

FREE
at over 100 Abaco locations



The Abaconian

Abaco's Most Complete Newspaper



VOLUME 16, NUMBER 24 DECEMBER 15th, 2008

North Abaco celebrated One Bahamas Guests included Governor General and Olympian Gold Medalist



Sir Durward Knowles was part of the group visiting North Abaco to celebrate One Bahamas. He is shown here giving representatives of each of the schools in North Abaco a DVD copy of his life story. He was the first Bahamian to win a gold medal in the Olympics and it was in sailing.

By Vernique Russell

Patriotism, pride and nationalism definitely set the mood as North Abaconians gathered at the S.C. Bootle High School for the One Bahamas Celebration 2008 on November 27. The celebration began back in the 90s by Sir Orville Turnquest, then Governor General of the Bahamas. Since then during the month of November a week has been assigned to reflect on what makes us Bahamians and what unites us as one country. With a cool Atlantic breeze blowing, One Bahamas was portrayed in songs, ring games and dances done by students from North Abaco. The schools brought forth their best choirs, dancers and soloists to complete the celebrations. These renditions truly brought out what it means to be Bahamian.

In attendance was Sir Orville Turnquest, Sir Durward Knowles and other dignitaries from Nassau and Abaco. Sir Orville Turnquest, the Father of One Bahamas, encouraged the students to remember that we are one, no matter which island we hail from. Sir Durward Knowles urged those

Please see **One Bahamas** Page 13

Armed Robbery ends in Murder

By Julian Lockhart

Shots rang through the peaceful silence of Marsh Harbour on November 27th when two young men from New Providence took the life of Abaco resident Dion Brendon Strachan, 25. He was working at his father's store, M & R Food Store on Crockett Drive in Marsh Harbour, when two men entered the store in an attempt to rob it shortly before 8 p.m. A short while later Dion Strachan was killed when shot multiple times to the body. The thieves got away with approximately \$1,300 in cash from the store. Dion's father, Roderick Strachan, had left the shop minutes previously to take a cus-



Murder victim Deon Strachan

Please see **Murder**

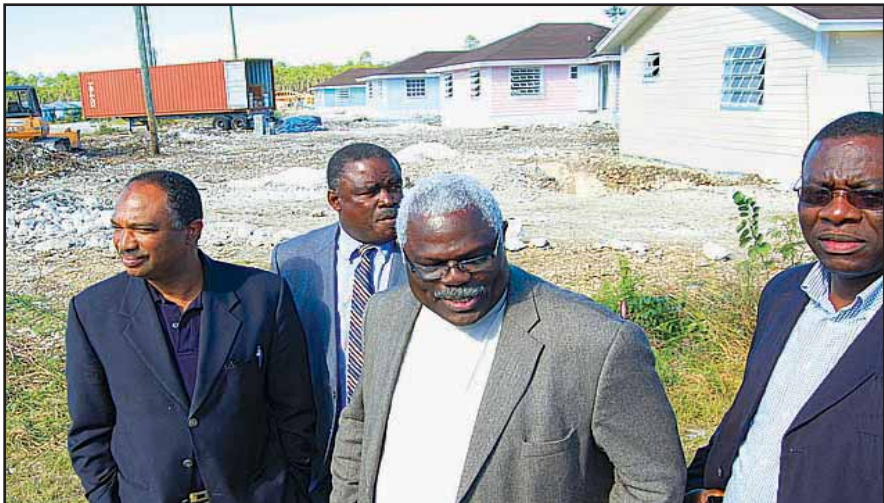
Page 14

U.S. Ambassador visited Central Abaco Primary

The U.S. Ambassador to The Bahamas, Mr. Neil Siegel, visited Central Abaco Primary School on November 24. After a program that the students put on in his honour, he spoke to them about the importance of reading and read to them a chapter from the book *Morning Girl*. The story is significant because it shows the importance of sharing emotions with family. While on Abaco he was hosted by the Abaco Club on Winding Bay, visited the new development at Schooner Bay and was hosted by Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club on Great Guana Cay. See story on page 6.



Housing Minister pleased with new houses



The Minister of Housing, the Hon. Kenneth Russell, center, inspected the houses under construction in Spring City being built by government. Accompanying him were Mr. Melvin Seymour, the Hon. Brensil Rolle, both from the Ministry of Housing, and Administrator Cephias Cooper. See story on page 2.

Renew your subscription before the expiration date shown in the label below.

The Abaconian
Stuart Web Inc.
1521 SE Palm Ct
Stuart, FL 34994

Forward and Address Correction

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BCH FL
Permit NO 4595

Minister updated community on housing

By Mirella Santillo

The government's housing programme that started in Nassau and Freeport continues on Abaco with 76 homes under construction in Spring City and the Ministry of Housing offering local residents additional fully serviced lots to carry out their own construction both in Spring City and the Central Pines Subdivision in Marsh Harbour.

To follow up on the progress and inform the community at large on what to expect, the Minister of Housing, the Hon. Kenneth Russell, visited Abaco to inspect the new phase of construction in Spring City and the building sites in Central Pines. Accompanying Mr. Russell was a delegation including the Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing, the Hon. Brenzil Rolle, the Acting Permanent Secretary,

Mr. Melvin Seymour, officials of the Ministry of Works, Ministry of Health, Water and Sewerage and the Bahamas Electricity Corporation.

Mr. Russell's first stop was in Spring City at a three-bedroom house close to completion. He described the Spring City Housing Subdivision as the continuation of a dream. "Spring City was a historic place and the intention was to bring Spring City back to life. I think looking around at not just the number of houses here, but the quality of houses so far; it is a wonderful testament for a city that was built here many years ago during the pine days," he said.

Mr. Russell pointed out that there are several models of houses being constructed in Spring City, making it attractive to many potential dwellers. He added that

the Ministry is currently building some 76 houses in the Spring City Subdivision and that a large number of those are nearing completion.

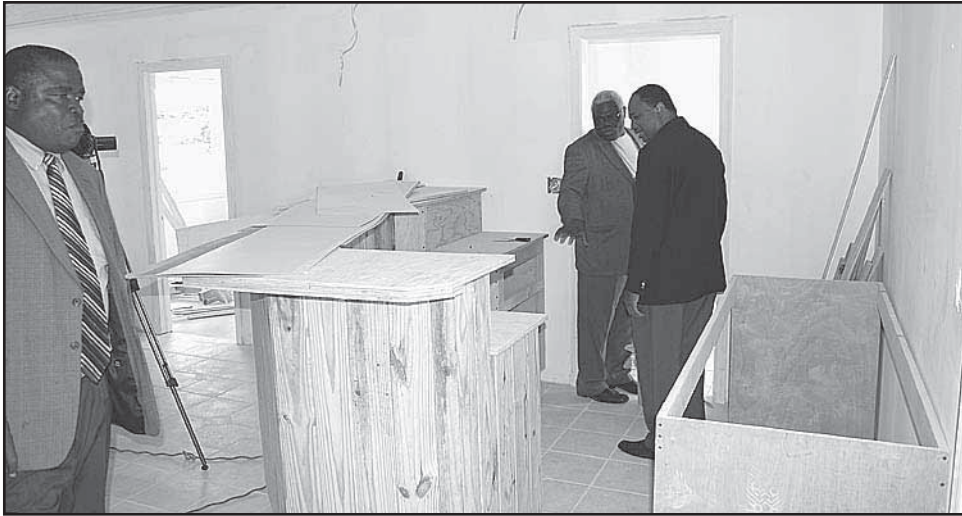
"We are hoping that quite a number of them would be completed for Christmas so that people could move in them and bring new life here to Spring City," he stated. "What impressed me the most is that the workmen here on Abaco are working diligently to complete these house at top quality," he said.

While pointing out that they are currently constructing 76 homes at Spring City, Mr. Russell said it is his Ministry's intention to build a total of 100 homes there. He expects all the homes to be completed by the first half of next year. Seventeen contractors are doing the construction and inspectors are on site daily.

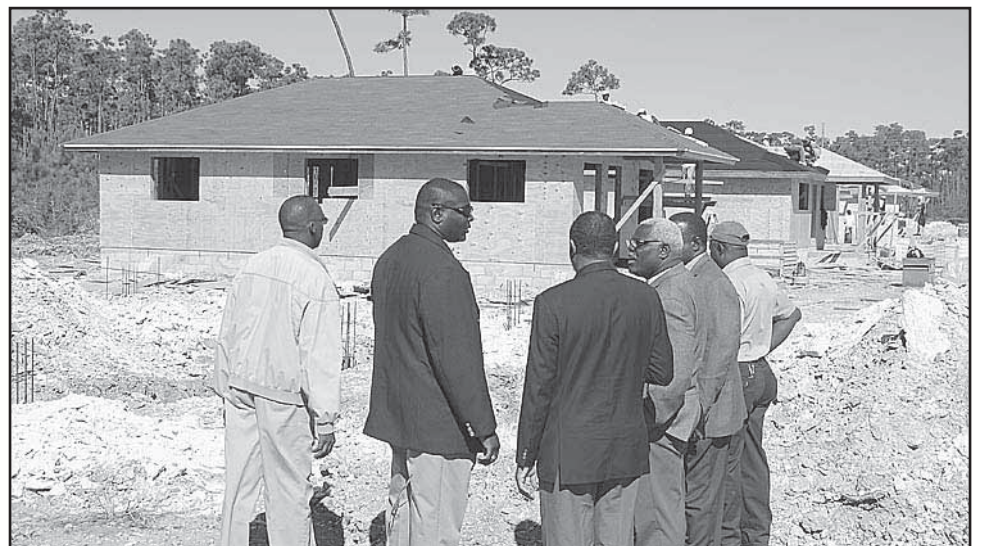
The size of the homes ranges from 800 to 1200 square feet with either two or three bedrooms and will be sold at prices ranging from \$50,000 to \$80,000. Already 160 would-be "first time homeowners" have applied to buy the houses that are to be built. The whole project called for a total of 319 lots to be developed. Mr. Russell hopes that people will be lured to Spring City by the reasonable prices to buy the remainder of the vacant lots and build for themselves. He mentioned that financing is available through the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation with five percent down payment or through private banks. The government has plans available for building low cost homes. Anyone using these plans

Please see **Housing**

Page 16



Fifteen of the houses under construction in Spring City are nearing completion. This is the kitchen in the main room of a three-bedroom two-bathroom house. Early indications are that this is a popular model. On the left is the Hon. Brenzil Rolle, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing, and on the right are the Hon. Kenneth Russell, Minister of Housing, and Mr. Melvin Seymour, Acting Permanent Secretary.



Mr. Kenneth Russell and his group were pleased with the quality of construction of the government-built houses in Spring City. Seventeen contractors are working on houses and the construction is inspected daily. The new houses are creating a new greatly upgraded look to this community. Lots are available for those wanting to open businesses there.

Season's Greetings

ABACO SHIPPING COMPANY

**We wish all of our valued customers
A Very Merry Christmas &
A Wonderful New Year!**

M/V Duke of Topsail

Reliable, Dependable and Personalized Service

On Abaco Call (242) 367-2091 • Fax (242) 367-2235
P.O. Box AB 20737, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas
unitedabacoshippingco@coralwave.com
In USA call Gulfstream Lines/Heavy Lift Services
801 Avenue E, Riviera Beach, FL 33404
Ph: 561-840-9393 • Fax: 561-863-3451

Damianos
Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



New Listing

Beachfront Cottages
Lubbers Quarters

2 bed 2 bath.
Cozy deck & private dock.
\$295,000. Each #4698
Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com
242.367.5046

Visit...

SIRbahamas.com

Warm Wishes
.....for the Holiday Season



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4395
SEA TO SEA 4.95 acre tract, incredible elevation, south of Sea Spray Marina, perfect for private estate or development. \$2,400,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3765
SHEREE'S WAY - BEACHFRONT ESTATE 165 feet on powder sand, 4 bedrooms, 6 baths, fantastic location, inground pool, fully furnished. \$2,300,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3674
ALWAYS SUNDAY - WATERFRONT charming 2 bedroom 2 bath cottage with private dock on the South end of Elbow Cay. Lush gardens. \$1,675,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3125
SIROCCO HOUSE - OCEANFRONT 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with central A/C, tile throughout and cypress tongue and groove. \$1,500,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #1640
TAHITI HAI - SEA TO SEA VIEWS in Dorros Cove. Newly renovated 4 bedroom 2 bath, plus guest house and dock slip. \$1,275,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4673
OCEANFRONT MOMMA'S MARLIN 4 bed 2 bath in White Sound on the beach. Open living area \$1,225,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4235
PINEAPPLE HILL - FABULOUS newly built 3 bed 2 bath home in Dorros Cove. Stunning ocean view and dock slip. Absolutely turnkey. \$990,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4294
SWEEP AWAY - OCEAN VIEWS 1,900 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Immaculate condition. Near Sea Spray Marina and great surf. \$865,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4624
HUMMINGBIRD COTTAGE - Charming historic 2 bed 1 bath home, art studio attached, hw floors, a/c, in the settlement of Hope Town Village. US \$800,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4390
MARNIE'S LANDING LOT 11B 1/2 acre marina front property, graduating elevation and private boat slip. \$750,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4449
OCEAN VIEWS - UPPER DECK ON BIG POINT Brand new 3 bed 2 bath with pool. Multi-decks provide fantastic views. \$795,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



ELBOW CAY | HOPE TOWN #3928
HIGH HOPES - OCEANSIDE 3 bed 3 bath cottage providing peaceful views of the Atlantic Ocean. Uniquely priced. \$750,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3125
FALKS NEST - COMMUNITY DOCK STEPS AWAY, 2 bedroom 2.5 bath, tastefully furnished. Large lot with great views from second floor. \$595,000.
Jane.Patterson@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0035



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #3330
FINDERS KEEPERS - OCEAN VIEW Adorable 2 bed 1.5 bath island cottage. One block off the beach in White Sound. Best deal on the island. \$485,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY #4309
NEW SETTLEMENT Hillside lots with underground utilities, paved roads, and access to sandy beach. Excellent investment Starting at \$140,000.
Kerry.Sullivan@SothebysRealty.com 242.366.0163



TILLOO CAY #3657
FAR SIDE - WATERFRONT the most unique and desirable property in Abaco, 5 bedrooms, 6 baths; hangar and dockage for 80-foot vessel. US\$5,950,000.
Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046



TILLOO CAY #4317
WATERFRONT BEACHWOOD COTTAGE - BOAT INCLUDED 1 bed 1 bath cottage with a dock. Near Hope Town and Marsh Harbour. \$365,000.
Laurie.Schreiner@SothebysRealty.com 242.367.5046

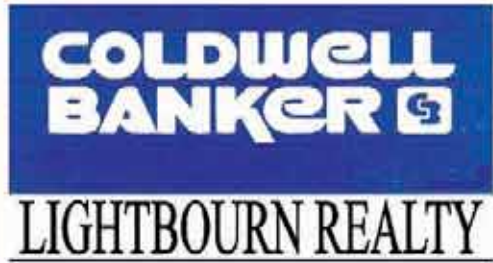


TILLOO CAY #4482
BEACHFRONT LOT with about one hundred feet of beach frontage and the property depth is about four hundred and eighty feet. \$450,000.
Stan.Sawyer@SothebysRealty.com 242.577.0298

LOTS & ACREAGE

- HOPE TOWN | ELBOW CAY
#4161 ATLANTIC DREAM - Dorros Cove oceanfront and dock slip. \$750,000. Kerry Sullivan
#2969 BIG POINT Lot 11 - Half acre beachfront building site. US\$595,000. Kerry Sullivan
#4308 COCONUT DUNE - Beach front, great surf! \$595,000. Kerry Sullivan
#3945 DORROS COVE - NEW PRICE Water views and dedicated dock slip. \$279,900. Kerry Sullivan
#2344 DORROS COVE Lot 13 - Ocean View and dedicated dock slip. \$350,000. Kerry Sullivan
#3844 FISHING POINT HILL - Building site with shared dock. \$200,000. Kerry Sullivan
#4236 MARNIE'S LANDING Lot 3C - Dock slip and ocean view \$679,900. Kerry Sullivan
#3951 NORTH END - Lot 41 - Wooded .5 acre. \$200,000. Jane Patterson
#4605 OCEAN VIEW SUBDIVISION - Lot 4 - Ocean View 18,799 sq.ft. \$200,000. Bill Albury
#3824 PINK SAND - Best beachfront property on the island. \$990,000. Kerry Sullivan
#4246 SURFERS REST - Lot #8 near White Sound. Close to ocean. \$183,500. Jane Patterson
- TILLOO CAY
#1836 TILLOO BEACH SUBDIVISION - Hillside lots, shared dock. \$150,000+. Laurie Schreiner
#4482 Fabulous Beachfront Lot. Best Beach Location. NEW PRICE \$450,000. Stan Sawyer
#4671 SeaViews, high elevation, 1/2 acre. NEW PRICE \$150,000. Stan Sawyer
#4558 TILLOO BEACH SUBDIVISION Lot 22 Waterfront. \$335,000. Laurie Schreiner
#3738 TILLOO BEACH SUBDIVISION Lot 10 Beachfront lot. \$299,000. Laurie Schreiner
#3792 ONE WATERFRONT ACRE - Great elevation, room for dock. \$290,000. Laurie Schreiner

- | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |
| Kerry Sullivan
Estate Agent
t 242.366.0163 | Laurie Schreiner
Estate Agent
t 242.367.5046 | Jane Patterson
Estate Agent
t 242.366.0035 | Stan Sawyer
Estate Agent
t 242.577.0298 | Bill Albury
Estate Agent
t 242.557.2929 | Lydia Bodamer
Estate Agent
t 242.367.3529 | Ronald Higgins
Client Services
t 242.367.5046 |



Merry Christmas
 From Your Perfect Partner in Abaco
 Cherokee Sound ♦ Green Turtle Cay ♦ Hope Town ♦ Marsh Harbour ♦ Man-O-War Cay
www.coldwellbankerbahamas.com

MAN-O-WAR CAY



Immaculate 3 bedroom/3 bath home on a double ocean-front lot comprising 26,478 sq. ft. Designed to command exquisite views of the Atlantic. Features wrap around decks, over

150' of rocky shoreline, generator and more!
Priced at \$1,775,000 Ref# 6445
 Contact: Mailin Sands

TRADE WINDS



4 Bed/1.5 Bath, luxury island home located in beautiful Green Turtle Cay. Offers a deep water dock and infinity pool and hot tub with breathtaking views. A designer kitchen is enhanced by the elegant open living/dining room.

Priced at \$4,400,000
REF #6413
 Contact: Chris Farrington

GREEN TURTLE CAY



Island Reach 4 bed/3.5 bath hilltop home featuring a private dock slip and swimming pool. Located on 1/2 acre of land this top of the line home is ready for you to move in!

Priced at \$850,000- REF # 6451
 Contact: Chris Farrington

SUTHERLAND HOUSE



This 8 bedroom 8 bath luxury home features spectacular views from this Sea to Sea property. The estate includes two docks, a private beach, manicured gardens, a 5,000 gal/day water maker, boat house and a workshop. Offered completely furnished and turn key

Priced at \$5,500,000 Ref# 6596
 Contact: Chris Farrington

GREEN TURTLE CAY



Golden Palms - Beautiful Sea to Sea estate featuring a 3 bed 3 bath main house and a guest cottage that sleeps 8 with 2 full baths. Includes dockage, 1976 Volkswagen car, 15' boat and a 21 whaler. This home is offered "turn key" and ready to enjoy

Offered at \$3,400,000 plus 7% closing costs
 Contact: Chris Farrington

JENCO PLAZA



Marsh Harbour - Investment opportunity. Commercial building in the center of town featuring 3,570 sq.ft and situated on 20,000 sq.ft of property. All spaces currently rented. An ideal investment property.

Offered at \$ 579,000
 Contact: Mailin Sands

MARINA VILLAS



2 bedroom/2.5 bath villas in a marina setting. Features 100 ft of prime waterfront Villa 6 features a back up generator and golf cart garage. Each villa has it's own dock slip

Priced from \$650,000 - \$880,000
 Contact: Chris Farrington

SUNRISE BAY



Lot comprising 11,140 sq.ft containing a partially completed foundation for a well designed 3 bed/3 bath 2,500 sq ft home in gated community. Sold as is. Building plans available. Dock

slip included with purchase.
Priced at \$ 450,000-REF #6450
 Contact Mailin Sands

SUNRISE BAY



Fantastic lot with elevations featuring 17,357 sq.ft in much desired area. Includes boat slip with boat lift installed. Don't miss this great opportunity to own property in this gated community.

Priced at \$475,000 - REF #6449
 Contact: Mailin Sands

YELLOWWOOD LOTS



Waterfront Lot-Priced at \$312,000. Interior and hilltop lots, ranging in size from 27,260 sq. ft. to 1,171 acres. Prices from \$110,000-\$299,000

1,929 acres along the main highway to Cherokee Sound. \$210,000
 Contact: Mailin Sands

TUCKED AWAY Sandbanks



2 bed, 2 bath home with 1,100 sq. ft. of living space. Sits on 1.4 acres. Property runs from highway to Sea-of-Abaco. 80' of water frontage. Peaceful and quiet. A must see.

Priced at \$288,000 - REF #6582
 Contact: Mailin Sands

LESIURE LEE



3 bed, 2 bath home tucked away on a double lot in a private setting. 1,600 sq. ft of living space, wrap around porch and beach access.

Offered at \$295,000 - REF #5366
 Contact: Mailin Sands

SEA TO SEA. Pelican Shores



Pascoe House. 4.763 acres with approx. 600 ft of harbour front, a deep water dock and water front on the Sea of Abaco. 2 bed, 1.5 bath home, a 2 bed/2bath guest cottage & 1 bed, 1 bath cottage.

Priced at US\$3,795,000 Ref# 5724
 Contact Mailin Sands

Sweetings Village Available lot approx 9,000 sq.ft \$70,000
 Marsh Harbour - Vision Heights. Affordable lots - Starting from \$46,500 Call Mailin
 Pelican Shores 4.763 Acre developmental property. Great opportunity to subdivide \$3,795,000
 Murphy Town Lots Near Great Cistern. 4 Lots available. Starting from \$45,000 Call Lee
 Long Beach Lots 115, 247, 257 - All approx 1/4 acre in size. Prices from \$30,000 - \$50,000
 Treasure Cay -Residential lot one back from the beach. \$105,000
 Green Turtle Estates-Multi-family lot available.\$160,000
 Dundas Town-9000' sqft with 10' on the road-\$40,000
 Bahama Palm Shores - Residential Lot-\$150,000 Call Lee
 Sandbanks -1.22 acre lot. Rocky shoreline. \$85,000 Call Mailin

BAHAMA PALM SHORES



3 bedroom 2 bathroom home featuring 2,867 sq.ft of living space. Pool, gardeners quarters and generator house are also available on this 2 acre beach-front parcel in Bahama Palm Shores.

Priced at \$ 895,000 - REF #5670
 Contact: Mailin Sands

GREEN TURTLE CAY



Over one acre of prime beach front situated on Atlantic Ocean beach. One of the nicest beaches on the Island.

Priced at \$720,000
 Contact: Chris Farrington

ABACO OFFICE



Mailin Sands
 Marsh Harbour
 242 367-2992
mailin@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



Chris Farrington
 Green Turtle Cay
 242 365-4695
chris@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



Lee Pinder
 Cherokee Sound
 242 366-2053
lee@coldwellbankerbahamas.com



WIN WIN **BIG** WIN WIN

Abaco **ACE** Hardware

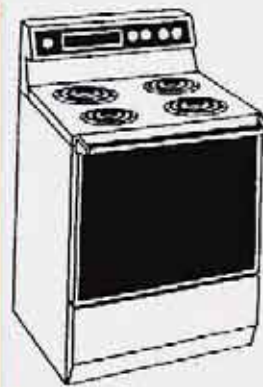
The helpful place.

MAJOR APPLIANCES 20% OFF

ENTER TO WIN THE DRAWING FOR A:

- Delta 10" Miter Saw
- Microwave Oven
- Bosch 14.4V Cordless Drill
- Gas Grill 3 Burner
- 21" 5HP Bag Mower

With every purchase of \$100.00 or more.
Drawing December 24th, 2008



CHRISTMAS
TREES
DECORATIONS
AND
MORE

Pre-Christmas Sale!

**20% OFF
ALL PAINT**



ACE
BLP
PAINTS

20% OFF SELECTED ITEMS



**Grills &
Coolers**

**Power
Tools**



Anchor
Glasses
Gibson
Dinnerware
Sets

**20% OFF
ELECTRIC FANS**
Misc. Linens &
Bed-in-a-Bag
and Much More

TOYS - GAMES - BICYCLES



UNSURE WHAT TO GIVE?

