By Mirella Santillo

On January 2, 2005, the first Ecumenical Pastoral Appreciation Service took place in Freeport, Grand Bahama. Four pastors from Abaco were rewarded for at least 30 years of Gospel Ministry. They were Rev. Dr. Allan Mills, Pastor David Ronald Cartwright, Rev. Copeland Morley and Bishop Roland Swain. After songs, prayers and introductions, the Pastors were rewarded by a banquet and entertainment.

Rev. Dr. Mills was born in Cedar Harbour, where he attended All Age School. During his youth, he was a frequent visitor of Cooper’s Town, where he regularly attended Sunday School. There he met his wife, Movena Edgecombe. They married in 1948.

Rev. Mills ventured in the field of carpentry, at which he became very skilled and later on, added the profession of fisherman. Rev. Mills was brought up as a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church under the guidance of his father, the late Rev. Robert Mills. After his marriage Dr. Mills assumed the role of Sunday School teacher, and one year later he was appointed by his father to the position of Preaching Elder. Under his ministry, the one room wooden Ebenezer Bap-

Four Pastors Were Honoured for Long Service
Freeport Held Service for Pastors Serving 30 Years

An appreciation service held in Freeport on January 2 honoured pastors serving 30 years or more. This included four pastors from Abaco. Shown left to right are Rev. Copeland Morley, Rev. Dr. Allam Mills, Rev. Roland Swain and Pastor David Cartwright. In front are Mrs. Morley and Mrs. Swain.

Teachers Stage a Sit-In
By Portia Jonsson

“Today, enough is enough,” said James Richard, schoolteacher at S.C. Booble High School and union shop steward. “We have been very patient waiting for repairs since November and today, enough is enough.” On January 20th at 11 a.m. the students of S.C. Booble High School were dismissed due to all 25 teachers at the school halting classes to stage a “sit-in.”

Mr. Richard advised that they have been trying to get the attention of the Ministry of Education for a long time and are prepared to sit-out until they see some repairs at the school. They need to see that the Ministry is taking an active role in their area.

Red Cross Sends Relief Supplies

The International Red Cross sent several containers of relief supplies for victims of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. Shown are five gallon buckets for drinking water. Other supplies included tarpaulins, family sanitation kits, blankets, food items and water.

The funding for the supplies came from the European Commission for Humanitarian Aid. The women distributing the supplies are Ms. Muriam Fredericks, volunteer; Ms. Sheila Thornton of the International Red Cross on Abaco; Ms. Barbara Johnson, group leader of the Red Cross on Abaco; and Shannals Johnson, volunteer.

PTA President Inspects School

Mr. Leonard Edgecombe, President of the PTA of Abaco Central High School, inspected the school with a group of parents to view the damages to the school that have not been repaired since the hurricanes of September. Broken windows, no electricity, no ceilings and a general aura of disrepair are demoralizing for the students and teachers. Lessons cannot be learned effectively in dark classrooms with a cold wind blowing through.
By Mirella Santillo

On January 10 Mr. Jack Thompson, Director of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on Abaco, held a press conference to announce the extension of some duty free programs until March 31, 2005, and to report on the progress of that organization regarding the distribution of goods and the completion of the houses allocated to the victims of the hurricanes. Mr. Thompson opened his address by thanking the members of the press for keeping the public informed of the actions of the recovery team.

Eight houses have been completed for South Abaco, six in North Abaco and the keys handed out to the owners. Twenty-five more are under construction (some nearing completion) and 20 additional houses are planned. The cost of each house is estimated to be between $30,000 and $60,000 depending on the size and any problems encountered during demolition or construction. Altogether over $1 million is involved.

Mr. Thompson continued that 1,142 construction vouchers were given out on Abaco to help people with repairs. Those vouchers were for materials only. In some cases, such as for senior citizens, labor or technical assistance was also considered. As of December 10, 2004, NEMA stopped issuing vouchers.

Abaco presented a challenging situation for the Ministry of Works because the damage extended to so many different areas, and the delays in receiving supplies from Florida were long. According to Mr. John Schaeffer, Area Engineer for the Ministry of Works, “Three trailers of sheet rock were on hold for several weeks in West Palm of Works, “Three trailers of sheet rock were on hold for several weeks in West Palm Beach, and two of those were wet and unusable when they arrived here.” Cement was hard to get causing completion delays, especially on Moore’s Island, but he stated, “Under the circumstances, things have gone well so far.”

The second reason for the press conference was to inform everyone of the extension of the duty free exemption for the general public, for hotels and tourist attractions and for farmers and fishermen until March 31, 2005. Further information on what is covered under the new Declarations of Exigencies 7, 8, and 9 respectively can be obtained from Mr. Thompson’s office. He reminded the public that every new application received now must go to Nassau for approval, and all persons wishing to apply must have a NEMA endorsed form. This decision was taken to eliminate abuse of the system. Special consideration will be given to the import of things that have already been purchased but are coming late.

The Declarations, dated December 30, 2004, and signed by the Hon. Perry G. Christie, Minister of Finance, stated, “Where any abuse or misuse of goods imported under this Declaration is observed, the goods may be seized and disposed of in accordance with Section 83 of the Customs Management Act.” This paragraph was emphasized by the Superintendent of Customs on Abaco, Mr. Gary Smith, who said, “The Customs Department was concerned with some level of fraud, especially with vehicle imports. So far, duty free approval has been granted for 75 vehicles. Condemned vehicles to be replaced with duty free ones must not be seen on the roads!”

The repair of roads and bridges on the coastal areas in North and Central Abaco is mentioned by Mr. Ricky Smith, Deputy Relief Coordinator for North Abaco, as needing attention.

Mrs. Charlemae Fernander, Chief Welfare Officer with the Department of Social Services, related the positive experiences she had while working in the community. She commended the support she received from various organizations such as the Defense Force, whose members helped with the assessment of damage and the distribution of supplies. She said that the hurricanes helped her to get in touch with the people of Abaco and better assess their needs. The

NEMA officials held a meeting on January 10 to inform the public of the status of government relief efforts on Abaco. They were Mr. Charlemae Fernander of Social Services; Mr. Roderick Bowe, Administrator for South Abaco; Mr. Neil Campbell, Deputy Director for NEMA for Abaco; Mr. Jack Thompson, Director of NEMA for Abaco; Mr. Ricky Smith, Deputy Relief Coordinator for North Abaco; Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco, and Mr. John Schaeffer, area engineer.
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  - $150,000

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- Internet Ref: 2351
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  - approx. 1,000 sq. ft.
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  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

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**NEW LIST!**

**MARSH HARBOUR**

**BAY PALM SHORES**
- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**BAY PALM SHORES**
- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**BAY PALM SHORES**
- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**BAY PALM SHORES**
- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**TREASURE CAY**

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- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**BAY PALM SHORES**
- Internet Ref: 2105
- #10: 3 bed 2 bath 1,600 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - #11: 2 bed 2 bath 1,200 sq. ft.:
  - Elevator access:
  - $255,000

**NEW LIST!**

**TREASURE CAY**

**CHAMBERLAIN FAMILY HOME**
- Internet Ref: 2677
- #205: 4 bed 2 bath 2,400 sq. ft.:
  - Private dock slip:
  - $525,000
S.T.C.W. Maritime Training Begins

By Jennifer Hudson

In mid-December the Port Department issued a Public Notice to all commercial boat operators informing that the S.T.C.W. Maritime Training Course would begin on January 10th, 2005. The period between January 10th and February 5th will accommodate mariners in the Central District, Cherokee and the cays, the next period from February 7th to 11th will be for the Southern District, Moore’s Island, Castaway Cay, Crossing Rocks and Sandy Point and finally from February 14th to 26th will be for the Northern District, Treasure Cay, Grand Cay and Walkers Cay.

The deadline for certification is March 31st, 2005, for anyone wishing to obtain a Class B license. Boat licences will not be issued now as downscaled a little but encompasses all the vital safety measures such as first aid, CPR, fire fighting, crowd control management and survival techniques. “The primary objective,” he says, “Is safety first, as an accident would affect the whole community and would be very damaging to the tourism industry.”

By Jennifer Hudson

“Initially,” pointed out Capt. Cyril Roker, Officer in Charge of the Port Department on Abaco, “The S.T.C.W. Training was only designed for seafarers involved in foreign trade but it worked very well so the Port Department decided to extend it to all commercial boat owners.”

He went on to say that the course being offered now has been downscaled a little but encompasses all the vital safety measures such as first aid, CPR, fire fighting, crowd control management and survival techniques. “The primary objective,” he says, “Is safety first, as an accident would affect the whole community and would be very damaging to the tourism industry.”

This certification will be recognized worldwide and only a few of the Caribbean countries can offer this programme. Every country is responsible for training its own people.

Originally persons requiring certification were expected to travel to Nassau or the United States. However, since this is a week-long course and participants would have the inconvenience and expense of accommodation, the Port Department is now bringing officers of the Royal Bahamas Defense Force to Abaco to conduct the course here. Capt. Roker stressed that this course is separate and apart from the functions of the Port Department.

Although the training is required by the Port Department, the department itself cannot offer the training; hence it is bringing in Defense Force personnel who are the only people qualified to teach this course. In addition to classroom sessions, practical classes will include simulated fires and the over-turning of life rafts with many people to be rescued.

“Presently,” said Capt. Roker, “Ferries and very damaging to the tourism industry.”

Mr. Anthony Rivers of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force is the instructor.

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Happy Hour

Every Friday
5:30pm - 7:30pm

LIVE MUSIC

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The S.T.C.W. Maritime Training Course is being offered several times on Abaco to allow all those with a Master’s license to qualify for future licenses. The week-long course is being offered in Central Abaco and will be offered in North and South Abaco as well. Mr. Anthony Rivers of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force is the instructor.
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Abaco Outboard Engines
Mr. Kingsley L. Black, President of the Bahamas Union of Teachers, visited S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper’s Town on January 18th. He was there with union officers Ms. Adeltis Bain-Stubbs, Vice President for New Providence. They were joined by Ms. Chantell Cox, a teacher at the adjacent Cooper’s Town Primary School who is a union trustee, and Senior Master Kevin Hepburn. They met behind closed doors with 22 of the 24 teachers who are members of the union. According to Mr. Black, a science teacher at S.C. Bootle, they discussed the lack of repair work to the roofs and structure of the school since Hurricanes Francis and Jeanne nearly four months ago.

The greatest damage occurred to the science, home economics, woodworking, social studies and Spanish classrooms. The science and home economics classes are still without roofs. They are just bare rafters open to the sky and the elements. After a recent rainstorm, puddles of water gathered in pools on the tile floor and desks and walls were soaking wet. The woodworking classroom has a roof but no electricity. All woodworking tools were destroyed by the salt water storm surge during the hurricanes. Every piece of equipment rusted to a halt.

The home economics classroom has no sinks, no stoves, no refrigerators, no desks, no roof and no electricity. The social studies and Spanish classrooms have partial roofs, but no windows and no doors.

The weather had turned cold on the day that Mr. Black and his associates visited, cold and windy. Children were huddling in their winter coats and sweaters while the wind whistled through the open doors and windows, trying to concentrate on what their teachers were saying, trying to see in the darkened rooms. Teachers were seen moving from class to class between sessions carrying their books and lesson plans because so many rooms were unusable. What once was the library now doubles as a classroom, leaving students without study resources.

According to Mr. Black, the tone the teachers conveyed to the union heads was that they have waited long enough. They are ready to see repair work and construction completed at the school. The lack of classrooms is a key issue. Mr. Black said that the delay in repairs to the school almost denies the students the ability to take their exams. Their BGCSE course work is due in April and the practical aspects of the exams in Science and Home Economics cannot be prepared for because of the lack of classrooms and equipment. He said, “Students are sitting in cold classrooms with no windows and no doors. Given the commitment of the students and the teachers, they merit a better response from the government.”

Mr. Black continued that he had spoken to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education that morning and apprised him of the situation. The teachers were very concerned about the state of repairs and work to be done to bring the school back to its former state. “The teachers,” he said, “feel neglected, let down. They expected that the Ministry of Education would have accelerated the state of work in order to reduce the fallout to the students. Work is needed.”

Mr. James Richard and Ms. Tina Roberts, both teachers at S.C. Bootle High School, lift a plastic sheet which covers the open windows. This classroom is just one of many that was destroyed by the hurricanes. The roof has yet to be repaired. Teachers and students are frustrated that the damage inflicted by the hurricanes of September is still not repaired.
Sit-In

Four months after Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne passed through Abaco, the classrooms at S.C. Bootle are still in shambles. There is mold on the walls, missing windows and doors, holes in the roofs, no electricity and the raccoons and rats have sought refuge in the classrooms. The teachers have been holding classes outside under trees and in corridors. The science lab, mathematics and home economics classrooms still lie in ruins.

Ms. Farquharson, food and nutrition teacher, said the students will have to be bused to Treasure Cay to hold their classes along with all their equipment including mixers and blenders. She doesn’t mind doing it, she says, if she knows an end is in sight. She is only concentrating on students sitting the BJC and BGCSE examinations and advises that the other students will have no food and nutrition class for the whole school year.

Mr. Kingsley Black, President of the Bahamas Teachers Union, visited the school on January 18, met with the teachers and supports them in the “sit-in.” They have spoken with Mr. Rudolph Smith, District Superintendent, Ministry of Education, who is aware of the situation.

Ms. Tina Roberts, assistant union shop steward, said it is very discouraging and depressing for teachers to have to come into these classrooms to teach. While the music room has been condemned, it is still being used as a classroom because it has a roof. Ms. Roberts said despite being cold inside and missing windows and doors, it is used for maths, English and science.

The students are as upset as the teachers and complain that the windy cold conditions over the past weeks have been horrible for them in the classrooms. They cannot go to the classrooms because of the rain coming in the open windows, doors and roofs. They also worry about not being prepared for the BJC’s and BGCSE’s.

Mr. Richard explains that the teachers are doing this not to hurt the 300 students at the school but so that education on Abaco is improved. They are tired of working in these conditions and would like to get back to the business of teaching. “We need to move forward not backward.”

A PTA meeting was scheduled for late in January.
The Plight of our Schools

Four months have passed since two hurricanes hit us and the repairs to government buildings are still mired in the bureaucratic process. Although civil servants in government buildings are inconvenience, they are not burdened to the same extent as our 900 high school students and several hundred primary school students. However, cold windy weather brought hardships the teachers and students were not able to tolerate.

The public schools were pressured to open as soon as possible after the hurricanes so the students could resume their studies. To this end, minimal repairs were made, debris was swept out and classes were held wherever space permitted. Getting the students back in class satisfied the immediate goals of the education system.

Parents breathed a sigh of relief as their children went back to school even though school conditions were somewhat crude.

Roofs were missing on several buildings in Cooper’s Town at S.C. Bootle High School and Cooper’s Town Primary School. Abaco Central High School in Marsh Harbour kept its roof but had leaks due to missing shingles. The electricity was off in most buildings on all these campuses due to the physical damage and water intrusion.

Power was finally turned on to the last block of rooms at Abaco Central High School on January 14, approximately four months after the last storm.

Government schools use jalousie windows fitted with solid aluminum louvers. When closed these are supposed make the windows vandal- and storm-resistant. Closing the louvers in stormy and windy weather stops the natural light from coming into the rooms. This is not a big issue when the electricity is on. However, with the power off the rooms are very dark if the slats are closed and are poorly lit with the slats open.

Repairing the windows has been an ongoing exercise for local government since it came into being eight years ago. Several times repair contracts have been let to repair the Abaco Central High School windows for $5,000 – $7,000. Vandalism is the main cause of window troubles. However, the two hurricanes caused extensive window damage which has not yet been corrected.

Broken windows in the subtropics are not generally a big issue except for an occasional rain storm. However, recent cold fronts brought the discomfort level to a head as there was nowhere to dodge the cold winds blowing through the dark classrooms. At least one can pretend it is warm when the lights are on.

