Citrus Canker Is Discovered on Abaco Farm
Bahama Star Farm Closes, Laying off 120

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Local Government advises that citrus canker has been discovered at the Bahama Star Farm in North Abaco. The confirmation of the discovery has resulted in the suspension of fresh fruit shipments from Abaco and the closure of the farm. The Department of Agriculture is preparing to take the necessary steps to contain and eradicate the area and to conduct a survey to determine the extent of spread.

The citrus grove was abandoned by the American company which holds the lease. This has resulted in the immediate loss of jobs for the labourers, supervisory staff and office workers.

Citrus Canker is a virulent and fatal bacterial disease of citrus trees. The disease affects all varieties of citrus plants but does not affect any other plants. The disease originated in Southeast Asia and has spread to many regions of the world. It has become endemic in many citrus producing countries and as a result has limited the sale of fresh fruit on the world market. The State of Florida is currently attempting to contain and eradicate citrus canker in several locations in the state. The disease affects leaves, young stems and fruit but is not harmful to humans.

The Director of Agriculture, Simeon Pinder, urges that all Abaconians assist in limiting the spread of this disease so that it can be eradicated.

Do NOT go to the Bahama Star Farm in North Abaco.
Do NOT take fruit as this could spread

MP Hubert Ingraham Hosted Parties

The Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, MP for North Abaco, came to Abaco on January 3, the official New Year’s Day holiday, specifically to bring gifts for the children in his constituency. He personally gave toys out and the children enjoyed games and a variety of food. He is shown here in Treasure Cay enjoying seeing the reactions of the children to their new toys.

Police Make Traffic Check

On January 6 the police checked cars to see if their licenses and inspections were current. Shown here is Officer Larry Rolle stopping a car that had just arrived in Marsh Harbour from Little Harbour. They were cautioned because Mr. Rolle found propane tanks inside the car. This presents a problem for many people because the legal way of carrying propane tanks is in the open back of a pick-up truck. However, many people who use propane do not have pick-up trucks. If it is necessary to carry tanks in a car, leave the trunk open if the tank is there or leave all windows open if it is inside the car. Road Traffic had advised the police that several hundred vehicle renewals had not been done in December. This was an exercise to locate some of these unlicensed vehicles.

Junkanoo Entertains on Boxing Day

Senior Junkanoo in Marsh Harbour was on December 27. See story on page 4.

Please see Canker Page 2
Canker Closes Treasure Cay Farm

By Mirella Santillo

As we approached the Bahama Star Farm in North Abaco, we passed several trucks loaded with furniture and personal belongings of people who were moving and reloca-

ting.

Aretha Huyler, production supervisor, said that two days previously, on January 4th, she learned from an analysis report sent to Florida that the disease to unaffected areas of Abaco. Do NOT take young trees to replant as you could be establishing the disease in a new area.

If the disease can be contained to that one area, it is likely that it can be elimi-
nated. For the long term benefit of all The Bahamas, you are urged to follow these di-
rectives. The disease can be spread by any part of the plant or fruit. The disease can be spread by several methods but moving infected plant material or fruit by humans is the most common method.

Canker From Page 1

the disease to unaffected areas of Abaco.

Do NOT take young trees to replant as you could be establishing the disease in a new area.

If the disease can be contained to that one area, it is likely that it can be elimi-
nated. For the long term benefit of all The Bahamas, you are urged to follow these di-
rectives. The disease can be spread by any part of the plant or fruit. The disease can be spread by several methods but moving infected plant material or fruit by humans is the most common method.

A United States official from the Depart-
ment of Agriculture visited the farm on January 4th and met with David Knowles, Officer with the Ministry of Agriculture on Abaco. Also present were Donald Cash, the Administrator for North Abaco, Simeon Pinder, the Director of Agriculture in Nassau, and a representative of Bahamas Immigration. No statement has been made yet by the Bahamian government. There will be an official press release by the Ministry of Agriculture to explain the findings after all the data has been analyzed.

The 3,000-acre farm was not only the home of thousands of citrus trees, including white and pink grapefruit, four types of oranges, limes and lemons, but also was the heart of a settlement of Bahamian and Haitian workers, who had been employed there for several years, some for decades. Panic spread among these workers, es-

pecially the Haitians, at the announcement of the closing made January 5th. The Hai-
tians did not want to believe that this was an Act of God, something that neither the owners or the managers could control. Their fear arose from the fact that most were waiting for their permit renewals, and they didn’t know what was going to happen to them. At yesterday’s pay check distribu-
tion, violence arose with some people throwing stones at the man handing out the money. Approximately 150 people were employed there. Twenty were Bahamian citizens, with another 130 Haitians who were either residents or had work permits. Altogether, including family members, there were over 300 people on site living in two settlements, one Haitian and one Bahama-

Katie Etienne is a spokeswoman for the Haitian community who was born on Abaco and speaks English fluently. She is petite, in her 20s, and a farm employee. She said, “There is animosity against Haitians. They have to be helped. They have been work-
ing here a long time. It is not fair to send them back.” She feels, “Somebody should pro-
vide us with work and somewhere to live.” But noth-
ing has been mentioned as yet by either immigration officials or owners of the farm as to what is to happen to the Haitian workers. Nothing has been said either as to wether they will be sent away or allowed to stay on Abaco. Katie said, “At the moment I am drawing a blank. I do not want to go toMarsh Harbour but I am hoping to find a job in the Treasure Cay area.”

Michel Fertil worked 30 years on the citrus farm. He has now been retired for three years, but the farm has been his only home since he moved to Abaco. He does not want to go anywhere else. He feels, “Somebody should provide us with work and somewhere to live.” But nothing has been mentioned as yet by either immigration officials or owners of the farm as to what is to happen to the Haitian workers. Nothing has been said either as to wether they will be sent away or allowed to stay on Abaco. Katie said, “At the moment I am drawing a blank. I do not want to go to Marsh Harbour but I am hoping to find a job in the Treasure Cay area.”

Michel Fertil worked 30 years on the citrus farm. He has now been retired for three years, but the farm has been his only home since he moved to Abaco. He does not want to go anywhere else. He feels, “Somebody should provide us with work and somewhere to live.” But nothing has been mentioned as yet by either immigration officials or owners of the farm as to what is to happen to the Haitian workers. Nothing has been said either as to wether they will be sent away or allowed to stay on Abaco. Katie said, “At the moment I am drawing a blank. I do not want to go to Marsh Harbour but I am hoping to find a job in the Treasure Cay area.”
Dear [Name],

I hope this message finds you well. I have a few properties available for sale that I think you might be interested in.

1. **TAMARIND HILL**
   - Image Ref: #2331
   - Beautiful 1.5 acre property
   - Community dock steps away
   - Fully landscaped and finished
   - Large storage shed & carport
   - $475,000
   - Contact: Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040

2. **TILLOO CUT**
   - Image Ref: #2332
   - View of the Sea of Abaco
   - Community dock steps away
   - Fully landscaped and finished
   - Ground floor storage
   - $460,000
   - Contact: Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040

3. **C-DREAMS**
   - Image Ref: #2333
   - Very spacious 350 sq ft home with ocean view in private North End Elbow Cay
   - 5 minutes to Hope Town
   - Two walk-in showers
   - Beautiful beach in the area
   - $590,000
   - Contact: Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040

4. **OLD MILL**
   - Image Ref: #2334
   - Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home
   - Recently renovated
   - Stainless steel kitchen and appliances
   - $550,000
   - Contact: Stan Sawyer, 242-365-8198

5. **NOR'EASTER 1**
   - Image Ref: #2335
   - 2 bed 2 bath 1,500 sq ft
   - Great rental history
   - $425,000
   - Contact: Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040

6. **NOR'EASTER 2**
   - Image Ref: #2336
   - 2 bed 2 bath 1,500 sq ft
   - Ground floor studio with separate entrance
   - $325,000
   - Contact: Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040

7. **MARSH HARBOUR - OFFICE**
   - Image Ref: #2337
   - 3 bed 2 bath residence
   - Central A/C
   - $265,000
   - Contact: Donna Darville, 242-367-5046

8. **NEW PRICE**
   - Image Ref: #2338
   - 2 bed 2 bath cottage
   - 2nd floor framed out for apartment with kitchen & bath.
   - $360,000
   - Contact: Laurie Schreiner, 242-366-3143

9. **NEW LISTING - COMMERCIAL**
   - Image Ref: #2339
   - 50 ft. x 150 ft. property
   - Storage building
   - $355,000
   - Contact: Donna Darville, 242-367-5046

10. **EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS**
    - Image Ref: #2340
    - 1/4 acre lot with spectacular view of the Sea of Abaco and Hope Town Lighthouse.
    - Shared Dock.
    - $115,000
    - Internet Ref. #2588

11. **BUILDING SITES**
    - Image Ref: #2341
    - 1/4 acre lot with spectacular views of Winding Bay Beach & the Atlantic Ocean.
    - $60,000
    - Internet Ref. #2113

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to schedule a viewing. I am available at your convenience. Please feel free to contact me at 242-366-0040.

Best regards,

Kerry Sullivan

---

**Contact Information:**

- **HOPE TOWN/ELBOW CAY**
  - Kerry Sullivan, 242-366-0040
  - kerry@damianos.com

- **LUBBERS QUARTERS & TILLOO CAY**
  - Laurie Schreiner, 242-366-3143
  - laurie@damianos.com

- **MARSH HARBOUR - OFFICE**
  - Donna Darville, 242-367-5046
  - donna@damianos.com

- **ELBOW CAY PROPERTIES**
  - Jane Patterson, 242-366-0035
  - jane@damianos.com

**Website:**

www.damianos.com

---

Janet January, 2005 The Abaconian Page 3
Marsh Harbour’s Junkanoo Drew Hundreds

After some ups and downs over the years, Junkanoo became more involved and organized, especially in Nassau, where influential businesses began to sponsor the groups. With financial help, more groups emerged and started competing against each other. Two major parades take place in Nassau, one on Boxing Day and the second at dawn on New Year’s Day. Prizes are awarded for the best music, best costume and best overall performance.

Junkanoo is alive again on Abaco. After a dormant period, several settlements have created groups ready to entertain us during the Christmas season and summer Gombey celebrations. Before now, the only Junkanoo to be seen regularly was the Green Turtle Cay group that put on a show every New Year’s Day since the eighties.

In the late 1980’s Mr. Churton Toote came from Nassau to Dundas Town and founded the BEC Bunker C Boys. After that, group fell apart, Dundas Town and Murphy Town merged to create another group that performed for a while. Because of the lack of funds and prize money, the performers lost interest. However, because of the popularity of Junkanoo with tourists, in the year 2000 the government decided to subsidize registered Junkanoo groups for some of their expenses by giving them an annual $2,000 stipend.

Judging by the size of the crowd assembled on Don MacKay Boulevard on December 27, Junkanoo is an event not only popular with the tourists, but with the locals who crowded on the balconies of Dove Plaza and along the road in spite of a biting wind and a long delay in the performance.

Only three groups participated this year, out of the seven groups registered. The parade started with the Dundas Town group, now called the Supreme Dancers, whose theme was The Abaco Native Warriors. One of the organizers, Mr. Churton Toote was expecting a larger number of participants. He said, “There was little time to practice this year. I am too involved with my job, which has become more demanding because of the hurricanes.”

For the first time in years, Murphy Town had a group performing. The Motown Shockers as they are known, started as a group at the beginning of 2004. Their theme was a Tribute to the Nations. Preceded by two youths somersaulting their way along the street, they marched on, waving a multitude of colored and glittering flags representing countries of the world. The 30 initial “rushers” were joined by several others taken by the music and the beat. Former Saxon drummer, Mr. James Nottage from Nassau told me during a break, “I just joined the Murphy Town group.”

Please see Junkanoo Page 6

The Murphy Town Motown Shockers rush began with two youths somersaulting their way down the street.
Big Bang Promotions!

Bacardi Gold
WAS $10.70
NOW $8.50

Ricardo
WAS $6.75
NOW $5.50

Galgutta
WAS $13.25
NOW $9.95

Vita Malt
WAS $2.25
NOW $1.95

Natasha
WAS $15.95
NOW $12.35

Gilbert's Gin
WAS $9.25
NOW $7.50

Canadian Club
WAS $22.95
NOW $18.95

Carlo Rossi
WAS $16.95
NOW $15.95

6 Pack of Kalik
WAS $14.70
NOW $9.00

Sale Date: January 13th–22nd, 2005

Every Day Low Prices!

ABACO

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. NO FURTHER DISCOUNT APPLICABLE ON THESE ITEMS.
PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.
Three of Seven Groups Competed in Marsh H.

The third and last performing group, the Spring City Rockers, were delayed because of a transportation problem. They had to use a flat bed truck to carry the floats and bulky costumes, but the show they put on was worth waiting for. The group of 65, dressed in colorful and elaborate attire for a Garden Party, their theme for the show, entertained with Christmas music, Calypso music and popular song themes. Theirs was a complex band, comprising not only cow bells and drums, but also several trumpets and trombones. They danced well into the night after being awarded the first prize.

The crowd enjoyed the parade in spite of the late start and the wait between the groups. They were disappointed that there were only three groups participating. The Sandy Point Earth Movers, the Blackwood Warriors and the Cooper’s Town LA Conquerors were expected, not only by the crowd, but also by the committee, as each had received the $2,000 seed money. The Green Turtle Cay Rockers had announced their non-participation in advance as they were preparing for their annual New Year’s Day show.

The Motown Shockers

By Mirella Sanfillo

There are seven registered Junkanoo groups on Abaco with four participating actively in parades. The “seed money” provided by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture since 2000 has helped revive some groups and create new ones. One group, the Murphy Town Motown Shockers began at the beginning of 2004. Three years ago Mr. Lyndon Davis, Ms. Wynsome Ferguson and Mr. Colin Curry formed a Junkanoo committee in Marsh Harbour. They met at the old high school in Spring City and trained local people to judge the parades. Gilbert Davis was one of the trainees and after being a judge for a few times, decided to form his own group. Mr. Davis is not foreign to entertainment as he is the leader of the local band Impact. In January 2004 he and Mr. Ricardo Brown created the Motown Shockers. Mr. Davis says, “The group did not receive their seed money until the beginning of December, making it difficult to get ready in time for the Boxing Day Parade.” There was too little time to practice. In preparation for their next rush a “shack” is to be built this month next to Abaco Central High School. There are now approximately 30 people enrolled with the Motown Shockers, but he hopes to bring more participants into the group. As well as the other group leaders I spoke to, he is concerned about getting sponsors to help produce a better show. He tells me, “Cow bells cost $130 a pair and drums start at $150. A shack is definitely needed as a place to make the costumes and keep the supplies. However, with the renewed interest of the community, the support of the Ministries of Tourism and of Youth, Sports

Junkanoo

From Page 4

the Murphy Town group yesterday afternoon.” He is looking forward to performing with them this year. One of the group’s organizers, Mr. Gilbert Davis, is very hopeful for 2005. “We’ll start practicing immediately,” he said, “To be prepared in case of a hurricane. This year the major handicap was lack of preparation time.” The group was awarded second prize and was given a lot of recognition by the judges for a first time performance.

The Spring City Rockers with a Garden Party theme had elaborate costumes, band instruments and played Junkanoo as well as other music.
Junkanoo
From Page 6

and Culture to encourage events related to the Bahamian heritage, he feels secure that 2005 will be a great year for Junkanoo and for his newly formed group.

