The Rainbow Times

Hurricane Sandy Leaves Her Mark
Stand By to Repel Boarders! • First Classic Car Show
2012 Treasury Report • Olympic Gold
From the President

Hello to all:

I hope and pray that all is well with you and yours. We were having a really good year until “Mom,” better known as “Sandy,” dropped by in October. I am beginning to think Mother Nature has it in for Eleuthera.

Relatively speaking, we got by fairly well. We lost power and a few shingles. This time the main damage was done to Rainbow Beach—what was once Rainbow Beach, as you’ll see from the photos on page 4. The Board of Directors will take a good hard look at what needs to be done to bring it back. We will also work with the Port Authority to rebuild the jetty to retain the sand. Irene damaged it, Sandy finished it off.

We accomplished much on the roads this year, completing most all of the paved streets in the subdivision. We used the “patch and smear” method this time, with fiber mixed in with the cement. It seems to be holding up well. We budgeted for only $15,000 in road work, and had to go over-budget by $6000 to complete it. Still, the $21,000 we spent is far below our normal annual budget of approximately $43,000. But in 2013 we will have to address the quarry (unpaved) roads again.

Please allow me to explain the costs associated with roads, and why we do what we do. They are our responsibility; the government does not help us out in any way, other than maintaining the Queen’s Highway. Properly to pave one mile of road costs around $94,000. Properly to finish a mile of quarry road runs about $45,000.

The amount we collect in dues each year determines what we can spend. Last year, we imposed a one-time assessment to help with Irene repairs, to offset added costs in the previous year, and to build up a reserve for emergencies. Some members have asked why we continue to maintain the curve at Hidden Beach and Ocean Drive. People own property in and on the curve, and we are obligated to maintain it, but the cost is not as high as you may think. It usually requires only two loads of quarry to make it passable after a bad storm—roughly $700—and we haven’t had to do that often. Should anyone have any questions or suggestions regarding the roads, please contact any member of the board (left).

Elections are scheduled for March 2014, which will also mark my final year on the Board of Directors. Please, if you have the time to volunteer, and expect to be in residence about four to six months a year, your help can be extremely valuable to us all. If you wish to run for a seat on the board, send us a brief biography of 150 words or less and a photo.

We have a good accounting firm in place and it really isn’t that much work. But our board of directors is vital to keep the Association solvent. Should we not get enough volunteer directors, at some point we may have to increase the dues to hire a property manager in order to maintain our community in the style to which we are all accustomed.

I hope to see you on the island at our meeting in March.

—John Kavali
**AGM March 16th**

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 10am Saturday, March 16th at the Association building, with our traditional Rainbow Beach barbecue to follow. The agenda will be posted well before the meeting, so if you have any item you would like discussed, please advise the secretary, Matt Hoopes (contacts on page opposite).

**Divine Light of Queen’s**

(Or: Ask Dave No Questions)

It has come to our attention that the flashing beacon in Hatchet Bay atop the BATELCO tower has been, let us say, “put to sleep.” Apparently, this was accomplished through the efforts of board member David Chiulli.

Either Dave has connections with BTC and the government, or untold stealth capabilities which enabled him personally to climb the tower and switch from an extremely bright halogen bulb to a more soft and soothing one.

However he managed to accomplish this, it is a pleasure to go out in the evening and not be distracted by a piercing light that fried everyone’s eyeballs, including those of drivers on the Queen’s Highway halfway up from Governors Harbour. Kudos to David.

—THE PIRATE, EZY SHORE ROAD

**Matters of Moment**

**TRENSHING FOR “CITY WATER”**

Our island now has good trenching machines at reasonable costs, and if you want to pipe “city water” (which is much better than it used to be) to your house to supplement your cistern supply, estimate a cost of about $6 per foot. Work must be done through the Water & Sewage Department in Governor’s Harbour, and trenching can only be done by an independent contractor after permits have been granted. Only a certain amount of piping is supplied from Nassau per year, so it is best to plan well in advance.