Roof and electrical repairs began last fall but soon stopped when the contractors were not paid. Money had not been budgeted for these repairs and bills could not be paid. The contractors went home and looked after clients who paid them. It should be noted here that the reasonability quick responses to those person who lost their homes or suffered extensive damage was facilitated with non-government funds donated specifically for humanitarian aid. Government and commercial buildings did not qualify for this assistance. Government does not hold funds in reserve waiting for a disaster. Budgets must be examined and money reallocated from other projects.

Unfortunately, the machinery of government lumber along a predetermined path and does not sift gears quickly to accommodate major repairs from disasters. Two hurricanes within a month strained the system.

The private sector is much more nimble and able to accommodate changing conditions. The business community repaired its physical damages quickly and resumed operations.

This was true for the private schools in the area which made repairs and bills could be paid to the work of educating their students in a pleasant environment. At the private schools, graffiti is not seen and there is green grass, flowers and attractive landscaping. Compare the appearance of our private schools to the two government high schools which give a stark impression. It is quite a contrast.

Recently, the teacher’s union in Nassau was contacted and representatives came to see the deplorable situation in Cooper’s Town for themselves. As a result, students there were dismissed as the teachers staged a sit-in to draw government’s attention to school problems.

At this same time PTA in Marsh Harbour toured the Abaco Central High School with a group of parents to see the conditions their children were coping with. As a result both Abaco schools were featured on page one of the Nassau newspapers. Repairs begun and abandoned months ago have just resumed.

Education is often mentioned by politicians as the solution to the challenges we face from global competition. Even the thought of joining the regional Caribbean Single Market Economy (CSME) as a full fledged member has our politicians nervous.

Joining the CSME gives the prospect of hundreds of better educated, professional people from other Caribbean countries coming to The Bahamas and displac- ing or competing with Bahamians. Education is talked about as our main defense to compete either globally or even closer to home. But our educational system is not responsive. Scholastic achievement throughout the Bahamas is universally deplorable.

School buildings do not make an educated person. However, they are a necessary part of the education process. Pleasant surroundings and working conditions lead to better moral and better academic results.

When we as a society do not value education enough to provide an adequate place for our students to learn, what is the real message we are conveying? If we can’t have well constructed, comfortable buildings for our youth, the students are getting the subtle message that education is not an important element of their life.

Family Island schools have many shortcomings but roofs, electricity, windows and doors should not be an issue. It does not bode well for the system when parents, teachers and students must rebel before minimal standards are provided.

If roofs and windows are not important, what should we expect of the curriculum?
Letters to the Editor

Old Friends Return

Dear Editor,

My wife and I have recently returned to Hope Town for a few weeks and have been able to catch up with some of “Life in the Abacos” through past issues of The Abaconian. We especially appreciated the coverage of the St. James’s Hope Town Christmas production, and it was kind of Dr. Larry Beachy to mention our involve-
ment with it.

“Time flies when you’re having fun” and I would just add that this began not six years ago as stated, but 11 years ago. After a year in Marsh Harbour we came to work in Hope Town in 1994 at the invitation of St. James’s Methodist Church, especially with children and young people. Our years of experience teaching in England, London and Leicester and in Nassau enabled us to intro-
troduce new materials into worship fully involving the children and also to begin the Christmas productions. Help was given by many people, both local families and visitors. About a year later our church chil-
dren decided to give special help to the Blinney Lane Children’s Home in Nassau, and the Christmas production became part of this.

Later, when the Bahamas government took responsibility for basic financing of the homes, the Bahamas Methodist Church began various “Joel Projects” and the St. James’ Church response was to open the Orphan’s Annual Summer Camp through continued weekly collections and the Christ-
mas production. I believe this year’s show raised $1900 - amazing!

Much hard work was needed but we found a great source of talent and enthusi-
asm among Hope Town’s young people, and we felt privileged to share in develop-
ment and guiding this, along with other co-
workers. The fact that it continues and grows four years after our return to En-
gland speaks for itself, and we congradu-
late the Hope Town community for their wonderful achievements. For us it is a joy to meet those youngsters with whom we worked in the early years, many now at work or at university preparing to serve The Bahamas in the future, a credit to our community.

Some things have turned full circle. A month ago in Leicester, England, our church put on The Christmas Lamb, performed a couple of years ago in Hope Town. Oh, that we had the same talent and skills available to us! As always we adopt and adapt. We rejoice in the people who have shared their lives with us. God bless them, every one. And bless you, too.

Glyn and Jacqui Haines
Hope Town and Leicester, England
mailto:hainessdown@gocom

The Bethel Family

Rembered

Dear Editor,

This photograph of Victor and Viola Bethel was taken in Abaco in 1969 by the Hicks family (Clifford, Rachael, Doug and Gary) who then lived in Elmhurst, Illinois. Your parents were our hosts for one of our favorite vacations spent snorkeling, fishing and exploring. Mr. and Mrs. Bethel took us to see a small house boat and a boat (with a leaky gas tank!) supply-
ing groceries from their tiny store, lobster tails (and most importantly!) an endless sup-
ply of Mrs. Bethel’s wonderful homemade bread. Memories of the trip include the beautiful reefs, the incredible white sand beaches, visiting the windmill house on Elbow Cay, hermit crab races on the kitchen table, peeping frogs on the window sill and hear-
ing Mr. Bethel shout a ten-minute warning air-vehicle turning the generator off each evening.

I recently had the good fortune to return to Guana Cay with my family for the first time in 35 years. It was a thrill to see that the reefs were still healthy and gorgeous and to have the opportunity to meet several members of your family as well as to pay my respects at Victor and Viola’s gravesites. You are blessed to live in a very special place and it makes me happy to see the Guana Grocery today, the reflection of the values of the Bethel family. Thank you very much for taking the time to remeasure with my family. We will definitely be back for an-
other visit. And this time it won’t take us 35 years!

Gary Hicks
Atlanta, Georgia

The Airport Is a Disgrace

Dear Editor,

The Marsh Harbour International Airport is a national disgrace. It was too small when it was built 20 years ago primarily for BahamasAir. It is now the second busiest airport in the Bahamas with 16 scheduled airlines as well as hundreds of private and charter flights.

I have been writing letters for years to the proper authorities and have participated in countless meetings and planning sessions — through two changes in government admin-
istrations! I now have lost my patience and seek the help of the media.

I think I speak for all Abaconians when I say I am ashamed and embarrassed of Marsh Harbour International Airport. We have already approved the plans and broken promises.

What message are we sending to our visi-
tors, our bread and butter? Welcome, thank you for spending money here! We can’t even offer them a seat or a space for their bags as they wait for their flights. Passen-
gers have to push and shove and trip over other’s bags and over a crowded counter. They often have to wait for hours standing up in stifling, crowded conditions or outside in the sun or rain.

Sir Stafford Sands, the father of tourism for the Bahamas, often said that the first and lasting impression a visitor gets after arriving in our country was formed by three sources: Immigration, Customs and taxes. The Marsh Harbour airport is ruining any chances of anyone making a good impres-
sion no matter how hard they try.

Think about it — the hot, crowded airport terminal lounge is the last memory of their Abaco visit. To think how hard we all work, from taxi drivers and hotel front desk clerks to wait staff and barand- tending, shop owners and guiding engi-

eers, etc. to en-
sure our tourists have a fabulous stay and come back and the Marsh Harbour International Airport is sabotaging all the good deeds and hard work of the Bahamian people. I can’t for-
get the dedicated airline employees and bag handlers that are working in sub-human conditions day in and day out. This is ri-
diculous and the situation has to change - immediately!

We have over 1,000 hotel rooms/rental cottages and another 1,900 marina slips just in Marsh Harbour, Hope Town, Man-O-War and Guana Cay. We are growing in leaps and bounds and the airport needs to be part of that.

The other big issue for me, a retired pi-
lot, is the safety. Fortunately, we have the best flying conditions in the world. But there are too many uncontrolled air traffic vying for the same short, rut-pocked runway that also serves as the only taxi way. It is bar-
baric and only by the Grace of God have we not killed anyone or been shot down by the U.S. Department of Aviation as unsafe!

In my experienced opinion, it is just a matter of time before we have a serious accident, and I will take no pleasure in say-
ing, “I told you so.”

Marsh Harbour International needs an-
other passenger terminal, a new air traffic control tower. No more proposals! No more promises! DO IT NOW, before it’s too late. Sincerely,

Leonard M. Thompson
Retired Pilot, Hotelier, Politician

Still a Proud Bahamian

No Respect for Emergency Services

I am a member of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire and Rescue, and it is with great concern that I am writing this letter. Our community needs to have some re-
spect when it comes to emergency services when they are trying to respond to an emer-
gency. I usually have to respond to fires in my personal vehicle and it can sometimes be one of the most frustrating things to do. No matter how many lights you have flash-
ing or how long you blow your horn, do people try to get out of the way to let you pass? But this is not the most of it. Occasionally I have been in the fire truck and not my personal vehicle to respond to a fire that is the good part, people don’t even try to move for the fire truck.

On a more serious note, I would like to urge the people of Abaco to please be aware of those who are responding to emergency situations and show some consideration. Someday it might be you or your family that might be at risk. And this is not only for the fire department but for all emergency services on the island. We are all just here to help as much as we can.

Thanks,

Jessica Cooke

We’ll Invest Elsewhere

Dear Editor,

My family and I have been coming to Abaco for the last 10 years, specifically to Guana Cay. We dearly love Abaco and we spend a lot of money there. We were even planning to purchase a second home on Guana Cay, but we learned of plans for the extensive development of the north end of the island, (Passerine Pass). Since we be-
lieved that these plans, if approved, would have a catastrophic effect on all aspects of the island we love so much, we put our plans on hold pending government review, hop-
ing that they would not agree to this folly. Now we hear that government has ap-
proved this development. Because of this it is with great regret we have decided that we no longer wish to own a home on Guana. We’ll take our money and go elsewhere. We are very disappointed. This project is an irremissible loss for the people of Guana Cay specifically, but a threat for Abaco in gen-
eral. The publicly owned land, including Joe’s Creek and the surrounding estuary, that will be given to these foreign develop-
ers for the sole purpose of their making money is reprehensible and short sighted, and the Bahamian people should be out-
raged!

Sincerely,

Larry Martin

Time to Consider a Change

Dear Sir,

A white Prime Minister! Now that is a subject that simply will not escape my mind, no matter how I try not to think about it enough to drive me to have to write about it. Also, I cannot block it any more, hence this letter. If you would be so kind please.

First off, allow me to make a broad state-
ment. Anybody in this Bahamas who still thinks in the terms of yesteryear, that is to say that the PLP is the black man’s party and the FNM is the white man’s party, is out of touch with our extremely trou-

blosus future. Figure it out for yourself. When the PLP - that is to say the “old PLP” - came to power in the late sixties, it

February 1, 2005 The Abaconian Page 9

Victor and Viola Bethel of Guana Cay showed outstanding hospitality to visitors back in the 60s. These visitors still remember their friendly attitude and helpful ways to this day.
On January 19th members of the executive committee of the Pilot Club of Abaco made a presentation of clothing to the Cancer Society of Abaco Thrift Shop. Representing the club were President, Craig Corinish; Treasurer, Sharon Dorsett; and Project Director, Donnaree Cornish.

The Cancer Society Thrift Store depends entirely upon a continuous supply of donations of clothing and housewares from the community to be able to raise the funds needed to assist cancer sufferers and carry out its other preventative programmes. The members of the Pilot Club wished to assist, so collected an amount of good quality clothing towards this end, which was gratefully received at the presentation by Hugh Cottis and Marjolein Scott, President and Secretary of the Cancer Society.

The Pilot Club of Abaco was started seven years ago on April 22nd, 1998, and is a branch of Pilot International which was chartered in Macon, Georgia, in 1921. They are part of a global organization of approximately 500 Pilot Clubs comprising of professional individuals from all walks of life “working together to improve the quality of humanity.” Their principles of “Friendship and Service” are displayed daily by Pilot members in communities throughout the world.

Although the Pilot Club’s main focus is on fund-raising for brain related disorders and disabilities, they also reach out to help the local community in various other ways as is evidenced by their assistance to the Cancer Society.
The family of Roscow N. Pyfrom congratulates Family Guardian on 40 years of Building a Better Life for Many

February 1st 1965 – February 1st 2005
Demand for Second Homes Continues

By Mirella Santillo

Enduring two hurricanes back to back in one month would usually make you rethink about the place you live in! After Hurricane Jeanne last September my eight years old grandson commented, “If another hurricane comes, I want to move to France. The food is good there and there are no hurricanes!” However, that thought was soon forgotten when the good weather returned.

According to reports from several real estate companies, Abaco is still a very popular place to have a second home despite the two hurricanes. Mrs. Maria Silvester, agent for Aisle of Palms Realty, was showing properties one week after Jeanne. Mr. Brent Cartwright, the Chairman of the Bahamas Real Estate Association, Abaco Chapter, and owner of Aisle of Palms Realty said that 2004 was an amazing year. “The best since 2000,” he said, “or perhaps even better.” There are always affordable properties for Bahamian buyers, but by mid-year, the inventory of second homes on the market had become very low. Within a month after the hurricanes, as soon as communications were reestablished, buyers were back.” Mr. Cartwright continued. “It did not seem that people had been deterred by the storms. There were a lot of inquiries during the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.” He felt confident to say, “For most of Abaco’s real estate companies, December was the best month of 2004.” He added, “I expect 2005 to be an exceptional year.”

Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty was closed for two weeks after Jeanne because of flooding. But, according to real estate agent, Mrs. Maillin Sands, “Business did not stop.” She said, “Contrary to the company’s expectations, people kept inquiring about properties and making appointments soon after communications were reestablished. The majority of these buyers are foreigners looking for second homes.” Asked whether there was an increase in property listings because of people moving after the hurricanes, she answered, “I am not aware of anyone selling their homes for that reason.” She is also very optimistic for the coming year.

Mr. Derek Lee, broker for H.G. Christie Ltd Real Estate, stated, “Although the office was put out of business for six weeks because of a lack of communication and damage incurred during the hurricanes, business was back to normal by Christmas.” He added, “There is a tremendous amount of business being generated by the second home owners’ market.” He also foresees 2005 as being a very successful year.
Mahatma 20lb  
Long Grain Rice  $8.49  
Carnation 410 grm  
Cream 69¢  
Rainbow 12 oz  
Corned Beef 69¢  
Chef Boyardee 15 oz  
Spaghetti w/ meatballs $1.29  
Leonardo 12 oz  
Macaroni & Cheese 2/ 99¢  
Mueller’s 16 oz  
Ready Cut Noodles $1.09  
So Dri One roll  
Paper Towel 69¢  
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Real Mayonnaise $1.89  
Brawn each  
Packing Products $1.59  
Juice Bowl 2/ $1.09  
Case $11.99  
Flavorite 4 oz  
Black pepper $1.99  
Flavorite 15 oz  
Whole Kernel Corn 2/ $1.49  
Kellogg’s 13.5 oz  
Rice Krispies $3.99  
General Mills 21 oz  
Cheerios $4.99  
Kellogg’s 19.5 oz  
Corn Pops $4.29  
Lipton 4.5 oz  
Rice & Sides $1.39  
Flavorite 15 oz  
Whole Kernel Corn 2 for $1.49  
Pringles 5.75 oz - 6.75 oz - 5.25 oz  
5.13 oz - 6 oz - 6.25 oz - 8 oz  
Chips $1.69  
Flavorite Salt Plain & Iodized 2 for 99¢  
Xtra Liquid Detergent 300 oz  
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Scents Galore 10.5 oz  
Carpet Refreshers $1.59  
Libby’s 2/99  
Vienna Sausage 2/99  
Zephyrhills 32 pk  
Natural Spring Water $11.99  
Hunts 4 pk  
Snack Pack Puddings $1.79  
Lipton 4.5 oz  
Pasta & Sides $1.39  
Lander 22 oz  
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Monday - Thursday 8 am - 7 pm  
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Sunday 9 am - 4 pm  
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Combo Meat Special  
4lb Lamb Chop, 1lb Shoulder Roast,  
2lb Deli Cut Sandwich Ham, 1 Whole Butterball Turkey  
Chicken Whole Chicken 25¢ per Lb OFF  
Lamb Chops ......................... $1.89 per lb  
Shoulder Steaks ...................... $2.49 per lb  
Whole Turkeys (12lb & up) ................. 99¢ per lb  
PRODUCE  
<table>
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<th>Onions</th>
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Nectarines .................................. $1.69 per lb  
Peaches ..................................... $1.69 per lb  
DAIRY  
| Flavorite Margarine | Breakstone Sour Cream | Flavorite American Slice Cheese |
| 3 lb.               | 16 oz                | 12 oz                        |
| $1.69               | $2.49                | $1.99                        |

Philadelphia Cream Cheese 8oz $1.99  
DELI  
| Rotisserie Chicken | Oscar Mayer Meat Wieners |
| $7.99 SALE         | 16oz                   |
| Lemon Pepper      | $2.89                  |
| Italian Mesquite BBQ | Original              |

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Two Adults; 15 Juveniles Charged in High School Fight

By Richard E. Fawkes
Two adults and a juvenile were charged before Magistrate Crawford McKee on January 13 with carrying unlawful arms and trespassing; and 14 students, ranging in ages from 14 to 17, were charged before the juvenile panel with fighting.