One of the judges for the Junkanoo is assessing the performance of the Spring City Rockers.

Making and Keeping New Year’s Resolutions
By Portia Jonsson

Are you among the millions who made one or more New Year’s resolutions this year? If so, how successful do you think you will be in actually achieving your goal?

As the new year approaches, we tend to examine the past and look ahead to the future, often deciding that we need to do something differently – lose weight, exercise more, find a way to be less stressed or quit some bad habit that we’ve acquired.

We make a silent vow at the stroke of midnight on New Year’s to change ourselves for the better during the coming year. In most cases, we find our well-intentioned resolutions have been abandoned by the end of January. Why do we go to the trouble every year to commit to change, only to find ourselves settling back into our familiar ways within a few weeks?

If you’d really like to keep your New Year’s resolutions, there are some things you can do to increase your chances of success. Be specific – By making your resolution specific you will increase your chances of achieving it. Be realistic – At midnight on New Year’s Eve you may be feeling a false sense of confidence (depending on how much celebrating you’ve done up to that point). Develop a Plan – I’ve said earlier that many resolutions fail because they are simply goals – without a plan.

Regardless of your New Year’s resolution status, I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2005.

For over 50 years Al-Anon has been offering hope and help to families and friends of alcoholics. It is estimated that each alcoholic affects the lives of at least four other persons - alcoholism is truly a family disease. No matter what relationship you have with an alcoholic, whether they are still drinking or not, all who have been affected by someone else’s drinking can find solutions that lead to serenity in the Al-Anon fellowship.

The Marsh Harbour Al-Anon Group meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Library. Or call 357-6511 for more information.
Agriculture Has Suffered a Major Blow

In the first decades of the 1900s the Abaco economy was dependent on lumbering, shark fishing, sponging and boat building. Most families lived precariously off the land and sea. Money was scarce. Over time these industries died out. Shipbuilding has survived but has changed to yacht maintenance.

The original lumber operation completed its harvest in the early 1940s and moved to Grand Bahama, taking most of its workers with them.

Commercial sponging came to a halt in the 1930s when the sponges were affected by a disease wiping out that segment of Abaco’s economy.

Shark fishing was a smaller segment of the economy that ended in the early 1940s. This involved the skins and oil from the shark’s liver. Modern technology displaced shark fishing.

In the early 1950s, Mr. Crockett arrived and opened a farm on the west of Abaco between the Marsh Harbour airport and Spring City. It later was owned and managed by the Scott and Matson group of Fort Pierce. It grew tomatoes, pineapples and other crops on approximately 3,000 acres during its peak.

A big part of the company payroll migrated to the small shops in Marsh Harbour as employees had the choice of patronizing other shops. The company store was no longer the only game in town.

The pulpwod operation moved in 500 employees to Abaco in 1966. Their departure was offset by the sugar operation the company established on 20,000 acres of newly cleared land. This gave a big boost to the Cherokee settlement which was traditionally fishing. Fishing was abandoned and boats were sold as men took good paying jobs at the mill. The men were with their families every night and had a weekly pay check. Those were good times.

For a variety of reasons the sugar venture failed several years later and was a major blow to the Cherokee employees and the Abaco economy in general. However, it is a very sad ending to a decade which opened the door to sustaining the economy which openings for their entry level work. They were not demanding of their livelihoods.

Agriculture during the 1960s was an important element for Abaco. The S and M Farm which took the Crockett operation to a higher level was successful. This farm acreage was later absorbed into the Owens Illinois sugar project. During this time Edison Key and Morton Sawyer began farming in the Norman’s Castle in a joint effort with Gulf Western, west of the Treasure Cay airport. That is the farm recently purchased by the Eglin Company of Fort Pierce as the Bahama Star Farm, a citrus grove with 3,000 acres of citrus trees.

Other large citrus operations are the Bahama Palm Groves 20 miles to the south and the recently revived B & G Harmon groves south of Spring City.

Farming has a rich history on Abaco and has generally been successful for the larger farms. It tends to be cyclical and at the mercy of weather conditions beyond our shores. And weather in the States is good news, whereas a good year in Florida may cause commercial crops here to be dumped. Finding suitable labour can be challenging. Competition from Mexico and other low wage countries is hard to deal with.

The most recent disaster was the apparent devastation of our citrus industry by the invasion of the citrus canker discovered in the Bahamas Star Farm groves.

It was the farms in the 1960s that began utilizing the newly arrived Haitian refugees. They fit the model nicely of desirable farm help. They were not demanding of their living conditions and were grateful for whatever wages they could earn. It was not necessary to recruit labour as the Haitians just keep showing up looking for work. Their arrival coincided with the emerging Abaco economy which opened for their entry level work.

It was during this farm expansion in 1963 or 1964 that the first Haitians began building their houses in the Pigeon Peas area. During this same period the lumbering operation altered its harvesting style somewhat and formed cutting crews predominately of Haitians. They were given company housing in the Campbell Town site not far from Snake Cay. References to Campbell Town are heard now when Haitian resettlement options are discussed.

Following the announcement of the canker discovery on January 5, 2005, the Bahama Star Farm shut down in a matter of hours leaving 80 - 100 employees and their dependents wondering what the future holds for them. The employees are being allowed to remain in the company housing for the time being. Various government departments are now pondering this new dilemma. Initial government statements indicate the farm owners have abandoned the operation and the lease has reverted to government.

The future of large scale citrus groves on Abaco is questionable while we wait for plant pathologists to make their surveys. However, without question, the citrus operation there is finished. The 3000 acres would be choice land for other agricultural crops as the canker only affects citrus.

Agriculture has a future here as we have suitable land, a good water supply and agreeable weather. We lack the initiative, financial resources and expertise for large scale agriculture. Although Immigration authorities might disagree, we appear to have an abundant supply of farm labour.

The Abaco economy faces well with tourism as the foundation. Small resorts and diverse ownership of the second home rental market keep the impact of failures to a minimum. Our diverse tourism base means no single resort or operation holds our future in their hands. While large operations are easier to showcase and brag about, the success of the community then hinges on the success of a single entity. Note the effects to area economies by the closure of: the Treasure Cay hotel when it burned in 1961 and the effect to North Abaco employees; the sugar mill in 1970 and the effect to Cherokee employees; the second Treasure Cay Hotel displacing employees in 1992; Walkers Cay in 2004 displacing 180 from neighboring Grand Cay; and Bahama Star Farm in January 2005 displacing 80 or more employees.

This last farm closure will minimally affect the overall economy. However, it is a very sad ending for a successful farm stretching back for three decades. Unlike annual crops, citrus takes years for the trees to develop and produce commercial crops. It is tragic that a plant disease can shut down a successful farm operation in such a very short time. The threat posed by the citrus canker could destroy the commercial citrus production on Abaco for years.
The purpose of the marina is to provide parking for visiting yachtsmen who proliferate in the islands and to help these wealthy folks fund the local economy. The guest spends an average of $100 a day during the winter season, and $40 a day for the bulk of the summer. Professional to a fault, the event was totally underwritten by the Green Turtle business community, which I hope and pray will continue to contribute to the local economy in the future. The welcome from the Green Turtle is truly unique in other islands where the damage will be less and the Out Islands can be preserved.

Let us hope that the developers of Passerine will consider the wishes of the Abaco residents and take on the task of preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the islands. If we do not preserve the banks and dunes, Passerine will become a Developers' Paradise, not a Bjorn Lennartson Paradise, as the man who brought us Scandinavian style architecture is now a citizen of the Bahamas. If it all fails, we will have destroyed another part of the environment. So I hope the developers will take a second look and consider the wishes of the people who live here. The place became the home away of home for the roving crowds of hungry family and friends. Why...
The Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham hosted Christmas parties for the children of North Abaco. He visited all the northern area on January 3 giving out gifts. The party in Dundas Town and Murphy Town was jointly co-sponsored with Mr. Robert Carron of the Nassau Tribune who was also present at the party. After initiating the Dundas Town party, he went to Treasure Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Cooper’s Town and Mount Hope. At each party there was an abundance of good food. The Green Turtle party even had ice cream. Several of the locations had jumping castles. The gifts were toys appropriate for the various age groups.

Mr. Ingraham looked very well despite having had a threatening health problem just one week previously. At that time he felt a tightness in his chest. After phoning a doctor, he was soon hospitalized when doctors realized he had a potentially dangerous heart problem termed unstable angina. Tests showed that he had two blood vessels that were blocked. At Doctors Hospital in Nassau he underwent a successful balloon angioplasty which cleared one of the blood vessels. Doctors inserted a stent to keep it open. The other blood vessel was too small to treat. Because of his quick response to the initial symptoms, there was no damage to his heart muscles. He was hospitalized overnight.

There was plenty of good food at the Christmas party in Central Abaco. The party was held at Ingraham Park. A bouncing castle amused the children and food was provided.
Mr. Ingraham’s Visited One Week After Medical Problem

Doctors have recommended several changes in his lifestyle to improve his health. He is to give up smoking, change to a low fat, low cholesterol diet, begin an aerobic exercise program and take medication to bring about improvement in his circulatory system.

When Mr. Ingraham was on Abaco, he indicated that he was taking his doctor’s advice seriously and would be making the necessary changes to improve his heart and general health. He plans to take it easy for a little while. Doctors will monitor his health regularly.

It is interesting to note that about ten years ago that he was instrumental in bringing the angioplasty procedure to the hospital. Special equipment was required along with foreign medical personnel to train local doctors in the procedure.

Mr. Ingraham personally handed out toys in each of the communities of North Abaco. This little boy in Mount Hope is being helped to open his gift. The party there was for the children of Cedar Harbour, Wood Cay, Mount Hope, Crown Haven and Fox Town.

Limit of One Coupon Per Person

Royal Harbour Village in Marsh Harbour
(242) 367-0137
www.thechoachpearl.com
Top News Stories of 2004

By Toni Johnson

Let’s look back at the news stories of 2004 to see which had the greatest impact. I have compiled a list of my choices for the top stories in Abaco for 2004:

• Bush Fires – The month of March 2004 brought many bush fires that threatened the communities of Dundas Town, Murphy Town, Spring City, Casuarina Point, Bahamas Palm Shores, Bahamas Coral Island, Little Abaco, and Sweetings Village. The fires also threatened schools in Marsh Harbour. On March 8th a family of five lost their home and belongings due to a bush fire in Spring City.

• Body Discovered in Blue Hole – On Good Friday last year the body of Jermaine Thompson was found floating in a Blue Hole off the S.C. Boodle Highway. The remains were discovered by tourists visiting the site. The body was wrapped in garbage bags, chained and secured to a concrete block.

• Island Roots Festival – Green Turtle Cay invited persons to Come Celebrate Things Bahamian at their First Annual Island Roots Festival held May 7th-9th. The festival celebrated the revival of the “sister City” exchange programme between Green Turtle Cay and Key West.

• Plane Crash – On May 27th a private plane crashed killing four.

• Goombay Summer Festival – Groovin’ in Abaco was the theme of last year’s festival and the Royal Bahamas Police Marching Band got the festivities off to a roaring start on June 25th at the Goombay Park. Also providing entertainment were Abaco’s own Stone McEwan and Thunder, Spring City Rockers and the electrifying New Wave Dancers from Grand Bahama.

• Regatta Time in Abaco – Regatta Time in Abaco completed its 26th year with a series of five sailboat races over 9 days. Cruising sailboats participated in races, which began on July 3rd off Green Turtle Cay and culminated on July 10th off Marsh Harbour.

• Hurricane Frances – Hurricane Frances batters Abaco from Sandy Point to Crown Haven on September 3rd - 4th. The category 3 storm traveled four miles per hour as it made its way up the back of Abaco with hurricane force winds for probably 30 hours as it traveled to Grand Bahama. The heavy rains caused massive flooding throughout the island.

• Hurricane Jeanne – September 25th will long be remembered as the day Hurricane Jeanne passed through Abaco. The storm, moving about 14 miles per hour, crossed over Abaco with sustained winds of 105 miles per hour. Although leaving much damage in its path, there were no deaths or serious injuries. Parts of Marsh Harbour were flooded with three to five feet of salt water.

• Closed Grouper Season – The Department of Fisheries announced an initial closed season for the Nassau Grouper throughout the Bahamas from January 1st-31st, 2004. During this period the taking, landing, processing, selling and the offering of fresh grouper for sale was prohibited. A second closed season began December 15, 2004, and extended to February 15, 2005.

• Abaco Christmas Festival – The first Annual Abaco Christmas Festival was staged on December 11th at the Memorial Plaza to provide Christmas cheer and a fun time for all. The festival showcased local arts and crafts as well as games, music, food and a good time.

• The Abaco Club at Winding Bay opened Phase I on December 24 with a restaurant, clubhouse, cottages and a five-star golf course.

• Body Discovered in Blue Hole killed. Call us for details.

• Island Roots Festival – Come Celebrate Things Bahamian.

• Plane Crash – On May 27th a private plane crashed killing four.

• Goombay Summer Festival – Groovin’ in Abaco.

• Hurricane Frances – Hurricane Frances batters Abaco.

• Hurricane Jeanne – Hurricane Jeanne passed through Abaco.

• Closed Grouper Season – The Department of Fisheries.

• Abaco Christmas Festival – The first Annual Abaco Christmas Festival was staged on December 11th at the Memorial Plaza.

• The Abaco Club at Winding Bay opened Phase I on December 24.

• The Abaco Club at Winding Bay opened Phase I on December 24 with a restaurant, clubhouse, cottages and a five-star golf course.

Rotary Club Donates Refrigerators

Two new 15-cubic-foot Hotpoint refrigerator/freezers, donated by the Rotary Club of Abaco, helped complete the kitchens of Murphy Town residents Ida Swain and Doris Calma. The Rotarians were recently given keys to their newly built homes by Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, after their homes were destroyed by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. Shown here are Kevin Sterling, President of the Rotary Club, Mrs. Swain and Steve Davis, Treasurer of the club.

I have compiled a list of my choices for the top stories in Abaco for 2004 to see which had the greatest impact.
WE’LL BLOW YOUR MIND, NOT YOUR BUDGET

The freshest produce, specially-cut meat, groceries, supplies, housewares, electronics, lawn and garden & more. All at great prices with daily Smart Buys for even bigger savings. You CAN have it all.

All in one place: Solomon’s SuperCenter.
By Jennifer Hudson

In an effort to continually improve the quality of service it provides to the people of Abaco, the Royal Bahamas Police Force, Abaco District, has embarked upon a Community Policing project in order to become more in touch with the local residents and assess their needs and concerns. Community Policing has been working very effectively in Nassau for several years.

On his arrival in Marsh Harbour, Assistant Superintendent of Police Wayne Miller decided to introduce a Community Relations Division here as he saw how it could greatly assist the needs of this community. The project began last September with the communities of tandus Town, Murphy Town, Pigeon Pea, the Mud and the downtown business area of Marsh Harbour. In the new year the project will be expanded to encompass the area from Memorial Plaza into Pelican Shoals and Eastern Shoals.

In charge of the Community Policing project is WPC Leisa Campbell, who has a friendly, outgoing personality ideally suited to the task of meeting with people and assessing their needs. She is assisted by Officer Higgs, who is also very approachable.

