches stretching 1,500 ft., and possibilities for a marina.

WALKER'S CAY \$19,000,000
58 acre island is a legendary fishing resort with airstrip, marina, and development approvals.



SUGAR LOAF CAY \$1,690,000
Private, charming and graceful, 4 bdrm estate near the sea has a wrap-around porch, dock, boat lift and gazebo.



POWELL CAY \$9,400,000
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Lifestyles

Marsh Harbour Online Museum aims to preserve history with your help



Above: the original building which housed Taylor Electric. Today it is the site of AID. Photo courtesy of Perry Lisa Sawyer.

In an attempt to preserve Marsh Harbour's history, one native son has taken to the internet as an effective resource to chronicle the past. The Marsh Harbour Online Museum, brainchild of Robert Key, aims to host photos and stories from generations both long past and those fading.

Currently the Marsh Harbour Online Museum only maintains a Facebook page. However, plans are in place for a permanent website to categorize and better share the history of Marsh Harbour.

Photos chronicling the opening of the Marsh Harbour Airport, old maps, and the forefathers of many families can be found. The idea is to ask the public to submit and share their history. Photos and old stories are to be preserved for generations to reflect on.

Robert Key said, "Marsh Harbor is laden with a rich and colorful history. I feel as a young and proud Bahamian that we must record and preserve our unique heritage. I hope, in this small way, we can foster awareness in our fellow Bahamians, our children and visitors alike as to where we came from as well as to chart a course for a prosperous future."

Search on Facebook for "Marsh Harbour Online Museum" and add to Abaco's history.

Pete's "20th Annual 50th Birthday" celebration excites crowd

By Ashley Whyllly

On Saturday, Jan 25 Pete Johnston, proprietor of Pete's Pub, held his "20th Annual 50th Birthday

Party". Pete's Pub is tucked away in Little Harbour, and is one of Abaco's best kept secrets.

The festivities began at noon on Saturday, January 25th. Music could be heard as soon as you entered the harbour and the aroma of something scrumptious was thick in the air. People traveled from all over the island to attend the party. Tourists and locals alike trekked south to dance, eat, drink and be merry all in celebration of Pete.

Children were frolicking in the water and skirting through the crowd. Adults were drinking, dancing and socializing. Even a few furry four-legged friends found their way to the pub because the pull of the festivities was irresistible.

In true Pete's fashion, there was a delicious pig roast and a number of savoury burger and fish dishes. From blackened grouper to spicy triggerfish, not a tummy was left unsatisfied.

DJ Craigy Boo brought the music and he did not miss a beat. He kept the crowd moving with hits from today as well as some golden oldies and classics. Attendees were in high spirits and the party continued on into the late evening.

This was the second big party of the year for Pete's Pub after New Year's and it was, without a doubt, a success. One attendee claimed that, if you were somewhere else on Saturday you were probably having less fun.

Long line fishing speculated to be increasing in Bahamian waters

By Timothy Roberts

On a recent beach-combing trip Ministry of the Environment Warden Keith Bishop found a large amount of buoys, ropes, clips, hooks and fishing line washed on beaches in Southern Abaco from long line fishing vessels.

Mr. Bishop, a coastal engineer, said this is nothing new. "Awareness of this issue goes back to the early 90's when there was a big campaign launched by ReEarth and hundreds of people sat outside parliament with "Don't Mess With Our Fish" t-shirts on. Eventually the Prime Minister came out and Long Line Fishing was banned."

He said there has always been long line paraphernalia washing up on coastal beaches, however, the 'red flag' has been raised because of the amount found in recent times.

He said while it is uncertain why there has been an increase one of the reasons creates significant concern; that there is an increase in long line activity in Bahamian waters.

"We are often told that they come in at night and deploy their lines - sometimes as much as 12 miles of line - and take their boat out to international waters returning later to collect their lines and catch," he said.

He said it is unknown where the long line boats come from but it is speculated that they may be of Dominican origin or possibly from another Caribbean country.

Long line fishing, while one of the more lucrative fishing methods is also considered among the most damaging. While the miles long line captures schools of

commercially lucrative fish - such as tuna and dolphin (mahi-mahi) - it also captures no marketable and endangered sea life like turtles and porpoises among other which are often killed in the process and wastefully discarded.

Long line fishing is unsustainable and depletes marine resources causing further damage to not just marine environments but to fishermen whose careers are reliant on these fish stocks.

Mr. Bishop said this has to be a concern for us. "The marine environment supports a large number of Bahamians in fishing and the sports fishing industry."

"What is the answer for us? We know the Royal Bahamas Defense Force is stretched to their limits and the Department of Marine Resources don't have the resources needed to tackle it," he said.



Above: long lining light sticks collected over a two week period on a Green Turtle Cay beach. Courtesy of Caroline Sawyer.

