

# THE LOGOS



“Words of Hope”

A Weekly Publication of the Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists \* Editor: Dr. John Carey \* Volume 12, Number 29 July 14, 2007

## A Citizen's View on Independence

A few days ago, Tuesday, July 10, we celebrated 34 years as an independent nation called The Commonwealth of the Bahamas. To many citizens of the Bahamas, independence means freedom from colonial rule - an opportunity for self-determination. For more than three decades we have been free to decide the direction our lives will take as individuals and as a nation. How have we used this freedom over the last 34 years? What are some of the positive results of our becoming an independent country?

While we can boast of more opportunities for educational advancement, economic growth, and greater cultural awareness, it appears that there has been a decline in morality and concern for the welfare of others. Some have taken the freedom to mean license to do whatever their selfish hearts dictate. This has resulted in a significant increase in teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, violent crimes and general disrespect for authority.

It is true that there are more churches now than we have ever had. Yet the impact of the proliferation of churches throughout the Bahama Islands is not being felt or seen. Is it that we have also taken our independence from God? Could it be that a lot of churchgoers who claim to be born again Christians just have a form of godliness? They are not allowing Jesus to have control of their lives, so they are powerless to live the Christian life. Remember that Jesus said in John 15:5, "...for without me ye can do nothing." We cannot act independent of Jesus and still behave as Christians.

Paul supports the view that the Christian has freedom in Christ. However, this freedom does not allow him to satisfy his sinful nature rather it gives him the latitude to help others. Here is what he says in Galatians 5:13: "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty, only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

If we who are Christian citizens fully understand that the freedom that

independence brings must be exercised responsibly in the Spirit of Christ, then our lives will be worthy examples for the rest of the population to follow. And perhaps we will be fulfilling Christ's expectations of us when He said in His sermon on the mount, "Ye are the salt of the earth" (Matt. 5:13). Ours would be a positive influence on the people with whom we come into contact each day.

As we continue to enjoy the freedom of independence, let us allow how we exercise that freedom to be guided by our relationship with Christ.

-- Editor

## Ministry of Public Health SCAN Unit to March

The Department of Public Health Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) unit is hosting a Partnership March Against Child Sex Offenders, under the theme "Save the Children, Preserve a Generation" on Wednesday, July 25, 2007, beginning at 9:45 a.m.

Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters are encouraged to take part in this march to agitate for change in the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, 1991.

The most recent child sex abuse case is now being debated with the Bahama islands, that of a six year old female child, who was brutally violated, sexually, physically and emotionally. However, the named perpetrator, was sentenced to seven years imprisonment. However, according to the system, the perpetrator would be released back into society within five years.

The SCAN Task Force expects that their endeavours would heighten the awareness of all people - especially the Judiciary and Parliamentary sectors, making provision for existing legislation to be revised and amended.

The route for the march: Begin at Taylor Street, on to East Street, to Shirley Street and end in Parliament Square. -Mrs. Charlene Bain, Coordinator, SCAN

**Annual Eagle Music Ministry Workshop** - July 18 to 22, 2007, at the

Living Faith Church. **Pre-registration dates are: Tonight, Saturday, July 14, 2007, from sun set to 9:30. The final registration is July 17, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Living Faith.** You may sign up for the workshop online at [bahamasconference.org](http://bahamasconference.org). -Allison M. Rolle (for)

EMMN Committee

## Watch Adventists Speak

Adventists Speak continues on ZNS-TV Channel 11 this Sundays at 1:00 p.m. This week's topic: "The Holy Scriptures" Invite a friend to view the program with you.

## Early Morning Prayer Meeting

New Englerston's Early Morning Prayer Meeting - 6:00 every Sunday - This Sunday we will join with Maranatha's Prayer Meeting and on the 22nd July, 2007, our President, Dr. Leonard A. Johnson will be the Presenter. All are invited to come and pray!

## Bahamas Academy Need You

Calling all Alumni of Bahamas Academy All former students of Bahamas Academy are invited to share in the development of the multi-million dollar new school on Marshall Road. You can help make this project a reality by giving your financial support or skills for the development of the project. The new school will have modern classrooms, official size swimming pool, track and field, well equipped library, computer and science labs, practical arts center and much more. Construction on the building is progressing but we need more help to complete the project according to plans. Make your contribution to Bahamas Academy, Wulf Road or send your checks to P.O. Box N-356 Nassau, Bahamas. Visit the website: [www.bahamasacademy.org](http://www.bahamasacademy.org)

## Maranatha Women's Ministry

The Womens Ministry of the Maranatha Church invites all to come out to the Classic Christian Charm Class Achievement ceremony, "Serving as a Biblical Standard for Obedient and Excellent to Enhance the Beauty of The Soul" July 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the church

on Prince Charles Drive. Refreshments will follow the program. Come on out and support our young ladies. *-Joann Rolle*