Give an Abaco Hardware

GIFT CERTIFICATE

ABACO HARDWARE

ACE

Gift Certificate

Tel : 242-367-2170 Don MacKay Blvd, Marsh Harbour, Abaco

Ambassador stressed importance of reading

By Samantha V. Evans

November 24th was an exciting day for the students of Central Abaco Primary School as they had a day filled with the focus on reading. The day began with the awards ceremony for the Boys Reading Challenge followed by a very memorable visit by the U.S. Ambassador to The Bahamas, Mr. Neil Siegel. When the Ambassador and his team of Abaco government and police officials arrived at the school, the students of the upper primary school prepared a short program welcoming him to their school. The students performed a song called *Knowledge Is Something if You Get it Today, You Will End Up Having More, sung to the tune of Love is Something if You Give it Away*. The Ambassador was very moved by this presentation as was evident on his face as he listened

attentively to every word that was spoken. The students spoke eloquently which made everyone present very proud.

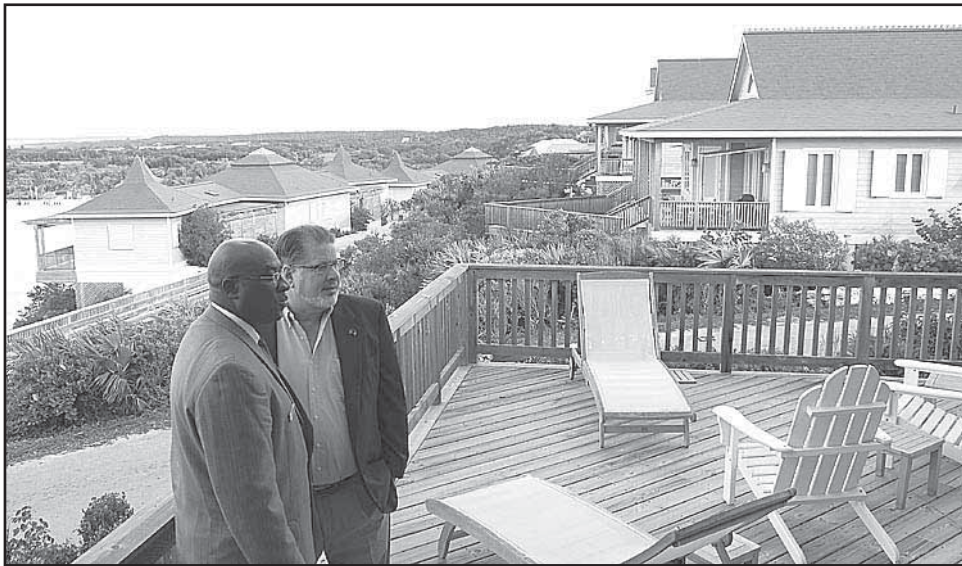
Ambassador Siegel commended the leaders of Abaco and the educational system for the wonderful job they are doing with these students. He told the students that reading helps them to dream so that they can achieve their goals. As Ambassador, he stated that a part of his job is to assist with education and working along with the Ministry of Education in their reading and literacy program and this has been an honor and a privilege for him.

For about ten minutes he read the third chapter of the book *Morning Girl* which every school across The Bahamas should be reading as well. The story talked about the emotions and feeling of loss one family felt as a result of a baby dying. He stated

that the book lets them in on the life of this family. It showed them how to share feelings they may be going through and the importance of letting people into their lives. At the end of the program, the Ambassador was presented with a gift and he in turn gave the moderators, principal, and superintendent a small gift as well.

Superintendent for Education in the Abaco District, Mrs. Lenora Black, stated that reading is very important. It not only improves your vocabulary but allows you to better express yourself. She expressed her approval of the major focus the school has placed on reading and told the Am-

bassador that early that morning the boys were honored for excelling in reading. She told the students that once they are able to read, they will find that the negative activity they once found pleasure in would be diminished. Additionally, once they leave school, they would be able to function throughout life as they would have learned and mastered those skills needed for them to be productive citizens. She stated that it is so fitting that the Ambassador chose that day to visit as it must have been pre-ordained. His presence there only further serves to motivate these eager students to learn through reading.



The U.S. Ambassador to The Bahamas, Mr. Neil Siegel, was hosted by the Abaco Club of Winding Bay. He is shown here with Mr. Floyd Swain, general manager, who showed Mr. Siegel around. Mr. Siegel is traveling to several Out Islands to acquaint himself with the country.

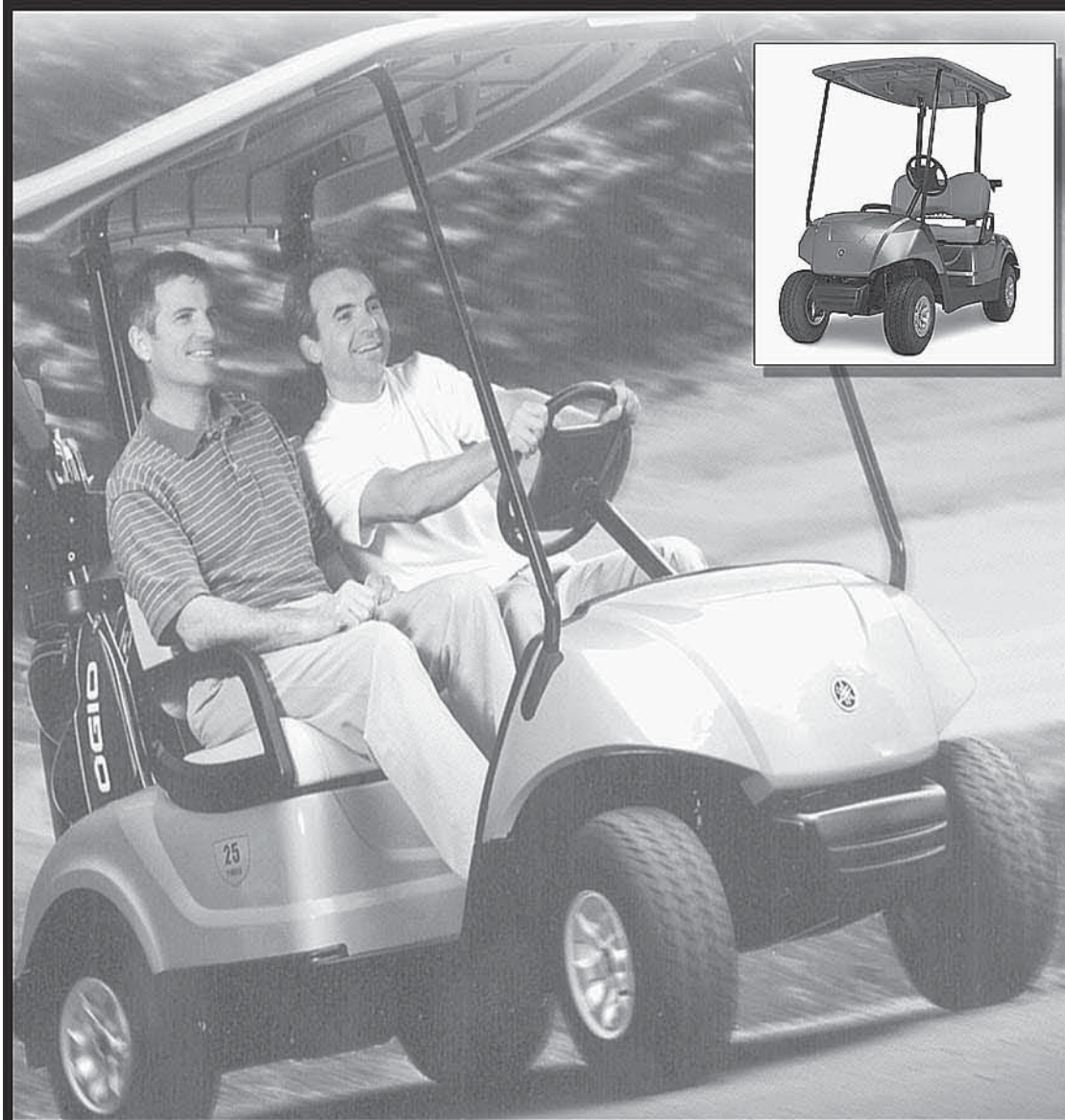


Mr. Siegel visited Central Abaco Primary School to encourage the students to read more. He is shown here greeting individual students at the largest school on Abaco with more than 700 students.

Support the Cancer Society
Donate Used Items to Be Sold in
Their Thrift Shop • Call 367-3744 for info



YAMAHA



GOLF CART LEASING

NEW
2-Seater
Starting from \$335 per
Month for 24 Months

4-Seater
Starting from \$389 per
Month for 24 Months

USED Carts starting as
Low as \$189 Month

Deposit required

Tel: 367-2452 • Fax: 367-2354
P.O.Box AB-20070 - Marsh Harbour, Bahamas
eMail: yamahaabaco@hotmail.com



Merry Christmas

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
RT. HON. HUBERT A. INGRAHAM**



It is once again my great pleasure to extend warm greetings to all residents and visitors to Abaco's shores during this Christmas Season.

Christmas traditionally brings our generosity of spirit and friendship to the forefront. Indeed, I am always proud of the bigheartedness of Abaconians not just at Christmas time but throughout the year.

It is all the more important that we use the Christmas season as is our custom, to share with friends and neighbours and especially with the less fortunate.

I hope that Abaconians and other Bahamians throughout our island communities will make welcome all those who are away from their families and friends and who find themselves in our midst during this Holy Season.

I am very pleased to use this occasion to acknowledge and thank the many individuals and businesses who respond positively throughout the year to those in need.

I thank also those in government service, in the uniform branches, in our schools, in our clinics, in social services and in the wider administrative and technical public service for their continued efforts to serve the Bahamian people here in Abaco.

On behalf of the Government of The Bahamas, my family and myself, I am pleased to wish you a blessed, peaceful and safe Christmas, and the joy that only Christ can bring.

Hubert A. Ingraham
10 December, 2008



The Editor Says . . . Our Christmas traditions continue



It was announced in the fall that Marsh Harbour's annual Christmas Festival had to be cancelled. People were disappointed as this was a popular and widely anticipated event. Then, with the Prime Minister's encouragement, it was resurrected but with little time for properly organizing the details.

For the past several years it has easily been the single largest event on Abaco, drawing young and old people from the length of Abaco including the cays. As previously staged, it had live entertainment, Santa Claus, food, arts and crafts, games, even a dog show, appealing to a wide range of people.

We estimate that in the course of the day several thousand people attended. There was a continuous flow of persons arriving and leaving throughout the afternoon and evening.

The site where the event was held in previous years was not available. Finding another location did not seem feasible as there were no funds to prepare an alternate location.

With little time to organize, the BAIC site was put at the committee's disposal. The committee had a little over three weeks to get the site ready and schedule booths and events. We know their dedication and we are confident the event will be a success.

For those not familiar with this new location, it is on Don MacKay Boulevard in Marsh Harbour across the street from the BEC office. It is the BAIC site for a future farmer's market and craft center with a park-like atmosphere. The present improvements will be utilized as the park is developed.

With the committee's limited funding, central government made several major contributions to make sure the event was successful. First, the site was quickly graded and rolled to a smooth surface. Second, on short notice BEC installed several poles with floodlights and outlets for musicians and food vendors. Third, the Royal Bahamas Defense Force Band will perform at central government's expense. These three items would have consumed more funds than the committee had available.

With the site prepared, power and lights installed and major entertainment scheduled, the committee has been left to fill the entertainment gaps with local talent. This can be accomplished with a much smaller budget. Craftsmen, food vendors, Junkanoo groups and musicians are being contacted as well as schools and service clubs with their displays and fund raising schemes.

It is encouraging to see the festival back on track, even though the small volunteer team is having to work overtime to put it all together.

Credit for putting this event back on the calendar is due our representative for North Abaco, who happens to be the Prime Minister. He made a few phone calls and things began to take shape. Our representative for South Abaco, Mr. Edison Key, was quietly working in the background to see that the BAIC site was properly prepared.

On a smaller scale, central government is assisting North Abaco in having a similar festive evening by providing the Royal Bahamas Police Marching Band and Pop Band as the prime entertainment. With our economy showing signs of decline, Mr. Ingraham is looking for ways to bolster people's spirits over the holidays.

On December 19 the popular boating parade will be held in Marsh Harbour. It is scheduled to begin at the Marsh Harbour Marina and will circle the harbour one or more times. Tidal restrictions are likely to limit the boats to outboard power or shallow draft vessels. This was always a popular event, but the fireworks at the conclusion may have had a hand in the high attendance. Present budgets do not allow fireworks which are expensive.

Several towns are planning celebrations near Christmas. Santa will be making his appearance in many communities.

These Christmas events are basically community oriented for local residents, but they always welcome visitors.

World news on the television is rather bleak, but Abaco has weathered downturns in the economy in the past. Several earlier recessions in the United States were barely felt here. Abaco seems to survive these periods better than other areas in the Bahamas.

We hope that our Christmas visitors will arrive in acceptable numbers. Let us hope that Abaco's appeal remains strong and that our visitor arrival numbers stay steady.

As a boost to the Abaco economy, several government capital programs are in

the works with one of the largest being the 100 low cost houses scheduled for Spring City. Seventy of these houses are under construction now by 17 different contractors. This project fulfills two basic needs: putting people to work and providing low cost housing which is in great demand on Abaco. These are not give-away houses but will be paid for by conventional mortgage payments.

Other public works programs are scheduled with a similar dual purpose, to stimulate the local economy with jobs and to benefit us with some projects which have been scheduled for some time. Construction of a 60,000-square foot administrative complex is expected to start early in 2009. This will house many government agencies and departments. Additional low cost subdivisions are on government's drawing board.

Although our economy is not robust, we have much to be thankful for. With all the strife and hardship in the world, we live in a quiet and peaceful country. May we enjoy the many freedoms which millions do not have. Let us be thankful and enjoy these holiday festivities with family, friends and neighbours.

Letters to the Editor

An Invitation to Our Visitors

Dear Editor,

No ordinary camera is powerful enough to capture what I experienced last night. The fact that there was no moon was part of the reason for the phenomenon. The night was more than a little cool without a whisper of a breeze and no visible rain in sight anywhere around. The velvety black night sky seemed to surround me like a cloak and the stars sparkled like tiny diamonds.

I realize it is not ours alone, but is the same sky seen by millions of other people all over our world. However, I do not believe it could have been more spectacular anywhere else on this earth than it was last night in Cherokee Sound, Abaco, in the northern Bahamas at 27.50 degrees South latitude by 76.50 degrees North longitude on this the 27th day of November in the year of our Lord 2008.

How lucky we are to live in such a beautiful place. Yes, we have the lovely warm sun by day, but it is the nights that take your breath away. All is quiet, all is serene and peaceful and your eyes are pulled upward into the heavens. You can't look away, all you can do is stare in amazement. You can only feel small, insignificant and unimportant in such an awesome production. Yet it is comforting. Maybe because of its brilliance we know we are part of a larger plan

like being part of an artist's painting and being included in a much bigger picture.

Maybe some get a thrill from watching one of our many lovely sunsets. I can also feel a bit dreamy and nostalgic seeing the sun go down. But what I really love is to wake up early enough to see one of our fantastic sunrises. When the purples turn to pinks and the pinks to gold, they are like a light show that is gone in the blink of an eye, yet is unforgettable and starts each new day with brand new hope.

At this particular time of the year, we truly have so much to be thankful for. One of the things I'm thankful for is the beauty that surrounds us in the sky. So I encourage all our visitors to step outside some dark night and drink in the incredible beauty, a picture only God could paint.

Lee Pinder

Abaco needs a mini-hospital

Dear Editor,

I wrote a letter about six months ago in reference to the lack of a proper medical facility on Abaco. This situation continues, and now the situation has become even more urgent as one of the private doctors has now discontinued all after-hour emergency care and is directing all after-hour emergencies to the government clinic.

Over the past year I have had the opportunity to take four persons with broken bones to seek medical attention in Marsh Harbour. Because they were all visitors and the incidents occurred after hours, we have had no choice but to take them to the government clinic.

As soon as you arrive at the clinic, the doctor takes one look at the patient and says "gotta go to Nassau." Can you believe that the Marsh Harbour government clinic does not have an X ray machine? Even for a simple fracture there is nothing they can do. I can understand for a major compound or open fracture they might have to be flown out but for a simple break?

If there was an X ray machine, simple fractures could be fixed at the government clinic. Many times there might not even be a break but a bad sprain and for this reason persons have to go to Nassau or Florida to have an X-ray? Two private doctors in Marsh Harbor have X ray machines so the

cost cannot be that high. Why are we back in the dark ages?

I am sure there are other needs at the clinic, but I think this would be a good start. How can we continue to promote ourselves as a top tourist destination when not even the basic health care services are available. Baker's Bay even has it in their brochure that in the event of an emergency at their property, their guests will be flown by helicopter to the mini hospital in Marsh Harbour. (the helicopter is another story!) but what mini hospital are they referring to?

During election time Abaco was promised a mini hospital in the FNM manifesto. With the amount of tourist revenue that Abaco generates I would think this would be a priority. Edison? Hubert?

Troy Don Albury
Great Guana Cay

An appeal to support Hope Town's pool

Dear Abaco Residents and Community Pool Supporters:

It has been brought to my attention that Elbow Cay Properties has been shouldering much of the burden of the increased electrical cost to operate the community pool. With this increasing debt, they have made the decision to shut down the pool at the end of the summer. As a contributor to the pool I have no personal interest in this venture other than the benefit to the community.

I am writing this letter in hopes that the deficit in financing for the pool lies in a lack of understanding and communication. The increase in power bills has affected everyone here and in the US. It is something we can all understand. If this deficit is not brought to the attention of the committee and the community, the pool will be closed to the detriment of the children of Abaco.

After seeing a couple of the swim meets, I was inspired by the dedication of the kids to be able to participate in a team sport, something not widely available to them here. The children compete as individuals, as members of a team AND for their communities. Because they have this op-

The Abaconian

David & Kathleen Ralph

Editors & Publishers

P O Box AB 20551

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

Abaco's most complete newspaper

Inquire for advertising rates

(U.S. address)

990 Old Dixie Hwy #14

Lake Park, FL 33403

7,500 copies

Published twice monthly

Phone 242-367-2677

FAX 242-367-3677

Email: davralph@batelnet.bs

Photo credit: Tuppy Weatherford for parrot & lighthouse on page 1

Reporters/Writers: Samantha Evans, Jennifer Hudson, Julian Lockhart, Vernique Russell, Mirella Santillo

Contributors: Cleola Pinder, Lee Pinder

Free at over 100 Abaco locations from Grand Cay to Moore's Is.

Subscription rate \$20.00 Abaco \$25 other Bahamas

(One Year) \$45.00 USA \$65 Canada - airmail

\$95.00 UK, Europe & Caribbean - surface

Subscribe NOW

Order form on Page 9

Conference showed uses of GIS technology

By Jennifer Hudson

The 2nd GIS User Conference was held at the Abaco Beach Resort from November 19-21. The theme for this year's conference was Advancing GIS Technology One Island at a Time. This is the first time the conference has been held on Abaco; the initial conference was held last year on New Providence. The conference was hosted by the Bahamas National Geographic Information Systems (BNGIS) Centre, Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with the Local Government of Central Abaco. Administrator Cephias Cooper played a role in the organization of the conference and acted as moderator. The primary objective of the conference was "to provide a forum for presentations on GIS related topics and informational and educational opportunities for anyone in business, government or the academic arena who is interested in the use of GIS technology in and around the Bahamas."

The Conference comprised a series of presentations focusing on a range of subjects of interest such as:

- Overview of the Bahamas National Geographic Information Systems (BNGIS) Centre
- Technology Spatial Data Infrastructure Improvement Project
- Various presentation sessions by agencies that use GIS

November 19, the first day of the conference, marked the celebration of GIS Day. Ms. Antonique Sweeting, GIS Analyst, BNGIS Centre, in her welcome address explained the meaning of GIS Day and the purpose of the conference. "This is a grass roots event celebrated by thousands of people all over the world and formalizes the practice of GIS users opening their doors to the public to showcase real world applications of this important technology in an effort to build vibrant GIS communities throughout the world and in The Bahamas. Persons are here from Abaco, New Providence and around The Bahamas to witness the rise of the next GIS users in The Bahamas".

Ms. Carolann Albury, Director of the BNGIS Centre, stressed the need for minds that think outside the box and are passionate about the environment. She stated that the Centre will continue to promote GIS in the classroom and announced that as a special part of the GIS Day celebration students from Abaco schools who had taken advantage of the opportunities to use GIS in the classroom would be engaged in a competition.

The keynote address for the first day was given by Dr. Leon Higgs, Director of Lifelong Learning at the Ministry of

Education and immediate past President of the College of The Bahamas. "GIS is used in many areas, has countless applications and is a powerful tool," he told the group. "You must take advantage of the opportunities to be exposed to the cutting edge technology of GIS. This marks a special occasion in the BNGIS Centre in collaboration with the Ministry of Education for exploring ways of advancing GPS. We must ensure that the Bahamas has a trained work force to take on increasing demands and this will involve GIS."

Keynote speaker for the second day of the conference was Ms. Carolann Albury, who opened by expressing her pleasure in having the Ministry of Education partnering with the BNGIS especially as the focus is on exposing teachers and students to use GIS systems in the classroom. "Whatever careers and dreams the students will follow, they will be equipped with the necessary skill sets and modern tools needed to manage our world," she stated. Ms. Albury went on to list the things we all want in our great nation such as improved water quality, protection of our maritime borders, reduced crime in our neighbourhoods, improved land management, reduction in traffic congestion and improved emergency services. GIS can help with all of these national and global issues," she informed.

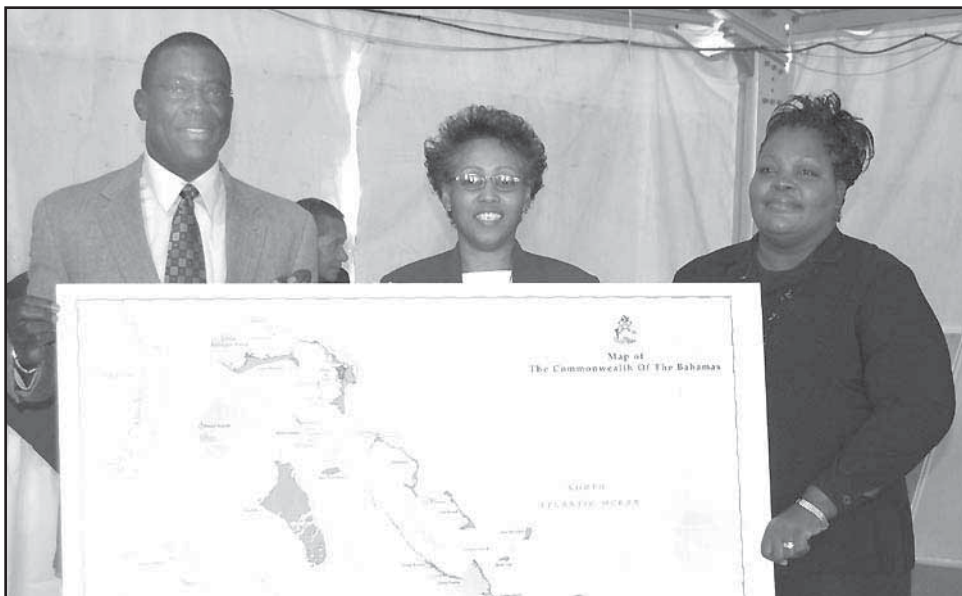
Mrs. Albury continued, "GIS is no longer a luxury or a technology for specialists but is in fact the tool of the 21st century that supports the policy decision making process. The Ministry of the Environment is aware of the importance of GIS in The Bahamas and knows that geospatial data is essential for addressing the critical issues of world leaders. It is evident that The Ba-

hamas has to catch up with the use of this technology as an integral part of agencies' workflow processes. We have started this process by innovative work undertaken to develop draft GIS legislation in collaboration with over 40 governmental agencies as well as those operating under the Ministry of the Environment. Only GIS technology allows you to store and manipulate information using geography and to analyze patterns, relationships and trends in that information to help policy makers make better decisions." Ms. Albury quoted the Minister of State for the Environment, the Hon. Phenton Nymour, who said, "To make all this work we need to transform the way we conduct business, we need to break down the all too familiar barrier that says, 'But we've always done it this way,' and replace it with 'Let's make this happen.'"

In closing, Ms. Albury said that they expect further feedback from principals, teachers and students on how they envision integrating GIS in existing curriculum for further consideration.

Ms. Vinceia Coakley read a poem, "GIS The Wave of the Future" which was written by Valdez Miller. This was followed by a presentation of awards by Mr. Duane Miller of the BNGIS Centre. Musical interludes were provided by the Wesley College Youth Band. A tour of the Map Gallery and Exhibits in the Below Decks room followed.

The remainder of the conference was devoted to a series of varied presentation sessions by agencies that use GIS.