These two police officers have been going door to door in the various communities since the programme’s inception and have heard a variety of different concerns. They have been handing out questionnaires for individuals to complete which will give the Police some guidelines as to how they can more efficiently deal with problems in the various communities. These questionnaires are designed to ascertain people’s opinions on the attitude of the Police Station staff and the standard of service received and to get input from individuals on ways in which they feel improvements could be made such as additional staff, more privacy, more information or better decoration of the premises.

Some of the concerns which have been voiced in Dundas Town and Murphy Town are for a larger police presence in the area, better property safety, more information or better decoration of their homes and vehicles. Also she noticed that businesses had made a greater effort to secure their properties. "It put persons on alert," she said, "and encouraged them to be more aware and not so laid back." Also she noticed that businesses had made a greater effort to secure their properties.

Other leaflets have been prepared to assist persons with ideas for improving the safety of their homes and vehicles. Home owners are offered the following tips:

- Invest in solid doors and windows with good quality locks.
- Whenever you are going outside, lock the door and take the key with you, even if you are only stepping next door or out mowing the back yard.
- Don’t put valuables where they can be seen from the window.
- Don’t keep large amounts of cash or valuable jewelry around the house.
- Don’t hide spare keys under the door mat or in a flower pot; thieves know all the good hiding places.
- Plant thorny bushes under all windows; trim back trees or shrubs near doors and windows to eliminate hiding places.
- Don’t leave ladders outside and keep any tools that could be used to break into your house safely locked away in a garage or shed.
- Always double check that all doors and windows are properly locked at night.
- Engrave all valuables such as stereos, microwaves, video cameras with your driver’s license number.
- Video tape the contents of your home. Keep the video and list of valuables in a safe place such as a safety deposit box.

Tips for vehicle owners include the following:

- During the day park your vehicle in an area of clear surroundings.
- At night park in an area where there is proper lighting.
- After parking your vehicle, ensure that all windows and doors are properly locked.
- Before leaving your vehicle, ensure that all valuables, important documents or cash are removed from the vehicle. Leaving those items visible is an invitation for a thief to break into your vehicle.
- Be very careful with the persons you allow to clean or repair your vehicle; the keys could be duplicated for an easier method to steal the vehicle at a later date.

A steering wheel club or alarm system are added security measures.

Any persons needing assistance or experiencing problems in their community are asked to contact the Marsh Harbour Police Station at 367-2570 or 367-3437.
Sixty-Seven Species Identified in Bird Count

By Mirella Santillo

January 2nd was a long day for bird watchers who took part in the yearly bird count for the Audubon Society which is celebrating its centennial this year. Fifty-five thousand volunteers, from Canada to the West Indies, participated in a count, in defined areas between December 14th, 2004, to January 3rd, 2005.

It was still dark when we met at the Friends of the Environment’s office in Marsh Harbour at 6 a.m. Several of us, including Reginald Patterson, John Herald Bethel, David Knowles and others, were met there by Ron Pagliero, who was the organizer and the leader of our outing. We left Marsh Harbour around 6:30 a.m. and drove south to the “Y” located a few miles from of Sandy Point, where we met with the rest of the “watchers.” One of the drivers had to cope with a flat tire on the way, but within an hour all 22 participants had arrived. The group included Dr. Ethan Fried from the United States, Abacanians Woody Bracey, Anita and Steve Knowles, Nassauians Tony Hepburn, Freddy Schaller and Predensa Moore.

We were divided into four groups, one group less than last year, each with a grid to cover, starting south of Crossing Rock to the settlement of Sandy Point. My group was comprised of five people. They were Steve and Anita Knowles, well known in the community as environmentalists. Also Reginald Patterson and Predensa Moore. Ms. Moore said, “I joined the ornithology group in Nassau in 1997. It is one of my vicissitudes or rather a passion! I am as excited to the sight of a bird as I was eight years ago!” Mr. Patterson, who was born in Nassau, is the son of the well known botanist and author Mr. Jack Patterson.

This Cuban Emerald Hummingbird was resting when Ron Pagliaro took the photo during the bird count taken on January 2. He shares his late father’s interest for local flora and fauna, specially birds. Reg, as he is familiarly known among the residents of Marsh Harbour, moved to Abaco in 1968 and knows some of the best bird watching spots on our island, as well as the local and immigrant species.

Our grid was the southernmost one, covering most of the logging roads on each side of the highway all the way to the village of Sandy Point. We saw numerous Cuban Emerald Hummingbirds and Bahama Wood Stars. We spotted Black Faced Grass Quits, a Red Tailed Hawk, several Turkey Vultures and Yellow Throated Warblers. However, the highlight of the morning was a trip to the dump!

Some people go to the dump to throw their trash away, some go there to see birds. And many birds did we see. Swarms of beautiful green backed Bahama Swallows put on a show by sweeping back and forth in front and around us. One had to wonder who was watching whom. Red Winged Black Birds were abundant at the dump, and spotted there was a Palm Warbler and several Yellow Rumped Warblers. It was a very rewarding stop in spite of the smell.

I had to leave my group at one p.m., but not before a well deserved lunch break that all of us enjoyed. The rest was welcome, and it was an occasion to get acquainted or reacquainted for some of us. We all met again in the evening in Marsh Harbour to record the final count from each group and discuss sightings of interest. A total of 1,078 birds belonging to 67 species were sighted. Only 34 Abaco Parrots were seen this year compared to 177 last year. However, they have been sighted in numbers in the Central Abaco area and, according to Ron Pagliero, will return to their breeding grounds in the spring. The count for the species was down by four, and down by more than 700 for the birds themselves. Considering that there was one less team and that one less grid was covered, it was a successful count. The hurricanes probably had an impact on our bird population as the number of resident birds was down. The most exciting sighting for Mr. Pagliero was the large number of Sandwich Terms, 49 of them. Over 100 Laughing Sea Gulls were also seen; all and all a very rewarding day for the bird watcher.

The unusual sighting of an American Robin a few days later in the Marsh Harbour area was also commented on by several people. Tentative dates for next year’s count, which should take place in December, were mentioned and will be announced at a later date. The Abaco count usually follows those from Nassau and Andros. This is the 104th official count for the Audubon Society, and our count will be added to its records.

Tsunami Relief Fund Is Set Up

Sometimes tragedy half a world away touches very close to home. Two natives of Sri Lanka and long-time residents of the Bahamas have spearheaded a drive to support those hardest hit by the tsunami which struck their homeland without warning on December 26th. They have set up an account where donations can be made to the “Tsunami Relief for Sri Lanka” account at the Bank of The Bahamas, account number 5265970. The money will be forwarded to the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society for effective deployment.

Abaco ACE Hardware

The helpful place.

Pre-Inventory Blow-out Sale
January 4 - 24, 2005

Linens 25% Off
Rugs 30% Off

Come take advantage of
DUTY FREE items
and our Hurricane clearance stock

Xmas Decorations 50% Off

Hurry while supplies last

Closed for Inventory January 25 - 31
Open February 1, 2005

Don MacKay Blvd. Marsh Harbour • Phone 367-2170

Linens

25% Off

Pre-Inventory Blow-out Sale
January 4 - 24, 2005

Rugs

30% Off

All Hardware

20% Off

Toys

20% Off

Hurry while supplies last

Closed for Inventory January 25 - 31
Open February 1, 2005

Don MacKay Blvd. Marsh Harbour • Phone 367-2170

www.CaribbeanRealEstateShowcase.com

Call us www.abacorealtor.com
ASP Clarence Russell Assesses His Tenure

Ed. Note: This is the assessment of ASP Clarence Russell on his transfer after having served on Abaco for almost two years.

Two years ago come February 14th, 2005, I was transferred to the Abaco District of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas with a view of fulfilling a two-year commitment to serving the people of Abaco, in the presence of the Police Team of the Royal Bahamas Police Force headed by the Commissioner of Police Mr. Paul Farquharson. That time has come to fruition.

Since my arrival in this district much has transpired with regard to crime fighting and the reduction of the fear of crime which is often times associated and synonymous with the kind of growth and economic development currently being experienced on this island to include its many cays.

To this end, my administration proactively took immediately to building upon the foundation laid down by my predecessor in a positive way, in re-enforcing our commitment to the task at hand while strengthening the bond between the police and the community we serve. For this and every other opportunity to have served, I say heartfelt thank you to this community and the hard working officers of this district who all shared in our successes and stuck by me when we were challenged, from Crown Haven in the North to Sandy Point in the South on the mainland but also to Crown Haven in the North to Sandy Point in the South which clearly had no room for corruption became the watchword of this division.

For the first time since its inception, crime fighting and lawful raids when necessary became the norm in this District. Fairplay, morality and accountability became the foundation laid down by my predecessor may improve upon for the much deserved the kind of growth and economic development often times associated and synonymous with the reduction of the fear of crime which is a zero tolerance to any and all forms of unethical behavior.

Police Reserve Supervisors got new office facilities for the purpose of conducting confidential, managerial functions for all Police Reserve staff.

Police Station went within one year from being quite a mess to receiving the Ministry of Tourism’s Cleanliness and Most Improved Government’s Building Award prior to suffering both Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne.

Local Police stations where affordable, from Cooper’s Town in the North to Sandy Point in the South received basic computer infrastructural improvements.

For this and so much more we stand proud.

While we did not profess to be perfect in any way, it is the opinion of this writer that ours is a record upon which we may stand proud and suggestively, one which my successor may improve upon for the much desired citizenship of Abaco, Bahamas. History shall judge us accordingly, as it shall for those who came before us and all those whom shall serve behind us in the future.

As we encourage you to lend your support likewise to the new and vibrant administration of Assistant Superintendent Wayne Miller, your newly appointed commander in the Abaco Division of the Northern Region, Royal Bahamas Police Force.

On behalf of my family and me we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Clarence A. Russell, BBA., CM. Superintendent Of Police Royal Bahamas Police Force Commonwealth of the Bahamas
ents with similar needs. As a result, Every International University (FIU) and other par-
on Abaco. We received some help from a
no special needs programme was available
vere developmental challenges that would
trator. "We soon discovered they had se-
Major, the school's founder and adminis-
time, including myself, a part-time voca-
sities."
physi- cal, neurological or cognitive disabili-
tution for school students "who cannot suc-
ated his
No Child Left Behind
Every Child Counts Program Helps Special Students

By Richard E. Fawkes

Before Hillary Rodham Clinton popular-
ized the African proverb, It takes a village
to raise a child, or President George Bush
promulgated his No Child Left Behind edu-
cation legislation in the United States, Lyn
Major made the slogan Every Child Counts
a reality in the form of Abaco's only insti-
tion for school students "who cannot suc-
cceed in a mainstream classroom because of
phys- ical, neurological or cognitive disabili-
ties."

This alternative school, which is under
the aegis of the Catholic Board of Educa-
tion but receives no funding from that body,
haves an enrolment of 42 students ranging in
age from three to 19.

"My husband and I adopted twin boys
when they were three and a-half," said Mrs.
Major, the school's founder and adminis-
trator. "We soon discovered they had se-
vere developmental challenges that would
require special education. We realized that
no special needs programme was available
on Abaco. We received some help from a
friend, Dr. Sharon Kossack of Florida In-
ternational University (FIU) and other par-
ents with similar needs. As a result, Every
Child Counts came into being."

Dr. Kossack, a professor of reading and
literacy at FIU, is still on ECC's board of
advisors and continues to assist the school
in providing free professional, parent and
volunteer training in the areas of reading
diagnosis, targeted teaching and special
needs recognition. ECC also provides free
evaluations and recommendations for strug-
gling students across Abaco, with funding
from the Rotary Club, according to Mrs.
Major.

Every Child Counts which transitioned
from part-time to full-time status five years
ago, is able to accept students up to the age
of 21. The school has a dynamic pre-voca-
tional programme for the older students
which includes a two-day per week on-the-
job apprenticeship placement with various
businesses in the community. Abaco busi-
ess persons, according to Mrs. Major, have
been quite helpful in launching and sustain-
ing that programme by providing appren-
ticeship positions and job placements for
young people who would otherwise not have
the opportunity to obtain training or become
productive wage earners.

The school has a staff of ten. "Four full-
time, including myself, a part-time voca-
tional teacher, and four aides," Mrs. Ma-

Major said. ECC requires a minimum budget
of $170,000 per year, which comes mainly
from foundation grants and individual do-
nations. Fund raising takes up a great deal
of time, she says.

"It costs $5,000 per student per year," she
said, "and the teachers take an enor-
mos reduction in salary." Mrs. Major said
tuition and materials are $4,460 per year
per child, not including other fees such as
medical and transportation. "Most parents
are not able to afford the tuition," she said,
"but no child is turned away for financial
reasons. Instead, we seek persons of means
to sponsor children, which, fortunately, we
have been very successful at. We encour-
age parents to volunteer in a way of help-
ing, which many of them have been doing
diligently."

Mrs. Major said the school receives a
great deal of volunteer help both locally and
internationally. The school recently added
a vocational building to its main two-storey
centre. The new facility was constructed last
year by Youth on a Mission, a volunteer
group from Vero Beach, Florida, along with
local parents and other volunteers. A local
businessman engaged his employees to work
on the project. There was also a generous
donation from another local individual to
help build the unit.

Abaco was not the only target for hurri-
canes in 2004. Category five Hurricane Ivan
smashed through the Cayman Islands on
September 11th and 12 leaving 80 percent
of that three-island nation’s buildings ei-
ther damaged or destroyed. The Barefoot
Man’s home, office and warehouse were
part of the rubble left behind. But that’s
not stopping the popular shoeless minstrel
- fishing for mutton snapper. Barefoot’s
witty songs about Abaco are featured on his
CD In the Bahamas which is a popular
souvenir item in local gift shops and a regu-
lar feature on Radio Abaco.

Last year every boat slip, cottage, golf
cart and bar-stool were sold out on Guana
Cay for The Barefoot Concert so it’s highly
suggested to make your plans early. Bare-
foot Man will be backed by the duo Chuck
and Burrie Quappe known as Sea n’ B and
also featured will be popular Bahamas
singer Stone McEwan. If you need more
information, contact Johnny at Nippers,
phone 365-5143.

Nippers Will Host
Barefoot Man Concert

Located on Don MacKay Blvd.
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Tel: 367-WOOD
Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 5 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Are you ready for real
wood furniture.
Something that will last.
Then look no further.
We have solutions for your
furnishing dilemmas.

WOOD YOU

Located on Don MacKay Blvd.
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Tel: 367-WOOD
Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 5 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm
Richard E. Fawkes

The Chief Councillor for the North Abaco District, Stephen Pedican, said he is disappointed that the central government has not yet rebuilt or repaired docks destroyed or badly damaged in the September hurricanes and is concerned that a stop-gap measure to shore up the Little Abaco causeway might become permanent. During an interview in Treasure Cay Mr. Pedican also urged improvements at the Treasure Cay International Airport and more consultation of the local district by government ministries in restoring normalcy to North Abaco’s infrastructure.

He said government docks in fishing communities like Cooper’s Town, Mount Hope and Crown Haven were destroyed and have not yet been rebuilt. Local government, he explained, is responsible to minor repairs and upkeep of docks, but nothing on the scale of what the hurricanes made necessary.

Mr. Pedican said the ferry service in Crown Haven has been able to use a little section of dock left there, and the Green Cay Ferry Service has repaired the passenger ramp at the Treasure Cay dock. “The local fishermen can’t use the docks to take care of or tie up their boats,” he said. “It’s unsafe and a hazard for kids. If there are any tourists coming through our waters, they can’t stop in at the docks for fuel or any assistance from the shops in the towns.”

