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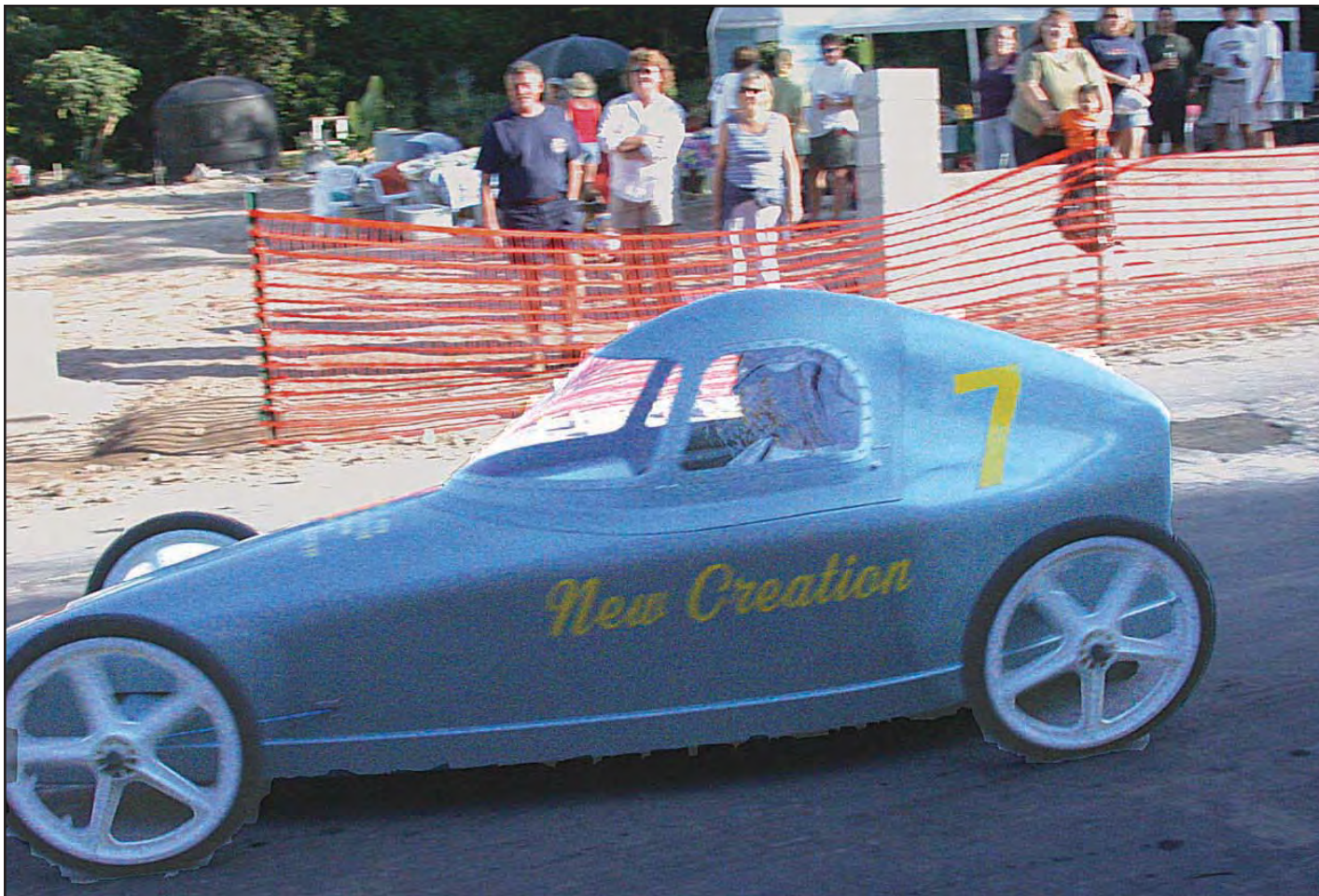


VOLUME 10, NUMBER 24, DECEMBER 15th, 2002

Min. Gray Meets with Farmers

Farmers Name Problems and Discuss Govt. Policy

Box Cars Race in Hope Town



This year's winner of the Senior Class in the Box Car Races in Hope Town on November 30 was this car built by Ricky Sweeting of White Sound. He had several cars coming in close behind his time. The course is an 800-foot hill, the site that each year brings entries from several communities including this year one from the States. See story on page 11.

By John Hedden

Thanksgiving day, November 28th 2002, saw the arrival of the Minister of Agriculture on Abaco. The Minister had returned to Abaco on invitation from the Bahamas Farmer's Association (Abaco Branch). The Association sponsored his trip and arranged a venue set up with Mackerel's Restaurant of Dundas Town.

The purpose of the invite was to allow members of the farming community the opportunity of sitting with the Minister in a casual atmosphere to discuss some of the more pressing problems facing the community. The venue was divided into two sessions.

The morning session was a session in camera to allow for uninterrupted dialogue. Members of the food chain from producers through wholesalers and retailers were in attendance, including Claude Smith, Senator Edison Key, (both producers); Lowell Albury, (wholesaler); and Jeff Albury (retailer). Topics under discussion included the subjects of land tenure, labour, grades and standards for product marketing, the need for agricultural legislation and policy as well as Government assistance through financial, subsidy, and infrastructural input.

The afternoon session was open to the public and mainly revolved around Government commitment to agricultural development in the Bahamas, the need for quality production, and the system utilised for leas-

Please see **Gray**

Page 2

Farm Grows 10,700 Poinsettias



Rocky Farms of Abaco, a few miles south of Marsh Harbour, produces many of the poinsettia plants sold in The Bahamas. Mr. Hilbert Pinder, owner of the farm shown above, has been growing the plants on Abaco for the past seven Christmas seasons. He ships 75 percent of them to Nassau while the remainder are sold on Abaco. Mr. Pinder starts the poinsettia plants in August and September each year so they will be ready for the holiday period in December. Mr. Pinder started Rocky Farms of Nassau 20 years ago and now grows many of his nursery plants on Abaco. At 83 years of age, he is a remarkable person.

Schools Compete in Science Fair



The annual science fair held at Central Abaco Primary School in Dundas Town had participation from eight schools this year. Shown above are winning students from Forest Heights Academy which won the overall trophy. Please see story on page 17.

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Min. Gray Urges Farmers to Work Together



The Hon. V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government, met with Abaco farmers on November 28 to discuss their concerns. Shown above are, left to right, Min. Gray, Mr. Hamfret Rahming, Secretary of the Abaco Agricultural Cooperative, and Mr. Augustine Williams, President of the Cooperative.

Gray

From Page 1

ing and use of Crown Lands by the farming community. Farmers were concerned about present marketing schemes through the Government exchange in Nassau, catastrophe relief programmes such as crop insurance, the quality of products marketed by the Fish and Farm Supply Store on Potter's Cay and the need for packing and processing facilities on Abaco.

The Bahamas Farmers Association termed the meeting a success in that it allowed the agricultural community to open dialogue with the public service. It is hoped that this dialogue will be ongoing; and that over time the Ministry of Agriculture, the farmers, and the consuming public will better understand the demands and requirements of the various facets of the food supply chain resulting in a high quality, con-

sistent, reasonably priced Bahamian product to compete at the marketplace.

Other productions by the Bahamas Farmer's Association over the last twelve months have included the Farm and Agricultural Show in February, the Radio Talk Show on World Food day in October, numerous in-house meetings for farmers and the production of extension leaflets for farmers and home gardeners. Other programmes are planned for 2003.

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A Summary of Common License Renewals

The following licenses expire December 31 each year and must be renewed if not done already.

- Liquor, Music and Dancing Licenses
- Gun Licenses
- Commercial Boat Licenses
- Master's Licenses (Captains)
- Commercial and Private Dock Licenses
- Commercial and Private Mooring Licenses
- Groyne, Abutment and Breakwater Licenses (Includes construction on the seabed)

Persons of businesses holding liquor, music and dancing licenses must apply for renewal and are subject to an inspection.

All gun owners must take their guns to the police station in their district for in-

spection prior to renewing their license. After the inspection, the license is paid for in the administrator's office.

Commercial boat owners are advised to contact the Port Officer or Port Authority in their district for an inspection and renewal of the license. This includes fishing boats and rental boats.

Private boat licenses expire March 31 and must be renewed before that date.

Driver's licenses expire at the end of the month of the holder's birthday.

Private vehicle licenses expire twelve months after the vehicle was first registered and licensed.

Commercial and company vehicles must be inspected and relicensed by March 31 of each year.

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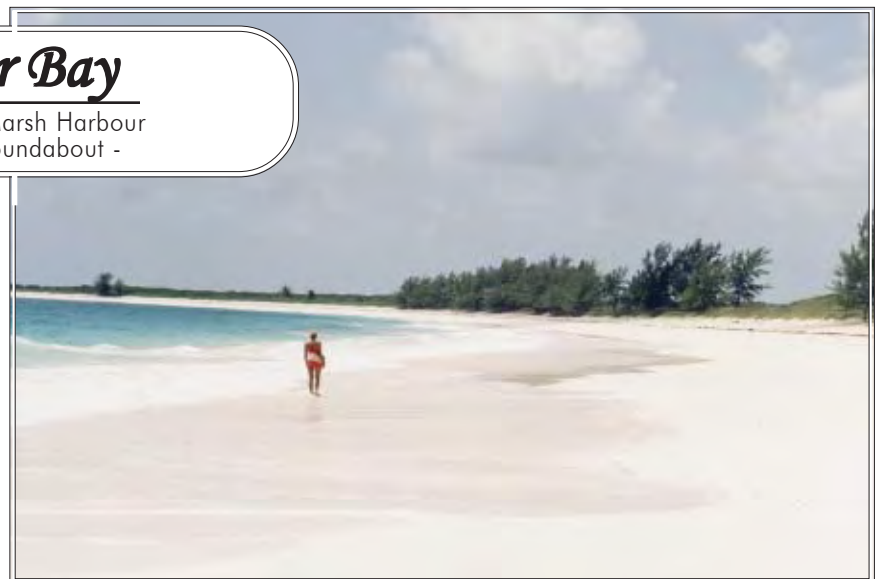
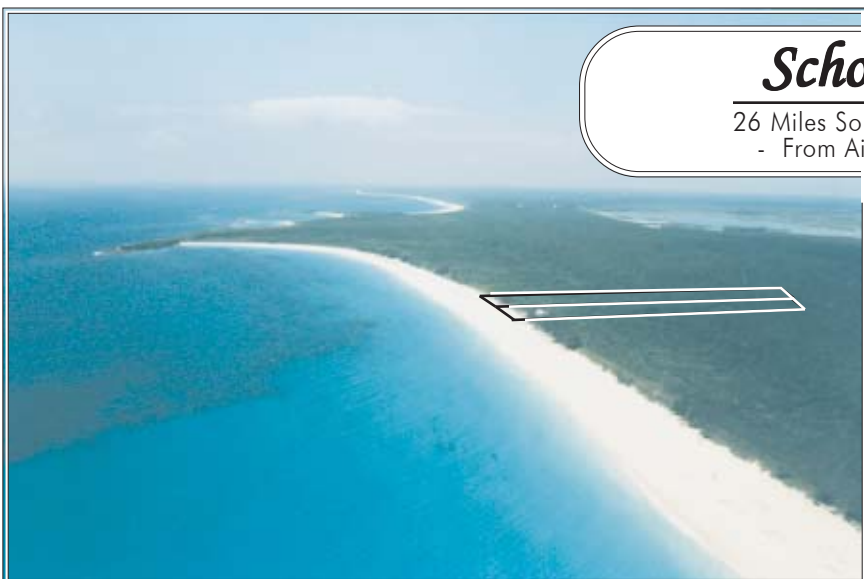
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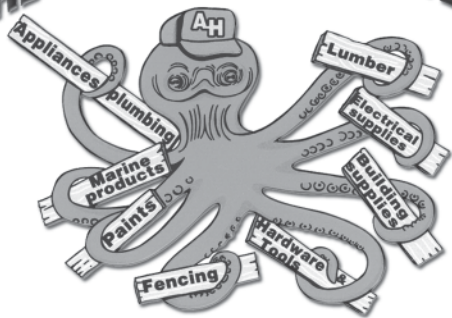
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News of South Abaco

Cherokee Sound

By Lee Pinder

Generous Gift Received

A generous gift was received from the second-home owner family of a long-time visitor to our shores. As you may recall Todd Pittman, an accomplished and very successful stockbroker working for one of the firms at the World Trade Center in New York City on that fateful day of September 11, 2001, was lost in the horrific terrorist act.

His father and sister have made donations in Todd's memory to the schools he attended in his home town in upstate New York and because of the many happy times he spent here on Abaco they felt they wanted to do something here, too, in Todd's name. The Pittman Family have very generously donated enough money to purchase all the windows for the Old School in Cherokee. This will bring our project one step closer to being finished and is very much appreciated.

He was a young man liked by all who met him and we will certainly never forget his untimely death. This kind remembrance to Cherokee in Todd's name only assures us his memory still lives on and will not

soon be forgotten.

Candlelight Service

Normally held on the last Sunday night before Christmas, this year on December 22, it is that one night a year that brings almost everyone out, both the faithful and the skeptical. It is an uplifting evening of familiar carol singing and seasonal scripture readings that remind us all of night in a stable over 2000 years ago. It is a night to rejoice and be thankful. Don't miss it, all are welcome.

Community Caroling

Another Cherokee tradition, there will be caroling during the week prior to Christmas. Anyone in good voice is invited to join the group that usually starts out at 6 p.m. in front of the Methodist Church and makes its rounds through the community, weather permitting.

Foreday Meetings

Traditional church services will be held at 5 a.m. on the two days before Christmas, the 24th and 25th of December for those of strong determination and an ardent faith. All are invited to attend these special holiday church services.

Community Tree

Calling all the folks with Cherokee roots from near and far. Since 1946 the people of this community have gathered to await the coming of Santa Claus. When he arrives, usually around 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24th, he will give out the gifts at the big community tree in front of the Methodist Church in the center of town.

To make certain that every child receives the gift that is intended for them, please mark all gifts (preferably in very large print) with the name of the recipient, showing both the first and last names.

As always food and refreshments will be served at the schoolhouse across the street only after all the gifts have been handed out and Santa departs again for the North Pole.

This is a time of warm holiday fellowship, a time to visit with family, friends and neighbours. And if you come, you will undoubtedly receive a wonderful feeling of goodwill and, hopefully someone will coax you into joining the rest of the crowd in


singing some of your favourite Christmas carols. We hope to see you there.

Annual Burning of "The Guys"

Some are big, some are small, some ride bikes and some actually have names. We are never short of "Guys." Only Cherokee burns them on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, usually with lots of pretty fireworks afterwards. Sometimes there are as many as 12 to 15 "Guys" mounted on tall poles at The Spit and set aflame in the early evening hours.