**PALMETTO POINT HOSPITAL**

October 30th—Prime Minister Perry Christie promised to build a state-of-the-art hospital on Eleuthera days after an elderly woman died while waiting for medical assistance. Mr. Christie extended his condolences to the family of 58-year-old Helena Smith Pinder, sister of former North Eleuthera MP Alvin Smith, and Gary Smith, a car mechanic known to many in Rainbow Bay.

The Prime Minister said the government will immediately begin working on a plan to build the hospital in Palmetto Point, south of Governor’s Harbour, estimated to cost $10 to $15 million and accessible to all residents. (According to reports, Mrs. Smith suffered a stroke just as the hurricane arrived, which prevented her being flown to New Providence for medical care and delayed a visit by a local doctor because of Hurricane Sandy.)

At a town meeting in mid-November, project architect Alvin Rolle said the “mini-hospital” will be self-contained on a 16-acre site and the “central basis for care, particularly South Eleuthera.”

—NASSAU WEEKLY

**THE INN SAYS...**

The Rainbow Inn would like to welcome all winter residents back to sunny Eleuthera, we hope you have enjoyed your summer as much as we did and that you all experienced little to no damage from our last-minute hurricane. We are gearing up for an exciting season at the Inn and cannot wait to share it with all of you. We have a new pizza oven built with fire bricks, which will last for years to come. We continue with the popular pizza Mondays and live entertainment on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; festive parties; and fresh organic food prepared with love. Also: lots of fresh fish!

Zev’s organic farm has grown and will be a wonderful asset to our restaurant this season. Rhonda is back for the winter, tending to her rooms and excited to host new and repeating guests. Richard and Eve will be in and out throughout the season owing to commitments in Canada. As for me, Mish, I will be here sharing our wonderful Eleuthera moments and memories with you all in “The Living Room Of Eleuthera.” Thanks for your continued support and friendship, from your Rainbow Family. —MISH WASERMAN

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Hurricane Sandy piled into the island on Thursday afternoon, October 25th, coming from the Atlantic side, with the eye passing between northern Cat Island and Lighthouse Point, Eleuthera. The cyclone unexpectedly strengthened over Cuba and, instead of the predicted tropical storm, it arrived as a Category 2 hurricane with winds about 80-90 mph. Fortunately for Rainbow Bay, the high bluffs overlooking the Atlantic cushioned the initial blow—unlike “Irene,” which came at us from the Exuma Sound (“Caribbean”) side. But this wasn’t the end of the story! In a bizarre twist, as Sandy moved north the affected area rapidly expanded, with winds still blowing hard 450 miles from the center. After a lull on Friday morning, Eleuthera experienced tropical storm-force winds Friday afternoon. Winds were down to 35 on Saturday and tapered off Sunday the 28th.

The worst damage in The Bahamas was on Cat Island immediately to our south, and on Long Island below Cat. We had reports of serious damage in south Eleuthera, and to boats at Davis Harbour, with tidal flooding in Governor’s Harbour. Problems lessened toward the north but there was flooding around Glass Window, and travel between the settlements remained difficult on the weekend. Down south, one reliable observer tells us it was more like Category-3 or -4 than Cat-2.

In Rainbow Bay, houses toward the middle on higher elevations seem to have taken more hits. One such house had a broken telephone pole, another had roof damage. Unlike after Irene, most poles were left standing and many telephones remained working, including mobile phones; but power and internet were out, and have been sporadic in the weeks since.

There were the usual reports of gutters and satellite dishes blown off. Apparently most palm trees are still standing but some have lost their tops and are therefore goners. The high winds blowing sea water, coupled with the lack of rain, gave gardens and farms a heavy dose of salt, turning the dehydrated crops brown.

Soya lawns and “sea lettuce,” of course, love the salt, and a salt-irrigation will knock out the weeds. There’s some good in everything, but a lot of bad in this happening.

The LaFleur farm in Hatchet Bay was devastated. “We have to start from seeds again,” Mrs. LaFleur said—a shame, because their farm had been yielding bumper crops from the rich soil of old Hatchet Bay Plantation. The undaunted family vows to start again, as does Daniel Nixon, president of the continued on page 6...
Stand By to Repel Boarders!