Mr. Pedican said the causeway that connects Great Abaco to Little Abaco was recently repaired by Bahamas Hot Mix with boulders and fill to restore the second lane and shore it up. It needs to be replaced with a structure that would allow the free flow of water and fish to regenerate the mangrove ecology destroyed by the years of deprivation. Minister of Works and Utilities Bradley Roberts expressed his support for such ecological considerations when he visited the structure with Prime Minister Christie shortly after Hurricane Jeanne last year.

Mr. Pedican said he hopes the temporary fix does not become permanent.

A Little Politics

Mr. Pedican said that with respect to the issuing of contracts for post hurricane repairs, the local government district is somewhat out of the loop because of what he calls a little politics. “There’s a little politics being played in there,” he said. “I’m not concerned about it because I understand how it goes - the government, the PLP have their generals in place, and the generals are the ones who are privy to what’s taking place and into getting contracts to do what. We only know when the work is started.” Mr. Pedican does not consider this any kind of political discrimination, but that it would be good for local government officials to know what is going on. They were fortunate one time when the contractor saw fit to advise the Council that he had been given the contract to repair the schools. He said the only repair work that went through local government was the work done to the clinic in Cooper’s Town, when local government was asked by the Ministry of Health to assist in putting out tenders for the job.

“We were told what the scope of the work was and what was agreed on. So we were the eyes and the ears for the Ministry of Health. That wasn’t done with anyone else,” Mr. Pedican said.

Mr. Pedican said although the central government does not have to go through local government to tender or award contracts, it is somewhat unusual for it not to do so, and that it is not the way it should be done. He has not had any word with any ministers or permanent secretaries about this issue, but addresses his concerns to the local administrator, Mr. Donald Cash, who would pass them on for him. His District Council submitted a request through the department of local government for assistance right after the hurricanes, but got no response.

“Right after the hurricane, the Administrator and I went through all the town...” Please see Pedican
N. Abaco Chief Councillor Speaks Out

Pedican  From Page 18

ships and spoke to the various chairmen. We took their concerns of what needed to be done. We have submitted amounts that we need to get everything back in order. To date we have not got back any response from any ministry with regard to what monies, if any, would be sent.”

Mr. Pedican said the North Abaco district did receive $6,000 for clean up, but that was "a drop in the bucket. It came out to about a thousand dollars for each township. We had asked for $70, 000," he said.

Airport A Major Concern

“I am very much disappointed at what has happened to the airport down here,” Mr. Pedican said concerning the Treasure Cay airport. With respect to the hur-ricane, he said the fencing, “which was not constructed properly with the right material” to begin with, was blown down and has not been repaired or replaced. Beyond that, he explained, the Treasure Cay airport is plagued with some of the same problems as those at the Marsh Harbour airport.

“The terminal building is inadequate for international and domestic needs. Security at the airport is a major issue. Customs and immigration areas are definitely inadequate; it’s like a little cubby-hole there. The airline booths are jammed in. It’s really a shame to see people hav- ing to stand outside waiting for their flights to depart.”

Government is considering whether to build one major airport for Abaco rather than maintaining two. For this reason no major work has been done on either air-port. One positive outcome of nothing having been done yet by the government is that “the business houses here in the North, like Treasure Cay Limited, the Bahama Beach Club, Green Turtle Club, Bluff House have come together and formed a committee to look at what it’s going to take to improve the airport. They want to upgrade the Treasure Cay air-port. They want to put in a new terminal for the international flights. They want to work along with the government in doing this.”

He said a group of international con-sultants working with the government has told them, however, that while the ideas to upgrade are well and good, the priority is bringing the airport into compli-ance with safety regulations as far as the United States government is concerned.

“Since then, just a week ago, we formed an airport committee to look into what it is going to take to bring Treasure Cay airport into compliance as far as se-curity regulations are concerned, and also to upgrade the airport as far as a new terminal building is concerned.”

Priorities for Remainder of Term

Mr. Pedican, a native of Green Turtle Cay, has been in the hospitality business for over 25 years including eight years as golf course superintendent at Treasure Cay. He plans to run for a second term in local government elections in July as Chief Councillor. His priority is to see all of the hurricane repair work com-pleted before his term ends. In addition to cleaning up and dock restoration, his list includes repairs to bus stops and pub-lic lavatories, and reorganization of the various garbage dumps.

Mr. Pedican was also concerned about the damaged police station and quarters in Crown Haven where the officer in charge, Corp. Sullivan, is “living in des-picable conditions.” Mr. Jack Thompson, the NEMA coordinator on Abaco, has provided materials for repairs and his district is ready to assist with its limited budget but is awaiting a response from the police department on what it is will-ing to provide.

As to the future of local government in North Abaco, Mr. Pedican would like to see more participation in public meet-ings where people could voice their con-cerns and more interest in statutory boards. He is proud of the participation of residents in Little Abaco, who are much more active than residents in the rest of the district; he hopes the others will follow suit.

US Embassy Has New Visa Section

By Isobel Sherman

The U.S. Embassy in Nassau will open a newly expanded and renovated Visa section in January. The section will have a large waiting room and more interviewing windows. Mr. Tay-lor stated the U.S. Embassy in Nassau is one of the few embassies in the world where visa applicants can walk in, be interviewed without an appoint-ment and can usually receive their visa all in the same day.

Early Bird Breakfast Cafe

$2.99 Bahamian Breakfast

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

Now Serving Lunch

Shop #8 • Colina Building • Tel: 367-5310

Out Island Inter.Net

High-Speed Wireless Internet Access

One month free

for the price of ten months

Get a year

Limit one per customer

Offer expires February 10, 2005

Marsh Harbour, Abaco

Phone: 367-3006 • FAX: 367-3387

Email: wireless@abacoinet.com

CHECK OUR WEBSITE BEFORE YOU PLAN YOUR NEXT TRIP
Obituaries of Family and Friends

Everette Archer, 63, died in Nassau after an illness. He had been ailing from throat and prostate cancer. His funeral service was held in Nassau on January 8. Interment was in Nassau.

Mr. Archer owned a number of businesses on Abaco and New Providence, sharing residence in both places. His businesses in Abaco include Bistic Bight Resort and Liquor Store and D’s Guest House in the Marsh Harbour area. In Nassau, he owned Archer Brothers Liquor Store on Paradise Island and E and D Dunstrom.

A building contractor for many years, Mr. Archer owned Everette Archer Construction. At the time of his death, his company was contracted to repair Central Abaco Primary School in Dunders Town and the primary and secondary public schools in Cooper’s Town. The schools were damaged in the recent hurricanes. His son, Lynden, said the construction was completed according to schedule.

Mr. Archer was a political activist. A stalwart Councillor of the governing Progressive Liberal Party (PLP), he was part of a delegation that included former PLP MP and Senator, Edison Key, who went to London to counter attempts by a delegation led by former MP Leonard Thompson to have Abaco remain a part of the United Kingdom when The Bahamas became independent.

Mr. Archer is survived by his wife of 42 years, De-Anna, sons Lynden, Wayde, Richard, and Everette, Jr.; daughter Ernestine Archer Albury; 18 grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for Nigel Levi Mills, 36, of Cedar Harbour was held on January 8 at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Cedar Harbour. Rev. Samuel Mills officiated assisted by Rev. Edward Laroda and Rev. Clifford C. Smith. Interment was in the Cedar Harbour Public Cemetery.

He is survived by his parents, Rev. Dr. Allan and Movena Mills; paternal mother Cynthia Brown; wife Florence; children Devon, Nado and Nigel Jr.; sisters Thera, Tamara and Terria Brown, Paulette Nesbitt, Katherine Lynden and Stephanie Fernandez; brothers Darrin Culmer, Elton and Steve Smith; aunts Pearl, Viola Joycelyn and Lillian Wells, Cleom Jenive, Judie Storr, Lydia Kaderi, Monique and Michelle McIntosh, and Necola Smith; nephews Tanai, Tahj, Kentyn, Kahlil and Darrin Jr.; nieces Tanae and Taleah; grandaunts, Geraldi Kentyn, Kahli and Darrin Jr.; nieces and nephews; sons-in-law Michael Neymour, Lincoln Jones, Eddison Cornish, Manuel Tenesaca and Harrison King; daughter-in-law Terry Armstrong; grandchildren; great grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for Hortense Bootee, 72, of Fire Road was held on January 8 at the New St. Andrew’s Baptist Church in Fire Road with Rev. Eulin McIntosh officiating. Interment was in the Public Cemetery in Fire Road.

She is survived by her sister Rejoiner Rolle; daughters Judaine and Nelda Laroda; grandchildren Richard, Bianca, Landon and Benjamin Smith; godparents, Rev. Dr. Ernestine Archer Albury; 18 grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Cleveland Eugene Albury of Cherokee Sound passed away on January 2 at the age of 86. The funeral was held on January 3 at the Assembly of God Church in Cherokee Sound. Bro. Bob Corneal officiated. Interment was in the Cherokee Public Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Bernicer; sons Morrell, Wayde and Ross; daughters-in-law Doreen, Jean and Sonia; grandchildren Richard, Bianca, Landon and S. Taylor; granddaughter-in-law Yizzle.
New Policies Affect Air Travellers

By Isobel Sherman

Since 9/11 the FAA and the United States government have implemented policies that pertain to airlines both foreign and U.S. flying in and out of the United States. These policies pertain to any airport in the U.S. and in the world, including our overcrowded Marsh Harbour International Airport. The regulations are not that difficult. It requires passengers who are traveling on an airline into the United States to check in two hours before departure time. This regulation has been in effect since 9/11 and yet it seems that many persons do not take the regulation seriously. On a recent investigative visit to Marsh Harbour International Airport, I questioned some airline personnel on the regulation.

Lawanda Bootle of Continental Airlines stated that the airline must close the West Palm Beach flight 45 minutes prior to departure and the passenger manifest is closed 30 minutes prior to departure. She said yes.

Ms. Simms stated that if most passengers comply with this requirement, and she said yes.

Lawanda Bootle of Continental Airlines told me that airline must close the West Palm Beach flight 45 minutes prior to departure and must then fax the manifest to the United States to check in two hours before departure. It is faxed to the United States and it cannot be amended for late arrivals. I asked her if most passengers comply with this, and she said yes.

Marilyn Simms of Bahamasair told me that the airline will only close the West Palm Beach flight 45 minutes prior to departure and must then fax the manifest to the United States. Ms. Simms stated that passengers are to check in by 9:30 a.m. for the West Palm Beach flight and need to be at the airport by 10:20 if they check in early, then leave the airport. There is a problem as many persons think they can come at 10:05-11 a.m. to check in. The paperwork has to arrive in the United States 30 minutes before the plane departs from Marsh Harbour. Ms. Simms said that this is a very serious matter because if Bahamasair does not adhere to FAA regulations, the airline could be refused entry in to the United States at any destination they fly to. In addition, Ms. Simms stated they must search all luggage including carry-ons and must screen passengers with a hand held metal detector before they board the flight. She said all of this takes time.

The rules for domestic flights are different. Ms. Simms said check in is one and a half hours before the flight leaves and the flight closes 30 minutes before departure to Nassau.

Limited Parking

A visit to the Marsh Harbour International Airport between Christmas and New Year’s found new places for persons to park their cars. There is a problem as all the deep lots were full to capacity as was the side next to the taxi hut. Now persons are parking their cars between the two roads which lead to Abaco Air and to Cherokee Air. Innovative persons actually were able to park three cars deep in such a way that no one was blocked in by another car. On one day during the Christmas holiday time there were 200 vehicles parked there.

We all know that Marsh Harbour is in desperate need of a new airport and terminal building. Maybe a parking lot could be constructed and persons would pay to park there. This could raise some money for the new airport, which is on the front burner to Abacoanians and visitors alike, and either is on the very back burner or not on any burner at all by Central Government.

Christmas in Little Harbour

Residents of Little Harbour have their own tradition for Christmas. They all get together for a mid-day community Christmas dinner. Each family takes a dish and Pete’s Pub supplies the location and the drinks. It is a great time of friendship and celebration.
New Haitian Community Grows

A new Haitian settlement is developing south of the Treasure Cay airport off the Bahama Star Farm road. The houses are well hidden in the pine trees. Several are being lived in, others are near completion and five others have foundations. Garden areas have been cleared and banana trees, pigeon peas, cassava and mango trees are already growing. According to one of the residents, the people building there are employed by businesses in Treasure Cay.

Bahama Star

not know where to go.

Jertia Pepe, a 43-year-old Haitian woman, was born in Port au Prince. She came by boat through Nassau and has worked on the farm for 21 years. She has a work permit which was in the process of being renewed. Jertia has one child who is now 24. She is very proud of him as he is a medical student at the University of Santo Domingo, thanks to the money that she has been sending him. She starts crying as she utters, “No job, no money to send. Don’t know what is going to happen.”

The Haitians farm workers were told that they and their families could stay in their homes for a week or two until further notice. According to Mr. Knowles, the finding of this disease is a potential disaster which impacts not only the lives of several hundred farm workers, but also may have a negative effect on the agricultural economy of our island.

There are worries that several thousand grafted young trees have been stolen and have left the farm, possibly spreading the disease already. Mr. Knowles is very adamant about trying to avoid the spread of the alleged citrus canker. He is worried that people will try to harvest the fruits left and carry them out of the farm compound, thus spreading the disease. Adding insult to injury, stealing is also a concern. The production supervisor, Ms. Huyler mentioned the theft of a bus containing miscellaneous material and equipment by a 15-year-old boy. It has not yet been recovered. This is after the company recently invested thousands of dollars in fertilizing, hedging and trimming the grove to prepare the fruit trees for the Florida harvest.
**Emergency Services**

Ambulance - Marsh Harbour • Trevor DeO.
Police - Marsh Harbour • 367-2348
Fire - Marsh Harbour • 367-2000

**Airlines Serving Abaco**

- Abaco Air - Marsh Harbour • 367-2295
- Atlantic Air - Marsh Harbour • 367-3076
- Abaco Airline - Marsh Harbour • 367-2972
- Cherokee Air • 367-2989

**Taxi Cab Fares**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Price (in dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marsh Harbour to Hope Town</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsh Harbour to Treasure Cay</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsh Harbour to Green Turtle Cay</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Airlines Serving Abaco**

- Abaco Airline - Marsh Harbour • 367-2295
- American Eagle
- Bimini Island Air
- Calypso Air
- Cherokee Air Charters
- Vintage Props & Jets
- Fire - Marsh Harbour
- Hope Town
- Treasure Cay

**Restaurants**

- Mother Merle
- Jib Room
- Treasure Cay
- Casuarina Point
- Spring City
- Sandy Point
- Fire - Marsh Harbour
- Hope Town

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.

**Restaurant Guide**

- Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope Town: 366-0431
- Abaco Yacht Service: 367-4033

**Ferry Schedule**

- Abaco's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 365-6011 • VHF Ch 16
- Marsh Harbour to Hope Town: 20 minute trip from Crossing Beach (6-11 F-F), 3:15 p.m. (M-Sat)
- Return 9 a.m. 4:15, 11:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. (Sun-Sat)
- Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War
- Treasure Cay to Green Turtle Cay & Cay: 6 a.m.
- Return 3 a.m.
Health is wealth!