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Remembering Family and Friends



Patricia Anne Elizabeth Toler Arnold, October 4, 1953 - December 1, 2013.

Pattie Toler was a great presence in Abaco for over 20 years. She and her first husband Bob Toler arrived in Abaco on their boat, Candide, in the late 80s and soon thereafter bought a house on Eastern Shores, named Blue Dolphin. Pattie, as the voice of Blue Dolphin, hosted the Cruisers' Net VHF radio community daily, and the Abacos came to rely upon "Barometer Bob's" meteorological forecasts. The house was a communications hub, and Pattie worked tirelessly after every hurricane to help keep Abaco residents and visitors connected with the outside world. She watched over her community with care. If an expected boat was late arriving, she would coordinate an effort to find the missing craft. Many times, she sent BASRA (the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association) out for boaters in trouble. With the extra power of Blue Dolphin's large antenna, she would help relay radio messages from distant vessels to recipients beyond their range. In these capacities, and as a local personality in Marsh Harbour, she touched literally thousands of people's lives.

Pattie was born on October 4, 1953, in Great Falls, Montana. She had three older siblings: Lillian, Richard, and George, and one younger sister, Margaret. All are

still living. Pattie's mother was Audrey Patricia Mainzer, and her father Richard Ward Mainzer was a Colonel in the United States Air Force who served 27 years including overseas during World War II. The family moved around a lot during Pattie's childhood, with time spent in Southern California; Casablanca and Rabat in Africa; Syracuse, New York; Colorado Springs; and Montgomery, Alabama, before Richard was stationed with the Pentagon and the family settled in McLean, Virginia. Pattie started and completed high school in McLean, where she was a popular and able student involved in everything from art, to drama, to sports. After graduating high school in 1971 she was accepted at Radford College, where she graduated with a degree in Art. After her graduation, she worked for many years in the Communications area of British Aerospace/Rolls Royce, and in 1983 she married the love of her life, James Robert "Bob" Toler, who predeceased her on September 8, 2007.

Pattie married again in 2011, but unfortunately was also predeceased by her second husband, Robert M. Arnold, who passed away February 27, 2013. Her time with Bob Arnold was short, but the couple had a peaceful and happy life during their time together in Palm Springs, California, and in Seattle, Washington.

In addition to her siblings, Pattie is also survived by her four stepchildren: Trent Toler, Frances Toler, Marie Toler Raney, and Jim Toler. Her presence is sorely missed in Abaco, and her influence there will never be forgotten. Margaret Gauntlett, Pattie's younger sister, provided this fitting tribute: "Pattie was a gift and a

treasure. Her wisdom and beauty inspired, encouraged, and strengthened those of us who were fortunate enough to know her. I will never forget her laugh, her charm, and her depth of spirit. She was a good, decent, loving person. I will love and miss her forever."

A celebration of Pattie's life was/will be held at Pete's Pub, in Little Harbour, on February 2, 2014.



Funeral service for **Douglas McDonald**, 80 yrs., a resident of Murphy Town, Abaco, was held at Zion Baptist Church,

Murphy Town, Abaco, on Saturday 25th January, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. Officiating was Rev. Christopher Dean, assisted by Rev. Everett Strachan & other Ministers of the Gospel. Interment followed in Murphy Town Public Cemetery, Abaco.

Left to cherish his memories are his Wife: Leotha McDonald; Children: Glen, Gary, Patrick, Tanya McDonald, Vangie McIntosh, Ramona Bethel, Lorrain Nesbitt and Deborah Brown; Grand and Great Grand Children: Younnique, Jamal, Trinity, Rhianna, Aniska, Brittany, Ariel, Cliffien, Gerard, Latoya, Denardo, Magenta and Paris, K'juan McDonald, Lechan, Allie and Nekie Swain, Patrenda, Destiny, Diamond and Terrance Jr. Rogers, Raznae, Razheme, and Rakasha Mc-

Intosh, Senario, Tierra, Shamari and Tanzani Bethel, Deondra, Deon Jr., Dashaun, Lorinique and Lorianne Nesbitt and Numerous Relatives and Friends.



Funeral Service for the late **Jordash Rashawn Kemp** age 3 of Crown Haven, Abaco was held on Saturday January 25, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

at St. Annes Anglican Church, Abaco Bahamas. Officiating was Fr. DeAngelo N. Bowe assisted by Catechist Theophilus Rolle and Other Members of the Clergy. Interment followed in The Public Cemetery, Crown Haven, Abaco.