The charges arose from a melee at Abaco Central High School on January 12 during which chairs, rocks and other missiles were thrown. Principal Euthal Greene summoned the police. Eleven police officers brought the fighting to a stop and arrested those Mr. Greene and his teaching staff had identified as being responsible. All those arrested and charged are male.

Brendan Evans, 23, of Dundas Town, pleaded not guilty to charges of being in possession of unlawful arms, a baseball bat, and trespassing. He was denied bail and ordered remanded until February 7 for trial. Another adult arrested at the fight was Leander Symonette, 18, also of Dundas Town, pleaded not guilty to possession of unlawful arms, a cleaver knife, a pen knife and trespassing. He, too, was denied bail and ordered remanded until trial on February 7.

A third person who is not a student at the school, a 17-year-old juvenile, was arrested and charged with carrying unlawful arms trespassing. He was granted bail in the amount of $500 and ordered to appear before the juvenile panel and Magistrate McKee on their behalf.

Mr. Maillis told the panel that, speaking in a sense of "general mitigation," some of the young men came from good homes and some from not so good homes. After discussions with them and explaining to them "strict liability" and that the law was not interested in who started what, but that if they were involved, they were responsible, he was convinced that they were thinking seriously about the consequences of their actions.

He, therefore, appealed to the panel for a "second chance" for all 14 of them. Under the law they could receive a penalty of a fine of $150 and released on conditional probation with the understanding that if they were to come before the court again within the probation frame time, they would receive the "full weight of the law." He urged the panel to waive the requirement of a probation report.

Magistrate McKee, after consulting with the juvenile panel, ruled that although they entered a guilty plea, he was not entering a finding of guilt or a formal conviction. He said the panel did want to know about each juvenile's background. He ordered each student to return to court on March 8 to hear the reports, after which time the juvenile panel would make its ruling.

Magistrate McKee warned the youth that he called back their bail and be immediately remanded.

Mr. Greene declined any formal statement to the press on the fight. The students arrested were subsequently suspended, three indefinitely.

ASP Wayne Miller, officer-in-charge of the Abaco district, said the arrests of the students were made to reinforce the police's zero-tolerance for violence policy, and to help the young men understand the seriousness and consequences of their behaviour. Mr. Miller offered Mr. Greene the services of his officers for regular consultation with the staff and talks with the students to help prevent future outbreaks of violent behaviour at the school.

Several young men milling about outside the court before the hearing said the incident sprang from an ongoing dispute between certain Bahamian youth and Haitian-Bahamian youth. They said a Haitian-Bahamian youth was stabbed by a Bahamian youth, and that conflict had been brewing since then.
Two Fires Near Abaco Central Are “Suspicious”

By Richard E. Fowkes

Smoke and the smell of burning were still pervasive enough January 13 at Abaco Central High School to cause a number of students to request permission to go home. Two brush fires, one near the eastern fence and one between the school and the east campus, where wood-work classes are held, erupted yesterday afternoon, requiring the attention of the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Services. “They were two separate incendiary fires,” said Norwel Gordon, senior fire officer. “We could see no natural causes and strongly suspect someone or some persons started them.”

Mr. Gordon said the first fire was started about 300 feet along the back road leading from the school toward the east campus on the south side of the road. That became a forest fire burning in a south westerly direction, although it came right up to the back fence of the school where a lot of rubbish has accumulated over the years. All they could do was watch it, he said. The second fire, Mr. Gordon said, which was started a few hours later on the south side of the same back road, after the fire personnel had left, was more serious. He said, “It was between the high school and some teachers’ quarters to the east. The wind, which fortunately was not very high, could blow it either way toward the school or the teachers’ houses.”

The Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire and Rescue was called out to battle two fires near Abaco Central High School on January 12 - 14. The fires started suspiciously soon after a fight at the school which the police had to break up. The firemen were involved with the fires for about 48 hours, with trucks working for many of those hours. At one point they called for the fire truck from Casuarina Point to come when the fire was near a gas station. Much of the time the fire was burning in the forest in areas which the fire trucks could not access but which allowed the fire to strengthen and spread.

We created a fire break near the houses on one side and near the school fence on the other.” He said that the firemen backed burned from each side to drive the fire toward the middle and put it out. Neither school officials nor police would speculate whether the fires might have been connected to the fight which broke out at school on January 12, resulting in the arrest of three outsiders, including two adults and 14 students. ASP Miller, officer-in-charge of Abaco, instructed his officers to look into it. Mr. Gordon said the volunteer fire
On January 20th approximately four months after Hurricanes Francis and Jeanne trashed Abaco, Leonard Edgecombe, PTA President of the Abaco Central High School, guided a group of concerned parents on a tour of the school. They wanted to see first hand the damage to the classrooms, to review what repairs had taken place and to learn what would be fixed in the near future.

They got an eyeful. On the second floor in room 14, where grade seven stud- ies Spanish under the instruction of Mr. Audley Miller, the windows were gone. There was no barrier to the ground one floor below, not even a restraining bar. Mr. Miller said that it was “an accident waiting to happen as students can be fooling around and easily fall through.” Comments from parents making the inspection tour concluded, “This is deplor- able!” “This is a disgrace!” and “They need to shut this down and fix this!”

The parents also visited the second floor biology laboratory of Michelle Bailey, the head of the science department. She lost a lot of equipment during the hurricanes including a computer and 16 microscopes, some of which were in standing water for a long time. There was no ceiling in the classroom, just open rafters through which could be seen a roof covered with mildew and mold. The formica covering desks and lab tables was lifting, the wood still damp.

The students worked hard to overcome their difficult surroundings by helping the woodworking department sand and refinish stools that had been damaged. Their morale was low because there were no lights. According to Miss. Bailey, “The darkness depressed us the most. We couldn’t see to draw or to take notes. I went outside to mark papers.”

Even the Principal, Mr. Euthal Green Jr., an educator for 30 years said, “I’ve been in a depressed state since the hurri- canes.” He said that they are short staffed, lacked science and graphics communica- tions teachers.

In addition, the students need replacement equipment for their home economic classrooms such as sewing machines and refrigerators to keep food cold. Mr. Green was worried about those students who could not complete their work, who might not pass their exams because they lacked the equipment on which to prac- tice.

There were many instances of windows blown out, piles of debris near the build- ings (some hurricane related, some not), paint peeling off the walls and the occasional gang related graffiti.

Mr. Green said that the recently reported fight that broke out between rival gang members at the school was partly the result of tension from coping with the hurricane damage to the facility, the lack of electric- ity, wreckage of desks, books and notebooks in the classrooms and partly the result of external problems that happened a year or more ago and just came to a head at this time.

He is very concerned about the safety and security of children and staff at the school. He said, “People now can just drive on campus and you don’t know who they are.”

There are signs that the problems expe- rienced by faculty and students may be im- proving. The electricity was partially re- stored last week and the PTA has been in- terested and vocal about needed changes. Principal Green said, “The steps they are taking are to improve the school. Their concern is that their children should be edu- cated in a better environment than they are now.”

Parents making the inspection included Ms. Augustine Williams, Ms. Eva Mae Sturrup, Ms. Barbara Williams, Ms. Harriet Williams, Ms. Nickole Fox, Ms. Bernadette Murray and Ms. Mary Whilty.

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Abaco Markets Ltd. Reports Loss

Abaco Markets Limited released its 2004 third quarter earnings which reflect losses from the September hurricanes. The company had to close a Solomon’s store in Freeport because the building lost its roof. This contributed to third quarter earnings being $15 million lower than planned. The company expects that 2005 sales will be impacted as well. The closed store was 50 percent of their selling space on Grand Bahama. The company’s 2004 losses are expected to be $15 million.

Dunkin’ Donuts and the Turks & Caicos operations continue to post operating losses. The company will discontinue the Dunkin’ Donuts operations which are unprofitable. The company has received $2.75 million in insurance claims and expects that the total payments will be about $5 million.

The management is planning to develop a new Solomon’s SuperCenter in Freeport.

## Student Leaders Speak Out

As quoted in the Tribune of January 22nd, the Director of Youth Against Violence, Mr. Carlos Reid, said that more than 10,000 young men are “actively involved in gangs” in The Bahamas. He said the country “is on course for a national crisis; meanwhile, we continue to play games.”

Ten days ago on January 12 at Abaco Central High School there was a gang-related fight which involved “outsiders” and students. The police were called in, and the fight got ugly when weapons (including a baseball bat and a knife) were produced.

According to the Head Girl at Abaco Central High School, Allita Bain, “The fight got loud. Everyone began running away because rocks, chairs and window louvers being thrown.” By the time the fighting stopped some students were arrested, some suspended from classes and most of the rest of the student body was upset.

Collin Swain, Jr., the Head Boy said, “There are at least seven different gangs at the school whose members are primarily from distinct areas. Out of a student population of 500 it is unknown what percentage are members of gangs. The gangs are Shalin from Spring City, Mud Dogs from the Mud, Block 30 from Dundas Town, TRU (meaning Thugs R Us) origin unknown, DTG (Dundas Town Gangsters), HTG (Hope Town Gangsters) and MIA (Moore’s Island Assassins). Each gang has carved out an area of the school that is “theirs” and they will often mark the boundaries of their territories with graffiti.

Although the principal, Mr. Euthal Green, tries to have such gang messages painted over as quickly as possible, they pop up with discouraging regularity. Although membership in the gangs is mostly boys, girls who are “associate” or “sympathizer” are part of the groups as well. Since the gangs are territorial, it follows that some graffiti are made up of mostly Creole-speaking members while other gangs have mostly English-speaking members. Perhaps most ominous of all was the observation by both the Head Boy and Head Girl that the school-based gangs are affiliated with larger, adult groups as well.

From the student perspective the proliferation of gangs at Abaco Central is the direct result of a lack of involvement by parents of students, by a weak after school program and a lack of discipline. Collin said, “Those involved in the fight have parents who don’t care about their school work and their grades. If we had an after school program where we could all come together to play more sports, to get to know one another better, there would be no fights. There are some excellent after school opportunities now,” he said. “For instance, Ms. Davis, the physical education teacher, has a good sports-related program but only the most excellent after school opportunities now.”

Allita said, “If there were serious penalties toward fighting, not just suspension, if you sent fighting students to Boy’s Industrial (now called Simpson Penn) to show them what could happen, that might stop the violence. Now, when you are suspended, you come right back.”

As far back as two and a half years ago both student leaders had been urging the administration to consider allowing the formation of a student council. “With a student council,” said Allita, “We could transfer information from us to the government, to teachers, to the principal and to the parents.” A student council would allow for peer groups to work through the problems experienced by students, thus possibly avoiding the buildup of tension that resulted in the gang fight a week prior.

Principal Green thinks that it is a good thing to have a student council. He will try to get one going next month after exams are completed. In his words, “Students have rights. If you want respect from students, you will need to respect them as well. The student council might be a place where students could get themselves together and train to a higher level of responsibility in the school. The quicker we can get a student council the better.”
Letters From Page 9

dare say that if I would have been of voting age and of the mind set that I have always been as an adult, I would have been one of the first ones in the polling station to mark my “X” next to the PLP candidate in my particular constituency! Yeah that’s right, me, Billy Roberts, a conchy joe Bahamian, would have helped to put the PLP in office.

In my opinion, when the PLP came to office, it was a time that required change in our land. In other words, it was “time for a change.” And by the same token, it was time for more change in 1992, and I was out bright and early in my polling station making sure that I would be one of those individuals who was responsible for bringing change to our land once again.

One of the greatest Bahamian politicians, if not THE greatest, was Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling. Needless to say, everybody knows that he was a black man. When he became Prime Minister of this country, it was a great historical moment for us, the greatest if not THE greatest, was Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling making sure that I would be one of those individuals who was responsible for bringing change to our land once again.

As far as I am concerned, the FNM is in grave need of new and effective leadership. My choice in the last election was Algernon Allen. Brent Symonette, who is destined to be the leader of his party and to hopefully be the Prime Minister of this country, I have to ask a dumb question: So what? Have we learned absolutely nothing? Are we really so short sighted that we are afraid of a white man being Prime Minister? Do we really believe that it is possible for a white Prime Minister to represent the needs of only the whites to the detriment of the black folks? Well, all I can say is that if you believe that, then you need to stay under the rock that you are presently living under, thereby ensuring that you will never have to deal with such a scary matter. As far as I am concerned, the FNM is in grave need of new and effective leadership. My choice in the last election was Algernon Allen, but the powers that be obviously disagreed. Brent Symonette, by all accounts, is a very intelligent and open-minded person, capable of handling a position of leadership. If he is destined to that position, he should be given every opportunity to pursue it. I will warn the FNM of one thing right now. Please do not make that same mistake in selecting new leadership as you did the last time. A word to the wise is supposed to be sufficient I am told. We shall see.

If the next Prime Minister of my country is a white man, I will respect him the same way that I did Sir Lynden, Hubert Ingraham, and now Perry Christie. I will not expect any more than what is legal and expected, and that is, fair and decisive leadership for all Bahamians. The same goes if the next Prime Minister is a black man. Although I did not vote for the present administration, Perry Christie is still my Prime Minister. I respect him insofar as his office is concerned. I will not seek to undermine him or his authority, although I have one or two points of criticism against him. I also have a number of points of criticism for Hubert Ingraham in the way that he handled his job during the last year or so of his tenure as Prime Minister. My point? It doesn’t matter who the Prime Minister is. Either he, or she, is doing a good job, or they’re not. Either he or she is deserving of my support or they are not. You see, if we can keep it all simple, it will be better for all parties concerned. I have always voted for the betterment of my country. I intend to continue to do so, whithersoever my conscience guides me. To label me an FNM is to be short sighted and uninformed. That is not to say that I didn’t support the FNM, because I did. But I will not continue to do so regardless of what I perceive to be the consequences thereof.

Finally, I would like to encourage the Christie Administration to continue to strive for excellence in their representation of the Bahamian people. Sadly, there are a few areas where they are failing down or at least fumbling. Leadership is not easy. It is, however, easy to criticize, and that is why I have remained silent for the most part when it comes to criticizing the PLP. There is a code that all men and women must follow when they enjoy positions of power. When the lines of that code are crossed, it is absolutely imperative that the offending one be reprimanded. MUST appear that everybody is equally answerable to the law and to the people. Otherwise what is the point?