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Tourism Knowledge Is Featured in Program

By Anita Rolle

Creating self awareness was just one of the many goals achieved by those enrolled in the 2002 Bahamahost lecture series held November 18 through 30, 2002. Established in 1978, the Bahamahost is a self improvement program offered by the Ministry of Tourism which takes the avenue of upgrading through knowledge. Originally geared toward persons directly related to the tourism industry, the program was made accessible to the general public. Bahamahost re-

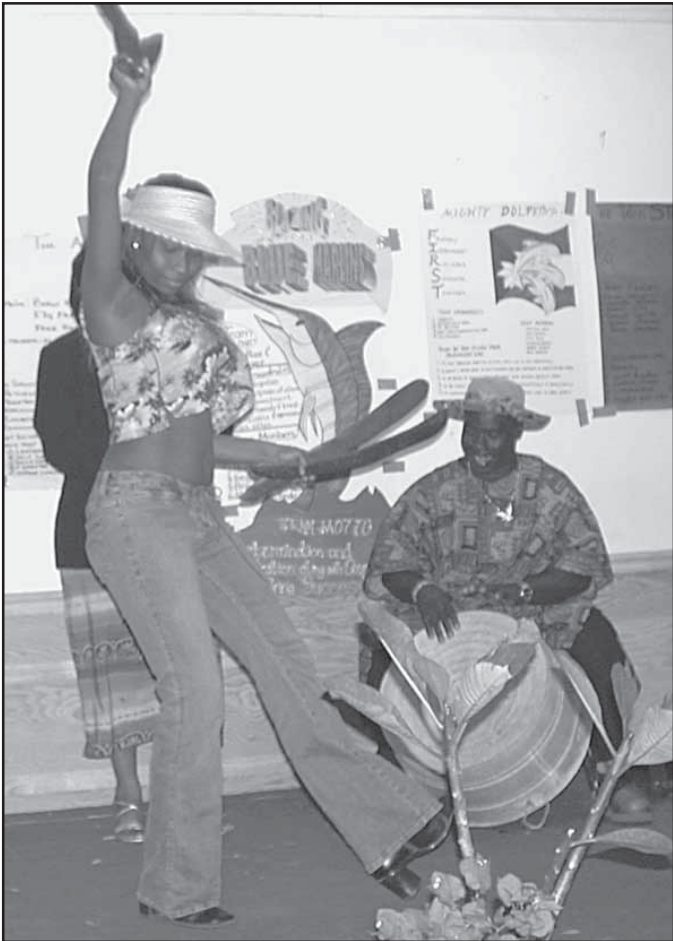
cently completed its 17th session in Central Abaco, leaving satisfied participants who now have a much deeper appreciation for things Bahamian and our number one industry - tourism.

Mr. Bradley Bain, Director of Industry Training with the Ministry of Tourism, in opening the 17th session applauded those present for taking the step to better themselves. He remarked, "I encourage you to take in as much information as possible as our number one industry tourism affects all

of us, not just persons working directly in tourism."

Following two weeks of intensive training, the group of over 35 persons found themselves equipped with adequate knowledge on our his-

The participants of the Bahamahost course offered for Central Abaco entertained family and friends with a talent night at the conclusion of their two-week course. They are shown here performing with a rake and scrape band and enjoying the relaxing evening. The next Bahamahost program to be held on Abaco will be early next year in Cooper's Town.



tory, geography, civics, culture, economics, teamwork and effective communication to enhance their attitudes and customer service abilities. The class consisted of a broad cross section of professions, all eager to soak up as much information as possible. Facilitators and trainers included professionals with a wealth of knowledge in the various topics outlined for the course, including Mrs. Marilyn Johnson, Senior Executive In-

dustry Training with the Ministry of Tourism.

The program, full of excitement, encouraged activity and promoted teamwork as a necessary base for success. A great time was had, valuable friendships formed and a wealth of knowledge gained. A session is scheduled for North Abaco in January 2002. This will be followed with a graduation for both groups on January 19th, 2003.

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Donations Go to Volunteer Groups



Mr. Paul Wujack of the WJ Private Foundation made generous donations to three volunteer services of Central Abaco. He is shown above at Sapodilly's Restaurant with the recipients of the donations, Abaco Crash Rescue, the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department and Trauma One ambulance service. They are, standing left to right, Donna Darville, Mr. Wujack, Dan Wiltfang, Andrew Pinder and Yvonne Key. Kneeling are Colin Albury and Cameron Sands.

By Theresa Pinder

On November 5th Sapodilly's Restaurant in Marsh Harbour hosted its annual wine-tasting fund raising event. The evening was spent sampling the wines generously donated by Bristol Cellars while viewing items and handcrafted goods that local businesses and artists had donated toward the auction that took place that evening.

The funds raised over the evening were donated to Abaco Crash Rescue, the Marsh Harbour Volunteer Fire Department and Trauma One. In addition to the funds generated by the auction, Mr. Paul Wujack, the owner of the W J Private Foundation, donated \$5,000 to each organization. Two months earlier, Mr. Wujack had donated a

check in the amount of \$5,000 to the Abaco Crash Rescue Association.

Thanks go to the Bristol Cellars for providing the beverages, to Price Right for donating the food and the many local artists and businesses that helped make this evening possible. Thanks are owed Brenda Claridge for allowing the use of Sapodilly's facilities.

Sapodilly's hosted its annual fashion show fund raiser on November 4. Clothing, jewelry and shoe apparel were modeled from Adam & Eve and Solomon's Mines, a variety of accessories to suit the casual dresser to the professional employee. While enjoying the fashion display, those in attendance enjoyed a luncheon. A portion of the proceeds from the luncheon was donated to the Abaco Cancer Society.

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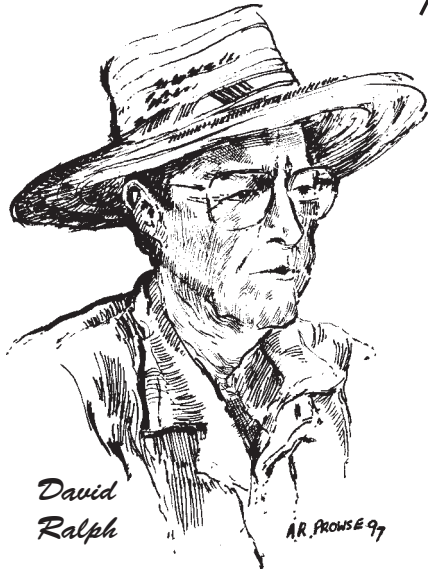
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The Editor Says . . . Christmas comfort in a troubled world



A columnist in a recent article in a news magazine commented that it is arguable that the world has never known a more dangerous time. Besides the advanced physics that creates nuclear weapons, there is the distinct threat that barbarians can release viruses such as smallpox or can commit other terrorist acts which put the entire world in a state of fear. Many people are afraid of the future. This is evident right here on Abaco with hotel and home rental reservations down dramatically over Thanksgiving and Christmas. Visitors are afraid to leave the security of their home area. A greater proportion of our visitors are now coming from Southeastern United States and in particular Florida as coming here does not require long flights.

People are insecure. No one knows just where or how terrorists will strike next. And with a war with Saddam seemingly eminent, people around the world are apprehensive. Another strike directly on the United States is probable.

For several decades the world has been in a relatively quiet era although there have been many hot spots where war in various forms has been a way of life. Many of these conflicts have been ongoing for years and the people have suffered greatly. Ireland, Israel and the Palestinians, Columbian rebels, Chechnia in the Soviet Union, India's and Pakistan's dispute over Kashmir and many other countries with conflicts. In each of these it is innocent people who bear the brunt of the suffering.

There are many other uncertainties cropping up in our secure world. World trade and the FTAA is a big concern for our little country which could easily be overwhelmed by the big economies pushing their own agendas, not considering any other country's welfare.

Some of the most dramatic changes which the world is likely to see are the repercussions from the proliferation of the AIDS epidemic. This epidemic has been claiming 3 million people a year but the areas heavily affected are countries with little influence worldwide. However, three countries with very large populations, Russia, China and India, are on the brink of major outbreaks of this insidious disease. Over the next ten to twenty years this will greatly affect all parts of the world as countries' priorities change and economies are altered to deal

with the consequences of this epidemic. This will destabilize those countries and will create masses of frustrated, angry people. Because of destabilization even more serious problems will emerge which no one can predict. But it will create major changes.

All of us on Abaco have been concerned since 9/11 just how much we will be affected. We are entirely dependent on the outside world. Anything that creates a bump in the economy of our neighbor directly affects us to an even greater degree. We have definitely realized a change in attitude since 9/11 and we all know that other events there will cause even more repercussions here. We realize that our comfortable lifestyle is not going to remain without hard work.

We are very fortunate in that we live in a peaceful area of the world. Yes, we have

problems but they are truly minor compared to problems of people in other parts of the world. Much of our violence is Nassau-based with relatively little spilling over to the Family Islands.

We should be most thankful that God has allowed us to live in peace and quiet. This does not mean that we can sit back and relax. We may have God's blessing but He expects us to do what we can to protect this tranquility. We have been given intelligence and abilities to use and we must use them wisely.

In this holiday season we are reminded once again of the fact that true peace comes only from the Babe in the manger in Bethlehem. We can be thankful when we realize that that same Babe is still with us in spirit and is still giving peace in hearts through faith. Whatever comes about in this

world, we can have the assurance that we are in the protective care of the One who loved us enough to come into the world for all who truly believe.

This Christmas let us show true love as we go about our daily lives. Let us show one another that we care, that we are considerate and kind, that we truly love one another.

It is interesting that church attendance is much greater during this season. Even those marginal church-goers find the Christmas message comforting.

And as we go through this holiday time, let us worship the Babe in a truly sincerely manner, giving thanks for all the good things in our lives. If we are truly appreciative, then we will be better people. We will realize that whatever comes, we have strength through that Babe to cope, that He will be with us.

Generally Speaking . . . Christmas Time

By: S. Timothy Roberts

Christmas, children, is not a date. It is a state of mind. *Mary Ellen Chase*

Christmas time is here. Time for shopping and cooking and decorating and more. Time for feasting and gathering together the whole family and friends and enjoying each other. Each year it seems the same, in certain respects, as the year before. The busyness of the season often overwhelms the joy and happiness that we should experience.

At the heart of Christmas is love, peace and joy, or as the angels proclaimed over 2000 years ago, "peace and goodwill toward men." And should we look to the origin of Christmas we can find the very first gift (a gift of awesome love) given to all mankind "wrapped in swaddling clothes,

lying in a manger."

The heart of this season has permeated through 2000 years and will continue for whatever time remains. And it is this same heart or spirit that we need to grab hold of, not just for the Christmas season but all year round.

Gifts that are truly meaningful to all humanity are not found wrapped beneath the Christmas tree but are felt in the warmth and love from family and friends as they share the joys of this time of year.

Christmas is not a time of pride to see who can get or give the biggest or best gifts but a time to truly share love through whatever means we can. It is a time for giving our time and our attention to the ones we love.

Christmas is not a time of selfishness nor a time a time of hard feelings but rather a time for sharing, caring and forgiving. It is a time of family togetherness and unity.

Christmas, as they say, only comes once a year. But these things - love, peace, joy and goodwill - these should be with us all year round. These things bring all of humanity together and they promote peace in every part of the world, something we have such a lack of these recent years.

These year give the gift of love, let your loved ones unwrap the gift of warmth and caring on Christmas day and every other day through the year.

"He who has no Christmas in his heart will never find Christmas under a tree."

Sunshine Magazine

All About Town

By Isobel Sherman

Traffic Lights Are Needed

A call for additional traffic lights has gone out. A recent accident at the intersection of S.C. Bootle Highway and Don MacKay Boulevard caused the call for more traffic lights. In a traffic survey done a few years ago 8400 hundred vehicles traveled Don MacKay Boulevard in a 24 hour period.

In a traffic study done approximately two years ago the recommendation was for the installation of at least three more traffic lights. Now it is up to Local Government to see what can be done to control the traffic in Marsh Harbour.

Thank You

A few weeks ago I was a customer in Bellevue. When the clerk handed me change after my purchase, I said, "Thank you." With that the clerk proceeded to tell me how I always say thank you, but she felt it was a dying art as many persons according to her just do not say thank you. As I traveled

around these last few weeks, I have been listening to hear thank you, particularly in stores. I must confess many times there aren't any to be heard. Maybe we take for granted that the clerk in a store is doing a job, a service-oriented job, and as a result no thank you is needed. But when someone says thank you to you for doing something, doesn't that make you feel good?

Merry Christmas

It is that time of year when it is time to wish people we know, people we love and hopefully people we dislike a Merry Christmas. This Christmas is a very special one for my daughter and me.

To all those who read this, especially my chief critic who also praises, Mr. Patrick Bethel, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and God's Blessings to you and yours. To Patrick, please comment on this article. Merry Christmas and Merry Christmas to preacher (only Patrick would understand the last one!)

Domestic Violence

Many comments and stories have been written about the escalating problem of domestic violence. Workshops have been held here on Abaco and many more in Nassau and Freeport. In Nassau the Crisis Center operates a 24-hour hot line along with many other services for victims of domestic violence. In Freeport there is a support group for victims. On Abaco there is none. Individuals are doing what they can but the attitude needs to improve and support, especially emotional support, is badly needed for these victims many of whom are women.

Many victims are in fear and many are living in situations because they have no alternative or are too afraid to leave. It is

time for Abaco to form a support group. It is time for persons to be able to get the help they need when their world is falling apart. It is time that we teach our male children from birth that to hit a woman is wrong and to teach all our children that to verbally abuse another person to the detriment of that person's emotional and mental state is WRONG.

We can improve the handling of domestic violence. Too many people do not believe the victims. Too many persons say forget about it she will go back. In many cases the victim has no viable alternative and those who are able to stay out of the abused environment find it extremely hard to do so. There are persons who tease and try to start trouble and there are persons who say the victim is guilty.

The law is not being followed correctly because in a life and death situation an order to keep the peace or binding over usually takes at least a week and a half. When the hearing happens, it is still difficult to get in many cases. The time frame I have been told by a legal advisor in Nassau should be no more than two days for a keep the peace order hearing in cases of violence. Interesting indeed.

Hopefully, in the coming months there will be a support groups for all persons who are victims of domestic violence here in Central Abaco. Maybe someday there will even be a safe house and a halfway house for victims to begin to rebuild their lives.

The best way to stop this increasing crime is by intense education. As one minister said to break the generational curse, "It can be done." The new year is coming. It is time to act, citizens of Abaco, not just against some crimes but also the crime of domestic violence.

The Abaconian

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Letters to the Editor

Airport Is Deplorable

Dear Editor,

My family and I recently spent our vacation in the Abacos. We arrived in Marsh Harbor in a downpour of rain and made a mad dash for the terminal. After passing through immigration, we proceeded to collect our bags and were horrified that we had to go and collect our own bags off the baggage cart in the pouring rain. Passengers grappled for their bags resulting in a toppling of bags into the mud. Needless to say, we arrived at our house totally soaked with muddy bags and wet clothing.

On a positive note we enjoyed our stay. The Abaco Islands are beautiful and we found the people friendly and helpful. It would appear that you have a thriving tourist industry. The islands seem prosperous. We were wondering why the airport is so deplorable? First impressions are important. If tourism is your primary business, doesn't it seem like a good idea to spend some of your revenue on the place your visitors see first. I had to laugh a little when we were leaving. After climbing over bags and trying to find a place to sit down, the ticket agent said that will be \$60 for departure tax. For what, I thought.

Your island has a lot of potential. However, I think that you have to remember that there are lots of places with sand, sun and friendly people. It would be a good idea to remember how your bread gets buttered. An improved airport would be the best investment you could make for your industry. The return on the investment would be immediate.

Jim and Judy Fossil
Toronto, Canada

Praise for Her School

Dear Editor:

In recent issues of this newspaper there have been several letters written in reference to my high school, Forest Heights Academy. I am saddened to say that these letters were written from a very derogatory standpoint. They included very negative comments about my high school and its scholastic achievements. I found these letters very disturbing because I feel that Forest Heights Academy is by far the highest quality and most successful high school on our island.

I graduated from Forest Heights Academy in June of this year, after attending this institution for six years. During this time I found the work to be challenging and well presented by teachers who truly cared about their students. They were always there to lend a helping hand and offer advice and criticism when necessary. There always

seem to be healthy relationship between students and teachers and I never once heard a complaint that the school was not providing a good education for Abaco's youth.

These characteristics in themselves prove the success Forest Heights Academy has gained, but most of all, I think that the school's success is evident through the high scores its students receive annually on our national exams. For the past several years Forest Heights Academy as a school and its students individually have been recipients of several awards for top scores in these exams. In each of the years 2000 and 2002 one of Forest Heights Academy's graduating students received the top scores in the BGCSE exams for the island of Abaco. Also a ninth grade student received the top BJC exam scores for the island of Abaco in each of the years 1999 and 2000. Forest Heights Academy also received these awards and others in several other years.

Since I have been in college these past three months, I have come to realize how thoroughly I had been prepared for college work. I have found my college courses challenging. After talking to many students who attended other schools, I have come to realize that I was far better prepared for college than they were. Many students were never taught how to write a lab report or an effective essay as I was. And I have Forest Heights Academy's teachers to thank for this. Ms. Joy Chaplin of Biology and Combined Science and Ms. Leslie Kennedy of English Language and Literature settled for nothing but the best from their students and I owe them for my ability to write lab reports and essays.