AUGUST 10TH—A 40-foot Pearson sloop carrying up to sixty-five Haitian illegals anchored off Little Twin Beach before dawn and shuttled its undocumented visitors ashore by dinghy. A man claiming to be the captain of the vessel banged on a door of the house of Willis and Thelma Johnson near the corner of Honeycreeper Road and Ocean Drive, demanding food and water from their son, Timmy who was vacationing from Nassau.

Timmy was reluctant to open the door as more men appeared in the driveway. The “captain” picked up a rock and smashed the door’s window. Timmy grabbed a machete in defense. Two other windows were smashed and Timmy dashed to his van, parked in the driveway, and drove off—not without his back window being smashed by another rock. He drove to nearby police Sergeant Brown’s house on Honeycreeper, and the word spread.

Within forty minutes about forty-five people gathered in the parking area above Little Twin Beach: the Bahamas Defense Force, police and medical services and volunteers, with two ambulances and a tow truck. Groups started searching the area and within minutes twenty-two women were discovered in the nearby bush.

Sergeant Brown, Matt Hoopes and John Watts searched nearby houses, looking for intruders or damage. John and Shirley Pools’s back door window had been broken by a large stone, but no entry was made. Two men made it to J.C. before they were apprehended. A dozen or so women were transported to the Hatchet Bay Clinic, since they were extremely weak—the boat had apparently run out of food and water. The search continued the next day continued on page 6...

Classic Cars on Eleu...

SEPTEMBER 28-30TH—Eleuthera held the “First Annual Ali’s Antique Show,” in Hatchet Bay, well organized by Indi and Ali, sponsored Bay Street Garage, Eleuthera Petroleum, Twin Brothers and Bahamian Brewery. The event began with ten show cars on the boat from Nassau. After the salt spray was washed off, owners were welcomed at Twin Brothers Seafood & Steak House.

Three cars from Eleuthera, including Rainbow Bay’s Matt Hoopes in his ’64 Morris Minor, joined the fleet Saturday for a police-escorted parade to Governor’s Harbour. There people looked over the cars at Haynes Library.

Also from Eleuthera were Butch Johnson’s ’56 Chevrolet Bel Air, which Butch said was “the first entrant from a Family Island in the Antique Auto Club of The Bahamas annual show”; and a sharp Chevy pickup.

Cars from Nassau were Adrian Hanna’s ’72 Mustang, Dion Bethel’s ’64 Chevy Impala, Murray Forde’s ’56 Ford Fairlane and ’85 T-bird, Tony Burrows’ ’65 Corvette, Leroy Roxbury’s ’89 Nissan Skyline, Charlie Radnetter’s ’70 Dodge Challenger R/T, Wilfred Rolle’s Chevy Silverado, Donald Aranha’s ’61 Corvette, Wayne Aranha’s ’73 Mercedes-Benz, and Roderick Pratt’s ’88 Nissan 300zx.

Back in Hatchet Bay the cars were judged inside a large tent on the Homecoming site. The event lasted until two in the morning and the Nassau cars were shipped back Sunday. Other local cars were not running, but with all the excitement, there will certainly be more of them next year.

Eleuthera Wins Gold

LONDON, AUGUST 10TH—The Bahamas won a surprise Olympic gold medal in 4x400-meter relay, finishing ahead of the favored United States—and one of the winners is from Eleuthera. It was The Bahamas’ first men’s track and field gold medal.

Representing our island was Chris Brown of Wemyss Bight. With Demetrius Pinder, Michael Mathieu and Ramon Miller, he sped home in 2 minutes 56.72 seconds, while the U.S. team settled for silver at 2:57.05.

The team came to Eleuthera on >>
WINNING GOLD....
August 22nd, starting at North Eleuthera Airport and Harbour Island, than taking a motorcade south. They were cheered at Glass Window, Gregory Town, Hatchet Bay, Governor's Harbour, Rock Sound and Wemyss Bight, where a street was named in Chris Brown's honour.