The Second GIS User Conference was held in Marsh Harbour on November 19 and 20. The first day was devoted to working with high school students from three government schools while the second day featured presenters who showed how the GIS system could assist in many areas of government and private applications. Shown here are Senior Administrator Cephias Cooper, who helped organize the conference, Mrs. Carolann Albury, Director of the Bahamas National Geographic Information Systems Centre, and Mrs. Enid White Gardiner, moderator for part of the conference.

It Pays to Advertise

Why subscribe

- Receiving the Abaconian regularly will keep you informed on issues such as:
- Resort & hotel development
 - Improvements to roads, airport, docks, schools, etc.
 - Phone and electric company changes
 - Fishing, boating & sporting activities
 - Immigration, taxes or duty changes
 - Changes to laws and regulations
 - Community events
 - New business ventures
 - Changes in airline service
 - Actions by local government



Order The Abaconian Today

Name _____
 Address _____
 Address _____
 City _____ St. _____
 Postal code _____ + _____ Country _____
 E-mail (or Fax) _____ (for renewal)
 24 issues - US\$ or B\$ _____
 \$45 USA via 3rd Class _____
 \$25 Bahamas via surface _____
 \$20 to Abaco _____
 US\$65 Canada via Airmail _____
 US\$95 UK, Europe Surface _____

Mail to: 990 Old Dixie Hwy, #14, Lake Park, FL 33403
 or: P.O. Box AB 20551, Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

Apr 2006

Curly Tails

Restaurant & Bar

INNOVATIVE ISLAND CUISINE

Bahamian Specials Daily
 LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY
 & SATURDAY NIGHTS

Breakfast 7am - 11am
 Lunch 11:30am - 3pm
 Dinner 5:30pm - 9pm

**WE WISH ALL IN ABACO A
 VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
 AND A HAPPY, SAFE
 & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

**Join us on December 31st for fine food,
 fine drink, fine company & live Bahamian
 music to bring in the New Year with style!**

tropical drinks * frozen drinks * fine wines
 local & imported beers * Cuban Cigars

Conch Inn Hotel & Marina
 Marsh Harbour
 ph (242) 367 4444

VHF - 16
 curlytails@batelnet.bs

Home Show boasted 20 companies

By Jennifer Hudson

Abaco's first Home Show was held on November 22 on the grounds of Faith Convention Centre. Many people enjoyed the first show of its kind here. The idea for the show took root in the mind of Mrs. LaSonya Missick, an employee at Scotia Bank, way back in August, and she partnered with her uncle, Mr. Larry Williams, owner of the Faith Convention Centre, to bring the idea to fruition. She had been noticing the number of home stores that there are now in Marsh Harbour and that their prices are good. "People have always liked to shop in Florida and really had no awareness of what is available locally," said

Mrs. Missick, who decided that she would really like to showcase what the Abaco home stores have to offer. "There is now a bigger market because Abaco is growing, and I wanted to give the economy a helping hand," she added.

Twenty companies participated and booths were set up both inside and outside the building. In addition to the home-related booths, the **Scurvy Few** raffled two child's bicycles to raise funds for their Toys for Tots programme and there were also dinners and desserts on sale. A bouncy castle provided enjoyment for the little ones and the New Entry Band came at four o'clock to bring an air of festivity to the occasion.

In order to bring in the crowds there were drawings for some very nice prizes every hour and a beautiful table by **Abaco Marble and Granite** valued at \$2,995 was also being raffled. Anyone buying a \$10 dinner ticket was eligible to enter a drawing for a \$1,000 giveaway to be spent with any of the vendors at the show.

Booths were varied, touching on all areas of home ownership. **Abaco Hardware's** booth really covered everything from paints, tools and appliances to a wide variety of attractive home décor products such as linens, bedding and many

accoutrements for the home. **Standard Hardware** also had a large assortment of paints and tools on display including some very large table saws and even a cement mixer. **The Paint Place** was advertising a large range of Benjamin Moore paints and **Abaco Stereo** had a whole area designated to large appliances.

Companies displaying fine furnishings were **Buttonwood Furniture** whose major piece was a king size bed beautifully



The children were not forgotten at Abaco's Home Show. Cotton candy was a popular snack while a bouncing castle entertained them. Lots of good food and drinks were available to keep people happy while they shopped.

Please see **Home Show**

Page 11



Bahamas Real Estate Association had a booth that gave information for those wanting to purchase property. They explained its Multiple Listing Service and its other services. Shown here are Mailin Sands, Margo Albury and Chris Roberts.



Abaco Hardware had a large outdoor display that included appliances, housewares and linens as well as tools, equipment and diving supplies. Browsers and shoppers could examine the merchandise at their leisure.

Abaco Beach Resort

AT BOAT HARBOUR

EST. 1955

Holiday Celebrations

Christmas Eve Celebration

Choose between a Family Style Dinner or A La Carte Menu

Featuring: Champagne "Specials"

Family Style Dinner: Select from Pineapple glazed Ham or Oven Roasted Turkey with sides

Entertainment: **Live Caroling** 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Special Guest: **Santa will appear**

Price for Family Style Dinner: \$29.95 per adult; \$14.95 per child (Does not include gratuity)

Advance Reservations Recommended

Christmas Day Celebration

Christmas Grand Buffet - Anglers Restaurant

Featuring: Complimentary Champagne or Wine Toast

Entertainment: **Live Caroling** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Appetizer: Cream of Conch Soup

Salad: Caesar Salad

Entree: Coconut Dolphin ~ Carved Turkey ~ Sliced Ham

Steamship of Round Beef with sides

Dessert: Yuletide Log and Rum Cake

Price: \$39.95 per adult; 19.95 per child (does not include gratuities)

Advance Reservations Recommended

New Year's Eve Celebration

Two seatings for this event

1st seating- 5:30 pm ~ 7:30 pm

New Year's Eve Family Dinner ~ Anglers Restaurant

Featuring a limited A La Carte Menu

Entertainment by

Gary McDonald of The Impact Band

Reservations Only

New Year's Eve Dinner & Show

2nd seating ~ 8:30 pm to Midnight ~ Anglers Restaurant

Featuring Complimentary Split Champagne

Entertainment by The Impact Band with a Salute to Motown

Menu: Choose one item from each course

Soup: Lobster Bisque or Chilled Strawberry

Appetizer: Abaco Crab Cake "Rush" or Bruschetta: diced tomatoes, onions, garlic, Parmesan cheese, basil and olive oil served on toasted baguettes

Salad: Fresh Spinach Salad with a warm Bacon Vinaigrette or

Stacked Caprese: Buffalo mozzarella, tomatoes and basil

Entree: Surf n' Turf (Filet & Lobster) served with

Duchess Potatoes and fresh vegetables or

Rack of Lamb served with Saffron Risotto and fresh vegetables

Dessert: Cherries Jubilee Flambe

Price: \$250 per couple (gratuities included)

Advance Reservations and Pre-payment required

New Year's Day Celebration

Recovery Champagne Brunch

Featuring a **M • A • S • H Theme Party**

Includes: One complimentary "Mimosa" or "Bloody Mary"

Entertainment by Pianist and Vocalist Stephen Colebrook

Buffet Price: \$23.95 per adult; 11.95 per child

(Does not include gratuities)

Advance Reservations Recommended

First Home Show was big success

Home Show

From Page 10

covered with exquisite bedding and cosy throws, and **Fine Living** showing a variety of attractive smaller scale furniture and home décor items. Owner Colette Bootle had catalogues on hand from which persons can order pieces with a delivery time of only two weeks since she does not have room in her small shop to display larger items. **Island Petals** surprised me as, in addition to their small home décor pieces they have been known for, they also had on display a beautiful and very comfortable overstuffed couch. I discovered that they now have expanded premises which enables them to sell larger pieces of furniture. Rounding out the furnishings section was **Abaco Carpet**.

For those persons planning to build or wishing to remodel their kitchen, the **Kitchen Closets & More** booth had many designs and colours to choose from. Delivery takes about four to six weeks and installation will be completed in two days. Also for those planning to build, some very interesting and valuable information was available at the **Bahamas Foam Insulation** booth. Insulation has a major

impact on the health, energy efficiency and comfort of a home. The Icynene Insulation System which is now available on Abaco is healthier, quieter and more energy efficient than some other kinds of insulation. A demonstration by the BFI mobile van was given during the show.

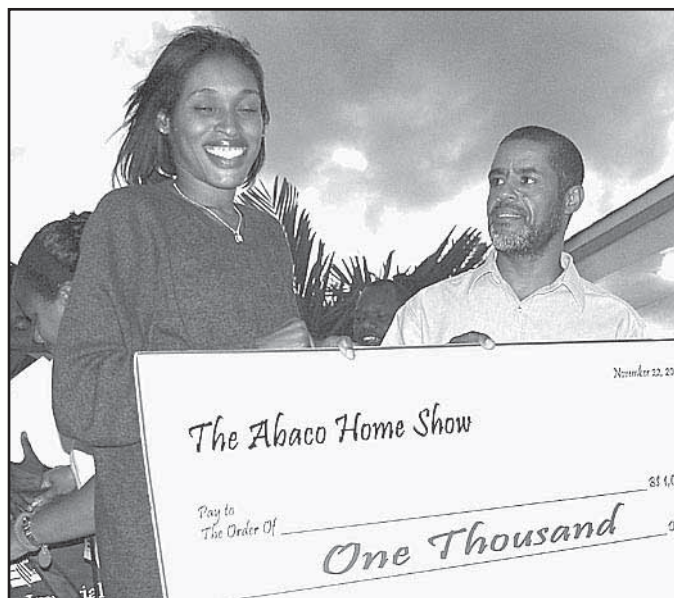
Wonderland Gardens Nursery was there to take care of anyone's landscaping desires with a wide variety of attractive plants both large and small.

Anyone interested in purchasing land or a home would have found the **BREA** (Bahamas Real Estate Association) booth

helpful. It was manned throughout the show by a roster of BREA members who were there to educate people on what BREA is and also on what their Multiple Listing Agreement means. There were many photographs showing samples of affordable properties offered throughout Abaco within different price ranges with lot prices starting as low as \$20,000 and homes within the \$250,000 to \$350,000 price range.

Insurance is a very important consideration for home owners and there to advise and take care of those needs were **Colina Insurance** and **British American** which also arranges mortgages. Banks on hand to offer complete banking services were **Commonwealth Bank** and **Scotiabank**.

Providing fun for kids was **Characters for Kids**. This company, which hosts parties, youth and promotional events, has six characters for rent and a host of novelty items. Two of their characters were at the



One of the special features of the Home Show was the raffle that give a \$1000 voucher to the winner to purchase merchandise from any of the companies represented at the show. The raffle tickets came with the purchase of a \$10 dinner. The winner was Tiffinee Poitier shown above with Mr. Sonnith Lockhart, whose daughter drew the winning tickets

home show thrilling the kids who were able to have their photograph taken with the characters.

This first very successful annual Abaco Home Show was certainly enjoyed by many and Mrs. Missick said that she intends next year for it to be even bigger and better.



Standard Hardware, with a large booth outside, was able to show many power tools. Distributors were on hand to demonstrate the equipment and tools.

Abaco Print Shop
 Abaco Shopping Center • Tel: 367-3202 - Fax: 367-3201
 Open 9 am - 5 pm • Mon. - Fri.

Compliments of the Holiday Season
 From
STANDARD HARDWARE

COME CHECK OUT OUR
CHRISTMAS PAINT SALE

Ph: (242) 367-2660 Marsh Harbour, Abaco e-mail: standardhardware@netbusiness.com

North Abaco Cheers for One Bahamas

Students from various schools in North Abaco recently welcomed the One Bahamas celebration to the region with cheers, music and excitement at a pep rally at the S. C. Bootle High School.

"This ceremony that we held was one of the most impressive and successful that I have ever been involved in," former Governor General of The Bahamas and One Bahamas Chairman, Sir Orville Turnquest, said at the event. "The children were really wonderful. The way they performed, the way they reacted, I think it was a wonderful, wonderful occasion really in the spirit of what One Bahamas is all about."

One Bahamas committee members, stakeholders and organisers came from New Providence and Grand Bahama for the event on Abaco.

"This is the best response that we had

in all the islands," said first Bahamian Olympic Gold medalist and One Bahamas Co-Director, Sir Durward Knowles. "All due respect to Freeport, Grand Bahama, the children showed more enthusiasm than I have seen in my life. Really, it is so encouraging to see the enthusiasm they had."

Senior Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, Ricardo Deveaux, added that the young people of North Abaco were "truly outstanding" in the presentation and acceptance of the One Bahamas concept. "As a representative of the Ministry, we were proud to see the young people of Abaco turn out for this ceremony and really display what One Bahamas is all about," he said. "I believe that if this is any indication of what is to come, I think we are in a good stead in this country."

"Given what they presented to us today, it is obvious that they understand the One Bahamas concept," added Executive Director of the One Bahamas Foundation, Ms. Patricia Francis. "It's about understanding that no matter where we are in this country, we are all one, we can live and work together and we recognise on whose shoulders we stand upon as we rise and go forward."

Several students in attendance said they not only learned more about the importance of a united Bahamas, they also appreciated the visit from "living legends" to their island. "They took a day out of their busy life to come speak to us and that makes

me feel excited," Chelsea Bowe, head girl at Cooper's Town Primary School. "The islands of The Bahamas must stay united even if they are separated by water," she added when asked what she learned for the event.

Fellow schoolmate Deonte Pritchard added that it made him feel extra special that the One Bahamas representatives came to the island.

S. C. Bootle High School senior Kristie Russell said she felt that the celebration was a time for teachers, students and the North Abaco public at large to come

Please see **Celebration** Page 13



The former Governor General, Sir Orville Turnquest, reviewed the honour guard of S.C. Bootle High School students on his arrival at the school for a One Bahamas celebration. He organized the annual event in the mid 1990s to bring all young people together. He was very impressed with the response and enthusiasm the group received from the young people of North Abaco. Students from six schools attended the celebration.



The official One Bahamas group attending the celebration at S.C. Bootle High School are shown here. They are William Curry, Chief Councillor of Green Turtle Cay District; Freddie Munnings, a prominent musician from Nassau; Sir Orville Turnquest, former Governor General and Co-director of One Bahamas; Mr. Churchill Knowles-Tener, Chairman of the Grand Bahama Sports Council; Mrs. Lenora Black, Abaco's Education Superintendent; Mr. Cecil Thompson, Deputy Director of Education and Co-chairperson for the One Bahamas Committee; Sir Durward Knowles, Co-director of One Bahamas and first Bahamian Olympic Gold medalist; Mr. Cephas Cooper, Senior Administrator for Central Abaco; and Mr. Theophilus Cox, Administrator for North Abaco.

Christmas Dinner

December 25th, 2008

Seating 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30

Soup
Lobster Bisque

Salad
Belgian Endive, Gorgonzola and Walnut Salad

Entrees
Beef Wellington with Cream Spinach and Artichokes
Served with garlic whipped potatoes and asparagus wrapped with prosciutto

Rack of Lamb
Honey Dijon & Brie sauce with caramelized shallot
Served with garlic whipped potatoes and asparagus wrapped with prosciutto

Scallops Au Gratin
Sea Scallops simmered in a light garlic creme sauce and baked with Parmesan bread crumb crust
Served with garlic whipped potatoes and asparagus wrapped with prosciutto

Dessert
Macadamia Creme Brulee
Coffee or Tea

Complimentary glass of Wine with dinner or Holiday Mimosas

Price per person \$50 plus 15% service charge

Live Junkanoo Band after dinner

Toast the New Year as we celebrate

Our Sixth Annual Masquerade Ball which features:

A Five Course Dinner ~ Party Favors
A complimentary glass of Champagne on arrival
A Live Junkanoo Band @ 10:00 pm

First Course
Cozy Shrimp with a spicy mustard dipping sauce

Second Course
Portabella & Brie Soup

Third Course
Mesculin field Green topped with Gorgonzola complimented by a touch of caramelized walnuts

Fourth Course
Lobster Therimidor
Fresh local Lobster meat in Mornay sauce topped with cheese gratin & mushrooms. Served with fresh buttered haricots verts and duchess potatoes

Filet Oscar
Grilled certified Angus Beef topped with asparagus, lump crabmeat and bearnaise sauce.
Served with fresh buttered haricots verts and duchess potatoes

Fifth Course
Rhapsody Cheesecake

Coffee or Tea

Price Per Person : \$75 gratuity included

North Abaco hosts One Bahamas celebration

Celebration *From Page 12*

together and celebrate unity. "And I am very, very pleased that they chose northern Abaco to have this event," she said. "I feel that my classmates have learned a whole lot from this event, seeing that it is very important, and we have learned the importance of being united."

Fellow senior Ivanisha Russell added that she liked to see so many different schools in attendance and hoped that events such as One Bahamas could happen again soon in North Abaco.

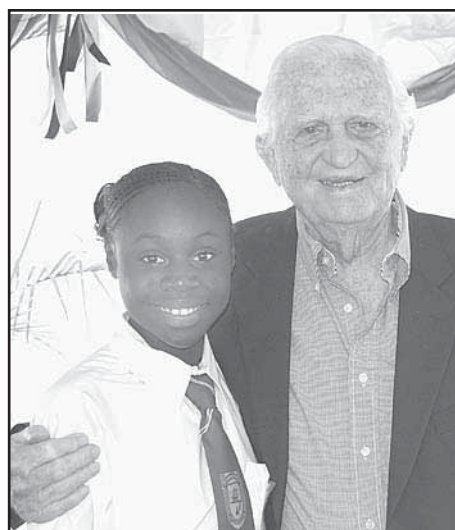
Amy Roberts Primary school sixth-grader Tyler Schreck said that he learned that everybody is "one family" and it does not matter what colour a person happens

to be. "We all come from one country," he added.

"We can come from all over the world, and we can still live as one since we are all here in The Bahamas," S. C. Bootle High principal Huel Moss said. "That is the message that I hope my students get and that is what we push here as part of our whole overall objective and philosophy."

Treasure Cay Primary school sixth-grader Johnny Agusde said that he learned that "all of us are one." "You could be any colour and all of us could be friends, not enemies," he said. "We must all be kind to each other."

"We are so happy to see the response that we got here today and it is so encouraging to us," Sir Durward said.



Anthonique Cooper, a student of S.C. Bootle High School, sang a song, *You Are My Hero*, specifically for Sir Durward Knowles. He was very impressed and rewarded her with a hug shown above.

the laws of the country. "Against that kind of background, they could have the ambition to succeed in becoming whatever they want to be because they are the future leaders of this county. The leaders must come from them," Sir Orville said.

One Bahamas *From Page 1*

present to always remember what it is to be a Bahamian and not to forget their roots. He reminded the children that regardless of color, race or creed our nationality is what unites us as one and that we all have the same rights and answer to the same laws. He was serenaded with the song *You Are My Hero* sung by Adeena Cooper, a student of S.C. Bootle High. Sir Durward presented DVD's of his autobiography to all the schools represented.

The celebrations will leave memories in the minds of all who attended. The service was extraordinary, informative and unique, a wonderful celebration. The students were enthusiastic and enjoyed the event.



Students from five schools in North Abaco and Agape Christian School in Marsh Harbour gathered for the One Bahamas celebration. Each school contributed entertainment. Here students of S.C. Bootle performed a lively dance.

Sir Orville said he wanted the students to understand that they are the future of The Bahamas and that, if The Bahamas continues as "One Bahamas," they must do all that they can to learn all they can in school, live together in harmony and obey

Quality Star Auto Service Station And Garage

Don MacKay Blvd., Marsh Harbour



THE PLACE FOR YOUR ENTIRE
AUTOMOBILE AND TRUCK NEEDS

We stock a wide variety of parts and tyres.

If you need an item that is not in stock, we will quickly import it for you

Open 7 am - 7 pm Monday thru Thursday
7 am - 8 pm Friday and Saturday
Tel: (242) 367-2979



Abaco Shipping

BAHAMAS ADDRESS

P.O. BOX AB 20737

Marsh Harbour

Abaco, Bahamas

Tel: 242-367-2091 / 367-3341

Fax: 242-367-2235 / 367-4885

unitedabacoshipping@coralwave.com

NEW U.S. DELIVERY & RECEIVING ADDRESS

GULFSTREAM LINES/
HEAVY LIFT SERVICES

801 Avenue E

Riviera Beach Fla. 33404

Tel: 561-840-9393 Fax: 561-863-3451

Contact: Tina Diaz

AMERICAN CONSOLIDATION & LOGISTICS

12805 NW 42Ave. Building #2

Opalocka, Fl, 33054

Tel: (305) 769-2112

Contact: Jose Medina

A Bahamian owned company serving
The Bahamas for over 25 years

NEW U.S. DELIVERY ADDRESS

◆ Expanded service that now includes a warehouse depot in Opalocka, Fl., receiving freight for onward delivery to West Palm Beach. See warehouse address on the side, for further particulars contact the local office.

◆ Freight runs from West Palm Beach to Nassau / Marsh Harbour

◆ Weekly freight runs to and from Nassau

General Cargo, 20' & 40' Dry and Refrigerated Containers, Drive-on Ramps

RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE AND PERSONLIZED SERVICE

WHEN SHIPPING TO ABACO...REMEMBER
ABACO SHIPPING



Police arrested five suspects in murder

Murder *From Page 1*

tomers with groceries home. When he returned, his son was dead.

According to witnesses the two masked men entered the store and struck the victim on his head, then shot him in his back as he attempted to flee, according to a witness.

He was attempting to run to the back of the store when he was shot.

Three suspects from New Providence and two from Abaco were arrested less than 24 hours later while trying to charter a plane to leave Abaco. They were charged with murder in New Providence on December 2nd and held without bail.



Residents of Central Abaco were very upset by the murder of Deon Strachan on November 27. Several hundred people gathered outside the store after the killing, loudly expressing their grief. The police arrested five young men the next day and held them temporarily at the Police Station in Dundas Town. This shows a crowd there, actually between 100 and 200 people, the next night. The men were taken to Nassau so no further incident could take place.

The case was moved to New Providence for arraignment because of concern for the safety of those arrested and the officers in Abaco.

Police charged a minor, aged 17, and Lavardo Leon Rahming, both of New Providence with murder. Police also charged Rahming, Dario Silbert Mills, 22, of Dundas Town, Jermaine Russell, 30, of Nassau and the 17-year-old minor of Nassau with conspiracy to commit armed robbery, conspiring to cause the death of Strachan and receiving \$981 of the store's cash. Rahming and the minor are accused of possessing an unlicensed firearm and ammunition. They had a 9mm handgun and a .38 handgun as well as ammunition for both weapons. There will be a preliminary inquiry to see if there is sufficient evidence for the case to go to the Supreme Court. The case will be heard on January 16, 2009.

The fifth person arrested, Calvin Edge-

combe, Jr. of Spring City, was in the hospital at the time of the arraignment but is expected to be arraigned when he is released from the hospital.

The 17-year-old suspect in the case is also a suspect in two other murders and several attempted murders in New Providence.

Police are asking all businesses to be vigilant and aware of their surroundings. They said not to take anything for granted and to increase security measures throughout the day.

Police said this was the first murder on Abaco for the year and 72nd for the country.

Police warn to be vigilant

ABACO EXPRESS

**YOUR PERSONAL MAIL PLANE
YOUR CHARTERED SEAT
YOUR CARGO PLANE**

PICK UP AND COURIER SERVICE

Passengers / Freight / Mail to Abaco



2532 Old Okeechobee Road Ste. 11
West Palm Beach / Marsh Harbour
email: abacoexpbi@bellsouth.net
Ph: 561-689-1010
Fax: 561-689-9454
Bah: 242-367-3450

SEA SPRAY Resort & Marina

Boat House Restaurant New Year's Eve Dinner

December 31st, 2008 ~ Dinner served 7 pm or 8:30 pm

Assorted Rolls ~ Pumpkin Biscuits ~ Garlic Rolls ~ Sundry Tomato Biscuits

Appetizer ~ Grilled Beef Satay with a Jack Daniel Sauce

Soup ~ Crab & Lobster Bisque

Salad - Baby Spinach Salad
with Goat Cheese and toasted Almonds with warm vinaigrette dressing

Entrees

Prime Rib Oscar Style ~ Prime Rib topped with crab meat
and grilled asparagus ~ \$55

Boathouse Grouper ~ Macadamia nut encrusted pan seared and
accompanied with shrimp and a coconut chive butter sauce ~ \$50

Balsamic Glazed Roasted Duck Breast ~ Balsamic honey glazed roasted 9
oz duck breast sliced and served on a three-cheese penne pasta Alfred with vegetables ~ \$50

Portabella-Stuffed Lobster ~ Lobster stuffed with crab and portabella
mushroom baked in light white wine sauce ~ \$55

Above comes with a soup or salad, rice or potatoes and a dessert

Rice and Potato

Spanish Rice

Sweet Marshmallow Potatoes

Dessert

Lili Cake ~ Layers of lady fingers with chocolate mousse and fresh raspberries

Brulee Vanilla Bean Cheesecake with orange caramel sauce

Kids half price ~ Reservations required ~ Contact us on VHF Ch. 16 or Ph 366-0065

Live Music by The Islanders ~ Junkanoo Dance Exhibition

Free champagne during dinner ~ Free party favors

Come join us for the after party at 1 am until . . . with free Chicken Souce

Sea Spray Sport Fishing Getaway

Come spend a week in a tropical paradise where friendliness is the norm
and fishing is in abundance.

