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The Abaconian

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VOLUME 10, NUMBER 21, NOVEMBER 1st, 2002

Chamber Hosts Tourism Minister

Minister Obie Wilchcombe Outlines Goals for Family Islands

Legacy Arrives Abaco's New Mail Boat



The \$2.5 million mail boat, the Legacy, arrived on Abaco on October 17 on its first trip. It held an Open House on October 18 displaying a very well equipped boat designed specifically by owner Ernest Dean, originally from Sandy Point. The boat has freezer and refrigeration reefers, can carry 16 20-foot containers on deck and 120 pallets below. It was designed to service Abaco's growing needs and expects to make twice monthly trips to West Palm Beach by mid November. Please see story on page 2.

The Hon. Obediah Wilchcombe, Minister of Tourism, was the guest speaker at an Abaco Chamber of Commerce meeting on October 18. The meeting was held at Abaco Beach Resort and was attended by about 70 members and their guests.

In his introduction of the speaker Mr. Michael Albury, Chamber President, told the members how influential and powerful the Chamber can be. It is the link between the local business community and government. It gathers input from the local area to communicate with government and can influence government.

Mr. Wilchcombe said that tourism will be the number one industry in this country for many years to come. Worldwide it is a five trillion dollar industry. After 9/11 the Caribbean countries together spent \$16 million in advertising the region to boost visitor arrivals. The Bahamas has had a small drop in figures since that date but the future of tourism looks very good. The Bahamas must be more competitive and must think big. He wants to encourage more Bahamians to invest in The Bahamas.

Mr. Wilchcombe is concerned with the quality of our education. We need to make excellence our watchword. He wants tertiary education to be stressed. Our young people need to continue their education past high

Please see **Wilchcombe** Page 30

Batelco Shares Will Be Sold

Minister of Works and Utilities, the Hon. Bradley Roberts, announced that 49 percent of Batelco is now for sale. Any companies which want to make an offer will have to submit a three-year development plan and will have to pay \$10,000 to bid. The bids will be

assessed by an tenders commission to be appointed soon. Other restrictions include that the company must be at least the same size

Please see **Batelco** Page 35

Wilchcombe Was Welcomed by Chamber Members



Shown on the right above is the Hon. Obie Wilchcombe, Minister of Tourism, who assured the businessmen of Abaco that the government welcomed input by the people. He is shown with Michael Albury, President of the Abaco Chamber of Commerce.

Cooper's Town Sea Wall and Dock Near Completion



Cooper's Town, heavily damaged by Hurricane Floyd in September 1999, suffered the loss of their sea wall and public dock. The dock is now finished and the seawall is nearing completion. The sea wall, several thousand feet in length, is built in sections. A wide concrete sidewalk is added behind the wall, giving additional protection.

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New Mail Boat Has Large Freight Capacity

By Theresa Pinder

On the afternoon of October 18 the *Legacy*, Abaco's newest mail boat, opened its doors to the public in an open house event. At 160 feet long, and 36 feet wide, the *Legacy* will replace the *Capt. Gurth Dean*, which has been in operation for almost three years. It was built to Lloyd's of London load line and is Caribbean Code Certified.

Built by Rodriguez Boat Builders of Bayou La Bette, Alabama, over a ten-month period at a cost of \$2.5 million, the *Legacy* is designed to meet the growing freight demands of Abaco. It was designed by owner Ernest Dean, Jr. and Capt Clifford Carroll to accommodate their needs. It can carry up to 500 tons of cargo, both deck cargo and in an extensive hold. The boat can carry 14 20-foot containers on the deck, more if stacked double, and 120 pallets below. On deck are two self contained chill and freezer containers.

At a cruising speed of eleven knots, it takes about ten hours to travel from Marsh Harbour to New Providence. It is manned by an eight-man crew, including the Capt. Clifford Carroll. It is powered by twin Caterpillar diesel engines, each 720 HP. It has two Caterpillar generators, each 99 KW. On deck is an 18-ton crane. The boat draws about seven feet empty and nine feet loaded. It is equipped

with the latest in computerized navigational aids.

The *Legacy* is equipped with accommodations to carry up to thirty-six passengers. It will provide weekly freight services between Abaco and New Providence, making stops at Marsh Harbour, Guana Cay and Green Turtle Cay. It holds a general cargo license, which allows it to carry virtually any type of freight - heavy equipment, groceries, vehicles, building material and refrigerated cargo.

Mr. Dean explained, "The boat was named *Legacy* because my father started this business about 56 years ago. It was very rewarding to see the expression my 87-year-old father's face when he first saw the *Legacy*. I worked with my father every holiday from when I was about 10 years old until I finished high school. He was very tough but a loving father." He continued, "The captain is totally certified and has been a captain for the last 16 years. He is a native of Long Island and also happens to be my brother-in-law."

Mr. Dean expects to extend the *Legacy's* route to include Florida every other week, a feature that will hopefully come into effect sometime in November.

In addition to its weekly schedule, the *Legacy* will be available on weekends for charters throughout in the Bahamas.



Capt. Earnest Dean, center, the patriarch of the Dean family of Sandy Point, was very proud of the new mail boat, the *Legacy*, owned by his son Capt. Ernest Dean, shown on the left. He has owned many mail boats and fishing boats and raised a family of seamen. On the right is Capt. Clifford Carroll, captain of the *Legacy*, who is Capt. Ernest Dean's brother-in-law. Capt. Ernest Dean and Capt Carroll designed the boat which was built in Alabama.

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Progress on New Freight Dock Is Rapid



Construction of the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour is progressing rapidly. The domestic warehouse shown on the left is now complete and is being used by Customs and the freight companies until the project is complete. The large building pictured in the far center is the international warehouse under construction. The concrete apron around the entire dock area is being poured. On the right is one of the ro-ro ramps which accommodates the offloading of cargo from boats with either a bow or stern ramp.



The concrete apron around the entire dock area is under construction. Two hundred feet is complete in front of the domestic warehouse and is being used by freight boats. The interior area of the space will be paved with a chip-and-seal surface. The project entails moving the main road back and constructing a new road connecting the dock with Crockett Drive and S. C. Bootle Highway. All the road work is well underway.

Progress on the building of the new freight dock in Marsh Harbour is continuing at a rapid pace. A major phase has been completed and part of the new dock is finally in use. American Bridge, which has the contract for the construction, has allowed the

use of the domestic warehouse and area around it for use by the freight companies.

Mr. Ken Bates from Cox and Shal, the

Please see **Dock**

Page 16

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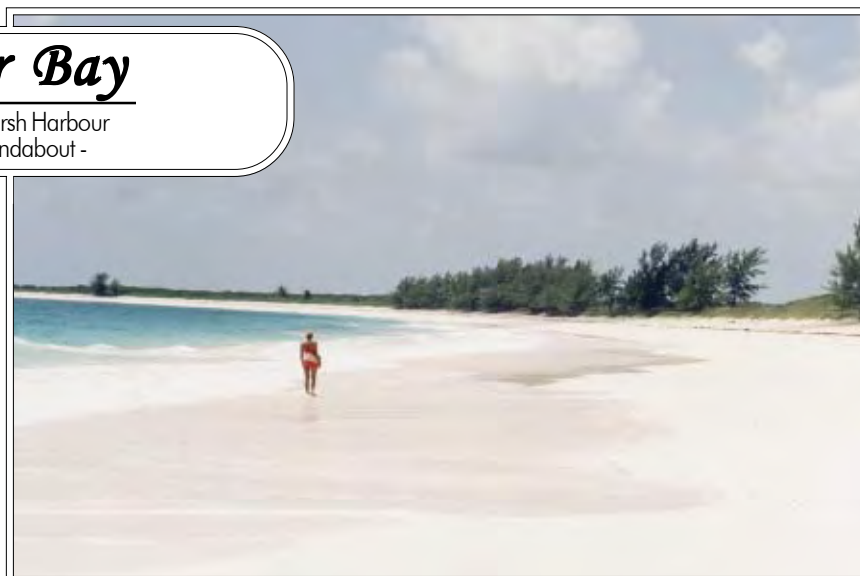
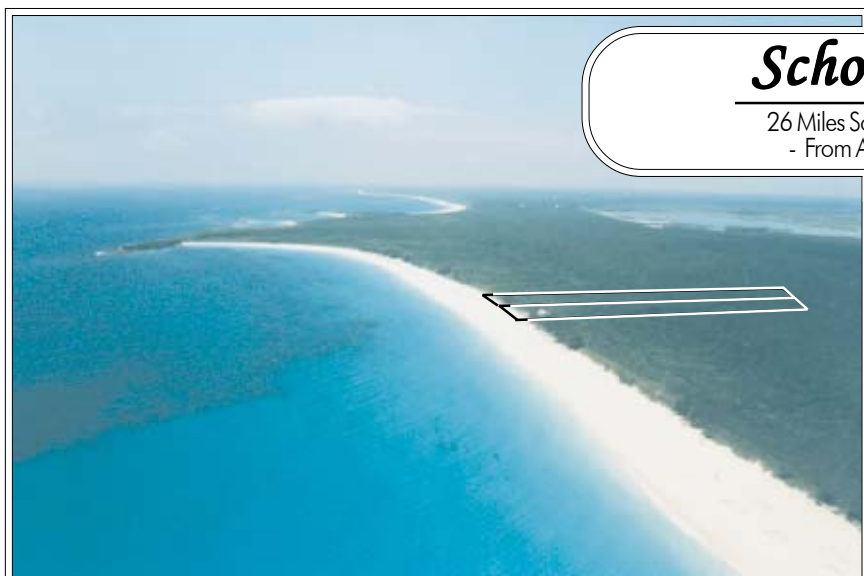
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South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

School News

Classes are still short-handed as Ms. Sutherland continues to recuperate from last month's car accident. We want to send her *Get Well Wishes* and trust she will be back on the job soon. A special thanks to all the



This bunch of bananas couldn't wait to get to the top of the tree to burst out, it decided to come right out of the side of the trunk of the tree. Some people say they have seen this oddity happen before, but it is definitely not normal. This unusual tree belongs to Capt. Roy Albury, one of our retired fishermen.

moms who are filling in during her absence.

Corporal Knowles from the Marsh Harbour Police Department visited the Cherokee All-Age Primary School on October 16th. He rode into the settlement on a big red fire truck and came to familiarize the children with the dangers of fire and teach them some useful precautions to take in case of fire. He impressed upon them the need for smoke detectors and asked how many of the children had them in their homes? Only three students had them. Because of the children's enthusiasm and good behaviour they were rewarded with an exciting ride on the fire engine.

A small shed to hold the P.E. equipment and community tables is being built onto the back of the school house. Monies for this project were raised at a last dinner sale. At the latest PTA meeting parents volunteered their time to do the work. Principal Michelle Lowe says that if labourers have to be hired, the school might have to have an additional fund raiser to pay for these added costs.

A new fax machine has been purchased for the school from their reserve fund.

A Talent Show will be held on November 15 at the schoolhouse. The theme for this year's show will be *Storybook Characters*.

**Support Citizens
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Renovations Continue

There are still a few diehard and faithful volunteers who came out for two more work sessions in the rebuilding of the Old Schoolhouse on the Discovery Day weekend. Thank goodness for this very hard-working group of people.

Some Cherokees have proved it many times over - if we don't do it, no one else will. The more volunteer work we can do for ourselves makes whatever money we raise go a lot farther toward the purchase of materials still needed. We are still in hopes of receiving some assistance from government as we try to restore this historic site within

our community.

Stories are often repeated about the "ole timers" and how it was a different time and how "they all pulled together." Well, the present is definitely different, but we still need each other and we still need to try to "all pull together." The sooner the renovations are completed on the Old Schoolhouse, the sooner we can all enjoy a new community center.

On a recent Sunday morning the minister of the Methodist church, Rev. Carla Culmer, said we need to give more praise, be more appreciative and be more thankful for we have so much more than so many.

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News of the Cays

Man-O-War

By Pat Elkins

New Teacher Arrives

Man-O-War All Age School announces the addition of a new teacher, Mrs. Patricia Bethel. Mrs. Bethel comes to us from Costa Rica by way of Freeport where she taught for several years. She is a welcome addition to the school as resource for language classes as well as computer instruction.

Royal Commonwealth Essay Contest

Congratulations to Adrianna Phillpot, who received a rating of *Highly Commended* in the Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Contest. Her essay, entitled *The House of Fun*, was about a deaf child. It was the highest rating achieved this year of the four essays from the Bahamas that were recognized. The other entries were from Kingsway Academy in Nassau. Adrianna was presented with her certificate during a school assembly. Man-O-War School is proud of her and her accomplishment.

Community News

A memorial service for Cole Walters was held on October 17 at the Man-O-War Church of God. Mr. Walters along with his wife Alice called Man-O-War his home for many years. He passed away in June as was announced in *The Abaconian* in August. He was a great friend with many stories and jokes. Many at the service remembered him for his unique sense of humour and his love of adventure. Sally Sweeting recalled his true "Southern Gentleman" ways by always tipping his hat to the ladies. Leslie Tubbs read a touching eulogy written by Cole's nephew, Wayne Beech. Mark Gates led the congregation in singing Cole's favorite hymn, *Amazing Grace*. He then sang another of Cole's favorites, *One Day at a Time*. The service closed with a message from Pastor David Hoard. We are indeed fortunate that Alice

will remain on Man-O-War even without her beloved Coley.

Green Turtle Cay

By Annabelle Cross

The summer of 2002 is now over and the days are getting shorter and the evenings cooler.

Summer Activities Were Varied

The summer was hot and busy on Green Turtle Cay. Regatta Time In Abaco got off to a start with the annual *Cheeseburger in Paradise Party* on July 3 followed by the first race on July 4. The awards party at Settlement Point, sponsored by William Brewer Company, was the grand finale before the fleet moved on to Guana Cay. But the partying did not end there. Pineapples and Sundowners were the hot spots all summer long.

Bahamian Independence Day was celebrated with an ecumenical service and flag raising at Quincentennial Park during the morning of July 10. A well attended cookout was held that evening at the basketball court.

The fishermen worked hard in July to get ready for the crawfishing season which started on August 1. We also saw a lot of visitors at the beginning of August. They were here to try their hand (or should I say their spear) at catching a few spiny lobster. The fishermen seem pleased with their catches this season.

Several Changes in Staff

We said farewell to our Administrator, Mr. Ivan Ferguson, in August. Mr. Ferguson was well liked in our community. We will always think of him at election time because he was the returning officer for a bi-election, a referendum, a general election and a local government election during his time in North Abaco. We will miss Mr. Ferguson and wish him well at his new post in South Eleuthera. We also welcome our new Administrator, Mr. Gary Knowles.

Our new nurse came to us from South Eleuthera. He is Nurse Warren Knowles, a

friendly person and dedicated to his job. He is also doing a lot to beautify the clinic grounds. We hope we can keep Nurse Warren for a long while!

We also have a new police officer. Officer Williams was transferred back to Marsh Harbour and Corporal Johnson is now our local policeman. We welcome him to our community and hope Green Turtle Cay remains peaceful under his watch.

Marriage Vows Were Said

Congratulations to Sasha and Willard Demeritte, who were married on August 3 at St. Peter's Anglican Church. A reception followed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernal Cooper, parents of the bride. The couple will reside in Freeport.

New Additions to Our Town

Our community has been growing this summer with the arrival of new babies. Two girls arrived in July. Michaela Sky was born on July 19 in Florida and is the first child of Don and Giselle McIntosh. Shea Eunice was born on July 14 in Nassau, She is Jason and Stacey Lowe's second child and Leia's baby sister! August 16 brought the arrival of baby boy Rio Ricardo. Proud parents are Theresa Jones and Ricky Rolle.

Welcoming their first child were Sasha and Willard Demeritte. Tyrann Willard was born in Freeport on October 5. Tyrann is the first grandchild of Vernal and Kathryn Cooper. And the last baby to complete the boom

is Kimberly Minerva, born October 15 in Florida. Kimberly is Jimmy and Betsy Roberts' first child and the first grandchild of Pat and Minerva Sawyer. Welcome to all the babies and congratulations to the parents and grandparents.

School News

School is now halfway through the first term. Amy Roberts Primary School said goodbye to Ms. Sherry Thompson at the end of June. Mrs. Maria Schrack has joined the staff of the school headed by Principal, Mrs. Anne Bootle. During the summer break the school was painted and repairs were made. The new bathroom block was completed. A new storeroom and kitchen are now in the rooms left vacant by relocating the bathrooms.

Tiny Turtles Preschool has only nine students this year but hopes to welcome a few more in January.

Congratulations to all of our students who did well on the BJC and BGCSE exams and especially to Raenell Lowe, whose BJC results were second best in all of Abaco.