Sprinter Anthonique Strachan bears watching too. She was second in the Women's 200 m round 1 on August 6th but fell to 5th in the semi-finals and her team was 6th in the 100m relay. She took gold at Barcelona, and you can watch that presentation on Youtube: http://xrl.us/bnz2k3

Lenny in Hunger Games
GREGORY TOWN— Eleuthera's own recording star Lenny Kravitz plays a supporting role in Hunger Games, a young-adult phenomenon set in a dystopian future where the rich dress as secondrate Lady Gagas in cities left over from the “Phantom Menace,” while the poor struggle for survival but can still somehow afford futuristic projection TV sets. Lenny's was one of the better played characters. Later he spoke about how the producer offered him the role:

“Basically he called me and said, ‘I saw you in Precious.’ I’m in the Bahamas making a new album and the thing is, I didn’t know what Hunger Games was. So I said, ‘Wow, you’re offering me this movie and I have no idea what you’re talking about.’ So I downloaded the book, because there are no bookstores where I live—I’m on a small island in a town of about 400 people—and read the book. The story just captured me. I had been working all day and night in my recording studio and I go to bed kind of early there. I kind of start going with nature, waking up very early, because it’s in the middle of nowhere. I was really tired, but I kept reading, saying ‘I can’t put this thing down!’ I called him back the next day and said, ‘I’ll be there. I’d love to make this film.’”

HURRICANE SANDY, from page 4...
South Eleuthera Farmer’s Association: “I’ll plant peppers, watermelon, pigeon peas, cassava and a lot of other things,”

Reports of missing shingles are common. One seafront house on the south (Exuma Sound) side lost a six-foot long row of shingles facing away from the water. The owner spoke to Lance Pinder of Spanish Wells Roofing, who is amazed this house (the editor’s!) seems to be the only one with his treatment that continues to shed shingles—just lucky, we guess! Lance gives a five-year guarantee and will be around to recoat the replacement shingles. (Note: when replacing shingles, remember to use stainless steel nails, not galvanized. Trust us.)

Our local village, James Cistern, was intact and everybody was all right. Several locals were out quickly after the winds died, checking various homes at Rainbow Bay. At first, the Bay received relatively little sea water from surge and wind, but this changed Friday when it started blowing more from the Exuma Sound (“Caribbean”) side. Houses built low on that side which stayed dry Thursday may have taken water Friday. For an island-wide report please see The Eleutheran, http://xrl.us/bnz29a.

REPEL BOARDERS, from page 5...
and by evening, most of the aliens had been rounded up.

Rainbow Bay residents owe Timmy Johnson their thanks. Had he not immediately notified the police, it’s likely homes would have been broken into as the Haitians searched for food and water. Many would have escaped into the bush, not to be found for days or months. Those who would like to show their support to Timmy might do so in the form of a monetary donation because insurance did not cover the cost of replacement windows and other repairs to his house after the attack. Donations can be sent to Association secretary Matt Hoopes who will forward them to him.

SIGNS, HERE AND THERE. Left: Another batch of Rainbow Bay road signs, repaired and repainted for the umpteenth time and ready to replant. Below: Not sure it will strike you as funny as it does us, but this is a genuine gate sign at the domestic air terminal, Nassau. Welcome home!
Treasury Report, 2012 to Date

The balances for the Banks at the end of November were as follows:

Sun Trust Checking $14,888.31
Sun Trust Money Market $59,930.77
RBC Checking $8,884.83
Paypal $1,320.71
Total: $85,024.62

Obviously these figures will not be current at the AGM. We will be spending a good portion to repair the Rainbow Beach jetty and on road work.—John Kavali

ADVERTISEMENTS

Use www.rainbowbay.org to locate on map.
All prices in U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated.

MAH JONGG: Anybody devoted to the ancient Chinese game? We seek players.
Contact editor, 335-0615 Dec-March, malakand@langworth.name

BICYCLING: The Arrington McCardy Eleuthera Long Riders host a 20-mile morning bike ride each Sunday at various island venues. Contact John Birzten, 332-3768.

