

Looking for your Meeting Today



CHECK OUT THE COMMUNITY CORNER

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YOUR WEATHER

76°F

Mostly sunny, pleasant

SUNRISE: 6:58 a.m.
SUNSET: 6:00 p.m.
HIGH TIDE: 8:10 a.m. - 8:21 p.m.
LOW TIDE: 1:46 a.m. - 2:26 p.m.
WINDS: N at 8 mph

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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PM: AFTER MANY YEARS OF ECONOMIC STAGNATION THERE IS A NEW SPIRIT OF REVIVAL OF HOPE FOR GB

GRAND PORT PLANS REVEALED

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Residents were asked to join the government and Carnival Corporation on the road to 2021, when proposed plans were revealed for the island's newest cruise port, Grand Port.

Hundreds of Grand Bahamians filled the Foster B. Pestaina Centre, last night (Monday, February 4) to learn more about the highly anticipated venture, during an information meeting.

Cabinet Ministers, Senators and other government officials were joined by representatives of the Carnival Corporation and Grand Bahama Port Authority executives as Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis expressed committed to the revitalization of Grand Bahama.

The prime minister declared that a cruise port of this magnitude will catapult diversification in new industries as well as the island's leading economic sector, tourism.

The proposed development, which will be situated on 329 acres of land north of the already existing University of The Bahamas Northern Campus will include a number of amenities for guests to enjoy.

For many years Carnival and The Bahamas Government have enjoyed very fruitful partnerships as 35 ships from six brands have carried over 1.8 million individual guests to Bahamian ports, annually.

Of the 1.8 million, some 480,000 visitors call on Freeport.

"The Bahamas archipelago offers a wide diversity of tourism services and products such as



PROJECT PLANS – Giora Israel, Senior Vice President of Global Port and Destination Development, Carnival Corporation unveiled plans for a proposed cruise port that is expected to be completed in 2021.

cruising, boating, heritage, tourism, ecotourism, resorts, boutique hotels, and a range of experiences for visitors, which are uniquely Bahamian in character. Within cruising alone, there are a variety of experiences we may offer," said the nation's leader.

"After many years of economic stagnation there is a new spirit of revival of hope for Grand Bahama. The development of a new Carnival Cruise Port is a part of this new spirit and will play a leading role in the revival of hope and opportunity."

The prime minister said that a significant job creation in the construction phase as well as long term.

"There will be significant op-



KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis brought remarks during a town meeting that took place on Monday, February 4 at the Christ the King Auditorium, regarding the proposed Grand Port, a joint project between the government and Carnival Corporation. (PHOTOS JENNEVA RUSSELL)

portunities for business development and entrepreneurship for Bahamians. The new port

will result in greater Bahamian ownership, in terms of a range (Continued on Page 2)



FRED WILLIAMS
... Accused of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor

Lead investigator testifies in unlawful sex trial

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Lead investigator Inspector Jemique Campbell, attached to the Central Detective Unit (CDU), took the witness box yesterday – Monday, February 4 – morning as the Unlawful Sexual Intercourse trial of Fred Williams continued in Freeport's Supreme Court.

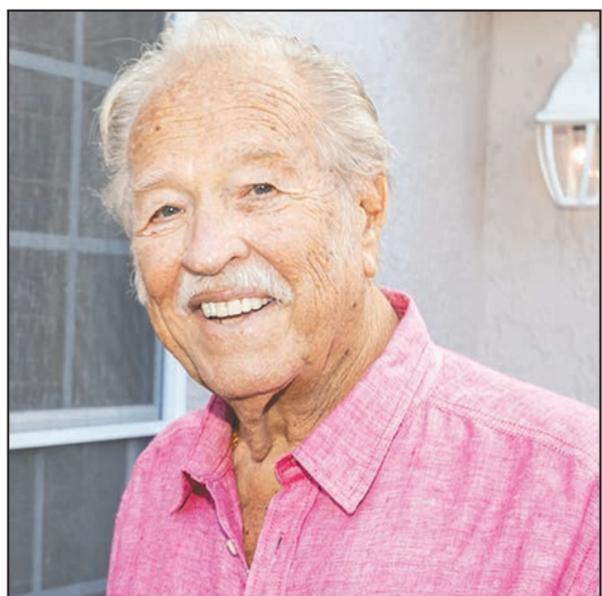
Williams is charged with multiple counts of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor of the

same sex, in December 2017. The crime allegedly took place from October 2016 to November 2016; February 2017 and in November 2017.

Senior Justice Estelle Gray-Evans is presiding over the trial, which began last week and is being presented before a six-man, three-woman jury.

Prosecutors Erica Kemp and Trevor Kemp are representing the Crown, while Williams is being represented by Attorney Carlson Shurland.

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DONALD ROBERTS

Mr. 'Come on Down' passes away at 85

Local businessman Donald Roberts remembered as a compassionate second chance boss

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A man of sports, compassion, generosity and a boss of a second chance were just some of the words used to describe local businessman Donald Roberts also known as 'Mr. Come on Down,' who passed away, yesterday, Monday, February 4.

The owner of Dolly Madison Home Centre died in South Flor-

ida-based hospital after a long battle with cancer.

Roberts was 85. A team from *this daily* visited Dolly Madison and spoke with a number of the 67 employees. General Manager James Rolle and Office Manager, Jaennie Miller reminisced on the time spent with their boss.

Rolle, who described Roberts as his mentor shared, "I came to Dolly Madison Home Centre in (Continued on Page 2)

DEU officers investigating dangerous drug, firearm discovery

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Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) officers are investigating the recent discovery of a quantity of dangerous drugs and an illegal firearm in Grand Bahama.

Reports are that on Saturday, February 2 shortly before 2:00 p.m. and acting on information, Drug Enforcement Unit officers went to an area on East Atlantic Drive opposite Garden Villas,

where they discovered, in bushes, four pounds of suspected marijuana with a street value of \$4,000.00

In a second incident on Sunday, February 3 shortly after 1:00 p.m., Drug Enforcement Unit officers while armed with a search warrant, went to a residence on Waterfall Drive, where they discovered a .380 pistol with five rounds of ammunition.

A 30-year-old male was arrested and taken into custody.

In national crime news, police (Continued on Page 3)