I am sure there are as many opinions of Forest Heights Academy as there are students, but I am also confident that if you ask any students who graduated from Forest Heights Academy and are now attending college what they think of their high school, they will tell you, if nothing else, that they were well prepared for college work.

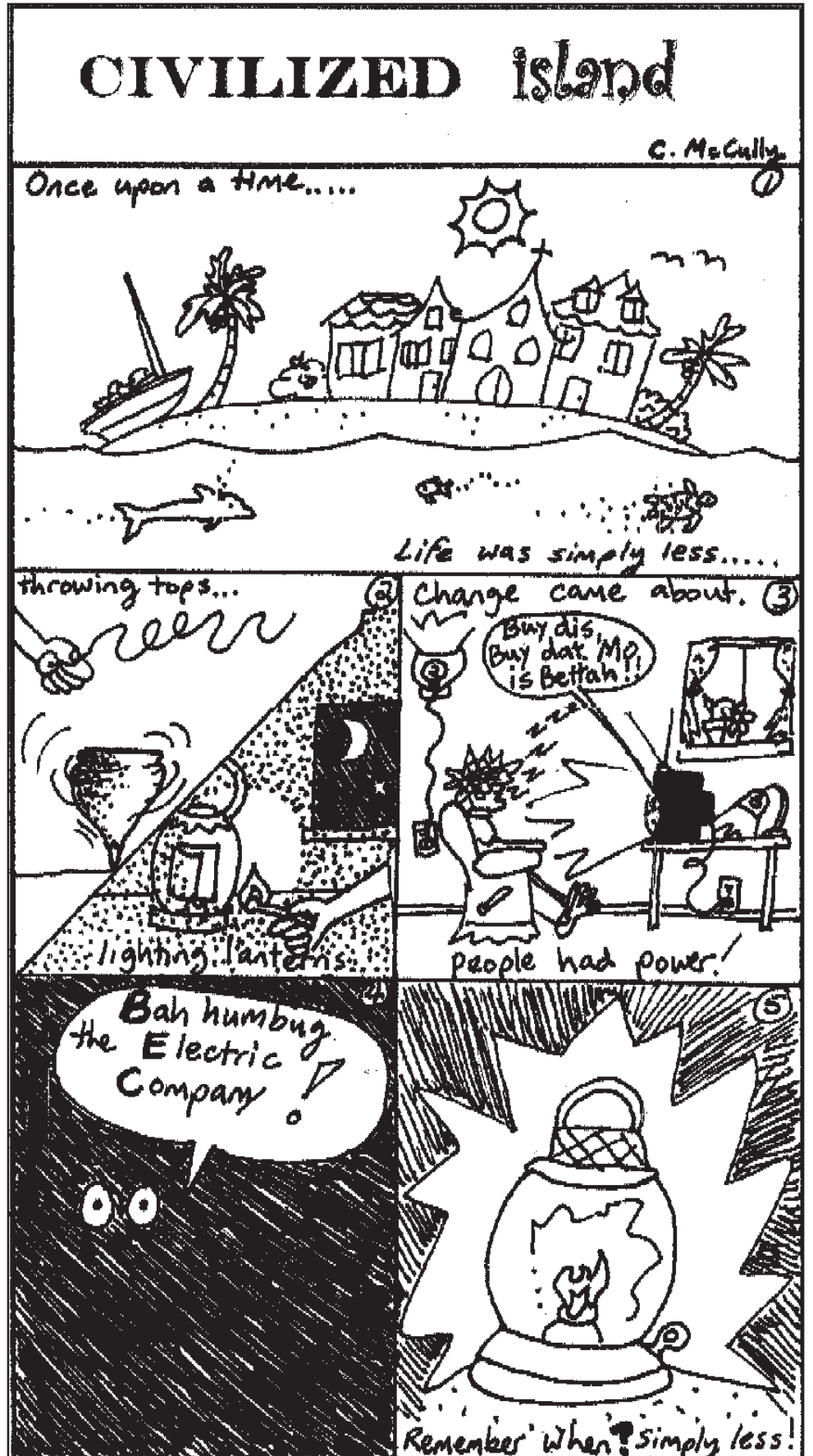
So, all I ask is that people consider the high test scores and the success of Forest Heights Academy's students before they make negative comments about "my" high school.

Sincerely,
Bianca Bethel

Setting the Record Straight

Dear Sir/Madame,

In order to secure our continued support from the community, (as we are a fledgling association,) we would like you to take note of that our last effort, the new parking lot at the beginning of the government dock as shown in the last issue of *The Abaconian*, is a project of the Guana Cay Community Association spearheaded by Mr. Troy Albury. We are working for a better and more beautiful community. With the sup-



port of the community and our second home owners, we hope to continue with many more projects in the future; ie; a new government dock, the beautification of Front Street, the planting of flowering trees, the sale of our beautiful poetry book to support the Guana Cay Community Association and the Guana Cay All Age School. If you would like a copy of the Guana Cay Community Association newsletter, e-mail us at guanacayca@hotmail.com!

Have a great day!
The Guana Cay Community Association

AA Meetings

The AA (Alcoholics Anomyous) group of Marsh Harbour meets Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marsh Harbour Community Library.

The AA group in Hope Town meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the library.



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News of the Cays

Man-O-War

By Pat Elkins

Joe's Kicks Off Holiday Season

Marianne Albury welcomed all to the 14th annual Christmas Open House at Joe's Studio on November 30. Even though Christmas lights had started to appear in the weeks before, this event seemed to unofficially

announce that the holidays are upon us. The weather was picture perfect and shoppers and lookers enjoyed the food and festivities. Two of our visitors strummed holiday music as island treats were sampled from the buffet tables.

A New England specialty, apple cider served cold and mulled, was brought all the way from Massachusetts by Marianne's

brothers, Tom and Bob Raslausky. Inside the store clerks Leola and Christina Sweeting were in the spirit of Christmas, too, sporting Santa hats as they rang up purchases and wrapped presents for those who had found the perfect gifts for friends and loved ones. Thanks to Marianne and Joe for another great open house and all their helpers who made the day possible.

Church News

Lest we forget the reason for the season, please make plans to attend the Christmas programs at our churches.

New Life Church will hold their program on the evening of December 18.

Man-O-War Church of God follows on December 20.

The Gospel Chapel will hold theirs on

December 22.

Please check with church members for exact times.

School News

Even though she is no longer a student at Man-O-War School, Junea Sweeting has not stopped furthering her education. This month Junea finished the secondary phase of her education by completing the General Studies Home Schooling program under the American School. Junea's parents, Walter and Winnie Sweeting, are proud of the fact that she has fulfilled four years of high school requirements in just one year. Even

Please see **Cays**

Page 11



Junea Sweeting has completed her high school education completing all four years in one year through correspondence courses.



The Man-O-War young people along with some parents spent an evening caroling outside the homes of elderly. They are shown here in front of Mrs. Estelle's house. They did this instead of presenting a Christmas school program.



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Have a Merry Christmas



We want to thank all our supporters on Abaco during this holiday season.



and a Prosperous New Year!

More News of the Cays

Cays *From Page 10*

though she was working, she never let her standards fall and received her diploma with a 96.2 average. Junea has not decided what her plans are for the future so she will continue to work at Man-O-War Hardware. Congratulations to Junea for a job well done.

School Christmas Program

The holidays seemed to come out of nowhere this year. The students at Man-O-War School were ready, though. Instead of the usual Christmas program at school the students decided they would like to revive an old tradition. On the evening of December 6 the students and some of their parents went Christmas Caroling. Up and down the Queen's Highway strains of *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* and *Joy to the World* could be heard as children and adults alike joined in. Others were charmed by the idea and joined the parade. Everyone enjoyed the

evening and are in hopes that caroling will once again become a tradition on our island.

Sports

Veteran bodybuilder Arthur Elden competed in his first 60 and over competition on November 30 in Hialeah, Florida where he won the heavyweight division of the South Florida Bodybuilding Championship. He is now in his fifth consecutive decade as a competitive bodybuilder.

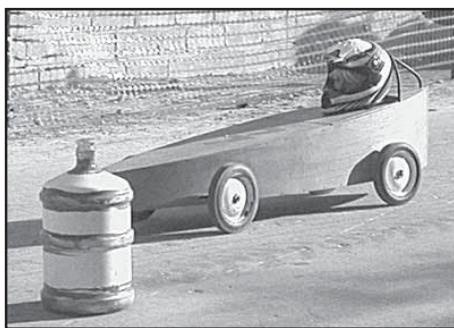
Arthur says it has taken a lot of dedication and desire to make it this far. He is thankful to Mr. Herbert Wong for his continuing encouragement. This contest was his last one for the year.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!

Hope Town Competition Is Keen at Box Car Races

By Stafford Patterson

The 5th annual Big Hill Box Car Derby was held on November 30th on Elbow Cay. Mother Nature provided a beautiful day. A



The box cars came in every size and shape, showing great ingenuity and creativity. Some of the carts entered both the Senior and Junior Divisions but with different drivers. Most carts had only one person but one car was a three-man car.

former Champion and a newcomer had a stellar day at the races. Food, drinks and Tee shirts were offered for sale. Transportation was provided for off island visitors from the public dock to the site.

After a full round of time trials were held, the eliminations began. With entries from Hope Town, Man-O-War Cay, Marsh Harbour and the USA, there was some serious competition for the categories of Fastest Downhill run as well as the Slalom run in both junior and senior classes.

Rick Sweeting of White Sound had the fastest Downhill time down the 800-foot course in the senior class, 33.12 seconds, followed closely by the Lighthouse Marina crew, Dan McCully and Charlie Cooke.

Junior Downhill results were Scurvy Few Club first with Stephen Malone, Sundance Marine and Calypso rounding out the top four.

Slalom competition put on quite a show of driving skill as drivers negotiated the course of markers trying not to hit any of them and incur a time penalty. The crowd witnessed a few great saves as well as a few wipe outs. With the best time of two runs once again, Rick Sweeting topped the chart with Scurvy Few, Dan McCully and Shane Cash 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Juniors did well with a finishing order of Scurvy Few,

Please see Cays Page 36



This is the finish line for one competitor. The checkered flag announces that he has completed the downhill competition.

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Basket of 6 Chicken Fingers battered and lightly fried. \$6.50

Basket of Onion Rings - shoestring-sized onions lightly battered and fried. \$5.00

Coconut Shrimp - 5 coconut battered shrimp served with papaya dip. \$9.00

Sailor Salads

Tropical Delight - bowl of mixed greens, cucumber, tomatoes, red cabbage, green and red peppers, onions and mandarin orange segments. \$8.00
With grilled or blackened chicken. \$10.00
With grilled or blackened grouper. \$12.00

Cook's Salad - bowl of mixed greens, cucumber, tomatoes, green and red peppers, onion, egg, turkey breast, ham, Kerrigold Irish cheddar cheese, Swiss cheese. \$12.00

Traditional Caesar - bowl of romaine lettuces, homemade savory croutons, anchovies and homemade Caesar dressing \$8.00
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With grilled or blackened grouper. \$12.00

We make our own dressings!

Papaya, lime vinaigrette, bleu cheese, peppercorn ranch

Sub Sandwiches - Served on a sub roll with coleslaw and pickle

Club Sub - ham, turkey breast, cheddar cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato and mayo \$8.00

Hot Turkey Sub - hot turkey breast with melted cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, mayo and mustard \$8.00

Hot Ham & Cheese Sub - hot ham with melted cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, mayo and mustard \$8.00

Dinner Specialty Menu

In addition to our regular Mermaid Menu, we offer Didi's Favourite Signature Dishes, using the finest and freshest ingredients available daily, at market prices

Didi's Favourite Appetizers

Grilled Shrimp Cocktail - 5 shrimp grilled with a sweet, hot and sour chili garlic sauce and served with green olive salsa.

Vegetable Tower - grilled vegetables with cheddar cheese and balsamic vinaigrette

Didi's Signature Dinners

Grilled Guana Lobster Tail - served with scalloped leek potatoes and fresh vegetables.

Crawfish Medallions - sauteed in a creamy saffron spinach sauce and served over linguini pasta.

Lobster Cakes - two savory spiced cakes served with papaya mayonnaise and placed on top of fresh garden greens.

Grilled Wahoo - served with a pineapple and lime salsa and accompanied by a vegetable risotto.

Didi's Island Grouper - sauteed in a red curry vegetable sauce.

New York Strip - 12-ounce aged certified Black Angus char-grilled and served with scalloped leek potatoes.

Tournedos of Beef - tender filet mignon cut served with a whole grain mustard and papaya sauce and scalloped potatoes.

Grilled Lamb Chops - served with whipped potatoes with caramelized Vidalia onions.

Orange BBQ Ribs - island style and served with whipped potatoes.

Chicken Tower - boneless chicken breast layered with grilled bell peppers with basil infused sour cream. Served with whipped potatoes.

Home made Desserts - Our delectable desserts are made fresh each day in our kitchen by Chef Dietmar and Chef Debbie. Please ask your server for today's selections.

Specialty Drinks

Chesapeake Bay Bloody - Nancy's special recipe...made with Clamato juice, lots of lime juice, Crystal Hot sauce and other stuff and finished with Old Bay Seasoning around the rim! \$5.00

The Dolphin Fin Spin - don't ask... just enjoy \$5.00

Vicki's Island Rum Punch - all say it's the best. \$5.00

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Chicken Burger - grilled, blackened or fried chicken breast topped with melted Kerrigold Irish cheddar cheese and crisp bacon and mayo. Served on a homemade bun. \$9.50

Debbie's Famous Fish Sandwich - delicately fried grouper filet served on toasted Bahamian bread and topped with Kerrigold Irish cheddar cheese and tartar sauce. \$12.00

Mermaid LBLT - cracked Bahamian lobster, bacon, lettuce and tomatoes served on a toasted homemade bun. \$12.00

Classic Lunch BLT - crisp bacon, lettuce, tomato and mayo served on toasted Bahamian bread. Served with coleslaw and a pickle. \$6.50

Tuna Salad Sandwich - Citrusy tuna salad, lettuce, tomato and mayo served on toasted Bahamian bread. \$6.50

Bahamian Lunch Plates

Debbie's Famous Fried Chicken - juicy batter-dipped chicken breast quarter fried and served with peas and rice or fries or onion rings and coleslaw. \$10.00

Island Cracked Conch - tenderized conch, perfectly battered and delicately fried. Served with peas and rice or fries or onion rings and coleslaw. \$12.00

Mermaid Specialties

Beachside Linguini - linguini pasta tossed in a creamy sauce with bacon, vegetables and chicken breast. Or try it tossed in a homemade red marinara sauce. Served with homemade dinner roll. \$12.00

Reef Stir-fry - sweet and sour chicken stir-fried with crispy fresh vegetables and steamed white rice. Served with homemade dinner roll. \$12.00

Lasagna Out Island - homemade lasagna with beef and served with a garden or Caesar salad. \$11.00

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Programs Help Special Students

By Theresa Pinder

ECC Holds Open House

The Every Child Counts Learning Center opened its doors to the public on December 1st, 2002. The first such event since it made the transition to the old St. Francis de Sales Convent, the facilities were made available for the community to tour and inquire about how the program functions.

Special Education teachers Pamela Hepburn and Margaret Philips displayed projects and other classwork that the students had completed and were available for questioning.

Patty Basalone, the President of Island Biz Kids, a nonprofit corporation designed to help fund programs of this nature, was also present. She had on display the originals of the winning artwork from the island-wide art competition held earlier this year. These framed originals are currently being auctioned online on the Abaco Message Board, www.AbacoBoard.com. Smaller reproductions and other designs in

the form of cards and t-shirts were also on display for sale. Anyone interested can purchase these items from the Every Child Counts Learning Center. Proceeds from the auctioned artwork will be divided between the artist and his school/church and Island Biz Kids International.

