

**Editorial**  
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## Grand Lucayan pressing issue

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### YOUR WEATHER

**90°F**

SUNRISE: 6:40 a.m.  
SUNSET: 8:01 p.m.  
HIGH TIDE: 4:23 a.m. - 5:06 p.m.  
LOW TIDE: 10:34 a.m. - 11:24 p.m.  
WINDS: S at 7 mph

Periods of clouds and sun with a shower

See Page 10 for full round-up

**The Freeport News**

## BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS & SERVICE GUIDE

Whatever you're looking for, these local businesses ask you to consider them first.

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# Showers and thunderstorms for GB as TD Emily moves to the East

**ABRIA COOPER**  
FN Reporter  
abria@nasguard.com

Emily is expected to move further east. Local Meteorologist Kirk James of The Bahamas Department of Meteorology in Grand Bahama reported early Tuesday (August 1) morning, that even though Tropical Depression Emily would move further east from the Central Florida Coast into the western Atlantic Waters, Grand Bahama will still suffer some impact from the system.

He added that showers and thunderstorms with gusty winds would affect local weather until mid-week then gradually diminish as Emily moves further away. The weather was forecasted to remain humid and cloudy into the night with heavy rainfall.

According to James, at 5:00 a.m. eastern daylight time (EDT) the center of Tropical Depression Emily was located 50 miles North Northeast of Vero Beach Florida moving East North East at 12 miles per hour.

Maximum sustained winds were near 30 miles per hour with higher gusts.

James furthered that slight strengthening is forecast in the next day or so while Emily loses tropical characteristics.

The hazardous weather threat

will include a risk for water-spouts, strong thunderstorms, lightning strikes, and flooding due to heavy and prolonged rain-fall in the area of Grand Bahama, Abaco, Bimini and their adjacent waters.

James advised residents to be mindful of heat exhaustion as the unsettled weather pattern continues and to remain hydrated.

He also stated that boaters should be alert for gusty winds and choppy seas with heavier convection.

Tropical Storm Emily was downgraded to a depression Monday night.

CNN's extreme weather reported that the depression landed on Anna Maria Island, an island off Florida's west coast near Bradenton, around 10:45 a.m. Monday (July 31). It brought winds of 45 mph and several inches of rain.

Governor Rick Scott declared a state of emergency for 31 counties in southern and central Florida.

"While it is positive news that this tropical storm has been downgraded to a tropical depression, we must remain vigilant," Scott said in a statement Monday night as he cautioned drivers to avoid standing water left from heavy rains.

The National Hurricane Center canceled tropical storm warnings for the state's west coast.



**FLOODED STREETS** – Over a two-day period Tropical Depression Emily, which is now moving east from the Central Florida Coast, left Grand Bahama with flooded streets, throughout the city. (PHOTO: JENNEVA RUSSELL)

## Building dispute threatens to hamper progressive community development

**SHARELL LOCKHART**  
FN Reporter  
sharell@nasguard.com

Williams/Russell Town progressive development is being threatened by a controversial building ownership dispute, which has shook the quaint picturesque community to the core.

Newly elected Local Government Councillor, Lenise Williams along with residents of Williams/Russell Town sought to shed light on the matter, which involves the lone Community Center building established there decades ago.

Embroidered there decades ago is former Local Government Councillor Ann Russell, who is alleged to be the person preventing youth of the community from utilizing the center, which once served as the first Catholic Church built by the original residents.

Certain that youth of the Williams/Russell Town community will suffer a serious developmental disadvantage as a result of the dispute; Williams has joined residents in protesting the actions of Russell, whom it is alleged has refused to relinquish the keys to the facility.

According to Williams, "Personally, I am standing with residents of Williams/Russell Town, who would like to see the continued growth and progressive development of this community however, we are at a standstill in that regard



**COMMUNITY CENTER DISPUTE** – Lenise Williams the newly elected Local Government representative for Williams Town is calling on the former representative to comply and allow the residents access to the community center. (PHOTO: JENNEVA RUSSELL)

due to the fact that the former Local Government Councillor Ann Russell refuses to release the keys to our local community

center. "She has claimed that the building has nothing to do with Williams Town and in

light of this statement, immediately, I approached two of the oldest members of the Williams/Russell Town community Charles Williams and Clarinda Williams to inquire about the history of the building in an effort to have this matter sorted out.

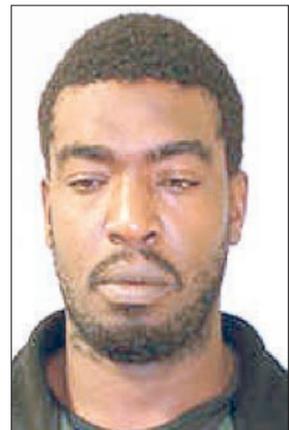
"The eldest living residents revealed that the building had been constructed many decades ago by the original inhabitants of the community.

"The duo who had been youth between the ages of 12 and 30 years old informed me that all the residents at the time, came together totalling and stacking the stones to build the structure that had been designated to serve as the first-ever Catholic Church of the community," Williams maintained.

"For decades the residents worshipped at the church owned by the Catholic Diocese and years later, after securing property in another location to construct a larger sanctuary, the building was given to the Williams/Russell Town residents by the leaders of the diocese."

Over time structural improvements were made to the building revealed Councillor Williams, who noted that with the church turning over the building to the community, the decision was made to utilize it as a community center to aid the academic and social development of the youth of Williams/Russell Town.

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**PAUL SIMON ROLLE JR.**

## WANTED SUSPECT CAPTURED

**SHARELL LOCKHART**  
FN Reporter  
sharell@nasguard.com

Two weeks after the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPf) issued a list of wanted suspects, law enforcement officers on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 captured a young man wanted in a

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The Office of the Prime Minister Grand Bahama presents

## A Taste of Port Lucaya

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Live Band  
Bahamian Entertainment  
Stilet and more  
Fun for the whole family  
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Thursday, August 3rd  
and every other Friday after that  
6pm - 11pm

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