It's known that a healthy society is a wealthy society, that's why Insurance Management offers the largest selection of coverage in The Bahamas.

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

NASSAU
Rosetta Street
P.O. Box SS-6283
PH: (242) 394-5555
Fax: (242) 323-6520

FREEPORT
Pioneer Way
P.O. Box F-42541
PH: (242) 350-3500
Fax: (242) 350-3510

ABACO
Elizabeth Drive
P.O. Box AB-20666
PH: (242) 367-4204
Fax: (242) 367-4206

ELEUTHERA
Queen's Highway
P.O. Box EL-25190
PH: (242) 322-3211
Fax: (242) 332-2863
Green Turtle Cay Celebrates Junkanoo

Junkanoo started a few hundred years ago in the days of slavery. There are several theories as to where the word Junkanoo came from. Was it from the French “L’inconnu” (meaning the unknown) because of the masks worn during the parade or from the Scottish settlers stating, “Junk enoo” (junk enough) or, as a lot of Bahamians like to believe, that an African tribal chief, John Canoe, after becoming a slave, demanded the right to celebrate in the African tradition? Or perhaps it was named after a benevolent plantation owner, John Canoe, who granted his slaves that right so they could leave the plantation and rejoin their families to celebrate Christmas and the New Year with African music, dances and costumes. Whatever the origin, the tradition was carried on after emancipation.

On Abaco Junkanoo has suffered many ups and downs because of a lack of sponsors and funds. Organizers had to buy instruments and costume materials with their own money; and with no prizes awarded, the participants lost interest except for the community of Green Turtle Cay.

As far back as the older people can remember, there was a kind of celebration on New Year’s Day in New Plymouth. In the 1930s, according to Mrs. Ivy Roberts, curator of the Albert Lowe Museum, a celebration was called “Old Skin,” for the concept of getting rid of the “Old” to adopt the “New.” The celebration of Old Skin was...

Abaco Club Celebrates Year End

The members and guests of the Abaco Club on Winding Bay christened their new clubhouse in an exciting Bahamian New Year’s Eve celebration that was filled with flamboyant international style.

Hosting its first major event at the recently opened 520-acre members’ golf club and sporting retreat, founder and Chairman Peter de Savary ensured that members and guests were treated to a night of indigenous and international cuisine and drink accompanied by one hundred percent local Bahamian entertainment.

About 80 people were in attendance and the combination of members, guests and specially invited guests combined to create a perfect ensemble for an incredible New Year’s Eve event. Special invitations were extended to Abaco’s government department heads.

The celebration began with members...

Crowds Precede the Dancers

Junkanoo Piece Is Wheeled
Junkanoo was added to the BuCe celebration. Two years later Junkanoo took over and BuCe aspect was minimized.

Junkanoo on Green Turtle Cay always involved the whole community. Second home owners, residents and Bahamians all participated then, and still do now, in the making of costumes, putting on make-up and assisting with practice sessions. Returning tourists often plan their trip around that event.

Karen McIntosh, the owner of Abaco Ceramics, is a junkanoo passionate. She said, "When I moved to New Plymouth in 1971, the whole town was making its own parade; there would be a few people with drums and cow bells and the residents following in the streets. It was like a street party." Karen continued, "When Corp. Smith came to Green Turtle Cay from Nassau in 1984, he brought the parade to the next level, introducing the making of elaborate costumes." Karen's daughter, Jillian, who is now 23, has participated since she was five years old. That is the time when Karen started to really get involved with Junkanoo.

Today Karen and Tanya Wells, another resident, make the girls' costumes. Karen does the face make up and provides them with a place to practice.

As the parade has become more elaborate, more funds are required to pay for fancier costumes and additional instruments for more participants. Fund raising throughout the year doesn't bring enough money, and she hopes that more people come forward with financial support. According to Floyd Johnson, the present leader of the Green Turtle Cay Rockers, it takes about $7,000 to $8,000 to produce a parade like the one which took place on January 1 in which over 60 people participated. Floyd says, "This year they even saved money as they did not need people coming form Nassau or Eleuthera to help with the costumes." Floyd was responsible for making most of the men's costumes.

Because of the popularity of the event, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Wayne Miller sent 20 officers to provide a police presence. Everyone had a good time and we were told that Mr. Miller enjoyed the parade incognito!

**Community News**

By Annabelle Cross

2004 is now history! Looking back over the events of 2003, we realize that it was a year controlled by nature! For the first half of the year we had very little rainfall. The island looked all brown and wilted until July!

The first day of the crawfishing season was wintry and rainy, a big disappointment to those who look forward to this day for sport and to earn a living. Then all the tropical systems that formed took no time before developing into major hurricanes and seemed to have us in their path. When the children should have been going back to school, they were experiencing hurricane Frances. As we cleaned up from Frances we kept an eye on Ivan, a monster storm.

For the first time, Mickey Mouse visited Green Turtle Cay. It was a real surprise for the children of the Tiny Turtles Pre-school and for the students of the Amy Roberts Primary School. He is shown here with the children of the Tiny Turtles School.

It was a beautiful day for the Junkanoo rush in Green Turtle Cay. Many people worked to make the day a success. The event is held mid-day, letting the bright colors show.
celebrated our heritage at the Island Roots Festival, bringing us together as a community. We lost... but we can also count our blessings because the hurricanes left Abaco once again rebuilding.

All ages enjoy the rhythms of the Junkanoo beat, even the youngest.

Holiday Happenings
Christmas was quiet on Green Turtle Cay, but the days following were busy as many visitors arrived to celebrate the New Year. 2005 came in to the sound of ringing bells, firecrackers and fireworks. The ferry was kept busy all New Year's Day transporting people to enjoy the Junkanoo parade and all the food offered by vendors around town. Because of the hurricanes the Junkanoo committee lost about two months...
and had to work "overtime" to get the costumes made and the parade organized. Their hard work paid off and the parade was a success. The costumes which depicted nature were beautiful. Visitors lined the street to watch and some followed the parade which ended at the basketball court with the appearance of the traditional "Bunce" character.

Children Receive Gifts

On January 3rd the Rt. Hon. Hubert Ingraham, MP, sponsored a holiday party for the children. The children gathered at the basketball court and were treated to hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks and ice cream. The members of the volunteer fire department assisted with the food by doing all the grilling. Mr. Ingraham made an appearance during the party to present gifts to the children. He was looking healthy and relaxed just days after undergoing a surgical procedure. The little ones climbed onto his lap to receive and unwrap their gifts. A special thank you to Mr. Ingraham and all those who made the party possible.

People in the News

Mr. Lloyd Sawyer died in Nassau on December 21st. His funeral was held on December 27, exactly five years after he suffered a stroke that left him disabled. The service was held at the New Plymouth Gospel Chapel. Mr. Sawyer is survived by his wife, brothers and their spouses: Lorna and Thomas Sawyer, Curtis Curry, Junior Roberts, Edison Sawyer and Arnie Vinnick.

Congratulations to Brendal Stevens and Lynn Johnson on their nomination for Cacique awards. Brendal operates Brendal’s Dive Center and Lynn Johnson is the manager of Green Turtle Yacht Club. Both Lynn and Brendal play an important part in tourism on our island. Good luck at the award ceremony which will be held in Freeport at the end of January. Now we move into 2005 and we all have our own plans and hopes for the new year. One hope that we all share is for a hurricane free year. But when we see the devastation caused by the tsunami in Asia, we can all count our blessings!

It took group work to replace the sign welcoming newcomers to Green Turtle Cay after it was blown down during the September storms. The volunteers replacing the signs and flagpoles were Reggie Sawyer, Keith Sawyer, Thomas Sawyer, Curtis Curry, Junior Roberts, Edison Sawyer and Arnie Vinnick.

More News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 3

The AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

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

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

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

Happy New Year to all. And congratulations to the editor and publisher on their nomination for a Cacique award!! Good luck!

Hope Town Recovers

By Lindsey Delaplaine

Abaco Inn Is Up and Running

After being closed for two and a half months due to hurricane damage, the Abaco Inn reopened in late November and is fully operational.

John Head bought the Abaco Inn in 1999 just before Hurricane Floyd struck. Renovations for the Inn were already planned, but Floyd got the process jump-started with the destruction he caused.

This fall Mr. Head also had planned to do some work on the Inn, a general facelift and a coat of new paint for the outside. Mother Nature had other plans. "I didn’t want these hurricanes,” Mr. Head said with a rueful smile. “I didn’t want the last one, but I really didn’t want these two."

Hurricane Frances struck first from the ocean side. She filled the pool with sand, took out all of the ocean side landscaping, damaged roofs, the main building of the Inn, the ocean side rooms and flipped a deck.

In the end, it took group work to replace the sign welcoming newcomers to Green Turtle Cay after it was blown down during the September storms. The volunteers replacing the signs and flagpoles were Reggie Sawyer, Keith Sawyer, Thomas Sawyer, Curtis Curry, Junior Roberts, Edison Sawyer and Arnie Vinnick.

Congratulations to Brendal Stevens and Lynn Johnson on their nomination for Cacique awards. Brendal operates Brendal’s Dive Center and Lynn Johnson is the manager of Green Turtle Yacht Club. Both Lynn and Brendal play an important part in tourism on our island. Good luck at the award ceremony which will be held in Freeport at the end of January.

Now we move into 2005 and we all have our own plans and hopes for the new year. One hope that we all share is for a hurricane free year. But when we see the devastation caused by the tsunami in Asia, we can all count our blessings!

Man-O-War Hardware

Non-Corrosive Hardware

An Extensive Selection of

Brass, Stainless & Monel

Bolts, Nails & Screws

Hinges & Barrel Bolts

Stainless Steel

Hurricane Clips

For quotes or information

Call Walter Sweeting • Arthur Elden

Man-O-War Cay, Abaco, Bahamas

Ph: (242) 365-6011 • Fax 365-6039

The Best Connection to Abaco

Conveniently located near

Interstate 95 at 1489 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Riviera Beach, FL 561-844-8306

Consistent and personal customer service

Less-than-container load, Refrigerated and Consolidation Services

Saturday departure and Sunday arrival, ready for Monday pick-up

Full Container Load Services including expanded area of cutting equipment positioning through-out the southeast United States

We provide fenced and secure docksides and parking in Marsh Harbour

Marsh Harbour Lane

Local Agent: Marsh Harbour Shipping Company

P.O. Box AB 20777 242-367-3341 Fax: 242-367-4885

Ray Weatherford, Shelly Russell and John Bethell

Please see Cays

Page 5
EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS

#2150
Commercial Acreage
Marsh Harbour

Call for Price
Located on Key Club road in Marsh Harbour is approx. 6.5 acres of prime real estate. This property is situated in a very quiet, residential area & faces the ocean with great views of the neighboring cays. This spectacular lot has over 450 ft. of waterfront w/ 50 ft elevations. This lot has great potential & could be used for a subdivison or commercial business.

#2136
‘Peek-A-View’
Hope Town

$868,000.00
One of the finest homes on Elbow Cay & overlooking the beautiful crystal blue Atlantic Ocean. Centrally located on the island, ‘Peek-a-View’ is a great choice for a second or retiring home. The property is beautifully landscaped & the home is open & spacious. This 4 bed, 3 1/2 bath home has a large, open kitchen, Jacuzzi tub & his & her closets in the master suite.

#2147
‘Clifford Sawyer House’
Hope Town

$810,000.00
This magnificent property is comprised of three lots. A gorgeous 2 bed, 2 bath cottage w/ all new quality furniture, state-of-the-art kitchen appliances, computer, television & new laundry facilities. The house also has new septic, cistern, IPE decking, & new hurricane windows. The entire house has also been re-roofed. Must be seen to truly appreciate all of its wonderful features.

#2174
Turtle Rocks
Marsh Harbour

UNDER CONTRACT
$195,000.00
Located just off the Abaco Highway approx. 2 miles south of Leisure Lee is this great parcel of land. This prime beachfront listing offers 2.37 acres, featuring 104 ft. of frontage on the beautiful beach & 125 ft. on the road. This lot also offers 30 foot elevations w/ magnificent views of the Salt of Abaco & the neighboring cays.

#2172
Bahama Palm Shores

$156,000.00
Located just 20 minutes from Marsh Harbour in beautiful Bahama Palm Shores is this great parcel of land, just across the street is the beautiful eight mile beach. This property is approx. 22,000 sq. ft. & is the perfect spot for your island dreamhouse. The community of Bahama Palm Shores offers second home owners & full-time residents a personal atmosphere.

#2171
Bahama Palm Shores

$89,000.00
This offering consists of three consecutive lots on Banyan Tree Drive in beautiful Bahama Palm Shores. Priced to sell at a mere $89,000 you can build your home on one lot and keep two for future use or resale. Only a short walk from the beach, this property is an excellent buy. Call our office or make an appointment today.

#2167
Little Orchard
Marsh Harbour

UNDER CONTRACT
$460,000.00
This cozy little 3 bed, 2 bath home is located on 1 acre of prime waterfront property. Spacious living & dining, beautifully renovated & modern kitchen which features custom cabinetry & Corian countertops. Beautiful views of the Sea of Abaco & the neighbouring cays. The yard is landscaped & well maintained & features fruit bearing trees & other native plants.

#2168
Beautiful Wooded Lot
Marsh Harbour

$144,000.00
This lot is located near Fry’s Mangrove on Elbow Cay. It is situated between the Sea of Abaco & a creek making it an ideal location for nature lovers & boating enthusiasts. The property is approx. 41,000 sq. ft. & is just a few minutes from Hope Town. This is a great investment opportunity for those that want their own little piece of paradise.

#2166
‘Bea’s Nest’
Man-O-War Cay

$1,400,000.00
‘Bea’s Nest’ offers 5 bed & 4 bath w/ numerous porches. Large open kitchen w/ adjacent family room w/ beautiful ocean views. Above the kitchen is a second-story loft that can be used as a home office. 2 beds are detached from the main house offering separate entries, perfect for visiting guests. Beautifully landscaped, includes a pool, cabana & spa tub.

#2170
Little Orchard
Marsh Harbour

$460,000.00
This cozy little 3 bed, 2 bath home is located on 1 acre of prime waterfront property. Spacious living & dining, beautifully renovated & modern kitchen which features custom cabinetry & Corian countertops. Beautiful views of the Sea of Abaco & the neighbouring cays. The yard is landscaped & well maintained & features fruit bearing trees & other native plants.

#2168
Beautiful Wooded Lot
Marsh Harbour

$144,000.00
This lot is located near Fry’s Mangrove on Elbow Cay. It is situated between the Sea of Abaco & a creek making it an ideal location for nature lovers & boating enthusiasts. The property is approx. 41,000 sq. ft. & is just a few minutes from Hope Town. This is a great investment opportunity for those that want their own little piece of paradise.

#2171
Bahama Palm Shores

$89,000.00
This offering consists of three consecutive lots on Banyan Tree Drive in beautiful Bahama Palm Shores. Priced to sell at a mere $89,000 you can build your home on one lot and keep two for future use or resale. Only a short walk from the beach, this property is an excellent buy. Call our office or make an appointment today.

Call for an appointment today. To view all of our Bahamas Listings go to www.grahamrealestate.com
Harbour’s Edge still has its characteristic look but a great amount of work has gone into repairing the damage that Hurricane Jeanne caused. Apparently the surge that came in the harbour built up in that corner of Hope Town Harbour destroying the deck and interior of Harbour’s Edge while the wind did great damage to the roof. As soon as kitchen equipment arrives, the business can be fully functional once again.