For four people

Airfare round trip for 4 from South Florida

7 night stay in a 2 bedroom / 2 bathroom villa

One week golf cart rental ~ 2 half day fishing charters

One week 20 ft. Albury Boat rental, excluding gas

\$5600

Subject to availability ~ offer extended January and February 2009
(Does not include 6% government tax on villa)

www.seasprayresort.com ~ info@seasprayresort.com

SUVs for Every Taste, at the Mall!

Built on a rugged frame,
the NEW Suzuki Grand
Vitara offers more
room, greater
stability and fuel
economy.



Suzuki
Grand Vitara

Redesigned for
more space, the
Toyota Rav4 now has
40% more cargo space.



Toyota Rav4

The Chevy Equinox
features a 185-hp V-6
engine, sliding rear
seat and a 5-star
frontal crash safety
rating.

All models are sold at
standard Nassau prices,
and are backed by
full factory warranties.



Chevrolet Equinox



Don MacKay Blvd
Marsh Harbour
tel: 367-2916
fax: 367-2918
email: amml@coralwave.com



Local clinic held a health seminar

By Mirella Santillo

On November 22nd a huge tent was set in front of the government clinic grounds to accommodate a group of approximately 60 people who met early that day to participate in a health seminar on Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases. The seminar focused "on disease prevention and good health promotion," according to the nursing officer in charge, Ms. Antoinette Cumberbatch,

The day started early in the morning with a walk from the clinic to the airport.

Upon their return to the clinic, participants had their vital signs taken including weight, height and waist measurement to determinate their body mass and tests were administered to verify the participants' blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol levels. Some people with abnormally high readings were sent inside to be treated immediately by the attending nurses. Some were asked to come back the following week for more intensive investigation.

The participants were then treated to chicken sauce, wheat bread, water and real

fruit juice with no sugar added before being instructed on what were the signs and symptoms of the diseases they were covering and being lectured on the importance of a healthy diet.

The coordinator, Mrs. Margaret Daxon, a nursing officer from Nassau, who with two members of the Diabetic Research Institute, made a presentation on the various types of diabetes, the treatments available and the complications. They urged people with diabetes to take special care of their feet as poor circulation associated with diabetes often create serious problems in the lower limbs.

There was a representative from Auskell Clinic who talked about relaxation therapy and Pharmacist Ricardo Miller from the Island Pharmacy assisted with the screening and with one-on-one talks. While family members were being checked, kids enjoyed a bouncing castle.

Many local businesses sponsored the event with food donations made by several stores. A pharmaceutical company from



Mrs. Margaret Daxon, a nursing officer from Nassau, spoke at the health seminar put on by the Marsh Harbour government clinic. She discussed diabetes, giving advice on diet and healthy living habits.

Nassau donated the screening supplies. Dr. B. Swarna, Nurse Friday Epka and several nurses participated in the event.

A similar seminar was held in Cooper's Town on November 21 and in Sandy Point on November 22.

A Christmas Celebration in North Abaco

By Michelle Mikula

North Abaco will experience its share of festivities during the Yuletide season when a Christmas Celebration is staged at the Ball Park in Treasure Cay on December 22nd.

This event which will begin at 6 p.m. will have all the trappings of a Bahamian Christmas that will be pleasing to the entire family. Food, games, crafts, toys, gift items and entertainment will be in abundance. The vibrant sounds of cowbells, horns and goat skin drums will be blended in a colourful Junkanoo parade that is very much an important part of

Christmas celebrations in the Bahamas.

The event will become even brighter and cheerful for those in attendance when the world famous Royal Bahamas Police Marching and Pop Bands take center stage with their performances and the lighting of the Christmas tree, which will be beautifully decorated and remained lit throughout the holidays.

Coordinators are encouraging locals and visitors to be a part of this joyful event that is intended to put all in the Christmas spirit. For further information on this event, please contact the Abaco Tourist Office at 367-3067.

Well Done Drilling Services

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

Trenching: Trenching for underground utility services

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

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

Call us today for a free consultation!

Ph: (242) 367-4842 | Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas



TREASURE CAY

HOTEL RESORT & MARINA



Resort Features:

- Spectacular 3 1/2-mile beach
- Championship golf course
- Marina-view restaurant & bar
- Pool, tennis, watersports
- 150-slip full-service marina
- Diving, snorkelling & dive shop
- Boat rentals, charters & guides
- Hotel rooms, 2 or 3 BR suites

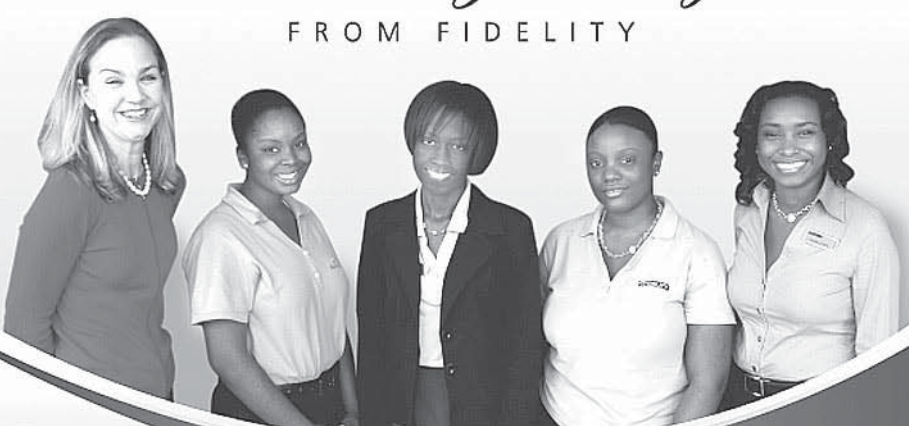
www.treasurecay.com
Treasure Cay Road
(exit off Bootle Hwy)



Hotel: 242-365-8801 Spinnaker Restaurant: 242-365-8469
Golf Course: 242-365-8045 Treasure Divers: 242-365-8465

Season's Greetings

FROM FIDELITY




HOME OF THE

MoneyBack Mortgage | Zero Down lot Loan

i\$ave Asue Visa Card.

Nassau: t 356.7764 Freeport: t 352.6676/7 Marsh Harbour: t 367.3135

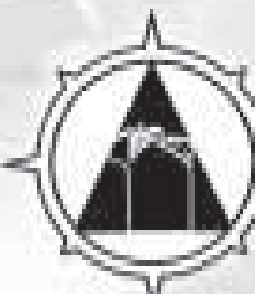


FREDERICK STREET
ROBIN HOOD

WULFF ROAD
CABLE BEACH

MADEIRA PLAZA
FREEPORT

PARADISE ISLAND
MASRH HARBOUR



ARAWAK AGENCY

CUSTOMS BROKERS

May the H appiness
and Good Cheer
of the H oliday Season
be yours throughout
the N ew Year.

FROM MANAGEMENT & STAFF

Phase II in Central Pines is now ready

Housing

From Page 2

still has to have routine Town Planning approval.

The Minister insisted that while preparing the next lots for construction as many native trees as possible were to be left standing. The Minister said all government-constructed homes will now include landscaping.

It is interesting to note that the cost of the original lots in Spring City were sold to the old timers for \$.02 per square foot as a reward for their patience and perseverance.

Several lots at the entrance of the settlement have been reserved for commercial use that will make Spring City a nearly self sufficient township.

Central Pines has 94 lots in Phase II available

Minister for Housing, the Hon. Kenneth Russell, announced that Phase II of the Central Pines Subdivision in Dundas Town is completed and that residents could now purchase lots there. Focusing on the Central Pines II Subdivision, the Minister encouraged residents to apply now to the Ministry of Housing's office in Marsh Harbour for the new lots.

"There aren't really many lots here. There are 94 lots and my understanding is that we have more than 100 persons waiting to purchase 94 lots. So we can see the 94 lots going in a matter of weeks because the people say they are ready and have their money," he said.

Mr. Russell announced that the Ministry has started developing a new 200-acre sub-

division in the Murphy Town area as well. According to the Housing Minister, the original Central Pines Subdivision still has another 50 lots that are available for sale and as soon as all the lots are disposed off the Ministry will begin to look at a Phase III expansion in the Central Pines Subdivision.

Commenting on the demand for housing in Abaco, Mr. Russell said, "It is great. In fact, we did not know how great it was until we decided to build houses in Spring City." He said there is currently a demand for houses in northern Abaco, particularly in places like Crown Haven, Fox Town and Cooper's Town. While Abaco is a thriving island and the economy is great, there are still some persons in low income or middle income brackets. These are the ones we cater to, they are the ones we are trying to ensure get a piece of the rock and get a home for themselves and their family," he said.

Mr. Russell confirmed that the lots in Central Pines II have all services available including paved roads, water and electricity. Central Pines, he said, is about 500 acres in size. "The subdivision as designed by us has areas in it that are zoned for single

family residences, duplexes and multi-family; and in this case there is some commercial zoning also, and some playgrounds. We are also zoning for a church. While in the original Central Pines the zoning areas were not adhered to, we will seek to avoid that this time. We will work with the Local Government Town Planning Board here in Marsh Harbour to ensure that they have all the information, they know where duplex lots are, they know where the single-family lots are and they know where the church and commercial areas are.

The average cost of the lots in the Central Pines Subdivision is between \$14,000 and \$18,000 with the minimum size of the lots being 10,000 square feet. The cost is \$1.75 per square foot. The original cost was \$.95 per square foot when the lots were first offered. But costs of putting in the infrastructure have gone up and government needs to cover its costs so that the money can be used later to develop subdivisions elsewhere.



While the Minister of Housing, the Hon. Kenneth Russell, was inspecting the construction of government built houses in Spring City, a BEC crew was extending the electric lines to the houses almost completed.

Caribbean Marine Construction DOCK BUILDING SPECIALIST

- | COMMERCIAL DOCKS
- | BOAT LIFTS
- | PRIVATE DOCKS
- | SEA WALL CONSTRUCTION
- | DOCK DEMOLITION & REMOVAL



Office Tel: 367.4842 Cellular: 357.6564
P.O.Box AB-20757, Marsh Harbour

Season's Greetings

May the magic of Christmas
be with you and yours
throughout the holiday's
and the New Year!

The Management & Staff
A&W Travel Service

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Baker's Bay

GOLF & OCEAN CLUB

**TO THE FRIENDS, FAMILY AND
BUSINESSES OF THE ABACO'S**

**"MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FILLED
WITH JOY AND GOOD TIDINGS"**

The Directors, Officers and Staff of
Abaco Insurance

extend a warm heartfelt

Thank you

to our valued customers for their loyalty and support.

We look forward to your patronage throughout the coming year and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Prospererous New Year!

MARSH HARBOUR

P.O. Box AB-20404
Stratton Drive

Tel: (242) 367-2549

Fax: (242) 367-3075

HOPE TOWN

Hope Town Hideaway

Tel: (242) 366-0224

TREASURE CAY

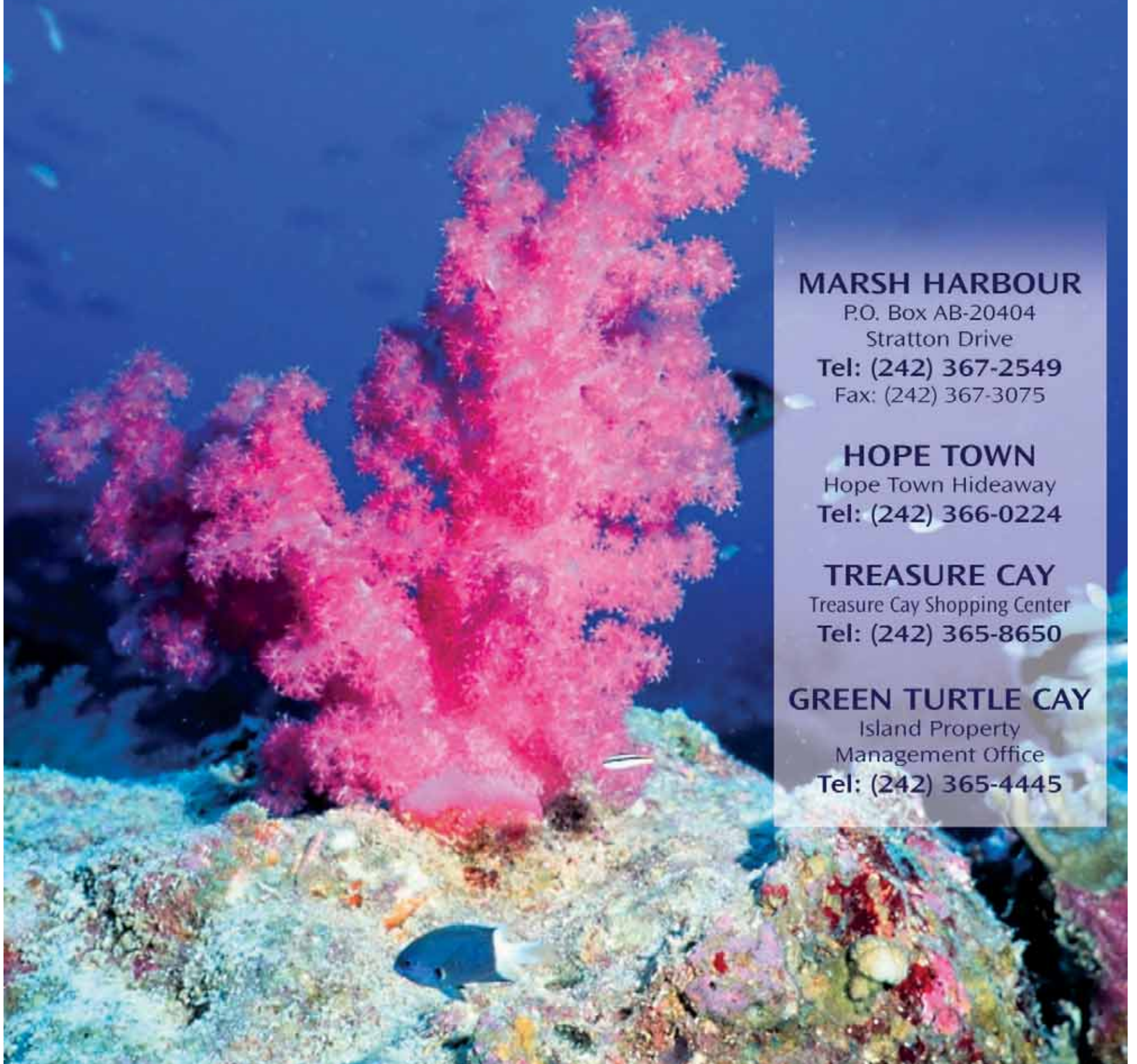
Treasure Cay Shopping Center

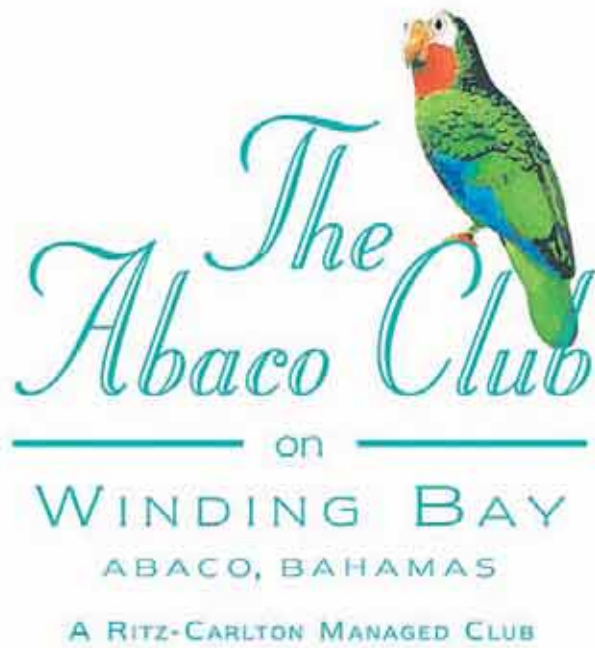
Tel: (242) 365-8650

GREEN TURTLE CAY

Island Property
Management Office

Tel: (242) 365-4445





Season's Greetings

The Ladies and Gentlemen of
The Abaco Club On Winding Bay,
A Ritz-Carlton Managed Club,
wish to take this opportunity to thank our
Members, Guests, Contractors and
Suppliers for your friendship and
support in 2008.

We wish you and your families
a happy and
festive holiday season.

email: info@theabacoclub.com
Website: www.theabacoclub.com

Phone (Toll Free): 1.888.303.2765
Phone (Worldwide): 1.242.367.0077
Fax: 1.242.367.2930

Merry Christmas from PRICE RIGHT



Over \$20,000 in giveaways

32" Flat Screen TV's

Washing Machines

\$200 Shopping Sprees

\$1000 Shopping Sprees

Get one entry for every 500 points

\$5.00 off Turkeys



Exclusive Affiliate of
CHRISTIE'S
GREAT ESTATES

HGChristie
Elegant Island Living

Sweeping Bay & Golf Course Vistas
The Abaco Club, Winding Bay



Exquisite 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath residence with views of Winding Bay and the golf course within the Ritz-Carlton managed Abaco Club, an exclusive 520-acre members' golf club and sporting retreat. Elegantly designed offering generous verandas and balconies combined with open, airy interiors. The Abaco Club amenities include a clubhouse with infinity pool, European spa, tennis, equestrian, and over 2-miles of beach.

Offered at \$4,495,000. Internet Ref. AS10701



ISLAND PARADISE MAIN

MARSH HARBOUR
Private estate perfect for entertaining. Highlighted by a fully furnished 5 bedroom residence, free-form pool, and 10 ft. ceilings. Ideal retirement home or vacation villa.
\$1,250,000. Ref. AS11005



WALKING STICK WAY
Unique 23,358 sq. ft. hilltop lot with access to luxury amenities and views across the Ritz-Carlton managed Abaco Club at Winding Bay, golf course, and ocean.
\$2,925,000. Ref. AS10647



MARNIE'S LANDING
Half acre building sites within a private waterfront community. Features include underground electricity, private dock slip, beach access, and views of the Sea of Abaco.
\$770,000. PS10659



TREASURE CAY
Beautiful 8 acre parcel on pristine Basin Harbour Cay perfect for a secluded getaway or an eco-resort if purchased and combined with adjacent 9+ acre tract
\$249,000. Ref. PS10700



MARSH HARBOUR
Unique 9,750 sq. ft. property with sea views in the popular gated community of Sunrise Bay. Additionally, a private dock slip can be acquired. All amenities nearby.
\$249,900. Ref. AS11026



LUBBERS QUARTERS
Lovely 10,489 sq. ft. homesite in the quiet Abaco Ocean Club. Just steps to the Western shoreline and a short walk or golf cart ride to the community dock.
\$84,500. Ref. AS10969



GREAT ABACO CLUB
Last chance to obtain a homesite in the prestigious and gated Great Abaco Club. This 7,630 sq. ft. canal lot has easy access to pool, tennis courts, and beach.
\$260,000. Ref. AS10731



BAKER'S HEIGHTS
41.6 acre tract comprising rolling hills and views to the Sea of Abaco and surrounding area. Ideal site for development purposes or as a private estate.
\$1,040,000. Ref. AB5178



THE ABACO CLUB, WINDING BAY
Enjoy cool breezes and panoramic vistas from this elevated 1.267 acre estate site overlooking the 7th and 8th holes within the luxurious Ritz-Carlton Abaco Club.
\$1,900,000. Ref. AS10995



GUANA CAY
8,811 sq. ft. sea and ocean view lot within the Shipwreck Subdivision, five minutes from the Guana Cay settlement. A brand new community dock and two beaches are nearby.
\$125,000. Ref. AS10891



TREASURE CAY
15 acre estate with elevations to 70 ft. and 630 ft. on the Sea of Abaco. Perfect for a waterfront club or resort, residential community, or a private estate.
\$1,200,000. Ref. AS10886



THE ABACO CLUB, WINDING BAY
Collection of superb 1+ acre beachfront, oceanfront, and golf course estate lots within the luxurious Ritz-Carlton Abaco Club with world-class amenities.
Starting at \$1,900,000



DOLPHIN BEACH ESTATES
Collection of homesites within a treasured beachfront community. Hilltop lots starting at \$150,000. Waterfront lots starting at \$395,000. Beachfront lots starting at \$595,000.

Pigeon Hill
White Sound, Elbow Cay



Collection of four waterfront and twelve hillside lots snuggled within a new subdivision providing stunning views of White Sound, the Sea of Abaco, and the Atlantic Ocean. These luxury homesites range from 12,000 sq. ft. to 17,000 sq. ft. A protected community dock provides easy access to deep-water fishing.

Hilltop lots from \$305,000
Waterfront lots at \$785,000 each. Internet Ref. PS10605

LUXURY HOMES • BEACHFRONT PROPERTIES • PRIVATE ISLANDS • PROPERTY MANAGEMENT • RENTALS • APPRAISALS



KATHLEEN ALBURY, BHI Broker/Appraiser Hope Town 242 366-0700 Cell: 242 577-0333 kathleen@hgchristie.com	NEIL ABERLE, BHI Estate Agent Marsh Harbour/Guana Cay 242 365-9494 Cell: 242 577-0277 neil@hgchristie.com	DIANNE VIXAMAR Rentals/Prop. Mngmnt Marsh Harbour 242 367-5454 Cell: 242 358-6065 dianne@hgchristie.com	MARGO ALBURY Rentals/Estate Agent Marsh Harbour 242 367-9154 Cell: 242 358-6076 margo@hgchristie.com	ROBBIE BETHEL Estate Agent Hope Town 242 366-0700 Cell: 242 577-8533 robbie@hgchristie.com	DWAYNE WALLAS Estate Agent/Appraiser Marsh Harbour 242 367-9494 Cell: 242 358-6046 dwayne@hgchristie.com
---	---	---	--	--	--



Contact us for your
FREE copy of
Island Breeze, Issue 2008
and Guide To Investing In
Real Estate In The Bahamas.

Marsh Harbour 242 367-5454 • Hope Town 242 366-0700 • Guana Cay 242 365-5454 • abaco@hgchristie.com • www.HGChristie.com

Obituaries of Family and Friends

Felicia Latura Pritchard, 21, of Cedar Harbour died in Cedar Harbour on November 28.

She is survived by her daughters Livia Brown and Marcie Moxey; father Michael Ned Pritchard Sr.; adopted mother Gwendolyn Bain; stepmother Vivienne Pritchard; sisters Alicia and Catherine Martin, Madea Williams, Makenna and Makayla Pritchard, Fenicia Cornish, Suzette Molly, Ingrid and Ericka Bain; brothers David Johnson, Rondenero, Serrano and Michael Pritchard Jr., Stephen Clarke, Leonard Whyms, Osmond Munnings, Clarence and Frederick Bain; nieces; nephews; aunts; uncles; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Cecil Alexander Forbes**, 61, of Treasure Cay and formerly of Wood Cay, was held on December 7 at Full Gospel Assembly God in Treasure Cay. Rev. Patrick Paul and Rev. Stafford Symonette officiated assisted by Bishop Clifford Henfield. Interment followed in the Treasure Cay Community Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Olive Forbes; children Cecile Forbes, Deneisha Emile, Lynn, Toyin, Rayan, Travan and Chrisantie; adopted children John McIntosh, Samantha Duverney, Charmaine Bootle and Monique Laing; grandchildren Miguel, Raven and Zahara; adopted grandchildren Miranda, Tanya, Judah, Maygan, Raveyn, Elijah; great-grandchild Asia; son-in-law Levar Emile; adopted sons-in-law Loubert Duverney, Clifton Bootle and Tyrone Laing; adopted daughter-in-law Lorinda McIntosh; adopted sisters Roselyn Russell, Marica Roberts, Marilyn Cornish and Orita Munroe; sisters-in-law Evelyn Henfield, Sheila and Gail Sands, Deborahmae Douglas, Vernetta Saunders, Michelle, Janet, Cheryl and Tracey Sands; brothers-

in-law Ruel Smith, Bishop Clifford Henfield, Charles, Kevin, Sidney, Sultan and Michael Sands, Tony Douglas, Nehemiah Saunders; adopted brothers-in-law Eric "Benny" Russell and Vernal Cornish; aunt Muriel Forbes; aunts-in-law Danilia Hepburn, Geraldine Cooper and Modina Hepburn; uncle-in-law Arnold Hepburn; nieces and nephews including Jennifer Saunders, Tiffany, Sanfa, Neil, Jewel and Zhivargo Pratt, Mizpah McIntosh, Mark and Lakeisha Douglas, Nekera and Nemara Saunders, Lt. Darren Henfield, Genova Wilmore, Sheinrece Rolle, Tremis Sands, Stacy Anderson, Alonzo Williams, Sabrina Sawyer, Inez and Taran Maynard, Vito Russell, Travis and Micheala Sands, Demetrius Russell, Evanya and Taj Roberts; and many other relatives and friends.