Precious memories will forever live in the heart(s) of his loving and devoted:

Mother: Shavandi Russell; Father: Christopher Kemp; Brother: Julius Fife; Grand Parents: Deloris 'Love' McIntosh and Ralph "Brown" Russell; Aunts: Florina Russell, Rapunzel Pinder, Bridgette Bowleg, Shanasco "Mara" Campbell, Shamyell "Lisa", Shaquinta "Rainy" and Mariska Russell, Raquel Clement, Kendra Kemp-Gibbs, Almetta Curry, Cindy Huyler, Hilary, Stephanna, Dashna, Tina, Lovita and Milinda Kemp; Uncles: Marcus Pinder, Teron Bowleg, Hue Campbell, Terrado Hield, Max Lorfilis, Clint and Clyde Russell, Justin, Michael, Kinsley and Michael Kemp. Also by a host of family and friends too numerous to mention.

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SPORTS

RC sailing heads to Treasure Cay for round three



Above: Dwayne Wallas won the first race in the series of seven.

Press Release

Round 3 of the RC Laser Tour of Abaco took place in Treasure Cay for a beautiful, sunny, and warm day of RC sailing. Light winds were the forecast and out of the northeast.

Racers competed in 7 races, with a dying wind and an out-going tide. Dwayne Wallas won race #1, but Jim Kaighn took over winning the next 6 in a row.

David Mulock showed moments of

brilliance with a 2nd in race 2 which broke the tie for 3rd over Anders Ljungholm.

Thanks went to the Ljungholms for hosting the group and providing the Swedish desserts and also to Lenore Mulock who is back on the job.

The group is heading to Little Harbour for February 8. They invite you to join them for lunch at Pete's Pub and a 2pm start.

Youth Flag Football season resumes



Above: the Makos and Wildhaws battle it out in Man-O-War.

By Timothy Roberts

The Abaco Youth Football Association resumed the youth flag football season on January 25 with Marsh Harbour Wildhaws visiting the Man-O-War Makos.

Both the senior and junior teams competed and there was even a fun game between the seniors and the coaches at the end.

In the junior division after an evenly matched first half the Wildhaws put together an impressive second half, which

included several interceptions, winning with a score of 37 to 6.

In the senior division the Makos took an early lead in the first half of competition and staved off the Wildhaws attempts to catch up later in the game with the help of a couple of interceptions that brought the game to a 46 to 25 conclusion.

The Makos and Wildhaws will travel to Green Turtle Cay on Saturday, February 8 as the season continues.

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9:30 AM
-
1:30 PM



February 15th, 2014

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- Adults \$15, Children 6-11 \$10, Children 5 and under FREE
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WINTER SCHEDULE

JANUARY 3RD - APRIL 15TH, 2014

Harbour Island & Spanish Wells Monday & Wednesday - Sunday

- Depart Nassau 8:00 a.m.
- Arrive Spanish Wells 10:20 a.m.
- Depart Spanish Wells 10:25 a.m.
- Arrive Harbour Island 11:10 a.m.
- Depart Harbour Island 3:40 p.m.
- Arrive Spanish Wells 4:15 p.m.
- Depart Spanish Wells 4:20 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau 6:50 p.m.

Freeport & South Abaco Monday & Wednesday

- Depart Nassau 2:00 p.m.
- Arrive South Abaco 8:00 p.m.
- Depart South Abaco 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday

- Arrive Freeport 6:00 a.m.
- Depart Freeport 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday

- Arrive South Abaco 1:30 a.m.
- Depart South Abaco 2:30 a.m.
- Arrive Nassau 8:30 a.m.

Last Wednesday of every month

- Depart Nassau 2:00 p.m.
- Arrive South Abaco 8:00 p.m.
- Depart South Abaco 9:00 p.m.
- Arrive Freeport Thursday 6:00 a.m.
- Depart Freeport Friday 4:30 p.m.
- Arrive South Abaco Saturday 1:30 a.m.
- Depart South Abaco Saturday 2:30 a.m.
- Arrive Nassau Saturday 8:30 a.m.

George Town, Exuma & Simms, Long Island

Monday

- Depart Nassau 3:00 p.m.
- Arrive George Town Tuesday 5:00 a.m.
- Depart George Town Tuesday 6:30 a.m.
- Arrive Simms Tuesday 10:30 a.m.
- Depart Simms Tuesday 1:00 p.m.
- Arrive George Town Tuesday 5:00 p.m.
- Depart George Town Tuesday 5:30 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau Wednesday 7:30 a.m.

George Town, Exuma

Wednesday

- Depart Nassau 5:30 p.m.
- Arrive George Town Thursday 6:30 a.m.
- Depart George Town Thursday 3:30 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau Friday 4:00 a.m.

North Eleuthera Freight Service

Tuesday

- Depart Nassau 8:00 a.m.
- Arrive Spanish Wells 12:00 p.m.
- Arrive Harbour Island 1:15 p.m.
- Depart Harbour Island 2:00 p.m.
- Arrive Spanish Wells 3:10 p.m.
- Depart Spanish Wells 3:30 p.m.
- Arrive Current 4:30 p.m.
- Depart Current 5:00 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau 7:45 p.m.

Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera

Thursday

- Depart Nassau 7:00 a.m.
- Arrive Governor's Harbour 12:00 p.m.
- Depart Governor's Harbour 2:00 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau Friday 7:00 p.m.

Fresh Creek, Andros

Friday

- Depart Nassau 8:00 a.m.
- Arrive Fresh Creek 10:45 a.m.
- Depart Fresh Creek 12:30 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau 3:30 p.m.

Current, Eleuthera

Friday

- Depart Nassau 4:30 p.m.
- Arrive Current 7:15 p.m.
- Depart Current 8:00 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau 11:00 p.m.

Sunday

- Depart Nassau 4:00 p.m.
- Arrive Current 6:45 p.m.
- Depart Current 7:00 p.m.
- Arrive Nassau 10:00 p.m.

Boarding time is 1 hour prior to departure time.

Check-in closes 15 minutes prior to vessel departure.

For more information please call Abaco Agent: 242-225-0741
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 Governor's Harbour Agent: 242-225-9962, Harbour Island Office: 242-333-3113,
 Spanish Wells Office: 333-4890 / Exuma Agent: 242-225-1246
 Freeport Office: 242-352-7736 / Long Island Agent: 242-338-0593
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- THE NEW VILLAGE PUB**
- THE CORNER HOTEL**
- END ZONE SPORTING LOUNGE**
- SHOW TIME - FLOYDS CAFÉ**

What About VAT?

Min. Halkitis speaks to Abaco on VAT Tax

By Timothy Roberts

During the Vision Empowerment VAT Seminar at Change Ministries Minister of State for Finance, Michael Halkitis spoke to a room of about 150 persons concerning the proposed Value Added Tax (VAT) due to be implemented on July 1, 2014 and answered questions from the audience.

He said that events like this involve everyone and "awakens the citizenship" in participating, acquiring more information and having input in what he called a truly consultative process.

"We need to have this discussion because at the end of the day we need to have the buy-in of the majority of the Bahamian people," he said. "There is no use the government trying to impose something that the people will reject or be hostile to."

Mr. Halkitis said that VAT is not the totality of reform. He said the government in February of 2013 published a medium term plan for fiscal consolidation to "get their fiscal house in order."

"We can't do it by just taxation; can't do it by just seeking economic growth; and we can't do it cutting government expenditure. We can try very hard to improve revenue administration but that will not do the whole job that needs to be done. We need a combination of those four things."

He said that it's no use bringing new taxation when citizens can see continued wasteful spending from the government.

He said that the government has done a poor job in the collection of revenues owed, noting that they were in the process of reconciling records in real property tax in the hopes of correcting this issue.

Mr. Halkitis showed a number of slides detailing how over the past twenty years the government has spent more than it has earned in revenues leading to a current debt of just over \$5 billion.

"If we continue on that path it only gets worse. We have to do a better job of not spending more than we make. That is reality," he said.

He said that if the debt is allowed to get too high there is less capacity to borrow for capital projects as well as in cases of emergency - such as dealing with hurricane damages. He acknowledged that the rise in debt to GDP ratio will also lead to a credit downgrade, which will affect the country's ability to have access to credit.

Mr. Halkitis spoke of the burden of pensions in government's financial obligations noting that presently the government pays \$75 million in pensions. The government is seeking ways they can reduce this because in about ten years it will be \$240 million and in twenty years will go over \$300 million. "We are working now to avoid a bigger problem down the road."

He said "We have to expand our revenue base because currently most of the money the country makes comes from customs duties and excise taxes."

The government wants to implement VAT while reducing Customs Duties and Excise Taxes and improve revenue performance from existing taxes including cus-

tom duties and excise taxes.

"We are investing a lot of money into Customs to modernize it with new technologies so you can clear your customs entries online. We want to look at modernizing the whole business license regime and real property tax," he said.

Mr. Halkitis said the government has an implementation date of July 1, 2014 but "we have to make sure everyone is ready; we're pushing hard towards that target."

He said that if adjustments are necessary for smooth implementation they are prepared to look at that.

He said it will be administered by the Central Revenue Agency which comes under the Ministry of Finance and the Hotel Occupancy Tax which is currently ten percent will be replaced with a ten percent VAT. He added that there will be a rebalancing of customs duties and excise taxes to account for 15 percent VAT.

Mr. Halkitis said they have conducted studies on a lower rate, such as ten percent, as well as having feedback from the public on their desire for a lower rate which is something they are looking at.

He explained that with the rebalancing of customs duties and excise taxes with a fifteen percent VAT would result in a gain of just over \$220 million in revenue.

Explaining more on VAT Mr. Halkitis said it is a multi-stage consumption tax that acts largely like a sales tax. It is not a regressive tax like income tax. He said the government would be exempting certain breadbasket items, financial, medical and educational services to minimize the impact.