Opening of Harbour’s Edge is Still Unknown

No date has been set for the re-opening of Harbour’s Edge. Although the Edge had a successful New Year’s Eve opening of the bar, the entire kitchen area had to be redone, and the kitchen repaired, the deck around the pool shored up, the dining room re-tiled and a lot of new paint was applied. Although four people are still working to finish up details around the Inn, Mr. Head says everything looks good.

After a tremendous amount of work the Abaco Inn in White Sound, Elbow Cay, is once more completely open for business. The small resort with 22 rooms, a restaurant, bar and other amenities is beautifully situated between the Atlantic Ocean and the Abaco Sound. It took a terrible beating from Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne but is now completely recovered.

Contractors - Ask about our special price schedule

More News of the Cays
The Natural You, located in the Colina Building, opened its doors on December 22nd just in time for Christmas. The Natural You specializes in health and beauty products such as Spirel Real for women, Spirel Gold for men, Spirel C highly recommended for children and BioSlim, a natural energy supplement for men and women. Owner Pastor Stephen Knowles, President of the Abaco Christian Council, said this store came about because of his life changing experience with Spirulina found in Cuba two years ago. He wanted to share this product with persons here on Abaco. The health and beauty shop also carries natural Cuban honey, honey with royal jelly, honey and propolis candles and BioSlim Body Tea. Assisting Pastor Knowles in the store is his wife, Judith Knowles, and you can reach them at telephone 367-0538.

Fine Dining Restaurant and Club Solid Gold is Abaco’s newest place for dining and dancing. Located near the airport on Don MacKay Boulevard., this 6500 square foot building took two years to complete. The restaurant and club opened for business on December 31st and December 17th respectively. Owner, Mr. Marcus Duncombe, said they would have opened sooner if there were not setbacks due to the two hurricanes. The atmosphere in the restaurant is casual but elegant and their specialty is Bahamian and American cuisine. The Fine Dining Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Club Solid Gold is open Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from 9 p.m. until. Admission is $15 for men and $10 for women and no one under 18 years old is allowed. Thursday night is Ladies Night and all ladies are admitted free until 11 p.m. Ladies have a chance to win $100 if their name is pulled from the grab bag. Dance the night away to the sounds of DJ Scarface. The classy club features a VIP lounge, two bars, a stage, dance floor and many disco and spotlights. If you think you have what it takes, then why not perform at Karaoke Night on Sunday. The dress code for the club is relaxed but no tennis shoes, hats, flip flops or bare-feet are allowed. Proprietors Marcus and Val Duncombe have worked in the restaurant business for many years. They are also the owners of Dis We Style restaurant. Telephone them at 367-0544.

On the S.C. Boodle Highway near the Bucic Light Bishop Store is Smart Concrete Creations, which specializes in concrete tables, benches, bird baths, stepping stones and more. All products are made on the premise. The concrete can be painted in various colours. Business hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday. The business is owned by Ms. Justina Winder.

Recycle Aluminum Cans
Bins Located at Abaco Shopping Centre & near Solomon’s Super Center

Quality Star Auto Service Station And Garage
Don MacKay Blvd., Marsh Harbour
THE PLACE FOR YOUR ENTIRE AUTOMOBILE AND TRUCK NEEDS
We stock a wide variety of parts and tyres.
If you need an item that is not in stock, we will quickly import it for you.
Open: 7 am - 8 pm Friday and Saturday
7 am - 7 pm Monday thru Thursday
Tel: (242) 367-2978

Flights Increase over Holiday Season
The beautifully designed and decorated 3000 square foot aviation centre houses a VIP lounge for Winding Bay. Cherokee Aviation lounge, weather-room for pilots and Bahama Customs and Immigration offices. The Abaco Club on Winding Bay rents a portion of the property and there has been interest by others who wish to use this facility. The 60 foot by 75 foot hangar is used to house Cherokee Air’s two aircraft: a Cessna Caravvan and a Piper Arnez. The company is in the process of expanding its ramp for parking.

Cut Islands Finest Vacation Homes
Waterfront Properties • New Marina Rentals & Sales

Top Hibernation
1 Purple Porpoise Place
Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas
Phone 242-366-0224 • Fax 242-366-0434

TREASURE CAY
120’ ELEVATION, BREATHTAKING OCEAN VIEW. THE PLACE TO BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME. CALL FOR DETAILS

TREASURE CAY
2 ADJACENT LOTS ON GOLF COURSE. PRICED AT $35,000 EACH.

CHEROKEE HILLTOP
100’ ELEVATION, BREATHTAKING OCEAN VIEW LOT. CALL FOR PRICING

ELBOW CAY
100’ ELEVATION. BREATHTAKING OCEAN VIEW LOT. CALL FOR PRICING

OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING ON THE DOOR.

Do you need Assistance with a Listing or a Purchase?
Do you have a Farm or a Vacation Home that needs to be sold?
Do you need to Change your Address?

Stop by our Office, we will do our best to help you.

ERIKA FESZTZ RUSSELL, Tel: 242-366-0440
MARSH HARBOUR/HOPETOWN
erika@eradupuch.com

www.erabahamas.com
Cherokee Sound
By Lee Pinder
Quite A Show
Cherokee brought in the New Year with a really spectacular fireworks display that I’m sure could be seen in nearby Yellow Wood, Castrumara Point, atop Cherokee Hill and maybe even Windindg Bay and Little Harbour.

Starting with the popping up of Guy Fawkes just before sunset (11 guys this year but in years past I have seen as many as 15) the evening started off with a real bang. Some of them are even given personal names such as Ben Laden, Fiddlestix or maybe even Lucifer. As the darkness sets in, the Guys are all set astride and the crowd patiently waits to see who will burn the longest. Some may celebrate Guy Fawkes Day on November 5th each year, but traditionally it takes place in Cherokee on New Year’s Eve. No one seems to know just when it got started and goes back as far as most people can remember.

Then comes the fireworks, and everyone was talking about how beautiful they were and what a great display they made in the night sky. We always seem to have a few tourists and visitors around this time of the night sky. We always seem to have a really spectacular fireworks display that one was talking about how beautiful they were and what a great display they made in the night sky. We always seem to have a few tourists and visitors around this time of year and, in fact, many make a point to return every year just so they can experience this local happening. Some have come for the first time and this year they were and what a great display they made in the night sky. We always seem to have a few tourists and visitors around this time of year and, in fact, many make a point to return every year just so they can experience this local happening. Some have come for the first time and this year they really had to admit it was quite a show. Before the evening is over, someone is bound to offer you a bowl of wild boar or chicken souse so you can see why a nice cold night really makes it a little more special, plus, it keeps the mosquitoes away. You’ll see lots of people wandering about in the crowd that gathers at The Spit. Before the night is over, everyone has a real pain in the neck from staring upwards to watch the fantastic fireworks being fired off.

Watch Night service at Epworth Chapel starts at 11 p.m. and gathers many of the faithful for the last church service of the year. Promptly at midnight our famous canon is set off to bring in the new year with a bang. The old year is past and a new one is before us and we are all hoping it will be a little better than the last one.

Condolences
Our deepest sympathies to the family of Millicent Lucille Russell who passed away on December 31, 2004. Born in Cherokee to James Austin and Annis Gertrude McDonald on the November 26, 1924, Ms. Millie married Richard Russell of Hope Town and they lived most of their married life in Nassau. However, since losing her husband over 20 years ago, she returned to Cherokee with her daughter Annette where she has remained active in the community and her church until very recently when she required in-home help. She is survived by her daughter, son-in-law, three grandchildren and many other family members and friends. Her funeral was held at the local Assemblies of God Church where he was remembered fondly and was laid to rest in the Cherokee Cemetery. Our sincere sympathies to his family.

A Big Winner
Cherokee Food Fair held a local raffle for their customers over the holidays with an 7.5 cubic foot chest freezer as the big prize. The lucky winner was 10-year-old Tyler Albury, the oldest son of Evelyn and Terry Albury, a local construction worker and fisherman.

Weather Changes
Cool crisp “sweater” weather prevailed over the holidays and kept the fishermen on shore. But the winds have shifted and we are again experiencing balmy breezes and lovely warm sunshine. However, again we are plagued by no rain; for some reason the skies threaten, then the clouds just move out and around us. Since the hurricanes Cherokee has received only about five inches of rainfall where normally we should have received twice that amount. It has not been nearly enough to turn the lawns green again. The garden keeps progressing with a little extra help from the garden hose, though, and I’ve never seen so many healthy lush tomatoes. And my herbs are taking over everything. We still need to be mindful of our water usage and try to be conservative. Hopefully, government will realize our urgent needs for water before it is too late and bring in the water lines that we have been promised since before the PLP took office.

Fishermen Return to Their Traps
After the storms the sea was too churned up and muddy for the fishermen to make a decent voyage. Every few days they sent...
Mark Your Calendars
Man-o-War’s Flea Market Will Be February 19

By Jennifer Hudson
Capt. Cyril Roker, Officer in Charge of the Port Department in Marsh Harbour, was recently selected to attend a course on Port Management and Operations in Singapore. Twenty five places were offered and information was sent out to 50 countries. The best qualified applicants were accepted and Capt. Roker was selected on the strength of his qualifications and achievements in the maritime field. He attended the two-week course from November 29th to December 10th at a government owned training institute.

PSA Singapore operates the world’s largest transshipment hub, handling about one fifth of the world’s total container transshipments and daily sailings are made to every major port in the world. Capt. Roker was very impressed with the way in which business was carried out at this major hub and described it as “very advanced.”

PSA Singapore’s multi-purpose terminal provides a host of port-related logistics solutions, from warehousing and open storage facilities to value-adding services for a wide range of cargo types including containers, heavy equipment, project cargo, vehicles, steelworks, traditional bagged and palletised commodi- ties. It is also a leader in applying technol- ogy to make operations even more ef- ficient, speedy and seamless for users and at the same time cutting down on man-power and utilizing more skilled labour.

The company lends all this expertise to assist small island development states in Port Operation and Management. To reach these high standards PSA Singapore has faced many challenges and it is their aim to show other countries their way of dealing with the problems along the way in order to reach that level. The Bahamian government has plans in motion to develop a Port Authority within one year which would include Nassau and Marsh Harbour under one umbrella as they have done with Civil Aviation. This will be patterned after PSA Singapore.

Port Director Took Course in Singapore

Walkway Is Still Hazardous

Nearly four months after Hurricane Jeanne destroyed the boardwalk between Mungoes and Harbour View Marina, it still presents a danger to strangers at night. It has been barricaded with a rope at times helping to warn pedestrians of the hazard. It is in the “tourist strip” in Marsh Harbour which has heavy pedestrian traffic.

January 15, 2005  The Abaconian  Page 9 B
Is your property being marketed to the elite CyberStars network group of realtors?

Call us SANDRA J EVANS
Ph: 242-367-2365
www.abacorealtor.com

Fire Destroys House over Christmas

By Portia Jonsson

Around 6 p.m. on December 26th a wooden one-room house belonging to Roy Delancey of Old Town, Spring City, burned to the ground. At the time of the fire, Mr. Delancey was busy in the Junkanoo shack pasting costumes for the parade.

By the time he was told about the house fire and arrived at his home, it was too late. The house was completely destroyed and there was nothing he could do. Roy lost everything including his musical instruments. He now lives with his father in Spring City. It has not been determined what caused the fire.

Congratulations to Clara Alcime

Clara graduated from Barry University on December 19, 2004. She received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. In her last semester at Barry, she obtained a grade point average of 4.0 and graduated with honor of Summa Cum Laude and an overall GPA 3.92. Clara is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma and Alpha Chi honor societies. She is also a member of the Delta Sigma Pi International Business Fraternity and served as the Vice President of the Chapter Operations for the Mu Sigma Chapter.

Best Wishes and Love from the Alcime Family

J & J ELECTRIC
BILL JOHNSTON
MIKE JORGENSEN
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPECIALISTS

P.O. BOX 20413 • MARSH HARBOUR • ABACO • BAHAMAS
E-mail: abacobill@batelnet.bs

Chris Thompson Real Estate

“One Offering the Islands Most Exclusive Listings”

One Purple Porpoise Place, Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas

ph 242.366.0216 fax 242.366.0223

* Private Islands * Waterfront Homes and Land
* Investment Property * Acreage * Project/Property Management
Complete Service from Sales to Construction
***** Exclusive Agents for Matt Lowe’s Cay *****
www.ChrisThompsonRealEstate.com

Chris Thompson Greg Roberts
**Treasure Cay** - Immaculate 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,400 sq.ft., elevated hexagonal villa. Two Decks provide limitless beach and sea views. Swimming pool with waterfalls. Complete renovation and professionally decorated. Listed in a storage room in pole below. #AB132 - NEW LISTING $357,500.

**Treasure House - 92**

**Carrington Cay**

**Coral Cay**

**Sugar Apple**

**Final Approach**

**B-Team**

**Treasure Cay** - Barrettine Bay - 6 bedroom, 4 1/2 baths, 5,200 sq.ft. Canal-front home on two levels - 100’ Dock with 6’ depth. Four car garage. Great family home or Corporate retreat. fully and tastefully Furnished. #AB120 - NEW LISTING $2,400,000.

**Galway Cay** - 4 Bedroom, 3 bath, 4,000 sq.ft. Canal-front home with 1,200 sq.ft. of open and covered decks situated over 1/4 acre. 48’ long along private dockiei. Beautifully furnished with great Sea of Abaco Views. #AB147 - $1,395,000.

**Great Guana Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay and North Abaco**

**Pelican Point**

**Sea View**

**Little Hog Cay**

**Casu Slrere**

**Man-O-War Cay** - Charming, exquisite, traditional Bahamian home on over 1/4 acre. 1 bedroom, 1 bath 1,800 sq.ft. Two screened porches. 249 sq.ft. “Snorer Box” with 1/2 bath and attached workshop. Crown roof for great ocean views. Private boat mooring. Furnished. #AB111 - NEW LISTING $475,000.

**Marsh Harbour** - Great Abaco Club - 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 1,400 sq.ft. of living space. Private Dock Slip. Spectacular Views of the Sea of Abaco Fully Furnished and Equipped - Great Rental Income Producer. #AB68 - $855,000.

**Great Guana Cay** - 38 Acre private Island - Great Beaches - 2 bedroom, 1 bath residence, 2 Guest Cottages, Carribean’s Cottage, Bare, Tennis Court, Sea Plane Ramp, Boat Basin with Boat Lift, Boat Ramps, Brackenlace protected Dock, Solar Power and generators 6 All 19

**Ceylon’s Isle/Rosewood** - 50 years remaining on a 99 year lease. #AB123 - NEW LISTING $2,000,000.

**Marsh Harbour, Central Cays and South Abaco**

**Great Guana Cay - Colonial plantation style 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 3,900 sq.ft. home. 400 sq.ft. dock house with screened porch. On an extremely private 3/4 acre point. 170’ of deep water frontage with dock. Mature Natilising Landscape. Superb Sea of Abaco Views. #AB125 - $1,300,000.

**Marsh Harbour** - “Plum Loco” - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,228 sq.ft. home on almost 1/2 acre with 100’ of beautiful beachfront. Furnished and fully equipped. #AB153 - UNDER CONTRACT.