Community Loses Three

This summer saw the passing of three ladies of our community. Mrs. Charlotte Hodgkins died on July 18. She was 96 years old, the second oldest resident in the community. She was predeceased by her husband

Please see **Cays**

Page 7

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News of the Cays

Cays

From Page 6

and siblings. Her children died as infants. She is survived by her sister-in-law Merlee Key, Sybil Hodgkins and Nellie Weech, numerous nieces and nephews, relatives and friends. The funeral service was held at New Plymouth Gospel Chapel.

Mrs. Daisy McIntosh died on July 28. She was 83 years old. Mrs. Daisy was predeceased by her husband Edward and is survived by her children and their spouses, Margaret and Mervin Reckley, Martha Johnson, Lily McIntosh, Cheryl Russell, Rachel McIntosh and Godfrey and Francis McIntosh, 17 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and numerous relatives and friends. The funeral service was held on August 2 at St. Peter's Anglican Church.

Mrs. Cynthia Lowe died on August 4 after a courageous battle with cancer. She was 62. Cynthia is survived by her husband Vertrum Lowe, daughter Trina Sawyer, sons Raymond Lowe and Bishop Johnny Lowe, son-in-law Freddie Sawyer, daughter-in-law Bessie Lowe, grandchildren Stacey, Lisa and Heather Sawyer, Raenell Lowe and Johnny Lowe, Jr. three sisters Esther Darville, Barbara Weech and Beverly Curry, one brother Curtis Curry, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and many relatives and friends. The funeral service was held at the Miracle Church of God on August 10.

Dr. Curtis Mendelson died in Florida on

October 13. Dr. Mendelson was the doctor on the island from the late 1950s to the early 1980s. He was a retired ob/gyn doctor who delivered many of the babies born on the island during that time - myself included! Dr. Mendelson is survived by his wife Marguerite, formerly of Green Turtle Cay.

Government Officials Visit

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. Cynthia Pratt, made an official visit to Green Turtle Cay. She visited the museum and school on her tour of the community. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Hon. Alfred Gray also made an official visit. Mr. Gray is no stranger to our community as he served as Island Commissioner to North Abaco in the 1980s and spent many days in the local office.

New Mailboat Holds Open House

The new mailboat *Legacy* made her first trip to Green Turtle Cay on October 17. The residents were invited to tour the boat and refreshments were served. The 164-foot boat is very impressive. Best wishes to the owner,

captain and crew for many successful voyages.

Crime Is a Big Problem

Like many places on Abaco, Green Turtle Cay has seen crime spoiling our peaceful existence. Over the past months boats have been stolen from their moorings or docks. One of these boats, a Boston Whaler, disappeared from a dock in Black Sound without a trace. Searches by air and sea as well as trips to other islands have turned up nothing. A reward was offered for information, but the boat remains missing.

Again this month a boat was taken from its mooring in Black Sound and was left at the government dock to be transported by mailboat to Nassau! The caretakers of the boat were quite surprised to see the boat loaded onto the mailboat. The captain was alerted and the boat was returned. Had the caretaker been 30 minutes later going out to the dock, this boat, a 21-foot Mako, would have been gone! The police were called and this time there are persons to be questioned.

While this was going on, another boat was

reported missing from White Sound. A 14-foot Sea Doo jet boat had gone missing from the owner's dock. This boat was located north of Green Turtle Cay banging against the rocks, filled with water and extensively damaged.


It is very important that the police take this matter seriously as we depend on boating visitors to our island. If the boaters feel that it is not safe to leave their boats, they will no longer visit. It is up to the police to pursue this and send a clear message to those responsible. This will help to reassure both residents and visiting yachtsmen. The stealing of boats is not new. A few other persons have lost their boats in the past. These persons depended on their boats for their livelihood. It is time to get to the bottom of the boat stealing!

Upcoming Events

Amy Roberts Primary will have a Halloween Fund raising on November 2. There

Please see **Cays**

Page 35



By the pool on
New Plymouth Harbour

The Other Shore Club
Green Turtle Cay, Abaco

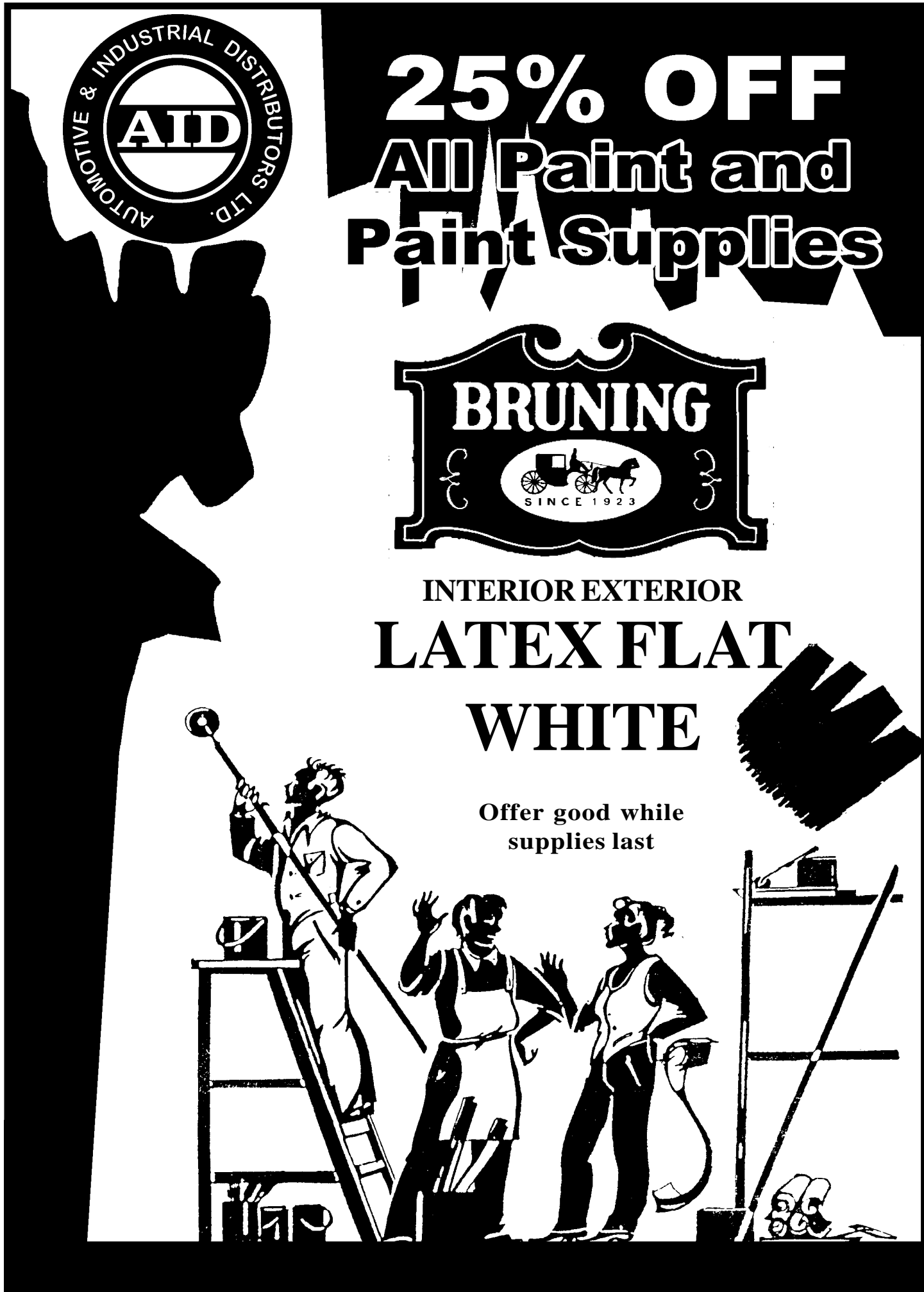
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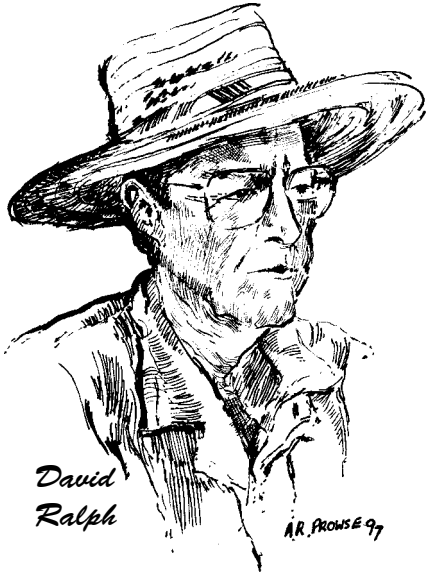
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The Editor Says . . . New Dock Responsibilities



In the next few months we will be given a new port facility. Initial areas of the of the facility will be given us to use unofficially beginning this week.

Dredging in the new channel is completed and just lacks the installation of markers. Some dredging needs to be finished in the turning basin. The domestic warehouse will be used unofficially as part of the transition

process when it accepts freight from the old building prior to its demolition.

As facilities are transferred to local authorities, many new areas of responsibility must be dealt with.

It was made quite clear initially that fees would be assessed and collected for using the new facility. This will encourage ships to go elsewhere when idle, perhaps at anchor, but not lay at the dock. Someone must keep track of these dock fees and their timely payment. We understand that fees have not been collected for a year or more.

Utility bills will have to be considered. The area will be lit with outdoor flood lights and the administration building is air conditioned. One electric meter will handle the entire facility and the monthly bill will be sizeable. Payment for that expense will probably be the responsibility of the Central Abaco Council.

A substantial water bill is possible. The big boats will use water to replenish their tanks and local barges load water to take to the cays. Accounting for water usage will be someone's responsibility.

The new administrative building will have

offices for Customs, shipping agents, customs brokers and others. These offices will need janitorial services. Some occupants may clean their own space. However, it is expected that government offices will look to Council for this janitorial service. In any event, local government will probably be responsible for the maintenance, repairs and cleaning of public areas, hallways and restrooms.

The domestic and the international warehouses each have restrooms which will need attention. These buildings will need periodic maintenance, repairs and cleaning. Logically, Council will be asked to seek contracts for these services.

A larger problem will be keeping the domestic and international yards clean of shipping debris left by ships. Without oversight this debris can easily get overlooked in the rush and those responsible get by without cleaning up their mess.

The new dock will be able to absorb a bigger mess and if it is allowed to accumulate, it will truly be a mess. As containers, pallets and boxes are emptied, people lose interest in them and the trash gets left behind. Someone will have to keep up with the left-overs and see that appropriate persons take action. The area will be clean when we get it and it will be up to us to see that it stays that way.

Maintenance for the existing dock is the responsibility of the Local Government. Arranging for trash and garbage removal has been their main responsibility and will continue to be at the new facility. Presently, this is all in one small area. It will soon be scattered over many acres separated as domestic and international debris.

The major responsibility will fall to Customs in the International section concerning the security of incoming goods, customs clearance and the appropriate exit out the gate.

Many loose ends must still be contended with. There is now a public restroom at the new domestic warehouse. It will have to be locked during periods of inactivity.

The completed dock will give Council new challenges, the first being a lack of funds for utilities and necessary services. No provision was made for maintenance expenses when

this year's budget was prepared. Once the port's operating expenses are made clear, Council will have to make inquiries concerning financial and administrative responsibilities. Government is going to have to come up with funds for utilities and cleaning expenses in the next several months. Electricity, water and toilet paper can't wait.

There will be a need for a port manager. This person must see that the shipping companies, the trucking firms, brokers and individuals take all their freight including packing materials. Unclaimed freight must be resolved so it doesn't stay forever. The present area has had freight sitting for over two years without being claimed, moved or taken to the dump. It appears to have been abandoned.

Even with a manager, it may be appropriate that an advisory authority be formed with interested and concerned parties to ensure that the port functions smoothly by all parties. Management will include many areas of responsibility and may include much of the following:

- ships' fee assessment and accounting
- slip scheduling and priority assignments
- resolving dock space conflicts
- debris and garbage removal
- maintenance of the facilities, air conditioning, fencing, scales, lights, etc.
- be concerned with supplies, light bulbs, paper towels, toilet paper, etc.
- watch for unclaimed freight and work with shippers and customs to see that it does not accumulate unnecessarily, particularly domestic freight which can get overlooked
- have oversight responsibilities of janitorial services
- review utility bills for conservation and possibly bill secondary parties
- approve bills for Council and prepare an operating budget
- be aggressive with shippers when required for debris removal
- yard drains and grates may need periodic cleaning

Other areas may be found that will need attention as the port comes to life. Council should start making plans for their new responsibilities.



All About Town

Do Parents Care?

By Isobel Sherman

On October 15 a meeting was held for all parents of students of one of the Grade 8 home rooms of Abaco Central High School. The purpose was for home room teacher, Mrs. Elva Davis, and her assistant, Mrs. Isobel Sherman, to meet the parents and to apprise them of the policies of the school. Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, principal, was also present at the meeting.

However, only one parent showed up. Letters had been sent home. This was the third home room to have a meeting and yet it seems parents did not care to come. Why? It was not raining. The two teachers and principal sat and thank goodness one parent cared enough about their child to come. Nothing can be more important than your children and yet only one parent thought their child was important enough to come to the meeting.

I write all the time about parental involvement or I should say the lack of it at the high school and it gets no better. These students are in grade 8. They are still very young and any problems they have in learning or in different subjects can be remedied easily if parents want to join hands with the school. I wonder if these parents were paying private school fees if they would be more interested in their children. One student told me their parents had to go to church. God blessed them

with being parents and God would want them to take a full interest in their child or children.

Parents are important and the responsibility a parent has should not be taken lightly. The easiest part of being a mother is the nine months one carries the baby in the womb. The hardest part is the next 18 years and maybe longer and as each year goes parenting gets harder and more involved. The United States is proclaiming to their parents, "Parents! the Anti Drug!" Abaco Central High parents, where are you?

Breakfast Is Important

By Isobel Sherman

I feel compelled to write this article because breakfast or I should say not eating breakfast is a problem. The problem is with the students who do not eat breakfast. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. The word breakfast literally means to break the fast. For most people breakfast is the first meal and is breaking the fast because the night is the longest period of time the body has been without nourishment. For example, a person eats dinner at 6 p.m. and gets up at 7 a.m. His body has been without food for 13 hours.

For students breakfast is needed although most teenagers do not eat breakfast for a

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Letters to the Editor

More Service Problems

Dear Editor,
 It seems that banks are not the only businesses that have serious service problems in Marsh Harbour. Evidently there is a garage that also suffers from the mysterious ailment that prevents them from giving good service. Several months back the air conditioning in my 1996 car stopped cooling. I automatically took the car to the gas station that I have always used. They filled the car with Freon and released the car to me. Two weeks later the air-conditioning in the car stopped cooling again. Again the mechanic filled the car with Freon and released it to me. Once again, two weeks later I was driving around in a very hot car, as by now summer temperatures had really set in.

Hoping that someone would realize that the car obviously had a leak somewhere, I took the car in again. Three days later I was advised that they needed to order parts for it. I told the station to go ahead and order the parts and to let me know how much they would cost. A week later I had not heard from the station so I took my car in to let them change the parts. As I was walking out, I remembered to ask how much the parts were going to be. I was shocked to hear that the parts would cost me almost \$600 and this price did not include the full day of labour it would take to replace the parts. I advised the owner of the station that I couldn't afford to fix the car and that I would bring the car back when I had the money to pay them.

Six weeks later I carried the car in as I was on my way to the airport. When I returned six days later, I got my car and told the station to bill me. The air conditioning was working great, and I was finally driving in cool air. I received the bill three weeks later and was pleasantly surprised to note that the bill was less than half I had expected it to be. When I questioned the owner of the station, he advised me that they did not need the parts they ordered because those parts in the car appeared to be brand new. I have always been of the impression that a mechanic is supposed to know how to "check" parts to know if they are working, not guess by the condition of the part.

Anyway, I paid the station over \$400 as I was quite happy that they had been able to fix my car without using the expensive parts. Unfortunately, my happiness was to be short-lived. Three weeks later (six weeks after the car was fixed) the air conditioning was again on the bum. When I contacted the owner of the station, I told him that I had paid him to fix the car and it was not fixed. He told me that he wanted to "make it right" so I left the car at the garage yet again with the guar-

antee that they would not change any parts without calling me and telling me what they were changing, why and how much it would cost.

After not receiving a call regarding the parts, I stopped by the garage three days later and was told that they have fixed it yet again, free of charge. Amazingly, the mechanic also said, "If it ain't fixed now, then you better take it to someone else because I can't fix it." Three weeks went by again and again my air conditioning stopped working. At this point, I was very, very angry. I paid the garage over \$400 for fixing my car and it was not fixed!

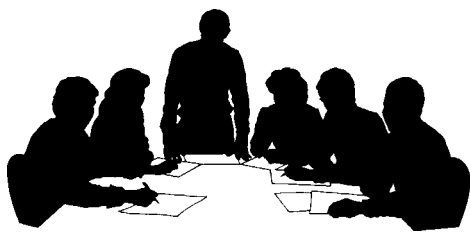
I wrote the owner of the garage a professional, polite letter stating that I wanted my money back so that I could take the car to someone else. I even offered to let him subtract the \$10 part he had used. When I spoke to the owner five days later, he said that he still had the expensive parts that he had ordered to fix my car originally. I can't figure out what that has to do with me paying to have the car fixed when it wasn't fixed? It was not my fault that they had ordered parts that they did not need. The owner said that he would not refund my money. But if I took the car to someone else that could find the leak, then he would pay for the labour to fix

the leak but not for any parts that some other mechanic deemed necessary to replace.