He gave several examples of how VAT would work and explained that it is collected at the various stages of the supply chain. He said because the cost of custom duties will go down the government does not think the cost of goods should go up too much.

He also gave examples of VAT registered businesses versus non-registered businesses. He said that the non-registered business would not see any significant advantage by not charging VAT as they would not be able to receive any refund for VAT paid.

He said that any business making under \$100,000 per year would be exempt from registering for VAT. He said that there are about 4000 businesses making over \$100,000 per year and these represent 98 percent of turnover in the economy.

VAT will be paid when items are imported, like customs duties, and will be refunded when the items are sold. Whatever you pay VAT on you keep a record of and deduct it from the VAT collected.

Businesses will be required to keep records of all sales and will need to display a VAT certificate prominently to allow customers to know that the business is registered and authorized to collect VAT.

VAT is designed to improve administrative efficiency, increase compliance and improve revenue generation. We believe because registered businesses would be eager to get a refund they would keep accurate records.

He said the government is now working to finalize the rates of duties on items as well as items that will be exempt.

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What About VAT?

Coalition for Responsible Taxation presents alternatives to VAT

By Timothy Roberts

The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce Employers Confederation (BCCEC) through their Coalition for Responsible Taxation made a presentation on alternatives to Value Added Tax (VAT) at Change Ministry's Vision Empowerment Seminar on January 18.

Speaking to an audience of over 150 concerned citizens, Dennis Lightbourn, President of the Abaco Chamber of Commerce and member of the Coalition, presented "VAT and The Bahamas - Are there Alternatives?"

He explained that the Coalition's purpose is to understand and examine what implications proposed tax legislation will have on the macroeconomic climate of The Bahamas.

He added that they seek to identify what specific tax concerns each sector of our industry has and how to best address these concerns within the private sector or through Government dialog and to encourage proactive, cooperative, collaborative and actionable dialog between Government and Private Sector.

He said the Coalition will then seek to advise the Private Sector and the Government on means to implement, train, fund, educate and market responsible tax laws and regulations.

He said the first thing that we need to look at is the July 1st, 2014 Implementation Date and there are many who feel the

date needs to be delayed to ensure administrative readiness.

Mr. Lightbourn said the next they looked at was the fact that VAT will increase the cost of goods and services across the nation causing inflation. "I think we all realize and certainly the coalition believes that prices will go up."

He added that many persons believe it is a business tax and they don't need to be concerned with it but in the end the "cost is borne by you, the customer."

Another concern he said the Coalition had is compliance and the collection of VAT and all Government revenue. He said we all know this is a problem in The Bahamas.

He said he does not envy the government's position in having to make a decision that will most likely have an adverse effect on those least able to handle the increase in cost of living. "Improper handling of implementation of VAT or any other system of taxation may push these people over the edge."

He said the Coalition's other concern is that we are going to end up with a cash-based informal economy developing which will be counter-productive what the government is trying to achieve. "Why report your sales when you have to collect VAT? People will try not to be compliant."

Another concern is that a monthly return schedule may be too onerous. "Our feeling is that monthly is going to be difficult to manage and may cause overheads to go up with a VAT." He suggested may quarterly would be a better schedule.

"We are past the point of being told things. My mother and father used to tell me things and that's okay - I don't have a

problem honoring my mother and father - but our elected representatives are in a position to make serious decisions on our behalf and I think we as a people deserve the respect of being talked to, and explained things to, and asked things as opposed to told things.

"I believe everyone in this room is mature enough, educated enough and savvy enough to understand what is going on and to understand the solutions and alternatives and understand our economy if it's presented in the right way.

"We are the people and you do work for us and you want to do something on our behalf - we put you there to do something on our behalf - but please, ask us, explain to us and get our permission to go forward."

Another concern for those who offer credit to customers is paying VAT on unpaid invoices. The Coalitions feels that VAT should not be payable on unpaid invoices. So the business has to not only pay their supplier for the goods sold as well as all other monthly expenses, but he also has to pay VAT whether he collected it or not.

As it is understood the business pays VAT on an invoice when the cycle is due whether the customer has actually paid it or not.

There is a provision that if the business is never paid that they can go back to the government and seek an adjustment when they are forced to write off bad debt, but in-between that time he is carry the weight of all those costs until he collects.

The alternative is cash on delivery (COD) which will in the end hurt many businesses and slow down the economy. Many businesses rely on the facilitation of

credit.

Existing inventory is a major concern especially for those who have millions of dollars in inventory. Businesses will have to run their inventory down or being faced with the challenge of becoming uncompetitive as they are forced to add VAT to a product they have already paid the full customs duty rate on.

He said the Coalition is concerned whether VAT will create a disproportionate burden to Family Island businesses and consumers. Mr. Lightbourn noted that he thinks the government has taken this into consideration and will not charge VAT on local freight service, and he thanked them for this concession.