REAL ESTATE

Section A, Block 6, Lot 15, Ocean Drive near Smugglers Beach, 9600 square feet (80x120) on sloping lot, 50-70-foot elevation at rear, safe from ocean surges, facing Atlantic lots unlikely to be developed. Must see, photos on request. $28,000, split legal and transfer fees. Negotiable.
Andy Geohegan (onewag@hotmail.com). Cell Tel: (816) 377-0924.

Section A, Block 6, Lot 33, Ship Sitter Road, uniquely shaped, faces Atlantic & Little Twin Beach, depth 116 feet, square dimensions enhance building possibilities. $30,000, buyer pays closing expenses.
Ruth Lastuvka (ruth82@live.com). Tel. (702) 396-0185.

Section A, block 15, lot 28, Lazy Shore Rd., superb 3BR mini-villa high over the Caribbean, 5 mins. from beach. Beautifully furnished, 2000 square feet, covered veranda, huge garage space, nicely landscaped, tip-top shape, $650,000.
John Kavali Tel. (242) 335-0431.

Section B, block 15, lot 47, Wandering Shore Dr. Flat waterfront lot. Accessible water and electricity; walk right into the Caribbean. Asking $85,000.
(malcolm.123@hotmail.com). Tel.: (239) 728-8095

Section C, block 30, lot 71, Sleepy Shore Dr., fully furnished 2BR. Covered deck, utilities, appliances, a/c, usable waterfront, priced to sell. $230,000, split legal/transfer fees. Charlie Moore (charlesmooreiv@hughesnet.com). Tel.: (242) 470-8014

Section C, block 30, lot 8, Seven Shilling Rd., 90 by 120, 150’ deep, 155’ on road, $35,000. Ric Bremer (rbremer1@live.com). Tel.: (919) 218-6909.

Section D, block 43, lot 19, Fisherman’s Drive. 13,510 square feet, 66 feet on ocean, 155 feet on road, 150 feet deep, small cove with N/NE views. $69,000 OBO, fees and costs paid by purchaser.
John Wakelin (wakelinteam@gmail.com). Tel.: (419) 704-3383 EST.

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Greetings from Rainbow Bay,
Twenty Years Ago

It looks like most of the damage done by Hurricane Andrew has been repaired. A casual visitor will see little to be reminded of the devastation last autumn. In fact, the area is probably in its best shape ever, since most homes have been reroofed, repainted and cleaned up. But there is still some powerline wire lying around, and Ocean Drive still has some damage. Our most heavily traveled subdivision road, the northerly part of Ocean Drive, has been repaired by a contractor who patched the asphalt with hot tar. Maintenance people are hard at work with the continuous grass cutting along the roads, as well as repainting road and stop signs. The tennis court has been repaired and is getting quite a lot of use.

The annual meeting elected a new Board of Directors consisting of Chris Boone, Gary Cherry, George Chiulli, Mike Farinacci, Ed Hoffler, Cy Ochs and Jerry Smith.

A new phone system, described as “cell-site,” is being considered. It would cost the same as the regular service and is planned within the year. —SPRING-SUMMER, 1993

Greetings from Rainbow Bay,
Ten Years Ago

Road signs have been replaced and George Chiulli has brought in a new supply of stop signs. Under the leadership of Bob Boonstra, with the help of his wife Jane, Stew and Patsy Morrison and Freddie Ferguson, improvements have been made to the tennis court fence and the surrounding area. The court is in need of resurfacing and materials were recently shipped to Governor’s Harbour to complete this work. Many Rainbow Bay lot owners, guests and visitors play tennis regularly. Thanks to Bob for his willingness to take on this project.

A very serious problem is that our roads are in bad shape and we do not have sufficient funds to repave them properly. In talking with members about the situation, most favor a substantial increase in maintenance fees, in the order of $100-200 per lot per year. This year we implemented a modest increase from $40 to $45, but this just allows us to keep up with current costs. [Reading this ten years later, we marvel at how successive Boards have done so much for the roads with so little.] —SPRING 2003 ❖