So I am stuck without my \$400 and without air conditioning in my car when the temperature will likely be above 85 degrees for at least another six weeks. I paid the garage the money for fixing my car and the car is NOT FIXED! I have no desire to take the owner up on his offer to "maybe" pay for it to be fixed by another mechanic. I want my money back! As far as I am concerned, they stole my money and did not give me the service that I should have gotten. When are we, the customers, going to get good service?

An unsatisfied customer

Local Government at Work



Hope Town District Council 10 Oct. 2002

Councillors met in the Council office in Hope Town and are responsible for the communities of Guana Cay, Man-O-War Cay and Elbow Cay. Responsibilities extend to neighboring islands. Mr. Walter Sweeting of Man-O-War is the Chief Councillor.

Concerns centered around garbage contracts in Hope Town, Man-O-War Cay and Guana Cay.

Administrator Williams advised that a new contract format is being provided by central government for all local government use. He also advised that contracts for services where substantial equipment may be involved can be issued for a two-year term.

Environmental Health has agreed to finance six garbage bins per week for residential garbage to be taken from Guana Cay to Marsh Harbour for disposal at the Marsh Harbour dump site. Businesses will be responsible for their own garbage removal. Nothing definite has been determined for the new garbage site on Guana Cay.

A property owner in Hope Town objected to the dump encroaching on his land but the map sent with his letter of objection did not

help in clarifying his land boundary in relationship to the dump.

Councillors were advised that the garbage collection in Man-O-War is awaiting clarification from Nassau on issuing the collection and dump maintenance contract and they should wait for this advice.

A October 1 Nassau newspaper reported on an underwater dump site found outside the Man-O-War Harbour. Chief Councillor Walter Sweeting said a response had been written to the paper. The site found off Man-O-War Cay was an accumulation of household debris dumped 10 - 20 years ago prior to the present dump being used. It was not used as a town dump site but used by various individuals.

He also told of recent government approval given Man-O-War by Environmental Health for the methods they use in handling their

garbage problem. The most recent was at a July environmental workshop held in Nassau which Mr. Sweeting attended with Administrator Everette Hart.

The expiry date for work to be initiated by a building permit was disclosed to be 18 months from the date of issue.

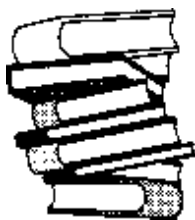
Questions arose concerning rental houses off Elbow Cay and further investigation will be done.

A lighthouse keeper is needed and the Nassau Port Department asked if a local person could be found.

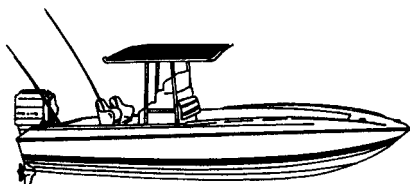
Councillors were requested to prepare questions concerning local government issues and present them at the upcoming two day Local Government seminar scheduled for November 14 and 15. Persons from Nassau will be making presentations and answering questions.



Hope Town District Council meets twice monthly to take care of the local government business of Elbow Cay, Man-O-War and Guana Cay. That Council also handles business assigned to statutory boards in larger districts. Shown above are, seated left to right, Mrs. Diane Bethel, Administrator Alexander Williams, and Chairman Walter Sweeting. Standing is their secretary, April Dawkins.



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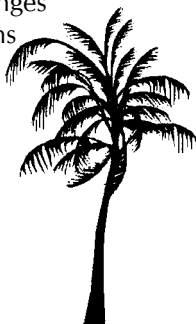
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Central Abaco News

Nominations

By Isobel Sherman

This past week the Abaco office of the Ministry of Tourism has asked for nominations for the 7th Annual Cacique Awards to be awarded in February 2003. These awards honour persons in transportation, human resources, sports and leisure, entertainment, still and motion photography, retail, nature tourism, lifetime achievement in tourism, creative arts, writing, and the prestigious Minister's award.

Nomination forms are available at the Abaco Office of Tourism and the deadline for nominations is the 15 November.

Christmas Is Coming

Christmas is coming to Abaco. The first signs of Christmas on Abaco are the number

of open houses that are held in November. The first open house will be held on November 15 at Memorial Shopping Center with Buds and Blooms and Simcoe Jewelry joining in hosting an open house.

On the following Saturday, November 23, Gardeners Eden will be holding their Annual Open House. On the November 30 Joe's Studio in Man-O-War will be hosting their annual open house with conch fritters and apple cider directly from New England.

Women's Conference Is Held

By Isobel Sherman

The Daughters of Destiny, a woman's ministry of New Birth Ministries of Marsh Harbour, held a three-night conference entitled *Beyond the Open Door*. The conference opened October 23, hosted by Rev.

Earlyn and Sis. Joan Baillou. Guest speaker was Pastor Lisa Evans from Mount Tabour Church in Nassau, who spoke on the topic *Grow Up and Get Over It*. Too many women relive their past instead of moving on. We

need to continue to grow as Christians. We must grow in grace in the knowledge of God. On Thursday presentations were made by

Please see **Central**


Page 35



This is the first lot to be cleared in Central Pines Estates belonging to Carol and Scott Davis. Mr. Davis works for Bahamas Hot Mix and hopes to begin construction soon. Many applicants are getting their paper work prepared and loans arranged. The government subdivision offers generous sized lots with all utilities in place for a reasonable cost.



New Visions Ministries held a Junk-a-new sale on October 25-26 to raise funds for an ambitious program to improve their parking area and beautify their grounds with landscaping. The sale was held at the empty Western Auto building in Marsh Harbour.




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Farmers Prepare for Minister's Visit

By Theresa Pinder

During a recent visit to Abaco by the Hon. V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government, farmers requested a meeting with him to discuss their plight as farmers and possible solutions to some issues. Min. Gray agreed, on the terms that the group would organize themselves beforehand with a plan of topical issues, possible solutions and possible action. For this purpose the Abaco branch of the Bahamas Farmers Association recently held a planning meeting, anticipating a meeting with the

minister later.

Some issues brought up included land tenure which the association feels is sorely lacking for the farmer; restrictive infra structural inputs such as electricity, tariffs, lack of streamlined and effective education and training in farm development, the marketing process (or the lack thereof). The group discussed labour problems, as labour cost is one of the more severe restraints to agricultural development. Labour productivity is low and results in labour input for task costing being very high. Also discussed was crop insurance

and the unreasonable terms being offered to farmers for access to capital. Crop insurers have been sought, a Caribbean firm being found which is willing to include the Bahamas. Further discussion will be held with this firm. The revitalizing of the producer/supplier cooperatives was suggested as farmers present at the meeting were encouraged to join together with the co-op movement to form a stronger credible force. Cooperative

programs can have significant input towards all facets of agricultural development.

It is the intention of the association that the meeting with Min. Gray should include the full array of the agricultural system, i.e. the wholesaler, retailer, consumer, producer and all that play a part in the process from beginning to end.

Agriculture Minister Met with Wholesalers to Promote Local Produce

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government, the Hon. Alfred Gray, feels that The Bahamas must encourage agriculture and is promoting farming with a goal of this country becoming more self-sufficient. Recently, he urged wholesalers and retailers to assist farmers by buying locally grown produce. Min. Gray met on October 7 with wholesalers, retailers and purchasing managers from major hotels in New Provi-

dence to plead the case of the Bahamian farmer. He told them that government's policy is quite clear and it would not allow buyers to import what is produced in the country when available at a reasonable price, of reasonable quality and on a sustainable basis. At the same time he said his ministry will not stand by idly if farmers hold buyers hostage by overpricing produce that is on the restricted list.



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School News

Central Abaco Primary School Special Assistance

By Anita Rolle

Phonics, spelling and writing are some of the key components to the development of every child's academic progress. To assist

students with problems in these areas, the Central Abaco Primary School now has on staff Special Education Teacher, Ms. Carolyn Wright.

Ms. Wright joined the staff in September of this year and concluded that close to 150 students were identified as having special needs at the beginning of the school term.

Presently, about seventy are seen on a weekly basis. Her job constitutes working with children who have special needs in the areas of phonics, spelling and writing. Students, once identified, see Ms. Wright for about 45 minutes three days a week. In order that each child might receive one-on-one tutoring, a maximum of 15 students are seen per session. In cases where there are more than she can handle, she presents the classroom teachers with tools and materials to assist those students.

The process of identifying students needing special help is not complex. Classroom teachers who work with the students on a day-to-day basis refer those who they feel need extra help to Ms. Wright, who then administers a series of tests to determine their weaknesses. If it is found that the student is functioning two to three grade levels below,


they are identified as requiring special assistance. Of course, as with any area of education, assistance and participation from parents is a necessity. Parents are encouraged to take part in their child's development inside and outside of the classroom, as teachers cannot be expected to do it all on their own. Ms. Wright welcomes parents of students in the program to speak with her concerning their progress.

"One of the first problems I noticed was a language barrier among some of the students," said Ms. Wright, "but I'm very excited about this venture and looking forward to working closely with the students and parents." An advocate of reading, Ms. Wright also sees a deficiency in skills in this area with many of the students. She feels that they

Please see **School** Page 13



The College of The Bahamas now offers courses on Abaco, both academic and technical. Shown above is a class recently started in Central Abaco for teaching electric wiring. The class is being taught by Mr. Philip Armbrister, COB lecturer. The tuition for this nine-week course is \$800 and leads to a single phase electrician's license.



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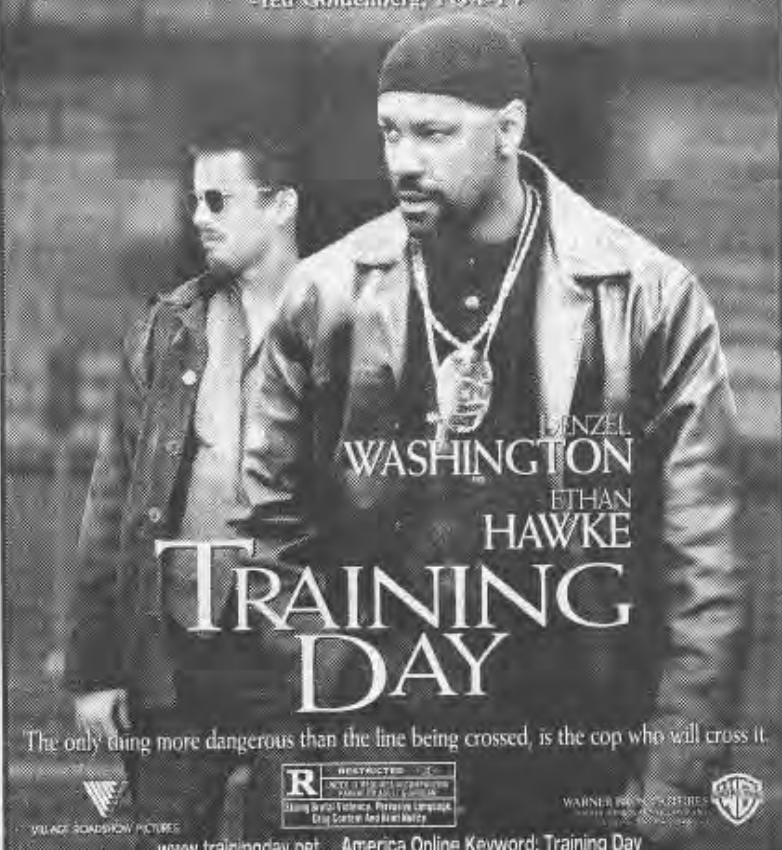
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More School News

School *From Page 12*

are not being properly trained with the necessary skills to empower their growth in the classroom, hence, the world.

Hardly a newcomer to this field, she comes to Abaco highly qualified, holding a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Special Education and a wealth of experience. She has been working with the Ministry of Education for a number of years as a teacher and organizing training workshops on Special Education in New Providence and around the Family Islands. While in Nassau she hosted a weekly educational radio program sponsored by the Ministry of Education.

The community of Abaco and Central Abaco Primary School are pleased to welcome Ms. Carolyn Wright and hope that many will benefit from her expertise.

Treasure Cay Primary Volunteers Assist in Teaching

The Treasure Cay Primary has benefitted from several volunteers who have assisted in teaching in the school. Ms. Stacy Britt, a visitor in Treasure Cay, has volunteered to teach grade five while their regular teacher, Mrs. Ericka McKinney is away on maternity leave. She will teach until the end of this term when she will return to the University of Central Florida where she is studying for a degree in education specializing in biology. Her parents are second home owners in Treasure Cay.

Ms. Maranda Williams is a volunteer in grade three assisting Ms. Monique Williams. She will begin her studies at the College of the Bahamas in January. Ms. Naquania Knowles is employed as a teacher's aide in the school. She is a recent graduate of Forest Heights Academy. She will begin studies at the College of the Bahamas in January also.

Also volunteering is Michael KcKee who is helping with the physical education program at the school. He is taking a break from studying to spend time with his parents in Treasure Cay. His father is the magistrate for Abaco. He will be going back to Scotland to begin his college work.

Teacher of the Year Is Named

Mr. Roodatram Kawalram has been named Teacher of the Year for Treasure Cay Primary School. He has been teaching sixth grade in Treasure Cay for the past two years. Mr. Kawalram is from Guyana but has been teaching in the Bahamas for the past six years.

Top Students Named

The sixth grade last year had 15 students who graduated to high school. The outstanding students were valedictorian Aqueela Romer, who also received awards in math-

ematics, language arts, Spanish and religious knowledge. The salutatorian was Davaughn Seymour, who also received an award in language arts. Other outstanding students were Josler Pierre, Milande Josue and Prince Bodie.

Abaco Central High School National Heroes Day Was Celebrated
By Isobel Sherman

Abaco Central High School held its first celebration of National Heroes Day on October 15. In a special sit down assembly in the front parking lot of the school the celebration members of Grade 11 read several biographies of Bahamian heroes including Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling, Sir Randol Fawkes, Dame Doris Johnson, Dr. Keva Bethel and Andre Kenneth Rodgers. The class then saluted the unsung heroes, the teachers of Abaco

Please see **School** *Page 14*



Roger Kelty of Lyford Cay Foundation presents alternative career opportunities to students at Abaco Central High School on October 22. He gave illustrations of several trade school vocations that only require two or three years of study and pay approximately \$30,000 per year on graduation. Mentioned were medical technicians, computer technology, electronics, and mechanics. Career Day gives the students opportunities to learn about various vocations and talk with experienced persons in a variety of businesses

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More School News

School *From Page 13*

Central High School presenting each one with a laminated certificate.

The guest speaker, a Bahamian hero and certainly an Abaconian hero, Mr. Patrick Bethel told the students how happy he was to be there on the First National heroes day which he believed should have been for many years and how happy he was that the day would now be celebrated every second Monday in October.

Mr. Bethel told the students that there are three kinds of heroes, national heroes, local

heroes and personal heroes. He said two of his national heroes were Sherwin Archer and Sherwin Bootle. His two of his local heroes are Walter Sands a former teacher of his and Lucien Stratton. Two of his personal heroes are Dr. Jackson Burnside and Captain Leonard Thompson.

Mr. Bethel told the students that there are six characteristics of a national hero. They must have noble qualities that can be emulated, stands for principles, made of sterner stuff than ordinary person, loyal to self, God and Country and finally be prepared to make sacrifices.

Mr. Bethel believes that the youth of the country could benefit by examining who they are and where they are going by looking for directions and tips from national heroes, their local heroes and their personal heroes. He challenged the students to find their heroes.

The assembly ended with five questions being asked that had to do with the biographies which were read at the beginning of the assembly. The first student who answered each question correctly was given a small prize.

Baby Chicks Arrive

Two hundred baby chicks arrived at Abaco Central High School on October 7th. Donated by Abaco Big Bird it is the first batch of chicks for the school year. Under the tute-

lage of Miss Ingrid Gray Agricultural Science Teacher, the Agricultural Science students will be caring for the chicks until they grow up enough to be slaughtered and sold. The students will do that aspect of the project as well. They hope to raise a larger batch of chicks in the next installment of the project.

Annual Career Day Held

On October 21 and 22 Abaco Central High School held their annual Career Day. Under the theme *Securing a Place in This New Global Economy* Mrs. Nadene Beneby, Guidance Counselor, planned the Career Day with as-

Please see **News**

Page 15



S.C. Bootle High School held their awards ceremony on October 23 at the school. The award giving was interspersed with musical selections and praise dances. A large crowd enjoyed the program which included academic, athletic and citizenship for last school year's accomplishments. Shown at the left is the seventh grade dance group.