God Bless The Bahamas. And may we truly strive to live together as a people and not as whites or blacks. It is so depressing to see the results of such thinking transpire across the globe. We are truly blessed as a country and a people. For God’s sakes, people, don’t waste it!

Sincerely,
William (Billy) Roberts

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Tsunami Fund Is Opened

The Bahamas Government has opened an account at the Royal Bank of Canada with a $150,000 contribution to aid victims of the December 26 Asian Tsunami. The Hon. Vincent Peet, Min. of Labour and Immigration, commented, “This gift represents the good will of this nation to assist the people of those affected by the tidal wave.” Mr. Peet noted that The Bahamas received monetary support from many countries around the world after Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne which caused widespread destruction. He encouraged Bahamas to contribute to the National Tsunami Relief Fund Account. Anyone interested can contact the Royal Bank in Marsh Harbour.

Humane Groups Receive Donations

The Sandra Evans Real Estate company donates part of every sale to humane organizations in Central Abaco. Mrs. Evans is presenting a check to Linda Giovinetti while Bill Thorndycraft is presenting a check to Chris Roberts. Mrs. Giovinetti cares for and feeds many strays in Marsh Harbour while Mr. Roberts heads the Abaco Animals Require Friends organization.

Support Citizens Against Crime

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The funeral for James Herschel Roberts, 85, of Marsh Harbour, was held in Nassau on January 5. Interment was in the Ebenezer Methodist Cemetery in Nassau.

He was predeceased by his wife, Agnes, and a daughter, Janice Collins. He is survived by his sons Rudy Roberts, and daughters Paulette Sands and Denise Calkins; grandchildren Devon, Nado and Nigel Jr.; sisters Tamara and Terrina Brown, Paulette Nesbit, Katherine Lynden and Stephanie Fernandez; brothers Darrin Culmer, Elton and Steven Smith; and numerous other relatives and friends.

The funeral and interment of Oscar "Tony" Livingston Knowles, 54, of Sandy Point were held on January 22 in Nassau. He is survived by his wife Eva Victoria Saunders Knowles; daughters Pandora Fernandez and Norita Knowles; sons Oscar, Julius and Laracio Knowles; stepchildren Lillian Rigby and Patrick Adderley; sisters Christine Lewis and Sandra Johnson; brothers Raymond Taylor, Rodney Gray and Granville Bastian; grandchildren Wensika, Wensha, Wenchantay, Janessa, Leon, Bradley and Patrick Jr.; uncles Juanita Austin and Juanet Roker; uncle, William Knowles; sisters-in-law Sarah Taylor, Alice Bastian, Barbara, Laura, Shan non, Hilda and Sandra Saunders; brothers-in-law Derick Johnson, Kirk Lewis, Rob ert, Wendell, Vincent and Philip Saunders; sons-in-law Leon Fernandez and Wendell Rigby; aunts-in-law Michelle, Sylvia and Loraine Knowles and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for Alphonso Haywood McIntosh, 77, of Green Turtle Cay was held on January 22 at St. Peter’s Anglican Church in Green Turtle Cay. Fr. Dwight Rolle, assisted by Deacon Fequale LaPlante and other ministers officiated. Interment was in the Green Turtle Cay Public Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Patricia Anne McIntosh; sons Res, Trent Sr. and Max well McIntosh Sr.; stepson Regan Deal; daughters Eloise Cartwright, Hilda Johnson, Nora McIntosh, Kim Lavine and Miranda Russell; stepdaughters Miquell Miller and Natasha Deal; grandchildren Ian, Ianthe and Ianna Cartwright, Vance and Jansen Johnson, Lamara and Laisha Davis, Vonya, Vaughan Jr., and Vaughn Ferguson; Samantha, Maxwell Jr., and Sherrard Russell, Almund and Kiahjah McIntosh, Derek and Destay Whyhms, Tyce, Tatia, Tianna, Jaliek, Jaden, Shazarah, Chandler, Rodney, Rashad, Ceara, Rayndon, Roxanna, Koscha and Trent McIntosh Jr. and Verena Deal; great-grandchildren Kiahjah Ferguson; mother-in-law Dorothy Deal; daughters-in-law Jackie, Joyelle and Lecar McIntosh; son-in-law Michael Cartwright, Kevin Lavine, Ricardo Tooste, Maxwell Russell; brothers-in-law Frank, Daniel and Ephraim Deal and George Reckley; sisters-in-law Winifred and Grace Deal; many nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends.

The funeral and interment of Cyril McKenzie, 85, formerly of Moore’s Island were held on January 22nd in Nassau. He is survived by his brothers Hensil Davis and Roland Davis; sister-in-law Minerva Davis; nieces Lillian Laing, Patsy Davis, Loretha Davis, Theresa Major, Henrietta Lamm, Angel Davis, Nedris Davis and Anoush Gould; nephews Virgil, Arron and Jermaine, Dwayne Fernandez and Nathaniel Fowler; nieces-in-law Wanda Knowles, Fredrica Hayling, Bruce Mcintosh Sr.; stepson Regan Deal; sons Osbert, Almund and Kahdijah McIntosh, Samantha, Maxwell Jr., and Sherrard Russell, Almund and Kiahjah McIntosh, Derek and Destay Whyhms, Tyce, Tatia, Tianna, Jaliek, Jaden, Shazarah, Chandler, Rodney, Rashad, Ceara, Rayndon, Roxanna, Koscha and Trent McIntosh Jr. and Verena Deal; great-grandchildren Kiahjah Ferguson; mother-in-law Dorothy Deal; daughters-in-law Jackie, Joyelle and Lecar McIntosh; son-in-law Michael Cartwright, Kevin Lavine, Ricardo Tooste, Maxwell Russell; brothers-in-law Frank, Daniel and Ephraim Deal and George Reckley; sisters-in-law Winifred and Grace Deal; many nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends.

The funeral and interment of Maxwell Deveaux, 49, of Murphy Town were held on January 15th in Nassau. Interment was in Nassau also. He is survived by his wife Adamae Deveaux; daughter Tajah; mother Susan Deveaux; mother-in-law Sylvia Swain; brothers John, Tyrone, Joseph and James Deveaux; sisters Anita, Raquel and Nikieta Deveaux and Chasmoin Poitier; brothers-in-law Anthony Poitier, Michael Burrows, Robert Dames and Dennis Mather; sisters-in-law Luwelle, Valderine and Ann Deveaux and Gloria Burrows; uncle George Thomas Arthur; aunts Gloria Delancy, Inez Rigby, Mary Wilchombe, Louise Butterfield, Rose Douglas and Roslyn Gibson; grandaunt Anita Gibson; nephews Torino, Tevon, Sean, Tyson, Jahbel, Anthony Jr. Tavaris, Jarvis, Vargo, Robin, Bryton, Keamu, Patrick, Angelo, Owen, Julien, Spenser, Brandon, Kirk Price, Shana Price, Charnmaine, Tyrekka, Valder, LaNisha, LaVanda, Chemine, Shavonnya, LaTonya, Phyllis, Britney, Fantacia and Johonelle Deveaux, Charnmaine Bondon, April Burrous.
From Page 20

Children’s Clothing Store Opens

Portia Johnson

On December 20th a store which caters only to the little people in our lives opened its doors just in time for Christmas. Declan's, located in the B&J Plaza opposite the Royal Bank of Canada, specializes in children’s clothing sizes newborn to 12/14, children’s shoes, furniture, toys and accessories. Store hours are Monday to Wednesday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 Noon, Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. If there is a Dora the Explorer, Barbie or Strawberry Shortcake lover in your house, stop by today and check Declans out.

New Business in Murphy Town

By Mirella Santillo

Sam’s Boutiques, a clothing store for women and men, opened in Murphy Town at the beginning of November 2004. Mr. Paul and Mrs. Samantha Curry are the proud owners. Paul, who worked as a building inspector, and Samantha, who worked as a restaurant waitress, used their savings and the clothes from the store is divid 11 hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. Mrs. Curry especially catered to the voluptuous woman. She said, “Sam’s Boutiques are the only clothing store in Murphy Town.” She is very optimistic for future business and said, “I had a great response at Christmas and I am looking forward to serving the Murphy Town community.”

Gas Station Expands

Pastor Larry Williams, owner of the Shell Gas Station in Dundas Town, is in the process of erecting a building next to the gas station. The existing laundromat on the opposite side of the gas station will be relocated to the new building in a larger area, and there are plans for a tire outlet at the back. “I hope to open the doors in March if all goes according to plans,” said Pastor Williams.

Being a contractor, he is doing most of the building work himself. It is his intention to complete the Faith Convention Center on Don MacKay Boulevard sometime this year. “I have great plans for that building. It will not only be a meeting place for out-of-town people and conventions, but a location where local performing groups can practice and perform.”

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Ms. Samantha Curry

March Harbour

Lottie Ann Philosier

She is survived by nieces Judith Thompson, Judie Green, Vern Campbell and Dr. Godfrey Pinder; nephews Michael and Johnnie Granger; nieces-in-law Francine and Gloria Joseph; nephews-in-law Dr. Stunce Williams, Dr. Wiona Pratt, Frank Claude, Chris Jackson; nieces Ludia Philistin, Joseph, Inocent and Tony Luttice and Thelma Boliva, Prophet and Cola Joseph, Moise Joseph and Roseline Charistal; brothers Maurie, Anderson, Shela, Elsie, Kendly, Angie, Frankie and Lucky Luttice; grandnieces; grand nephews; nieces-in-law; brothers-in-law; adopted nieces Helen Smith and Curly Arabag; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral and interment for Lottie Ann Pinder, 93, formerly of Marsh Harbour were held on January 15 in Nassau. She is survived by her children Lionel, Hubert Dean; adopted nieces Helen Smith and Curly Arabag; and many other relatives and friends.

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Pastors Are Honoured

Pastors

From Page 1

Baptist Church in Fox Town. Rev. Copeland Morley was born in 1936 in Old Place in North Abaco. He received his early education in the Dundas Town All Age School. Upon completion of his school- ing, he went to Nassau to work. Later he attended the Island Ministry Society Bible Church graduating in 1944. After his gradu- ation he was commissioned for two years to Mayaguna, then became Pastor of the Faith Mission Church on Long Island for eleven years. Upon completion of this work, he returned home to Abaco to pastor the Friendship Mission Church in Cooper's Town.

After retiring from pastoring, he was commissioned by the Bahamas Evangelical Church Association as a missionary. Returning home to Dundas Town, he served as Senior Elder and Treasurer of the Friend- ship Tabernacle Church. He is presently serving there as Elder Emeritus and Evangelist.

Bishop Roland Swain was born in March, 1926 and spent his childhood between Murphy Town and Bluff Point. It was in Florida in 1947 while working in the agri- cultural sector in Belle Glade that he found his vocation to be a pastor. He married in 1948. That same year he joined the Zionist Baptist Church and was invited to serve as Assistant Pastor. Six months later Dr. Paul Murphy asked him to join the Island Mission- ary Society as Pastor of Friendship Taber- nacle in Dundas Town.

After completing the Minister’s Training Program, he served in Exuma as Pastor until 1957. Returning to Dundas Town in 1958 he served as Pastor at Friendship Tabernacle until 1985. During his leadership the church grew to 157 members. A church sanctuary and mission home were completed, a pre- school was planned and additional property was bought for the church.

knowledge she gathered during the after- math of the storms will help her to raise the standard of living for a lot of residents. It was mentioned that the relocation of Snake Cay residents is under review and would be addressed at a later meeting. Also present at the meeting were Mr. Roger Bowe, Administrator for the South Abaco, Mr. Donald Cash, Administrator for North Abaco, and Mr. Neil S. Campbell, Deputy Relief Coordinator for South Abaco.

Training

From Page 4

and other boats are obligated to have only one crew member on board though some are making sure that two are on board which is what the Port Department would like to see and hopes soon to make mandatory.” Finally, Capt. Roker stressed that the onus will be on the companies to make sure that their personnel are trained. “We have to trade globally, and tourism is our main business so all necessary safety measures must be adhered to.”

NEMA

From Page 2

needs to be expedited. The teachers feel this trauma is unnecessary. If something posi- tive doesn’t happen this week, it is possible they may take action. And if it does, the union backs them 2000 percent!”

Mr. Black said, “have been suffering since Sep- tember. It is now the heart of winter. It is cold, there are no warming fires. The longer the rooms are open to the elements the more damage will occur to the struc- tures. This is not a humane site, it is ter- rible. Patience has run out. The storm is over, it is now time to see repairs and re- sults. The teachers at S.C. Boolee are not prepared to spend another day in these con- ditions which they have endured since Sep- tember.” The union will be pressing the Ministry of Education to take a long hard look at the situation in North Abaco and to commit energy and resources immediately to com- mence making necessary repairs.

Hotels and House Rental Agents

+ agents who have multiple cottages and houses

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

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  - Abaco Yacht Haven: $30
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Set The Mood

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for two

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a walk on the beach

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Volunteer Curator, Tony Bennett, shows off a prized addition to the Museum – a bed frame carved out of Lignum Vitae or Ironwood. It is one of the heaviest items on display with each bedpost weighing 90 pounds. The bed was found in the attic of Toad Hall, which was once the Commissioner’s residence, and donated to the museum.

Treasure Cay School Boasts New Library
Storage Room Now Holds 2300 Donated Books

Eight years ago when Mrs. Myrtis Russell took over as principal of Treasure Cay Primary School, she had a dream to establish a library at the school. On January 12th her dream became a reality as the Ann F. Smith Library was officially opened.

Mrs. Ann Smith, a retired schoolteacher and Treasure Cay resident, phoned Mrs. Russell a year ago offering her help to the school. Mrs. Russell reached out to Mrs. Smith who shared her belief in the importance of a library in the school and thus, the Ann F. Smith Library was born.

Mrs. Smith with the assistance of Ms. Roberta Rownd worked tirelessly to convert the room used for storage into a library. They solicited the help of many friends both here and abroad. Paul and Paige Hammond, Treasure Cay winter residents, held a fundraiser for the school at their home in Connecticut. The proceeds from the fundraiser enabled the Hammonds to purchase 1200 multi-cultural books. The library houses

Ban on Grouper Fishing
Favored Despite Hardship

The first Nassau Grouper fishing ban, initiated in December of 2003, lasted a week during the full moon. It was repeated once more in January of 2004 during the same period of the moon. The gourper start aggregating around November and gather in schools during full moons until February and March. It is usually the time they carry egg roe, but also the time they are being most intensely caught, thus preventing their reproduction. The second ban went into effect on December 16th 2004, covered three months and two full moon periods and is nearing its end. During this period the public was prohibited from taking, landing, processing selling or offering for sale fresh Nassau Grouper. After February 17th, 2005, grouper, a favorite delicacy of Bahamians and tourists alike, will be found again in seafood shops and on local restaurant menus.

Wyannie Malone Museum Recreates Loyalist Home

Volunteer Curator, Tony Bennett, shows off a prized addition to the Museum – a bed frame carved out of Lignum Vitae or Ironwood. It is one of the heaviest items on display with each bedpost weighing 90 pounds. The bed was found in the attic of Toad Hall, which was once the Commissioner’s residence, and donated to the museum.

Abaco Soccer Teams Win in Freeport

These two Youth in Action soccer teams competed in Freeport in December with outstanding results. They won the tournament easily. A larger group will be competing in Freeport the last weekend in January, and it is expected that they will again come back winners.

Treasure Cay Primary School officially opened its new library, naming it the Ann F. Smith Library after the woman, Mrs. Ann Smith, who was instrumental in creating it. She began with a storage room and converted it into a library with 2200 children’s books through the efforts of many second home owners in Treasure Cay. They raised funds, did much manual labour in building shelves and painting and finally stocked the shelves with interesting books. Shown here at the opening are Mr. Jack Thompson, Director of NEMA for Abaco, Mrs. Myrtis Russell, Principal, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Rudolph Smith, Education Superintendent for Abaco and Mrs. Roberta Rownd, who assisted Mrs. Smith.