**Treasure Cay** - “Jen Burns” - 4 bedroom, 3 bath - 2,610 sq.ft. home on two floors, 750 sq.ft. of Open sundeck on upper level. 750 sq.ft. of porch on lower - almost 3/4 Acre - on Gallion Bay Canal - Private Dock - Fully Furnished. #AB172 - $2,970,000.

**Treasure Cay - Treasure Cay Drive - "Stinker House" - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2,200 sq.ft. home on two levels - upper level deck - almost 1/2 Acre - Great Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home. Fully furnished. #AB116 - $2,925,000.

**Sand Banks Creek** - “Chenys Drive” - 2 bedroom, 2 bath new home + 1/2 Bath/25’ boat lift. Fully Furnished. #AB111 - $1,355,000.

**Great Guana Cay** - 20 acre private island. 1,000’ of glorious lagoon with fabulous crescent beach. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath home, Cabana, protected dock-slipway 50 years remaining on a 99 year lease. #AB126 - NEW LISTING - $2,800,000.

**Marsh Harbour** - “Endless Summer” - 4 bedroom, 3 baths, 2,700 sq.ft. Home. Private Dock with boat lift on the Sea of Abaco. Some of the most beautiful panoramic views in Abaco. Across the road from Beach. Fully Furnished. #AB118 - $1,500,000.

**Marsh Harbour** - “Lighthouses” - Commercial - Almost 2 Acres - Prime Queen Elizabeth Drive Location, near stores, shops, 4,600 sq.ft. Store or residential. #AB175 - UNDER CONTRACT.

**Marsh Harbour** - Commercial - 1,000’ of deep water frontage on 3 acres. #AB121 - $1,635,000.

**Elbow Cay** - Damon Cove - 3 bedroom, 2 baths, 2,100 sq.ft residence with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath - 1,100 sq.ft guest house. Southeastern point of island. Swimming Pool - Private boat slip. Superb ocean and views. Furnished. #AB112 - NEW PRICE $1,755,000.

**Curtain Cay** - 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,000 sq.ft., elevated hexagonal villa. Lush landscaping, a myriad of fruit trees. Fully furnished and equipped. #AB111 - $730,000.

**Marsh Harbour** - Eastern Shore “Endless Summer” - 4 bedroom, 3 baths, 2,700 sq.ft. Home. Private Dock with boat lift on the Sea of Abaco. Some of the most beautiful panoramic views in Abaco. Across the road from Beach. Fully Furnished. #AB118 - $1,500,000.

**Northern Abacos** - 20 acre private island. 1,000’ of glorious lagoon with fabulous crescent beach. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath home, Cabana, protected dock-slipway 50 years remaining on a 99 year lease. #AB126 - NEW LISTING - $2,800,000.
Central Abaco Council 5 Oct 2004

Council met October 5 after a three month lapse from the last meeting on June 29. The primary business was to review the 2004/2005 fiscal statement prepared by Chief Councillor Mills for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. This amount does not include approximately $360,000 allocated to Dundas Town, Murphy Town and Marsh Harbour townships for their routine maintenance.

Council members reviewed the amounts requested last spring for the various line items or cost centers without comment. Experience with the realities of two hurricanes may require some shifting of priorities.

Maintenance of the dump is a major contract item normally running over $60,000 per year. Council is now three months into the new fiscal year but a contract for dump maintenance was not on the agenda and was not discussed.

The dump becomes congested quickly with all the excess hurricane and construction debris being taken there. Councillor Carl Archer did ask that the Hope Town District contribute to the dump maintenance since garbage from Guana Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Elbow Cay make up a substantial part of the dump workload. Mention was made of the need to provide garbage collection of some sort for the Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Elbow Cay make up a substantial part of the dump workload. Mention was made of the need to provide garbage collection of some sort for the Mud and Pigeon Peas settlements. Door-to-door collection would not be feasible but it was suggested that dumpsters or bulk containers could be positioned at several entrance points. No action was taken as there were no funds for this.

Maintenance was not on the agenda and was not discussed.

Mrs. Key asked for Administrator Rolle’s assistance in getting the documents from Crown Lands related to the land where the donated pavilion is to be located. She has all other documents in order ready to acquire the land. The issue of golf carts in Marsh Harbour was brought up again with suggestions for new measures to control them. It was generally felt that the carts were not appropriately on the Marsh Harbour roads.

Administrator Rolle suggested that the bills be sent to NEMA to remove the fallen trees at the Crossing Bridge and NEMA will be asked to assist with this cost.

Additional steps will be taken to eliminate littering and drinking outside a prominent liquor store in Marsh Harbour in late afternoon and early evening. Further, the conditions of operation for the business will be reviewed when the license is renewed at the end of 2004.

Combined Boards 20 Oct 04

Administrator Rolle convened a combined meeting of all the statutory boards to express government’s desire to facilitate and expedite recovery of the business community. Mr. Rolle explained that it is the multitude of small businesses that make up the backbone of the economy. They may be small and inconspicuous but collectively they are very important.

A complaint was heard from a member of the Licensing Board that license applications are frequently deferred due to inaction by either the Police, Works or Environmental Health as each of these agencies must give prior approval.

It was brought out that each applicant must have a premise for his business.

Are you building a new home in ABAKO? Let PROBUYERS INC. help

I have over 10 years experience building fine custom homes in the Abaco’s and now I am providing consultative and purchasing services to help keep costs in line and your project moving on time.

CALL ME! I CAN SAVE YOU MONEY AND EASE YOUR STRESS!

ANDREW CURRY - Ph: 561-207-6870 - Fax: 561-626-5222
e-mail: emacurry@man.com
More Local Government at Work

Central Abaco Town Planning 25 Oct 04

Since the last meeting on July 29, twenty-nine applications with a declared value of $2,743,784 have accumulated for approval. Most were of a residential nature and 16 were approved. Three were deferred for further information.

Murphy Town Committee 27 Oct 04

A list of street names and corresponding signs was reviewed and approved. Another attempt will be made to get the signs from the Works Department in Nassau. Committee Chairman Cubel Davis, Jr., complained to Administrator Rolle that Dundas Town was getting much more attention and relief supplies through the efforts of Chief Councillor Cay Mills than Murphy Town. He felt that the Chief Councillor was using his position for the benefit of his Dundas Town constituents to the detriment of Murphy Town. Chief Councillor Mills objected to this saying he was not a dictator but in his position as Chief Councillor it was his right to review the invoices before they were presented. The motion to table the invoices was seconded. Mr. Mills objected to this dictatorial method of conducting the meeting. He took the folder with the invoices and left the meeting. Deputy Chairman Cubel Davis, Jr., took the position as Chairman.

Bids were opened for dump maintenance. They ranged from $42,000 to $132,000 annually. The bids were not consistent regarding the service they were providing.

It was agreed that the present dump requirements exceeded the work load in normal times and any contractor awarded the contract would not be expected to bring the dump to an acceptable level. The two recent hurricanes have created a huge amount of debris to be contend with.

Additional debris is being generated by Winding Bay and Hope Town’s new trash removal system which ends up in the Marsh Harbour dump. No decision was made on awarding the contract.

Get more for less

Central Abaco Town Planning 25 Oct 04

More Local Government at Work

Central Abaco Town Planning 25 Oct 04

Since the last meeting on July 29, twenty-nine applications with a declared value of $2,743,784 have accumulated for approval. Most were of a residential nature and 16 were approved. Three were deferred for further information.

Murphy Town Committee 27 Oct 04

A list of street names and corresponding signs was reviewed and approved. Another attempt will be made to get the signs from the Works Department in Nassau. Committee Chairman Cubel Davis, Jr., complained to Administrator Rolle that Dundas Town was getting much more attention and relief supplies through the efforts of Chief Councillor Cay Mills than Murphy Town. He felt that the Chief Councillor was using his position for the benefit of his Dundas Town constituents to the detriment of Murphy Town.

Chief Councillor Mills objected to this saying he was not a dictator but in his position as Chief Councillor it was his right to review the invoices before they were presented. The motion to table the invoices was seconded. Mr. Mills objected to this dictatorial method of conducting the meeting. He took the folder with the invoices and left the meeting. Deputy Chairman Cubel Davis, Jr., took the position as Chairman.

Bids were opened for dump maintenance. They ranged from $42,000 to $132,000 annually. The bids were not consistent regarding the service they were providing.

It was agreed that the present dump requirements exceed the work load in normal times and any contractor awarded the contract would not be expected to bring the dump to an acceptable level. The two recent hurricanes have created a huge amount of debris to be contend with.

Additional debris is being generated by Winding Bay and Hope Town’s new trash removal system which ends up in the Marsh Harbour dump. No decision was made on awarding the contract.

Get more for less

Quarter, half and full cases and bales. Cash & carry and wholesale bulk buying means you always get more, for less at Abaco Wholesale.
**Sport News**

**Abaco Youth in Action**

_by Isobel Sherman_

Once again the teams of Abaco Youth in Action were victorious over teams on Grand Bahama. Last year the boys’ teams in basketball and baseball traveled to Grand Bahama to participate in tournaments and came home winners. This year on December 17 an A and B team consisting of boys ages 15 and under traveled to Grand Bahama to participate in a soccer tournament. They have been practicing under the watchful eyes of Coach Patrice Charles every Saturday for over a month. According to Mrs. Elva Davis, who along with her husband Mr. Lynden Davis, began Abaco Youth in Action last year, both teams played extremely well. In her words: “We killed Freeport.”

The first game was held on December 17th. The Grand Bahama Soccer All Stars were defeated by the Abaco Youth in Action A team 3-2. On December 18 games were played all day. These games were called “9 a side” since 9 players were on each team or side. Once again both A and B teams of Abaco Youth in Action dominated and took all of the games.

On Saturday evening once again the Abaco Youth in Action A team went up against the Grand Bahama All Stars. This time in Mrs. Davis’ words, “Abaco destroyed the Grand Bahama team.” The score was a resounding 3-0. Mrs. Davis gave credit to the coaching of Coach Charles, who was unable to travel to Grand Bahama; but the boys carried out the skills they learned from Coach Charles to perfection.

**S.C. Bootle Sports**

_by Jim Richards_

It was a victorious win! The S.C. Bootle High School Dynamic Dolphins Boys Soccer Team defeated the Marlins of Abaco Central High School in a thrilling soccer match for the championship. S.C. Bootle’s own Wesley Dernesthene scored two goals, standing up to the meaning of the word dynamic. The Captain, Nelson Joseph, also played exceptionally well. The school is also proud of the girls team which placed second.

A special thanks goes to our coaches, Mr. Scott and Mr. Joe. We are expecting big things from these teams in the year to come!

**Abaco School Soccer**

_by Isobel Sherman_

The first Abaco School Sports Association Championship Soccer games for both boys and girls were held on December 15. The Girls Soccer Team of Abaco Central High School played the girls’ team from S.C. Bootle High School from Cooper’s Town. The game was held in Treasure Cay. The Abaco Central girls won 3-0. This brought to a close the high school soccer season which involved competition between St. Frances de Sales School, S.C. Bootle and Abaco Central. On the next day the boys’ soccer team of Abaco Central played the team from S.C. Bootle for the Boys Soccer Championship. The Abaco Central boys won the right to the championship game after a score of 0-0. Mrs. Davis gave credit to the coaching of Coach Charles. who was unable to travel to Grand Bahama; but the boys carried out the skills they learned from Coach Charles to perfection.

**S.C. Bootle Sports**

_by Isobel Sherman_

The first Abaco School Sports Association Championship Soccer games for both boys and girls were held on December 15. The Girls Soccer Team of Abaco Central High School played the girls’ team from S.C. Bootle High School from Cooper’s Town. The game was held in Treasure Cay. The Abaco Central girls won 3-0. This brought to a close the high school soccer season which involved competition between St. Frances de Sales School, S.C. Bootle and Abaco Central. On the next day the boys’ soccer team of Abaco Central played the team from S.C. Bootle for the Boys Soccer Championship. The Abaco Central boys won the right to the championship game after a score of 0-0. Mrs. Davis gave credit to the coaching of Coach Charles, who was unable to travel to Grand Bahama; but the boys carried out the skills they learned from Coach Charles to perfection.

**34 amazing home sites near Cherokee and Winding Bay! Get in now!**

**SOLD**

Aisle of Palm Realty

416 Eighty Road Marsh Harbour Abaco

Email: brent@aisleofpalmrealty.com

Fax 242-367-0081

Phone 242-367-0080

web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

**Sandy Point 1105 - Bayfront Ledge**

Located on the beach with 10 rooms, large dining room and kitchen, just minutes to the flats.

**Coral Point - 1007 - Two adjacent parcels of land approx. 1.5 acres each with 40’ elevations and 130’ of waterfront. One parcel is vacant, other has partially completed home of 3/2.

**Hope Town 1109 - Two story building in the heart of town with 2 bedroom apartment upstairs and two commercial rental units downstairs.**

**Bahama Palm Shores Seven lotancoastline lot listing at $15,000. Bahama Palm is HOT! HOT!**

**Also available are interior lots with views of Cherokee Sound and the flats. Under-ground utilities and paved roads coming soon.**

**Girls’ soccer team of S.C. Bootle High School did very well in the Abaco championship games coming in second.**

This area of Abaco is one of the fastest growing locations with The Abaco Club at Winding Bay just one mile away. Lots start at $27,500.
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**FROM COLDWELL BANKER**

**LIGHTBOURN REALTY**

www.coldwellbankerbahamas.com

Treasure Cay, Abaco- “New Exclusives” -Luxury Homes

Luxury Home “A”, features 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, 12’ ceilings and custom made kitchen cabinets. Also features a study, and 2 car garage. $3,400,000

Luxury Home “B”, Features 4 bedrooms, 4 ½ baths, 14’ ceilings, and custom made kitchen cabinets. Boasts of a study, and a 2 car garage. $3,700,000

These two superbly built, luxury homes, feature the finest in craftsmanship. Beautiful and strong, these two Treasure Cay beauties are immaculate, beautifully decorated, and tastefully furnished. These homes are waiting on the buyer who want the very best in life.