The funeral for **Alexander Rolle, Sr.**, 76, of Cooper's Town was held on December 6th at the Church Of God Cathedral. Bishop Archilus Cooper officiated assisted by Bishop Cedric Bullard and other ministers. Interment followed in the Public Cemetery in Cooper's Town.

He is survived by his wife Isabella Rolle; sons Hector Sr., Freeland, Eugene Sr. and Alexander Jr. and Joshua Rolle; daughters Oseta Cartwright, Deborah Cooper, Rosie Edgecombe, Monica Murray, Helen Pinder, Gertrude Bullard, Bethseba Darville, Sheleke Brown, Paulette Hepburn, Isabella Saunders; adopted children Lington Rolle and George McIntosh; brother Nathan Rolle; sister Reva Colebrooke; grandchildren Ludwig, Luthana and Lakita Cartwright, Lavina McIntosh, Lorell Knowles, Niki, Tosheba, Hector Jr. and Tyler Rolle, Tori, Sherise, Shakara and Frelander Rolle, Fatima Parker, Charles Jr., Charlene, Chauncey, Cordero and Danielle

Cooper, Latanya, Eugene Jr., Larado, Decota and Nicole Rolle, Alexander III, Aliasha, Precious, Junique, Jewel and Juda Rolle, Marine Seaman Javano Edgecombe, Jenice and Jacquelle Edgecombe, Dennis, Daliesha, Moniqua, Makiva, Deangela, Deangelo and Dan Murray, Bariesha, Heliesha, Shomel, Brittany and Baranda Pinder, Trunise, Troy, Tereka, Timothy and Tamara Bullard, Bethsheba, Roberto and Robyn Darville, Kevin Hepburn Jr., Walternique and Brianna Saunders; nephews; nieces; sons-in-law Charles Cooper, Jenson Edgecombe, Debreth Murray, Barry Pinder, Bishop Cedric Bullard, Robert Darville, Petty Officer Corey Brown, Kevin Hepburn, Walter Saunders; daughters-in-law Sharon, Lavanne and Judy Rolle; grandsons-in-law Calton McIntosh, Kyle Knowles, Oswald Parker; granddaughter-in-law Cindy Rolle; brothers-in-law James Colebrooke, Eric Russell, Everette, Albert, ASP Welbourne, Drexel Bootle, Lerman McIntosh Sr., Gary Hudson, Ornod Cornish; sisters-in-law Joyce Rolle, Geleta Armbrister, Ruthmae McIntosh, Melvern Cornish, Donna Hudson, Melrose, Lantamae, Eleanor and Manuleta Bootle; god

children Maxwell Rolle, Rodney Laroda, Jewel, Alricia and Garth McIntosh, Stacey Sands; and many other relatives and friends.

Hazel Charlotte Pyfrom, widow of the late Roscow N, Pyfrom, went to her Lord Sunday, 7 December, while surrounded by their loving daughters, Charlotte



Hazel Charlotte Pyfrom

Pyfrom, Rosalie Pyfrom, Frances Sakach, and Catherine Pyfrom. Mrs. Pyfrom is also survived by their grandchildren, Christina Halliday, Jeffrey Halliday, Jennifer Halliday and Christina Pyfrom. Mrs. Pyfrom had been hospitalized at JFK Medical Center, Atlantis, West Palm Beach. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested in her memory to Christ Church Cathedral, P.O. Box N653, Nassau, Bahamas.

Caribbean Constructors

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand & Quarry • Cracker Dust • Rock - local - 3/8"-3/4" • Rock - Imported - 3/8"-3/4" • Pea Rock - Imported - 3/8"-3/4" 	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Concrete Blocks</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">6" x 8" x 16"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">8" x 8" x 16"</td> </tr> </table>	Concrete Blocks	6" x 8" x 16"	8" x 8" x 16"
Concrete Blocks				
6" x 8" x 16"				
8" x 8" x 16"				

DELIVERIES THROUGHOUT ABACO

Monday - Friday • 7am - 4pm • P.O. Box AB20403, Marsh Harbour, Abaco • Ph: 367-2502



**For Sale by Sealed Bid
BEACHFRONT ESTATE LOT
at The Abaco Club Ritz Carlton on Winding Bay**



STUNNING PRIME BEACHFRONT LOT AT THE ABACO CLUB RITZ CARLTON ON WINDING BAY. Enjoy the amenities of a 5-star golf and beach resort. This 1.73 acre beachfront lot offers privacy and seclusion. Superbly located in the center of the beach with close proximity to the Club's amenities. This unique offering has 200 feet of pink sand beach with gorgeous views of the secluded and protected Winding Bay.

SIRbahamas.com Ref. No. 3585

Closing date for sealed bids: February 16, 2009.
For bid information and package, contact: Bill Albury.

DAMIANOS SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY
East Bay Street, Marsh Harbour
t 242.367.5046 or c 242.557.2929
Bill.Albury@SothebysRealty.com

Damianos

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

More Letters to the Editor

Letters *From Page 8*

portunity, perhaps one day a young Abaconian will be able to compete for their nation. That would really be something to be proud of!

The benefits of this community effort go far beyond the obvious. The residents of the out islands get together for a positive purpose. The children swim with the entire community cheering them on no matter how well they finish. What a wonderful way for a community to come together. What a wonderful way for a kid to see how much their community cares about them, a public show of support for all of the young people. What a memory, what an esteem builder.

Yes, there is water all around, who needs a pool? But how many inter-island swim meets did you see in the harbours? Hope Town could be like so many other islands of the Bahamas with yet another

failed project in its midst due to lack of community support. Certainly, no one would be surprised.

For those of you whose ego would like to see the pool project fail, please consider that this failure reflects on all of Abaco no matter what your opinion. If any nation should hold as a priority the value of their water resources, it would be an island nation like The Bahamas. I am amazed that the priorities of the community do not lie with ensuring that ALL the children in Abaco can swim and can learn to enjoy the water.

On a more personal note if the residents of Abaco and of Hope Town do not see the benefits of this project, it certainly is of no benefit to me personally. I believe it is a worthwhile endeavor and I know that many children have already learned to swim and have benefitted from the pool. I have elected to remain an anonymous donor because I have no interest in notoriety. I love this

place and the people here. If you choose to let this project go, it will be disappointing; but it is certainly your choice as a community. The intention of this letter is to insure that the community is aware of this situation and can make an informed decision before it is made for you.

Please contact Lighthouse Marina 242-366-0154, Elbow Cay Properties 242-366-0035 or Hope Town Hidaways 366-0224 to see how you can support this important community project.

Kindest regards,
Another of Abaco's many friends

Nassau grouper Closed Season
December 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009

Try lionfish as an alternate this season

- Lionfish are tasty. They can be filleted or pan-fried whole
- Lionfish flesh is safe to eat.
- Lionfish venom is located in the spines and is deactivated by heat.
- Lionfish are sold as a food fish in the Pacific region.
- GO GREEN - Eat Lionfish!

M & E Limited

CAT

Machinery & Energy Limited
Your Authorized Caterpillar Dealer!
is proud to announce the opening of its **NEWEST BRANCH** in Marsh Harbour, ABACO

Sales • Rentals • Service • Parts

Abaco: Tel: (242) 225-1458
Located on Poppy's Way, Sawyer's Marketplace Plaza




Daily Specials

10 pc. Leg & thigh \$16.95
6 pc. Leg & thigh w/2 sides, 2 biscuits - 15.95
8 pc. Mixed family meal w/2 large sides- 4 biscuits \$20.95

Mon - Thu 10 am - 7 pm
Fri & Sat 10 am - 9 pm • Sun 11 am-4.30 pm

Chicken • Fish • Shrimp • Sandwiches
Sides • Milkshakes • Soft Serve

Abaco Shopping Center • Marsh Harbour • 367-2615

We do chicken right!

15 Dec 08



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Every Friday Night Starting

November 28th, 2008
December 5th, 12th, & 19th 2008

SAVE
25%

Special

SAVE
50%

Christmas

20%

Discounts

30%

SAVE




DOOR PRIZES EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

1ST - Fabulous Jewelry
2ND - Romantic Dinner for 2

Special Christmas Drawing Decemeber 23rd
Register To Win With Any Purchase At

Sand Dollar Shoppe

Merry Christmas


2, 3, 4 & 5 BEDROOM BEACHFRONT RENTALS

18 Hole Golf Course, Tennis, Boat Rentals,
Scuba, Island Tours, Shopping & More!

"Best Beach in the Caribbean"

Caribbean Travel & Life Magazine

Toll Free Reservations:
800-563-0014



Bahama Beach Club
LUXURY CONDOMINIUMS

Treasure Cay, Abaco, Bahamas
Phone: 242-365-8500 Fax: 242-365-8501
www.BahamaBeachClub.com

Central Abaco News

Wine Experience 2008

By Jennifer Hudson

Abaco's first annual Wine Experience was held under the marquee at the Abaco Beach Resort on December 5. This Grand Wine Tasting event was organized by the Burns House Group and over 40 wines from all of the major wine growing regions of the world were featured.

Eight tables were laid out each manned by a member of the Burns House Group and each table held a different variety of wine: Chardonnay, Merlot, Pinot Grigio,

Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc/Riesling, Sparkling Wine/Champagne, various reds and blends. Many popular names were on display such as Louis Jadot, Kedall Jackson, Jacob's Creek, Frogs Leap, Masi, Joseph Phelps, Cavit, and Tattinger as well as some of the lesser known producers. There was something to suit everyone with prices ranging from very affordable to the more pricey.

Wines could be purchased at the Burns House Wine Shop in the marquee for a 30 percent discount and anyone purchasing

wines was eligible for a drawing for a gift basket of wines. Graycliff signature cigars were also on sale.

Several persons from the Burns House Group in Nassau were on hand to assist and were rather surprised at the low turnout for the event on Abaco. The Wine Experience had previously been held in Nassau at the Sheraton Cable Beach where more

than 300 people attended and in Freeport at the Westin Our Lucaya where there were more than 100. On Abaco numbers did not even reach the 50 mark. However, those that did attend appeared to thoroughly enjoy the event. The organizers say that they will try it here again next year and hope for larger numbers.



Abaco's first Wine Experience was held at Abaco Beach Resort and was enjoyed by people in Central Abaco. This was an event of Burns House Group that holds similar events in Nassau and Freeport. Shown above are Brian Thompson, Kendy Anderson, Cassandra Hardy, Wynsome Ferguson, Nicki Ferguson and Oman Forbes.



BEC held a training course on the maintenance and operation of their diesel engines, both large and small. Shawn Miller from Nassau was the technical trainer who worked with Leonardo Moxey, assistant manager of generation on Abaco. Eight employees took the five-day course. Included were lessons in diesel engine theory as well as hands-on practical experience. Equipment studied ranged from diesel engines in pick-up trucks and larger trucks to the huge stationary diesel engines at the generating plant. Shown above are, front row, Mr. Miller, Mr. Moxey, Lazaro Cornish, Kyle Smith, David Hepburn and Adrian Russell. In the back are Teron Gilbert, Arthur Roberts and Tracey Scott.

Happy Holidays from British American Financial

This year
give your loved ones the gift of

INVESTMENT

Ask us about:

- A Fixed Rate Annuity at 5.75%
- British American Investment Funds

SYMPHONY
A Membership Fund of Investment, Annuities & Financial Products
Feature Rich, Future Proof™

dreams
WOMEN'S FINANCIAL INVESTMENT GROUP
An Affiliate of Commercial Street Management Ltd.

242-461-1000 | www.babfinancial.com
Freeport 242-352-7209 Exuma 242-336-3035 Abaco 242-367-5091



MORTGAGES
MUTUAL FUNDS
LIFE INSURANCE
HEALTH INSURANCE
ANNUITIES & PENSION PLANS
FINANCIAL PLANNING & INVESTMENTS

Call us today. We provide
Financial Solutions for Life!

it's all about
GIVING

our wish for you ~
the gifts of kindness,
respect & love this Christmas

from the management & staff of

J.S. JOHNSON
PEACE OF MIND
INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS

Nassau
Collins Ave. 242 322 2341
Thompson Blvd. 242 325 8776
Soldier Rd N. 242 393 6286

Family Islands
Freeport 242 352 7119
Abaco 242 367 2688
Exuma 242 336 2420
www.jsjohnson.com

MOTOR HOME LIFE TRAVEL

More Central Abaco News

BAIC offered shell craft class

By Mirella Santillo

The second Shell Jewelry Class of the year, sponsored by Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation, ended on December 5th. On that day the 16 ladies from Murphy Town and Dundas Town who attended the class taught by Mrs. Lovely Reckley met for a last time to complete the creations they had started and display their inventory.

During the ten-day course Mrs. Reckley taught her students how to utilise shells for decorating and creating objects. She showed them how to do macrame knots that they used to make necklaces and bracelets.

For some such as Mrs. Elizabeth Cornish, who decorated mirrors and made some napkins holders, it was a first time class. Others such as Ms. Judith Nesbitt attended most of arts and craft classes of-

Please see **Central**

Page 26



Sixteen ladies of Central Abaco took a course on making crafts and jewelry with shells. The course was offered by the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation and was taught by Lovely Reckley of Marsh Harbour. The beginners learned the basics of shell craft while those experienced in shell craft learned more advanced techniques.



Abaco Block and Concrete Company in Murphy Town annually donates to needy people in Murphy Town. This Christmas it presented twenty gift certificates for food for the needy to be redeemed at Price Right. The recipients will be determined by the Murphy Town Association with Cleveland Dawkins as president. This is the fourth year that Abaco Block and Concrete has made this Christmas donation, one of many contributions it makes to the Murphy Town community. Presenting the certificates to Mr. Dawkins are Rebecca Russell and Shawna Sands.

Recycle Aluminum Cans
Bin located next to Every Child Counts

National MARINE

See the season's best prices on
MERCURY Bahamax engines
& other selected models
with all the finest accessories!

75 SeaPro	\$ 5,275
EFI 250XL	\$ 9,500
EFI 250CXL	\$10,500
EFI 200XL	\$10,995
EFI 150XL	\$ 9,225
OptiMax150XL	\$10,625



Phone:
367-2326

One block East of the traffic light



READY MIX CONCRETE
wishes a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
to all our great customers.

- Prices start at \$140.00 per yd.
- Free Delivery

ROCK \$34 ton (imported)
3/4" and pea rock
SAND \$36 ton (imported)

- Delivery from Crown Haven to Sandy Point

AIR COMPRESSOR AVAILABLE FOR RENT
Visit our modern facility on the Murphy Town Water Front beside Parker's Landing

CALL US TODAY FOR QUOTES • PH 367-2891 • 367-2892

Island Cellular & Electronics
Don Mackey BLVD
367-5997 or 225-2562

Veiwat & Satellite Dishes Installation Available
Widest Variety of Phones in the Bahamas
Prices Starting From as Low as \$59!!!

Special Nokia 1200 \$59 X-Mas Special **All Your Gaming & Electronic Needs**

Camcorders	PS3 & PSP	DVD Palyers
Digital Cameras	Nintendo DS / Wii	USB Flash Drives
Garmen GPS	XBox 360	Car Audio
Wireless Routers	i Pod & i Phones	TV Accessories
Computer Excessories	Cordless Phones	LCD Lat Screens

Phone Repairs & Unlocking

More Central Abaco News

Central *From Page 25*

ferred by BAIC. New comers or veterans, they all said they enjoyed the class, learnt a lot and thought Mrs. Reckley was an excellent teacher. She paid a lot of attention to her students working with each of them checking on how they were doing, correcting or advising.

Besides the usual mirror or picture frame decoration, there were a lot of innovative

creations such as business cards holders, candle holders and condiment dishes made of locally found shells. Other creations were made with store-bought shells and supports such as hair combs, napkin holders, shell balls or brooch. Mrs. Owanta McDonald added pearls to the shells. Mrs. Amanda Davis used brightly colored nail polish to enhance the shells. Many had used large conch shells to make lamps and some had made shell sculptures. There was even a

turtle made of a large cowrie and smaller bleeding teeth for fins, head and tails.

The evening ended with refreshments prepared by the students and the presentation of a perfume set gift to Mrs. Reckley.

There will be an award ceremony for the attendants of both classes (the first one took place in late spring) in the new year.

New Businesses

Siaha's Jerk Pit and Restaurant

By Samantha V. Evans

The week of November 11th Oswald Nixon, the owner of Siaha's Jerk Pit and Restaurant, opened his restaurant next to Shell Gas station in Dundas Town. For the past five years Mr. Nixon operated from a trailer in the same spot but decided to expand the business into a full restaurant. The restaurant specializes in all Bahamian cuisine including down home dishes including desserts like grandma used to make.

They cook all types of jerk dishes including pork, chicken, fish, and conch. They also offer crawfish pasta, ginger lemonade and other specialty drinks. They cater to private functions and to schools upon request. The phone number at the restaurant is 367-2605. The store hours are Tuesday through Thursday 12 noon to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 12 noon to 10 p.m. They are closed on Sunday and Monday.

Nails by Iris

By Samantha V. Evans

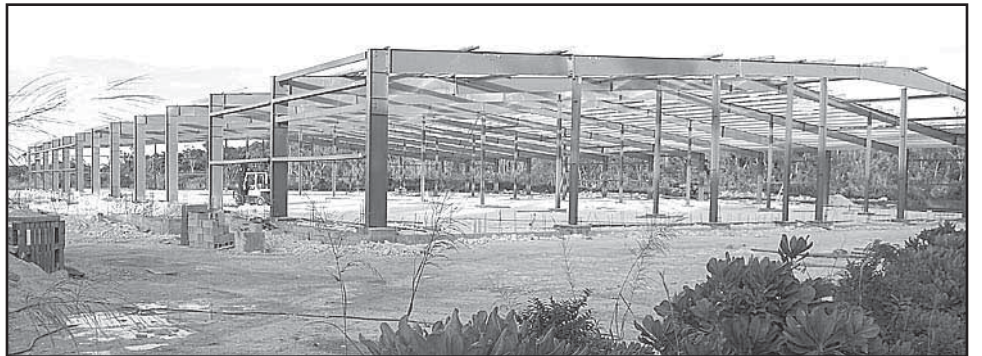
Students have an opportunity to get their nails professionally prepared at a discounted price at Nails by Iris. Located in Catherine's Beauty Salon a few doors down from the Island Bakery, Iris specializes in sculptured nails, pedicures and manicures. Iris is not new to this profession and is proud to be back offering the best nail service on the island. She can be contacted for an appointment by calling 442-7103.

Baker's employees donated to needy



Simone Bowe organized a drive with the employees of Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club to contribute food and clothing items to families in need. This was in answer to a plea by Heal Our Land as its supplies were running low. Shown here are Pastor Earlin Bailou and Mrs. Joan Baillou, both counselors with Heal Our Land; Mrs. Cleola Pinder, Secretary of Heal Our Land; Ms. Simone Bowe, Director HR and Training with Baker's Bay; Mrs. Kathleen Knowles, President of Heal Our Land; and Dr. Livingston Marshall, Senior Vice President of Environmental and Community Affairs of Baker's Bay.

Maxwell's building is underway



Progress is being made on the new building for Maxwell's Supermarket on Pole Line Drive. Owner Chad Sawyer is hopeful that he'll be able to open in the spring. It has been designed to work much more efficiently than the original store that burned down in July.

Abaco Beach Resort

AT BOAT HARBOUR

EST. 1955

Sweetheart Weekend

February 13-14, 2009

Sweetheart Weekend

Friday, February 13-14, 2009

Enjoy a Romantic Dinner

Featuring an A La Carte Menu

Entertainment by Pianist and Vocalist Stephen Colebrook

In Anglers Restaurant

Friday, Feb 13th 2009

Advance Reservations Recommended

Sweetheart Ball Package

Saturday February 14, 2009

"Optional Vow Renewal"

Includes a Champagne Strawberry Cocktail

In the Marquee

Time: 6:30pm-7:00pm

Sweetheart Ball Dinner and Show

Featuring International Wine Tasting

Entertainment: 7 pm - 8 pm Luther Vandross Classics

Best "Love Songs" ever recorded

8 pm until . . . New Entry Band with a Salute to "Motown"

Hors d'oeuvres will be passed

All Sea Food: Seared Ahi Tuna on wonton skins with wasabi cream,

Smoked Salmon Mousse, Lobster en croute

Salad: Mixed Baby Greens with Raspberry Vinaigrette

Entrees: Grilled Angus Beef Filet Oscar served with three jumbo Shrimp,

sautéed spinach and bearnaise sauce and

Marquise potatoes and fresh asparagus

Dessert: Brandy Flamed Cherries Jubilee with Vanilla Ice Cream

Price: \$150.00 per couple (gratuities included)

Advance Reservations and pre-payment required

Betty K. Agencies Ltd.



SecurBox

WEEKLY FREIGHT SERVICE

Arriving every FRIDAY into Marsh Harbour
ABACO, BAHAMAS



Shop in Miami or Ft. Lauderdale,
then take your freight to the port.
Secure Boxes are the easiest way
of shipping and consolidating your
freight for small shipments.

RATES & DIMENSIONS:

1 - SECURBOX

MIAMI - ABACO

C - 20 CU. FT	\$145.00
B - 43 CU. FT	\$195.00
A - 73 CU. FT	\$305.00
D - 78 CU. FT	\$325.00

2 - SECURBOX

NASSAU - ABACO

C - 20 CU. FT	\$ 50.00
B - 43 CU. FT	\$105.00
A - 73 CU. FT	\$182.50
D - 78 CU. FT	\$195.00

ABACO

Don MacKay Blvd, Marsh Harbour
P.O. Box AB- 20116, Abaco, Bahamas

Tel: (242) 367-0593

Fax: (242) 367-0594

NASSAU - DEPOT

Bradley St. opposite Kemp's Funeral Chapel

P.O. Box N351, Nassau, Bahamas

Tel: 1-242-322-2142

Fax: 1-242-322-6089

MIAMI

Betty K. Agencies (USA) LLC

3701 N.W. S. River Dr. 33142

Tel: 1-305-635-4650

Fax: 1-305-635-4651

PORT HOURS ARE FROM
MONDAY TO SATURDAY

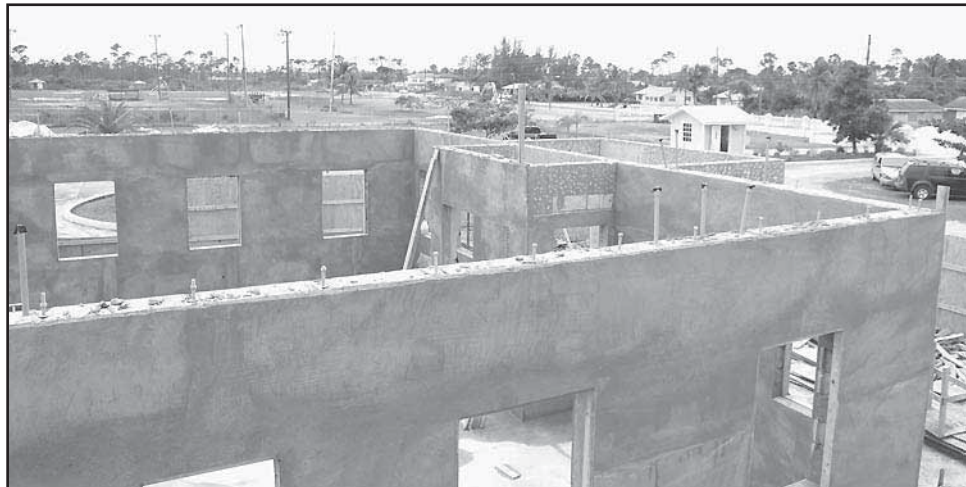
8:00 AM - 7:00PM

SUNDAY - 12NOON - 7:00PM



More Central Abaco News

Construction at Abaco Central High School shows progress



Two new buildings are under construction at Abaco Central High School. This shows the new administration building that will have offices for the principal and vice principal, a reception area, student sick bay, staff lounge, rest rooms and a kitchenette. It is being constructed by Jones Construction Co. Ltd and is expected to be completed early in the spring. This replaces an administration building that was burned down three years ago.



The second building is a block with three classrooms for technical training. This construction is being done by Williams & Sons Construction Co. Ltd. It will include rest rooms and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

BEC observed Safety Month

By Jennifer Hudson

November 27th was celebrated as Customer Appreciation Day at Bahamas Electricity Corporation. In order to say thank you to its customers, the Abaco office was giving out bags of fresh fruit which proved very popular. According to Executive Secretary, Mrs. Beverley Archer, the corporation decided, instead of the normal food spread, to give away bags of fresh fruit in keeping with its theme of health and safety. Customer Appreciation Day brought to a climax Health and Safety Month which had been observed throughout November by BTC. Although observed in previous years in Nassau, this was the first year that the Abaco office has joined in. Events were held at the Marsh Harbour office.