Wyannie Malone Museum Recreates Loyalist Home

Grouper Ban

From Page 14

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Hope Town District Council Meets

By Lindsey Delaplaine

The Hope Town District Council met on January 17. An important agenda item was to start making plans for the annual town meetings which will be held on each of the cays in the Hope Town District. By law these meetings are held each year before Council budget discussions are conducted. Council member Glenn Laing wants the first meeting to be held on Guana Cay. He wants to provide an opportunity for the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health, Minister of Housing and other government officials to meet with the residents. ‘There are a lot of angry people on Guana right now. I think their government should come and talk to the people and give them answers to their questions,” said Mr. Laing. “They call me and complain, but being a member of local government, I can’t give them the explanations they deserve.” Guana Cay residents have expressed their anger about government granting Crown Land to the Passerine development project without any local input.

The meetings will also be an opportunity to discuss the upcoming year and how Abaco’s five percent cut in government funding and the lack of any financial support for hurricane relief will affect the region.

On the agenda were concerns about the Hope Town dump. Reportedly, there have been complaints about the condition of the dump to the Ministry of Environmental Health in Nassau. Also discussed was the recent damage caused to a large dumpster used for transporting garbage to Marsh Harbour. During a routine fire of excess building material, trash in the dumpster, which was located a good distance away, inexplicably caught fire causing damaging to the walls of the dumpster. The Council is investigating the matter to decide the extent and cost of the damages. Mr. Evans Joseph, who is currently responsible for trash pick-up and maintenance of the dump, met with the Council to discuss these concerns. The meeting went well and every one felt good about the outcome with Mr. Joseph promising to improve conditions at the dump.

As the Hope Town Harbour Lodge dock nears completion, the Council is making plans to ready Sunshine Park as an important stop for the Hope Town ferry. Letters will be sent requesting the removal of all derelict cars from the parking lot to make way for people who wish to park there while they travel to Marsh Harbour for the day. It is hoped that this will ease the persistent parking congestion at the government dock.

Council plans on using the remainder of Christmas funds, which were not disbursed for decorations during the holidays due to weather conditions, to re-tile the Hope Town Library. Aware that large chunks of tile have been missing from the floor for years, the Council hopes to address the problem soon. Once the tile has been purchased they will be looking for volunteers to help lay the new tile.

Hope Town Road Project Still Unfinished

By Lindsey Delaplaine

The process of re-paving the main road in Elbow Key has been a long and convoluted one. Well past the time when it was supposed to be completed, the road remains unfinished, much to everyone’s dismay.

For a long time the government ignored complaints from residents about the condition of the road. Frustration at the situation resulted in the No Tar, No Tax bumper stick- ers that can still be found on golf carts and vehicles throughout Hope Town.

Finally responding, the government announced that it couldn’t provide sufficient funds to asphalt the entire road; residents, businesses and second home owners would have to share in the cost in order to have the project completed to everyone’s satis- faction.

Although it was supposed to be completed last August, the main road on Elbow Key still remains unfinished and the equipment sits idle in the center of the island. While residents doubt the road will ever be finished, government representatives say work will start soon. Residents raised half the funds for the paving to be done.
Students Attend in Shifts as Repairs Resume

By Richard E. Fawkes

It was mostly smiles at S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper’s Town January 25 with a construction crew continuing the repair work on hurricane-damaged buildings while students of grades seven, nine, 10 and 12 attended classes. That was a far cry from the previous week when school was interrupted after teachers staged a sit-in in drawing public attention to the hardships endured by students and teachers in roofless and windowless classrooms, in rain and cold, as a result of hurricane damage and the failure to resume repairs discontinued at the end of November.

According to Leslie Rolle, principal, James Richard, teachers’ union shop steward, and Clayton McIntosh, PTA president, during a meeting at the school on January 24, Rudolph Smith, District Education Superintendent, announced that construction would resume immediately.

There was unanimous agreement among parents, teachers and administration that the damage to or so classrooms, including the library, suitable for accommodating classes, would be shared on a rotation basis during the two months it was estimated to make ready the damaged buildings. According to the interim plan, students in grades 9 and 12, who will sit the BJC and BGCESE exams, respectively, will attend daily; and grades seven and 10, then eight and 11 will rotate one week on, one week off.

“It’s about time they all got together in the interests of the students,” said Head Boy Alexander Rolle.

“It shouldn’t have been necessary for the teachers to sit-in and we had to miss classes,” Head Girl Joan Pinder said, “but I agree that it’s good something is finally being done with the buildings and the classes.”

The two seniors said it was very difficult for students to focus, especially when they had to take classes in the corridors. “They were distracted,” said Alexander.

“It was more like they were outside not taking any classes at all,” said Joan. “Some kids couldn’t focus at all.”

One of the hardest experiences for Joan this year was that the home economics building that was that the home econom-

Photo by Richard Fawkes

employees of Odell’s Construction Company resume work on the damaged classroom blocks at S.C. Bootle Secondary School.

Albury’s Ferry Helps Kickoff Pathfinder Auction Sale

By Chris Farrington - BRI

On March 12th, Abaco Pathfinders will be holding its annual fund raiser in the form of an auction sale to be held in the tent at Boat Harbour. Abaco Ferry’s Service has generously provided four (4) free passes for use on any ferry for one year. In addition, free air travel, free lodging, meals, one week stays in locations as diverse as Paris, Cape Cod, Chicago, Atlanta and many other exciting locations will also be offered. There will be a large quantity of antiques, paintings, nautical artifacts as well as many other varied items.

This is the main fund raising effort for Abaco Pathfinders. Last year the sale attracted a large and generous crowd who left after a really fun evening! Abaco Pathfinders has been active for over four years and in that time has provided meaningful scholarship assistance to 43 young people of Abaco in furthering their educations.

Look for further and more detailed information about the auction in the March 1st edition of The Abaconian. The event will be by invitation only, but invitations will be available to all upon request. Again look for details in The Abaconian on March 1st.

Luxurious home on Green Turtle Cay. Located on 2.5 miles of white sand beach. Impeccably detailed, almost new Caribbean style villa. Wrap-around veranda. Careful craftsmanship and attention to detail describes this estate. It takes its design from a plantation estate home in the Caribbean.

This elegant beach front estate has everything one could ask for in a vacation home. Five well appointed bedrooms with an open living area overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and your very own private beach. The kitchen is fully equipped with every modern convenience. There is also a spa adjoining the master suite. This is truly an Island Paradise!!!

Offered at $2.4 million

Chris Farrington - BRI
Office (242) 365-4695
Fax (242) 365-4697

Villa Pasha

The living room, where original oil paintings adorn the cypress hand laid walls. The marble floors take you back to the early colonial century while the cool rattan and dark mahogany furnishings, a functional fireplace, give you the coziness of a New England home. Careful craftsmanship and attention to detail describes this estate.

The front porch where you observe beautiful sunrises, or for the late riser, an outdoor breakfast overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and the beach just steps below. Modern fully equipped kitchen. Major appliances, including freezer. VHF Radio and high speed internet system.

Master bedroom suite with whirlpool bath. Four guest air conditioned bedrooms. Fully furnished house, fully equipped kitchen.

An aerial view of the estate which overlooks the wide sandy beach. The house is complete with golf carts, bicycles and an outdoor bar-bque grill.

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McAleen recruited us as soon as we stepped off the ferry,” Tony remembered with a smile. Tony and Elaine started as docents but quickly became enchanted with the history of the island. “At the time we never thought we’d be as involved as we are now, full time, but it was a wonderful development and we’re both happy about it.” Elaine is currently running the docent volunteer program.

Originally, the Wyanne Malone Museum was located in Harrison Ably’s house. When he reclaimed the house to use as a residence, the museum had to move to a house by the Hope Town Harbour Lodge, but the Board of the Museum dreamed of expanding the museum and moving it closer to town, where it would be more visible to residents and visitors. “It was something just before Hurricane Floyd, their dreams were pushed forward by other forces. The building housing the museum was sold and other arrangements had to be made to keep the museum alive. By 2000 they had purchased, built and moved into the cottage next to the Hope Town clinic in the center of town. It was the realization of a long term vision of the Board, but Tony wasn’t finished yet.”

Plans were made for a larger building next to the first. Bids from contractors ranged from $600,000 - $800,000, a sum almost everyone would like. The building houses the museum and additional arrangements had to be made to keep the museum alive. By 2000 they had purchased, built and moved into the cottage next to the Hope Town clinic in the center of town. It was the realization of a long term vision of the Board, but Tony wasn’t finished yet.

Historical Museum Has Vision for the Future

By Lindsey Delaplaine

Volunteer curator Tony Bennett has always had a passion for museums. Since 1991 he has directed this passion into building and improving the Wyanne Malone Historical Museum for Hope Town residents and visitors to enjoy. The long hours and hard work of Tony and countless other volunteers have translated into a central location for a new, larger museum and the creation of the Wyanne Malone house.

Tony hopes that the entire new museum will be up and running by March 5th, Hope Town Heritage Day. The other building is being transformed into the “Wyanne Malone House,” a historical recreation of Hope Town captain’s house during the late 1800s/early 1900s. “To furnish the house we’ll soon be on the hunt looking for any antique furniture or household items that people have hiding in their attics,” Tony said.

Future plans include computerizing the genealogical records of the museum, the creation of a Historical Library, the collection of more historical pictures of Hope Town pre-1950 and the production of a historical DVD that will be available to museum members.

There is still some finishing work to do in the museum before Heritage Day and Tony is always looking for volunteers interested in helping. For more information, stop by the museum, it seems like Tony is always there.
#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. of elevation. This lot has great potential & could be used for a subdivision 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, 1 1/2 bath home has a large, open kitchen, Jacuzzi tub & his & her closets in the master suite.

#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.

#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 dream house. The community of Bahama Palm Shores offers second home owners & full-time residents a personal atmosphere.

#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.

#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. This lot 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.

#2174  **Turtle Rocks**  
**Marsh Harbour**  

**$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 living offers 2.36 acres, featuring 134 ft. frontage on the beautiful beach & 125 ft on the road. This lot also offers 30 foot elevations w/ magnificent views of the Sea of Abaco & the neighboring cays.

#2167  **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 neighboring cays. The yard is landscaped & well maintained & features fruit bearing trees & other native plants.

#2171  **Bahama Palm Shores**  

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

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**Call for an appointment today. To view all of our Bahamas Listings go to www.grahamrealestate.com**
School News

Mr. Jason Dorsey, a motivational speaker, spoke to several school groups while he was on Abaco on January 10 and 11. He is shown here at Abaco Central High School where he addressed students from that school, St. Francis de Sales and Long Bay.

This past November four Abaco students accompanied Mrs. Edwards to the Caribbean AIDS Awareness Festival in Nassau. They were Britney Archer and Elsie Bain of St. Francis de Sales School, Kennia Roberts of S.C. Bootle High School and Petra Gaitor of Abaco Central High. Each school was asked to select a student they feel is a role model and who would be a peer leader to spread the word about HIV/AIDS prevention to fellow students. The festival was attended by hundreds of students from throughout the Bahamas.

During this year’s World AIDS Day on Abaco a live radio show was broadcast. The guest speakers included Mr. Keith Kemp, a volunteer at the HIV/AIDS Centre in Nassau, Nurse Cooper of the Marsh Harbour clinic, Mrs. Edwards and students.

A HIV/AIDS march is planned for May 2005, and Mrs. Edwards is actively seeking sponsors to assist in this effort. We must all do our part to reach out and spread the message of prevention and win the fight against AIDS in the Bahamas.

One in every 50 Bahamians is HIV/AIDS infected. In the Bahamas there are 110 pregnancies of HIV infected women a year and 180 children under the age of 18 are HIV positive.

Man-O-War School Annual Flea Market Is Scheduled

The Man-O-War School will be holding its 19th annual Flea Market and Bazaar on February 19. This event raises much needed funds for the school for normal expenses such as upgrading their textbooks, copy machine cartridges and other supplies as well as school repairs. This year their goal is to raise money for a new addition to the building that would be dedicated to music, science, art and computers. Currently these activities are in classrooms. Storage of art and science supplies is a problem and the noise of some of the subjects is heard throughout the school.

This year’s event promises to be interesting and fun for the family. There will be games including some with prizes, a raffle, an auction, crab races, white elephant tables with new and used items.

Please see School

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This past November four Abaco students accompanied Mrs. Edwards to the Caribbean AIDS Awareness Festival in Nassau. They were Britney Archer and Elsie Bain of St. Francis de Sales School, Kennia Roberts of S.C. Bootle High School and Petra Gaitor of Abaco Central High. Each school was asked to select a student they feel is a role model and who would be a peer leader to spread the word about HIV/AIDS prevention to fellow students. The festival was attended by hundreds of students from throughout the Bahamas.

During this year’s World AIDS Day on Abaco a live radio show was broadcast. The guest speakers included Mr. Keith Kemp, a volunteer at the HIV/AIDS Centre in Nassau, Nurse Cooper of the Marsh Harbour clinic, Mrs. Edwards and students. A HIV/AIDS march is planned for May 2005, and Mrs. Edwards is actively seeking sponsors to assist in this effort. We must all do our part to reach out and spread the message of prevention and win the fight against AIDS in the Bahamas.

One in every 50 Bahamians is HIV/AIDS infected. In the Bahamas there are 110 pregnancies of HIV infected women a year and 180 children under the age of 18 are HIV positive.
School

From Page 6

a book stall, art work by Abaco artists and a plant booth along with a great variety of food including native seafood fishery.

The school allows anyone to set up a table and sell. Anything can be sold except food or drinks which the school will be selling. All sales of food and drink benefit the school. A table costs $10 plus 10 percent of the gross sales with all proceeds going to the school.

Albury’s Ferry will have special ferries going to Man-O-War from the cays and Marsh Harbour. Call the ferry company to let them reserve a seat for you.

Abaco Central High School
Motivational Speaker

By Jennifer Hudson

The Abaco School District presented its first motivational speaker for 2005 on January 10th and 11th. The two-day event was coordinated by Mrs. Martha Smith, a teacher at Abaco Central High School and wife of the District Superintendent, who was extremely excited at having the opportunity to bring this highly sought after young speaker to Abaco.

Mr. Jason Dorsey began his session with an introductory broadcast on Radio Abaco at 9 a.m. Although only 26 years old Mr. Dorsey has already achieved more in his young lifetime than most, having traveled the world over the past eight years, written a book, and is the owner of three businesses under the banner Golden Ladder Productions. He speaks in prisons, schools, colleges and camps inspiring and helping over 100,000 young people annually to take responsibility for their actions and getting the message across that where they go with their life is up to them. “Young people have the same things going on in their lives worldwide,” he says.

Mr. Dorsey’s first talk was to students of Abaco Central High School, St. Francis de Sales and Long Bay Schools who were assembled in the quadrange of the Abaco Central High School. Platform guests included Mr. Green, Principal of Abaco Central; Moderator, Mrs. Martha Smith; WPC Campbell; Father Hepburn; Mrs. Ruth Flowers from the Administrator’s office; and Mr. Ralph Smith, District Superintendent, who welcomed Mr. Dorsey.

Mr. Dorsey’s young and vibrant personality and the fact that he had a difficult start in life enabled him to connect well with his audience. The experience gained from working with people in trouble has led him to see a consistency in the fact that if young people do not believe they have a future, they do not care about the consequences. So he strives to help young people to see that they can have a future.

The important points which he presented to the students were:

• Just because you may be poor does not mean that you cannot succeed. It means that you must be more creative. Lack of money must never hold you back.

• The little things you do for other people make all the difference.

• If you want to be respected, you must respect other people.