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More School News



St. Francis de Sales School held their annual Activity Day on October 24, giving students and teachers an opportunity to relax and showcase their talent. The day included a costume parade which the students thoroughly enjoyed as they paraded around the school's basketball court. Another highlight of the day was a talent show where students and teachers expressed themselves through song and dance.

News

From Page 14

assistance from Mr. Huel Moss, Vice Principal, and Miss. Raquel Gaitor, social studies teacher.

Grades 11 and 12 attended the individual presentations over the two-day period. Presenters on the first day represented careers in education, mechanics, aviation, interior decorating, cosmetology, dentistry, engineering, plumbing, welding, art, computer technology, journalism, insurance and banking.

Students were in small groups and were given the opportunity to ask questions. It is through days such as these that students find out about different careers so that they can make a better choice of a career for themselves when they leave school.

School Spirit

At the beginning of the school year a School Spirit Committee was formed to bring

more school spirit into Abaco Central High School. Miss Raquel Gaitor heads the committee. On October 23 the committee sponsored the First School Spirit Games held during the last hour and half of school. Each home room was asked to select three teams, one for tug of war, one for three-legged race and one for egg and spoon race. Teachers also had three teams. The competition was keen with many students on the sidelines cheering their favorite team on.

In addition the School Spirit Committee is sponsoring a chant contest and a school song contest. Winners will be announced during the month of November.

Head Boy and Head Girl Given Ties

The new Head Boy and head Girl at Abaco Central were presented their navy ties at an

Please see **School**

Page 31


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Freight Dock Is Nearing Completion

Dock From Page 3

company overseeing the construction, called a meeting on October 17 to inform the shipping companies and Customs that the new warehouse would be completed by the end of the month. Mr. Mark Bell, Project Manager for American Bridge, explained that the area around the warehouse including more than 200 feet of frontage along the bulkhead was finished with the exception of the final chip-and-seal paving finish. The bulkhead includes a 60-foot ramp completed and available for use.

American Bridge will soon begin demolishing the current warehouse and surrounding concrete surface, which was constructed

in the mid-1960s, and will reconstruct the entire old dock area. The new domestic warehouse and all the dock area to the east will eventually be for domestic traffic. The larger warehouse now under construction will be for international freight when completed. The entire dock will have a concrete apron of 27 feet. The remainder of the area will be paved with a chip-and-seal surface.

Mr. Bell said that the new channel could be used by the end of October. Dredging has continued 24 hours a day since last November. Several areas have required dynamiting as the rock was harder than expected. The dynamiting is now completed. In order to have a controlling depth of 13 feet at low water, the dredging had to extend out 4400 feet from the turning basin, well beyond Outer Point.

The dredging of the channel is complete with the remaining dredging work to be done on the turning basin.

Mr. Bell explained that the company will be putting in six pairs of range markers. These will be at 900-foot intervals and will be offset from the channel by 15 feet on each side. They will be posts with reflectors.

Abaco Markets Makes Top Management Changes

Abaco Markets has recently made changes in its management. It has created a six member executive committee which will have the responsibility to manage the various operations of the company. Its new president and chief executive, David Thurlow, will head this committee which will include one person from each of their divisions. There have been changes on its board of directors also, with several leaving positions on the board to be part of the new executive committee. Mr. Thurlow will be the only one of the executive committee to serve on the board. Mr. Lowell Albury is now part of the executive committee. Mr. Reginald Sands and Mr. Robert Pinder remain on the board of directors.

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"MARNIES CREEK" Private marina community at the southern end of Elbow Cay offering 1/2 acre lots with views of the Atlantic Ocean, Sea of Abaco, or both. Each lot comes with private dock slip at the marina, homesites staggered for optimal views. **Starting at: \$180,000**

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Make a Difference By Choosing the Right Landscaping

Hawaiian Sea Grape, a commonly used and invasive landscape plant on Abaco

By Michelle Bethell

Think about this. Did you know that by planting certain plants in your yard you might be actually damaging the natural environment of the Bahamas? Choosing the wrong plants can actually have a devastating effect on wildlife, biodiversity, water resources and our coastlines. These plants are termed "invasive plants."

An invasive plant that is rapidly spreading across Abaco from more populated areas such as Marsh Harbour, Treasure Cay and Hope Town to remote beaches and unpopulated areas of Abaco is the Hawaiian Sea Grape, also known as Scaevola. This plant, due to its hardiness and lush green leaves, is currently very popular as a landscape plant. Invasive plants are usually plants that thrive well in minimal conditions, are hard to kill, grow quickly and spread rapidly. So, of course, many persons would find Hawaiian Sea Grape great because they are so easy to grow, easy to propagate, etc. Hawaiian Sea Grape, though, is creating a sad situation for those who care about the Bahamas. It is rapidly spreading, creating thickets along our coastlines, competing with and killing our native plants and changing the look and feel of our beaches. I have seen Hawaiian Sea Grape taking over, all on its own, because the seeds or fruits drop into the water from people's yards and drift up on our beaches elsewhere.

I have witnessed it displacing Sea Oats, Sea Lavender, Inkberry, mangroves and numerous other plants on Abaco. Sea Oats and other beach plants act to stabilize our beaches from erosion. When large areas dominated by one type of plant of Hawaiian Sea Grape displace our native plants, we have lost the variety and genetic diversity of our native beach vegetation. Having a single form of vegetation increases the possible loss of our beaches through erosion if the invading plant is inflicted by disease, all the plants die and leave nothing to protect the beach. We still do not know the effect that Hawaiian Sea Grape may have on our Bahamian wildlife on land such as birds, crabs, lizards or on

fish nurseries when they take over mangroves or other wetland areas.

Other invasive plants such as Brazilian Pepper (also known as Christmas Holly and Bahama Holly) and Casuarina (a.k.a. Australian pine) were introduced to the Bahamas years ago as landscape plants. It took years for scientists and many locals to finally understand their negative effect on our environment. Brazilian Pepper spreads into wet areas and well fields and soaks up enormous amounts of water, a valuable resource on small landmasses such as islands. Casuarinas are known to chemically displace other plants along our coastlines, increasing the likelihood of beach erosion during storms and prevent sea turtles from nesting.

Too many of us take our natural landscape for granted. We often overlook the beauty of our native trees and shrubs because they are so familiar to us. These native plants make better landscaping solutions in the long run.

They require less water once established, they hold up better in storms due to their natural flexibility, many can deal with high amounts of salt and the list goes on. Our native Sea Grape and Silver or Green Buttonwood are good alternatives to Hawaiian Sea Grape. Wax myrtle, a salt tolerant variety of Cocoplum, Necklace Pod and Bay Cedar are also good, salt-tolerant, shrubby substitutes for Hawaiian Sea Grape. There are many bushes and trees which are very salt tolerant and some produce beautiful flowers. Remember, however, that not all exotic plants are problems: Hibiscus, Bougainvillea, Plumbago, Oleander, Liriope, Ixora, Crotons are not known to be invasive.

The best solution is to research the plants you plan on using before you plant them. Much information is available on the Internet or ask your landscaper for a non-invasive or native alternative. If you already have planted Hawaiian Sea Grape, **PLEASE REMOVE IT**, especially if you have it planted by a seawall or beachfront where the fruits can be washed or dropped into the sea. In the meanwhile, remove and destroy the fruits whenever you see them so that this plant does not continue to spread.

If you wish to help make a difference, Friends of the Environment is organizing "Beach Days" to remove Hawaiian Sea Grape and young Casuarinas which are springing up on our beaches. For further information please call Lory Kenyon 366-0121 or Erin Pagliaro at 367-5358.



Hawaiian Sea Grape or Scavola is a common plant that tolerates salt and adverse conditions. However, it is very invasive and will eventually crowd out native plants which are much better suited to our situation. It propagates easily and is spreading rapidly throughout Abaco.

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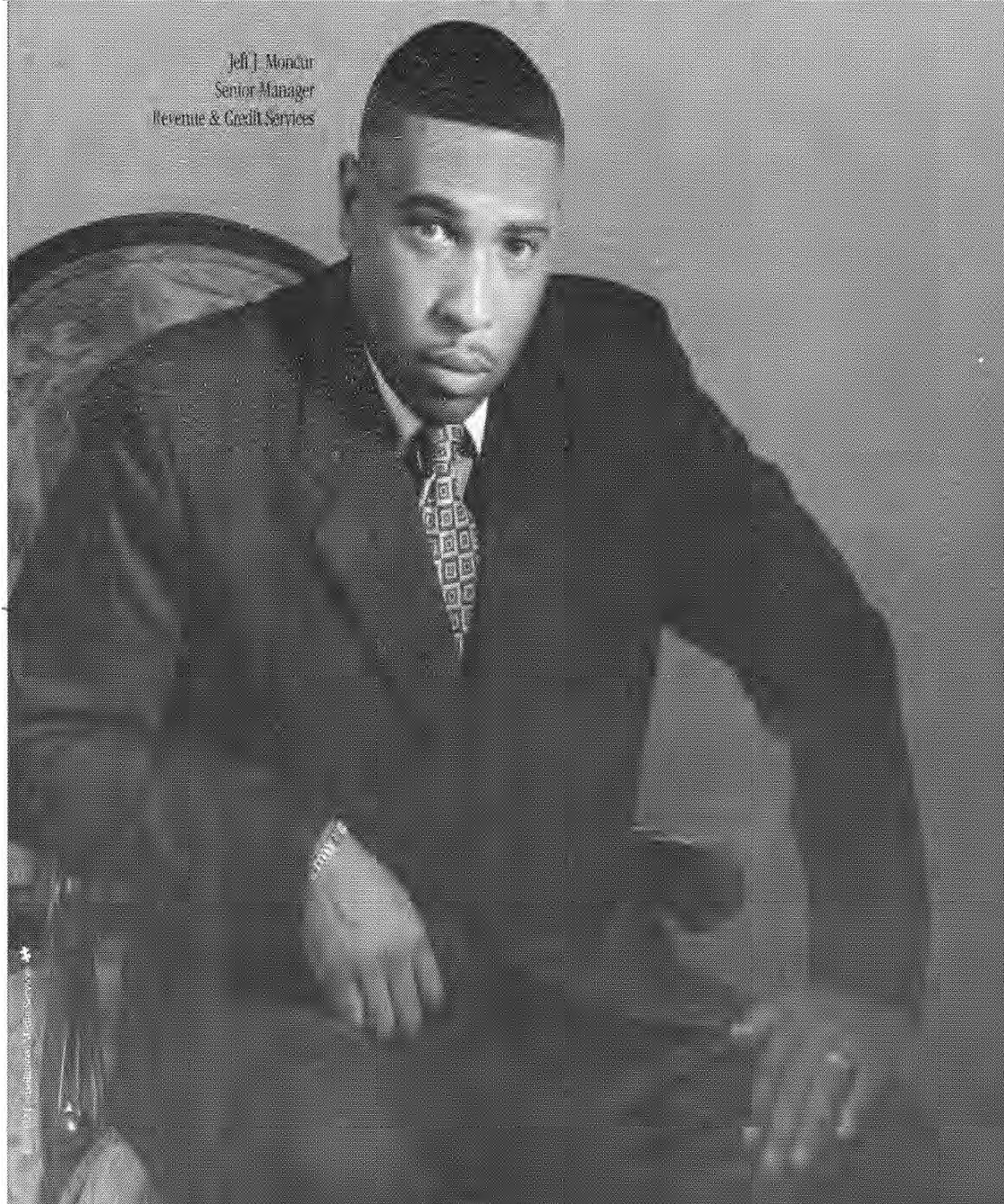
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Viewpoint Agriculture Must Be Protected by Government

By John Hedden

The Minister of Agriculture was interviewed by the *Nassau Guardian* via telephone and reported in that journal on the 15th October 2002, with the caption:

"Gray on FTAA: Farmers should have little to worry about."

Further, the *Guardian* reported statements made by Mr. Gray which were both confusing and conflicting at times. viz:

a) The minister explained that The (Bahamas) Government at the end of the day will not have fully signed onto the FTAA agreement. And that agriculture is so international, it may be difficult not to sign on.

b) The Minister's vision of agriculture is that by 2005 when FTAA is scheduled to take effect "... our people would have gone into such large scale production ... we won't need to sign onto the FTAA."

c) The Minister explained that education is the key to removing any general concerns ... And that a task force is presently being appointed to educate the Bahamian public on the effects of FTAA and WTO. He said that in the next year or two there will be mass education exercises.

As I understand the premise of the FTAA:

Open trading without hindrance or preferential treatment to the movement of goods and services between member countries must occur.

The FTAA schedule calls for negotiations toward the agreement, being presently ongoing, to be completed in the next few months so that a draft of the final agreement may be drawn up and then ratified by all member states for the 2005 deadline.

Unfortunately, the Bahamian agricultural community is largely unaware of either the timetable or the proposed removal of barriers to free trade and what they entail. The Bahamian farmer needs to know now what is being negotiated on his/her behalf, and this calls for transparency on the part of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Further the agricultural community needs to be both educated and involved in the terms and conditions of the FTAA and how they are to be applied. In other words the Ministry of Agriculture must open dialogue with the farmers, and stop using the system of patronage that presently exists.

The reality of farming as it presently exists in the Bahamas is that unless Bahamian Government intervention is applied in the

form of protective import duties and embargoes, the cost of labour and infrastructure (e.g.: energy) is so high that Bahamian farm products are uncompetitive in the marketplace. Even this is no guarantee as demonstrated by the proposed closure of Gladstone Farms in the coming weeks.

Lastly, I would like to point out that the Minister's vision of large scale agricultural production in the Bahamas by 2005 is not going to take place without establishing an agri-

cultural policy framed in proper zoning and with access to farm land, education of the players and realistic Government support and dialogue of and with the farming community. The goal of "standards, quality, production and price" do not appear out of thin air.

The time to begin is now, not in the next "year or two." Otherwise we may in fact have no agricultural enterprise in the Bahamas by the time the FTAA comes into effect.



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Abaco Cancer Society Holds Clinics

By Anita Rolle

The Cancer Society of Abaco in celebrating Cancer Awareness Month, offered free cancer testing at three government clinics. Sandy Point, Marsh Harbour and Cooper's Town Clinics were a bevy of activity as record numbers showed up to take advantage of the free prostate exams, breast exams and pap smears. A record 253 persons participated, 129 at Marsh Harbour, 26 at Sandy Point and 98 at Cooper's Town.

The free clinics are an annual effort and response from persons this year proves that little by little persons are becoming more concerned about this killer disease. Of the 253 test performed there were a few persons found to have problems which were not necessarily cancer related. Such persons were given referrals for second testings.

The process was simple. A registration card was filled out with a few simple questions, and you waited for your turn to be seen. According to Mr. Hugh Cottis, President of the Society, on the registration card there was a question of how persons found out about the testing. More than 50 percent answered Radio Abaco. For this Mr. Cottis and the Cancer Society would like to say a big thank you to Mr. Silbert Mills and the Radio Abaco team.

The medical team worked tirelessly throughout the day until the last patient was seen. Incidentally, all were working on a voluntary basis - three visiting doctors from Nassau Dr. Ronald Knowles, Dr. Alfred Roy, Dr. Felix Omar, Nurse Peggy Cooper, staff of the three local clinics and members

of the Abaco Cancer Society. Staff and doctors at the Cooper's Town Clinic were treated to a lunch prepared by Chef Jeffrey Cooper of Fire Road.

The Cancer Society of Abaco is an active non-profit organization. The group assists cancer patients with airfare for receiving treatment, approximately \$5,000 being spent annually. They raise this money with cook-outs, maintain information stations and make every effort to increase awareness.

Prostate cancer has been determined to be the leading cancer killer in men, and as with any disease early detection is the key. However, the disease can spread any part of the body and if left untreated, could attack other parts of the body.

Another form of cancer which is becoming very rampant in the Bahamas is skin cancer. Though the sunshine can be very enjoyable, it can also be very injurious. Skin cancer can be detected in the form of warts or discolorations. Children especially should be well covered when going into the sun to limit their exposure to the sun's rays.

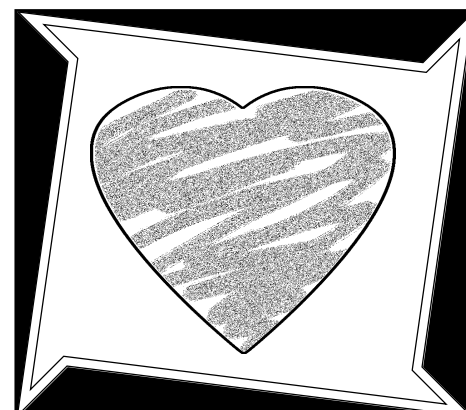
The Abaco Cancer Society is encouraging regular check-ups and regular testing for men and women. Prostate exams, pap smears, breast exams and PSA testing should be done annually, and these facilities are available at the Government clinics. Self-test Breast exams have also been proven to be beneficial. To have your questions answered on cancer, and early detection, contact your local clinic, or any member of the Abaco Cancer Society.