Nurse Sears from the Marsh Harbour Government Clinic was present on two of the days from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to do free blood pressure checks which, according to Mrs. Archer, were very well attended. Customers found to have blood pressure

problems were given medical advice.

Another very popular event was the Portable Fire Extinguisher Training by Sgt. Johnson of the Police/Fire Department assisted by Mr. Danny Sawyer from the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department. "Many people have portable fire extinguishers in their home in case of an emergency, and yet we found that few know how to use them," said Mrs. Archer. The demonstrations were very practical and extremely useful.

An outstanding First Aid presentation was given by Mr. John Pintard. He encompassed a wide range of situations which included CPR, accidents on the road, electrical burns, fractures, unconsciousness and stroke.

A National Insurance Session was presented by Mr. Gordon Musgrove, Manager of the Abaco National Insurance Office.

The Management of Bahamas Electricity Corporation was very pleased with the response to its first Health and Safety Month events.

North Abaco

Christmas Celebration

Royal Bahamas Police Band

Games • Toys • Crafts • Food • Junkanoo

Dec 22 • 6 pm • Treasure Cay Ballpark

BAHAMAS HOT MIX

Civil Engineering Contractor

Providing Abaco & surrounding cays with the following services for over 10 years:

Site clearance
Earthworks
Water & Sewerage installation
Road paving - Car park & drive ways
Airfields
Asphalt related products
Materials testing

Large Fleet of Heavy Equipment available for rent:

D8 Dozer

Trucks

Low Boy

Tractor Heads

Graders



Excavator

Loaders

Rollers

Trenchers

For FREE estimates contact Harlin Johnson



BAHAMAS HOT MIX
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Tel: (242) 367-3956
367-3957
Fax: (242) 367-3959

SNAPPAS

New Years Eve CELEBRATION

SOUP
Lobster Bisque

SALAD
Mixed Greens Caesar
Mashed Potato or Wild Rice Pilaf
Green Beans with warm bacon dressing

ENTREES
14oz. Prime Rib Steak

Chicken Breast with stuffed spinach, sundried tomatoes and goat cheese, topped with creamy garlic sauce

Grilled Ahi Tuna with mango citrus salsa

Broiled 8oz. Lobster Tail with drawn lemon butter

DESSERTS
Homemade Carrot Cake
Homemade Red Velvet Cake
Homemade Chocolate Cake

DINNER \$50.00
per person - gratuity not included

\$25.00 Entrance Fee after 10pm

Entertainment by
DJ Craig Boo
Fire & The Goat Peppers

Junkanoo Rush

FIREWORKS

Reservations Required **367.2278**

Viewpoint . . . Protection does not require national park status

By J.F. Hedden

The subject of the environment and ecological health always remains a priority topic in my mind, but I would certainly not categorise myself as an earth angel.

As development takes place anywhere in the world there is a trade off between the economy, earnings and profits. To date the environment has usually taken a back seat to financial benefits. Recently, however, more consciousness has been devoted to the implementation of environmentally thoughtful designs and concepts in proposals for developmental projects.

Some of these have been genuine and for Abaco, the Schooner Bay development seems to be making a serious attempt to conserve space, resources, the natural heritage and also traditional construction designs. This for a Bahamian project is both unusual and innovative.

Conversely, we have other proposals which seem to promote environmental consciousness through rhetoric only, with no real commitment to the conservation of our heritage, be it historical or natural. One such has been the Valencia Group proposal for the Hole-in-the-Wall peninsula.

Others, of course, have sought to take advantage of public lands, obtaining them for a mere nominal valuation on their true worth. These include Winding Bay and the apparently defunct Snake Cay project.

Public perceptions and opinions have been rigorously expressed over some, and the Elbow Cay residents have voiced very loudly over the Joe's Cay proposal, with the apparent resulting success of a scaled down construction programme waiting to be approved.

Of course, the subject of protection becomes uppermost in the minds of the environmentalists, and the need to conserve and reserve areas of Abaco close to the settlements used extensively for leisure purposes most dominant. It would appear to me that over the last few years opposition to development has taken place for almost every piece of coastline around the Sea of Abaco, including the offshore smaller cays and islands. Some in my mind are valid, case in point.

The creek system behind Cherokee settlement, known as O'Neil's Creek, has been abused and over exploited for many years, mainly by the good people of Cherokee and Casuarina Point with some assistance from those of more distant habitat. Illegal netting, use of spears and compressors, harvesting of rollers (baby conch) and the like have decimated marine populations for years. It still continues. Now the move to protect it becomes real and genuine.

Other areas are perceived as being threatened, and one such is the creek system just to the south of Snake Cay, which I refer to as the Angel Cay System (ACS). This is truly a wonder to behold, not only by boat but also from the shoreline along the edge of the pine forest, full of life and obviously a thriving part of the surrounding marine ecosystems.

It always makes me consider why two such areas in close proximity have been exploited in such different ways. Both are heavily trafficked and both are fished. Yet the ACS is full of adult and immature exploited species and has been for the last 25 years. O'Neil's, on the other hand, is grossly over fished and depleted.

Now a move is afoot sponsored by the National Trust (BNT) and implemented by Friends of the Environment (FOE) to turn the whole of the creek systems from Snake Cay to O'Neil's Creek into a national park because it holds so much as a marine resource. This immediately brings several questions to mind which neither BNT or FOE have managed to answer yet. But as usual I must be slower than most. The main question is "Why does this area need to become a national park? Sure, it needs to be maintained and "protected from rampant anchor project development," but park status is not going to guarantee any greater protection than does exist now.

Another question that comes to mind is How many of these protectionists have actually traversed the cay road running through O'Neil's Creek and ending up on the edge of the Bight of Old Robinson? How many of them extensively access the wilderness areas of the west side of Abaco, which to my mind is much more significant as a marine resource and is in more urgent need of protection before it becomes too late as has happened in the case of Cherokee creeks.

Sure, the Bahamas is signatory to a myriad of international environmental treaties with a binding to protect a significant portion of our natural resources. But this does not mean that we have to turn everything into a national park to protect it. And if we do, how do we then protect it anyhow?

The Bahamas government certainly does not have the funding, and quasi governmental organisations such as the Bahamas National Trust have expressed their own concern over a budgetary shortfall of one

hundred million dollars (BS100,000,000) for the last ten years. I guess what will happen is that in the end the public will have to shoulder the responsibility of protecting what they already do now. Makes sense to me?

Perhaps the answer really lies in proper zoning regulations and a major drive for public education. After all, isn't this what the BNT and FOE claim to be all about. Neither has proven to be either outspoken or activist even when their own boundaries have suffered insurgencies, or when the threat of anchor projects and the BEC sitting have infringed on our heritage.

My solution for this area is as follows: From Witch Point down to the peninsula of Wilson city be declared an ecologically sensitive area, with the zoning and restrictions on development to match. The Witch Point area of Crown land should be permanently designated as public land and given free and total access by the public for recreational use such as beaching, picnicking and the like.

Snake Cay should be maintained as public land and development encouraged within the co-operative framework to maintain public ownership and the perception of the same. As far as national park status is concerned, there are many other areas of Abaco and the rest of The Bahamas which are much more threatened but suffer from a severe lack of publicity and sponsorship. One example would be the Atlantic coast of Mayaguana with its miles and miles of beaches and creeks teeming with marine life.

Let's get real about this.



Merry Christmas

MANGOES

Waterfront Dining
Great Sunsets • Special Events
Pool side Parties • Catering

DAILY LUNCH AND DINNER SPECIALS

SUNDAY'S RESERVED for groups & functions by appointment only
BOOK YOURS TODAY!

NEW HOURS
Monday - Saturday
11:30am - 10:00pm

367.2366

CLOSED
Dec 21st - Dec 26th

RE - OPEN
Dec 27th
Lunch & Dinner
with
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
at dinner
New Entry Band



RBC'S HOME EQUITY LOAN PLAN

Realize your dreams with our HELP!

Our Home Equity Loan Plan can make your dreams come true with **COMPETITIVE RATES** and **REDUCED LEGAL FEES!** We can show you how to make your home pay for:

- Home Improvements & Landscaping
- Debt Consolidation
- Furniture and Hurricane Shutters
- Business and Personal Investments
- College Education or Any Worthwhile Purpose!

RBC'S HOME EQUITY LOAN PLAN INCLUDES ATTRACTIVE TERMS WITH UP TO 20 YEARS TO REPAY AND NO PREPAYMENT PENALTIES!

WE CAN ALSO HELP BY FINANCING YOUR LEGAL AND CLOSING COSTS!

Apply today! Our Personal Finance Specialists are waiting to HELP you! Call or visit your nearest RBC branch in Abaco, Andros, Bimini, Exuma, Governors Harbour, Harbour Island, Long Island or Spanish Wells.

RBC HELPING YOU SUCCEED
www.rbcroyalbank.com/caribbean/bahamas
© The Lion & Globe symbol and RBC are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada.

100
Celebrating 100 Years - 1908-2008

South Abaco News

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Kids Doing Their Part

Our local kids from Kid's Korner started a project to raise funds for kids in need on Inagua after the hurricanes hit there this past year. The children got their moms to bake homemade goodies that they took to various parts of the settlement on three consecutive Fridays to sell. Many people gave additional donations to help the children reach their goal. All together they raised \$1,240. The monies were sent to Mr. Colin Ingraham on Inagua who was in charge of seeing that it got to the most needy. Mr. Ingraham promised to have the children correspond with our children here about their experiences during the hurricanes and how their donations were utilized.

Project leader, Ellen Curry, would like

to thank the community for participating in this very worthy project. She told me how touched she was at the enthusiasm and benevolence of our children in wanting to help others less fortunate. She noted how very blessed we are and suggested that we might all like to remember others at this time of the year and do something, no matter how small, for someone else. She said, "You will see how even little things mean so much to others in need."

Treat Packages for Thanksgiving

Again, Kids Korner kids were thinking of others as they put together a very attractive, and I might add delicious, plates of sweets for the Old Folks of Cherokee. Again, moms helped out and prepared the home baked goodies, but the packaging was really outstanding. Their goal was to make the seniors feel special and I'm sure

that's just how they felt when the beautifully wrapped packages were delivered. Ellen says this is the first year they have attempted this, but assures me it will not be the last.

Kids Korner is held every Wednesday afternoon after school with an aim towards bringing Christianity into these young people's lives. This year there are three leaders, Ellen Curry, Eleanor Jorgensen and Doreen Albury. I applaud these women for a job well done.

Senior Citizen's Tea

The community along with the school children honoured our senior citizens with a Tea on November 26 at the W.W. Sands Community Center in Cherokee Sound. Approximately 30 people attended the Tea and enjoyed an hour of socializing with "old" friends. Many of our seniors are housebound and don't get out very often. Most of them were pleased to be able to enjoy an afternoon's outing to visit with family and friends that otherwise they don't have an opportunity to see very often. The weather was delightful, a warm 80 degrees with a beautiful blue sky and

a light breeze, which made the event even more enjoyable.

AID's Awareness Day

Cherokee Primary School was visited by Mrs. Sandy Edwards, Curriculum Officer for the Housing and Family Development Department. The purpose of her visit was to discuss with our youth the importance of being aware of AIDS and the HIV virus. She pointed out that this health problem has been around since 1981 and over 510,000 deaths have been attributed to it since that time with very little progress being made in its eradication.

Mrs. Edwards gave a very informative presentation and brought two young men with her that have been diagnosed with the HIV virus who also spoke with the children. They were all impressed with how informed our students were and with the general discussion and question and answer period following her talk.



Many young people of Cherokee Sound attend an after school Christian club called Kids Korner at Epworth Chapel held on Wednesday afternoons. Some of them are shown here with one of their leaders, Ellen Curry.

Drive Safely
Watch for School Children

Frederik F. Gottlieb and Co.
Wishes Its Clients
Best Wishes
for the Holidays
& throughout the New Year

Counsel & Attorneys
Notaries Public
Marsh Harbour, Abaco



Christmas Gifts & Decorations

Now in Stock!
A Variety of Bicycles, Toys,
Small Appliances, House Wares,
Rugs and Carpets
as well as Christmas Decorations

Home Center
Don MacKay Blvd.
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
367-2077

Best Wishes
to our valuable customers,
Have a Merry Christmas &
a Prosperous New Year

Cherokee Air

Club News

Thanksgiving on Abaco

By Rita Wiczorek
Rear Commodore, RMHYC

Members of the Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club have been gathering the last couple of weeks as they return for another winter season in sunny Abaco. We have had a November social and have our regular scheduled Yacht Club meetings on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays on the VHF radio channel 78 at 8 a.m. The men's and women's walking groups have started walking every day except Sunday when we rest and go to church services. About 70 percent of the boats have returned this year to Boat Harbour, some on the hook or on mooring balls and others at various marinas close to Abaco Beach Resort.

Thanksgiving was celebrated by citizens from the United States, joined by Canadian friends who also like to party. Robert and I attended a dinner at Anglers with about 30 other friends. We had six tables and the menu was terrific. The band played songs from the 60s and 70s. The musicians looked at the crowd and played the music of our era.

There was also a Thanksgiving party aboard the m/v John Henry for the Dock 4 crowd. I understand they had two turkeys and all the trimmings. They had two settings for the hungry group, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Of course, there were other parties aboard other boats and some at other marinas on Abaco.

The RMHYC group is organizing its work at Every Child Counts and Buck-A-Book. I expect that members will also join the food drive at the Jib Room for families

that can use extra food during this holiday season. The members are thrilled to be guests in The Bahamas, and they look forward to many community activities as a way to give back to the generous people who live and work on the island!

Discovery Club Awards Ceremony

By Mirella Santillo

The Discovery Club, an after-school educational program for students sponsored by Friends of the Environment, celebrated the end of the first semester with a ceremony organized by the leaders and acted out by the students in front of an audience consisting of parents and members of the organization. The children were divided in two groups according to their ages. The younger ones were the Explorers, the older ones the Guardians.

One by one the Explorers took turns describing the marine mammals or the aquatic plants they had learnt about.

The Guardians acted out skits to tell the audience about their field trips or the activities they took part in during the semester. Pedro Maycock and De Shane Knowles described what they saw during outings to the shores. Sujith Swarna and Andrew Hanna talked about the coral reef. Amber Martinborough and Yael Sawyer attended the clean-up at Crossing Beach where they collected over 100 pounds of garbage. They deplored that the visitors did not tidy after themselves and thought that garbage bins would help resolve part of the problem.

In between remarks by the leaders, the students performed two songs written by Mr. Enzil Cooper one of the leaders of the club. The first one, *I'm gonna fish respon-*

sibly, was a reminder not to catch under-sized fish and lobsters and to respect the fishing season. The second song described the ambient marine habitat. Mr. Cooper and Mrs. Joy Chaplin were the leaders for the Guardians.

Each child was presented with marine badges and FRIENDS' membership cards by Mrs. Kristin Williams, Executive Director of Friends, and Mr. David Knowles of the Bahamas National Trust. Students who attended all the meetings and participated in all the activities were presented with a special Model Badge. Those who attended all the meetings received a Perfect Attendance Badge.

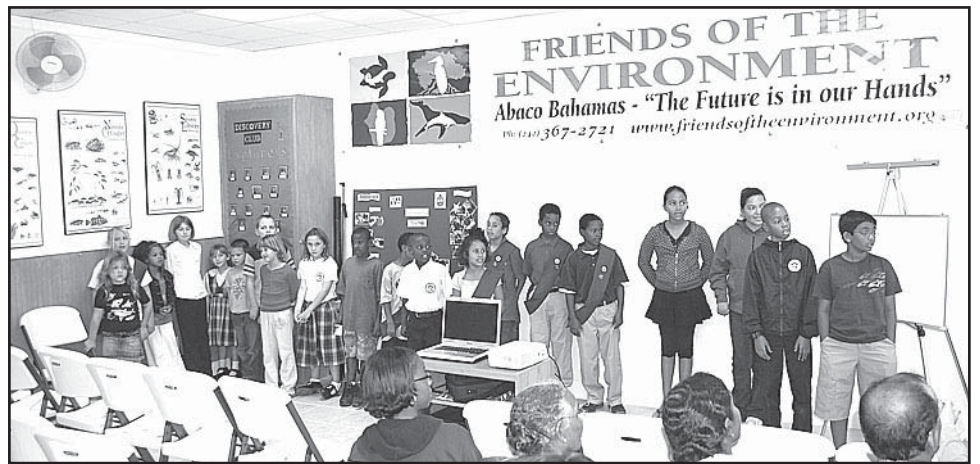
Mrs. D'Shan Maycock, Educational Officer, informed the audience that each student joining the Discovery Club was given a T-shirt, a Bahamas National Trust membership card and a Friends of the Environment membership card along with earned badges and a sash.

Parents and students were reminded that the Discovery Club will resume on January 12th when the participants will learn all about bugs.

Anchor Club Initiation and Installation Ceremony

By Samantha V. Evans

The Initiation and Installation Ceremony for the 2008-09 Anchors was held on Saturday November 15th at Abaco Youth Ministries. A total of four schools were represented: Forest Heights, St. Francis de Sales, Abaco Central High, and Central Abaco Primary Schools. Officers serving this year are: President of Abaco Central High School, Kadesha Scott; President of St. Francis de Sales, Vickarieo Major; President of Forest Heights, Telia Burrows; and President of Central Abaco Primary School, Malesha Joseph. They all pledged to work hard to make Abaco clubs number one in the entire district.



Discovery Club members received awards for participation in the club activities. The club is sponsored by Friends of the Environment to help the youth appreciate the environment. The club members go on field trips and the emphasis this fall was on marine life.




Stop by and check out our prices on 3gal size plants: Hibiscus, Regular Oleander, Sea Grape, Cocoplum and Buttonwoods For \$12.95 a pot



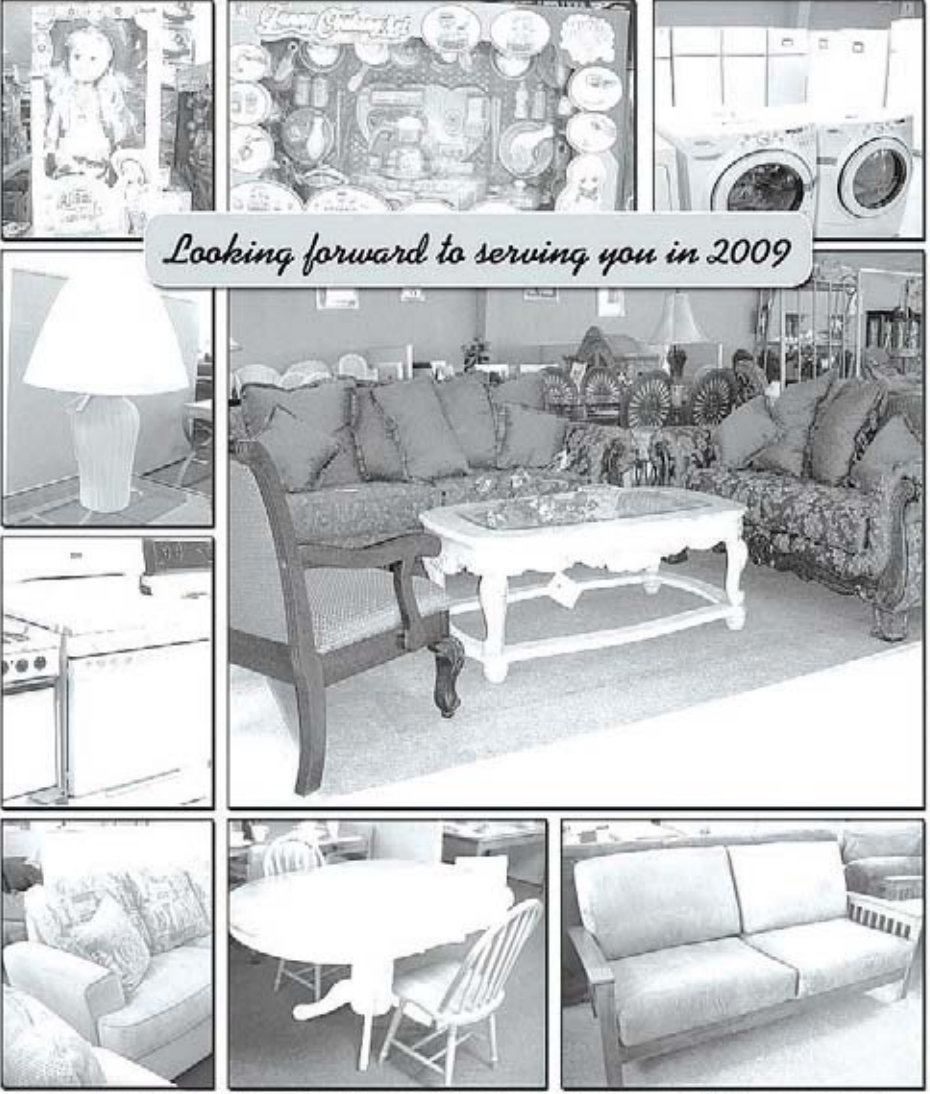
Tel (242) 367-3674
Fax (242) 367-4755

Our store hours are
8-4 Monday-Friday
9-3 Saturdays



LOWE'S

The Owners and Management wish you a Memorable Holiday Season and a Blessed and Prosperous New Year



Looking forward to serving you in 2009

**MARSH HARBOUR, ABACO
TEL: 242 367-2667**

Abaco should consider appealing to niche markets

By Julian Lockhart

As Abaco starts to feel the pinch of the American financial crisis through the diminishing number of tourist, it is time for the Abaco Tourist Office as well as partners to look at alternative attractions to lure visitors to the shores of Abaco. This is where niche tourism plays a part in the overall specter of the business with the opportunity to reach out to a new clientele through innovative business ideas.

Some forms of niche tourism already occur on Abaco with international weddings and people coming in specifically

for fishing expeditions. While more can be done to attract fishing fans from not only America, but from around the world, it is also expensive with the cost of fuel and docking charges for individual boats and yachts. However, with the dwindling schools of bonefish in Florida, Abaco can be pushed as a destination of choice for the bonefisherman who wants to cast his fly rod on Abaco instead of just Andros and Bimini.

Abaco is known for its acres upon acres of natural forest teeming with hundreds of beautiful birds of all colors of the rainbow,

not counting the Bahamian parrot, which delight any bird watcher. Bird watching can be an attraction to those who just love to watch God's winged creatures in their natural environment, and it allows them to do so with the beach at their back door.

Thousands of tourists go to New Providence every year just to scuba dive and nothing else. Scuba diving is advertised and pushed internationally by the companies in New Providence. Guests come from all over the world just to dive one of the many wrecks or reefs off New Providence and spend a week delving into the wonders of the deep. Abaco has many more reefs than New Providence and they are prettier and more expansive, not to mention the walls, caves and blue holes which can attract the avid diver to these shores.

Scuba diving should be one of the main attractions of Abaco as those who are in-

terested in diving, just like those who play golf, travel no matter what state the economy is in for a fix of their favorite pastime.

There are numerous small entities of Abaco that, if marketed properly to the international traveling market, could entice a number of travelers to look at this island as an alternative to their usual path for relaxation.

It only takes some imagination and the partners within the tourism sector to think outside the box and look elsewhere for tourist dollars besides the norm of winter residents and boaters.

Anchors assist with clothes drive



On November 24th the Anchors of Abaco Central High School and Central Abaco Primary School along with their advisors Neulessa Lundy-Major and Phillipa Farrington assisted Abaco Youth Ministries with its clothing drive. The Anchors made the posters and encouraged persons to stop by the booths to collect clothing that was being given away for free. This is just one of the community activities that the Anchors will take part in throughout this school year.

Substitute Lionfish for Grouper in your meals



Blue Sky GALLERY

Original Art • Prints • Framing

Originals by

Lou Lihou Anne Ray
Malcolm Rae William Johnson
Shula Raney Fritz Keck Kim Rody
Photography by Tuppy

Local Artists

Beth Sweeting Zandrick Jones
Lori Thompson Dion Lewis
Colyn Rees

Located Queen Elizabeth Drive, Marsh Harbour

Tel: 367.0579

Season's Greetings



We, the Management & Staff of Alexiou, Knowles & Co., would like to extend to our valued clients warm wishes for the Christmas Season and the New Year. We look forward to being of service to you in the future.

ALEXIOU, KNOWLES & Co.™
Counsel & Attorneys
Abaco, Bahamas

akc™
BahamasLaw.com

Not a Drop to Drink?

SK Watermakers

has the solution!