He said that private sector training and awareness is something we all need to be a part of as individuals and as businesses; "we need to know what is going on and we need to plan and prepare."

He said he is aware that the government has contracted a software company that will set up the program that the government will use to manage and administer the VAT. The business community is concerned because they will need to have software and systems that will work with the governments system.

"Getting more money in revenue is one thing but if they continue to spend more than they collect it really doesn't matter what you make," he said. There needs to be austerity and budget cap measures taken by the government in conjunction with any new tax regime.

He said it's necessary to meet with the government, and that the Coalition has

Please see VAT Page 13

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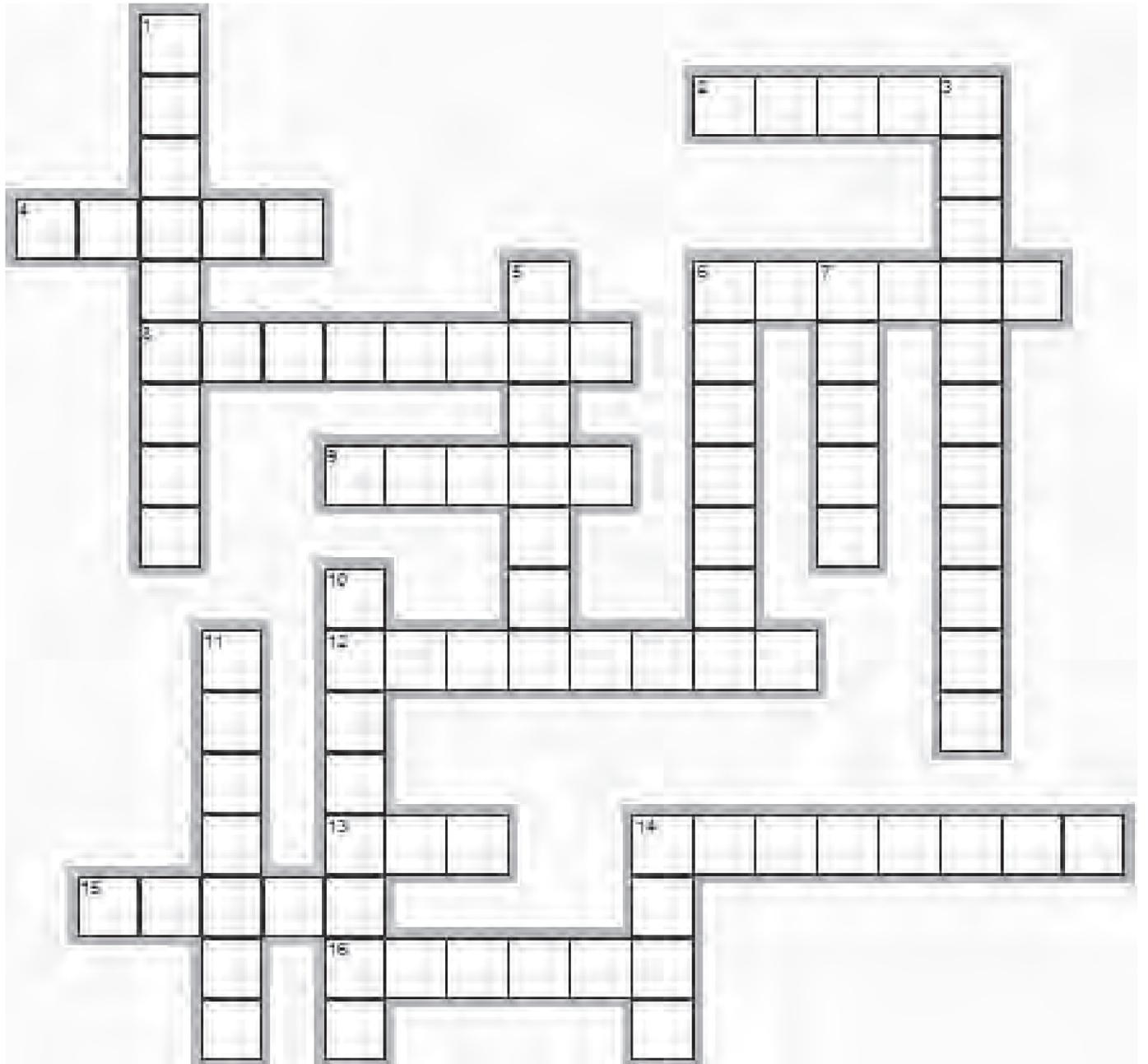
Abaco: 1(242)533-4285 or in Nassau: 1(242)475-5412.