An afternoon session was held at the Central Abaco Primary School for children in grades five and six who were joined by students of that school in Cherokee, Crossing Rocks and Sandy Point. An invitation was issued to all schools to attend these extremely valuable talks but for various reasons not all schools were able to attend.

The day ended with a meeting for parents, guardians, teachers and other interested persons.

On day two Mr. Dorsey travelled to the S.C. bootle High School where he spoke to students of that school along with students from the Amy Roberts School, Green Turtle Cay and concluded his busy schedule with a general meeting at the Full Gospel Assembly Church in Treasure Cay.

Mr. Dorsey’s visit was sponsored by several schools, three churches, Mr. Revis Rolle, Island Administrator, North Abaco Local Government and several interested individuals for parents, guardians, teachers and other interested persons.

A Mascot Competition was held at St. Francis de Sales School earlier in this school year. The competition was open to students in grades 6 through 12. Students were asked to design a new mascot for the school because the former mascot The Saints was already the mascot of another school. Ten students participated in the competition. Pictured next to the new mascot design, St. Francis Tornados, are the winners. Left to right, First Place winner, Zeldon Simmons - $50 Bellevue gift certificate, Second Place winner, Jerron Knowles - $25 Bellevue gift certificate and Third Place winner, Dominique Evans - $15 Bellevue gift certificate.

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Cherokee Sound
By Lee Pinder

Welcome Back
We see James and Debbie Savage are here again in Cherokee, welcome back. I believe they have quite a few repairs to do on their home while they are here this time. Like many others in Cherokee their home suffered lots of water damage from the storms.

Baby Shower
Yzel Alberty’s Baby Shower was held in the community center on January 15th with a host of family and friend’s making there way to Cherokee from Man-O-War and Hope Town. These functions are always a good opportunity for old friends to meet and catch up with all the news from the cays while at the same time helping the mother-to-be get ready for a new little bundle of joy. The ladies were asked to make a list of boys names, so we assume they already know what’s coming (it was a little different in my day.) The baby is due the first week in March. Good Luck and best wishes to Yzel and Richard.

Epworth Chapel Will Host Island-wide Fellowship
Cherokee’s Methodist church will welcome other Abaco Methodists for an afternoon of fellowship on February 13th after their regular Sunday church service. A light luncheon will be served and friends and neighbours will have an opportunity to greet old friends again.

10th Annual Valentine’s Tea
Rev. Carla Culmer will host her annual Tea Party and this year it will be held in the Jorgensen’s garden on February 16. Last year’s tea cup winner, Sherry Lowe, is shown holding her prize. Each lady is reminded to bring her own tea cup along to the party that afternoon. In addition, this year there will be a special prize for the lady wearing the “silliest hat.” So, get to work, you crazy crafters and put together a real winner.

Congratulations! Kellie, the eldest daughter of Steve and Denise Sawyer of Cherokee Sound and Darrell, eldest son of Laurel and Roger Pinder, were engaged on Christmas Eve. No definite wedding plans have yet been set. Best wishes to the happy couple.

Happy Birthday to Don Cornish

Happy Birthday
from Memose Daniel,
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The Girls Donae And Ebony
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Enjoy your day!!

Happy Birthday To Don Cornish

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South Abaco News
Tsunami in Caribbean Area Is Not Likely

The horrendous earthquake and resulting tsunami in the Far East has had many persons wondering if the same thing could happen here. Experts are quick to point out that the chance of an underwater earthquake in the Atlantic is remote compared to the Pacific Ocean, which has huge faults running through California and the southern Alaska coast.

However, the volcano Cumbre Vieja in the Canary Islands, does pose a remote threat. If it erupted and split into two, the waves could grow to 330 feet high reaching the west coast of Africa, the eastern seaboard of the United States and the entire Caribbean region. Seismologist Stuart Sepkin says the Canary Islands tsunami is not very likely to occur in the future; but the possibility does exist. If Cumbre Vieja were to erupt, the Bahamas, Haiti, Dominican Republic and the Caribbean area would take a very severe hit. In the case of the Bahamas the only option for escape would be to leave the country as the Bahamas does not have any really high land masses where people could go for shelter.

The volcano is showing no signs of activity but Sepkin says it should be monitored because it contains a deep near vertical flaw line which could widen if there is volcanic activity. If there is activity, it could widen enough that an eruption would split the mountain in two which would cause a huge amount of rock to go into the ocean, creating a powerful tsunami.

There have been tsunamis in the Caribbean before. The Puerto Rico Trench is a potential source of tsunamis even though it has not produced any significant earthquakes since 1946. In that year a tsunami killed 1800 persons on the northeastern side of Hispaniola. In 1918 a tsunami killed 91 persons in northwestern Puerto Rico. Mr. Sepkin stated that we need to continue to monitor Cumbre Vieja just in case it does erupt. However, most experts in the United States feel that the Atlantic seaboard in the United States, the Bahamas and the countries of the Caribbean have more to fear from hurricanes than from a possible tsunami.

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Youth in Action Trains Youth in Sports

The youth are divided into three age categories and compete among themselves. This popular program is producing some quality athletic abilities. The volunteers who give their time, energy and funds are to be commended for a great job.

By Mirella Santillo

Youth in Action is a sports association organized by Mrs. Elva Davis, Mr. Lyndon Davis, Mr. Ishmael Morley and Mr. Jude Hart. Three sports are played at different times during the year: soccer, basketball and baseball. Youth in Action welcomes boys and girls of the Marsh Harbour area aged 4 to 16. There are now 130 children enrolled in the program. Since the beginning of October the group has met every Saturday morning at the high school from 9 a.m. to 12 noon to practice soccer. The season started with learning soccer skills and playing regular games at a Little League level.

The Youth In Action soccer teams’ first out-of-town play was on December 17, 2004, when Mr. and Mrs. Davis accompanied 18 boys from Marsh Harbour to Freeport. It was the first time this group had played a soccer game against Freeport. On the first day they played at the Rugby Club against the Grand Bahama All Star team. Abaco won two to one. The two goals were scored by Robin Lafrance and Wilner Mitchell.

The next day the teams played a “Nine Aside” tournament on a short field - four games each, with Abaco again winning the tournament. That evening the two All Star Teams clashed again, with the same result. Abaco won three to one. The goals were made by Abaconians Wilner Mitchell, Robin Lafrance and Japhus Blain. Trophies were given to each player from Abaco.

Wilner Mitchell received an additional trophy and an authentic English soccer jersey because of his outstanding performance in the two games.

To end the soccer season, a last meeting and other high schools girl teams. The results of the game were not known at public time, but we are expecting outstanding results from the dedicated teams from Abaco.

To celebrate the end of a successful soccer season, a cook out was held on January 22nd at Murphy Town park. The sports program will resume on February 12th with basketball after a two week break.

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John Cash is a broker with H.G. Christie, Ltd. and is based in Treasure Cay. John is a specialist in helping clients maximize earnings in Acklins and San Salvador many years ago, she started a study on bush medicine. She made comparisons of the plants in Acklins and San Salvador many years ago, she started a study on bush medicine while there were plants readily available and has been handed down from generation to generation.

As a young girl she was always fascinated in bush medicine, but it was not until she came across a book on the subject written by the late Leslie Higgs that it prompted her to delve further and learn more. While teaching in Acklins and San Salvador many years ago, she started a study on bush medicine. She made comparisons of the plants in Acklins and San Salvador. She took samples of each one and some she patched, steeped and boiled. During her studies in Jamaica she carried out Caribbean study on bush medicine in Bahamian Folk Tradition, a mandatory university course. Mrs. Smith received an A on her report. She then met with the Mrs. Higgs, who advised her to carry this on. About two years ago she approached the Nassau Guardian to publish her studies. Mrs. Smith has been working on her book for five years which lists over 80 plants. The book contains the historical background on bush medicine in The Bahamas. We will learn the names of the plants such as Jackson bush also called horse bush, obeah or Jackson. Also listed in the book are the ailments and remedies. She says more people are now turning to bush medicine.

Other examples of plants that have medicinal value and provide beneficial treatment for a variety of ailments include periwinkle or sailor’s cap used for diabetes, blue flower used for boils, lignum vitae good for energy, madeira bark good low blood, jumbey used for the cough, life leaf good for asthma and shepherd needle which cools the blood. She believes the aloe vera plant, used for burns, cuts and as a laxative, is the number one world healer. According to Mrs. Smith all of these have been tried and proven. She hopes her book will be available to the public by March this year. Mrs. Smith is married to Rudolph Smith, District Superintendent, Ministry of Education, and has been teaching for 37 years.

Teacher Writes Book on Bush Medicine
By Portia Janmson

Bahamians have practiced bush medicine for many years and it is widely used today. Using plants for medicinal purposes is a tradition that African slaves brought with them when they came to The Bahamas. Bahamians use herbs and plants to cure everything from sunburns to insomnia. Bush medicine gained importance in the Family Islands where doctors were rarely available and has been handed down from generation to generation.

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

As a young girl she was always fascinated in bush medicine, but it was not until she came across a book on the subject written by the late Leslie Higgs that it prompted her to delve further and learn more. While teaching in Acklins and San Salvador many years ago, she started a study on bush medicine. She made comparisons of the plants in Acklins and San Salvador. She took samples of each one and some she patched, steeped and boiled. During her studies in Jamaica she carried out Caribbean study on bush medicine in Bahamian Folk Tradition, a mandatory university course. Mrs. Smith received an A on her report. She then met with the Mrs. Higgs, who advised her to carry this on. About two years ago she approached the Nassau Guardian to publish her studies. Mrs. Smith has been working on her book for five years which lists over 80 plants. The book contains the historical background on bush medicine in The Bahamas. We will learn the names of the plants such as Jackson bush also called horse bush, obeah or Jackson. Also listed in the book are the ailments and remedies. She says more people are now turning to bush medicine.

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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 Haulson.

Several of Central Abaco High School’s senior students between 15 and 18 years gained valuable work experience recently when they caddied for the golfers at Winding Bay’s first golf tournament on December 19th and 20th. Civian Newbold, Jude Vilma, Earle Moss, Jonas Pierre, Lemeck Edison, Colin Swain, Darren Bethel, Matthew Wedgewood, Michael Biemaime, John Chermant, Andre Singh and Christian Jones were selected by their teachers as having the right personalities and attitude for the job.

Their days began early that tournament weekend as the Winding Bay bus picked them up from the school at 7 a.m. sharp. It returned them to their homes about 6 p.m. a little leg weary but happy after what all the young men described as “a great experience.”

On the Saturday prior to the tournament the students spent half a day at Winding Bay becoming familiar with the course and receiving tips on how to be a good caddy. They received instruction on the different types of clubs and how to carry the bags and received advice such as “watch the ball, make sure your shadow is never in the way of the golfer, as “watch the ball, make sure your shadow is never in the way of the golfer,” they said. However, though they felt slightly tired after the first day, the second day was easier. At the end of each day it was the job of some of the caddies to drive the golfers to the main gate in the golf carts while others parked the remaining carts.

The caddies looked very smart in their short khaki pants, Winding Bay shirts and wide brimmed hats provided by the club. All of these young men say they are looking forward to when they are called upon again for the next tournament and eight of the students will eventually be chosen by the Abaco Club to work Saturdays and Sundays each week. Nine of the students say that as a result of their experience at Winding Bay they would like to work there full time after graduating from school. Five would like to caddy and others would like to work in other areas such as office manager and social host work with the guests.

The caddies were rewarded with a feeling of satisfaction and pride as the golfers were friendly and showed their appreciation of the job they had done.

Second day was easier. At the end of each day it was the job of some of the caddies to drive the golfers to the main gate in the golf carts while others parked the remaining carts.

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Split Rocks. UNDER CONTRACT! Sea of Abaco acreage! 15 acres of rolling hills. High elevation. Perfect for a small resort or secluded estate.  #8729

This 18-hole golf course covers a walking distance of over four miles and carrying golf bags weighing 30 pounds over than distance “made our shoulders a little sore,” they said. However, though they felt slightly tired after the first day, the second day was easier. At the end of each day it was the job of some of the caddies to drive the golfers to the main gate in the golf carts while others parked the remaining carts.

These boys had a short course on the duties and responsibilities of caddies before they caddied for the first golf tournament held at The Abaco Club at Winding Bay. The experience was a very enjoyable learning experience, giving them ideas for their future.
Fishermen Accept Grouper Ban as Necessary

An area off the coast of Central Andros had even stricter regulations. An area there was designated as a “Protected Area” from October 16th to May 31st, 2005. All fishing was prohibited in that area as a way of ensuring that fishing can be sustained for the future.

The ban on Nassau Grouper fishing was put in effect two years ago, following a one-week workshop held in Nassau by CARICOM (Caribbean Community) for the fisheries’ officers of The Bahamas. Mr Wayne Cornish, Assistant Fishery Superintendent for Abaco, attended the seminar. He said, “I found it to be very informative.”

It was meant to educate Bahamian fishermen about how other countries successfully manage their fishing industries. The ban was introduced throughout The Bahamas to help replenish the supply of Nassau Grouper, which is one of the few reef fish species that is known locally not to carry ciguatera fish poisoning. Other fish of the 14-member group family can be caught, but are in demand because of the risk of contamination by this organism which can lead to neurologic, gastrointestinal or cardiovascular symptoms in human beings.

Grouper mature as females carrying eggs and later change to become functional males. The most common ways to catch grouper are spear fishing, setting fish traps and hand-lining. The Northern Abaco seas have the most abundant fishing grounds.

To what extent are fishermen and seafood retailers affected? Of the fishermen interviewed were very much in favor of the ban, realizing that it is a long term goal that will benefit future generations of both fish and Bahamians.

Mr. Lanworth Lighthouse, a fisherman from Sandy Point, came running to the phone to take my call, “I am busy preparing pots,” he said, catching his breath. “You cannot imagine how exciting I am about the new fishing season.” Mr. Lighthouse had been expecting my call and was eager to express his feelings. “I totally agree with the ban,” and went on to say that he had already seen positive results as early as last year, finding good size grouper (11 to 12 pounds) in water as shallow as eight feet. “I feel so positively that I am increasing the number of pots from 16 to 50. I have also acquired an hydraulic trap puller, a total investment of $5,000. I cannot wait for Febru

Sandy Point 1105 - Bawfish Lodge located on the beach with 10 rooms, large dining room and kitchen, just minutes to the flats.

Coral Point - 1107 - Two adjacent parcels of land approx. 1.5 acres each with 60 elevations and 130’ of waterfront. One acre was vacated, which 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 lots newly created in town for $15,000. Bahama Palm is HOT! HOT!

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

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

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Tillot Cay - 1021 - New Price - Two elevated adjacent parcels with good draft just offshore. Reduced to $20,000 & $19,000.

Hope Town - 1122 - Seven unit apartment complex in town. Four one bedroom apartments and three two bedroom units. Long views of the waterway. Always a waiting list of tenants.

Liesure Lee - 1138 - Gorgeous corner canal lot with deep water and buoys and two bedroom units. Long views of the waterway. Always a waiting list of tenants.

Hope Town - 1136 - Vacant North Yellowwood - 1133 - 0.7 acre lot just east of town. Green Cherokee and Winding Bay.

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

web site: www.aisleofpalmrealty.com

End lot., just one lot from the Sound

- 1106 - Vacant North Hope Town

Yellowwood - 1106 - 1.17 acre lot

Hope Town - 1105 - Bonefish Lodge

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

Maria Slonster

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Nelly Risberg has learnt responsibility at a young age and conquers the waves each day to get herself and her nine-year-old sister, Rebecca, who is a former student of Forest Heights Academy and is now at sea in the South Pacific as a student in the Class Afloat programme aboard the S/V Concordia, a three-masted barkentine.

At the age of 11 years she was taught how to drive and handle a boat by her father and older sister, Rebecca, and is now a student in the Class Afloat programme aboard the S/V Concordia, a three-masted barkentine.