ECC Students Participate in Special Olympics

For the first time ever Abaco participated in the Bahamas Special Olympics Annual Basketball Tournament. Held on November 30th, a team of eight ECC students traveled to Freeport, Grand Bahama, to attend the Third Annual tournament. Accompanied by their two coaches, Pastor Stephen Knowles and Mr. Sonith Lockhart, and chaperone Mr. Emalin Sawyer, the students entered the YMCA Gym with some trepidation, unsure of what to expect.

Of the four islands represented in the tournament, Abaco, Grand Bahama, Long Island and New Providence, the members of the Abaco team were among the young-

est players present, the oldest team Abaco member a 16-year-old. Grand Bahama had two players under the age of eighteen, but all of the other players were adults, some in their forties. Also lacking the three-year playing experience of the other teams, the members of the Abaco team were understandably intimidated.


However, in spite of the fear of being overmatched, the team from Abaco showed great spirit. Having had only three and a half weeks of preparation as a team, they played with increasing confidence and, despite all odds, placed third overall, ahead of Long Island.

The coaches and the team members were not disappointed with the results of their first effort; they played well, and the exposure the experience brought with it was worth it. At the awards dinner held later that evening, Justin Kemp from Treasure Cay was named the Most Valuable Player for Abaco, and the team was presented with a basketball from the Special Olympics Organization.

The team members and coaches are already looking forward to competing in the Caribbean Special Olympics next year in Nassau.



For the first time a group of young Abaco men traveled to Freeport to compete in the Bahamas Special Olympics Annual Basketball Tournament. They are, standing left to right, Coach Sonith Lockhart, Jamal McEwan, Jerron Knowles, Mr. Emalin Sawyer, Most Valuable Player Justin Kemp, Raj Sawyer, Alonzo Williams, Jose Sawyer and Coach Stephen Knowles. Kneeling are, left to right, Anthony Garcon, Michael Levarity and Team Captain Michael Pedican.



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ECC Hosts Speech Workshop

By Theresa Pinder

On November 15 and 16 the Every Child Counts Learning Center hosted a communication workshop. Jacqueline Sullivan, a Speech and Language Pathologist from Orlando, Florida, held the two-day workshop aimed at targeting problems children experience with learning speech and language.

The first session on Friday was directed mainly at teachers and parents of children who experience learning disabilities. Those attending viewed a video designed to high-

light the frustrations felt by children with learning disabilities in order to sensitize others to the difficulties that they experience. This frustration is felt in many areas, one of which is a difficulty in learning to communicate effectively through the use of speech and written language.

The second session of the workshop on November 16 went into how these difficulties can be identified and addressed. Ms. Sullivan discussed what communication skills are required in a regular classroom setting, and what may interfere with a child's

speech and language development. She discussed how to recognize indications that children are not learning the skills necessary for effective communication, and how to help correct the problem. Various problem areas were explored, and methods discussed that could be used to correct the problem. Problems stemming from teaching methods were addressed; complex instructions or vocabulary leads to confusion in some cases, hindering the learning process. Various other methods could cause confusion and frustration, and she addressed ways to avoid or correct these problems in the teaching method.

Ms. Sullivan briefed the group on how to screen, an effective method of determining what areas pose a problem to each individual child; she explained how to diagnose

and recognize severe problems so that steps can be taken to deal with the problems.

Sensory integration and neurological stimulation are ways to further the learning process. Sensory integration allows the child to use senses other than auditory and speech to learn to communicate such as visual helping aids, and providing neurological stimulation teaches the child to organize how the senses work together.

The sessions were well attended with teachers, parents and volunteers attending from settlements in North, Central and South Abaco.

Ms. Sullivan will be returning in February 2003 to conduct a workshop on autism; she will be accompanied by a special education teacher with a doctorate in autism. The workshop will be open to anyone interested.



A two-day speech workshop was held in Marsh Harbour as part of the program of Every Child Counts to help parents, teachers and others to deal with children with problems of many types. Shown above is Ms. Jacqueline Sullivan, a Speech and Language Pathologist who conducted the workshop. People came from many communities throughout Abaco to participate in the workshop.

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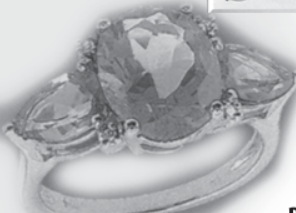



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School News

Forest Heights Academy Boys Step Out of the Classroom

November was an eye-opening month for many young men from Forest Heights Academy. Joshua Malone, Head Prefect, and

Ovens Altidor, Vice President of the Student Council, along with 14 young people from other Abaco high schools were invited to attend the All Abaco Local Government Workshop on November 14 and 15. The theme, Partners in the Challenges of the

New Millennium addressed topics ranging from environmental issues to crime prevention.

Ovens was particularly interested in the pollution problems and took away the message that "once we can better handle our waste, then we can preserve our Bahama Islands." Joshua felt "the statistics that Assistant Commissioner of Police, Ellison Greenslade, presented were incredibly shocking." But primarily both students received a closer look at the inner workings of local government.

Then on November 26, 100 boys ages

15-17 took a break from classes. Among these were boys from Forest Heights eleventh grade. The Kiwanis Club sponsored a Youth Leadership Forum organized by Mr. William Davis. Young Bahamian politicians served as strong role models at the motivational event. The messages to the young men were to follow through with their dreams and make the right decisions in order to have a positive effect on society.

Both of these gatherings were well re-

Please see **School**

Page 15



Pictured is Hope Town School students with their upper primary division entry "Our Bahama Parrot." The exhibit featured pictures of the field trip the students took to see the parrots and much detail about the parrots. The Annual Science Fair was held at the Central Abaco Primary School on November 27. The Hope Town school won second place in the Upper Primary category.

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More School News

School *From Page 14*

ceived by the students, once again pointing out that there are many lessons to be learned outside the classroom.

Science Fair

*By Margo Albury
10th Grade Student*

For the past few weeks all of the lower school students at Forest Heights Academy have been busy researching information on Bahamian plants and animals for the annual All Abaco Science Fair. This year's topic was Bahamian Plants and Animals. Therefore the students got to learn more about the environment around them. After the

research was completed, the information was artistically displayed on a three-sided panel.

The science department at the school held an inner school competition to decide which displays were to go to Abaco Central Primary for the main competition. Science teachers Ms. Chaplin, Ms. Carroll and Ms. Davis judged the displays. The students voted for their favorites, deciding the People's Choice. The results were as follows:

Grade 7: 1st place: Ducks by Gabrielle Manni, Candace Malone and Chris Weatherford; 2nd place: Flamingoes by Dana Lowe; 3rd place: Fresh Water Turtles by Margo Lowe, Breanna Lowe and Kelsi

Farrington.

Grade 8: 1st place: Gum-elemi or Poisonwood by Kurt Key, Lonnie Key, Emery Russell; 2nd place: White Crowned Pigeons by Dustin Russell, Kerri Sawyer and Lauren Albury; 3rd place: Wild Horses by Rayanne Malone, Ashley Knowles and Christian Wilhoyte.

Grade 9: 1st place: Poinciana Plants by Jordan Wells; 2nd place Wild Horses by Donna Albury; 3rd place: Pine Forest and Fire by Illya Tinker.

Forest Heights also had one upper school division display entered by Ms. Chaplin's Marine Biology class. They chose Marine Algae as their topic. All of the displays that placed first, second or third were taken to Abaco Central Primary along with other entries throughout Abaco.

Forest Heights Academy won first place in the lower school division and first place in the upper school division. The school was voted overall winner of the competition receiving the floating trophies.

This annual project has always been a good way for some students to work in groups and a way for students to learn about new and exciting things.

St. Francis de Sales

By Georgia Williams

Worlds AIDS Day Is Celebrated

World AIDS Day is celebrated every year on December 1st. On December 3 St. Francis de Sales High School held a special World AIDS Day assembly in an attempt to

Please see School Page 16



The first place winner in the lower primary division at the Science Fair on November 27 was the Central Abaco Primary School. The students are shown above proudly holding their trophy with their teacher, Mrs. Neulessa Major.



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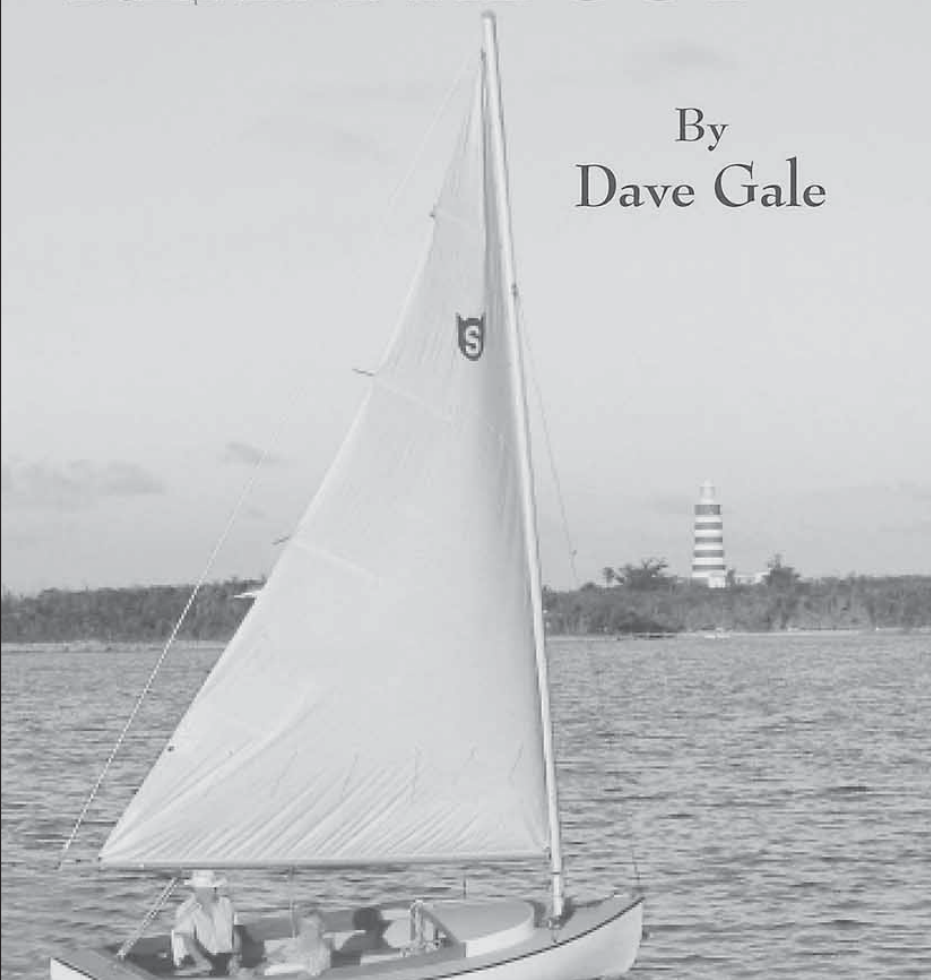
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More School News

School *From Page 15*

sensitize senior students on the whole issue of AIDS.

Nurse Carolyn Russell, Community Health Nurse and Diabetes Educator, addressed the students on the facts and myths surrounding the AIDS epidemic. As a result of the interactive manner by which she presented the facts, Nurse Russell's presentation was particularly interesting and meaningful. She invited students' questions, each of which was clearly answered.

Nurse Russell encouraged the students to make wise decisions so that they will achieve their goals in life. The students enjoyed the program about AIDS featuring students interpreting songs, poems and skits.

Thanksgiving Service

On November 28 St. Francis held a Thanksgiving Service at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. Mr. Richard Fawkes gave an interesting talk on Thanksgiving Day from a historical point of view while Father Ramon of St. Francis de Sales Church, reiterated the importance of giving thanks for God's daily blessing.

The students of each class presented boxes of food supplies which will be distributed to the less fortunate in our community.

PTA Raises Funds

The students of St. Francis de Sales had a bike-a-thon and walk-a-thon on November 29 organized by the school's PTA. The upper classes cycled from the school to the Cherokee turn-off and back, a 12-mile trip, while the students of the lower grades

walked to airport round-about and back, a two and a half mile walk. The students raised money by getting sponsors and by selling refreshments afterwards at the school.

The event was organized to raise money for networking the computer systems at the school and to provide better night security lighting. They were pleased to net \$4000 for their projects. They are hoping to improve the landscaping, especially around the new building.

The school administration would like to thank the community for their generous contributions. The school is particularly grateful to the American Bridge Company which donated fill and the use of equipment to improve their campus.

The PTA officers are Ms. Cindy Hayworth, President; Mr. Ernest Scott, Vice-President; Ms. Iris Henschell, Treasurer, Ms. Yvonne Adderley, Secretary.

Agape Christian School

Agape Christian School had an "out-of-uniform" day on October 4. Each child paid \$1 to wear casual clothes and the \$205 raised was donated to the Abaco Cancer Society to assist this local chapter. The month of October was Breast Cancer Awareness month in the United States. The school's family of 215 students has lost a number of parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and others to this dreaded disease while others are still fighting for their lives. The staff felt this was yet another way to show their students that giving is always good.

The school hopes that they can continue to support this and other charitable organizations. The school wishes to thank the students and parents for supporting this effort. And they thank the Abaco chapter of the

Please see School Page 17



On November 29 students of St. Francis de Sales School held a bike-a-thon and walk-a-thon to raise money for the PTA to make improvements at the school. Shown above are the cyclists leaving on their 12-mile ride. The PTA will be able to network the computers on campus and help with better security lighting at night with the proceeds from this event.

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More School News

School *From Page 16*

Cancer Society for all the support they give local cancer patients.

Science Fair Is Held

By Anita Rolle

November 27 saw the Third Annual Science Exhibition held at the Central Abaco Primary School in Dundas Town. The fair attracted eight schools from around Abaco as budding scientists pooled their talents and came up with dynamic science projects for display and competition. This year's theme was *The Wonderful World of Plants and Animals in the Bahamas*.

On hand to officially declare the science fair open was Ms. Veronica Owen, Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Sec-

retary with the Ministry of Education. Ms. Owens encouraged the young scientists to appreciate and take care of our plants and animals as they are an important part of our habitat. "Science," she said, "is just as important as English and Mathematics."

Forest Heights Academy took overall first place, winning the coveted Prime Minister's Floating trophy. Winners in the Lower Primary Division, Grades 1-3, were first place Central Abaco Primary, second place Treasure Cay Primary and third place Man-O-War School. Winners in the Upper Primary Division, Grades 4-6 were first place Treasure Cay Primary, second place Hope Town Primary and third place Abaco Central Primary. Forest Heights won first place in both the high school divisions while Abaco Cen-

tral High School came in second place for the upper division.

Schools participating this year included overall winner Forest Heights Academy, Abaco Central High School, Treasure Cay Primary, Man-O-War School, Hope Town Primary School, Cooper's Town Primary, Central Abaco Primary School and S.C. Bootle High School.

S.C. Bootle High School Chickens Are Plucked

By Anita Rolle

Mr. Lyndon Scott, Agriculture Science teacher at the S.C. Bootle High School in Cooper's Town, and his students were proud

to show off the rewards of their hard work recently. After six weeks of feeding and monitoring, the chickens on their livestock farm were plucked, yielding 450 pounds of ready-to-be consumed chicken.

The Agriculture Science Department and Mr. Scott express their sincere thanks to Mr. Rudy Pinder and Abaco Big Bird Poultry Farm, who assisted the school throughout the breeding and harvesting process. The chickens harvested are being sold and proceeds will go toward future agriculture science projects at the school.

Please see School Page 32



S.C. Bootle High School organized a special program to celebrate One Bahamas Day on November 25. Shown above is a group from Fox Town Primary School performing a "Bahamian Medley." One Bahamas is an effort to bring all school students together to realize that we are all one.

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Abaconians Donate Blood

By Anita Rolle

The statement "The life you save could be your very own" could apply to any one of us. Recently, officials of the Princess Margaret Hospital Blood Bank spent a few days on Abaco visiting government clinics at Marsh Harbour, Cooper's Town and Green Turtle Cay in an continuing effort to sensitize Family Island communities to the importance of donating blood.