Cancer Society Raffle Winners

The cancer Society has an annual raffle. This year the drawing was held on October 26. The winners are asked to collect their certificates for merchandise from Dr. McWeeny's office in Marsh Harbour.

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Police Report

As reported to The Abaconian

On October 9 a Dundas Town resident reported that, sometime between October 3 and 8, someone removed a component of his satellite dish. He has requested police action; police have one suspect at this time.

Two police officers were assaulted by a suspect on October 10 on Walker's Cay. They were acting on information given in regards to suspected drug possession. No drugs were found, but the officers brought the accused in to answer charges of assaulting a police officer, resisting arrest, obscene language, disorderly behavior and causing harm.

Someone reported that the alarm on A & K Liquor Store was activated on October 11. An officer arrived at the scene in time to observe a smashed glass door and a suspicious vehicle leaving the area. The officer followed the vehicle and arrested two men for shop breaking and stealing, one of which had glass splinters on his person. Police searched and found a suspected quantity of cocaine on one of them.

A Marsh Harbour resident reported that, sometime between October 6 and 10, someone stole his papers for permanent residency, valued at \$500. The resident reported no signs of a break-in.

Someone broke into the main office of Abaco Central High School on October 13. A cash tin was stolen containing \$50.

A resident of The Mud reported being assaulted on October 13. She was approached by a man who attacked her, hitting her about the body. She was taken to the doctor, then sent to Nassau for treatment as she is four months pregnant.

Someone entered the Marsh Harbour Airport Lounge and Bar sometime between October 13 and 14 and stole a satellite card valued at \$200.

A resident of Blackwood reported on October 14 that someone entered his residence and stole a briefcase containing almost \$500 in cash.

A Murphy Town woman reported on October 14 that someone removed her handbag from her bedroom. It contained \$130 in cash.

A Mount Hope woman reported that her son's 5 HP Nissan boat motor was stolen from his boat between October 9 and 11.

A resident of Fox Town reported on October 15 that between October 11 and 15 someone attempted to break into the Batelco Office in Fox Town.

On October 15 an officer arrested a resident of Fox Town in reference to the wounding of another Fox town resident. The suspect was charged and a court date set for October 18.

A Dundas Town woman reported on October 16 that someone broke into her residence and stole \$165. in cash.

A Murphy Town man reported on October 18 that he was attacked outside Burns House Ltd. by a man known to him on sight as an Exuma resident. The man struck him on the right hand and right side of his face with the side of a bottle. He was seen at the Government Clinic and discharged.

A Dundas Town woman was taken to the Marsh Harbour Clinic on October 18 for a suspected overdose on medicine tablets. She was taken to Nassau for treatment.

A Murphy Town woman reported on Oc-

tober 19 that she was struck on the face by a man from Dundas Town while standing outside of Dusk-Til-Dawn take-away. She was sent to the clinic for treatment.

Sometime between October 18 and 19 someone smashed the glass door and stole \$60 in coins and two items valued at \$57 from Corner Value in Marsh Harbour.

A Dundas Town man reported that he was approached and threatened on October 19 by a man armed with a knife.

A Marsh Harbour man reported on October 19 that a man he knew attempted to stab him with a knife. He was arrested.

A Marsh Harbour woman heard a noise outside her home on October 19. She saw a man jump the fence and flee. Officers searched the surrounding bushes, discovered and arrested a man.

A man broke into and entered a bathroom

at the Conch Inn Marina on October 20.

Someone entered Mackerel's Restaurant sometime between October 20 and 21 and stole a cash register valued at \$540.

A Dundas Town woman reported that sometime between October 20 and 21, someone damaged the four tires on her Mitsubishi Eclipse and left a note containing a death threat. The car was parked at her residence.

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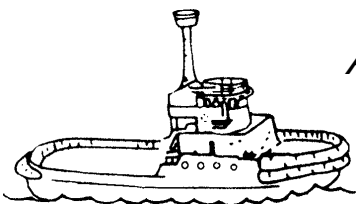
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Delegation Promotes Special Olympics

By Theresa Pinder

On October 24 a delegation from the Special Olympics Bahamas organization came to Abaco to hold a promotional session. Held at the Every Child Counts Learning Center, a variety of people attended including parents, volunteers and teachers from the *Every Child Counts* program and others interested in learning more about the proposal of hosting such a program here.

The delegation from the Outreach Committee of Special Olympics Bahamas included Andrew McFall, who heads the Outreach Committee, Amanda Moncur, the National Director for Special Olympics Bahamas, and two volunteers. The group was here to spread awareness of what the Special Olympics actually is and to promote the possible integration of Abaco into the Special Olympics Bahamas program.

Since 1978 Special Olympics Bahamas has

been providing those needing special education services with an opportunity to explore their potential through a variety of sports. Although concentrating on developing skills, physical ability and fitness through participation through sports, the Special Olympics affords athletes and their families something greater - invaluable support for each other and access to expert resources for issues that arise.

Participation in the Special Olympics programs and competitions help the athletes to gain better self confidence, valuable skills, an increase in self respect and awareness. The motto of Special Olympics is *Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.* This reflects the program's dedication that the entire process is important; the experience gained by participating in training and competitions itself is valuable.

The exposure alone gained by the athletes

is extremely valuable. They are given the opportunity to compete in various competitions in their regions, nationally and some athletes even represent the Bahamas on an international level at the World Games held every four years. A group of over thirty athletes will be attending the 2003 World Games next year in Dublin, Ireland.

The idea of beginning a Special Olympics program for those in need here was well received; members of the Special Olympics Bahamas Outreach program will return sometime around the middle of November or the beginning of December to hold a two-day "coaching clinic" for potential volunteer coaches for the sports.

Group Asks for Bowling Support

A group of people is interested in raising money to construct a bowling alley. Land is available beside the RND cinemas and a person has been identified to run the operation. The group is suggesting a 10-lane operation perhaps with a game room. Since there will be no alcohol allowed, they anticipate that churches and schools will develop leagues and perhaps there will be interest among the second home owners.

The proposal is to form a company, issue shares and raise about \$1 million to build the alleys properly. The owner of the land would be compensated with shares in the company and the group is hoping that a lawyer will be


willing to do the legal work in return for shares. The shareholders would elect a board of directors and officers.

Spanish Wells formed a company when their power plant burned down and again with their food store burned down. A similar corporation could be formed to build a bowling alley in that same format. The thrust of the project is not to make money for the shareholders but to give a healthy and wholesome sport to the community.

If you are interested, call Ruth Pinder at 367-3995. A public meeting will be organized if there is enough interest.



A group from the Special Olympics program in Nassau visited the Every Child Counts program in Marsh Harbour to develop closer ties and to encourage participation in their programs in Nassau. Special Olympics allows children to compete and develop who would not normally be able to compete. The group shown above are, left to right, Chandra Forbes and Seeta Arangill-Roberts, both volunteers, and Amanda Moncur, National Director, who was the main speaker.



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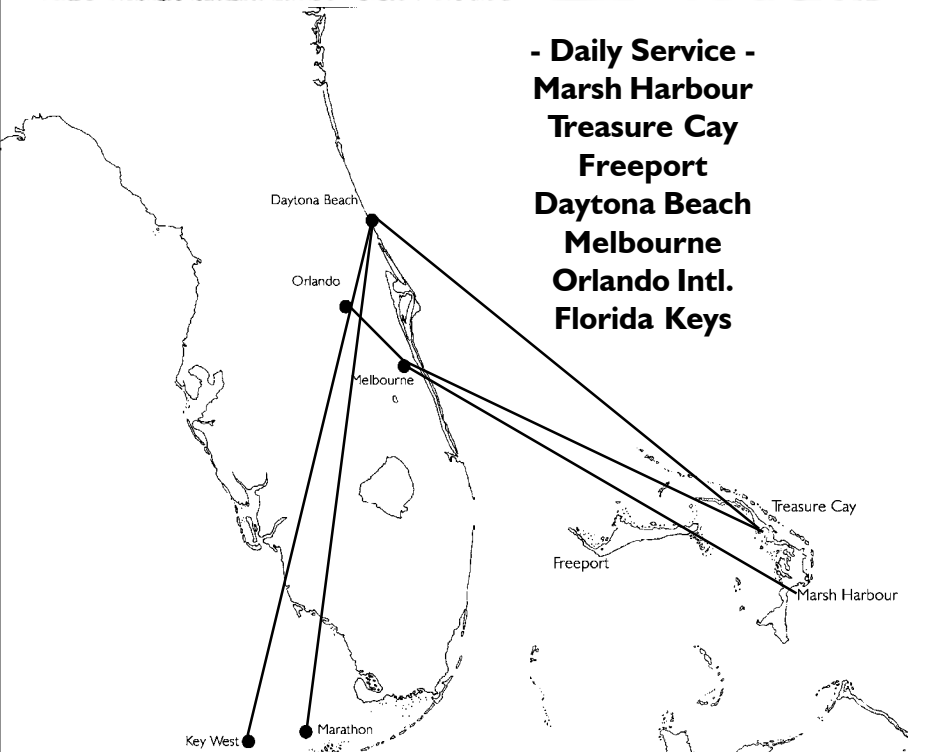
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Darts Trophy Is Awarded



Randy Pinder, center, of the sponsoring firm Bristol Cellars presents the Summer League trophy to the winning dart team captain, Donald Burrows, right, of the Big Boys team. The awards presentation was held at Seashells Restaurant but the 12-week summer tournament was held at the C & G Restaurant. According to Malcolm Spicer, Secretary of the Abaco Darts Association, (left in photo) darts is a serious sport in the Northern Bahamas. It is the largest team sport in the Bahamas with approximately 75 teams and 1,000 players.

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Sports News

S. C. Bootle High School Vibrant Sports Program

By Anita Rolle

S.C. Bootle High School has a dynamic sports program for this school year, which most recently includes a 40-member tennis club. Head of the tennis program, Mr. Clifton Howell, says that the students are very excited about the sport. They are eager to learn and anxious to show off their skills.

The club first started without any type of equipment so the students spent the time the theoretical area of the sport. Last month Mr. Bobby Russell donated 14 tennis rackets and a bucket of tennis balls to assist with the program at the school. Mr. Russell wanted to make a contribution to the school (of which he is a former student) and was delighted when he spoke with Mr. Howell, who informed him of the vast tennis interest

there.

Though the school is presently without a tennis court, the need for one is there. Building one will be a goal for the future. For the time being, hitting balls against a wall will have to suffice. Construction of a wall at the rear of the basketball court is being considered which will serve two purposes, a practice wall for tennis and a barrier to unwanted intruders who frequently enter the school premises.

Mr. Howell and the school are extremely proud of the donation by Mr. Russell, "I'm excited, the students are excited, so we can only grow from here."

The physical education department holds weekly raffles as a fund raising effort for the department and to assist in the establishment of yet another club, cycling.

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Court Report

As reported to The Abaconian
October 9

Three residents of Marsh Harbour and The Mud pleaded guilty to conspiracy and uttering of a false document. The matter was adjourned to November 6 pending a probation report from social services.

Two residents of Murphy Town were charged for stealing a boat from Man-O-War Cay. The matter was adjourned to November 6.

A Hope Town resident was found guilty of drug possession and was fined \$9,000.

A resident of Murphy Town was charged with drug possession. The matter has been adjourned to October 30.

October 10

A resident of Sandy Point allegedly assaulted a man with a deadly weapon. The matter has been adjourned to November 11.

A Murphy Town resident was fined \$50 for driving without a rear light burning.

A Marsh Harbour resident was charged with housebreaking. The matter has been adjourned to November 11.

A resident of Crown Haven, previously charged with shop breaking, was acquitted as the witness was unable to confirm the identity.

October 16

The case regarding the incest in Hope Town has been adjourned to November 14 for one final witness, and then the prosecution will close.

A resident of Moore's Island was charged with drug possession. The matter has been adjourned to November 13.

A Murphy Town resident was charged with unlawful sexual conduct. The matter has been adjourned to November 6.

October 17 - 21

The preliminary inquiry into the murder of Canadian Marcia McKenzie in Sandy Point by a 17-year-old youth was held. Twenty-two witnesses were heard. On October 21 the magistrate determined that sufficient evidence had been gathered to charge the youth with murder. The matter was committed to the Supreme Court for trial.

Preliminary Inquiry Was Held for Kidnapping

By Theresa Pinder

On October 23 the preliminary inquiry for the kidnaping of businessman Floyd Sawyer took place in continuation of the arraignment that took place on August 26.

Two prosecutors came from the Attorney General's Office to help with the case, Mr. Cumberbach and Ms. Wilkinson, who joined prosecutor Inspector Stephen Adderley. The prosecutors made an application to serve a voluntary bill of indictment on the behalf of the Attorney General's Office. As a result of this, the matter involving the kidnaping will bypass the preliminary stage and will go directly to the Supreme Court in Nassau.

The charges concerning the firearms have been separated from the charge of kidnaping and will be addressed at the Magistrate's

Court in Marsh Harbour. This matter has been adjourned to December 11 when Renardo Ricardo Major, Robert Edward Reckley and Frankie Bethel will return to enter their pleas concerning these separate charges. Until such time, the accused have been remanded in custody to Her Majesty's Prison in Nassau.

On the morning of the preliminary inquiry Mr. Bethel's wife, Cindy, was also taken into custody and charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm and possession of ammunition, both charges concerning the presence of a firearm found in the house. She will be charged jointly with the accused on December 11. However, she was granted bail and released.

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Escaped Prisoner is Captured

By Theresa Pinder

On October 10 an escaped prisoner was brought back to Abaco from Grand Bahama, where he was hiding. Alfred Russell, a forty-year old resident of McLean's Town, Grand Bahama, was originally brought in on a charge of housebreaking in Crown Haven, Abaco.

Mr. Russell escaped from the Marsh Harbour Police station on October 7. He traveled to Crown Haven where he traveled to McLean's Town by a small boat. Police officers from the Marsh Harbour District no-

tified Grand Bahama of Russell's escape. Officers on Grand Bahama visited Mr. Russell's wife's residence where he was found on October 9 hiding under a bed. He was subsequently arrested and brought back to Abaco.

To the original charge of housebreaking, police officers have added the charge of escaping from police custody for which he will attend court in the near future. The charge of housebreaking will be dealt with at a later date. The police have denied bail.



An escaped prisoner was returned to Marsh Harbour on October 10 and now faces the charge of escaping from police custody in addition to the original charge of housebreaking.

Gospel Concert Is Planned

By Isobel Sherman

A Praising in the Spirit Gospel Concert Extravaganza will be at the Full Gospel Assembly of God church in Treasure Cay on November 2. Appearing will be Dorothy Norwood with special guests New Direction and Healing Touch. Part of the proceeds will

go to aid the building fund of the Full Gospel Assemblies

In addition, on the November 1st the church will host a Choir Workshop from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. and on November 2 they will host a Praise Dance Workshop from 10 a.m. until noon.

The Bahamas Neurological Centre

Dr. Edwin Demeritte will have monthly neurology clinics at the Abaco Medical Clinic, Crockett Drive, Marsh Harbour

- Clinics the second Friday of every month
- For adults and children with neurological problems
- Neurodiagnostic testing, including EEG's, EMG's and others
- Specific test can be made available locally upon request

To schedule appointments or testing please contact us
242-393-5962 Nassau • 242-367-4240 Abaco

Abaco Glass Company

- Window glass cut and installed
- Pictures matted and framed
- Screens made and repaired
- Commercial store fronts installed and replaced
- Yale Windows

In Marsh Harbour beside Western Auto • 367-2442

Abaco Chamber of Commerce

Message from the President



Dear Members,

While, like most of you, I have many challenges in my own business and personal life, I will gladly take on the role and challenge of Abaco Chamber of Commerce president. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

I became president at a time in the life of the Abaco Chamber when optimism is high and opportunities for the Chamber abound. Opportunities to help local and national government bodies achieve their objectives. Opportunities to influence what those objectives are. Opportunities to assist local civic groups like the Rotary Club, Kiwanis and even our home grown Scurvy Few. These groups take on and carry out special community projects that are so desperately needed.

Along with these new opportunities will come difficult challenges, challenges that will demand the full support and cooperation of the business community. Most of our members, or at least the people now representing them including myself, are new to the Chamber and its objectives. The two main objectives of the Chamber during my term as president will be

(a) To be a conduit between local and central government and the Abaco business community. We will host periodic meetings with local and central government members. These meetings will give us insight into its plans for Abaco while exposing them to our most pressing needs.

(b) To make every effort to prepare our community for FTAA. The Chamber over the next two years must do all it can to prepare its members and non-members for this upcoming era. Visiting speakers from private companies, civic groups, government specialists as well as the decision-making politicians will be invited and will attend our meetings. The next two years are barely enough time to educate and prepare ourselves for what's to come. We must participate in these debates and discussions if we are to be ready. Remember, the Prime Minister signed on to this agreement around six or seven years ago. While other countries have been planning, we have been playing (or at least I've been playing).