### How Well Do You Know Your Church?

The following information will help you to become better acquainted with the church to which you belong: Seventh-day Adventist World Church Statistics as of December 31, 2005

Churches	60,213
Companies	61,351
Membership	14,399,072
S. S. Membership	17,955,245
Ordained Ministers	15,735
Total Active Employees	185,993
Countries of the World where Adventist Work is Established	202
Languages Used in Adventist Publications and Oral Work	885
Divisions of the World Church	13
Union Conferences and Missions	102
Local Conferences and Missions	559
Colleges and Universities	106
Secondary Schools	1,462
Primary Schools	5,362
Total Enrollment	1,334,486
Hospitals and Sanitariums	167
Publishing Houses	65
Tithe	\$1,492,720,001
S. S. Mission Offerings	\$49,432,141

### Seven Secrets of Healthy Churches (Source: Adventist Review Online, July 13, 2007)

1. The church's leadership and the laity hold to a high view of Scripture.
2. The churches and their leaders seek to be relevant.
3. The churches and their leaders hold to the primacy of preaching.
4. The churches have a healthy small group structure.
5. Healthy churches emphasize corporate prayer ministries.
6. Churches that are healthy take membership seriously.
7. The healthy churches are highly intentional about evangelism.

### Adventist Lawyers to Meet

All Adventist Lawyers are invited to a meeting on Thursday, July 19, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Living Faith Church.

### Blood Drive

The Community Services Dept. is sponsoring a Blood Drive in conjunction with Doctors' Hospital on Sunday, July 22 at the Living Faith Church. All Adventists are asked to participate. Time to be announced.

### Colporteur Rally

You are invited to attend a Colporteur Rally on Sunday, July 22, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the Centreville Church. All colporteurs, prospective colporteurs, and supporters of the Publishing Ministry are especially requested to attend.

### Sabbath School Report Now Due

The Personal Ministries Department is reminding all Church that the Sabbath School Report is due into the Conference Office on or before July 18, 2007.

### Hour of Gospel Music

The Hour of Gospel Music at the Mary Ingraham Home continues weekly on Sabbaths from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Today, July 14, Adelaide Church.

Next week Sabbath, Bro Tony Russell's Group, is scheduled. *-J. Admiral Forbes*

### DVD's of Convention

DVD's of Convention '2007 are now available for a small donation. Place your order at the ABNC.

### Youth Crusade Ends Today

After two weeks of Bible-based preaching, our speaker for the "Revelation Now! Let the Truth Be Told" Youth Crusade, Joseph Mahadeo, a ministerial student from Trinidad and Tobago, will present his last message today at the Hillview Church. The crusade team will be responsible for the Sabbath School, Divine Service and the concluding service this afternoon at Hillview. All the young people and youth leaders from the Adventist churches in Nassau are expected to attend these services. All churches will remain open for Sabbath School and Divine service, but everyone is invited to Hillview for the final service at 6:00 o'clock this evening.

### Youth Announcements

\*Pathfinder Camp- Impact Long Island Pathfinder camp will be held August 12<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> in Long Island. Registration will take place each evening before and after the youth crusade at Hillview. You can also

register at the Youth department of the conference during the week.

\*Adventist Sports Day: August 6, 2007 at the Thomas A. Robinson Track & Field Stadium. It's 40 days before the big showdown begins. Yes, 40 days of intense preparation will culminate in what promises to be a day of keen Christian rivalry on the track/field amongst Adventists. August Monday Sports and fun day. All churches, Pathfinder clubs, youth groups and able bodied Adventists are expected to prepare and participate.

### \*S.D.A Basketball Games

There will be no basketball games during the upcoming week days. However, basketball games will be held this Saturday night and next Saturday night at 9:00 p.m. and not 8:30 p.m. at B.A. Gym.

\*National Youth Month is scheduled for October. National Youth March will be held Sunday, October 7, 2007. Plan now to attend and be a part of the National Youth Month events.

\*Pathfinder and Masterguide Camporee March 20 - 25, 2008, Philips Field, Jamaica. Plan now to attend. You may contact the Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Youth Ministries Department for further details. *-Curtis Bryan, Associate Youth Director, Bahamas Conference*

### Admiral's Camp Crafts

The second annual Admiral's Camp Crafts got off to a good start on Monday, June 25. The camp will run until July 22, 2007 at the Breath of Life Church grounds, Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Presentation night will be held on Saturday, July 21, at 8:30 p.m. Big time regatta will culminate the camp on Sunday, July 22, 2007. *-Admiral Forbe*

Bahamas Academy is our school. Support Christian education at our own school. The benefits are out of this world!

**Marriage Standards Committee will meet on Tuesday, July 24, at 12 noon at the Conference Headquarters**

Sun Sets Today at 8:04 p.m.  
Sun Sets next Sabbath at 8:00 p.m.