Mr. Everette Miller, Supervisor at the Princess Margaret Hospital Blood Bank in Nassau accompanied by Glenville Roberts and Vendolyn Hepburn, spent time at the clinics hoping to dramatically boost the bank's blood supply. Princess Margaret has the responsibility of supplying blood for its patients, which includes those traveling

there from the Family Islands. The need for Family Island involvement in the blood donation process has been determined a necessity as the blood donations on New Providence has proven to be insufficient.

Oftentimes persons are reluctant to donate blood for several reasons including a fear of needles or thinking that the process may be painful or unsafe. Persons are encouraged to become aware of the necessity of an ample blood bank, as the process takes just a few minutes and is completely safe as all equipment is sterile.

Anyone can donate who is 17 years or older, is healthy and is free of infections. A person can donate as frequently as every eight weeks and blood is tested for blood-transmitted infectious agents before it is used

on any patient.

The Princess Margaret Hospital Blood Bank accommodates three storage refrigerators, each with the ability to hold up to 460 units of blood. According to Mr. Miller, there is seldom a time when the supply of blood meets the demand. This situation has a ripple effect, as this can result in cancelled or postponed operations or lengthy hospital stays, both of which could possibly result in death.

Supervisor Miller stated, "Every five to

10 minutes someone needs blood. We're hoping to become more visible on Abaco, hopefully making this an annual or twice a year blood drive as we build a donor base."

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Bring Results**



A team from Nassau were on Abaco to promote blood donations. The blood drive was organized by the Kiwanis Club of Abaco. Shown above is Mr. David Knowles, President of the Kiwanis Club, donating at the Government Clinic in Marsh Harbour. Drawing the blood was Mr. Everette Miller, Superviso of the Primcess Margaret Hospital Blood Bank.

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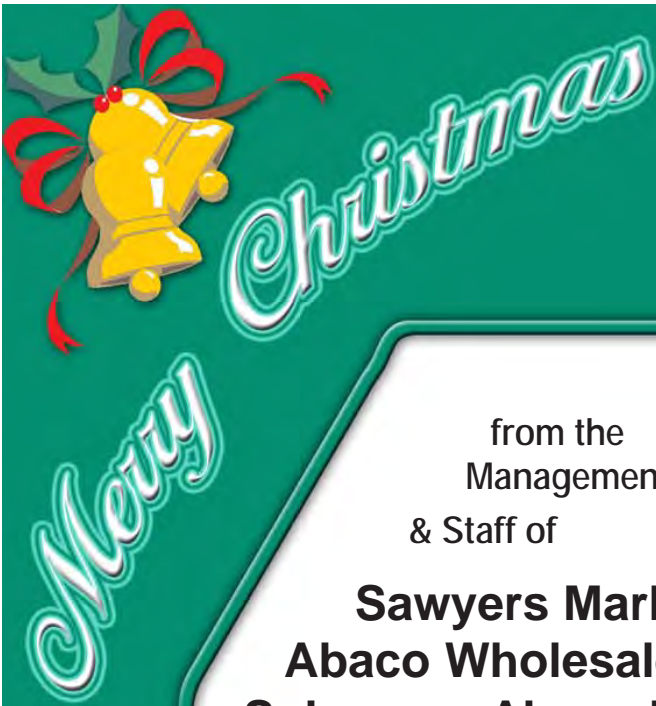
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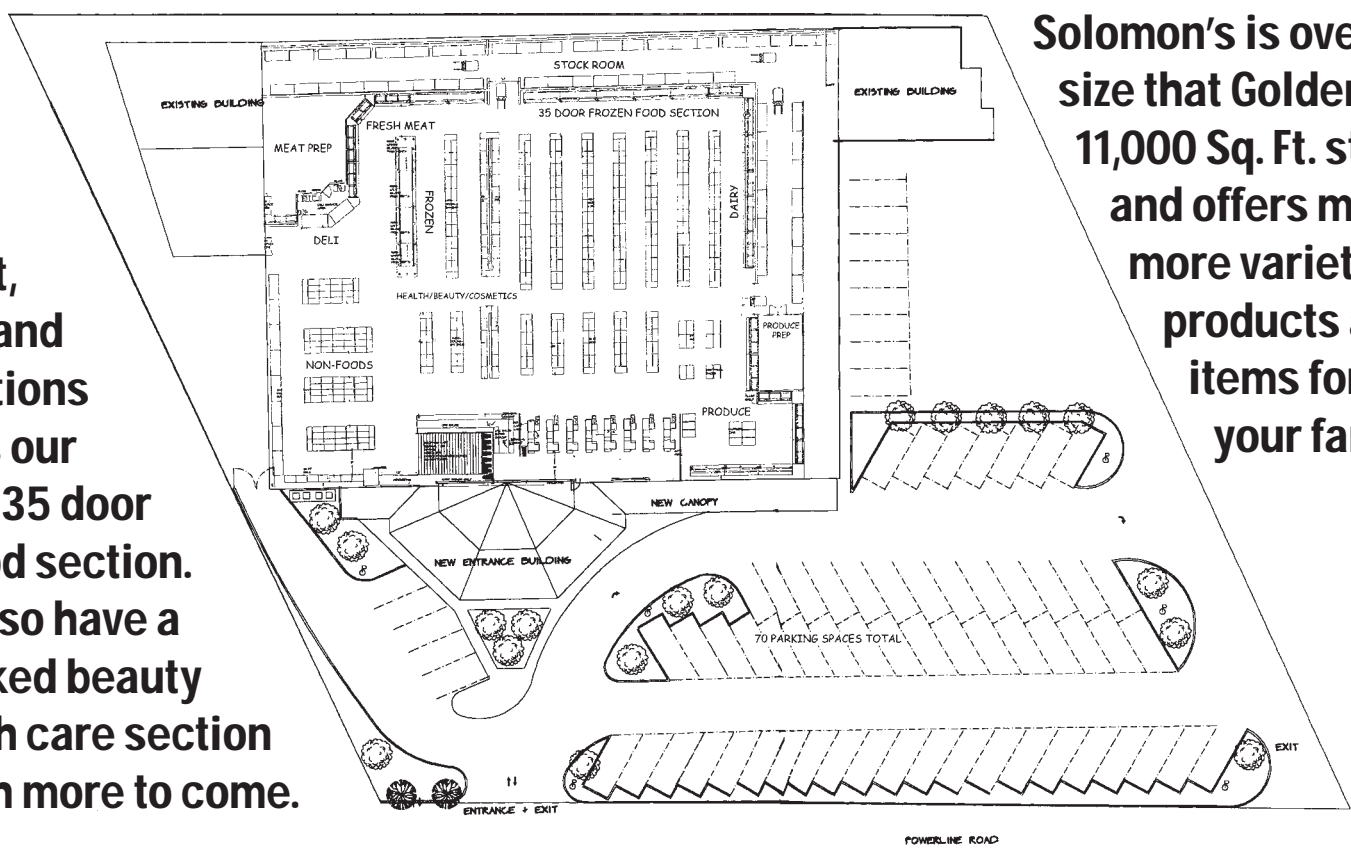


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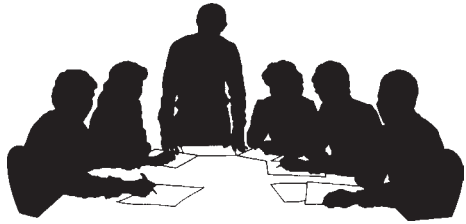
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Local Government at Work



Hope Town District Council 28 Nov 02

The meeting opened with Deputy Councillor Jeff Key being sworn in as a Justice-of-the-Peace. He can now fully exercise this office in the absence of the Chief councillor.

One application has been received for the assistant light keeper's job and this will be followed up.

There has been no response from the police concerning an officer to be stationed in or regularly visit Hope Town.

A four-page report on crime prevention recommendations from the police was presented and members were asked to review it and give the information to businesses and individuals.

The preservation of historic sites was discussed as structures 50 or more years old can be declared as historic sites and are then eligible for duty concessions on repair materials. The Administrator's office has application forms which are then submitted to the Minister of Finance.

A letter from the Great Guana Cay Community Association was read stating that the public dock there was in poor shape and asking for attention. Council will ask that the dock be inspected.

A letter from a Hope Town resident was read asking that he be given the schoolteacher's residence and ocean front lot in exchange for an inland lot measuring 60 feet by 600 feet. The government lot and house is in need of extensive seawall and beachfront restoration. Various options were discussed that might generate enough revenue from the sale to build a triplex inland to house a police officer, a nurse and a teacher. Options will be considered by the Council members.

A notice was read in which central government is requiring all government agencies, central and local, to reduce their recurring expenditures by five percent. Central government is reducing all capital budgets by 15 per cent.

Councillors were not sure how to effect this as most of their budget is for contract items. They elected to continue December business as budgeted and look for ways to reduce the next six months by 10 percent. It was not sure how to contend with the contracts as they are in effect a promise to pay for a service rendered.

The Hope Town Council budget is \$326,500 for the year meaning \$16,325

must be removed. The budget will be scrutinized in detail to see where savings may be effected.

Members closed by discussing various organizational methods and directions Local Government could go to make the Hope

Town Council function more smoothly, efficiently and provide the localized service the system is intended to provide. Government asked for suggestions from Councillors at the Local Government workshop held recently in Marsh Harbour.

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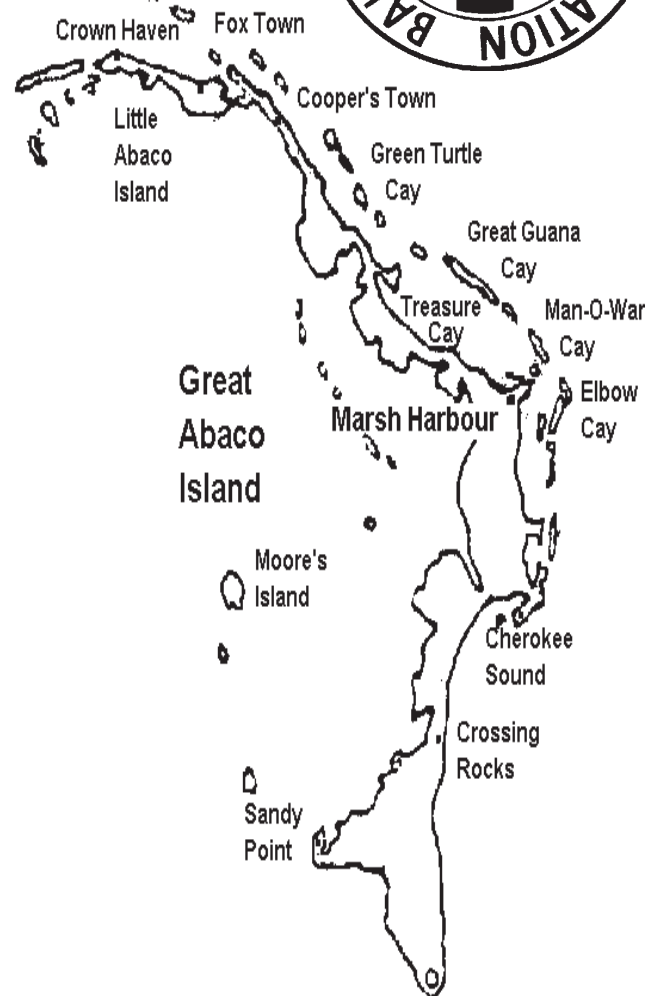
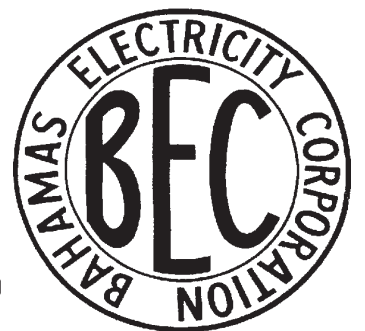
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Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the New Year

From the Free National Movement Branch Associations of North Abaco & South Abaco Constituencies

May You Have A Safe and Happy Holiday

Season's



Greetings

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. I wish you the best of the Christmas Season

SM

May the New Year bring you health and prosperity.

Police Report

As reported to The Abaconian

A resident of Spring City reported on November 20 that someone entered Sid's Pub in Spring City and stole \$200 and a satellite card valued at \$250.

A resident of Nassau reported on November 21 that someone entered his hotel room at the Conch Inn. His wallet was stolen containing a variety of credit cards, together valued at \$20,000 and his cellular phone valued at \$550. The wallet and credit cards were found; however, his cellular phone is still missing.

A resident of Murphy Town was arrested on November 22 for possession of dangerous drugs.

A Treasure Cay resident reported that she was attacked by a group of people while in Wood Cay. Stones and other items were thrown at her vehicle, causing damage to the windshield and the front and rear passenger windows.

A resident of Murphy Town was arrested on November 23 for possession of a counterfeit note.

Residents of Cooper's Town and Treasure Cay were arrested on November 23 for possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply.

A Murphy Town resident was arrested on November 23 for possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply.

A Marsh Harbour resident was arrested on November 23 on suspicion of having dangerous drugs in his possession.

A resident of Murphy Town was arrested on November 23 for possession of dangerous drugs, with an intent to supply.

A Man-O-War resident reported on No-

vember 24 that someone stole his 1995 Honda Domani from Albury's Ferry dock in Marsh Harbour.

Someone entered the staff room at Abaco Central High School on November 24. Nothing was stolen.

While making a check of the rear of the Marsh Harbour Police Station, an officer arrested a resident of Murphy Town for breaching the vagrancy act.

On November 24 a Grand Cay resident reported that someone stole his 75 HP Mercury outboard engine and two oil reservoirs.

A resident of Little Harbour reported that sometime between November 16 and 21 someone stole his 1988 Ford pickup truck which was parked at the Marsh Harbour International Airport.

A fight was reported on November 26 between two residents of Crossing Rocks; one of the residents received serious injuries after being struck in the head with a tire wrench. The other resident was subsequently arrested.

A Cedar Harbour resident reported on November 26 that someone entered her residence and stole \$10,000 which she had hidden between her bed mattress and box spring. She was unable to detect any signs of forced entry. There are three suspects.

A resident of Cooper's Town was arrested for raising a minor offence on November 26. He was charged and released on bail.

A Wood Cay resident was arrested and charged with causing damage. He was released on bail.

While on patrol on November 27 several police officers discovered the front door to

Abaco Wholesale Ltd. smashed. The key holder was contacted, and nothing is believed to be taken at this time.

A search of the premises of a Marsh Harbour business was conducted on November 28, and ten pounds of a brown grass-like substance was found, suspected to be marijuana or Indian hemp. As a result two employees were arrested.

A resident of Dundas Town reported that, while at Abaco Central High School on November 29, her son was approached by a group of males and a female. The group attacked him, hitting him across the face and head with bottles.

A Murphy Town resident reported on November 30 that, while working at the Upper Level Nightclub, a man struck him in the head with a hand-held metal detector injuring him.

A resident of Crown Haven reported on November 30 that a man she knew broke into her residence. He was caught while fleeing; nothing is believed to have been taken.

A resident of Murphy Town reported on November 30 that, while traveling near the Marsh Harbour Airport, her boyfriend struck her over the eye with a cellular phone, causing injuries.

A traffic accident occurred on Sunset Boulevard, Grand Cay, on December 2. A golf cart collided into a pedestrian, who received a broken finger and several minor injuries. She was treated at the Government

Clinic in Grand Cay and discharged.

The owner of Bahamas Family Market reported on December 3 that someone broke into the establishment and stole the cash register, which contained thirty or forty dollars in coins.

Anchor Club Installs New Members

By Theresa Pinder

On November 26th the Evening Anchor Club of Central Abaco installed its new members for the 2002-2003 year. The ceremony was held at Mackerel's Restaurant in Dundas Town. Ms. Gaitor, an advisor for the club, gave a brief overview of what the Anchor and Pilot Clubs stand for and the standards that the new members are committing themselves to upholding. In a candle lighting ceremony the new members pledged to uphold the ideals of the club.