The 2002/2003 Chamber budget cannot accommodate the additional expense of educating ourselves on FTAA. There has to be an increase in revenue if we intend to help our business community in this area. The best possible revenue source is through membership. A large membership not only produces much needed revenue, but also provides the Chamber with a deep resource of talented, experienced, problem-solving individuals. There are roughly one hundred members. For each of the members on our list, there is at least one other individual or company that should be a member. They will be affected by FTAA as well as other problems now facing Abaco. As friends, do not allow them to take a wait-and-see attitude about the challenges to come. Find them, encourage them to join, encourage them again and again.

The Abaco business community is a diverse and powerful force. Let's take advantage of this great resource to help each other. We on Abaco don't just want to survive FTAA, we want to thrive in FTAA. So let's continue to build and strengthen our Chamber. Let's come together and make this Chamber of Commerce an organization that faces and conquers challenges. With our combined efforts we can protect our investments and seize new opportunities that are just over the horizon.

Thank you, *Michael Albury*

IT'S THE LAW!

BUCKLE UP!

Hotels and House Rental Agents

+ agents who have multiple cottages and houses

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

Casuarina Point

Different of Abaco 8rm20cott 366-2150

Cherokee

Lee Pinder 3 hse + 366-2053

Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

Bank Apartments 3 apts 365-4105

Bluff House 8 rm 20 cott 365-4200

Chris Plummer 3 hse 365-4648

Coco Bay Cottages 4 cott 365-5464

Green Turtle Club 34 rm 365-4271

Island Properties 9 hse + 365-4465

New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties 13 + 365-4234

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dolphin Bch Resort 4rm 10cott.365-5137

Coco Paradise 8 cott 365-5197

Donna Sands 12 hse + 365-5195

Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106

Harbour View Haven 365-5028

Ria-Mar Rentals 5 + 365-6241

Sea Shore Villas 365-5028

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133

Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003

Elbow Cay Prop 43 hse + 366-0035

Hope T Harb Lodge 22 rm 366 0095

Hope T Hideaways 50 hse + 366-0224

Hope T Villas 3 hse + 366-0030

Island Colours + 366-0290

Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154

Sea Gull Cottages 3 hse + 366--266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key 30 hse + 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hue 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals 8 hse+ 365-6048

Ria-mar Rentals 9 + 365-6241

Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158

Abaco Real Estate 6 hse + 367-2719

Abaco Towns 32 effc 367-2227

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 367-3980

Great Abaco Club 12 hse + 367-4151

Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Sunset Point Resort 8 rm 367-5333

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10rm 366-4477

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18rm 6hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Banyan Beach Resort 21 rm 365-8111

Island Dreams 45 hse + 365-8507

Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Walker's Cay

Walker's Cay Resort 353-1252

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villas 365-2222

General for Abaco

Listings for the entire island

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Abaco Bound + 242-367-5576



Area code 242
unless listed

Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Abaco Chamber of Commerce • 367-5822 • Fax 367-5823 • abaco-chamber@abacoinet.com



Emergency Services

Police (Marsh Harbour)	367-2560
Marsh Harb. Volunteer Fire Dept.	367-2000
Hope Town Volunteer Fire Dept.	VHF Ch 16
Trauma One Ambulance Service	367-2911
Dundas Town Fire Dept.	367-2935 or 4935
Bah Air Sea Rescue Assoc	VHF 16 or 366-0282

Taxi Cab Fares for one or two passengers Plus extra for each passenger above two

Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:

Ferry Dock	\$12.00 + \$3
Abaco Beach Hotel through Golden Harvest	\$10.00 + \$3
Dove Plaza to Stop Light	\$10.00 + \$2
Western Auto	\$ 6.00 + \$2
Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town	\$10.00 + \$3
Murphy Town or Pelican Shores	\$14.00 + \$4
Eastern Shores or Spring City	\$15.00 + \$4
Gov. Clinic	\$ 6.00 + \$3
Snake Cay	\$35.00 + \$10
Treasure Cay B	\$55.00 + \$ 5
Casuarina Point	\$60.00 + \$10
Airport - Treas. Cay B	\$65.00 + \$ 5
Bahama Palm Shores	\$70.00 + \$10
Little Harbour or Cherokee	\$80.00 + \$10
Crossing Rocks	\$100.00 + \$10
Sandy Point	\$135.00 + \$10

Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:

Abaco Beach Hotel through Wally's	\$ 2.00 + \$2
Jib Room	\$ 5.00 + \$2
Stop Light or Dove Plaza	\$ 6.00 + \$3
Government Freight Dock	\$ 7.00 + \$3
Gov. Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance	\$ 9.00 + \$3

Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour
No children under three years to be charged.
Uncaged pets will be charged as passengers
Luggage \$.50 each over four, Surf Boards \$3.00 ea.

Between Northern Abaco Airport and:

Treasure Cay, Bahamas Star, or Moxy	\$14 + \$6
Bronks or Highway Liquors	\$10 + \$5
Sand Banks	\$20 + \$5
Joe's Creek	\$35 + \$5
Black Wood	\$14 + \$5
Fire Road	\$25 + \$5
Cooper's Town	\$30 + \$5
Cedar Harbour	\$45 + \$5
Wood Cay	\$50 + \$5
Mount Hope	\$55 + \$5
Fox Town	\$60 + \$5
Marsh Harbour or Crown Haven	\$65 + \$5
Marsh Harbour Round Trip	\$85 + \$5
TC Hotel to Marsh Harbour	\$55 + \$5
TC Hotel to Joe's Creek	\$25 + \$5
TC Hotel to Sand Bank	\$16 + \$5
TC Hotel to Moxey	\$10 + \$5
TC Hotel to Bronks	\$7 + \$5
From TC Hotel to All Areas N. of T.C. Airport	Add \$10

Waiting Time \$12 Per Hour

Air Lines Serving Abaco

Abaco Air - Nassau & Moores Island	367-2266
Air Florida - Ft. Lauderdale	367-5599
Air Sunshine - Ft. Lauderdale	367-2800
American Eagle - Miami	367-2231
Bahamasair - Nassau	367-2095
Continental Connection - Miami	
Ft. Laud and W Palm Bch	367-3415
Golden Airlines - Ft. Lauderdale	954-359-8020
Island Express - Ft. Lauderdale	367-3597
Lynx Air International - Ft. Lauderdale	954-772-9808
Major Air Service - Freeport	367-4826
Twin Air - Fort Lauderdale	365-8677
USAir - Ft. Laud and W. Palm Bch	367-2231
Vintage Props & Jets - New Smyrna B.	367-4852
Abaco Air Charters	*367-2266
Cherokee Air Charters	*367-2089

* Local charter companies serving S. Florida and within the Bahamas

Tours & Excursions

Marsh Harbour	
Abaco Outback - by kayak	367-5358
Abaco Beach Dive Center	367-4646
Dive Abaco	367-2787
Hope Town	
Froggies - by excursion boat	366-0431
Treasure Cay	
Abaco Adventures - by kayak	365-8749

Medical Services

Marsh Harbour	
Abaco Medical Clinic	367-4240
Abaco Family Medicine	367-2295
Government Clinic	367-2510
Cooper's Town Gov. Clinic	365-0300
Green Turtle Cay Gov. Clinic	365-4028
Hope Town Gov. Clinic	366-0108
Sandy Point Gov. Clinic	366-4010
Treasure Cay Corbett Clinic	365-8288

Ferry Schedule Departure times shown • Daily unless noted

Albury's Ferry Service						
Marsh Harbour to Hope Town 20 minute trip						
7:15 (M-F)	9 am	10:30	12:15 pm	2	4	5:30
Hope T. to Marsh Harbour 20 minute trip						
8 am	9:45	11:30	1:30 pm	3	4	5 (M-F)
Marsh Harbour to Man-O-War 20 minute trip						
10:30 am		12:15 pm (M-Sat)	2:30 (M-Sat)	4	5:30	
Man-O-War to Marsh Harbour 20 minute trip						
8 am		11:30 (M-Sat)	1:30 pm	3:15 (M-Sat)		
Marsh Harbour to Scotland Cay & Guana 30 minute trip						
±6:45 am	10:30		1:15 pm	3:30	5:30	
Guana & Scotland Cay to Marsh Harbour 30 minute trip						
8 am		11:30	2:30 pm	4:45pm	5:30 (min \$40)	

Fare • OneWay / Round Trip Adult \$10 / \$15 Children \$5 / \$8
Charters any time • Phone 367-3147 or 365-6010 VHF Ch. 16
Hope Town and Man-O-War ferries leave from Crossing Beach
Guana Cay and Scotland Cay ferries leave from Conch Inn
± Workman's special Mondays thru Fridays from Union Jack Dock

Green Turtle Ferry

Green Turtle Cay to Treasure Cay Airport • Daily						
8 am	9	11	12:15pm	1:30	3	4:30
Treasure Cay Airport to Green Turtle Cay • Daily						
8:30 am	10:30	11:30	1:30	2:30	3:30	4:30 5

One way adult fare \$7 (Children \$3) • Round trip \$11
Additional to some destinations • Charter any time
Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 VHF Channel 16

Abaco Adventures

Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Wed & Sat 10 am, return 5 pm	\$25
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay - Sun 11, 12:30, 4, return 11:45, 3 & 5	
Treasure C. to Man-O-War & Hope T - Thur 10 am, return 3:30	\$35

Charters available - Phone 365-8749 VHF Channel 16

Pinder's Ferry Service

Connects Abaco & Grand Bahama - Approximately 1 hour trip
Crown Haven to McLean's Town - Daily 7:30 am & 2:30 pm
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm
Fare \$30 one way - For information call Grand Bahama 353-3093 or Abaco 365-2356
Bus service to and from Freeport at McLean's Town AND bus service to and from Marsh Harbour at Crown Haven. Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Abaco Marinas

Slips Fuel Phone			
Walker's Cay			
Walker's Cay Marina	75	F	353-1252
Green Turtle Cay			
Bluff House	45	F	365-4200
Green Turtle Club	32	F	365-4271
Black Sound Marina	15		365-4531
Other Shore Club	12	F	365-4195
Abaco Yacht Service	10	F	365-4033
Treasure Cay			
Treasure Cay Marina	150	F	365-8250
Man-O-War			
Man-O-War Marina	26	F	365-6008
Marsh Harbour			
Boat Harbour Marina	183	F	367-2736
Conch Inn	75	F	367-4000
Harbour View Marina	36	F	367-2182
Marsh Harbour Marina	52	F	367-2700
Mangoes	29	F	367-2366
Port of Call	24	F	367-2287
Abaco Yacht Haven	7		367-3079

Hope Town

Hope Town Marina	16		366-0003
Hope Town Hideaways			366-0224
Lighthouse Marina	6	F	366-0154
Sea Spray	24	F	366-0065

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Marina	75	F	365-0083
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Guana Cay

Guana Beach Resort	22	F	365-5133
Orchid Bay	32	F	365-5175

Boats coming from U.S. can clear Customs at Walker's Cay, Spanish Cay, Green Turtle Cay, Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour

Dive Shops

Marsh Harbour	
Dive Abaco	367-2787
Abaco Beach Dive Center	367-4646
Hope Town	
Dave's Dive Shop	366-0029
Froggies	366-0024
Treasure Cay	
Treasure Divers	365-8465
Treasure Cay Adventures	365-8111
Green Turtle Cay	
Brendal's Dive Shop	365-4411
Green Turtle Divers	365-4271
Guana Cay Dive Shop	365-5178
Man-O-War Dive Shop	365-6013

Bonefish Guides

Sandy Point	
Patrick Roberts	366-4286
Nicholas Roberts	
Derrick Gaitor	
Ferdinand Burrows	366-4133
Vernal Burrows	
Kendall White	
Anthony Bain	366-4107
Floyd Burrows	366-4175
Links Adderly	366-4335
Valentino Lightbourne	
Ricky Burrows	366-4233
Marsh Harbour	
Buddy Pinder	366-2163
Jay Sawyer	367-3941
Justin Sands	367-3526
Terrance Davis	367-4464
Danny Sawyer	367-3577
Man-O-War	
David Albury	365-6059
Cherokee	
Theodore Sawyer	366-2111
Will Sawyer	366-2177
Marty Sawyer	366-2115
Noel Lowe	366-2107
Junior Albury	366-3058
Hope Town	
Maitland Lowe	366-0133
North Abaco	
O'Donald McIntosh	
Pope McKenzie	477-5894
Orthnell Russell	365-0125
Alexander Rolle	365-0120
Edward Rolle	365-0024
Green Turtle Cay	
Ronnie Sawyer	365-4070
Jeff Survance	365-4040
Ricky Sawyer	365-4261



Everyone reads The Abaconian.

Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper
(Based on dinner entree range)

‡ Provides ride from town

+ Picnic tables & restroom only

Marsh Harbour

Anglers	\$\$\$	367-2158
C&G Restaurant	\$	367-3227
Conch Inn Bistro	\$\$\$	367-4444
Golden Grouper	\$	367-2301
Henry's Jerk Center	\$	367-5959
Jamie's Place	\$	367-2880
Jib Room	\$	367-2700
Kentucky Fried Chicken (lunch)		367-2615
Mackerals		367-5932
Mangoes	\$\$\$	367-2366
Mavis Country Kitchen	\$	367-2002
Pop's Place	\$... +	367-3796
Sapodilly's	\$\$\$	367-3498
Sea Shells	\$	367-4460
Snack Shack	\$... +	367-4005
Snappas	\$	367-3278
Subway		367-3498
Wallys	\$\$\$	367-2074

Dundas Town

Ambassador Inn	\$	367-2022
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Murphy Town

Lazy Parrot - SC Bootle Hwy		367-5331
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Hope Town

Abaco Inn	\$\$\$	366-0133
Boat House	\$	366-0065
Cap'n Jacks	\$	366-0247
Club Soleil	\$\$\$	366-0003
Harbour's Edge	\$	366-0087
Hollywood Temptations		
H T Harbour Lodge	\$	366-0095
Munchies	\$... +	366-0423
Rudy's Place	\$\$\$ ‡	366-0062

Man-O-War

Pavilion	\$	365-6185
Hibiscus		365-6380

Guana Cay

Coco Paradise		365-5197
Guana Seaside	\$\$\$	365-5106
Nippers	\$\$\$	365-5143
Mermaid Cafe	\$\$\$	365-5137
Orchard Bay		

Treasure Cay

Florence's Cafe	\$	
Harbour Cafe	\$	365-8635
Hudson's Delight	\$	365-8648
Island Boil & Sports Bar	\$	365-8849
Spinnaker Restaurant	\$\$\$	365-8469
Touch of Class	\$\$\$	365-8195
Traveller's Rest		365-8654

Green Turtle Cay

Bluff House	\$\$\$	365-4200
Jolly Roger Bistro	\$	365-4200
Green Turtle Club	\$\$\$	365-4271
Laura's Kitchen	\$	365-4287
McIntosh's Restaurant	\$	365-4625
New Plymouth Inn	\$\$\$	365-4161
Plymouth Rock Cafe		365-4234
Rooster's Rest	\$	365-4066
Wrecking Tree Rest.		
Harbour Café (ferry dock)	\$... +	365-8635

Sandy Point

Big J's	\$	366-4020
Oeishas		366-4139
Pete & Gays	\$\$\$	366-4119
Seaside Inn	\$\$\$	366-4120
Rickmon Bonefish Lodge		366-4477

Marina Crime Wave Brought to a Halt

By Theresa Pinder

On September 16th the recent series of boat vessel break-ins was finally brought to a halt. The perpetrator, a young man from Nassau, was apprehended through the help of several concerned citizens.

Over the past two months, boaters at the Conch Inn Marina have experienced a series of break-ins, but the perpetrator was never found. On the morning of September 16th a boater noticed that a dinghy reported stolen was tied up to a dock in front of Arawak Agency. A young man was spotted near the dinghy, using two cell phones.

A concerned citizen who had been following the reports of the break-in incidents via the Cruiser's Net on the VHF remembered noticing a young man hanging around the vi-

city around the time of each series of break-ins. He decided to see if the young man was in the vicinity at this time. While out walking along Font Street, the citizen spotted the young man using the cell phones. He enlisted the help of a visitor to the island, who followed the young man. While the visitor was following the suspect, the citizen called the Criminal Investigation Department and gave them a description of the man.

The young man realized that the visitor on a bicycle was following him and began to run. While fleeing, he discarded something in the area of Mangoes Restaurant. He continued running until officers from the CID apprehended him in the parking lot of Regattas of Abaco with help from a patrol officer of Citizens Against Crime. The police took

the man into custody; the cell phone that the young man had discarded was later retrieved by police from the garbage outside of Mangoes Restaurant. The police were able to retrieve a number of stolen items, a variety of purses, wallets, watches and cellular phones.