Premium Quality Alternatives to Bottled and Public Water Supplies

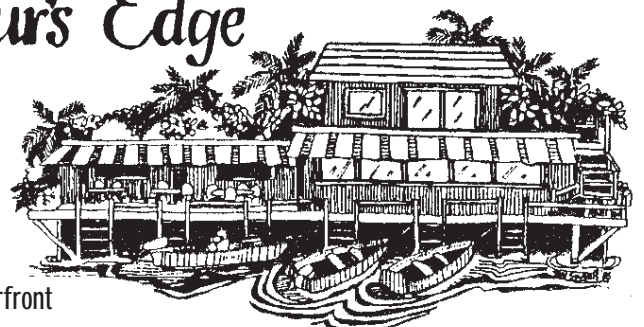
Manufacturer of Reliable and Affordable Reverse Osmosis Desalination Systems for over 20 Years



920 36th Court, SW
Vero Beach, FL 32968
(772) 569-3000
(800) 489-0852

HOME - MARINE - COMMERCIAL
www.skwatermakers.net

Harbour's Edge



bahamian cuisine
on Hope Town's waterfront

Bar Opens Daily 10 a.m.
Closed on Tuesdays

Happy Hour 5 - 6 p.m.

Lunch & Dinner Daily

Lunch 11:30 am - 3 pm • Dinner 6 - 9 pm

ICE

Appetizers 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Call 366-0087 • 366-0292 • VHF Ch 16

RENTAL BIKES

School News

Awards Day at Abaco Central High School

By Mirella Santillo

On November 27th Abaco Central High School held a special ceremony to acknowledge the students who had performed especially well during the last school year.

The function was moderated by Senior assistant, Mr. Vincent Coakley, and various students participated in the event, pronouncing the invocation, addressing the welcome, performing musical pieces and introducing the guest speaker, Bishop Anthony Campbell.

Many students were rewarded, among them four who passed the BGCSE: Ashley Whilly, Bethsheba Darville, Kendero Murray and Agnola Thompson. Twelve students passed the BJC and Shaquille Johnson made the Principal's List with a 3.80 GPA. Twenty-one students were cited on the Honor Roll such as Sasha Davis with a 3.48 GPA, Rahede Smith with a 3.45 GPA, Zandria Wells with a 3.36 GPA. Two more boys followed closely, Carlos Decius with a 3.32 GPA and Jackson Jacques with a 3.24 GPA.

The subject awards were presented by Ms. Vanessa James, Principal; Ms. Dominique McCartney, Vice-Principal and the PTA President, Mr. David Lightbourn.

Mrs Sandy Edwards made a presentation on AIDS awareness explaining facts about the disease and warning the students about promiscuity.

Three students were cited for perfect attendance; they were Amelia Burrows, Rose Previlon and Jason Vilma.

The ceremony was followed by lunch

and early dismissal.

Food Presentation Competition

By Mirella Santillo

Students from the two public high schools gathered on December 6th at Abaco Central High School in Murphy Town to participate in a cake icing, fruit and vegetable carving, napkin folding and towel creation competition. Nine students from each school, Abaco Central and S.C. Bootle High School, entered the various contests. The competitors were divided into beginners, intermediate 1, intermediate 2 and advanced.

The first event was cake icing which took place in a class room. Each participant was given one and a half hour to decorate a cake. Some recreated a model such as a car or a cartoon character while others performed free lance designs on a round cake. While the beginners and intermediates were occupied with their decoration, the advanced students separated into groups to tackle the wedding cakes, one for each school. They were allowed three hours to accomplish their task.

Outside, two tables were laid with cantaloupes, water melons and an array of vegetables, sweet peppers, carrots and radishes ready for the carving artists who would turn them into little tropical landscape masterpieces. Other tables were piled up with towels and paper napkins, also awaiting the hands that would transform them into an elephant, a snake, a rabbit or a swan.

Judges were strolling from tables to tables, making notes and commenting on the results.

At last the results were announced: S.C. Bootle won the wedding cake decorating competition, the fruit and vegetable carving and the napkin folding. Abaco Central High won the three categories (beginners, intermediate1 and intermediate2) of cake decorating.

The event was organized by Mrs. Simms and Mrs. Princess Williams, home economic teacher at Abaco Central. S.C. Bootle students were accompanied by home

economic's teacher, Ms. Michelle Clarke, and mathematics teacher, Ms. Altaliese Cartwright.

Mrs. Agatha Simms, head of the Home Economics Department at Abaco Central High School, was cooking fritters and fried chicken helped by two students to be sold to those attending. Guava duff was offered

Please see **School**

Page 34



Students of Abaco Central High School and S.C. Bootle High School competed in cake decorating and fruit and vegetable carving at the Abaco Central school. The S.C. Bootle team arrived with caps and aprons, looking very professional. The advanced groups competed in decorating a wedding cake.

Friends of the Environment



5th Annual South Abaco Christmas Bird Count

December 20, 2008

Bird count to take place near Abaco National Park

Three grades of difficulty -
Easy, Moderate and Bushwacker

Meet at Friend's Office 6 a.m. to carpool

\$7 charge includes Audobon fee

Take your own lunch, snack and beverages

For further information call Anita at 367-2721 or
anita@friendsoftheenvironment.org



Happy Holidays

to all our valuable customers & friends.

Customs Brokerage Services

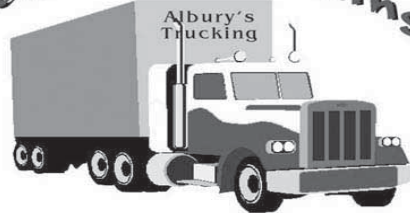
Air and Sea | Import and Export Entries

Serving all vessels from Foreign Ports

Queen Elizabeth Dr., Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas

Tel: (242) 367-2333 Fax: (242) 367-3136

Email: abacocustoms@batelnet.bs VHF 16



Season's Greetings

to all our valuable customers & friends.

No job too big or small!

With our professional line of trucks we can truck it all.

Containers 20', 40' 45' Flatbeds, Flatracks, Piggyback trucks

WE CAN HAUL IT ALL.

Albury's Trucking Ltd. Tel: (242) 367-2976

Email: abacocustoms@batelnet.bs VHF 16

CHRISTMAS

& NEW YEARS 2009

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BEST PRICES ON:

Trees Lights Wreaths

Garland Flowers Decorations & Everything Christmas!

Where Fabrics, Crafts & Inspiration Meet

Home Fabrics

Marsh Harbour 367-6003

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

**Office of the Prime Minister
Commonwealth of The Bahamas
Island of New Providence
Notice of Investigation**

Take Notice that pursuant to Section 4 of the Acquisition of Land Act, Chapter 252 Statute Laws of The Bahamas 2000, it appears to the Minister Responsible for the Acquisition and Disposition of Lands, that the Land described in the Schedule hereto is likely to be needed for the public purpose of construction of a Public Road and for uses related thereto.

And Further Take Notice that the Minister and his servants or workmen may either generally or specifically authorise any person to do all or any of the following things, namely:

- (a) Enter upon and survey and take levels of the said land or any part thereof;
- (b) Dig or bore into the sub-soil of the said land;
- (c) Do all acts necessary to ascertain whether the said land is adapted for the public purpose outlined;
- (d) Set out the boundaries of the said land and the intended line of Work (if any) proposed to be made thereon;
- (e) Mark such levels, boundaries and lines by placing marks and cutting trenches on the said land;
- (f) For the purpose of carrying out the foregoing (if necessary) cut down clear any standing crop, fence, tree or bush;
- (g) Do all such other acts as may be incidental to or necessary for any of the purposes aforesaid.

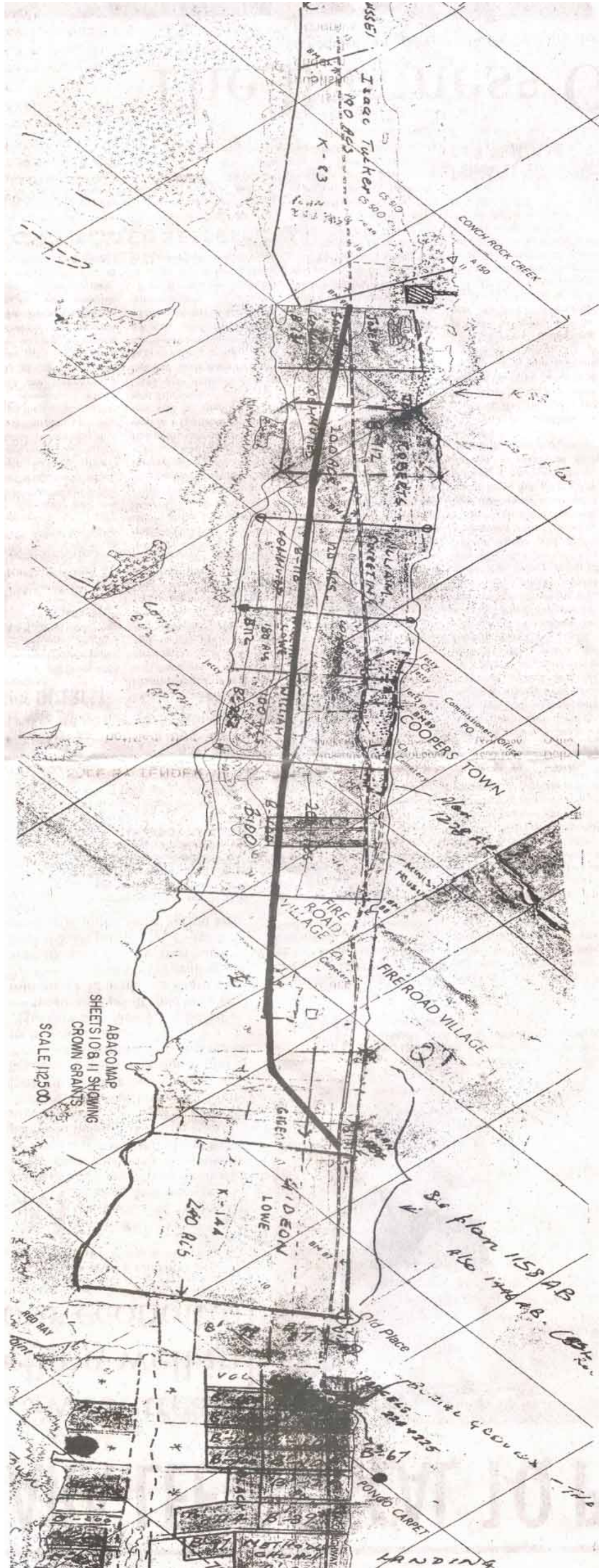
A copy of the Plan of the said land may be inspected commencing on the 3rd day of November AD., 2008 at the Department of Lands and Surveys situate at Bay and Armstrong Streets between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

Dated this 27th day of October A. D., 2008.
Hubert A. Ingraham, Minister Responsible for the Acquisition and Disposition of Lands

Schedule

All that certain piece or parcel of land being a proposed highway 100 feet wide and shown on an extract of a map of Abaco sheets 10 and 11 in the Department of Lands and Surveys and situate in the area of the settlements of Fire Road and Coopers Town on the Island of Abaco in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Abutting and bounding from the Main Abaco Highway through land granted to Gideon Lowe K144, through land south of Fire Road thence through lands granted to William Lowe B100, B2-252, B112 thence through land granted to William Sweeting B116 and thence through land granted to John Roberts B112 thence through land granted to Joseph Saunders B131 to the Main Abaco Highway or however else the same may abut and bound which said piece or parcel of land or highway is more particularly delineated and shown coloured red on the plan of the area (N. 7)



More School News

School *From Page 32*

for the sweet tooth.

Annual Festival of Carols brought students together

By Mirella Santillo

Many school children from all over the island, even as far as Moore's Island, traveled to the Church of God in Dundas Town on December 5th to participate in the annual Festival of Carols organized by the Department of Education. The event was moderated by two Forest Heights Academy's students, Taj Anderson and Nasaha Bootle, who presented the performers as they read the Scriptures, sang carols or performed skits. The performers were all students with a few exceptions.

Central Abaco Primary School students

read verses from the Gospel according to Luke. Others such as Sujith Swana and Amelia McDonald from Agape Christian School acted out a nativity skit or sang carols solo such as Akeem Adderley from Abaco Central High School or with their school choir such as Man-O-War, Amy Roberts Primary and Moore's Island All Age students.

It was a festive morning aimed at putting the audience in the Christmas spirit, an audience comprised of local dignitaries, school principals, teachers and many parents.

Most musical pieces were accompanied by the Wesley College Band under the direction of Rev. Charles Carey. An instrumental medley was performed by the Abaco Central High School Band directed by Mr. Jamal McIntosh with an impressive

drum solo by Mackenson St. Fleur.

Mrs. Lenora Black, Abaco's Education Superintendent, addressed her thanks to all the organizers and reminded the assembly not to forget the true meaning of Christmas. She announced the presentation of a gift basket for the senior citizens of Sibyl's House because, she said, "We believe that there should be a bond between the old and the young." The basket was handed to the

Director of Social Services, Mrs. Salomie Gibson, by Mackenson St. Fleur of Abaco Central.

Before the end of the ceremony Bishop Anthony Campbell spoke of the message of Christmas, "the never ending story of the nativity will still be there as long as there is a world," he assured. He urged people

Please see School Page 35

Central Abaco recognized outstanding students



Students who were in grades 1-5 last school year were awarded for performing well during that time. The awards ceremony that was on November 28th. Students making the outstanding and principal's lists received certificates and trophies. The most outstanding students were Victoria Hardy, Maliyah Forbes, Adrian Russell, Basia McKinney, Tazmia Cunningham, Shiwana Gilot, Richard Smith, Briniqua Munroe, Yolnicka Jeune, Twanasha Lightbourn, Madelin St. Fleur, Ervette Knowles, Juline Russell, Destiny Seymour, Alpheneaus Kemp, Youricka Moreau, Chelshanno Adderley, Kadesha Canton, April Smith, Swanson Moss, Elizier Evariste, Wilda Cadet, and Isaiah Seymour. The students who made the principal's list were: Maliyah Forbes, Jerone Burrows, Earelle Reckley, Basia McKinney, Robert Russell, Tazmia Cunningham, Yolnicka Jeune, Twanasha Lightbourn, Amelia Gomez, and Antonyah Mackey.



Students from most schools on Abaco took part in the annual Festival of Carols that was held this year on December 5 at the Dundas Town Church of God. Students conducted almost the entire service.

Building your Vacation Home or Dream Home Shouldn't be a Nightmare

"Island Gal" Homes and Cottages
Built Hurricane Tough



"ISLAND GAL" Cottages

Sound Cottage 32' x 30' 1200-1440 sq. ft. Island Cottage 32' x 36' 1440-1728 sq. ft. Beach Cottage 32' x 42' 1690-2340 sq. ft.

Also available - Island Gal's Cabin II, 26' x 28'



"ISLAND GAL" Homes

9 models 500 sq. ft. to 2500 sq. ft plus 2 story

Call Today

Simply put, "ISLAND GAL" is the best, easiest, fastest* and most cost efficient way to build your home. So whether you're looking for a primary home or a vacation home, "ISLAND GAL" Cottages & Homes are the perfect solution.

*Build the shell & 'dry in' your cottage in less than two weeks.

Island Gal Homes & Cottages

For more information call: 242.364.5111 or 305.567.1122

For info write: phbuildingsmart@aol.com
www.islandgalproductions.com

"Island Gal" is a division of Building Smart, Inc. Built Hurricane Tough

ABACO DIRECT SERVICE FROM WEST PALM BEACH

- To the Cays



Tropical Shipping offers Direct LCL Service from West Palm Beach. It's simple, fast, frequent and on one insured Bill of Lading

- Sailing weekly from West Palm Beach to Marsh Harbour
- Our West Palm Beach LCL Cargo Facility has expanded to over 107,000 square feet with 29 bay doors to handle all your cargo - large and small.
- One Bill of Lading
- One payment
- Marine cargo insurance to final destination
- We'll coordinate sailing from Marsh Harbour to your final destination

Secure warehouse facilities • Marine Insurance • Cargo pickup service in U.S. and Canada • Online Booking, tracking, payment and documents

...BOL can be collected in advance of cargo arrival...

Marsh Harbour

242.367.0225

For Bookings call

561.881.3999

www.tropical.com / customer@tropical.com

Tropical SHIPPING
Worlds Of Service

More School News

School *From Page 34*

as they celebrate and exchange gifts with their friends and family not to forget the gift of Jesus.

The closing Christmas hymn followed Bishop Campbell's benediction as people left the church giving each other hugs and Christmas greetings.

Thanksgiving at St. Francis de Sales

By Samantha V. Evans

On November 20th the school family of St. Francis de Sales celebrated Thanksgiving. As tradition stated, on this day all students brought their non-perishable items to give to the needy. Each grade had to decorate their box. They gathered at St. Francis de Sales Church where all of the gifts of thanksgiving were displayed. Thanksgiving Day is observed on the last Thursday in November; but due to school exams, they brought the date up one week. The service started with a prayer of Thanksgiving to God for all of His many blessings and for His continued care. A slide show was shown of the school's accomplish-

Please see **School** *Page 36*

Students of the Month at Central Abaco Primary



Students of Central Abaco Primary School have been working hard to learn the many subjects they are required to master at their specific grade level. Student who performed exceptionally well in October were recognized. They were Benjamin Cornish, Preschool; Quinesha Bonamy Grade 1; Dwayne Saunders Grade 1; Tredon Alleyne Grade 1; Earelle Reckley Grade 2; Maliyah Forbes, Grade 2; Chinica Jean, Grade 2; Rosmichel Denyer, Grade 3; Guetty St. Fleur, Grade 4; Christina Guillaume, Grade 4; Ashanti Davis, Grade 5; Tyzel Cunningham, Grade 5; Isaac Russell, Grade 5; Jermina Davis, Grade 6; Shavante Simms, Grade 6; Marcdala Augustin, Grade 6; and Edmilvannera Curry, Grade 6.

Ginelle Places Second in Nassau



On November 28th Ginelle Longley, the winner of the Religious Knowledge competition on Abaco, flew to Nassau along with her coach Roberta Lindsay and her parents as she competed in the National Religious Knowledge Competition. The topic for the speech was *Let's Build Each Other Up*. Ginelle placed second in the competition.



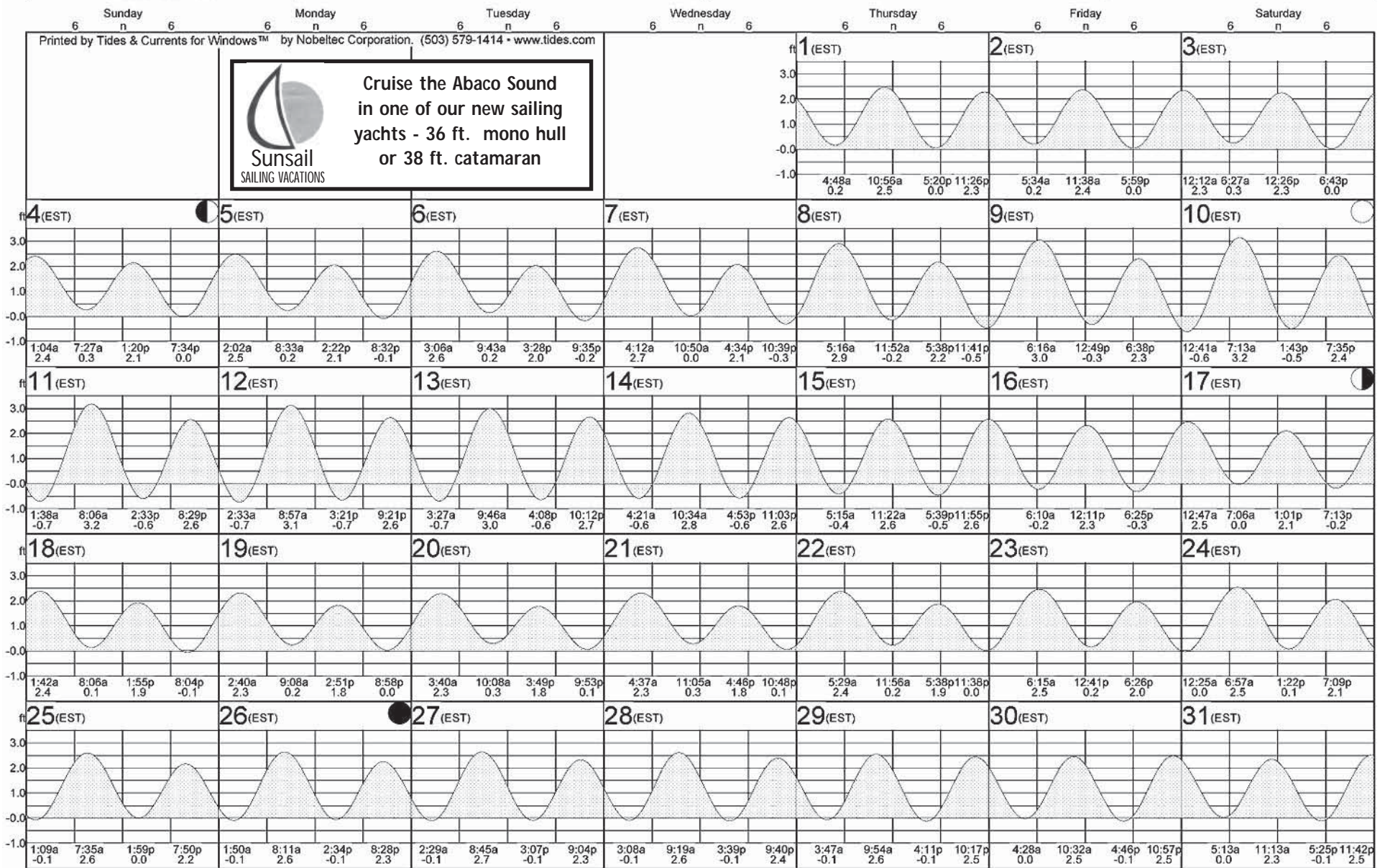
Compliments of The Moorings and The Conch Inn Hotel and Marina



Tide - North Bar Channel January 2009

Average Tides
Mean Range: 2.6 ft
MHWS 3.1 ft
Mean Tide: 1.4 ft

Monthly High & Low
High January 11, 8:06a 3.2 ft
Low January 12, 2:33a -0.7 ft



The Conch Inn Marina

- Full service docks with power
- Cable TV connections
- Texaco fuel station

The Moorings Yacht Charters

- *The Best Sailing Vacations In The World!*
- *Prestige Class* crewed yacht charter
- Sailing Sloops and cats 35 ft. - 47 ft.
- Power catamarans 37 ft.

The Conch Inn Resort

- Hotel rooms on the harbour front
- Fresh water pool
- *Curly Tails* waterfront restaurant and bar
- Dive Abaco - a complete dive facility

The Conch Inn Resort and Marina

PO Box AB20469, Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Ph 242-367-4000 • Fax 367-4004
Email: themoorings@batelnet.bs

Come and experience the beauty of the Bahamas. We are waiting for you.

More School News

School

From Page 35

ments and many blessing so far this school year, after which a skit was presented by the school's drama club. After the service, the items were separated so that they could be distributed. The items will be given to needy families across Abaco.

Winning boy read 375 books in Boys Reading Challenge

Once again boys from Central Abaco Primary School got a chance to improve their reading and writing skills by taking part in the annual Boys Reading Challenge held during the month of October. One hundred seventeen boys registered to participate and 55 of them were rewarded for actually taking part in this event. The theme for this year's Challenge was Re-

solving Conflicts Peacefully Without Being at War. The awards day was held on November 24th at the school. The guest speaker for this event was Det. Insp. Edric Poitier, a 28-year veteran policeman with the Royal Bahamas Police Force. The awards ceremony was lead by boys who took part in this Challenge.

The guest speaker gave the students a powerful talk on resolving conflicts and the results of being at war with each other as we are seeing manifested in society today. He began by telling them that conflicts usually begin because someone is angry with another person. He stated that anger is not a bad emotion. In fact it is natural. However, it is when a person allows anger to result in them harming another person that they lose control, get into trouble and

can break the law. There is good and bad anger. People respond positively to anger when they feel threatened or wronged but bad anger results in frustration when needs and/or desires are not met or they lose their patience. He encouraged them to find positive ways to channel their energy.

Det. Insp. Poitier told them to learn how to resolve the conflicts now while they are

small because when they reach adulthood it will become more difficult. He encouraged them to think before they act. They will live to be thankful they did.

Bringing remarks and commending the boys for a job well done was District Education Superintendent Lenora Black. She

Please see **School**

Page 37

Religious Knowledge Speech Competition Declares a Winner



The Department of Education held a Religious Knowledge speech competition on November 10th, an event organized by Sandy Edwards. The theme focused on improving relationships. Five students participated representing Amy Roberts Primary, Central Abaco Primary, Cooper's Town Primary, Agape Christian, and St. Francis de Sales. The winner was Ginelle Longley, grade 5, from Central Abaco Primary School. In second place was Yelena Persuad, grade 5, from St. Francis de Sales and in third place was Andrew Hanna, grade 6, from Agape Christian School. The winning students received trophies.