Across

- 2. Where residents sit under the fig tree.
- 4. _____ Wood, North Abaco village.
- 6. Company that runs the cruise ship port on a South Abaco island.
- 8. Country's second PM, hailed from Abaco.
- 9. Once farmed in Abaco for rope.
- 12. Abaco's first inhabitants.
- 13. Used to write with and to escape predators.
- 14. Lighthouses prevented this industry.
- 15. Colour said to "flash" with the setting sun.
- 16. Abaco Site where tortoise fossils have been found on dry land.

Down

- 1. Wyannie Malone lineage.
- 3. Marketing activity.
- 5. Abaco's name on Juan de la Costa's 1500 AD map.
- 6. Echolocating aquatic mammal.
- 7. A Bahamian breakfast made with chicken, pork, sheep's tongue or pig's feet.
- 10. Pink because of its diet, national bird.
- 11. Northernmost Cay in The Bahamas.
- 14. Powered boats before gas and diesel engines.



Jan 15 Answers

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 3. RINGS | 16. CHESTNUTS | 6. JAGGER |
| 7. STAR | 17. WINTER | 8. FROST |
| 10. PINE | 1. EARTH | 9. BINARY |
| 11. REPTILE | 2. MINNIS | 13. CAMEL |
| 12. BELLS | 4. GROUPER | 14. BOXCART |
| 13. CAROLS | 5. KING | 15. SNOW |

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Interested persons should submit their resume along with a cover letter and photo to abacoinquiries@yahoo.com no later than February 7th 2014

We would like to thank all the applicants for applying, however only short listed applicants will be contacted.

What About VAT?

VAT From Page 11

engaged them in meaningful dialogue at both the technocrat level as well as at the ministerial level. He said the government has said they are open to hearing alternatives and what would be the best way to do this.

Members of the Coalition, while having various opinions, have come to a consensus on some common concerns some of which went far beyond VAT.

The Coalition agreed that reforms are needed across the board starting with Financial Reporting Systems. Government should allow financial decisions to be made based on timely accurate information and present that data in a way that we can all understand.

He said another suggestion is to introduce budget caps. The government should establish, agree and approve limits to budget spending and then manage to them and should only be increased by Parliament acting on advice from Cabinet.

"Part of the frustration we have in the private sector is the lack of meaningful information that we can work with, understand and analyze so we can make suggestions and give meaningful input. I think the time has come that we need to enact a Freedom of Information Act. This is the public's information and data and it should be in the open."

Mr. Lightbourn said that he is hearing "ridiculously low numbers - that we collect only 25 to 30 percent of the revenue that is due to us." He said that if these numbers are even close to accurate something must be done. "If we are running the country on only 30 cents on the

dollar imagine if we collected most or all of our taxes."

"When we have a budget we must manage to it and it must be auditable and reconcilable. We need to get beyond manual systems and enable people to pay their bills directly and improve revenue collection."

Mr. Lightbourn outlined that there needs to be a top-down responsibility for budget management with established budget caps in order to reduce spending within a prescribed timeline.

"Additionally the government should develop comprehensive plans to include upfront costs and annual maintenance costs and ensure that the bidding and awarding of contracts is transparent and contractors are held accountable."

He suggested that Dynamic Economic Modeling be established to assist in analyzing our economy.

"There also needs to be determined ways to measure and improve government productivity and accountability, holding civil servants to the same standards as the private sector."

He added that the creation of an office of the ombudsman along with independent monitoring and a Whistleblower Act is needed.

The Coalition he said has engaged the government in high level discussions concerning these alternatives; starting with "Collect what is due!"

The Coalition also suggested a payroll tax of five percent which would be fully paid by employers which was well received by the business community. With estimates of about \$3.5 billion paid annually in payroll it could potentially net the government \$175 million (just \$25 million shy of their

current projected gain from VAT). He said the payroll tax is simple and could simply be collected through NIB.

Other suggestions included taxing business profits which would replace business license fees at a rate of about ten to twenty percent.

He listed other ideas such as a capital gains on foreign real estate, lower lending rates, raising cruise passenger taxes, add-

ing air-space overflight fees, shipping lane fees, increase existing tax rates, and taxing the numbers business or creating a national Lottery

He concluded by saying that the Coalition is seeking to "Advise the Private Sector and the Government on means to implement, train, fund, educate and market responsible tax laws and regulations."



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Looking back on 2013 Part 1

By Jennifer Hudson

January

The year began with the usual New Year's Day celebrations on Green Turtle Cay as friends and visitors gathered for the traditional Junkanoo Parade. It was then down to business with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Urban Development, the Honourable Philip Davies, signing a \$1.3 million contract between the Bahamas Government and Bill Simmons Construction and Heavy Equipment Co Ltd to repair roads in Central Abaco.

A historic 120 mile run was undertaken by Rhonda Claridge who ran from Crown Haven to Sandy Point to raise reef awareness.