The youth was arraigned before Magistrate Crawford McKee on September 19th and charged with four counts of stealing from a vessel. The young man, who has no representation, pleaded not guilty to the charges. He was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison in Fox Hill, New Providence, until November 4th when he will return to Abaco for trial. The young man is suspected of having committed crimes of this nature in New Providence and Grand Bahama. He is assisting

the police in Nassau with a number of break-ins that occurred on Paradise Island. When he is finished there, he will be taken to Freeport, Grand Bahama, to assist the police there with a number of break-ins there.

**Support Citizens
Against Crime
They Need
Your Help**



ISLAND PHARMACY

**Prescriptions Filled
Glucose and Cholesterol Tests
Computerized Patient Medication Profiles
Beauty, Supplies, Vitamins
Free Blood Pressure Test**

111 DOVE PLAZA, MARSH HARBOUR
PH/FAX: (242) 367-2544 • CELL: (242) 554-8183



Ricardo R. Miller R.Ph.
BSC. PHARM. (HONOURS),
HEAD PHARMACIST

Caribbean Constructors Ltd.

Sand & Quarry Cracker Dust Rock - Local 3/8" - 3/4" Rock - Imported ditto Pea Rock - Imported	Concrete Blocks 4"x 8"x 16" 6"x 8"x 16" 8"x 8"x 16" Corner Blocks Regular Blocks	Stepping Stones in various patterns 18" x 18" 24" x 24"
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Hydraulic Fittings & Hoses
Monday - Friday 7 am - 4 pm
P.O. Box AB 20403, Marsh Harbour • Phone 367-2502

Thanks for Books Many Assisted to Help Our Schools



Ms. Michelle Drake is shown here beside the two containers of books which were shipped to Abaco schools last spring.



Equipment of Sunshine Equipment moved the containers, then emptied them with a fork lift into a warehouse for organizing and distributing.



Ms. Felamease Sawyer and Ms. Eunice Mills are shown organizing the books. The quantity and variety of the books were very evident.

Last spring Ms. Michelle Drake, of Sarasota and a frequent Treasure Cay visitor, arranged for a shipment of textbooks, workbooks, reference books and children's library books to be sent to Abaco for the benefit of all schools with emphasis on schools in more remote areas. She did this with the help of Mr. Don Strube of Color Wheel Paints of Orlando who sent two semi-trailer trucks from Orlando to Sarasota to pick up the books and take them to West Palm Beach for shipment here. Ms Drake then made arrangements with Mr. Bob Lafferty of Marsh Harbour Line for two containers of books to be transported to Abaco.

This shipment of about 30 to 40 tons of books was a major undertaking involving many people. Everyone was very helpful. Customs cleared the books with minimum problems, Arawak Agency cleared them through Customs, Michael Malone coordinated the process, Michael Albury offered the use of a warehouse to set them out and organize them, Sunshine Equipment donated use of its equipment and manpower to move them to the warehouse site. Many people helped unpack and organize them under the direction of Ms. Felamease Sawyer of the Ministry of Education. These included Shane Sands, David Joseph, Sid Dawes and others. We cannot forget Tim McDonald, Danny Sawyer and Michael Parotti for their help. Eddie Sawyer of E & D Waste also provided equipment.

The books were made available first to all Abaco schools, then to parents and children to take what they felt they could use. Virtually all books were taken with the exception of a few high school English books.

It was a wonderful effort to see that our school children have books and other materials to aid in their learning process.

Thanks, Everyone



Administrative staff, teachers and parents shared in the book bananza with the distant schools getting first choice.



School children were thrilled to get books and workbooks that they could use in schools. Some parents were able to get books for use at home.



This is a group of boys reading their new books at Central Abaco Primary School in Dundas Town. All schools on Abaco were able to get books they wanted.

Comedy Show Election 2002 Thrills Audiences

By Anita Rolle

I laughed until the tears rolled down my cheeks, until my side hurt, until the muscles in my face could take no more. The Election 2002, Comedy Show delivered more than anyone could have expected with one show on October 25 and two shows on October 26.

Who would have thought that so much humor could be created from the Bahamian electoral process. The sold-out opening night on

October 25 brought along the curious, the anticipated, the PLP's, the FNM's, the victorious, the defeated, all anticipating a hilarious time. Everyone got exactly what they were promised, and so much more. I spotted faces in the crowd from as far north as McLean's Town and so far South as Sandy Point; lawyers, politicians, fishermen, farmers, bankers . . . every walk of life was well represented.

Mr. Michael Pintard I had experienced on stage many times before, but this was definitely a first for me in this type of setting, playing every role from victorious electorate to disgruntled politician. I sat in admiration as I was once again impressed by his forte. Former Member of Parliament Mr. David Wallace must be applauded for every hat he wore in the show! Where else but in the Bahamas could you find a talented politician who can turn his defeat into a sold out comedy show. What I found even more impressive - he had never struck as the actor/comedian type!

Each of the five comedians executed their parts as perhaps nobody else could have performed. *Election 2002* featuring David Wallace, Marsha Stubbs, Michael Pintard, Patrice Johnson and Anthony Lockhart now moves on to New Providence, anticipating much of the same response as was cajoled here on Abaco. I'm sure this won't be a problem.

Election 2002 The Comedy Show brought to Abaco refreshing lighthearted entertainment, long overdue, something for everyone to enjoy. So many aspects of our culture was highlighted amidst the humor, so much reality, so much reality that we spent a lot of

the evening laughing at ourselves! If I had to rate the show on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest, without a doubt Election 2002 is a definite 10! For those of you who didn't get to see it on either night, I suggest you get a show schedule and hop a flight to Nassau! There's nothing better than unadulterated Bahamian talent!

Part of the proceeds of the event will assist the Abaco Cancer Society and the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department.



Election 2002 Comedy Show held at the Anglican Parish Hall in Marsh Harbour on October 25 and 26 had sell out crowds of 300 each night. On Saturday night they offered a second performance to accommodate the large crowds. Michael Pintard on the left, David Wallace in center and Patrice Johnson on right joined by Marsha Stubbs and Anthony Lockhart put on a delightful comedy on the 2002 election with enough spoofs and references to the PLP and FNM to keep the crowd in stitches. Volunteers of the Cancer Society of Abaco organized the two nights of entertainment and hope to raise over \$5000 for the Cancer Society.

Civic Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Greater Abaco

Tuesday, 7 p.m., weekly at Touch of Class, Treasure Cay, 367-2536

Pilot Club of Abaco

Third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Mackerals Restaurant, Dundas Town, 367-3457

Pilot Club of South Abaco

Last Thursday. monthly, J.A. Pinder School, Sandy Point, 366-4001

Rotary Club of Abaco

Mondays, 6 p.m., weekly at Anglers Restuarant, Abaco Beach Resort



Price on request. Call 367-2598

- 2360 sq. ft. building
- 15,000 sq. ft. lot
- 2 story with air conditioned offices upstairs and downstairs
- 4 phone lines
- 2 bathrooms downstairs, 1 bathroom and kitchenette upstairs
- 14' roll up door serving full 2 story warehouse area
- private water well
- close to downtown Marsh Harbour, off Don MacKay Blvd.

Abaco Agents

Brent Cartwright

Mailin Sands • msands@abacoinet.com

Beth Ruzicka • Bill Johnston

Chris Farrington • 242-365-4695

(Green Turtle Cay office)



Marsh Harbour-#0232- 4/2 home with carport, central A/C, and mostly furnished. Sits on large property in a growing commercial area, would be ideal location for a commercial venture.

Call for details



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Guana Cay - 1/2 acre ocean front parcel, cleared, electricity, deeded bay access. \$168,000

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Man-O-War Cay - 1 bed, 1 bath with an upstairs loft, centrally located in the heart of town. Close to all conveniences. \$159,000

Casuarina Point - several lots available inland as well as on the canal and beach front. Call for more details.

Hope Town - interior lot 10,000+ sq. ft. \$65,000

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Great Guana Cay-#0195-Magnificent beachfront property available. Runs 70' on the powder white beach by 250' deep. \$240,000



Cherokee Sound-#1359- 3/1 home in picturesque town, private patio, mostly furnished, and is well kept. Close to conveniences. Call for more details!

Minister Asks for Local Input

Wilchcombe *From Page 1*

school, particularly in the hospitality areas. Although the Bahamas has a hotel training school, only three Bahamians are enrolled out of 80 students. There is very good money to be made in that field." A life guard at Atlantis makes \$800 weekly and a croupier \$1200 weekly," he said.

Mr. Wilchcombe spoke of the goals of Tourism and specifically how the Ministry would be supporting the Family Islands. He stressed that government wanted feedback from the people of the country and hoped for a working relationship with the business community. His goal for the Family Islands is to develop self-sustainable tourism. He wants the Family Islands to take care of themselves, want to see local government managing themselves. He feels that this can be accomplished most easily on Abaco, Eleuthera and Exuma. But he realizes that local government does not have enough funding to work adequately.

He plans to restructure the Tourism offices in the Family Islands with a general manager and full staff. They will develop plans and will have more responsibility. The overseas offices will be restructured also and each one will have someone familiar with the Family Islands. The Bahamas will be promoted as individual islands.

He brought out that the election on May 2 established the government which represents the majority of people. The election is over and a new era has begun. "However, our thinking today is not the same as it was years ago," he said. It is a culture of cooperation and participation. We are one people and the only way to succeed is to work together. We need to respect each other and work together peacefully to go forward. This is a participatory democracy. He stressed that we will accomplish our goals only if we work together, that we will lose out if we are divided.

He continued that The Bahamas will be celebrating its 30th anniversary next year and the country is strong, is doing very well with a high per capita income and has a lot to offer.

The Ministry of Tourism has the largest budget and can make budget decisions up to a half million dollars without the approval of Cabinet.

Mr. Wilchcombe is concerned with the tourism image in Nassau which he calls "tacky" and he hopes to make changes for improvement. The cruise passenger numbers have increased significantly but he is concerned that the country is not benefitting as much as it should. These tourists stay on their cruise boats and do not spend much money. This is because we are not offering what the tourists are wanting. He wants to make the Nassau waterfront more enticing so the country benefits more. The tourists are sometimes hassled by taxi

drivers, straw vendors and hair braiders.

The minister recognized that some areas within the tourism industry such as bonefishing are having competition from foreigners. His ministry will deal with this. He was also concerned that second home owners are renting their homes. Later, it was brought to Mr. Wilchcombe's attention that the second homes on Abaco offer many more beds to our guests than hotels have.

The government plans to give tour bus and taxi owners a duty free concession on new vehicles for the next five years. Hotels already have concessions on building materials.

The topic of the Marsh Harbour airport was

raised. He said it is definitely on the priority list. However, the airport at San Salvador is more critical as a Club Med will begin direct air service from Europe in December. Government will be spending \$2+ million on that project which has first priority. Next year the government will be making major improvements to the airport on Exuma because Emerald Bay Resort with a Four Seasons hotel will be opening and will need a better facility.

Mr. Wilchcombe encouraged the Chamber members to be proactive, to let Nassau lawmakers know what they want, to pressure officials to get what we need. He felt that the

Chamber can be a very strong force in influencing government, working with members of Parliament, involving local government officials and guiding the development of this island.

During the question period that followed the talk, it was announced that a Bahama Host program will be offered on Abaco during the first week in December.

Mr Wilchcombe was very enthusiastic about the future of our number one industry and was very sincere in his approach to improve our product, both through his ministry and through our own collective efforts.

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"Seaclusion" Ocean front CBS house, 2 bed / 2 bath plus detached 20' x 30' 2-car garage with extra bath. House has wonderful view as well as prevailing tradewinds \$800,000

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School *From Page 15*

assembly on October 23. The new Head Boy is twelfth grade student Deanza Hanna and the new Head Girl is grade 12 student Hillary Rutter. They will be assisted by Deputy Head Boys, Samaj Dorsette and Jervis Stuart and Deputy head Girls Teneka Cooper and Antoinese Nicholas. The School Prefects for 2002/03 were introduced at the assembly.

Plans for a College Fair Are Progressing

The College Fair hosted by Abaco Central High School will be held on November 19 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The venue will be New Visions Ministries in Marsh Harbour. So far, fifteen colleges, universities and technical and vocational schools have indicated that they will be participating. Every high school in Abaco has been invited to bring their grades 10-12 students to the fair during school hours. The general public is invited from 3 to 5 p.m. Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, principal, heads the College Fair Committee assisted by Cpl Strachan, Ms. Valerie Dean, Mrs. J. Taeff, Ms. Sandy Walker and Mrs. Isobel Sherman.

Sherman *From Page 8*

variety of reasons. However, it affects their learning. Who is to blame for those students not eating breakfast? I will be very brave and say the parents and guardians of those students.

Habits begin early in life. Students who are made to eat breakfast will learn to eat breakfast and will continue to eat breakfast throughout their lives. However, students who do not eat breakfast probably will continue to do so for the remainder of their lives, which is bad nutritionally. Every week we have students at the high school who have gas pains or feel faint or actually faint. Some have headaches. When asked if they ate anything for breakfast, they say no. Sometimes they did not even eat dinner the night before. In the majority of cases it is not because there was no food in the house. It is a lack of responsibility on the part of, again I say, the parent. Teenagers are capable of fixing their own breakfast and maybe a meal but someone has to check to see that they do.

The line at the school tuck shop at first break is longer than any other time during the day. Why? Students are getting their breakfast - chips, candy, drinks, Not a good breakfast at all.

How do we solve this problem? Some

schools in the United States serve breakfast before school begins. However, in the Bahamas hardly any schools have cafeterias. What could schools do? They could try to educate the students to eat something before coming to school. If the school had the manpower, they could begin a breakfast programme.

I tell my students a bowl of cereal, a sandwich, juice and fruit are easy to do. I feel very sorry for the students from Sandy Point and Crossing Rocks because even if they eat breakfast, by the time they get to school they

are hungry again.

There is a direct link between good nutrition and learning. The brain needs nourishment just as any other part of the body. If your child does not eat breakfast, encourage him/her to begin eating. After a few weeks see the difference in his/her manner and maybe even in his/her grades.

If you must skip a meal, it should not be breakfast as breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

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 1/4 acre inland UNDER CONTRACT minutes walk from beach. \$42,000
Ocean Beach: 1/2 acre lot on high ridge with gorgeous ocean view. Many fruit trees. Five minute walk to beach. Reef close enough to swim to. \$102,000

Bluff Harbour: UNDER CONTRACT pts 140' total frontage. Dock site. \$430,000
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 ★ **Treasure Cay** - "Honey's Home" - Windward Beach Road - 3 bedroom, 3 bath - 1,600 sq.ft. home - 2/3 Acre on Galleon Bay Canal - Private Dock with Boat Lift - Great Canal and Sea of Abaco Views. Furnished - #AB 0066- \$765,000.
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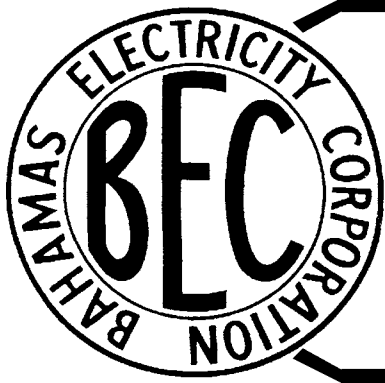
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Subdivision Plans Announced

The Prime Minister, the Hon. Perry Christie, recently announced the government's plans for providing lots in two Abaco communities. Government is poised to start the sale of lots in a Sandy Point subdivision on higher land out of town a couple of miles. There will be a total of 96 lots made available. The other community will be Fox Town where government will survey six to eight blocks of land in preparation to

making them available.

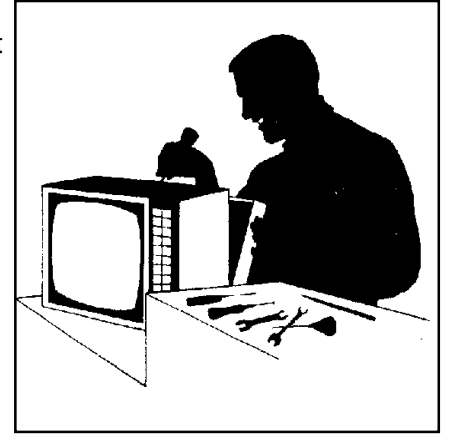
Mr. Christie along with the Hon. Shane Gibson, Minister of National Insurance and Housing, spoke about the new subdivision in Central Abaco. Government has sent out more than 200 letters of offer to applicants for the 423 lots available in Phase One. Ninety persons have accepted government's offer. Infrastructure is already completed for Phase One.