The winner of the Boys Reading Challenge at Central Abaco Primary was Sidney Decius of grade 5. The big prize was a bicycle along with cell phone, photo package, gift certificates, reading books, calculator, games, toys, cologne and school supplies worth over \$200.

MORE DAILY SERVICE TO FORT LAUDERDALE AND WEST PALM BEACH FROM TREASURE CAY AND MARSH HARBOUR

For reservations and information, go to continental.com or call 1-800-231-0856

FREQUENT TRAVELER...SUNPAC
The airline ticket with versatility and fewer restrictions
For details and sales call:
1-800-688-7225
954-985-1500 x 272

Continental Airlines
Continental Connection

Work Hard.
Fly Right.®

More School News

School *From Page 36*

told the students that focusing on reading is a most necessary undertaking. This Challenge addresses reading which is necessary for them to get around in life. Reading is important when you travel so that you can read signs and when you use the computer. She stated that boys and girls who can read are not usually involved in conflicts as they resolve them using the many words they know. She ended by further encouraging the boys to continue reading even though this Challenge is over as they should aim to become life-long readers.

All students to participate in the competition received a certificate. Students to read more than ten books and to write a book report for each one received books as prizes. The top ten boys received books and special gifts from toys to electronics to the coveted bicycle. The winner for the second year having read 375 books and having written the same number of book reports on the theme of the book was Sid-

ney Decius of grade 5. Other winners were Isaac Russell - 2nd place, Travar Blanc - 3rd place, Loudino Box - 4th place, Brandon Meadows - 5th place, Eustace Sturup - 6th place, Recelph Mere - 7th place, Kevin Pierre - 8th place, Warren Moreau - 9th place and Isaac Miller - 10th place. Some of the prizes that the first place winner received included a bicycle, cell phone, photo package, gift certificates, reading books, calculator, games, toys, cologne and school supplies worth over \$200. The winning class teacher, Roberta Lindsay, also received a gift for motivating her students to embrace this opportunity to improve their reading and writing skills. She had the most entrants - ten.

Coordinator of the Reading Challenges, Samantha V. Evans, stated that she was very proud of the boys. This year all of the boys, but one received recognition for a job well done. To add to the excitement of the wonderful prizes obtained, Superintendent Black will treat the top ten to lunch with her. Also serving on the committee for the Challenges are Neulessa Major and

Kayla Wallace. Business were generous in donating prizes, certificates, programs and other items.

Central Abaco Primary Receives Playground Donation

By Samantha V. Evans

Earlier this year, a gospel concert was held organized by Special Touch and the PTA Board of Central Abaco Primary

School where part proceeds were to go towards the purchase of a new playground for the school. On November 24th, Gwen Martin presented principal Eunice Mills with a check for \$3,000 to go towards that purchase. The school body thanks all persons concerns for assisting in this effort.

Abaco Print Shop

Abaco Shopping Center
Tel: 367-3202 - Fax: 367-3201

FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS!

Open 9 am - 5 pm
Mon. - Fri.

CRABBERS
at Government Beach on Guana Cay

Home of the World Famous Guana Grabber

Great food!
B/C or Outside dining

- Best sunset in Abacos
- Inviting Pool & Beach
- Family Fun Everyday

CRABBERS
WASH & GRILL
at Government Beach on Guana Cay

Enjoy one of our six cozy hotel rooms

+1.242.248.8100 www.CrabbersAtGovernment.com
on Guana Cay at Government Beach on Guana Cay

Season's Greetings

Our Message

In this season of joy, the management and staff of Commonwealth Bank extend the warmest of holiday wishes to you and your loved ones.

We appreciate that it is by choice that you have granted us your business and assure you that we do not only remain committed to providing exemplary service, but to lending a hand in the community where needed.

Our wish for you is a year filled with peace, joy and prosperity.

May God bless you and your family, from our family at Commonwealth Bank.

COMMONWEALTH BANK

"Leader in Personal Banking Services"
www.combankltd.com

The Jib Room Restaurant

New Year's Eve Dinner Party
Surf & Turf Dinners
Midnight Champagne Toast
Starts 8 p.m.

Party Favors
Dancing
Music

Open for Lunch
Wed - Sat
11:30 - 2:30

Dinner nights
Wed & Sat Only
7 p.m. - Reservations

Home of the best
Babyback ribs &
One Pound Steaks

The Marsh Harbour Marina & Yacht Club

Call 367-2700 • VHF Ch 16

November was Diabetes Awareness Month

By Samantha V. Evans

The month of November was observed as Diabetes Awareness Month and the focus this year was on diabetes in children and adolescents. Diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases to affect children and can affect a child at any age including toddlers and babies. A team from the Marsh Harbour Clinic visited Radio Abaco to educate the public on the dangers of

diabetes; especially in children. To climax the month, the clinic held a health walk on November 22, ending with the health fair. At the health fair residents could get their blood pressure and insulin checked, free screening for diabetes and asked questions of the trained staff on hand. Chicken souse was also given to all persons who took part in the events.

info@htlighthousemarina.com
VHF ch 16

P:1(242)366-0154
F:1(242)366-0171



LIGHTHOUSE MARINA

Hope Town, Elbow Cay, Abaco Bahamas

Deep Water Dockage • Gas • Diesel • Ice • Bait • Dry Storage
New 10 ton marine forklift

Full service marina • Fiberglass repair • Bottom painting • Bright work • Waxing
Gift Shop • Largest selection of fishing tackle • T-shirts • Souvenirs • Marine Supplies
Freeport Skiffs - 13', 15', 17' Now available, call for information
Yamaha Sales and Service • Factory Trained Technicians

Bayfront Realty Sales & Property Management

Visit our new website: www.htlighthousemarina.com



CHARTERS BETWEEN ABACO & THE ENTIRE BAHAMAS & FLORIDA

SCHEDULED SERVICE TO NASSAU, NORTH ELEUTHERA & MOORES ISLAND!

HALF PRICE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12 ON ALL SCHEDULED FLIGHTS.

(LIMIT ONE CHILD AT HALF PRICE PER TRAVELLING ADULT)

CALL US TODAY FOR INFORMATION ON OUR RATES, SCHEDULES AND FREQUENT FLYER REWARDS PROGRAM

TEL 242-367-2266 • FAX 242-367-3256
EMAIL reservations@abacoaviationcentre.com

COME FLY OUR FRIENDLY SKIES!



Seasons Greetings



Wishing you a magical holiday season and many good things in the new year - from your friends at Scotiabank

Hotels and House Rental Agents

+ agents with multiple cottages and houses

Area Code 242 unless listed otherwise

Island-wide Abaco Listings

Abaco Vacations + 800-633-9197

Bahamas Vacations + 800-462-2426

Casuarina Point

Different of Abaco 8 rm 20 cott 366-2150

Cherokee

Lee Pinder + 3 hse 366-2053

Marina Albury Cottages 5 cottages 366-2075

Grand Cay

Rosie's Place 352-5458

Green Turtle Cay

Bluff House 30 rm 365-4247

Cocobay Cottages 6 cott 365-5464

Green Turtle Club 35 rm 365-4271

Island Properties + 34 hse 365-4047

New Plymouth Inn 9 rm 365-4161

Ocean Blue Properties + 34 365-4636

Roberts Cottages 3 cott 365-4105

Guana Cay

Dive Guana 11 hse 365-5178

Dolphin Bch Resort 4 rm 10 cott 365-5137

Donna Sands + 12 hse 365-5195

Guana Beach Resort 6 units 365-5133

Guana Seaside 8 rm 7 cott 365-5106

Ocean Frontier 519-389-4846

Ward's Landing 4 units 904-982-2762

Hope Town

Abaco Inn 22 rm 366-0133

Club Soleil 6 rm 1 cott 366-0003

Crystal Villas 7 villas 888-812-2243

Elbow Cay Prop + 53 hse 366-0035

Hope T Harb Lodge 25 rm 366 0095

Hope T Hideaways + 63 hse 366-0224

Hope T Villas + 3 hse 366-0030

Lighthouse Rentals 4 cott 366-0154

Sea Gull Cottages + 3 hse 366-0266

Sea Spray Resort 5 villas 366-0065

Tanny Key + 43 hse 366-0053

Turtle Hill 4 villas 366-0557

Lubbers Quarters

Sea Level Cottages 4 hse 366-3121

Man-O-War

Island Home Rentals + 8 hse 365-6048

Schooner's Landing 5 condos 365-6072

Marsh Harbour area

Abaco Beach Resort 82 rms 367-2158

Abaco Real Estate + 6 hse 367-2719

Abaco Vacation Planner + 25 hse 367-3529

Alesia's 3 rms 367-4460

Ambassador Inn 6 rms 367-2022

Bustick Bight Resort 8 rms 367-3980

Conch Inn 9 rms 367-4000

D's Guest House 6 rms 3 367-3980

Island Breezes Motel 8 rms 367-3776

Lofty Fig Villas 6 eff 367-2681

Pelican Beach Villas 6 cott 367-3600

Regattas (Prev. Abaco Towns) 32 eff 367-0148

Moore's Island

Moore's Is Bonefish Camp 8 rm 366-6334

Sandy Point

Oeisha's Resort 366-4139

Pete & Gay's Resort 14 rm 366-4119

Rickmon's Bonefishing 10 rm 366-4477

Spanish Cay

Spanish Cay Resort 18 rm 6 hse 365-0083

Treasure Cay

Bahama Beach Club 365-8500

Island Dreams + 45 hse 365-8507

Treasure Cay Resort 95 rms 365-8801

Wood Cay

Tangelo Hotel 19 rm 3 villa 365-2222

Web Sites with Abaco Information

<http://www.abaconian.com>

<http://www.abacoinet.com>

<http://www.abacoinfo.com>

<http://www.abacos.com>

<http://www.go-abacos.com>

<http://www.oii.net>

<http://www.bahamas.com>

Emergency Services

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

Medical Services

Abaco Family Medicine Marsh Harbour...367-2295
 Auskell Advanced Medical Clinic367-0020
 Marsh Harbour Medical Centre367-0049
 Government Clinic Marsh Harbour367-2510
 Corbett Clinic Treasure Cay365-8288
 Government Clinic Cooper's Town365-0300
 Government Clinic Green Turtle Cay365-4028
 Government Clinic Hope Town366-0108
 Government Clinic Sandy Point366-4010
 Government Clinic Fox Town

Taxi Cab Fares

for one or two passengers
 Plus extra for each passenger above two

Between Marsh Harbour Airport and:
 Ferry Dock or Murphy Town to Ammons Dr \$12 + \$3
 Bristol Cellers thru A. Beach Hotel or Gov't dock thru
 Dundas Town \$10 + \$3
 Dove Plaza, Stop Light or Sawyer's Market \$10 + \$2
 Gov't Clinic thru Western Auto \$ 6 + \$2
 Gov. freight dock through Dundas Town \$10 + \$3
 Murphy Town to Shell Sta \$14 + \$4
 Pelican Shores to Frankie Russel house..... \$14 + \$4
 Eastern Shores to Peas & Rice house \$14 + \$4
 Beyond Russell house or Peas & Rice house \$16 + \$5
 Great Cistern \$20 + \$5
 Spring City \$15 + \$5
 Snake Cay \$35 + \$10
 Treasure Cay \$60 + \$10
 Casuarina Point \$60 + \$10
 Treasure Cay Airport or Bah Palm Shores \$70 + \$10
 Little Harbour or Cherokee \$80 + \$10
 Crossing Rocks \$100 + \$10
 Sandy Point \$135 + \$10

Between Marsh Harbour Ferry and:
 Ab Beach Hotel thru Wally's & Eastern Shore \$ 2 each
 Jib Room \$ 3 each
 Solomon's Super Center \$5 + \$3
 Stop Light, Dove Plaza, Gov't dock \$ 6 + \$3
 Government Freight Dock \$ 7 + \$3
 Gov.Clinic, W. Auto or Nat. Insurance \$ 9 + \$3
 Mother Merle restaurant \$10 + \$3
 Waiting time \$20 per hour, \$10 per half hour
 Children under three - free • Caged pets - as people
 Luggage \$1.00 each over four, Surf boards \$4.00 ea.

Between Treasure Cay Airport and: Effective 13 Nov 05
 Treasure Cay Resort \$20 + \$5
 Madeira Park \$14 + \$4
 Green Turtle Cay ferry dock \$8 + \$4
 Moxey \$18 + \$5
 Bahamas Star farm..... \$24 + \$5
 Sand Banks \$24 + \$5
 Joe's Creek, Leisure Lee \$44 + \$10
 Black Wood \$18 + \$5
 Fire Road & Cooper's Town \$37 + \$5
 Cedar Harbour \$55 + \$5
 Wood Cay \$60 + \$5
 Mount Hope \$65 + \$5
 Fox Town \$70 + \$5
 Crown Haven \$75 + \$5
 Marsh Harbour Airport \$75 + \$10
 T Cay Hotel to Marsh Harbour \$65 + \$10
 T C Hotel to G Turtle Ferry (Blue Hole \$24) \$18 + \$ 5
 T C Hotel to Bonefish Marles..... \$22 + \$5
 T C Hotel to Joe's Creek \$35 + \$5
 T C Hotel to Moxey \$16 + \$5
 T C Hotel to Banyan Bch Club XX..... \$6 + \$3
 Green Turtle Ferry to Marsh H Airport \$75 + \$10

Airlines Serving Abaco

Abaco Air - Nassau, N Eleuthera, Moores Is 367-2266
 American Eagle - Miami 367-2231
 Bahamasair - Nassau, W. Palm B, Ft Laud 367-2095
 Continental Connection - Miami
 Ft. Laud and W Palm Beach..... 367-3415
 Southern Air - Nassau 367-2498
 Twin Air Calypso - Fort Lauderdale 367-0140
 Yellow Air Taxi - Ft Lauderdale 367-0032
Local air charters serving Bahamas & S.Florida
 Abaco Air 367-2266
 Cherokee Air Charters 367-3450

Dive Shops

Abaco Dive Adventures, Marsh Harbour367-2963
 Above & Below, Marsh Harbour367-0350
 Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour..... 367-2787
 Froggies, Hope Town..... 366-0431
 Treasure Divers, Treasure Cay..... 365-8571
 Brendal's Dive, Green T. Cay 365-4411
 Dive Guana..... 365-5178
 Man-O-War Dive Shop365-6013

Items of interest

• Man-O-War boat yards • Blackwood blue hole & sisal mill • Cedar Harbour plantation ruins - need guide • Hole-in- Wall lighthouse - last mile very rough road • Abaco wild horses by appointment 367-4805 • Bird watching - ask tourism 367-3067



Visitors' Guide

Restaurants • Services • Transportation

Compliments of The Abaconian
www.abaconian.com
 Area code 242 unless noted otherwise

Ferry Schedules

Departure times shown • Daily service unless noted
 Marsh Harbour to Hope Town or Man-O-War - 20 minutes, Guana Cay - 40 minutes

Albury's Ferry Service • Ph 367-3147 or 367-0290 • VHF Ch. 16 • Hope Town & Man-O-War from Crossing Bch
Marsh Harbour > Hope Town 7:15 am 9 10:30 12:15 pm* 2 4 5:45
 Return 8 am 9:45 11:30 1:30 pm* 3 4 5 6:30

Marsh Harbour > White Sound Contractor's special - Mon - Fri 7 am Return 5 pm
Marsh Harbour > Man-O-War 10:30 am 12:15 pm 2:30* 4 5:45
 Return 8 am 11:30 1:30 pm 3:15* 5

Marsh H. > Guana Cay (& Scotland Cay with advance notice) from Conch Inn
 (6:45am - Union Jack Dock) 10:30 1:30 pm 3:30 5:45*
 Return 8 am 11:30 2:30 pm 4:45 5:45

Fare • Adult prepaid oneway \$15 / open return \$25, • Kids 6-11 half, Under 6 free

Green Turtle Ferry • Phone 365-4166, 4128, 4151 • VHF Ch 16 • Ten minute ride
Green T Cay to Treasure Cay Airport 8 am 9 11 12:15 1:30 3 4:30
T Cay Airport to Green T Cay 8:30 am 10:30 11:30 1:30 2:30 3:30 4:30 5
 New Plymouth one way adult \$10 (Children \$7) • Round trip \$15 • Extra to some G T Cay docks

Abaco Adventures • Ph 365-8749 VHF Ch 16
Treasure Cay to Guana Cay Sunday Lv 12 & returns 4:45 p.m. \$25 RT
T Cay to Man-O-War/ Hope Town - Wed 9:30 am, return 4:30 pm \$35 RT
T Cay to Guana Cay Sunset Cruise - Fr \$25 , call for time

Pinder's Ferry Service Between Abaco & Grand Bahama -
Crown Haven, Abaco to McLean's Town, Grand Bah. -Daily 7:00 am & 2:30 pm
McLean's Town to Crown Haven - return Daily 8:30 am & 4:30 pm
 Fare \$45 OW / \$90 RT • Children half fare • Call Abaco 365-2356 for information
 Bus between Freeport and McLean's Town • Rental automobiles at both terminals.

Bahamas Ferries Sandy Point to Nassau under 4 Hr. Call Sandy Point 366-4119
 or Marsh Harbour 367-5250 for sailing dates • Adults \$95 RT, \$55 OW • Cars & trucks

The Great Abaco Express Marsh Harbour charter bus to N Abaco • Call 367-2165, Group tours

Abaco Marinas - Slips Fuel Phone

Walker's Cay
 Walker's Cay Closed

Green Turtle Cay
 Bluff House45..... F..... 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club32..... F..... 365-4271
 Black Sound Marina...15..... 365-4531
 Other Shore Club12..... F..... 365-4195
 Abaco Yacht Service..10..... F..... 365-4033

Treasure Cay
 Treasure Cay Marina150 F..... 365-8250

Man-O-War
 Man-O-War Marina ...26..... F..... 365-6008

Marsh Harbour
 Boat Harbour Marina183 F..... 367-2736
 Conch Inn.....75..... F 367-4000
 Harbour View Marina .36..... F 367-2182
 Mangoes Marina29..... 367-2366
 Marsh Harbour Marina52 F 367 2700

Hope Town
 Hope Town Marina16..... 366-0003
 Hope Town Hideaways..... 366-0224
 Lighthouse Marina6..... F..... 366-0154
 Sea Spray50..... F..... 366-0065

Spanish Cay
 Spanish Cay Marina...75..... F..... 365-0083

Guana Cay
 Orchid Bay64 F..... 365-5175
 Boats can clear Customs at Green Turtle Cay,
 Treasure Cay or Marsh Harbour

Tours & Excursions

Abaco Island Tours • Marsh Harbour 367-2936
 Above & Below • Marsh Harbour 367-0350
 Dive Abaco 1978, Marsh Harbour 367-2787
 Brendals Dive • Green Turtle Cay 365-4411
 Excursion boat • Froggies • Hope T 366-0024
 Hope Town historic walking tour 458-4670

Points of Interest

Albert Lowe MuseumGreen Turtle Cay
 Capt Roland Roberts House, reef exhibits.....Green Turtle Cay
 Memorial Sculpture Garden..... Green Turtle Cay
 Wyannie Malone Historical MuseumHope Town
 Elbow Cay Light Station.....Hope Town
 Walk to & swim on Mermaid Reef off M Harb. ..Pelican Shore
 Drive to & swim in Blue HoleTreasure Cay farm road
 Art studio & working foundry- Little Harbour
 Working boatyards..... Man-O-War cay

Pocket beaches • Crossing Beach in Marsh Harbour
 • Witches Point - 3 miles S. of Marsh Harbour
 • Little Harbour - 20 miles S. of Marsh Harbour
 • Cherokee - 23 miles S of Marsh Harbour
Miles of beach are generally on ocean exposures
 • Treasure Cay • Green Turtle Cay • Guana Cay • Elbow Cay
 • Man-O-War Cay • Casuarina Point • Bahama Palm Shore
 • Sandy Point & more

Bonefish Guides

Sandy Point
 Patrick Roberts .. 366-4286
 Nicholas Roberts
 Derrick Gaitor
 Ferdinand Burrows 366-4133
 Vernal Burrows
 Kendall White
 Anthony Bain 366-4107
 Floyd Burrows 366-4175
 Links Adderly 366-4335
 Valentino Lightbourne
 Ricky Burrows 366-4233

Marsh Harbour
 Jody Albury 375-8068
 Terrance Davis.... 367-4464
 Buddy Pinder.....366-2163
 Justin Sands 367-3526
 Danny Sawyer..... 367-3577
 Jay Sawyer 367-3941

Man-O-War
 David Albury 365-6059

Crossing Rocks

Tony Russell366-3259

Cherokee

Theodore Sawyer ... 366-2111
 Will Sawyer..... 366-2177
 Marty Sawyer..... 366-2115
 Noel Lowe366-2107
 Randy Sawyer366-2284

Casuarina Point

Junior Albury366-3058

Hope Town

Maitland Lowe366-0234

North Abaco

O'Donald McIntosh..477-5037
 Pope McKenzie477-5894
 Ortnell Russell365-0125
 Alexander Rolle365-0120
 Edward Rolle365-0024

Green Turtle Cay

Rick Sawyer.....365-4261
 Ronnie Sawyer365-4070
 Jeff Survance365-4040

To Abaco by land and sea from Florida • Take Discovery Cruise Line (954-971-7347) from Ft. Lauderdale or CloudX ferry (866-473-3779) from West Palm Beach to Freeport • Bus to McLeans Town • Ferry to Crown Haven • Bus to Green Turtle Ferry or Marsh Harbour • Taxi to Marsh Harbour ferry dock • Ferry to Hope Town, Man-O-War or Guana Cay • Its an adventure



Restaurant Guide

Prices \$ Low, \$\$ Moderate, \$\$\$ Upper
 (Based on dinner entree range)
 + Picnic tables & restroom only † Provides ride from town

Marsh Harbour

Anglers.....\$\$\$ 367-2158
 Curly Tails \$\$\$ 367-4444
 Gino's.....\$ 367-2002
 Golden Grouper\$ 367-2301
 Island Cafe.....\$ 367-6444
 Jamie's Place.....\$ 367-2880
 Jib Room \$\$ 367-2700
 Kentucky Fried Chicken 367-2615
 Mangoes \$\$\$ 367-2366
 Pop's Place \$ + 367-3796
 Sea Shells \$ 367-4460
 Snack Shack \$ + 367-4005
 Snappas.....\$ 367-2278
 Wallys \$\$\$ 367-2074

Hope Town

Abaco Inn \$\$\$ 366-0133
 Cap'n Jacks \$ 366-0247
 Harbour's Edge \$ 366-0087
 H T Harbour Lodge \$\$\$ 366-0095
 Munchies \$ + 366-0423
 Sea Spray \$ † 366-0065

Little Harbour

Pete's Pub

Lubber's Quarter

Cracker P's..... 366-3139

Man-O-War

Hibiscus 365-6380
 Island Treats Snack Bar..... 365-6501

Guana Cay

Docksiders \$\$\$ 365-5230
 Grabbers..... \$\$\$ 365-5133
 Nippers \$\$\$ 365-5143
 Orchid Bay \$\$\$ 265-5175

Treasure Cay

Florence's Cafe \$
 Coconut.....
 Harbour Cafe \$ 365-8635
 Hudson's Delight \$ 365-8648
 Spinnaker Restaurant ... \$\$\$ 365-8469
 Touch of Class \$\$\$ 365-8195

Green Turtle Cay

Bluff House..... \$\$\$ 365-4200
 Jolly Roger Bistro..... \$ 365-4200
 Green Turtle Club \$\$\$ 365-4271
 Harvey's Island Grill \$ 365-4389
 Laura's Kitchen \$ 365-4287
 McIntosh's Restaurant \$ 365-4625
 Plymouth Rock Cafe 365-4234
 Rooster's Rest \$ 365-4066
 Sundowners 365-4060
 Wrecking Tree Restaurant

Sandy Point

Nancy's
 Pete & Gays \$\$\$ 366-4119
 Rickmon Bonefish Lodge 366-4477

H Cafe Open Nights Only



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT

(BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

To Our Valued Customers:

We would like to thank you for your patronage over the past year and look forward to continuing to serve you with the same professionalism and dedication in the New Year.

We wish you a very *Merry Christmas* season and a *Happy and Prosperous New Year!*

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
ROBERT N. PINDER AND STAFF
ABACO BRANCH



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

Nassau Office
Rosetta Street P.O. Box SS-6283
Tel: (242) 325-2831
Telex: INSURMAN 20456
Fax: (242) 323-6520

Freeport Office
P.O. Box F-2541 Pioneers Way
Tel: (242) 350-3500
Telex: SUNALLCO 30061
Fax: (242) 350-3510

Eleuthera Office
Queens Highway
Governors Harbour
Tel: (242) 322-3211
Fax: (242) 332-2863

Abaco Office
P.O. Box AB-20666
Marsh Harbour, Abaco
Tel: (242) 367-4204
Fax: (242) 367-4206

Exuma Office
Queen Highway, George Town
Tel: (242) 336-2304
Fax: (242) 336-2305