Nelly does not get nervous handling the boat as she is so used to it and if the weather is really rough her parents will drive the boat. What she does find disconcerting, however, is that when the weather is rough, they will get very wet from the spray and then are very uncomfortable going to school in wet clothes. She and her sister try to remember to take dry clothes to change into time to do their homework.

Nelly is very self assured. “Quite often Nelly does not get nervous handling the boat has engine problems,” she says.

First, I will try to fix it. If I cannot, I use my cell phone to call for help and just sit and wait for a tow back home. Then my parents take us over to Marsh Harbour in a bigger boat.”

At the end of the school day the journey begins again in reverse when Nelly takes to the waters once more in her little boat to get herself and little sister safely home in time to do their homework.

Well done, Nelly, on being such a responsible young lady.
By Richard E. Fawkes

Bahamian war hero and a pioneer in aviation in the archipelago, especially in his native Abaco, Leonard M. Thompson, is alarmed at the failure of the last two successive governments to correct what he sees as a threefold danger of the Marsh Harbour International Airport: the large amount of unauthorized, uncontrolled air traffic clogging the landing zone; the lack of a taxiway to quickly clear the single runway after aircraft land; and the rundown condition of the pothole-pocked 5,000-foot runway which threatens front-tire blowouts on landing aircraft.

In an interview in his home in Marsh Harbour 88-year-old Mr. Thompson said, "As inconvenient at the small terminal building is, the safety issues are much more pressing." In a letter to Prime Minister Perry Christie dated March 16, 2004, Mr. Thompson wrote, "The terminal expansion will no doubt be the most visible and popular with the locals, but for safety’s sake, I would prioritize the taxiway.” And in a letter addressed to Minister of Transport and Aviation Glyansy Hanna Martin, dated March 14, 2004, Mr. Thompson wrote, "Without a tower to control traffic, a taxiway runway is desperately needed. The current airstrip is full of potholes. The island of Abaco has progressed tremendously over the past few years, making our airport more disastrous as an ‘accident waiting to happen.’"

The Marsh Harbour International Airport terminal is very crowded with both visitors and locals, especially on weekends when the building is solid with people and luggage. Prior to departure, the agents have to comply with U.S. safety regulations and security measures for the locals, which take so long that people have to wait outside in the sun and rain waiting for their turn to depart. Over a year ago he noticed pilots waiting until they were to the east of Elbow Cay to do so.

"When I asked one of them about this, he said there was plenty of traffic around the airport that should not be there, and he had to wait to see if it was all right to come down," Mr. Thompson said. "There is a lot less traffic back of Elbow Cay, but the aircraft uses up hundreds more gallons of fuel going around for the extra ten minutes. That’s bound to come back to the airlines in cost.”

Mr. Thompson said the delays are further exacerbated by the time it takes for aircraft to clear the runway once they land, as there is nowhere for them to go but straight from the aircraft to the apron in front of the terminal.

"Only yesterday,” Mr. Thompson said, "I noticed the pilot holding the aircraft to the right hand side of the runway. The rest of it is so bumpy because of the potholes, he was afraid of damaging his nose wheel.”

Mr. Thompson was also concerned over the lack of precautions to make sure pilots are properly qualified to fly. "When I used to fly, I had to show my pilot’s licence regularly," he said. "Now, from talking to the various pilots, no one checks any pilot’s licence.”

Uncontrolled Aircraft and Failure to Check Pilots’ Licences

Mr. Thompson said when he was an active pilot, airplanes coming from Florida used to begin descending from the West End, Grand Bahama area. Over a year ago he noticed pilots waiting until they were to the east of Elbow Cay to do so.

"When I asked one of them about this, he said there was plenty of traffic around the airport that should not be there, and he had to wait to see if it was all right to come down,” Mr. Thompson said. "There is a lot less traffic back of Elbow Cay, but the aircraft uses up hundreds more gallons of fuel going around for the extra ten minutes. That’s bound to come back to the airlines in cost."

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Prioritizing Safety on a Limited Budget

Mr. Thompson, who flew many years for Bahamas Airways, which was the major carrier throughout The Bahamas from 1936 to 1970, was concerned that while the government assesses, with the aid of a foreign company, building a new terminal, a control tower or even a new airport, the safety problems will worsen.

In his letter to the Prime Minister, Mr. Thompson, who represented Abaco in the House of Assembly in the 1950s and 1960s, said, "As you know, I was in politics for many years and one thing has not changed — there is never enough in the budget to do everything that you want to do. I hope you find some funds for this critical upgrade to the airport."

Mr. Thompson would suggest that either the government build a new 8,000 to 11,000-foot runway in a southeast to northwest direction for which there is enough land at the current site, and then convert the current east-west runway into a taxiway; or build a taxiway parallel to the current runway, which

Please see Thompson
Mr. Thompson does not believe the government has the money to build a new airport. Abaco lost an opportunity to build a large, international airport in the 1980s when the Treasure Cay airport was upgraded. Mr. Thompson, a founder of Treasure Cay Limited, which had built the old air strip at Treasure Cay, said he had advised the government to build an island-wide airport instead of the current 7,000-foot runway for Treasure Cay.

“Sir Clement Maynard, then Minister of Aviation and Transport, asked my advice and I told him they should build a large, international airport to serve north and south between Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour,” Mr. Thompson continued, “when I say I am ashamed of the Marsh Harbour International Airport. We all are tired of the proposed plans and broken promises.”

Mr. Thompson, who has published a memoir of his experiences from a Hope Town boyhood, to becoming a Royal Canadian Air Force pilot shot down of alcohol by 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. It was repealed in 1933. During that time livelihoods and many fortunes were made by Bahamians providing the illegal elixir to dry American throats, usually at great risk of arrest and even death. According to Mr. Thompson, Chalk founded Chalk Airlines, which still operates a seaplane service between the Bahamas and Florida. Charles Collar helped to found Bahamas Airways, which was the main airline in the Bahamas from 1936 to 1970. Art Williams founded British Guiana (Guyana) Airways, which eventually became the present-day BWIA.

Of course, Mr. Thompson brought his flying skills home from the Second World War and contributed greatly to the advancement of commercial aviation in the country. Not only was he a Bahamas Airlines pilot, but made many a dare-devil rescue missions throughout the islands, including landing in the sea at night by fire light to take sick people to hospital in Nassau.

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According to retired pilot Leonard Thompson, whose Hope Town father ran bootleg booze to New York during the 1920s Prohibition, these “barnstorming” pilots who participated in the illegal trade in these islands ended up pioneering commercial aviation in The Bahamas and the Caribbean.

“A. B. Chalk, Charles Collar, and Art Williams used to fly in from the States, buy the liquor and put it on boats in Bimini and West End, Grand Bahama, for shipment across the Gulf Stream,” said the 88-year-old Mr. Thompson in a digression of his discussion of the Marsh Harbour airport during an interview.

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ics building’s roof and its equipment were destroyed. “I’m planning to study culinary arts at COR,” she said. “But I can’t do my practicum because there is no equipment.”

The students said that while they were sorry some students will miss a week of school every other week, it was the best solution under the circumstances. Both students said they had kept hoping the parents, students, teachers, and administrators would get together and hold fund raisers to carry out the repairs themselves rather than waiting for the government.

“We don’t care about the politics, if it’s FNM or PLP or if the government is going to do something,” said Alexander, “we just want to go on with our education.”

A crew from Odell’s Construction, owned by Odell Cox of Cooper’s Town, was at work mixing mortar and tackling the unfinished roof on the math and science block. It was Mr. Cox’s company that had begun the work following the hurricane, although the late Mr. Everett Archer’s company held the contract.

Mr. Clayton McIntosh, PTA President, was not sure why the work had stopped last year, but Mr. Cox had assured him the work would be completed in about two months. Mr. McIntosh said Mr. Cox had gone to Nassau yesterday morning to consult with the Ministry of Works.

The PTA president said the parents were supportive of the teachers in their stand last week, because they had been doing a good job under very difficult circumstances. “I’m sorry it happened that way,” he said, “but I think they had no choice.”

Mr. McIntosh said in recognition of its appreciation of the work the teachers were doing under difficult circumstances, the PTA had treated them to Christmas dinner at the Touch of Class Restaurant in Treasure Cay. As to the question of what kind of support children on their week away from classes would receive, Mr. McIntosh said the PTA encouraged teachers to provide those students with assignments.

“But it is also up to the parents to super-

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

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

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EXCLUSIVE

March Harbour - New Price-
#5220 - 4 bedroom, 2 bath house on Don Mackay Blvd. Prime area for a commercial venture. 26,513 sq. ft of property. Great central location. - $206,000

PRICED TO SELL

EXCLUSIVE

March Harbour-#5226- Large Parcel of property 100’ X 270’ with two concrete warehouses, would be ideal for certain commercial adventure. Property fenced in. Call today for more details.

UNDER CONTRACT

EXCLUSIVE

Boat Harbour #5281-Great Guana Cay-Vacant property featuring water on both sides. Accessible by boat only. THIS LOT WON’T LAST LONG! $198,000

EXCLUSIVE

March Harbour- #5108 Harbour front property on Pelican Shores. Lovely parcel runs 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

March Harbour-#5219- Vacant property comprises of approx 1.25 acres. Could serve as residential or commercial property. Call today for more details.

BahaMar Palm Shores- Vacant lots available in a fast growing community. Lots selling quickly. Call today.

-•Man-O-War- vacant interior lot in town, close to amenities-$17,500
-•Man-O-War - vacant 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. ½ acre, and have beach access. Financing available. Call today.
-•Sand Banks – vacant property on main highway to Treasure Cay. Large parcels, and sea views.
-•Bahama Coral Island- vacant property in Bahama Coral Island, financing available. Call for details.
-•Treasure Cay- Canal Lots in desirable location, sea views, great buy.UNDER CONTRACT
-•Boat Harbour Guana Cay - vacant water front property accessible by boat only, not much available in this area. SOLD
-•Cabbage Point- 5 acres parcels on the SC Boofle 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.

INVESTMENT

SOLD

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 tourist strip. FANTASTIC INVESTMENT - Call today for more details on this fine offering.

Sweetings Village-# 5224-Two bed/2bath 1400 sq ft island beauty, immaculate condition. Excellent elevation. Built in 2001 and has lovely views of the Sea of Abaco. $325,000

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.

Dundas Town-#5276 Incoming producing property, unfinished duplex on elevated lot. Can be finished to ones own taste. Situated on lot 100x128-$520,000. Call for more details.

Dundas Town-#5222-Property situated in prime location running 135’ on the waterfront. Fixer upper situated on property. Views of the harbour and Sea of Abaco. $125,000

Dundas Town-#5150 Harbour front property consists of more than an acre of property, unfinished duplex on elevated lot. Accessible  by boat only. THIS LOT WON’T LAST LONG! $92,000. Call for more details.

Sandy Point -#5072- 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.

FANTASTIC
During the Christmas holidays, he re-not reopen until December 24th, reduc-
guance and March.”
“Mr. Laing feels confi-
dent that the season will be good.” He is
looking forward to the imminent reopening of
town’s marina which will include a new
dock.
Mr. Tom Hazel, manager of the Hope
Town Harbour Lodge said, “Business trend
is not reopen until January 12th.” She is
very optimistic for the coming sea-
son. Ms. Brenda Claridge, owner of
Green Turtle Cay Rentals which
rents again. He says that customer service represen-
tives in the area such as Snappas
and Sapodilly’s Restaurant also reported an increase in or at least a comparable amount of busi-
ness compared to last year.
Mr. Cindy Hayworth, owner of Vaca-
tion Planning Services located at the Great
Abaco Club, said, “Homeowners are back at
The Club.” She thinks, “2004 was bet-
eroof was damaged, docks torn apart and barren land-
sapes were not sights tourists liked to see.
Many last month
enjoyed full on this January day. Ms. Maureen
Town Harbour Lodge said, “Business trend
is still going strong in January which is usu-
ally a slower period.” She expects this kind of
business to continue through the season.
Mangooes’ executive chef Mr. Nick
Doyle said, “Business in December has been
as good as last year and last week
was even better than the same week a year
down except for lunch which caters to lo-
cal people. It is expected that reservations
will improve shortly as well.
Returning tourists and second home own-
ers are back on Abaco. The inclement
weather in the Northern United States
seemed to motivate people to visit warmer
climates, as shown by the increase of busi-
ness for a usually slower January. Frances
and Jeanne caused considerable physical
damage to property, but they did not re-
duce in the least the spirit of Abacians and their
faith in the future.
By Mirella Santillo
Hotels, rental properties and restaurant
owners and managers are confident that
2005 is going to be a great year!
The effects of two hurricanes hurracaine
damaged, docks torn apart and barren land-
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Abaco’s Cancer Society Celebrates 15 Years

By Jennifer Hudson

This year the Abaco Branch of the Bahamas Cancer Society reaches the milestone of 15 years of service to the people of Abaco. The Abaco Branch was formed in 1990 under the leadership of Kay Russell who has assisted by a small group of dedicated workers including Dr. Vince McSweeney, Hugh Cottis, Marjolein Scott and Alice Nightingale. In 1996 Hugh Cottis was elected President; Veronica Saunders, Vice-President; Marjolein Scott, Secretary; and Sylvia Cottis, Treasurer. This dedicated and hard working committee remains in office to this day assisted by a small group of willing members. Over the years the Cancer Society’s Abaco Branch has assisted many Abaco cancer patients with airfares for their travel to Nassau or abroad to receive treatment. This service grew from six tickets given in 1993 to 21 in 2003.

The society is also involved in preventative programmes such as the free annual Pap smear and prostate clinics at Marsh Harbour, Cooper’s Town, Sandy Point and Moore’s Island for which it brings out a group of doctors from Nassau. It offers public lectures from time to time and radio talk shows on various topics of cancer and its prevention and distribution of literature.

Fund raising events have been on-going such as an annual raffle, fashion shows, jumble and book sales and art auctions. In 2004 a Thrift Store was opened in Marsh Harbour in the Marsh Harbour Community Library building which is open each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and is manned by a dedicated group of volunteers. All proceeds go to the Cancer Society and this is now their major fund-raiser.

To date the Abaco Branch has contributed $39,000 to the Cancer Caring Centre in Nassau which will provide a home away from home for patients undergoing treatment where their families can stay with them. One room is set aside solely for the use of patients from Abaco. The Cancer Society of Abaco is grateful for the many generous donations to the Society both in memoriam of a loved one or in appreciation of its efforts to assist those stricken by cancer.

European Union Will Fund Immigrant Survey

At a packed meeting on January 24 Administrator Rolle announced that the European Union is funding an immigrant survey for the Mud and Pigeon Peas settlements. It is expected that this will include other Haitian settlements as well. The amount provided was not given but it was suggested it is sufficient for a comprehensive status report. Details are being worked out and further information will be announced on January 31. Mr. Rolle also stated that the Southern Command of the U.S. Navy is going to provide and erect a secure warehouse on Abaco for storing disaster materials. Suitable government land is now being examined. A similar facility will be provided for Exuma.

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- Fishing Tackle & Dive Gear
- Filters - Pumps - Hose
- Anchors - Ropes - Marine Pants
- Hardware & Maintenance Items

- BRAZILIAN GOLD

Great Location! Great Price!

Wonderful Guana Cay OCEAN FRONT home. Immaculate and easy to care 2 bed/2 bath with big picture windows and stunning beachfront terrace. Extremely well built with an enchanting garden and high-end neighbourhood. Very well priced at $795,000.

Also listed is the owner’s BAYFRONT lot. Unique opportunity to capitalize on the spectacular sunsets, great fishing and deepwater dockage sheltered from the NE flows. Excellent value at $395,900. Either holding is available individually but also, now and both prime properties can be yours.