After the installation of the regular club members, the executive officers received their candles and made their pledges. The incoming President is Adia Rolle, President-Elect is Claire Basden, Secretary is Candy Woodside, Assistant Secretary is Viline Baptiste, Treasurer is Kadren Knowles, Assistant Treasurer is Cinquetta Basden. Four members of the Morning Anchor Club were also installed, including the President Elect of the Morning Club, Belinda Jacobs.

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Court Report

November 25th

A resident of Murphy Town was charged with two counts, forging currency notes and possessing forged currency notes. He pleaded not guilty to these charges; the matter has been adjourned to February 12th, 2003.

Three residents of Marsh Harbour residents, were charged with the possession of dangerous drugs. The matter has been adjourned to February 10th, 2003.

Three residents of Treasure Cay, Grand Bahama and Cooper's Town were charged with possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply. They pleaded not guilty to the charges; the matter has been adjourned to February 12th.

Two Murphy Town residents were charged with the possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply. The matter has been adjourned to February 10th.

A resident of Andros failed to appear in court to answer to the charge of driving without due care and attention. A warrant has been issued for her arrest.

A Murphy Town resident failed to appear in court to answer to the charges of driving without due care and attention, driving an unlicensed vehicle, and driving without a valid certificate of inspection. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

A resident of Marsh Harbour was charged with driving without due care and attention. The matter has been adjourned to February 10th, 2003.

Ian Knowles of Murphy Town was charged with possession of dangerous drugs.

He pleaded guilty and was fined \$200.

Earlyn Ward, a resident of Murphy Town, pleaded guilty to a charge of using obscene language; he was fined \$100. He also pleaded guilty to a charge of drunken and disorderly behaviour, and was given an absolute discharge.

Two women of Moores Island were charged with causing harm. The matter has been adjourned to February 12th, 2003.

November 26th

Terran Smith, a resident of Murphy Town, was charged with taking prohibited items into a prison lockup. He pleaded guilty and was fined of \$750. He has been given fourteen days to pay the fine.

November 28th

Three residents of Marsh Harbour were charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm. The matter has been adjourned to January 23rd, 2003.

A Marsh Harbour resident was charged with the possession of dangerous drugs. The matter has been adjourned to January 23rd, 2003.

A resident of Dundas Town has been charged with obscene language, threats of death and assault. The matter has been adjourned to January 23rd, 2003.

A resident of Great Cistern has been charged with obscene language. The matter has been adjourned to January 23rd, 2003.

November 29th

Two residents of Marsh Harbour have been charged with the possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply. Bail

has been set for the woman at \$20,000 and for the man at \$40,000. The matter has been adjourned to February 27th, 2003.

December 2nd

Geno Pinder of Sandy Point has been charged with six counts of traffic violations. On the first four counts, the defendant pleaded guilty; for counts five and six, he was given an absolute discharge. He was fined \$150.

Juan-Bobby Roker, a resident of Marsh Harbour, was charged with driving without due care and attention to a matter that took place on March 22, 2002, in which a pedestrian was knocked down. The defendant pleaded guilty, but the court did not accept his plea. The complainant was not present, so the matter was adjourned to February 17th, 2003.


Don Davis, a resident of Moore's Island,

pleaded guilty to charges of obscene language and disorderly behaviour. He has been given time to pay the \$150 fine.

A resident of Marsh Harbour was charged with driving without due care and attention. The matter has been adjourned to January 13th, 2003.

A Marsh Harbour resident has been charged with stealing. The matter has been adjourned to February 19th, 2003.

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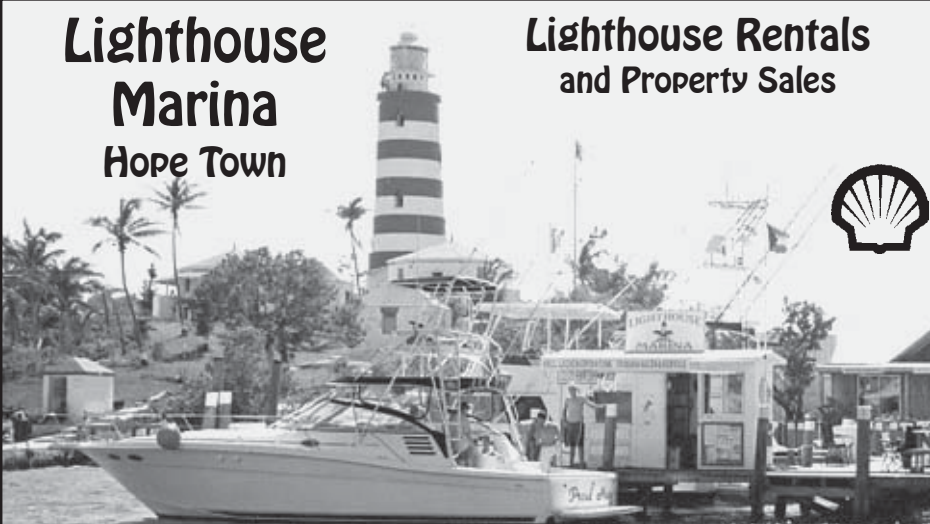


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Surfing Competition Is Held

On December 1 World AIDS Day Surfing Competitors came from as far as Green Turtle Cay to compete in the Bahamas National Qualifying Series on Elbow Cay. The swell was dying fast but the conditions were ideal with light offshore west winds and beautiful sunshine. The waves were a mere two-foot maximum although the junior division pulled off maneuver after maneuver and proved that having the event was a good call. Thanks to our judges: Peter Albury, Scott Patterson, Christine McCully, Tito

Baldwin and Chris Chapman. A special thanks to all those ladies who handled the food and refreshments.

Results:

Junior Men

1st Andrew Wilhoite, 2nd Joshua Sands
3rd Ryan Sands, 4th Christian Wilhoite,
5th Chris Rutledge, 6th Bradley Albury

Open

1st Tim Albury, 2nd Jeff Gale, 3rd Blake Sands, 4th Ron Engle

Women

1st Christine McCully, 2nd Rhonda Claridge, 3rd Rhiannon Thomas

Long Board

1st Jeff Gale, 2nd (tie) Tito Baldwin, 2nd (tie) Ron Engle

Open House Draws Shoppers

By Isobel Sherman

Just as the Open House at Iggy Biggy in Marsh Harbour was about to open their doors, the electricity went off. During the time staff held candles for the browsers and customers. Iggy Biggy in Marsh Harbour has their merchandise displayed in three buildings with each area showing their trade mark of unusual gifts and other items. If you would like a curly tail lizard ornament for your tree or some beautiful shell angels, then Iggy Biggy is the place to go.

Heal Our Land Appeals to Youth

By Isobel Sherman

The Heal Our Land committee in conjunction with Family Fest held a two-day Family Fest at Murphy Town Park on December 7 and 8. Food, games and music were the order of the day. Featured groups included Christian Measure, various Gospel artists from Abaco, Ms. Dynamite Daisy and Dr. Wayne Thompson from the Centre for Renewing Relationships.

Green Arrow Sponsors Running Race



Participants of the first Green Arrow 4.2 Kilometer Race held on November 23 in Treasure Cay saw great competition. The race was organized by Mr. Vogel Williams, Physical Education teacher at Treasure Cay Primary School, who hopes that this will become an annual event. It was an event of the newly formed track club. The photo shows Overall Winner Chris Nesbitt Jr. and second place winner in the boys ages 16-18 years, Clifford Hanna. Both are students of S.C. Bootle High School. Chris Nesbitt also won first place in the boys ages 12-14 category.



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Food for Thought . . . Conch Salad

By Linda Henson

"Have you tried conch salad yet?" was one of the first food questions I encountered when I arrived in Marsh Harbour. While visiting Nassau, I had my first taste of cracked conch and had seen conch chowder on the menu. But conch salad was something new. I kept prying my friend with questions to get the details of the salad. How was the conch prepared? The answers were very evasive until finally I pulled it out of the reluctant Bahamian.

"Raw."

"RAW?" "You must be joking!"

While visiting Tokyo, I had ventured into the world of "raw" with *sushi*. The pink salmon had been marinated in rice wine vinegar before being placed in the seaweed. The nice rectangle of rice that acted as a bed for the raw fish helped me to attempt something so foreign to my diet. I could handle that. But now I was hearing that there was no rice to help this over-sized snail go down.

Seeing my reaction, my large-toothed

grinning friend began a description of the sea creature that somehow made the conch in conch salad sound *really* raw. Finally, I learned that lime juice acted as the marinating agent. As time passed and my experience increased, I learned that the marinating time varied according to either the salad chef or the one devouring the food. With open-air conch salad stands around Marsh Harbour, I began a quest to explore the secrets of this popular dish.

Most of our tourists are familiar with "Showboat's" conch stand next to Snappas. When I stopped in to talk with him and explore his culinary secrets, I found him to be a wealth of information. Not only is his recipe popular here, but conch salad chefs from Nassau have adopted his trademark style. After skinning the conch he cleans it with salt. He invited me to watch the whole process of preparation. According to Showboat, there is a slime that is present on the conch and if it isn't cleaned with salt first,

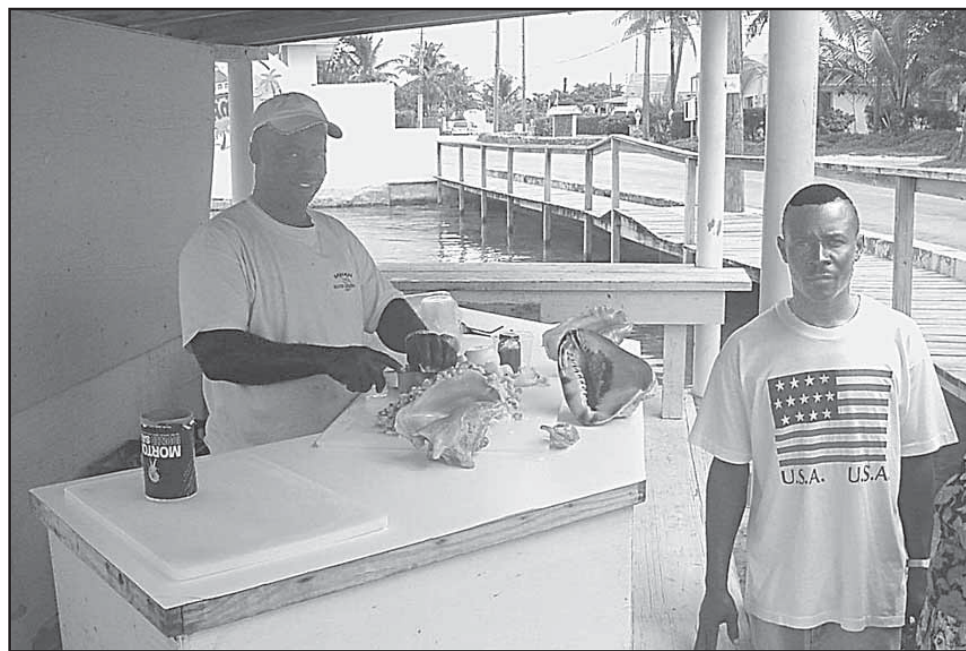
the salad you buy at 11 a.m. to eat at 12 noon may end up with the slime in it.

Friendliness and courtesy are the two main ingredients of Showboat's formula for a successful conch salad stand. It seems to be a formula that works; his record is 185 salads in one day. He tells stories of tourists who refused to try conch salad, but with his friendly Bahamian insistence they finally sampled his wares. "How can you visit the island without tasting one of our national dishes?" One taste was all it took. After that, they came for conch salad everyday of their stay and even took some with them the day they left the island.

Juan Bobby and Mickey Lowe have recently relocated their conch salad business to the area across from the Texaco station. They place their emphasis on serving fresh conch. Just at sunrise their boat goes out to

Please see **Conch**

Page 36



Showboat's Conch Stand is a very popular place with both visitors and Bahamians. He has his own special way of preparing everybody's favorite food, conch salad.

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December 18th, 2002 at 6:00 PM**

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Principal Is Saluted for Great Service

By Anita Rolle

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The acrostic was used to describe the man deemed worthy of praise. It came as no sur-

prise that family, friends and well wishers would show up in great numbers to salute Mr. Michael Henry Rolle, Principal of the Cooper's Town Primary School. He was honored at a grand event held at the Cooper's Town Church of God for the role he has played for the past fifteen years, both in the classroom and in the community.

Showing up expecting to be attending a Harvest Thanksgiving Service, Mr. Rolle was obviously overawed to find that the evening was being held in his honor.

Mr. Michael H. Rolle, Principal of Cooper's Town Primary School, was honored with a special program which showed the appreciation of the school and the community for his outstanding work. He is shown here with Mrs. Shannalee Sands, Senior Mistress of the Cooper's Town Primary School.



Many offered tributes, all reiterating the opinion that Michael Rolle is a man worthy of the accolades being received. Among them was former District Education Superintendent, Mr. Jackson McIntosh, who said, "The academics of Cooper's Town has seen a steady growth under Mr. Rolle's watch, who always sees that his students receive first priority." He continued, "Michael Rolle obviously realises the essence of his calling - preparing students for life."

Also bringing remarks was a former student, Mr. Ed Armbrister, representing the classes of 1977 through 1980 who stated that Mr. Rolle always practiced what he preached, thanking him for the positive impact he made on his life. Keynote speaker traveling from Andros was former District Education Officer for Abaco Mr. Rudolph Smith, remarking that Michael Rolle was commissioned to teach. "People may doubt

what you say," he said, "but they believe what you do."

The program was balanced with song, dance and poetry. The confirmation of love, gratitude and appreciation was evident as the entire teaching staff of nine, who happen to all be female, serenaded their Principal in a harmonious, moving original composition, *Here's to the Man*. By the end there wasn't a dry eye among them.

Showered with gifts galore, among them a camcorder, all expense paid trip for two to Florida, one year's supply of barber services, a *Land* luggage set, Mr. Rolle declared his gratitude for all that was said, remarking that he will cherish the memories of the evening forever. Mr. Rolle has been in the educational field serving in various capacities since 1971. He is married to the former Nadine Russell; the couple has one son, Marlon.



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Kiwanis Host Forum For Young Men

By Anita Rolle

Real men pray everyday was the message driven home to over 200 young men between ages 15 - 17 who packed the Anglican Parish Hall to be encouraged to follow through on their dreams and prepare to be productive men in society. The forum, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Abaco, was addressed by Mr. Charles Sealy, Ad-

ministrator of Doctor's Hospital in Nassau; Mr. Michael Halkitus, Member of Parliament; former Senator Darren Cash; and Pastor Lawrence Arnette of Soul Saving Ministries in Dundas Town.

Mr. Sealy in his address reiterated, "Leadership is not a popularity contest. Leaders are expected to demonstrate some level of intelligence, so you can't be dumb

and expect to lead people, you're expected to be intelligent." He continued, "Leaders have personal knowledge, they are curious. They want to know how things work, they want to know what's happening around the world, they want to know what opportunities lie ahead." Explaining to the young men some of the attributes of an effective leader, he reminded them that leaders follow by example and make other feel good about themselves.

Enticing the young men to make right and positive decisions, Mr. Cash brought to their attention, "You make decisions everyday. When you decide whether or not to pay attention in class everyday, you are making a decision. What really concerns us is making the right decisions."

Pastor Arnett and Mr. Halkitus shared life changing experiences which have assisted them in their road to achieving great success. Along with reading and keeping abreast of what is going on in the country, the young men were encouraged to always show respect to others while working hard to achieve their goals.

This effort of the Kiwanis Club and Abaco Central High must be applauded. According to Mr. Benjamin Stubbs, Principal at the Abaco Central High School, this is just the beginning of great things to come in encouraging our young men to become productive citizens of the country. Schools participating included Forest Heights Academy, Abaco Central High School, Smith Memorial Academy and S.C. Bootle High School.



A team of outstanding leaders from Nassau and Abaco addressed young men from several high schools, encouraging them to make the right decisions in life, taking advantage of opportunities they see. They are, left to right, Mr. Darren Cash; Mr. Michael Halkitus, MP; Pastor Lawrence Arnette; Mr. Charles Sealy; and Mr. William Davis.