February

Road repairs began during the second week of February to repair potholes and resurface portions of the road in Dundas and Murphy Town and Marsh Harbour.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Pilot Training Project for The Bahamas was

begun. Following classroom training, 15 participants went into Abaco's pine forest in both the South and the North to perform on-site training to recognize and categorize healthy and suitable trees for future lumber crop

March

Forest Heights Academy received the Green Flag certification as an eco-friendly school joining the Deep Creek Middle School in Eleuthera which was the first school to receive that certification in the Bahamas.

Tanisha Charlton of S.C. Bootle High School was selected over five other candidates as the Ministry of Tourism's Junior Minister for Abaco.

The 2013 Great Abaco Family Fitness weekend held in Treasure Cay was a great success and in the second year managed to more than double the participation from the inaugural year.

April

Abaconians excelled at the CARIFTA games. Three swimmers and one relay runner were among the medal winning Bahamian team.

The people of Man O War Cay cel-

ebrated their third biennial Sojer Day on April 13 honouring the cay's heritage and boatbuilding legacy.

The Abaco judo team won the Bahamas National Judo Championships. Of the 12 divisions, Abaco won ten.

May

The ninth annual Island Roots Heritage Festival in Green Turtle Cay overcame challenging weather conditions including a water spout turned tornado to host yet another successful event. The Royal Bahamas Defence Force Marching Band was the highlight of the occasion.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works, Philip Brave Davies, signed several capital works contracts for projects to be done at Marsh Harbour International Airport as well as a preschool to be built in Fox Town. The contract was also awarded to complete repairs at the Marsh Harbour container port building international warehouse.

A devastating fire burned down the local water company, Island Delight.

June

The original flag first raised in the Bahamas Independence Ceremony in 1973 was raised in several locations across Ab-

aco in the lead up to the celebration of 40 years of independence.

Swimmers from Abaco, comprising three different clubs, dominated at Nationals bringing back many medals. Swimmers from around the country competed at all levels and many national records were broken. The majority of swimmers from Abaco were from the Abaco Swim Club but two other Abaco Clubs also competed.

July

Man O War Cay School earned the prestigious International Green Flag Award. Nancy Albury presented the students with this award on behalf of the Bahamas Reef environment Educational Foundation.

The Minister of Environment and Housing, the Honourable Kenred Dorset, visited various areas of pine forest on Abaco. His inspection of the established forest in the north of the island was followed by a visit to the site of the Bahamas National Trust logging pilot project in Spring City. He observed the logging trainees and BNT coordinators with the lumber which is being produced from Abaco pine.

To Be Concluded



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Casuarina, For sale by owner, Lot # 100, across the street from the canal, 75'x160'. Asking \$45,000. Call 367-3472. Serious inquiries only!

Hope Town, Prime North-End, Beach-Front, Bay-Side Lot. Private and quiet. \$395,000. jandkoakes@hotmail.com

Marsh Harbour, Government Sub, For sale by owner - Duplex located in. Large corner lot of land. Can easily be converted into 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$325,000 Net. Phone 242-342-5066/357-0386

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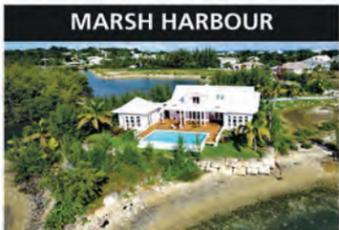
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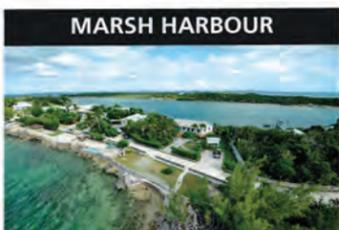
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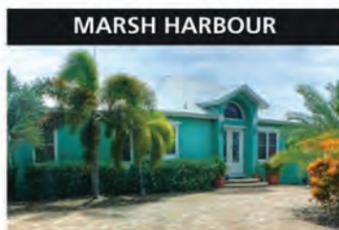
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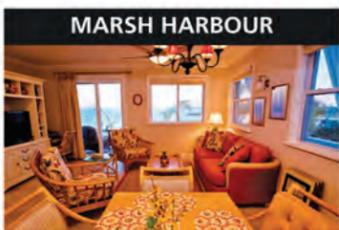
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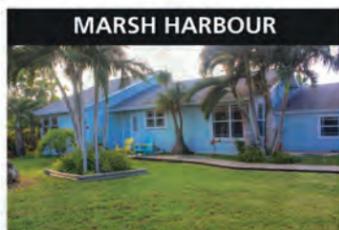
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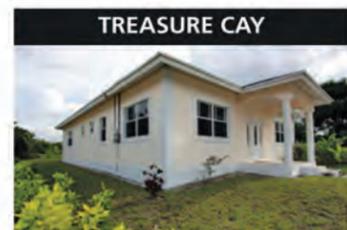
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