Sandra Evans

B & D Marine

Tel: 242-365-4010 Fax 242-365-4047
www.bahamavacations.com

Minimum for 3 lines in one issue $9
Picture and 4 lines $25
Minimum for 3 lines in one issue $9
Visitor Convicted of Unlawful Possession of Firearm

By Jennifer Hudson

A visitor to Abaco, Mr. Robert Grenados, was fined $10,000 on two counts of unlawful possession of firearms in Marsh Harbour on January 16th. He arrived in the Bahamas on January 18th aboard the yacht El Loco (meaning Crazy) and went to Tilloo Cay. The following day he came to Marsh Harbour to clear customs but left the gun on the boat. The police report states: “An armed criminal could be present and there was lots of laughter and conversation and, of course, a variety of little tea cakes to go with their tea. It was a small group of only ten, but everyone appeared to have a good time.”

An Ansley bone china tea cup was the door prize and was presented to the lucky winner, Mother Merle Williams. She was both thrilled and proud to accept her prize, saying, “I have never won anything before and will treasure it always.” She promised not to put it away in the cupboard but said she would use it whenever possible, which made Rev. Carla very happy. The ladies will look forward to next year’s tea party and Rev. Carla said she would see what could be arranged.

Regulations Concerning the Possession of Firearms

Shot guns and rifles are allowed to be owned by members of the general public with an up-to-date Bahamian license. Handguns are only allowed to business persons who meet the standard requirements and who specifically qualify for such. Handguns are permitted for boaters but must be declared and must be kept on board except for fishing boats to people who qualify and have the necessary license.

High powered rifles are permitted on fishing boats to people who qualify and have 29 rounds of ammunition. He was fined $5,000 on each count or three months in prison.

Methodist Women Enjoy Tea Party

Rev. Carla Culmer gave a special Tea Party to recognize some very special ladies. It was held on December 8th at St. Andrew’s Methodist Church Hall in Dundas Town. There were a few games, some poems were read and there was lots of laughter and conversation and, of course, a variety of little tea cakes to go with their tea. It was a small group of only ten, but everyone appeared to have a good time.

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Church News

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Flood Victims Relief Fund - Giving Abaco’s Best Effort

Donations for Tsunami Flood Victims Relief via Red Cross

Disaster has been redefined by the Tsunami disaster on Boxing Day, December 26, 2004. Thousands displaced and survivors have lost entire families, friends, neighbours, jobs and businesses. The survivors have lost entire families, friends, and businesses. The survivors have lost entire families, friends, and businesses.

In a joint effort the civic groups on Abaco are working with businesses and churches to raise $100,000 as a meaningful contribution to the suffering victims of the Tsunami. They ask that church groups, clubs, youth groups and other groups combine efforts to realize this goal. Remember, whoever helps the least of his brothers renders service unto God the Father.

Consider various ways of raising funds or make a donation to the Red Cross of Abaco, specifying that the money is to go to Tsunami relief. All donations received will be acknowledged promptly with a written receipt. For further information contact Mrs. Zali Chu, Secretary, at 367-2824 or mail your donations to P.O. Box 20992, Marsh Harbour.

Commercial Services

Atlantic Sun Construction

“no job too small”
Kitchen Cabinets • Oceanfront Interiors Remodeling Renovations • New Construction
P.O.Box AB 20228
Tel.: 375-3928 or 366-0582

Island Pharmacy

Prescriptions • Testing Beauty Supplies • Vitamins
Ricardo Miller, Pharmacist
Hours 8:30 am - 6 p.m. Saturday 9 am - 12 Noon
Ph/Fax 367-2544
Dove Plaza, Marsh Harbor

Cornish Painting Co

Painting Inside and Outside
• Pressure Cleaning • Mould Removal
• Varnish and Picking • Water proofing
• Pressure Washer for Rest
Call 367-2773 • Cell 559-9132

Supplies

Straw Baskets • Hats • Shirts Casual Wear • Gifts • Souvenirs
Located Don MacKay Blvd. and Airport Phone 367-2431 • Marsh Harbour
Mon - Sat 7:30 - 5 • Sun 10 - 5
Visa and MasterCard Accepted

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Fit, rock and sand
Fax: 242-367-2444
Tel: 242-367-2655 • 367-0209
Cell #: 477-5322 • 359-6839

Supply Depot

Hotel, Restaurant & Commercial Supplies
Over 1000 items in Stock
Blue Warehouse on S.C. Boole Hwy.
Ph/Fax: (242) 367-2128

Vehicles for Sale

1996 Nissan Vanagon. Submit bids to Teachers & Salaried Workers Cooperative Credit Union, P.O. Box All 20187, Marsh Harbour, 367-3613
2002 Ford Focus Station Wagon, red, low miles, radio, auto, air, elec window. Like new.
$15,900 Call 365-8188

Boats and Marine Items for Sale

15’ Boston Whaler 75 HP Mercury. $11,000. Call 366-0251

Merchandise for Sale

2 mini split air conditioners 2 1/2 tons, 2 complete units. Call 365-6059 nights

Smart Body Oils, designer and traditional pert- fume oils, long lasting, handy package/purse size, men’s and women’s fragrance. Try one today.
Tel 367-3520 or 559-8538

Fly rod, 9-foot, #8, Thomas & Thomas, with Ross reel, with accessories. Man-D-War 365-6433

3 piece sitting room set (love seat, 3-seat sofa, arm chair) in perfect condition. High end qual-

 Classified Advertisements

Items for Sale, Commercial Service, Cars & Boats

Commercial Services

For all your vertical and mini blind needs contact Sidney Altbury at 367-2091 or 367-2031.
Sales and Service

Vehicles for Sale

1996 Nissan Vanagon. Submit bids to Teachers & Salaried Workers Cooperative Credit Union, P.O. Box All 20187, Marsh Harbour, 367-3613
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$15,900 Call 365-8188

Boats and Marine Items for Sale

15’ Boston Whaler 75 HP Mercury. $11,000. Call 366-0251

7’ Preling CC. 1996, 2004 Yamaha 90 HP, nice run-about for boat for the Sea of Abaco, includes trailer. DUTY PAID $12,500 Call 305-451-5751 or 305-942-3597
21’ Carrera, Keel hull, Berkley jet drive. Call 366-0251 for details
22’ Catalina sailboat swing keel, 8.5 HP Mercury, good condition. $3500 Call 366-0120 or 366-0318

Mako w/ 1999 250 HP Yamaha, brand new GPS and VHFs, Bimini top, new cushions and bottom paint. $12,500 Call 477-5807

2003 MercPangas w/200 HP Merc EFI OB, VHF, depthfinder, SS prop, trim tabs, 2 authors, all safety equip. A steal at $29,500 Call 365-6598

29’ Bristol sailboat, needs fiberglass work. $1000 Also 17’ Mako, good condition, (no engine). $800 Call 366-0444

Endeavor Barnacle, DUTY PAID, very good condition. Yanmar, A/C, ref, 1 KW generator, 10萤tailing dinghy. Offered at $2,800 For more info call Don at 262-377-8418

Pearson Ketch, slight hurricane damage to toe rail, life lines and masten mast. For sale as is at $21,000. Boat can be seen in Green Turtle Cay. Contact Jimmie Lowe 242-357-9077 or Jody Lowe 365-4195

Freedom motor sailor, classic, built 1934. “Well Foudned” 39’ on deck, ketch rig, extensive inventory, 11’ uninsinkable dingy, 15 HP Suzuki. Excellent live-aboard, very spacious, recently repowered. DUTY PAID presently in MLS Select Trade $15,000. Call Freedom Ch 68, phone 359-6750
Outboard motor 1998 8 HP Evinrude, long shaft, very low hrs. Like new. 365-6433
1999 Jet Ski, Yamaha 750, like new. $5000 Call 366-0251

Bluff House Beach Hotel on Green Turtle Cay is currently seeking experienced restaurant cooks, kitchen help, servers and bartenders for the upcoming season. We are offering competitive wages as well as newly renovated staff quarters for live-in positions and a clean fun working environment. We also have a late night ferry run available for those who cannot live in. Wages are based on experience. Please phone 367-4247 or apply in person at the Bluff House between 10 am and 3 pm daily with your resume and references at the Jolly Roger Bar & Bistro.

Ocean Frontier Limited seeks an on-site sales manager for Ocean Frontier Vacation Club. Experience in sales and training sales staff is essential. Successful candidate will be required to relocate to Grand Cay. Please forward C.V. to Mr. Andrew Hill, BBF #1, Port Elgin, Ontario, Canada Phone contact 1-519-389-4846

General Manager Wanted to run a small hotel restaurant/bus in the Family Islands. Must have at least five years experience in the hotel business and prefer experience at a relais/chateux facility. Must be able to handle all aspects of managing this type of operation. Knowledge of sales and marketing, accounting, maintenance, and employee training is required. Only Bahama-

Miscellaneous

Hints for Helping Our Environment

• Don’t leave fires unattended
• Clean up brush and trash around your house

Friends of the Environment Presents

February 1, 2005 The Abaconian Page 23 B

In a joint effort the civic groups on Abaco are working with businesses and churches to raise $100,000 as a meaningful contribution to the suffering victims of the Tsunami. They ask that church groups, clubs, youth groups and other groups combine efforts to realize this goal. Remember, whoever helps the least of his brothers renders service unto God the Father.
Treasure Cay - Immature 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,000 sq.ft., elevated hexagonal villa. Two Decks provide fabulous beach and sea views. Swimming pool with waterfalls. Completely renovated and professionally decorated in 2002. Storeage room in pedestal elevations. Minutes from clubs and town. #AB118 - NEW LISTING - $73,000.00

Sea of Abaco - Private Island - 300' from the Sea of Abaco mainland, near Leonisa Lighthouse. 1.4 acres. Excellent elevation. 5' of water at western end. Fresh water, electricity and cable near by. Also called Lowlar Treasure Rock. #AB3147 - UNDER CONTRACT

Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,028 sq. ft. residence with roof top deck and fabulous views. Private Dock Slip. Superb views of the Sea of Abaco. Fully Furnished and Equipped. Good Rental Income Producer. #A888 - $558,000.00

Marina Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on 1,500 sq.ft. lot with a 40' boat slip and great views of the Old Bahama Bay. Fully furnished and equipped. #A899 - $1,500,000.

Northern Abaco - 20 acre private island with 1,000 foot of private beach frontage. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Studio, 100' of deep water frontage. Private dock and slip. Property remaining on a 95 year lease. #AB126 - NEW LISTING - $2,000,000.00

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

Great Guana Cay - Colonial plantation style 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath 3,900 sq.ft. house with screened porch. On an extremely private 1 1/4 acre property. 370' of deep water frontage with mature Native Landscape. Superb Sea of Abaco Views. #A8915 - $1,380,000

Great Guana Cay - "Plum Lace" - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,228 sq.ft. home on 1.00 acres of private beach frontage with 100' of beautiful beachfront. Furnished and fully equipped. #A8907 - UNDER CONTRACT

Treasure Cay - "Sea Breeze" - 3 bedroom, 3 bath home, 2,160 sq.ft. home on two floors, 800 sq.ft. of open sailor on upper level, 750 sq.ft of porch on lower. - almost 1/2 Acre. - Good Sea of Abaco Views. #A8912 - $531,000

Pelecan Point - Treasure Cay Drive - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,200 sq.ft. home on two levels - upper level dock - almost 1/2 Acre - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home, fully furnished. #AB116 - $925,000

Sand Banks Creek - "Bona Vista" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath home near 30' Waterfront - Almost 1/2 Acre. - Private Dock - #AB135

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

"Trenton Pointe" - 3 bedroom, 2 bath - 2,000 sq.ft. residence with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 - 100 sq.ft. garage house. Southeastern point of island. Swimming Pool - Private boat slip. Superb ocean and cay views. Furnished - #A8913 - NEW PRICE - $1,570,000.00

Great Guana Cay - Dolphin Beach Estates 5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, set on over 1/2 Acre with 100' of Beachfront. Open decks for fabulous ocean views, elevated for Sea of Abaco Views. Fully furnished and equipped. #A89123 - $1,379,000.00

**VACANT LAND**

- Great Guana Cay - 3.5 Beautiful sea-to-sea acres. South end of Great Guana Cay 355' of Ocean frontage. 1/2 of Sea of Abaco frontage. 2/3 of semi-private boat frontage. Good elevations. #AB537 - NEW LISTING - $2,950,000.00

- Great Guana Cay - One of the largest lots in the South End of Great Guana Cay. 3.5+ acres. Waterfront views. #AB1153 - NEW LISTING - $1,350,000.00

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- Great Guana Cay - 1.07 Acres - 312’ x 200’ - Waterfront Pond Home - 100' of beach frontage. #AB5143 - UNDER CONTRACT

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**HOMES**

- Treasure Cay - Sun Burns - 4 bedroom, 2 bath - 2,160 sq.ft. home on two floors, 750 sq.ft. of open saildeck on upper level, 750 sq.ft of porch on lower. - almost 1/2 Acre. - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home, fully furnished. #AB116 - $531,000

- Treasure Cay - Pelican Point - 3 bedroom, 3 bath home, 2,160 sq.ft. home on two floors, 800 sq.ft. of open saildeck on upper level, 750 sq.ft of porch on lower. - almost 1/2 Acre. - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home, fully furnished. #AB115 - $925,000

- Sand Banks Creek - "Bona Vista" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath home near 30’ Waterfront - Almost 1/2 Acre. - Private Dock - #AB135

- North Abaco - "Chyler Job/Broome’s", 2 - 1/2 Acres. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,500 sq.ft. Residence. 1 - 1/2 bath guest cabin on beach. 259’ of beautiful Sea of Abaco Beach. Lush landscaping, a myriad of fruit trees. Fully furnished and equipped. Superb Views. #A8911 - $1,700,000.00

- Marsh Harbour - Eastern Shores "Endcut Sourmaw" - 4 bedroom, 3 bath - 2,700 sq.ft. Home. Private Dock with boat lift on the Sea of Abaco. Some of the most Fabulous Panoramic Views in Abaco. Across the road from Beach. fully Furnished. #A8918 - $1,500,000.

- Marsh Harbour - "Lighthouse" - Commercial – Almost 2 Acres - Prime Queen Elizabeth Drive Location, near stoplight - 3,600 sq.ft. Store or warehouse. #A8909 - $1,400,000.

- Marsh Harbour - Commercial - over 1/3 Acre - 144' Ocean Drive - Two Storey Office Warehouse Building - Great for service business or wholesale - Good relocation property for businesses expanding into Abaco from Nassau or Freeport. #AB110 - $790,000.00


- Pelican Point - Treasure Cay Drive - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath - 2,200 sq.ft. home on two floors, 750 sq.ft. of open saildeck on upper level, 750 sq.ft of porch on lower. - almost 1/2 Acre. - Good Sea of Abaco Views. Short stroll to beach. Great family home, fully furnished. #AB116 - $925,000

- Sand Banks Creek - "Dear Old Home" - 2 bedroom, 2 bath home near 30’ Waterfront - Almost 1/2 Acre.

- Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,028 sq.ft. residence with roof top deck and fabulous views. Private Dock Slip. Superb views of the Sea of Abaco. Fully Furnished and Equipped. Good Rental Income Producer. #A888 - $558,000.00

- Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on 1,500 sq.ft. lot with a 40’ boat slip and great views of the Old Bahama Bay. Fully furnished and equipped. #A8912 - $531,000

- Marsh Harbour - Great Abaco Club - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2,474 sq.ft. Canal Front Home. - 900 sq.ft. of private beach frontage with private Two Car Garage. Private dock for 55 foot boat and 10,004 sf. Boat house for 2 1/2 foot. Fully furnished and Equipped. #AB121 - $1,637,000

- Marsh Harbour - "Endless Summer" - Eastern Shores 4 bedroom, 3 bath - 2,700 sq.ft. Home. Private Dock with boat lift on the Sea of Abaco. Some of the most Fabulous Panoramic Views in Abaco. Across the road from Beach. fully Furnished. #A8918 - $1,500,000.

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