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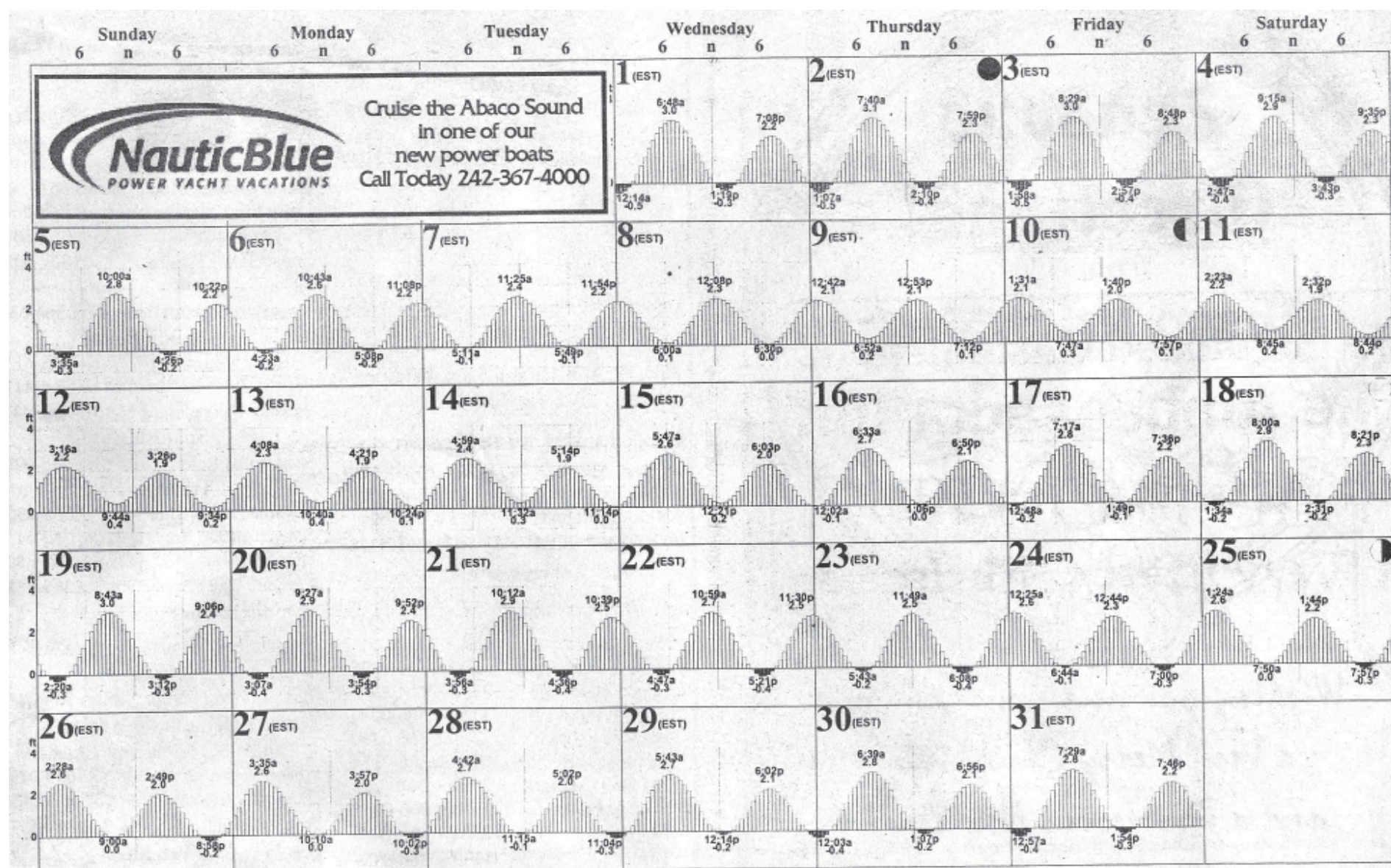
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Adopt-a-Dolphin Program Supports Marine Research

By Diane Claridge

The Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey has joined forces with Friends of the Environment to introduce an Adopt-A-Dolphin program on Abaco. This program is designed to increase community support and

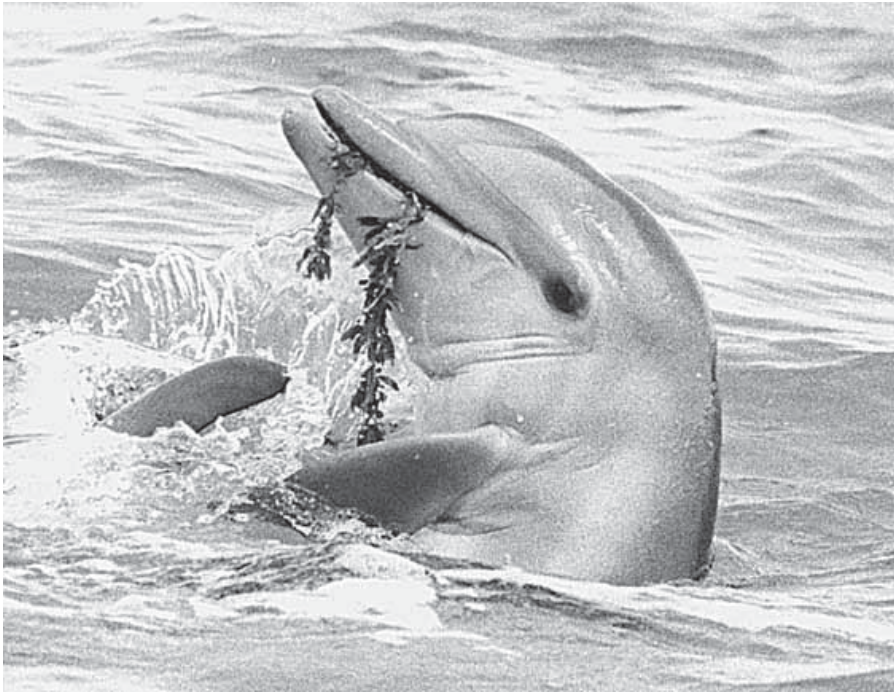
awareness for on-going research and conservation efforts to protect wild dolphins and their habitat in The Bahamas. Your support is encouraged. Money raised through the program will allow the research team to conduct monthly vessel surveys in the Sea

of Abaco to monitor the local dolphin population and along with Friends to introduce new educational program on Abaco.

Two different adoption packages are available. The Adopt-A-Dolphin package for \$50 per year allows the person to choose one of six resident Abaco dolphins (including the locally famous dolphin "Rocky") and that person will receive an adoption certificate, a photo of their dolphin, the dolphin's biography and a map showing all locations where that dolphin has been seen. The Adopt-A-Pod package for \$145 per year allows a person to choose between two different pods of

dolphins. Each pod consists of three resident dolphins either from the Sea of Abaco or Rocky Point, near Sandy Point. They will receive the above information for each dolphin in their pod as well as a year's membership to Friends, the Friends newsletter, a Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey t-shirt and annual field report.

These packages make the perfect Christmas gift for any dolphin lover. A win-win for all, especially Abaco's dolphins. For more information look for the Adopt-A-Dolphin flyers at local businesses or call BMMS at 366-4155.



Everyone enjoys watching the antics of any of our resident dolphins, especially at play enjoying themselves. Research is continuing on them by the Bahamas Marine Mammal Survey which now is offering a way for anyone to help with their project as well as keep abreast of their dolphin or pod.




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More School News

School *From Page 17*

One Bahamas Is Celebrated

By Anita Rolle

S.C. Bootle High School joined with others throughout the Bahamas on November 25 to celebrate One Bahamas under the theme *A Celebration of One God, One People, One Bahamas*.

The day of festivities included song, dance and poetry, all with great Bahamian flair. Other schools participating in the event along with S.C. Bootle were Treasure Cay Primary, Amy Roberts Primary, Cooper's Town Primary and Fox Town Primary. Mistress and Master of Ceremonies, 12th graders Anvar Russell and Tamara Burrows, skillfully kept the audience's attention. The

celebration concluded with a Junkanoo Rush out in which everyone had the opportunity to participate.

Principal Leslie Rolle applauded the teachers and students for a job well done in organizing and bringing forth a spectacular show and encouraged them to always appreciate and be proud of their country.

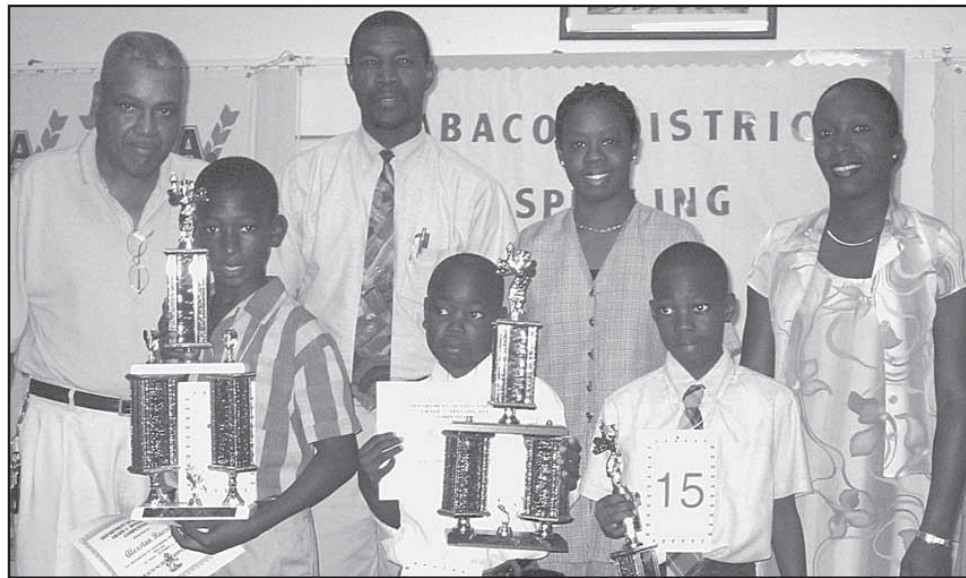
Abaco Central High

By Isobel Sherman

Baseball to Freeport

The Abaco Central Mighty Marlins Junior Baseball team traveled to Freeport on November 28 to participate in the Legacy Baseball tournament. Eleven boys along with coach Elva Davis made the trip.

Please see School Page 33



The Ministry of Education held its annual Grade Five Spelling Bee in early December. Shown above are the winners. In the front row, left to right, are 1st place Alexstan Russell of Cooper's Town Primary, 2nd place Wesnel Chery of Treasure Cay Primary and 3rd place Shaquille Jones of Central Abaco Primary. In the back row is a Burns House representative on the left along with the coaches of the winning students.



Mr. L. Scott, Agriculture Science teacher at S. C. Bootle High School and some of the hard working agriculture science students proudly show off freshly plucked, cleaned and bagged chickens which they are raising as a school project.

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More School News

News *From Page 32*

Chickens for Sale

The chicken-processing unit at Abaco Central High School is complete and the first batch of chickens raised by the Agricultural Science classes at the school have

been processed and placed on sale. The FAO of the United Nations funded the chicken-processing unit.

Succulent plump broilers are now for sale at the high school for the price of five or six dollars each. The chickens have been raised with only natural feed.

After Christmas break the Agricultural Science classes will begin to raise a new batch of chickens.

College Offers Housing Plan

By Isobel Sherman

Terreve College is a fairly new accredited two-year college located in Freeport, Grand Bahama. A private institution Terreve offers a wide range of courses and majors. It was a participant in the Abaco College Fair. Terreve just signed an agreement with Ramapo College in New Jersey that will allow graduates of Terreve to continue at

Ramapo College for their Bachelor's Degree.

Many parents on Abaco hesitate sending their children to Nassau to college and prefer sending them to Freeport. The only drawback for many has been finding a place for their children to live in Freeport. Terreve College has now developed a housing package which seems to be a very good one. Interested persons should contact Mrs. Sherman at Abaco Central High School for information on this housing package.



Edrico Armbrister of Fox Town Primary School was the winner of the 2002 Sixth Grade District Spelling Bee. Edrico has now won his sixth First Place trophy and he has won each of the District Spelling Bees since first grade.




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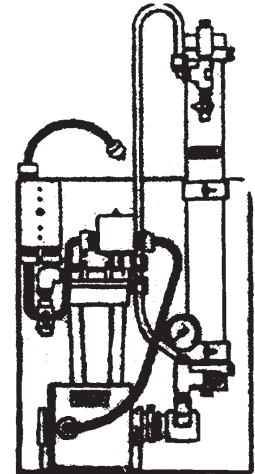
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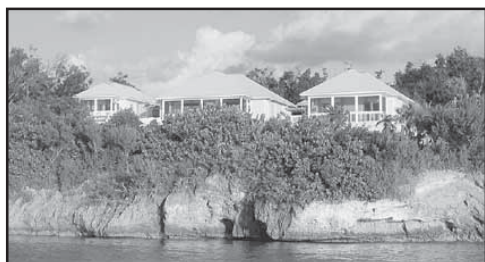
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New Year's Resolution



Buy that dream property! Here are a few of our many special listings to choose from.



Green Turtle Cay - #0272 - six magnificent buildings make up this residence on a high bluff. Features pool, Italian ceramic tiles, gorgeous views and too many other features to list. \$2,800,000



Guana Cay - #0271 - Finely crafted 4/2 home on Boat Harbour. Offers private dock, elevations and commanding views of the Sea of Abaco. \$699,000



Marsh Harbour - #0245 - Great starter home for new family. 3/2, large rooms, fenced in, big yard. \$185,000



Marsh Harbour - # 375 - 3/2.5 new home has downstairs apartment, garage, private patio and more. \$355,000



Lubbers - #0266 - The only waterfront lot available on the southern end of Lubbers. 70' of rocky shoreline, suitable for a dock. \$160,000



Man-O-War - #1387 - 1.1 charming cottage with upstairs sleeping loft, in the heart of town, newly renovated interior, ideal for a vacation home. \$140,500

Obituaries of Family and Friends

The funeral for Geneva Bowe Roberts, 79 was held in St. Martin's Anglican Church in Sandy Point on November 30. Rev. Fr. Earle Hepburn officiated by Catechist Benjamin Pinder. Interment was in the Sandy Point Cemetery.

She is survived by sons Cyril and Audric Dean, Christopher, Mervyn, Roswald, Graylon, Percival and Mancor Roberts, Prescola Penn, Brenda Perry, Melvina Munnings, Luthel Greene and Enid Rolle; brother Morris Bowe; grandchildren Laverne, Denise, Deborah, Vanria, Cyril Jr, Nelson, Michael, Tania, Fenton, James, William, Janice and Oneil Dean, Christopher Mansa, Christopher, Elsie Mae, Anita, Natasha, Mervyn, Rose, Rossanne, Edwina, Ross Jr., Nathan, Monet, Onan and Graylon Jr., Krystal, Mancor Jr., Mashach and Jereau Roberts, James, Veronica, Sebastian,

Shane, Fabian, Alfred, Jessica, Annie, Kenya and Ricardo Penn, Rhonda Paris, Marlon, Shadell and Samara Munnings, Phillipa, Nicola and Dwight Ramsey, Tiffany, Chubasco and Ulysees Williamson and Joey Rolle; great grandchildren, daughters-in-law Lillian Dean, Julia Roberts, Kathie Roberts, Patricia Roberts, De'Shaun Roberts; sons-in-law Inglis Penn, William Perry Jr. William Munnings, Allison Rolle; brother-in-law Wilba Roberts; sister-in-law Lilis Bowe; nephews, nieces; and many other relatives and friends.

Govt. Announces \$130 Million Abaco Project

The Prime Minister announced a \$130 million development for Winding Bay between Little Harbour and Cherokee. The announcement was made at the close of the PLP convention on November 22.

As announced, the project will include a 20-room club house, a golf course and large residential lots. The project is expected to create 300 jobs. No timetable was given.