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2100 sq. ft. Warehouse next to the Abaco Water Bottling plant. Not being divided. This fenced-in area has electric and phone. Great site for light manufacturing, assembling, warehouse, whatever. 2100 square feet for just \$1400 per month. Call Michael Albury at 367-2951 or 359-6658

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 Memorial Plaza
 P.O. Box AB 20123
 Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
 Tel: 242-367-2749
 E-mail: seagraperealty@hotmail.com

Marsh Harbour: Waterfront lot on the Sweeting's Tract. Over 200 feet of frontage and small sandy cove. \$100,000

Tilloo: Shore to shore parcel in the Bight of 'Loo. 120' wide with good elevation in the center. Just north of "Junk Beach." \$165,000

Elbow Cay: Beach front lots on the Atlantic Ocean. 95-feet wide, coconut groves, \$260,000

Marsh Harbour: lots on the Sweeting's Tract with road and all utilities, access to water front/beach. \$20,000

Lubbers Quarters: large water front and interior lots with all utilities present, private dock slip, exclusive development. Starting at \$99,000



Dundas Town split level house 3 bed/1 bath, 2 bed/1 bath with basement. Includes 1 bed cottage in rear. Call 367-3177 or 357-6656.

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www.greatabacoclub.com

Green Turtle Cay

Ocean Beach Lots (North End), 1+ acres with good elevation from \$245,000

Coco Bay Lots, 81 feet on beach from \$170,000

Bit Bay Ocean Lot 8.26 acres from ocean to Inner White Sound, good elevation and protection from sea, spectacular views. \$1.25 M.
 On the internet at www.bahamasinvest.com or call 365-4271

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

Marsh Harbour - Little Orchard, hillside lot, fantastic sea views. Serious enquires only. Call 367-3472

Marsh Harbour 2 br / 2ba, A/C, 6 years old, 2 blocks from Mangoes. \$115,000 net. Call 904-829-5205

Marsh Harbour Duplex, 2 bed 1 bath on Crockett Dr. Call Mr. Malone at 367-2044 days

Sweeting Tract - cleared lot 188' x 80'. \$27,500. Call 365-8691

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Sandy Point 3 bed, 1 bath 13,545 sq. ft. Lot #119	Dundas Town 2 storey, 4 bed, 2 bath on 1/2 acre Lot #25
Murphy Town Vacant Land 108' x 104" Lot 78B	Dundas Town 3-2 bed, 1 bath triplex 9,000 sq. ft. Lot #18B
Murphy Town 3 bed, 2 bath Hill top Lot 67	Murphy Town Vacant Land 9,000 S. Ft. Lot #38

Treasure Cay
Vacant land
10,000 sq. ft.
Lot #65

Offers should be addressed in
writing to:

M. Gardiner/Ms. M. T. Rolle
P.O. Box AB20567
Marsh Harbour, Abaco

For conditions of the sale and any other informa-
tion, please contact M. Gardiner/Ms. M. T. Rolle at
(242) 367-2141, 367-2142 Abaco. Serious enqui-
ries only may be considered for qualified purchas-
ers. Interested persons in Nassau may contact Ms.
Delores Johnson at 242-328-7041 or 242-300-
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Treasure Cay 3/2, patio, shed, double lot, 135' x 200', fully furnished, 1 block from beach. \$200,000. Call 561-659-3586
Treasure Cay 3/2, patio, shed, double lot, 135' x 200', fully furnished, 1 block from beach. \$200,000. Call 561-659-3586

Turtle Rocks beach front home, almost 1 acre, fabulous views, gated community. Call 407-389-6075

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East Bay Street
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Ph: 242-367-2365
Fax: 242-367-2365
Residence: 242-367-2040

NEW ON THE MARKET! Five high-el-
elevation lots on cul de sac, 10,000 sq. ft.
each. \$10,000 each plus 1% stamp tax and
\$500 legal fees, \$1000 deposit. Act now,
these won't last!

NEW! "Seashell," Great Cistern Cay: Beau-
tiful Bahamian contemporary home. 3 bed/2
1/2 bath, wrap-around porches, 180° Sea of
Abaco views, park, boat basin, private beach.
Craftsman built. Must see to appreciate.
\$449,000

"Parrot House," Great Abaco Club: charm-
ing, tropical style home, dock can accom-
modate larger craft. 4 bed/4bath, covered
porches, beach, tennis and health club privi-
leges. Gated community, fully managed. Top
income producer. \$689,000

"Grouper Therapy," Great Abaco Club:
Fully furnished and equipped to highest stan-
dard. 4 bed/4 bath split plan. Dockage for
larger craft and run-about, private and se-
cure. Great family home or invest in rental
pool and earn \$\$ \$689,000

"Coral Point Villa," Great Cistern Cay:
One of the finest homes on Abaco. Custom
design, spacious, elegant interior. Completely
opens up to harbour, dock, deck and covered
terraces. 3 bed/3 full baths, garage and work-
shop. MORE \$648,000

NEW! Bahama Palm Shores: 100 x 100
sq. ft. homesite. Paved road, electricity,
phones going in. Build up and catch views
and breeze. Steps from the beach. Level and
ready to build. \$15,000

NEW! Coral Point: 1+ acre superior home
sites. Private community. Highest elevations,
secluded, unbelievable views. Potential for
boat basin. Underground power and phones.
\$69,900 each

NEW! Susan's Cove, Guana Cay: One of
the most beautiful and well developed hold-
ings on Guana. 1.34 acres plus two homes,
100' dock and 230' of spectacular, protected
bay shore. \$749,900. 1/2 acre hilltop lots
with deeded dock access, stunning views also
available. \$95,000.

Royal Harbour: Gated community, solid
property values. Wonderful building site,
15,000 sq. ft. with 150' on the harbour. Sit
back and watch the world go by. Great buy
at \$152,000

Royal Harbour: Two adjacent building sites
in gated community. Single family, single
story zoning, harbour views, great
neighbours, safe for kids, very convenient.
\$68,000 each

Great Cistern Cay acreage, 24 acres, high-
est and best use as planned community.
Rolling terrain, some elevation, hard sub-
soil. Protective covenants and restrictions.
Proven demand for similar mid-priced lots.
\$205,000

Also: Scotland Cay, Eastern Shores,
Leisure Lee, Bahama Coral Island,
Turtle Rocks, Green Turtle Cay
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Email: chris.f@batelnet.bs

Website: www.coldwellbankerbahamas.com

Yachtsman's Dream - Located at the
head of beautiful Black Sound. 1 1/2 acre
plot complete with a 125 ft. dock. Near to
beach and settlement. **\$650,000**

Coco Bay - Deep water lot with dock and
dredged channel. Landscaped and ready to
build. Dock has power already installed.
\$575,000

Little Harbour - Well protected lot in
White Sound with deep water dock,
electricity connected. Approved plans for
house included with sale. **\$375,000**

White Sound - hilltop lots with
breathtaking views of the harbour. Water
front lots also available. Starting at
\$72,000

Fantastic Starter Home - Foundation
with cistern already complete in quiet
residential neighborhood. Building plans
included. **\$95,000**

Beachfront - 330' frontage 800' + deep
located on Long Bay Beach. Ideal for
small resort or luxurious estate. **\$3,000**
per water front foot.

Green Turtle Estates - 3/3 two story
home. Scenic views. Furnished, stand-by
generator, boat, golf cart and more. Very
motivated seller.

Coco Bay - 1 1/2 acres of elevated land,
located across from the bay. **\$325,000**

Black Sound - deep water lots on
picturesque Black Sound. Phones,
electricity, cable, near settlement. 100' on
the water, approx. 1 acre. **\$300,000**

Split Level Townhouse - 1/1
townhouse at Bluff House Beach Hotel,
walkways to beach and resort. A must
see. **\$110,000**

Waterfront - two 1 acre waterfront lots
in Blackwood **\$50,000 each**

Treasure Cay - Residential lot near
Ocean Beach Boulevard. **\$25,000**

New! Beachfront - 1/2 Acre lot on the
Atlantic Ocean **\$210,000**

New! Ocean View - Two 1/3 acre lots
with great views of the Sea. **\$85,000 each**

Treasure Cay - "Paradise Found" luxury
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cluded. Three bedrooms, three and one half baths
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light all around. Truly "One in a Million." Of-
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Bahama Palm Shores. Select home
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Casuarina Point. 13,000 sq. ft.
building site. Close to beach, build up
for sea views. Priced to sell! #7159.
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NEW! Elbow Cay. Large 3/4+ acre home
site located in White Sound just
across the road from the Atlantic.
#7251. \$169,000.

Great Abaco Club. Best price for home
site in the Club. Close to the channel.
Cleared, ready to build. #6255.
\$199,000.

Great Cistern Cay. Cozy 2/2 beach
cottage. Views, secure mooring off
shore. Good rental potential. #5259.
\$249,000.

Guana Cay. On the beach, 2/1 cottage.
Gorgeous views! Deck overlooks
beach. Impressive rental record.
#6588. \$375,000.

Leisure Lee. 1/2+ acre home site.
100+' on the beach. Lovely views, well
kept, cleared and ready to build now!
#5272. \$233,500.

Long Beach. Two story, 3/3 residence.
High elevation, grand Atlantic views!
First floor 1/1 apartment. #4032.
\$295,000.

Marsh Harbour. In-town site near Boat
Harbour. Build single family or income-
producing duplex. #6351. \$120,000.

Marsh Harbour. 3/2 home on the Sea
of Abaco. Lovely new interior. Good
water depth for dock. #6493.
\$590,000.

Scotland Cay. 1/2+ acre site. 150' on
Sea of Abaco. Good depth for dock.
Near marina and airstrip. #6180.
\$245,000.

Kathleen Albury-Cole, Sales/Appraisals
June Russell, Sales
Telephone: 242.367.3262
Fax: 242.367.3260
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www.bahamasrealtly.bs



Bahamasair Changes Schedule

Bahamasair has changed its schedule to Abaco. It still has two daily flights between Marsh Harbour and Nassau, one early in the morning and the other in the late afternoon.

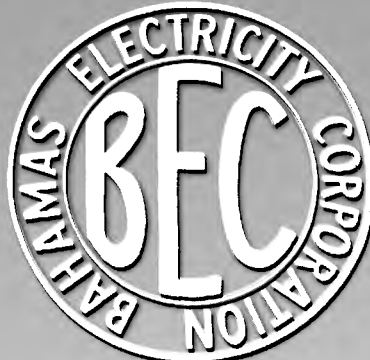

But it now services Treasure Cay with only one midday flight on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

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BEC wishes to advise the public that effective November 4th, 2002, electricity bills can be paid at the Abaco branches of Scotia Bank and First Caribbean International Bank, formerly Barclays Bank. Customers can present their current electricity bill to the customer service representative along with cash payment in full. Partial payment of your bill will not be accepted at these banks.

BEC remains committed to providing you with safe and reliable service.

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NEW - "Beach Watch"
 Spectacular views await the lucky owners from this residence. One acre plus direct beachfront on lively Guana Cay. Three bedroom, 2 bath, open plan living area. Gourmet kitchen overlooks the Atlantic. Screened porch, wrap-around deck. Observation deck atop the home affords sea-to-sea views. Beautifully and fully equipped for leisurely island living. Good rental record - a must see property.
 List #8295 \$690,000

Bahama Palm Shores! Home site. Affordably priced. Secluded community south of Marsh Harbour. #7095. \$15,000

Casuarina Point! Walk to 8 Mile Beach! Nice 13,000 s.f home site. Good investment. Close to bone fishing. #7159 \$15,000

Guana Cay! 2/2 cottage just steps from the beach. Screened porches, tile floors, observation deck. Good rental. #7900. \$391,050

Heart of Hope Town! Superb opportunity. Gillam Street. 1920 Loyalist-type house, and commercial building. Potential for restoration. #8155. \$286,000

Lubbers - 'Sweetheart's Garden' North end, west side, lovely 1.98 acres waterfront with 2/2 cottage. Owner motivated! #8213 \$432,000

Marsh Harbour! Building site near Boat Harbour and all amenities. Build commercial or residential. #6351 \$120,000

Marsh Harbour! Landmark property. 6 unit self-catering inn on 1 plus acres of prime real estate. Room to expand, great investment. #7432. Serious inquiries only, please.

Turtle Rocks! 2 adjacent 1-acre home sites. Just a short walk to the beach. Cleared and ready to go! #8147. \$38,600 and \$41,000

White Sound, Elbow Cay. Spacious 4/2 home, tiled throughout. Well-equipped, good rental record, fully furnished. Adjoining

Little Orchard. 2 bed/1 bath apartment, furnished, washer/dryer, A/C. First, last & references. Call for details.



Regattas of Abaco. Choice rentals, beautifully furnished, long term and short term. Please call for details.

Royal Harbour Village. 2 bed/1.5 bath apartment available.


Office Space. Royal Harbour Village. Upscale, second story office unit, hardwood floors, ready for occupancy. Call for details.

5 commercial units located B & V Plaza downtown Marsh Harbour. Units may be combined to make larger spaces. Second floor. Call for details.


Trade Winds
 36,000+ s. f. sea-to-sea property encompassing 2 bed/2bath main house plus 2 guests cottages. Built in quality Man-O-War tradition with mahogany paneling and hardwood floors. 150' frontage on harbour with deepwater dock. Offered fully equipped/furnished. Room to expand.
 List #8211 \$995,000

Bee's Nest!
New Price!
 Spectacular location! Direct beachfront 4,000 s. f. 5 bedroom, 4 bath home with pool. Large land size allows for expansion. Wrap around porches, tiki bar, hot tub, water systems, fully equipped and furnished!
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Batelco *From Page 1*

as Batelco with 300,000 subscribers and revenue of at least \$300 million. According to Mr. James Smith, Minister of State for Finance and Chairman of the Batelco, government would like to have the process completed by the spring, 2003.

Batelco, once sold will retain its cell phone monopoly for one year and its fixed line monopoly for two years.

No decision has been made yet as to what government will do with the remaining 51 percent. Mr. Smith felt confident that rates for phone service will change as Batelco has not adjusted its rates recently. It is anticipated that some rates will go up while others will be reduced.

Cays *From Page 7*

will be a haunted school to tour and delicious food to calm the nerves after the tour. All proceeds will benefit the students.

The holidays are just a few weeks away and soon we will be preparing and planning for the festivities. Amy Roberts Primary School's annual fair is scheduled for December 7. This will be one of the first events to start the season! Hopefully, over the next few weeks I will be writing the details for upcoming events. Until then, enjoy the lovely quiet days of October!

Central *From Page 10*

Sisters Charlotte Swann, Nanette Adele, Kathleen Knowles, Donna Johnson, Debbie Jones and Donnalee Reckley.

On Friday the presenters were Sisters

Charlotte Swann Marsha Humes and Bertlyn Cornish. The conference closed on Sunday with Min. Cola Collymore from Nassau giving the closing address.

Daughters of Destiny officers are President Joan Baillou and Secretary Charlotte Swann.

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Used 12.5 ton gas Pettibone Crane with 50 ft. boom, still in good working condition. \$8000 OBO. For more info call Darwin at Edwin's Boat Yard II at 365-6007




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Always a good selection of cars, vans & trucks. Pre-owned quality vehicles, competitively priced at Marsh Harbour Auto Sales. Ph. 367-2111

91 Subaru Loyale 4 door, auto, A/C, low mileage, p/windows. ASKING \$3200. Call 359-6814

94 GMC Jimmy 4 door, clean, runs great, cold A/C. \$5900. 367-3596 or 366-0354

95 Mercury Villager, 7 passenger, new A/C, new tires, clean in & out, serviced regularly. \$10,500. Phone 367-2992

98 Honda Odyssey Van 30,000 miles, excellent condition. \$19,000. 367-4616



97 Dodge Dakota Sport 47,000 miles A/C, 5 on the floor, 4 cycl, gas. Asking \$12,000. Call 367-2896

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2000 Yamaha Wave Runner XA1200Y 155 HP engine, 68 hrs, with trailer and canvas cover. \$5500 OBO Call 367-3186

21' Seacraft w/ new gil bracket. Boa & bracket may be sold separately. Located at National Marine. Asking \$7000 OBO. Call 367-2326

21' Wellcraft, 225 HP Johnson, good condition, Bimini top, radio, with trailer. \$8000 OBO Call 365-8633 Gilles

22' Aquasport with Inboard/Outboard. Sound hull, console, built-in tank, storage bins, some canvas, needs new engine. \$3000 firm. Call Willard Bethel at 366-0033

22' Aquasport w / new 90 HP fuel injected Evinrude. Asking \$12,000. Call 365-6059

22' Aquasport w / 115 HP Evinrude. Asking \$6500. Call 365-6059

23' Sea Bird with 200 HP Suzuki outboard. \$6000. Call 954-474-6549 or 242-365-5032

23' Edwins w / 200 HP Yamaha. Asking \$26,500. Call 365-6059



NEW 26' Panga boat with 75 HP Mercury. \$16,000. Call National Marine 367-2326



52' Houseboat 1988 custom aluminum hull, 2 Volvo turbo 130 HP, dual prop I/O. 10 KW gen. set. 2 Cruisair A/C. Recently painted and refurbished, costing \$25,000, fully furnished and equipped. 320 gal diesel, 700 gal water, sleeps 8, full galley, 3 staterooms. \$99,500. Call Kevin or Kathi 229-723-6352 or E-mail kctaylor@archbold.org

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