Precisely positioned on gorgeous beachfront property, both fine structures, demand the glorious view of the turquoise water, and powder white sandy beach. Nicely landscaped and brand new, they are awaiting their lucky owner! Don’t delay and miss your opportunity to own ‘A Perfect Paradise’! CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

---

**NEW EXCLUSIVE**

**Sweetings Village-#5224-Two bed/2bath**

1400 sq ft island property, immaculate condition. Excellent elevation. Built in 2001 and has lovely views of the Sea of Abaco. $325,000

**NEW PRICE**

**Sweetings Village-#5225. Brand new 2bed/2bath concrete residence. Elevated and comprises of approx 1000 sq ft. Also includes hobby room and outside decking $230,000.**

**Marsh Harbour-#5220. Large Parcel of property 100’ X 278’ with two concrete warehouses, would be ideal for certain commercial adventure. Property fenced in. Call today for more details.**

---

**SOLD**

**Marsh Harbour-New Price-#5105- 4 bedroom 2bath located on Don Mackay Blvd. Prime area for a commercial venture. 26,313 sq ft of property. Great central location- $206,000 PRICED TO SELL.**

**Guania Cay, Boat Harbour-Vacant property featuring water on both sides.Accessible by boat only.**

**Man-O-War, Dickies Cay-#5234. This home consist of .3beds ½ bath. Modern kitchen, laundry room and living area. Features a dock with boat shed and a boat lift Call for more details.**

**Boat Harbour-#5283-Great Guana Cay-Vacant property featuring water on both sides. Accessible by boat only. THIS LOT WON’T LAST LONG! $198,000**

---

**PRICED REDUCED**

**Marsh Harbour-#5105 Duplex available for sale. Each side - 2beds/bath with open floor plan Furnished and well kept.$260,000**

**Guania Cay-“SCANNERWIND”-#5086-2bed/2bath home with central A/C, close walk to beach. Great rental potential throughout tourist season, with right to use resorts amenities. Perfect for that vacation get-away.$208,000**

**Boat Harbour-#5283-Large Parcel of property on Pelican Shores. Lovely parcel rate 172’ on the harbour and consists of more than an acre of property. Features a 3 bed/3.5 bath house with covered carport. This prime piece of property is unique and rare. Could have a commercial venture possibility. Room for expansion Lots of potential. -$1,750,000**

---

**NEW EXCLUSIVE**

**Dundas Town-#5222-Property situated in prime location running 1.35’ on the waterfront. Fixed upper situated on property. Views of the harbour and Sea of Abaco. $125,000**

**Sandy Point-#4972- This 1 ½ story home is located on a pretty powder white beach. This home consists of 3bed/2bath, utility garage and boat house. Great area for bone fishing, and deep sea fishing.**

---

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**Marsh Harbour-#5130 Harbour front property on Pelican Shores. Lovely parcel rate 172’ on the harbour and consists of more than an acre of property. Features a 3 bed/3.5 bath house with covered carport. This prime piece of property is unique and rare. Could have a commercial venture possibility. Room for expansion Lots of potential. -$1,750,000**

---

**NEW EXCLUSIVE**

**Marsh Harbour-#5106. Great opportunity. Established commercial complex. Currently features several retail stores and two rental apartments. All currently rented. Ideally situated on the main resort strip. FANTASTIC INVESTMENT. Call today for more details.**

---

**SOLD**

**-Man-O-War-  vacation interior lot in town, close to amenities -$175,000 SOLD.**

**-Man-O-War- vacation interior lots, close to Atlantic Beach, and close to restaurants, grocery stores, etc. $120,000.**

**-Long Beach- Beautiful area featuring gorgeous white beach. All lots approx. ¼ acre, and have beach access. Financing available. Call today.**

**-Sand Banks- vacation property on main highway to Treasure Cay. Large parcels, and sea views.**

**-Bahama Coral Island- vacation property in Bahama Coral Island, financing available. Call for details.**

**-Treasure Cay- Canal Lots in desirable location, sea views, great buy-UNDER CONTRACT.**

**-Cabbage Point- 5 acres parcels on the SC Bootle highway, financing available - Call today for details**

**-Marsh Harbour- Vacant property on Key Club Road approx 0.7 acres, features elevations. $92,000**

**-Guana Cay- Two vacant lots side by side situated only a short distance from the settlement of Guana Cay. $144,000 each.**

---

Malin Sands - mailing@mlrealty.net
P.O. Box AB 20900
Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

January 15, 2005    The Abaconian    Page 15 B
With respect to The Mud and Pigeon Pea communities, Mr. Mills wants quicker action of facilitating resettlement of their residents in the wider communities than the pace at which it is currently being done. In a recent town meeting in Marsh Harbour, the Minister of Labour and Immigration, the Hon. Vincent Peet, said he was committed to sorting out the status of legal and illegal residents, and working with the Ministry of Housing to help those legally eligible obtain housing in areas such as the Central Pines subdivision.

Mr. Mills said he, too, is opposed to moving the residents to other ethnic communities, but supports facilitating their moving into locations such as Central Pines with the broader Bahamian community.

“Of my concerns in allowing the illegal housing to continue,” Mr. Mills said, “is a trend by Bahamians to build in violation of the building codes saying, ‘If the Haitians can build as they please, why can’t we?’ This is totally unacceptable behaviour for Bahamians because we must uphold the legal process and standards of behaviour for Bahamians because we must uphold the legal process and standards of our country. But the government must also understand that the location it takes to settle the illegal communities and stop the illegal building, it opens up the society to this kind of lawless thinking.”

Mr. Mills also complained that he was having great difficulty communicating with the Minister of Local Government, the Hon. V. Alfred Grey, and his permanent secretary for consultations on issues facing his district. “Every time I put through a call to the ministry,” Mr. Mills said, “I am told the minister or the permanent secretary is unavailable and will get back to me, but that never happens.”

The Chief Councillor was displeased with the $6,000 the Central Abaco area received from central government for hurricane clean-up. That area includes Marsh Harbour, Pines subdivision in Dundas Town, residents, and working with the Ministry for a new Marsh Harbour airport at which it is currently being done. In a recent town meeting in Marsh Harbour, the Minister of Labour and Immigration, the Hon. Glenny Hanna-Mills, and Permanent Secretary Archie Nairn could not come to Abaco to participate. Please see Mills for more information and prices.

By Richard E. Fonkew
Chief Councillor for the Central Abaco District, Cay Mills, has two items on the top of his agenda for the New Year. He is working for a new Marsh Harbour airport and the integration of persons living in the Haitian immigrant communities of Pigeon Pea and The Mud into the broader society. “If the central government can spend $2 million to promote bringing visitors to Abaco, why can’t they spend a million to make them comfortable when they arrive and leave?” he asked rhetorically in an interview at the busy Marsh Harbour International Airport.

“This location is too congested,” the Chief Councillor said, adding, “when you’re taking passengers into town around 3 o’clock, you run into the school traffic up and down this road. It is also a flood area. We can’t do anything about that. So why not find a location where there is no flooding, and where there is room for future expansion, rather than patching this one up all the time?”

Mr. Mills, who is critical of what he calls central government’s “lack of proper concern for Abaco,” said he was “embarrassed” when a team of airport consultants visited the island from the United States a couple of weeks ago at the invitation of the government, but that they could not meet with local officials because the Minister of Transport and Aviation, the Hon. Glenny Hanna-Mills, and Permanent Secretary Archie Nairn could not come to Abaco to participate.

Chief Councillor Mills Wants New Airport

The Abacoian January 15, 2005

Page 16 B

TREASURE CAY REAL ESTATE

NEW! NEW! NEW! Call for more information and prices

1. CARLETON LANDING - Newest opportunity canal front condo and cottage units with available boat slips

2. PALM BAY Townhouse units in protected harbour with boat slips

3. TREASURE LANDING Condo units on interior property with direct beach access

ROYAL PALM

Canal Front Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool
Phase 1 2 bed/2 bath SLips w/ 2 large docks, very special condo with many features MUST SEE

ATLANTIS

Canal Front Condos with on-site Pool
Bldg D: 4 Downstairs 2 bed 2 bath, w/boat slip and storage shed

MARINERS COVE

Townhouse Condos with on-site Tennis and Pool
Marina View

OCEAN VILLA SUBDIVISION

Garden location 2 bed silent condition

TREASURE HOUSES

Ocean front luxury units with lagoon pool/waterfall 2 bed 2 bath oceanfront house, front row location with wrap-around dock ocean view

ROCK POINT

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

BHAMAA BEACH CLUB

New luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach, 3 bed 3 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features Starting at $550,000 Plus 14% closing

LEEWARD BEACH ESTATE

“Trident”? “Turquoise Seas” You cannot be more on “the beach” than in this special home. Offering 3 bed 3 1/2 bath in the main house with detached garage / 1 bed 1 bath / attic plus storage. Villa very ocean view with widow’s walk. WOW!

“Cross Winds” Split level CBS home extra large lot across from beach greenways. Private. Master bed/2 bath suites above and downstairs. Lower level 2 bed 2 bath, cozy living room/ kitchen/dining/ utility. Apartment annex 1 bed 1 bed, living kitchen, enclosed patio. Plus Plus Plus!

$2,520,000

$1,500,000

$1,292,000

$950,000

$570,000

$714,500

$1,200,000

$950,000
BASA Hosts Boxing Day Surfing Jamboree

On December 26th at around noon BASA held its last surf contest for 2004 with a turn out of about 15 competitors to entertain a large crowd of spectators on the beach just to the north of the Abaco Inn. The surf break known as Hamburghers was an ideal location for southwest offshore winds to enhance a nice performance 2 to 3-foot wave.

The results are as follows:

1st: Connor Gottlieb
2nd: Andrew Wilhoyte
3rd: Christine McCully
4th: Jeff Gale
5th: Christian Wilhoyte

Notice Division:
1st: Conor Gottlieb

Open division:
1st: Cullen (Kiwi House)
2nd: James Boyce
3rd: Ben Patterson
Notice: Bahamian Surfing Team Trials for the 2005 Pan American Surfing Games will be held on January 23rd, weather permitting.

For detailed info please call 366-0309 or 366-0290

---

Classified Advertisements

**Houses and Land - For Rent and For Sale**

**PROPERTY AND HOUSES FOR SALE**

---

**SANDRA EVANS REAL ESTATE SALES**

Your concierge realtor on Abaco

Sandra Evans, BRI
Multiple Listing Broker
Bill Thorndycraft, Sales Agent
East Bay Street, Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Ph: 242-367-2365 • Fax: 242-367-2365
www.GreatAbacoClub.com

---

**LIVESTREAM YOUR DREAM AT GREATBAHAMASCLUB.COM**

Enjoy the lifestyle you deserve...
Waterfront lots with private boat slips in a secure gated community
starting at $25,000
Call 242-367-4151 or Fax 242-367-4152
www.greatbahamasclub.com

**PROPERTY & HOUSES FOR SALE**

---

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**MUST SELL**

**REAL ESTATE IN ABACO**

For condition of sale and any other information contact
Ms. C.A. Cooper or Mr. B.D. Styles at 367-2141.

---

**BIDS ONLY**

**TREASURE CAY**

**Dundas Town**
- 3 bed, 2 bath
- Newly refurbished
- 20% owner financing available

**Murphy Town**
- 3 bed, 2 bath
- Fully furnished

**Bahama Coral Island**
- 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath
- Commercial building

**Treasure Cay**
- 4 bed, 2 bath
- 1/2 acre

**Murphy Town**
- Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath
- Section 13
- 2 bed and 1 bath

**Tilley Cut**
- Duplex 2 - 2 bed, 1 bath
- 10,810 sq. ft.
- 3 bed, 2 bath

**BAHAMAS VACATIONS**

100+ private Ocean Island homes, resorts, villas for rent. Free listing. Call 1-800-462-2426
http://www.bahamasvacations.com

---

**Well Done Drilling Services**

**Specializing in**

**Well Drilling:** Water Wells, Drainage Wells, Septic Disposal Wells

**Trenching:** Trenching for underground utility services

**Piling Holes:** Piling Holes for home foundations and utility poles planted

**Excavator Rental:** Specialized Excavator Foundation Drilling for home foundations in sand and Excavator Diggig

**Seawater Reverse Osmosis Systems:** 350GPD to 200,000GPD

---

We serve all of Abaco including the cays

Call us today for a free consultation

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
Ph: (242) 367-4842
Our National Anthem

By Jennifer Hudson

Over the past several months I have been present at various public functions at which the National Anthem has been rendered (I cannot say “sung” because the definition of “to sing” is to produce musical tones with the voice and the tones I have heard have not always been musical). It seems to be the trend these days for the person rendering the National Anthem to “rewrite” it, making it almost unrecognizable as the beautiful melody which the late Timothy Gibson wrote at the time of our Independence.

After one such experience in Marsh Harbour recently the niece of the composer, who is a resident of Abaco, came to me and asked me what I thought as she was totally distraught at the way in which the National Anthem had borne no resemblance to the original tune. “My uncle would turn over in his grave if he had heard that,” she bewailed. I absolutely agreed with her.

As it happened, I was on my way to a function in Nassau which was to be opened by the Governor of the Bahamas, Dame Ivy Dumont. During the ceremony it became obvious that she, also, had been experiencing the same distortion of the National Anthem at functions she attends for on this particular evening she felt moved to comment on the beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. The lady who performed not only had a beautiful voice but she sang the piece exactly as Timothy Gibson wrote it and it was a treat to listen to. After she commented on the lady’s excellent voice, Dame Ivy said, “And thank you so much for singing it correctly!”

Why do so many of the people who are asked to perform the National Anthem these days think they can improve on that beautiful piece Timothy Gibson wrote for our country?

There was a huge crowd attending the Green Turtle Cay Junkanoo parade on January 1. Ferry loads of people rode between the mainland to Green Turtle Cay. Everyone seemed to be in a jolly mood enjoying the day.

So it was a surprise to find the ferry dock on the mainland cordoned off by movable barriers. On one of them was posted a warning about carrying knives. Two police officers stood nearby. I was told by a Green Turtle Cay resident that it was a measure put in place by the Assistant Superintendent of Police to ensure everyone’s safety.

Checking with the police station in Marsh Harbour, I was told that the barriers were to separate the crowd coming from the ferry after the “fish fry” that had taken place earlier on the dock. “Nothing to report, everything has been very quiet during the long holiday weekend,” said one officer, exactly what we all wanted to hear.

Police Take Precautions

Serving Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach

Frequent Daily Service Available from Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour

For Reservations Call Continental:
1-800-231-0856

SUNPAC THE EASY NO HASSLE WAY TO FLY.
Get the details and start saving
Call: 1-800-688-7225
954-266-3000
x 272

OnePass.
www.gulfstreamair.com
Work Hard. Fly Right.
out scout planes to overlook the fishing grounds and waited for the seas to settle down. Some tried to make a trip but had to return because of the poor diving conditions. Therefore, most of our fishermen have been doing their diving close to home and have managed to gather in some newly relocated spiney lobster that must have come in out of the deep. But now with the change and have managed to gather in some newly

tions. Therefore, most of our fishermen

down. Some tried to make a trip but had to

in out scout planes to overlook the fishing

South

this season. And although most of their traps will have been lost or up-ended from the storms, let us hope they will still have a bountiful catch.

Art Heck of Delton, Michigan, passed away at a hospital during a routine medical procedure. A long time visitor, he and his wife Phyllis spent several months on Abaco each year. Art first came to Cherokee in the 1950s when Colyn Rees ran a fishing camp and he returned year after year to visit with the many friends he had made there. Being an avid fisherman, he was always trying to catch the big one. About 20 years ago he and his wife moved to a new home in Casuarina Point and often entertained guest from back home in the United States. They always enjoyed the time they spent there. Although he had lived for many years in Michigan, he was born in Wilard, Ohio, and was returned there for burial. Always ready with a new joke to tell you and a big bear hug greeting, he will be sorely missed by his many friends in Cherokee. May he rest in peace.

Abaco Club

and guests cheerfully dining and mingling through the first hour of the event. Execu-

tive Chief, Mr. Sam Favella, and Opera-

tions Manager, Ms. Tania Duncombe, planned an exquisite menu. Appetizers in-

cluded caviar with buckwheat blinis and crème friche, assorted tappas served on

crispy bruschetta bread and sushi. The gorgeous dessert table boasted white and dark chocolate mini-

mousse, fresh chocolate-covered strawber-

ries, assorted mini Crème Brulee and many more delicious delicacies.

Ms. Claire Basden, receptionist for The Abaco Club, graced the stage and serenaded all with her stunning rendition of the Bahama-

ian National Anthem. Her performance was such that the crowd demanded an encore.
8th Annual Arts Festival
ABACO BEACH RESORT

JANUARY 29th & 30th
2005