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Beach Villa Subdivision
Garden villa 1 bed / 1 bath duplex, excellent rental potential \$181,500
Garden villa 2 bed / 2 bath extra features \$157,300
Ocean Villa Subdivision
2 bed / 2 bath special garden location with pool view \$260,000
2 bed / 2 bath with direct greenway access to ocean plus extra features \$272,000

APARTMENTS

Rock Point four-plex, 2 storey CBS apartment building, each level has 2 full apartments with 2 bed, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen. Great rental investment. Must see. \$280,000

TREASURE HOUSES

Ocean front luxury units with lagoon pool / waterfall
2 bed / 2 bath octagonal house \$275,000

BAHAMA BEACH CLUB

New luxury condominium project on Treasure Cay Beach. 3 bed / 2 bath / Den / Lanai / on-site pool and many other features Starting at \$425,000 Plus 14% closing

BRIGANTINE BAY ESTATES

"Sea Cliff" newly completed 2 storey CBS home fully furnished. Living / **SOLD** kitchen downstairs, bedrooms upstairs. Direct greenway access to Treasure Cay beach \$431,000
"Sableau Soleil" Canal front with dock. Island simplicity home, 3 bed / 2 bath, detached garage with half bath. Waterfront view from master bedroom and open concept living / dining / kitchen. \$430,500

WINDWARD BEACH

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

CASUARINA BEACH/OCEAN BOULEVARD

"Toad Hall" Package deal. Extra large ocean front lot with unlimited opportunity for building your dream home. Directly behind is your present main home on its own lot. Two storey with 4 bed / 3 bath upstairs and large living / dining / kitchen downstairs. Detached double garage with 1 bed / 1 bath guest apt. above. \$1,169,000

"Sea Grapes" Directly on the ocean modern CBS fully tiled 3600 sq. ft. home on extra large lot with 215 ft. ± frontage. Features 3 bed / 3 1/2 bath, fully equipped kitchen, large living / dining area (open concept). Two bedrooms / living / dining / kitchen all face ocean side and have direct access to beautiful garden and beach. Garage and utility in main house with additional detached garage / workshop / storage. Grounds fully landscaped with irrigation / sprinkler system. \$2,225,000

"Serenity" A real "Estate" property. Modern 4 bed/4.5 bath, 5600 sq. ft., two storey CBS home with incredible ocean views. Upper level extra large, open concept living/dining/kitchen with outdoor covered balcony and master en-suite bed/bath. Lower level 2 bed/2 bath, lounge, wet bar plus additional bed/bath and double garage. Property has two fully landscaped lots with 290 feet ocean front. Special property with many, many additional features including 2 bed/1 bath caretaker's cottage. \$3,800,000

GALLEON BAY CANAL / ESTATES

"Safe Harbour" Canal front with excellent elevation. Octagonal 825 ± sq. ft. garage / efficiency guest house with plans for main house. Dock with power in place. Must see. \$369,000

"Laguna" brand new canal front, octagonal home, fully furnished, 3 bed/ 2 bath, modern open concept, living/dining/kitchen plus partially covered deck. Perfect island retreat for some lucky family \$676,500

"Island Times" 2500 sq. ft. modern spacious 3 bed / 2 1/2 bath, living/dining/kitchen opening onto covered patio facing waterfront. Double garage/utility. Extra adjacent lot. Total frontage 108 ft. \$830,250

"Seaductress" / "Harbour's Edge" Modern CBS 3 bed/ 3 bath home including private entry suite, pool, 80 ft., full serviced dock, 2 car garage including two vehicles. Exceptional location and view. Many more features, must see to appreciate. **MOTIVATED SELLER** \$1,200,000

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- Canal Front beginning at \$99,000
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Conch *From Page 27*

catch the fare for the day. A unique point of their business is the addition of grilled conch. "Steaming in foil on the grill brings a tenderness and brings out the sweetness to the seafood," was a comment from a customer at the business.

The ingredients don't change much from one cook to the next, but each will argue

that their particular version makes a difference. Mary Gabrielle from the Lazy Parrot insists that fresh limes are necessary. "The bottled stuff is yuk!" Various restaurants, markets and convenience stores in gas stations offer the quick fix for hunger pangs. Conch, green peppers, hot peppers, onions, lime....conch salad is truly the fast food of the Bahamas.

Cays *From Page 11*

Sundance Marine, Calypso and Christian Wilhoite.

With points added from both classes Rick Sweeting emerged as Gatorade Champion of The Hill 2002 senior class with Scurvy Few Junior Champion. Trophies were presented to the winners in a short ceremony immediately following the racing.

The Boxcar organizing committee wishes to thank all those who contributed to the success of this event including Burns House Liquors, Gatorade, Cracker P's, Clay Wilhoite Trucking and Frank Knowles DJ service. Funds raised will benefit youth sporting programs in the islands. Mark your calendar to attend next year's event and tell a few friends to come along. It is quite a unique event.

JACK'S JUNGLE

Lubbers Quarter's Cay, Abaco, Bahamas
Your Own Secluded Acre Surrounded by Trees and Nature.....

A few select lots are now available on the Estate of Jack Patterson, known as "Jack's Jungle," located on the island of Lubber's Quarters in the Sea of Abaco. You may ask, what makes these lots so special and rare?

Here's your answer:

This land has a very good natural energy because Mr. Patterson protected his estate from the excesses of developers since the 1950s. He used the land as his own private nature park, cutting only small trails which meandered through his collection of native trees. There are 150 native trees in the Bahamas and up until the time of his passing Mr. Patterson continued to add more species to his collection which at last count stood at 137.

A Little History About the Property.....

Jack Patterson first noticed the beauty of Lubbers Quarter's Cay in the 1950s while on holiday from his home in Nassau. As a naturalist Mr. Patterson fell in love with the pristine native forest and seclusion offered at Lubbers. He built a holiday home in the center of the island and 10 years later moved to Lubbers permanently. Mr. Patterson and his family were the only residents on Lubber's from 1968-1982. During these years the estate was enjoyed by his family and many visitors who came to take the tour of Mr. Patterson's collection of native trees. During this period Mr. Patterson authored a hand guide-book titled Native Trees of The Bahamas. Most of his tree collection still thrives on the island.

Locations to Choose From:

From the hilltop lots enjoy views of the Atlantic Ocean facing Tilloo Cut and Tahiti Beach. From the waterfront facing west you can see Man-O-War, Marsh Harbour and the glistening Sea of Abaco. From the interior you will be amongst virgin Bahamian broadleaf forest. The few acres available are surrounded by another 20 acres of undeveloped land and nature parks. Most likely any acre you choose will provide you with plenty of privacy. Land has been set aside in the form of nature parks to protect the many stands of these gorgeous trees that Mr. Patterson loved so much. His dream was for the forest "to be seen and enjoyed." We honor that intention with a covenant stating that "no trees may be cut or removed within 20 feet of a road/boundary....." Further to that, there will only be small "golf cart size" trails between your acre and your private dock slip.

Jack's Jungle

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W Lots	\$135,000
Northern Hilltop Lot N5	\$120,000 0.946 Acres
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Eastern Hilltop Lot E4	\$120,000 0.867 Acres
Southern Interior Lots S Lots	\$85,000

Prices include:

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Each lot will be provided with its own private dock slip on the east side and utilities will be brought to each lot (Electricity, Telephone Line, etc.)

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PROPERTY AND HOUSES FOR SALE

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY MUST SELL REAL ESTATE IN ABACO

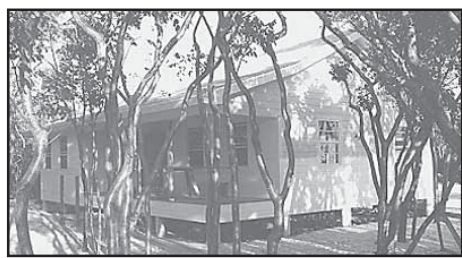
Sandy Point 3 bed, 1 bath 13,545 sq. ft. Lot #119	Dundas Town 2 storey, 4 bed, 2 bath on 1/2 acre Lot #25
Murphy Town Vacant Land 108' x 104" Lot 78B	Dundas Town 3-2 bed, 1 bath triplex 9,000 sq. ft. Lot #18B
Murphy Town 3 bed, 2 bath Hill top Lot 67	Murphy Town Vacant Land 9,000 S. Ft. Lot #38

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

Offers should be addressed in
writing to:

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P.O. Box AB20567
Marsh Harbour, Abaco

For conditions of the sale and any other informa-
tion, please contact M. Gardiner/Ms. M. T. Rolle at
(242) 367-2141, 367-2142 Abaco. Serious enqui-
ries only may be considered for qualified purchas-
ers. Interested persons in Nassau may contact Ms.
Delores Johnson at 242-328-7041 or 242-300-
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C	33
F	32
H	34
Section 2	
7	20
Section 3	
14	30
9	27
Section 4	
23	31
26	17, 18

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\$375,000

White Sound - hilltop lots with good
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Coco Bay- 1 1/2 acres of elevated land,
located across from the bay. \$325,000

Black Sound - deep water harbour side
lots near settlement. 100' on the water, 1
acre. \$305,000

Split Level Townhouse - 1/1 townhouse
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Waterfront - two 1 acre waterfront lots in
Blackwood 200' on water \$50,000 each

Treasure Cay - Residential lot near
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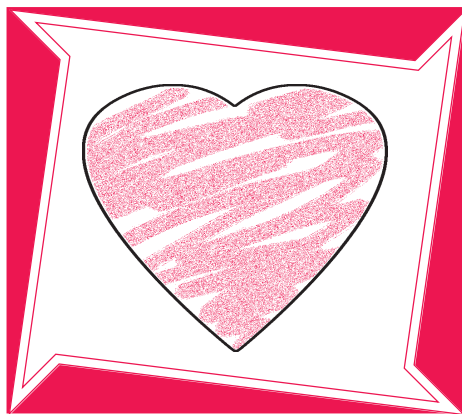
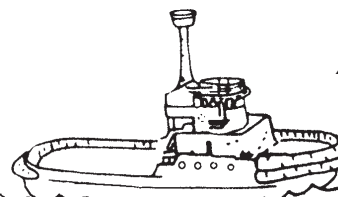
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Church *From Page 35*

The proof of talent and boldness for Christ was evident among the participants throughout the workshop, but even more so on Saturday, the awards night. Two trophies remained for the Praise Team. Min. Dean challenged those in attendance to form teams to showcase their gift of praise and worship. This saw the on-the-spot formation of the Zion Baptist Church Youth Praise team who were victorious in the category, with youth of the Church of the Latter Rain as runners up.

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REGATTAS OF ABACO - New, fully furnished 2 bedroom 2 bath condo with pool, tennis court, fitness centre and beautiful beach. On site rental management available. Ideal holiday apartment in convenient location. Asking \$280,000.



NEW LISTING

Dorros Cove, Elbow Cay

ELBOW CAY - NEW LISTING - "Tahiti Hai" - Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home in Dorros Cove, 1530sq', central a/c, wrap around deck, steps away from Tahiti Beach, dock access, separate gardener's accommodations. Panoramic view of Atlantic Ocean, Tilloo Cut and Sea of Abaco. Priced to sell: \$960,000.

PELICAN SHORES - WATERFRONT LOT - on the harbour 200' x 255', great views, ideal place to build a dock, partially landscaped with coconut palms, ready to be built upon. Price upon enquiry.



Hope Town, Elbow Cay

ELBOW CAY - Dorros Cove - "Summer Winds" - Newly renovated, spacious 3/2 oceanfront house. Excellent for entertaining - awesome view of the Atlantic, heated pool, large deck, water maker, generator, central a/c, 2-car garage, close proximity to Tahiti Beach, tastefully decorated, fully furnished, private dock slip \$1,290,000. #1427.

PELICAN SHORES - ELEVATED WATERFRONT LOT - 100 feet on the sea, all utilities available. Price upon enquiry.



NEW LISTING

Lubbers Quarters

ELBOW CAY - North End - Large building site with ocean view near sandy beach. \$114,000.

BAHAMA PALM SHORES - SECTION ONE - Two residential lots, great location, \$22,000 each.

LUBBERS QUARTERS - Two gorgeous cottages located on 1.5 acres of beautiful landscaped waterfront property. One cottage brand new, 2 bed 1 bath with loft, second cottage 1 bed 1 bath with french doors, mexican tiles, porches, A/C. Private dock. Great investment property. Price \$696,000. #1589

ELBOW CAY - North End - "Coconut Cottage" - Adorable 1,000 sq. ft., 2/2 Colonial cottage with view of the Atlantic Ocean. Across from a beautiful beach and close to town. Tastefully decorated, partially furnished, detached garage. \$415,000. #1429

BAHAMA PALM SHORES - Two residential lots 150 feet from the beach, great sea views. Asking price \$42,500.

EASTERN SHORES - Waterfront sea to sea 34,902 sq. ft. There is a 85 foot beach, good elevation, buildable on both sides. Last one available in area. Price \$350,000 gross.

CASUARINA POINT - SECTION 4 - ON THE CANAL - 85' x 135' Asking price \$48,000.

HOPE TOWN - "Ocean View" - 2,500 sq', 4 bed/3 bath, beachfront home with 0.8 acres of land, fully landscaped. Fully furnished. \$140,000.

FOREST DRIVE - 4 bed 3 bath 2 storey house on 59,940 sq. ft. property, double garage, concrete construction. Asking price \$310,000.

HIGH ROCK AREA - Charming and well-kept 3 bed 2 bath 1,700 sq. ft. home on 124' x 125' enclosed lot. This home features a family room, tiled floors, new kitchen, large master bedroom, heated swimming pool and sun decks, central air, landscaped & generator. Price upon enquiry.

LUBBERS QUARTERS - NEW LISTING - Waterfront lot with dock access. \$140,000.

GREAT ABACO CLUB - 3/2 with master spa bath, fully furnished, vaulted ceilings, deepwater dockage and more. Gated community with Beach Club privileges and good rental record. Price upon enquiry.

ELBOW CAY - NEW LISTING - White sand - 3.1 acres

LUBBERS QUARTERS - NEW LISTING - Interior lot with view. \$46,000.

TILLOO CAY - Ocean front property in the Bight of Tilloo. Excellent elevation with sea to sea views. Access to dock and power to property. \$89,000. #1630

TILLOO CAY - Choice Property! 4 water front lots in protected bay south of "The Castle". Superb elevation, sea to sea views, deep water with sandy bottom. Access to Tilloo beach. Starting at \$125,000. Also interior lots from \$75,000. #1631

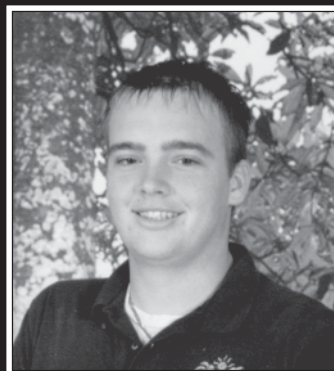
LUBBERS QUARTERS - Interior lot with view. \$46,000.



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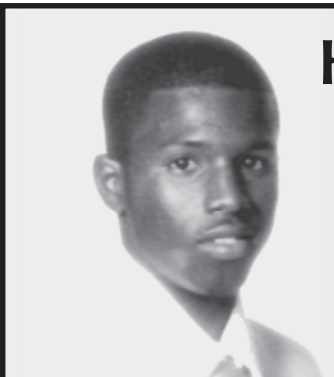
Correction: In the last issue of *The Abaconian* we stated that Mrs. Veronica Archer was a guest of Bahamasair flight to West Palm Beach as representing the Abaco

Chamber of Commerce. However, Bahamasair has since informed us that she traveled as a business woman.



CONGRATULATIONS!

to
Joshua Malone
for being selected as
Head Prefect
at Forest Heights Academy
From Mom & Dad



Happy Belated Birthday
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From his parents, Hudson & Claudine,
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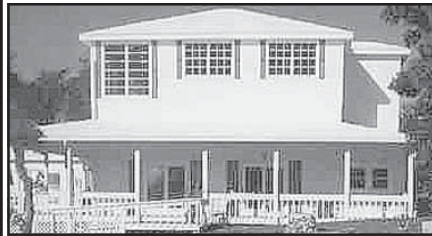
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